The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Tuesday, April 5, 1994, at 8 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Mrs. Carol Fanconi, President in the Chair
Mr. Stephen Abrams
Ms. Carrie Baker
Mrs. Frances Brenneman
Dr. Alan Cheung
Mr. Blair G. Ewing
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
Mr. Thomas S. Fess, Parliamentarian

Re: ANNOUNCEMENT

Mrs. Fanconi reported that the Board had been meeting in closed session on a legal matter. This meeting was a special session to take up a number of facilities-related issues.

RESOLUTION NO. 246-94 Re: FY 1994 SUPPLEMENTAL CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Abrams seconded by Mrs. Gordon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Changes have occurred since November 1993 that have affected the timing of several capital projects and the space needs for certain schools; and

WHEREAS, Based on recent bid activity, the square footage cost of construction has increased; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education's request for $1,560,000 in FY 1995 funds for relocatable classrooms be rescinded; and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of a supplemental appropriation to the County Council in the amount of $4,390,000 to fund relocation and rehabilitation of relocatable classrooms at schools throughout the county for September 1994; to complete in a timely manner the classrooms at Damascus High School, the modernizations of Brookhaven, Highland
Dr. Cheung moved and Ms. Baker seconded the following:

WHEREAS, On December 8, 1993, the Board of Education adopted policy IGS: Educational Technology; and

WHEREAS, An intensive effort involving staff, school, community, professional and corporate representatives developed a Strategic Plan for Educational Technology and the plan was a major step in the comprehensive and continuous long-range implementation process; and

WHEREAS, Careful consideration was given to maximum collaboration with other public agencies and to benefits available through participation by private interests; and

WHEREAS, The superintendent of schools recommended actions and funding necessary to implement the strategic plan, and the Board of Education requested an alternative to the recommendations; and

WHEREAS, Public hearings on March 23 and 24, 1994, elicited comments and advice for the Board of Education from an array of school, community, and public interests; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the project for Instructional Microcomputers, renamed Media Center Learning Hubs, be an integrated part of the Global Access project and provide learning hubs and a base level of technology equity in all schools by the end of FY 1997 with all secondary schools completed by the end of FY 1995; and be it further

Resolved, That an additional FY 1995 appropriation of $232,000 be requested for the Media Center Learning Hubs, but that the total project through FY 1997 be reduced by $147,000; and be it further

Resolved, That the project for School-Based Instructional Monitoring Systems (SIMS) that allows staff to identify and monitor student progress through technology be an integrated part of the Global Access project, upgrading aging SIMS computers in older schools and completing installations for special education schools, and be subsumed in Global Access after FY 1997; and be it further

Resolved, That an additional FY 1995 appropriation of $530,000 be requested for the SIMS project with FY 1996 and 1997 expenditures increased by a total of $570,000 to accomplish the goals set forth; and be it further
Resolved, That the Global Access project, as described in the strategic planning document for educational technology, provide the infrastructure critical to contemporary learning and teaching of students, staff, and the community; and be it further

Resolved, That the Global Access project be implemented for all schools and offices within the six-year CIP following the implementation of working prototypes and that after FY 2000 the project provide for replacement of outdated equipment; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education request an FY 1995 appropriation of $6,038,000 for the Global Access project and a six-year program of $70.2 million; and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of these actions to the County Council.

Re: A MOTION BY MRS. BRENNEMAN TO AMEND THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION ON EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY (FAILED)

A motion by Mrs. Brenneman to amend the proposed resolution on educational technology by deleting "as described in the strategic planning document for educational technology" from the fifth Resolved clause failed with Mrs. Brenneman voting in the affirmative; Mr. Abrams, Ms. Baker, Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Fanconi, Mrs. Gordon, and Ms. Gutierrez voting in the negative.

RESOLUTION NO. 247-94 Re: AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 1995 CAPITAL BUDGET AND FY 1995-2000 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM (CIP) RELATED TO EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cheung seconded by Ms. Baker, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, On December 8, 1993, the Board of Education adopted policy IGS: Educational Technology; and

WHEREAS, An intensive effort involving staff, school, community, professional and corporate representatives developed a Strategic Plan for Educational Technology and the plan was a major step in the comprehensive and continuous long-range implementation process; and

WHEREAS, Careful consideration was given to maximum collaboration with other public agencies and to benefits available through participation by private interests; and
WHEREAS, The superintendent of schools recommended actions and funding necessary to implement the strategic plan, and the Board of Education requested an alternative to the recommendations; and

WHEREAS, Public hearings on March 23 and 24, 1994, elicited comments and advice for the Board of Education from an array of school, community, and public interests; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the project for Instructional Microcomputers, renamed Media Center Learning Hubs, be an integrated part of the Global Access project and provide learning hubs and a base level of technology equity in all schools by the end of FY 1997 with all secondary schools completed by the end of FY 1995; and be it further

Resolved, That an additional FY 1995 appropriation of $232,000 be requested for the Media Center Learning Hubs, but that the total project through FY 1997 be reduced by $147,000; and be it further

Resolved, That the project for School-Based Instructional Monitoring Systems (SIMS) that allows staff to identify and monitor student progress through technology be an integrated part of the Global Access project, upgrading aging SIMS computers in older schools and completing installations for special education schools, and be subsumed in Global Access after FY 1997; and be it further

Resolved, That an additional FY 1995 appropriation of $530,000 be requested for the SIMS project with FY 1996 and 1997 expenditures increased by a total of $570,000 to accomplish the goals set forth; and be it further

Resolved, That the Global Access project, as described in the strategic planning document for educational technology, provide the infrastructure critical to contemporary learning and teaching of students, staff, and the community; and be it further

Resolved, That the Global Access project be implemented for all schools and offices within the six-year CIP following the implementation of working prototypes and that after FY 2000 the project provide for replacement of outdated equipment; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education request an FY 1995 appropriation of $6,038,000 for the Global Access project and a six-year program of $70.2 million; and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of these actions to the County Council.

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

WHEREAS, The Board of Education has considered the economies of a relocatable addition to the Poolesville High School/Middle School facility as a way to provide for middle school reorganization in the cluster in September 1995; and

WHEREAS, A modified but separate middle school facility could be available for the cluster for reorganization by September 1997; and

WHEREAS, Such a facility could provide for the immediate program needs for Grades 6-8, with more standard spaces such as a full-sized gymnasium master planned for construction at a later time; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education received comment and advice from the school and community at large during public hearings on March 23 and 24, 1994; now therefore be it

Resolved, That middle school reorganization for the Poolesville cluster be deferred until September 1997; and be it further

Resolved, That a modified middle school facility be planned and constructed for the Poolesville cluster for occupancy in September 1997; and be it further

Resolved, That Montgomery County Public Schools and Town of Poolesville officials continue to work together to maximize educational benefits and to minimize impact on the county's capital improvements program; and be it further

Resolved, That the Poolesville High School/Middle School Relocatable Addition Project, renamed the Poolesville Middle School Project, be modified to reduce the FY 1995 appropriation by $300,000 and to increase the overall expenditures for FY 1995-1998 by $4.435 million; and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of this request to the County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 249-94 Re: AMENDMENT TO THE FY 1995 CAPITAL BUDGET RELATED TO REVISED CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATES

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr.
Abrams seconded by Mrs. Brenneman, the following resolution was adopted with Mr. Abrams, Ms. Baker, Mrs. Brenneman, Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Fanconi, and Mrs. Gordon voting in the affirmative; Ms. Gutierrez being temporarily absent:

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools maintains a careful schedule for planning and constructing school space to provide seats where and when they are needed and evaluates and revises cost estimates for projects every six months to ensure the most accurate information possible for budget purposes; and

WHEREAS, While Montgomery County continues to enjoy among the lowest square foot construction costs in the state of Maryland, all construction costs are beginning to show a marked increase; and

WHEREAS, Cost estimates for FY 1995 contractual purposes were made prior to November 1993 and there is a need to increase expenditures based on market conditions; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the FY 1995 Capital Budget be amended by $4.4 million as shown on the attached Project Description Forms to allow the timely award of contracts necessary to complete school projects on schedule; and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of this request to the County Council.

Re: RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO SOLUTIONS FOR SECONDARY SPACE NEEDS IN THE EASTERN AREA, INCLUDING AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 1995 CAPITAL BUDGET AND FY 1995-2000 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM (CIP)

Mr. Ewing moved and Mrs. Gordon seconded the following:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education has studied the many and complex issues revolving around secondary school space needs in the eastern half of the county; and

WHEREAS, A community advisory committee representing school community interests in this part of the county studied and made recommendations on these issues; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education requested development of two alternatives to subsequent recommendations from the superintendent of schools on these issues; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education held public hearings on the recommendations and alternatives for schools, communities, and
individuals potentially affected by actions in this part of the county; and

WHEREAS, There is a growing and critical need for collaborative action by the school system and the county government to resolve the impasse related to space needs for the Montgomery Blair High School enrollment and its effect on other schools in the eastern area; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a descriptive inventory of high school courses and viable additional offerings be prepared by August 1994 for presentation to the Board of Education to consider for further development; and be it further

Resolved, That a broadly representative committee be established to determine the feasibility of controlled choice enrollment for high school students in the current Springbrook, Sherwood, and Paint Branch clusters to permit the option of attending the new Northeast area, Paint Branch, or Springbrook high schools, and that the study be concluded for action by the Board of Education in June 1995; and be it further

Resolved, That funds be programmed to build a new 2,400 capacity Montgomery Blair High School for occupancy by September 1998 on either the Sligo Creek site or Kay Tract and with additional capacity master planned for 400; and be it further

Resolved, That funds be included in the Eastern Area Secondary Addition project for capacity for 400 Montgomery Blair students with location to be determined by the Board of Education, as well as for additions to Walter Johnson and Wheaton high schools; and be it further

Resolved, That if space is available in nearby schools, interim efforts to recruit Montgomery Blair High School students be actively pursued to relieve overutilization; and be it further

Resolved, That reorganization for middle school in the Montgomery Blair cluster occur by September 1998, using Eastern, Takoma Park, and the Wayne Avenue facilities for middle schools, and that the Newport facility is not required for public school use at this time; and be it further

Resolved, That funds to begin the construction for modernization and addition to Albert Einstein High School be requested for FY 1995, with use of Northwood as the holding facility; and be it further

Resolved, That the modernization and addition schedule for John F. Kennedy and Winston Churchill high schools be maintained using the Northwood facility and that the Robert E. Peary facility be returned to the county government as it is not needed for use as
a public school; and be it further

Resolved, That students living in the neighborhoods of Georgian Colonies, Homecrest, and Northgate be reassigned from Argyle Middle School and John F. Kennedy High School to Parkland Middle School and Wheaton High School beginning with Grades 6 and 9 in September 1995; and be it further

Resolved, That following Board of Education action on recommendations from the controlled choice study group, a representative committee be formed to make recommendations on middle school needs in this area; and be it further

Resolved, That after consultation with other county planning agencies, Montgomery County Public Schools staff report on the potential advantages to the school system and the county of a cyclical and countywide examination of all school boundaries; and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of these budget actions to the County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 250-94    Re: AN AMENDMENT TO THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION ON SECONDARY SPACE NEEDS IN THE EASTERN AREA

On motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution was adopted with Ms. Baker, Mrs. Brenneman, Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Fanconi, Mrs. Gordon, and Ms. Gutierrez voting in the affirmative; Mr. Abrams voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the proposed resolution on secondary space needs in the eastern area be amended by the addition of the following WHEREAS clause after the last WHEREAS clause as follows:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education continues to support the construction of Blair High School on the Kay Tract that would keep the Blair Cluster together and house all Blair students, but recognizes also that the Council has thus far authorized construction of a school for 2400 students at the present Wayne Avenue site; now therefore be it
RESOLUTION NO. 251-94  Re: AN AMENDMENT TO THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION ON SECONDARY SPACE NEEDS IN THE EASTERN AREA

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

Resolved, That the proposed resolution on secondary space needs in the eastern area be amended in the second Resolved clause as follows:

Resolved, That a broadly representative committee be appointed in the spring of 1994 to determine the feasibility of controlled choice enrollment for high school students in the current Springbrook, Sherwood, and Paint Branch clusters to permit the option of attending the new Northeast area, Paint Branch, or Springbrook high schools and report its results so that the Board could act by June of 1995 so that the middle school recommendations would be made in time to be implemented for the fall of 1996; and be it further

Re: A MOTION BY MR. ABRAMS TO AMEND THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION ON SECONDARY SPACE NEEDS IN THE EASTERN AREA (FAILED)

A motion by Mr. Abrams to amend the proposed resolution on secondary space needs in the eastern area by deleting "either the Sligo Creek site or" from the third Resolved clause failed for lack of a second.

Re: A MOTION BY MR. ABRAMS TO AMEND THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION ON SECONDARY SPACE NEEDS IN THE EASTERN AREA (FAILED)

A motion by Mr. Abrams to amend the proposed resolution on secondary space needs in the eastern area by adding a Resolved clause that for FY 1996 funds would be included to accommodate a communications arts program at Albert Einstein High School failed with Mr. Abrams voting in the affirmative; Ms. Baker, Mrs. Brenneman, Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Fanconi, Mrs. Gordon, and Ms. Gutierrez voting in the negative.

RESOLUTION NO. 252-94  Re: AN AMENDMENT TO THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION ON SECONDARY SPACE NEEDS IN THE EASTERN AREA

On motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mrs. Gordon, the following resolution was adopted with Mrs. Brenneman, Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Fanconi, Mrs. Gordon, and Ms. Gutierrez voting in the
affirmative; Mr. Abrams voting in the negative; and Ms. Baker being temporarily absent:

Resolved, That the proposed resolution on secondary space needs in the Eastern area be amended by substituting the following for the tenth Resolved clause:

Resolved, That after the Board of Education has decided whether controlled choice will be approved, the study group will be requested to address middle school needs in Paint Branch, Springbrook, and Sherwood based on staff recommendations, and if the Board of Education does not approve the controlled choice, the study group would be asked to recommend middle school boundaries for that area based on staff recommendations, and the target date for Board of Education action on controlled choice recommendations would be June, 1995, and the recommendations for middle school needs should be timed to permit them to be implemented in the fall of 1996; and be it further

Mrs. Gordon assumed the chair.

Re: A MOTION BY MRS. FANCONI TO AMEND THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION ON SECONDARY SPACE NEEDS IN THE EASTERN AREA (FAILED)

A motion by Mrs. Fanconi to amend the proposed resolution on secondary space needs in the eastern area by adding "maintaining compliance with the QIE policy" to the fifth Resolved clause failed with Mrs. Brenneman, Dr. Cheung, and Mrs. Fanconi voting in the affirmative; Mr. Abrams, Ms. Baker, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Gordon, and Ms. Gutierrez voting in the negative.

Mrs. Fanconi assumed the chair.

Ms. Gutierrez made the following statement for the record:

"I think it is very important at this point in time to recognize the efforts of everybody that has gotten us to this point in time. It has been a roller coaster ride as I said, but I would like to recognize the superintendent and his staff in helping guide this effort to this point, the community at Blair, the principal, the staff, the PTA, and the students have had a very important role. I think the community, particularly those citizen groups show, I think, what democracy is all about when they can come together -- Citizens for a Better Blair, Voters for a Better Blair -- they did not give up at all. I remember very sad moments when we saw the negative votes at the Council, and the vote was over and these groups went out and continued working and have not stopped. I am obviously going to support this green sheet, and I am going to support it as it goes forward, and I
think that as an entire community I know I do not have to encourage them that we need to go together to make this thing a reality. It is a long time coming, and there is no doubt in my mind that the Blair community will be much better off by having worked together, stuck together, and we will celebrate."

RESOLUTION NO. 253-94 Re: RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO SOLUTIONS FOR SECONDARY SPACE NEEDS IN THE EASTERN AREA, INCLUDING AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 1995 CAPITAL BUDGET AND FY 1995-2000 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mrs. Gordon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education has studied the many and complex issues revolving around secondary school space needs in the eastern half of the county; and

WHEREAS, A community advisory committee representing school community interests in this part of the county studied and made recommendations on these issues; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education requested development of two alternatives to subsequent recommendations from the superintendent of schools on these issues; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education held public hearings on the recommendations and alternatives for schools, communities, and individuals potentially affected by actions in this part of the county; and

WHEREAS, There is a growing and critical need for collaborative action by the school system and the county government to resolve the impasse related to space needs for the Montgomery Blair High School enrollment and its effect on other schools in the eastern area; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education continues to support the construction of Blair High School on the Kay Tract that would keep the Blair Cluster together and house all Blair students, but recognizes also that the Council has thus far authorized construction of a school for 2400 students at the present Wayne Avenue site; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a descriptive inventory of high school courses and viable additional offerings be prepared by August 1994 for presentation to the Board of Education to consider for further development; and be it further
Resolved, That a broadly representative committee be appointed in the spring of 1994 to determine the feasibility of controlled choice enrollment for high school students in the current Springbrook, Sherwood, and Paint Branch clusters to permit the option of attending the new Northeast area, Paint Branch, or Springbrook high schools and report its results so that the Board could act by June of 1995 so that the middle school recommendations would be made in time to be implemented for the fall of 1996; and be it further

Resolved, That funds be programmed to build a new 2,400 capacity Montgomery Blair High School for occupancy by September 1998 on either the Sligo Creek site or Kay Tract and with additional capacity master planned for 400; and be it further

Resolved, That funds be included in the Eastern Area Secondary Addition project for capacity for 400 Montgomery Blair students with location to be determined by the Board of Education, as well as for additions to Walter Johnson and Wheaton high schools; and be it further

Resolved, That if space is available in nearby schools, interim efforts to recruit Montgomery Blair High School students be actively pursued to relieve overutilization; and be it further

Resolved, That reorganization for middle school in the Montgomery Blair cluster occur by September 1998, using Eastern, Takoma Park, and the Wayne Avenue facilities for middle schools, and that the Newport facility is not required for public school use at this time; and be it further

Resolved, That funds to begin the construction for modernization and addition to Albert Einstein High School be requested for FY 1995, with use of Northwood as the holding facility; and be it further

Resolved, That the modernization and addition schedule for John F. Kennedy and Winston Churchill high schools be maintained using the Northwood facility and that the Robert E. Peary facility be returned to the county government as it is not needed for use as a public school; and be it further

Resolved, That students living in the neighborhoods of Georgian Colonies, Homecrest, and Northgate be reassigned from Argyle Middle School and John F. Kennedy High School to Parkland Middle School and Wheaton High School beginning with Grades 6 and 9 in September 1995; and be it further

Resolved, That after the Board of Education has decided whether controlled choice will be approved, the study group will be requested to address middle school needs in Paint Branch, Springbrook, and Sherwood based on staff recommendations, and if
the Board of Education does not approve the controlled choice, the study group would be asked to recommend middle school boundaries for that area based on staff recommendations, and the target date for Board of Education action on controlled choice recommendations would be June, 1995, and the recommendations for middle school needs should be timed to permit them to be implemented in the fall of 1996; and be it further

Resolved, That after consultation with other county planning agencies, Montgomery County Public Schools staff report on the potential advantages to the school system and the county of a cyclical and countywide examination of all school boundaries; and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of these budget actions to the County Council.

Re: A MOTION BY MR. ABRAMS ON BELMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. Abrams moved and Mrs. Brenneman seconded the following:

Resolved, That the Board of Education end the split articulation at Belmont Elementary School and send all students to Rosa Parks Middle School in the fall of 1994.

Re: A SUBSTITUTE MOTION BY MR. EWING ON BELMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. Ewing moved and Ms. Gutierrez seconded the following:

Resolved, That the Board of Education request that the superintendent bring the Board a recommendation beginning with a timetable for action in the fall of 1994 that will end the split articulation for Belmont Elementary School while addressing the utilization issues at the elementary level in that area and the participation of Magruder at Rosa Parks Middle School and the middle school needs in the eastern part of the county.

Re: A MOTION BY MR. ABRAMS TO AMEND THE SUBSTITUTE MOTION (FAILED)

A motion by Mr. Abrams to amend the substitute motion by adding a proviso that during the pendency of that consideration the parents at Belmont be given their choice as to which middle school to attend with the proviso that no transportation costs will be incurred by the system to accommodate choices other than the assigned school failed for lack of a second.
RESOLUTION NO. 254-94  Re: A SUBSTITUTE MOTION BY MR. EWING ON BELMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

On motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Ms. Gutierrez, the following resolution was adopted with Ms. Baker, Mrs. Brenneman, Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Fanconi, Mrs. Gordon, and Ms. Gutierrez voting in the affirmative; Mr. Abrams voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the Board of Education request that the superintendent bring the Board a recommendation beginning with a timetable for action in the fall of 1994 that will end the split articulation for Belmont Elementary School while addressing the utilization issues at the elementary level in that area and the participation of Magruder at Rosa Parks Middle School and the middle school needs in the eastern part of the county.

RESOLUTION NO. 255-94  Re: ADJOURNMENT

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting at 11:05 p.m.

___________________________________
PRESIDENT

___________________________________
SECRETARY

PLV:mlw