The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Thursday, November 11, 1993, at 7:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Dr. Alan Cheung, President in the Chair
         Mr. Stephen Abrams
         Ms. Carrie Baker
         Mrs. Frances Brenneman
         Mr. Blair G. Ewing
         Mrs. Carol Fanconi
         Mrs. Beatrice Gordon
         Ms. Ana Sol Gutierrez

Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Paul L. Vance, Superintendent
                Mrs. Katheryn W. Gemberling, Deputy
                Dr. H. Philip Rohr, Deputy

RESOLUTION NO. 802-93 Re: BOARD AGENDA - NOVEMBER 11, 1993

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Ms. Gutierrez seconded by Mrs. Fanconi, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for November 11, 1993.

Re: RESPONSES TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP ON MANAGERIAL EXCELLENCE

Dr. Cheung explained that the purpose of this special meeting was to review the superintendent's responses to the recommendations of the Corporate Partnership. Dr. Vance had suggested that the Board focus on the high cost recommendations and those requiring further study. He was also suggesting that the Board schedule a follow up meeting in January.

Dr. Vance remarked that MCPS was indeed fortunate to have received such a significant gift from the corporate community, not only in terms of the report itself but also in terms of the new foundation of support and open door that had been created through this partnership with the major businesses participating in the study. The CPME report recognized that the work of the various study teams was completed in close cooperation with MCPS program and departmental directors. He had gone back to these managers and directors and asked for their input on the CPME
recommendations. He and the deputies had reviewed their input, and they had found agreement on many of the recommendations. Because of the magnitude of the report and the brief amount of time available, staff had prepared preliminary cost estimates only for items where cost data was available. The recommendations were divided into categories: fully implemented, partially implemented, implement low cost, implement high cost, further study, and do not implement. For purposes of this response, high cost meant a cost greater than $25,000. He recommended that the Board hold a follow-up meeting in January to discuss recommendations with significant budget implications and receive a status report on all recommendations in early spring.

Dr. Rohr commended the partnership for their efforts and recommendations. Staff had been asked to analyze the report and provide their responses to the 125 to 130 recommendations. He thanked Mr. Joseph Hawkins and Mr. Bob Bacher, DEA staff, for their work in compiling the responses of the managers. Dr. Rohr suggested that the program managers review each section following the same order as the report.

During the review of the recommendations, Board members raised the following questions:

1. Mr. Ewing asked for clarification on the funding of the recommendations. For example, in cases of minimal costs he wanted to know whether these costs would always assume to be within the current budget level or if there were instances where these costs would be added to the budget.

2. Mr. Ewing assumed that the Board would be informed about recommendations incorporated in the Board and the cost of these. He also asked that the Board be informed about the superintendent's choice of priority areas for attention.

3. Ms. Gutierrez suggested that staff develop a task file for each recommendation so that they could add more information on costs and cost savings as this became available.

4. Mrs. Fanconi asked about the cost of the radio communications recommendations for school buses. She also inquired about whether or not staff was involving parents in the development of a plan for integrating special and regular education busing. She asked whether transportation was one of the departments with continuous training in total quality and, if so, she would like anything they had on this subject.

5. Both Mr. Ewing and Dr. Cheung asked for a sense of priorities among the transportation recommendations.
6. Dr. Cheung suggested adding another column to the responses report which would indicate what other departments would need to be involved with implementing the recommendation.

7. Ms. Gutierrez requested information on the dollar costs of implementing the payroll system recommendations.

8. Mr. Ewing said he would be interested in knowing what it was staff proposed to ensure that the links between the accounting records and the procurement records were automated.

9. Mr. Abrams asked that staff provide the Board with a listing of all the different conflicting reporting requirements of the federal and state government.

10. Mr. Abrams asked staff to cost out the acceleration of the replacement of the personnel master file system.

11. Ms. Gutierrez suggested that they relook at the staff responses to the personnel recommendations. She felt that the responses were unclear because the staff did not understand the partnership's recommendation.

12. Dr. Cheung asked how the partnership's recommendations related to the personnel department's overall plan. He would like to see how their plan improved because of the partnership's recommendations.

13. Mr. Ewing suggested that at some point the Board needed to see a comprehensive description of where they would be with improved systems when and if they were able to get all of this done. They should know what the linkages were. For example, how did financial management link to materials management and human resources, etc.

14. Mr. Ewing asked that the Board be provided with the cost, timing, and phasing of the materials management system.

15. Mr. Ewing suggested that if there were areas at the county and state level where there needed to be changes in laws or regulations these should be identified so that proposals for change could be made.

16. Mr. Ewing requested the superintendent provide with his recommendations an indication of what was spent now in terms of the operating and capital budgets, what the needed investment was to cause greater efficiency to occur, and what they thought the downstream savings estimate might be. Ms. Gutierrez agreed that they should have well-documented cost savings when the Board came to the Council with its budget recommendations.

*Mrs. Brenneman left the meeting at this point.*
17. Dr. Cheung requested a breakout of the total cost of implementing TQM.

18. Mrs. Fanconi asked the staff to look into having a community group buy newspaper space to give people a better understanding of the school system.

*Mrs. Fanconi left the meeting at this point.

RESOLUTION NO. 803-93  Re:  RESPONSES TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP ON MANAGERIAL EXCELLENCE

On motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education favor very strongly the continuation of the Corporate Partnership; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent be asked to communicate his recommendations to CPME and request that CPME respond to these as well as to provide suggestions about how the Partnership might be best continued; and be it further

Resolved, That a January meeting be scheduled for the superintendent to lay out his priorities among the recommendations, showing which were or were not included in the budget, what the investments were, and what the savings stream was; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent recommend to the Board how these recommendations might best be presented in the budget, as a single unit, an addendum, or exhibit, for presentation to the County Council and county executive.

RESOLUTION NO. 804-93  Re:  ADJOURNMENT

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Ms. Baker seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting at 11:10 p.m.

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PRESIDENT
November 11, 1993

SECRETARY

PLV;mlw