The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in regular session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Tuesday, October 8, 1996, at 10:10 a.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Ms. Ana Sol Gutiérrez, President in the Chair
Mr. Stephen Abrams
Dr. Alan Cheung
Mr. Blair G. Ewing
Mr. Reginald Felton
Mrs. Beatrice B. Gordon
Mrs. Nancy King
Ms. Rachel Prager
Dr. Paul L. Vance, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: None

#indicates student vote does not count. Four votes needed for adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. 678-96 Re: AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 8, 1996

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopted the agenda for October 8, 1996.

RESOLUTION NO. 679-96 Re: EMPLOYEES’ CHARITY CAMPAIGN

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

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Public Schools has continued its generous support of the annual Montgomery County Employees’ Charity Campaign, having increased systemwide contributions by 6.0 percent last year for a total employee donation of $184,480; and

WHEREAS, The annual financial gifts of our employees are still needed by the children, adults and families of Montgomery County through the charitable organizations supported by this annual giving campaign; and
WHEREAS, One of every three residents in Montgomery County, including many of our own students, employees and their families, is in some way touched by these social and community services, such as the provision of basic health care and social service assistance; and

WHEREAS, Participation in this campaign by the employees of the Montgomery County Public Schools provides an excellent example of the good work of good, caring people within the school system to help others far less fortunate than themselves; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County does hereby designate the period of October 14 through November 18, 1996, for participation in the Montgomery County Employees' Charity Campaign; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education urge all employees of the Montgomery County Public Schools to participate in the campaign again this year as a demonstration to the entire community of a strong public commitment to kindness, compassion, goodwill and generosity.

RESOLUTION NO. 680-96 Re: AMENDMENT TO THE RESOLUTION ON SUPPORTING SERVICES RECOGNITION DAY

On motion of Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following amendment was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education designate Thursday, October 24, 1996, as the fourth annual Supporting Services Personnel Recognition Day and encourage all Montgomery County Public Schools staff members, PTA, and the broader community to recognize the significant contributions of supporting services employees toward the Success for Every Student.

RESOLUTION NO. 681-96 Re: SUPPORTING SERVICES RECOGNITION DAY

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution as amended was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The school system's commitment to Success for Every Student is dependent upon the teamwork and dedication of all employees; and

WHEREAS, Every employee, both inside and outside the classroom, serves as a positive role model for students; and
WHEREAS, All supporting services personnel contribute in a multitude of ways in the success of every student toward the quality of education for our students; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education recognize the outstanding services provided and show appreciation to every supporting services employee; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education designate Thursday, October 24, 1996, as the fourth annual Supporting Services Personnel Recognition Day and encourage all Montgomery County Public Schools staff members, PTA, and the broader community to recognize the significant contributions of supporting services employees toward the Success for Every Student.

RESOLUTION NO. 682-96 Re: SALUTE TO TRANSPORTATION STAFF

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

WHEREAS, October 20 - 26, 1996, has been designated as National School Bus Safety Week; and

WHEREAS, Maryland Governor Parris N. Glendening has proclaimed October 20-26, 1996, Salute to School Bus Transportation Personnel Week; and

WHEREAS, The Division of Transportation has as its number one goal the safe transportation of students to and from schools and programs; and

WHEREAS, The Division of Transportation buses carry more than 92,000 students to more than 215 locations, traveling 16 million miles in a school year; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education formally recognize and extend its sincere thanks and gratitude to all staff in the Division of Transportation; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education honor all transportation staff members--bus operators, attendants, mechanical, clerical, secretarial, supervisory, and administrative--for their teamwork in the safe transporting of students; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education extend its special thanks to Mr. Charles T. Bacon for 38 years of exemplary service as a bus operator and it is by honoring Mr. Bacon that we honor all of the dedicated transportation employees who make such a positive difference to Montgomery County Public Schools; and be it further
Resolved, That the Board proclaim the week of October 20 - 26, 1996, as National School Bus Safety Week.

RESOLUTION NO. 683-96 Re: RECOGNITION OF DOMINIQUE DAWES

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

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools is extremely proud of its graduates and the high caliber of success they achieve; and

WHEREAS, Dominique Dawes, a 1994 graduate of Gaithersburg High School, has proven herself to be, an extraordinary human being, with outstanding achievements in academics and athletics; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dawes was the first African-American to make the U.S. Olympic Gymnastics Team and the first African-American to win the U.S. National Championships, and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dawes made a phenomenal showing at the 1994 U.S. National Championships, where she became the first U.S. woman in 25 years to "sweep the Board"...winning the all-around championship, as well as gold medals in all four individual events, and

WHEREAS, The 1996 Olympic Games was an exciting time for the entire nation as we watched the U.S. Olympic athletes perform at such a high level of excellence, and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County is especially proud of Ms. Dawes and her exemplary performance in winning a team gold and an individual bronze medal, and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dawes inspires strong and loving support from family, coaches, teachers, and peers alike; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education and the Superintendent hereby present commendation and appreciation to Dominique Dawes for her outstanding success as an athlete and the inspiration she has provided for the youth of Montgomery County, the nation and the world; and be it further

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education and the Superintendent hereby offer her best wishes for success in all future endeavors.
Dr. Vance invited the following staff to the table: Mr. Joseph Lavorgna, director of the Department of Educational Facilities, Planning and Capital Programming; and Mr. Bruce Crispell, demographic planner.

Mr. Crispell presented the following enrollment and demographics:

1. The actual for MCPS as of September 30, 1996, is 122,911 students and will increase to 132,315 students by 2002;
2. MCPS is ranked 17th of 25 districts in the United States with the largest enrollment increases — 1983 - 1993;
3. The enrollment deviation from the projection to actual fall 1996 enrollment is down 1,377 students, but special education has increased by 317 students;
4. Three elementary schools are well above projection;
5. Components of enrollment forecasting are births, aging of student population, and migration;
6. Montgomery County resident birth rates have fallen from 12,773 in 1990 to 12,304 in 1995;
7. Kindergarten enrollment peaked in 1995 with 9,500 students;
8. Grades K-5 enrollment is 57,026 students and will remain constant through 2001;
9. Grades 6-8 enrollment is 25,916 students and will increase to 28,957 students by 2001;
10. Grades 9-12 enrollment is 31,725 students and will increase to 37,684 students by 2001;
11. International student enrollment has declined slightly since 1990;
12. ESOL enrollment is 7,465 students and will increase to 8,250 students by 2002;
13. Head Start enrollment will continue to slowly rise through 2000;
14. Special education enrollment is 25,509 and will increase to 28,732 students by 2002;
15. Enrollment by race/ethnic group is — 55.5% white; 20% African American; 12% Asian; 12.5% Hispanic
16. Free and reduced meal program is up to 22% of the school population from 15.5% in 1990; and
17. It is important to look at race/ethnic classifications and socioeconomic factors.

Mr. Ewing thought the issue of racial and ethnical categories has been identified by the Board as a point it plans to address. Socioeconomic status is a measurement that is available to the school system and is used; however, that single measure is used as a surrogate for complex measures that the system does not have. The family is a critical factor in terms of their children’s success.
Mr. Abrams stated that the educational load goes beyond the “free and reduced meals” indicator and looks at mobility, family status, and the whole aggregate that can be broken down to the census track and related back to the neighborhood and the school. There is some extrapolation that is possible for the other material for a more sophisticated analysis.

Mr. Felton wanted to keep the discussion in perspective and how these differences impact on the Board’s ability to deliver quality education.

Ms. Gutiérrez remarked that the “free and reduced meals” data should be presented in relation to instruction, Success for Every Student, graduations, SAT scores, promotions, loss of credit, and at what point is there a difference.

Mr. Ewing pointed out that the Census Bureau has refined data on trends and shifts in the socioeconomic makeup of the population. There is a charge for this information, and he asked for staff to find out what the cost is and give the Board that information.

Re: FACILITIES STANDARDS, EDUCATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS, AND BUDGET REDUCTIONS

Dr. Vance invited the following staff to the table: Mr. David G. Fischer, associate superintendent for the Office of Supportive Services; Mr. Joseph Lavorgna, director of the Department of Educational Facilities Planning and Capital Programming; Ms. Robin King, facilities analyst of the Department of Educational Facilities Planning and Capital Programming; Mr. William M. Wilder, director of Department of Facilities Management; and Mr. Richard Hawes, director of the Division of Construction.

During the mid to late 1980's, the annual volume of construction work in the Washington metropolitan area rose steadily with small variations. Construction costs also rose during the same period at a slightly lower rate. As the economy slowed down in late 1989 and construction volume started to drop, costs began to decline. Between 1989 and 1991, the annual nonresidential construction volume in the Washington area declined dramatically from $3.1 to $1.9 billion annually. At the same time, new school construction costs for MCPS dropped from an average of $83 to $69 per square foot. This decline represented almost a 20 percent decrease in construction costs over an eighteen-month period. At the end of 1992, the economy began to show improvement; however, costs only increased slightly through the third quarter of 1993, due in part to the uncertainty in the strength of the recovery. During the last part of 1993 and into 1994, the economic recovery continued to strengthen, interest rates remained stable, and construction volume started to rise. The construction industry responded to the improved economy in late 1993 by pushing costs up to pre-1989 levels. Throughout the Washington metropolitan area, nonresidential construction costs rose 20 to 25 percent during the first half of 1994.
In the spring of 1994, during the review of the FY 1995-2000 CIP, MCPS notified the County Council that construction costs were rising substantially, and comparable cost increases would have to be factored into the estimates for project budgets. MCPS staff reminded the County Council that just as major reductions in construction cost estimates were applied across the board to MCPS projects in the FY 1993 and FY 1994 budgets to reflect the low bids associated with the recession, increases in costs would have to be applied to all MCPS construction projects in the CIP to reflect the higher costs associated with the economic recovery. The Council acknowledged that construction costs were increasing and agreed to make the adjustment to our project budgets as part of the FY 1996-2001 CIP.

In November 1994 when the Board of Education submitted its FY 1996-2001 CIP, and included increases to the individual budgets that reflected current construction costs and presented documentation to show the effect the economic recovery was having on construction prices. When the County Council began deliberations on the FY 1996-2001 CIP, they again acknowledged that market conditions had changed. However, as part of the final action on the FY 1996-2001 CIP, a 14 percent limit was placed on increases for MCPS projects even though actual construction costs were averaging 20 percent over the budgets in the approved FY 1995-2000 CIP. The Council’s action forced us to consider cuts to several FY 1997 projects that were in the architectural planning phase because of the difference between the limit on increases and actual construction costs.

Our facilities standards consist of two parts: (1) the educational space requirements for the elementary, middle, and high school programs, and (2) the guidelines on construction administration procedures and the quality of building materials/systems.

Dr. Vance has asked Mr. Bowers and Mr. Lavorgna to convene a group of curriculum staff, principals, and community representatives to review the current educational specifications and recommend modifications that can be implemented in response to future cost problems. A report on the review group’s work will be prepared and forwarded to Board members.

Board members thank staff for the presentation and Board members raised the following issues:

1. The school system should use management technology to identify what the costs and timing for the project within predesigned specifications.
2. The school system could then demonstrate to the County Council that MCPS has controls in place for pricing.
3. There should be a method to assess the impact of design and costs versus need.
4. If interagency collaboration develops, schools will become multi-use and that will affect the design as well as the cost, and it should be done in collaboration with those agencies involved.
5. The design of the building cannot constrain educational process especially in light of changing educational delivery methods.

6. There must be a dialogue with the County Council over the process leading to budget reductions and the request for supplemental appropriations on construction projects.

7. There is an advantage in scheduling and cost containment with an MCPS construction manager, and the model should be replicated for other construction projects.

8. MCPS has reasonable educational standards, reasonable costs per square foot, and staff efficiency; however, the County Council has delayed construction and will not pay for inflation costs.

9. There should be a summary of the savings to the school system in value engineering, and an ongoing cost analysis of construction projects.

10. There could be a cost comparison between educational facilities and other government structures.

The Board of Education recessed from 1:05 to 2:10 p.m. for lunch and a closed session.

Re: PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following people appeared before the Board of Education:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Diane Marcus</td>
<td>Wayside Elementary School Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Owen Nichols</td>
<td>SAT Scores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Roscoe Nix</td>
<td>SAT Scores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Helen Rudd</td>
<td>Transportation Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Chris Miller</td>
<td>6th Grade Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Sharon Waxman</td>
<td>Wayside Elementary School Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. George Thomas</td>
<td>SAT Scores</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Mrs. Gordon was temporarily out of the room.

RESOLUTION NO. 684-96 Re: PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS MORE THAN $25,000

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of equipment, supplies, and contractual services; and
WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the lease/purchase of a van chassis cab for the Department of Materials Management; and

WHEREAS, It is recommended that Bid No. 208-97, Special Education Tracking System Software, be rejected due to lack of bid response; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a van chassis cab be lease/purchased under the Master Lease/Purchase Agreement; and be it further

Resolved, That Bid No. 208-97, Special Education Tracking System Software, be rejected; and be it further

Resolved, That having been duly advertised, the following contracts be awarded to the low bidders meeting specifications as shown for the bids as follows:

402-94 Energy Incentive Program (SERT) for the Division of School Plant Operations

Awardee

Omnicomp $ 245,000

94-07 Chapter I Instructional Services to Eligible Nonpublic School Students

Awardee

Educational In-Roads, Inc. $ 55,400

106-95 Snow Plow and Pump Parts - Extension

Awardee

Antietam Equipment Company $ 27,558

110-95 Aftermarket Automotive Parts - Extension

Awardees

American Bus Sales and Service $ 30,000 *
Arrow Auto Parts 20,000
County Engine Shop 15,000
D & L Truck and Bus Parts, Inc. 14,000 *
District International Trucks, Inc. 167,500
Ditch, Bowers and Taylor, Inc. 13,100 *
Fitzgerald Auto Mall, Inc. 57,000
General Fleet Service Company 20,000
H & H Automotive Parts Warehouse 47,620
Jasper Engines and Transmissions 10,000
K & M Supply, Inc. 116,500
Northern Virginia Supply, Inc. 84,833
Oursman's Rockmont Chevrolet 14,250
Quality Automotive Warehouse, Inc. 17,146
R & S Auto and Truck Spring Works, Inc. 13,500
Rockville Radiator Shop 30,000 *
Rosedale Auto Electric and Parts, Inc. 14,000
Vehicle Maintenance Program, Inc. 44,667 *
Virginia Spring and Alignment, Inc. 2,000 *

Total $ 731,116

114-95 Roofing Supplies - Extension

Awardees

R.E. Michel Company $ 17,763
The Roof Center, Inc. 119,259

Total $ 137,022

11-97 Woodwind and Brass Instrument Repair

Awardees

L & L Music-Wind Shop
Music & Arts Center, Inc.
Total $ 35,000

14-97 Cafeteria Disposable Supplies

Awardees

Acme Paper and Supply Company $ 133,676
C & K Manufacturing and Sales Company 7,759
Calico Industries, Inc. 800
L.L. Clean Company 8,819 *
S. Freedman and Sons, Inc. 13,318
Kahn Paper Company, Inc.  
PK International Company, Inc.  
Total  

15-97 Flooring Materials

Awardees

B & B Concepts, Inc.  $ 19,514  *
Capitol Building Supply  4,728
Continental Flooring Company  16,617
Pikesville Lumber Company  149
Total  $ 41,008

16-97 Lease/Purchase of Van Chassis Cab for the Department of Materials  
Management under the Master Lease/Purchase Agreement

Awardee

District International Trucks, Inc.  $ 58,435

17-97 Motor Vehicle, Refrigerated Van for the Division of Food and Nutrition Services

Awardees

Dorsey/Records, Inc.  $ 34,300
Jerry's Ford Sales, Inc.  40,686
Total  $ 74,986

34-97 Processed Cheese

Awardee

Sandler Foods  $ 133,520

153-97 Natural Gas

Awardee

BNG, Inc.  $ 472,505
203-97  Computer Supplies

Awardees

Bettertype Ribbons, Inc.  $ 506
Brothers Lazer and Computer  1,989
DK & R  200 *
G.I. Tech, Inc.  8,463 *
Instant Media  1,570 *
Office Depot  5,913
Frank Parsons Paper Company  25,093
Printing Technology, Inc.  16,800
Schoolmart, Inc.  1,036
Toner, Etc.  1,619
US Carbon & Ribbon Company  17,221 *
Westwood Computer Corporation  619
Wordex Corporation  17,713
Xerox Corporation  21,638
Richard Young Products  17,907
Total $ 138,287

204-97  Early Childhood Equipment and Supplies

Awardees

ABC School Supply, Inc.  $ 311
AFP Industries, Inc.  17,197 *
Childcraft Education Corporation  8,428
Community Playthings  $ 1,800
Edu-Care School Supply  4,491
J.L. Hammett Company  4,410
Kaplan School Supply Corporation  1,624
Lakeshore Learning Materials  488
School Specialty  4,532
Vince’s Wooden Toys, Inc.  44,742
Total $ 88,023

205-97  Art Equipment

Awardees

Charrette Corporation  $ 10,720
James Howard Company  1,486
Pine Ridge Pottery, Inc. 4,592  
Pyramid Art Supply 4,955  
School Specialty 39,346  
Vince’s Wooden Toys, Inc. 10,194  
Total $ 71,293

211-97  External Drives for Macintosh and DOS Computers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awardees</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Computer Systems Corporation</td>
<td>$9,029 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attronica Computers, Inc.</td>
<td>31,980 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Systems and Supplies, Inc.</td>
<td>8,779 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 49,788</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MORE THAN $25,000 $2,820,635

* Denotes MFD vendors

* Mrs. Gordon rejoined the meeting at this point.

RESOLUTION NO. 685-96  Re: AWARD OF CONTRACTS - MONTGOMERY BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL

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

WHEREAS, On September 24 and 26, 1996, sealed bids for various subcontractors for Montgomery Blair High School were received in accordance with MCPS procurement practices, with work to begin based on a predetermined critical path of key dates and be completed by July 1998; and

WHEREAS, Details of the bid activity are available in the Department of Facilities Management; and

WHEREAS, The low bidders have completed similar projects successfully; and

WHEREAS, The low bids exceed the estimates; however, sufficient funds are available to award the contracts; now therefore be it

Resolved, That contracts be awarded to the following low bidders meeting specifications for the bids and amounts listed below:
**Low Bids**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Contractor</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electrical</td>
<td>Delta Electric</td>
<td>$2,737,641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elevator</td>
<td>General Elevator Co., Inc.</td>
<td>38,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical</td>
<td>Shapiro &amp; Duncan, Inc.</td>
<td>5,130,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheelchair</td>
<td>Bedco Mobility, Inc.</td>
<td>18,725</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESOLUTION NO. 686-96  Re:  **CHANGE ORDER OVER $25,000 - NORTHWEST AREA HIGH SCHOOL**

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

WHEREAS, The Northwest Area High School construction bids included an alternate to complete work on the park property that is adjacent to the school site; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission has agreed to fund the alternate cost and will allow Montgomery County Public Schools to use the athletic fields on the park property for the Northwest Area High School's physical education program; now therefore be it

**Resolved**, That the Board of Education approve a change order in the amount of $85,000 to complete the improvements to the park site adjacent to the Northwest Area High School contingent upon the receipt of funds from the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission to complete this work.

RESOLUTION NO. 687-96  Re:  **NORTHWEST AREA HIGH SCHOOL ENERGY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM INSTALLATION**

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

WHEREAS, The following sealed bids were received on September 12, 1996, for the energy management system installation at Northwest Area High School:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contractor</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Control Systems Sales, Inc.</td>
<td>$438,882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barber-Colman Pritchett, Inc.</td>
<td>510,236</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
and

WHEREAS, The low bid is below the staff estimate of $494,000 and the recommended contractor has completed similar work successfully for Montgomery County Public Schools; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education award a $438,882 contract to Control Systems Sales, Inc., to install an energy management system at Northwest Area High School and assign it to the general contractor, Glenn Construction Company, for implementation and supervision.

RESOLUTION NO. 688-96   Re: MODIFICATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO HVAC SYSTEMS — BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

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

WHEREAS, Sealed bids were received on September 25, 1996, for modifications and additions to the HVAC systems at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, in accordance with MCPS procurement practices, with work to begin on October 9, 1996 and to be completed by January 1, 1997; and

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bidder</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Shapiro &amp; Duncan, Inc.</td>
<td>$143,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Calvert Mechanical, Inc.</td>
<td>172,859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. R. M. Thornton, Inc.</td>
<td>195,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHEREAS, The low bid is below staff estimates of $200,000, and Shapiro & Duncan, Inc., has completed similar work successfully for Montgomery County Public Schools; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a contract for $143,300.00 be awarded to Shapiro & Duncan, Inc., for modifications and additions to HVAC systems at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School.

RESOLUTION NO. 689-96   Re: UTILIZATION OF FY 1997 FUTURE SUPPORTED PROJECT FUNDS FOR THE CHALLENGE GRANT PROGRAM — ALBERT EINSTEIN AND WHEATON CLUSTERS

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Abrams seconded by Mr. Felton, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:
Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend, within the FY 1997 Provision for Future Supported Projects, a grant award of $1,780,000 from the Maryland State Department of Education, under the state Challenge Schools Program for the fourth year of the Challenge Grant Program in the Wheaton cluster and the second year in the Albert Einstein cluster in the following categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Positions*</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2    Instructional Salaries</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>$743,345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3    Other Instructional Costs</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,036,655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>$1,780,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*0.5 Counselor, B-D (10 month)
3.0 Teacher, A-D (10 month)
School Financial Assistant, Grade 13 (12 month)

and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of the resolution be transmitted to the county executive and the County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 690-96 Re: UTILIZATION OF FY 1997 FUTURE SUPPORTED PROJECT FUNDS FOR THE DISRUPTIVE YOUTH PROGRAM

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

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend within the FY 1997 Future Supported Project Funds a grant award of $3,000 from the Maryland State Department of Education for the Disruptive Youth Program in the following categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2    Instructional Salaries</td>
<td>$460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3    Other Instructional Costs</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10   Fixed Charges</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total $3,000

and be it further
Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the county executive and the County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 691-96 Re: UTILIZATION OF FY 1997 FUTURE SUPPORTED PROJECT FUNDS FOR THE NIH/MCPS SCIENCE EDUCATION SUPPORT PROJECT

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

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend within the FY 1997 Provision for Future Supported Projects a grant award of $88,641 from the National Institutes of Health for the National Institutes of Health/ Montgomery County Public Schools Science Education Support Project in the following categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Positions*</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Instructional Salaries</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>$61,931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Fixed Charges</td>
<td></td>
<td>26,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td><strong>$88,641</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 1.0 Teacher, Grade B-D, (10 month)

and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the county executive and the County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 692-96 Re: UTILIZATION OF FY 1997 FUTURE SUPPORTED PROJECT FUNDS FOR THE SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER IMMERSION TRAINING PROGRAM

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

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend within the FY 1997 Provision for Future Supported Projects a grant award of $13,586 from Johns Hopkins University for the third year of the Special Education Teacher Immersion Training Program.
RESOLUTION NO. 693-96  Re: UTILIZATION OF FY 1997 FUTURE SUPPORTED PROJECT FUNDS FOR THE MAYDALE NATURE CENTER PROGRAM

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

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend within the FY 1997 Provision for Future Supported Projects a grant award of $4,464 from the Chesapeake Bay Trust for the Maydale Nature Center, in the following categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>2 Instructional Salaries</td>
<td>$3,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Other Instructional Costs</td>
<td>372</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Fixed Charges</td>
<td>303</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,464</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Instructional Specialist, Grade B-D (12 month)

and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the county executive and the County Council.
RESOLUTION NO. 694-96  Re:  RECOMMENDATION TO SUBMIT A GRANT PROPOSAL TO THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES FOR TEACHING DIGITAL ART THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

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

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to submit a grant in the amount of $250,000 to the National Endowment for the Humanities for Teaching of Digital Art Through Technology to support learning about the history of digital art; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the county executive and the County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 695-96  Re:  AMENDMENT TO THE TRUST AGREEMENT FOR THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS EMPLOYEES' PENSION AND RETIREMENT SYSTEM

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

WHEREAS, The Board of Education by Resolution No. 344-95 authorized the establishment of a trust to be used for the purpose of funding Montgomery County Public Schools Employees' Retirement and Pension System benefits; and

WHEREAS, The Trustee is a committee composed of the deputy superintendent for planning, technology and supportive services; chief financial officer; director of management, budget and planning; director of insurance and retirement; and up to, but no more than, three additional members to be appointed by the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, The position of deputy superintendent for planning, technology and supportive services was abolished and the position of associate superintendent for supportive services was created by Board of Education Resolution No. 487-96; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Trust Agreement be amended to reflect the elimination of the deputy superintendent for planning, technology and supportive services position and name the associate superintendent for supportive services as a member of the trust committee; and be it further

Resolved, That execution of the amended Trust Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education be authorized; and be it further
Resolved, That the Board of Education authorize the superintendent of schools to take such further action as shall be necessary to carry out the intent and accomplish the purpose of the foregoing resolutions.

RESOLUTION NO. 696-96 Re: CONTRACTS FOR DENTAL PREFERRED PROVIDER ORGANIZATION AND DENTAL MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION, DISCOUNT VISION PROGRAM, AND LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAM

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

WHEREAS, The Board of Education by Resolution No. 563-58 established in 1958 an Employee Benefit Plan to provide life and health insurance to eligible employees; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education expanded the Employee Benefit Plan by Resolution No. 448-72 and 457-72 to include dental coverage and vision coverage; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education has periodically rebid elements of the Employee Benefit Plan for the benefit of employees and to improve programs and reduce costs; and

WHEREAS, During contract negotiations in the spring of 1996, the Board of Education and the Montgomery County Education Association, Montgomery County Council of Supporting Services Employees, and Montgomery County Association of Administrative and Supervisory Personnel agreed to provide dental benefits through a Dental Preferred Provider Organization and to provide a discount vision program; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education has chosen to rebid the life insurance component of the Employee Benefit Plan; and

WHEREAS, Having been duly advertised under RFP No. 140-97, Request for Dental Care Proposals, RFP No. 56-97, Request for Vision Care Proposals, and RFP No. 141-97, Request for Life Insurance Proposals, companies were asked to submit proposals for consideration; and

WHEREAS, Alexander & Alexander Consulting Group, Inc., was retained to assist in the review and evaluation of proposals, conduct finalist interviews, and provide recommendations to the superintendent of schools; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that these programs will result in savings to Montgomery County Public Schools of approximately $1.0 million annually and reduce substantially out-of-pocket expenses for plan participants; and
WHEREAS, The results of these solicitations have been reviewed with all three unions through the Joint Employee Benefits Committee; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a contract for Dental Preferred Provider Organization and Dental Maintenance Organization services and for employee life and supplemental life insurance be awarded to the Prudential Insurance Company of America; and be it further

Resolved, That a contract to provide a discount vision program be awarded to National Vision Administrators, Inc.; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education president and superintendent of schools be authorized to execute the documents for this transaction.

RESOLUTION NO. 697-96  Re: PERSONNEL MONTHLY REPORT

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

Resolve, That the Board of education approve the Personnel Monthly Report dated October 8, 1996.

RESOLUTION NO. 698-96  Re: DEATH OF MRS. NAOMI E. MORTON, CAFETERIA MANAGER IV, DIVISION OF FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES

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

WHEREAS, The death on September 22, 1996, of Mrs. Naomi E. Morton, cafeteria manager IV in the Division of Food and Nutrition Services, has deeply saddened the staff, students, and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morton had been a loyal employee of Montgomery County Public Schools and a member of the cafeteria staff for 24 years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morton's competence, initiative, and outstanding human relation skills were recognized by her staff and associates; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education express their sorrow at the death of Mrs. Naomi E. Morton and extend deepest sympathy to her family; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be made part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy be forwarded to Mrs. Morton's family.
Re: **UPDATE ON STUDENT ENROLLMENT AUDIT**

Dr. Vance invited the following staff to the table: Mr. Larry Bowers, Chief Financial Officer; Dr. Marlene Hartzman, director of the Department of Educational Accountability; and Dr. Pam Splaine, coordinator of the Policy and Records Unit.

Mr. Bowers gave a brief overview of what has and will be done concerning the enrollment audit. The issue is not that the students were enrolled and present, but is one of the audit from Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) interpreting the records and documentation. MCPS has been audited in the past by MSDE following their guidelines and procedures and have been consistently under the error rate of .5 percent. Computer documentation has always been accepted by MSDE, but not the OLA. MCPS is compiling a detailed report responding to all the findings of the OLA. MCPS’ public information request for backup documents for the audit has been denied based on confidentiality of state documents. A joint legislative committee (four Montgomery County representatives) will be reviewing and hearing testimony on the audit.

Dr. Hartzman stated that staff is working to (1) certify the records of 39 students cited by OLA; (2) compile the September 30 enrollment data and reviewing procedures and verifying any discrepancies; (3) verify all health records and birth certification; and (4) use the new MSDE procedures, resolve conflicts in those guidelines, and train all school personnel on enrollment guidelines.

Mr. Bowers remarked that MCPS is working with Peat Marwick, MCPS external auditors, to substantiate internal controls regarding enrollment, attendance, and electronic documentation.

Board members appreciated the update by staff and made the following points:

1. The political nature of the work and failure to respond to the public information request is troubling; and Montgomery County senators and delegates could pursue that request for information.
2. The OLA needs to be held to task to demonstrate their adherence to auditing standards as well as an understanding of what they were auditing.
3. Staff will send the Board a memorandum reporting all findings at the end of the week, including cost estimates.
4. A meeting should be arranged for a full briefing as soon as feasible and before the hearings for the Montgomery County legislative members serving on the committee as well as for the entire delegation.
5. It is important to work with other jurisdictions to clarify the impact on a statewide basis.
6. The MCPS costs associated with following up on the student enrollment audit need to be calculated.
7. The testimony and response must address each concern of the OLA.
8. MSDE is in charge of auditing LEA records, and the OLA is imposing a separate set of requirements; therefore, it is difficult to whom MCPS should properly respond. MCPS is accountable to MSDE, not OLA.
9. Board members should review the draft testimony on the student enrollment audit to ensure consistency and/or any input members may wish to make.

Re: SAT SCORES

Dr. Vance invited the following people to the table: Dr. Steven G. Seleznow, associate superintendent for the Office of School Administration; and Dr. Mary Helen Smith, associate superintendent for the Office of Instruction and Program Development.

It was the sense of the Board of Education that when the County Council requests information and the Board of Education has not taken a position to politely decline to discuss the issue.

Mrs. Gemberling reported that the Board has received a memorandum on systemwide and individual school actions in response to the SAT scores. The first step is to review the disaggregated data from the Education Testing Services (ETS) and analyze those scores. Subsequently, staff will review procedures to ensure opportunities are accessible to all students in all schools. The SAT is one measure that students are engaged in programs that will lead to their success. The Department of Educational Accountability (DEA) is breaking out the individual school data to (1) see if there are different patterns with African-American students tested last year, and (2) see if it is a trend over several years or a different pattern. There are correlates with SAT performance such as courses taken, math level, percentage of advanced or honors courses, and extra preparation for the SAT. As principal exchange information, student evaluation, communication with parents, and SAT preparation courses will be looked at and evaluated in light of overall SAT scores.

Dr. Seleznow reported that the response from the principals has been terrific in reviewing SAT scores regardless of their school’s specific performance. Principals are focusing on case histories to determine fluctuation on the scores; therefore, they will apply what they have learned to this year’s students particularly with ninth grade students. There has been a realization throughout the community that this issue is systemic and teachers and parents are reviewing ways in which they can provide assistance. Thirty staff from throughout the system will serve on six intervention teams.

Board members thought the briefing was helpful, and made the following comments:
1. It would be helpful if students took practice PSATs countywide. It would be helpful if students knew what colleges are looking for in relation to SAT scores.
2. It is clear staff is looking at accountability not blame.
3. As far as MCPS' expectations for students, there are courses that indicate success and all students should progress through those courses with an expectation that all students will take the SATs and be successful in college.
4. An important issue is shared accountability on the part of all principals.
5. When a student stops taking the SAT should be analyzed in relationship to entry requirements for special set aside programs.
6. Scholarships could be provided for students to take the SAT.
7. The expectation might be for all students to take the SAT as a long-term strategy.
8. Staff needs to assess the data carefully prior to making recommendations and concluding to soon what to do to fix the problem.
9. MCPS should look for strategies in the short-term as an experiment and learn from those activities to build up a more comprehensive process to students prepare for college.
10. Communication with parents must be increased to alert them to upcoming SAT and PSAT tests.
11. Students have not been taught to study for an exam.
12. The data of an individual student profile would be very important in the process of evaluating students and their success or failure in taking the SAT.
13. The level of Hispanic participation varies greatly, and staff needs to address this issue.

Re: CLASS SIZE REDUCTION GOALS AND STRATEGIES

Mr. Vance invited the following staff to the table in addition to Mrs. Gemberling and Mr. Bowers: Dr. Steven Seleznov, associate superintendent for the Office of School Administration; Dr. Marshall Spatz, director for the Department of Management, Budget and Planning; and Mr. James Terrill, administrative assistant to the deputy superintendent of schools.

Mrs. Gemberling reported that the Board of Education's FY 1996 Operating Budget was reduced by $15.4 million by the County Council. Consequently, 123.8 classroom teacher positions were eliminated from the budget, thus increasing average class sizes and the number of classes beyond the maximum class size guidelines.

At that time, the Board of Education decided that teacher position reductions should come more at the secondary level than the elementary level. A review of the class size data indicates that the greatest impact in the number and percentage of classes beyond maximum size guidelines has been in secondary schools.
According to research relative to class size discussed at the September 24, 1996, Board of Education meeting, only very small class sizes (15-17 students) have a significant impact on the learning experiences of students, especially in grades K, 1, 2, and 3. Further, the research did not clearly address the learning effects of such variables as socioeconomic diversity and the full inclusion and mainstreaming of special education students in regular education classrooms. More and more in today’s classrooms, teachers are expressing concerns about their ability to meet the needs of a diverse student population, including students with limited English proficiency and special education students being mainstreamed into regular education classes.

The ratio for budgeting secondary classroom teacher positions remained relatively constant from 1984-85 to 1994-95, with the number of additional teacher positions changing from year to year in an attempt to reduce the number of classes over maximum guidelines. At the middle school level, the range of additional teachers to address large classes ranged from 12.9 to 31.9 positions. At the high school level, the number of additional teachers to address large classes ranged from 34.6 to 51.6 positions. At the elementary school level, the ratio for budgeting teacher positions remains constant for five of the past six years. The only additional teacher positions budgeted were designated to reduce class sizes in schools with high ESOL enrollments. The number of additional teacher positions added to the budget to address large classes has ranged from 0 to 46.5 positions.

There are two broad categories of strategies to consider in the discussion of reducing class sizes: Resources and Flexible Staffing Models. The first category provides strategies to add or redeploy the necessary resources to fund reductions in class sizes. The second category provides strategies of program delivery and flexible staffing models to address issues associated with the reduction of class sizes.

A. Resources

Listed below are five potential strategies for consideration as a means of funding the reduction of class sizes:

1. Adding resources to the budget.
2. Redeployment of non-classroom teacher positions.
3. Redeployment of funds designated for supporting services positions.
4. Contractual changes.
5. Other cost-containment and reduction strategies.

B. Flexible Staffing Models.

Several concepts are listed below:
1. Using 0.5 teachers.
2. Assigning two adults to large classes.
3. Establishing a tutor position for schools or clusters.
4. Use of special education staff.

Board members made the following points during the discussion on class size goals and strategies:

1. Instructional assistants could be included in class size average.
2. There are three areas to lower class size: volunteers (community and college students), large lectures with break out sessions, and block scheduling.
3. There could be more instructional assistants in elementary classes.
4. The Board should meet immediate demands, and then look for long-term methods that would improve instruction.
5. The Board should look at a multi-year, structured plan for a cap on class size at all levels and how that goal will be accomplished.
6. The Board could establish a task force to review class options and make recommendations to the superintendent and Board.
7. The Board could accept the superintendent’s recommendation, but add long-range initiatives and instructional implications as well as look at the issue of other mechanisms such as flexible staffing, cost containment, redeployment of funds and/or staff.
8. There needs to be a long-term strategy to look at other things outside the number of students and the average class size. Staff could factor that into a long-term plan after data is collected and studied to evaluate what happens in the classroom. MCPS should not continue with the “average” class size numbers.

RESOLUTION NO. 699-96  Re:  CLASS SIZE REDUCTION GOALS AND STRATEGIES

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mrs Gordon, the following resolution was adopted Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, and Ms. Prager voting in the affirmative; Mr. Abrams voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the Board of Education direct the superintendent to go forward with a multi-year initiative to address the increase in class sizes that occurred in FY 1996, and

a. Add 27.4 additional teachers to the middle school budget and 41.5 additional teachers to the high school budget for the purpose of reducing large class sizes; and it is recommended that it be spread out this increase in staffing over a three-year period for an approximate cost of $922,112 per year.
b. Add 54.9 additional teachers to the elementary school budget in order to reduce the ratio of teaching adults to students in larger classes in Grades 1-3. The total cost for 54.9 positions is $2,204,235 in FY 1998; it is recommended that it be spread out this increase over a three-year period for an approximate cost of $734,745 per; and be it further Resolved, That the Board of Education permit and encourage local school flexibility in the utilization of existing staff to reduce class sizes and/or to increase the number of teaching adults working with large classes; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education direct the superintendent to develop for the Board’s consideration and action a long-range plan that addresses the instructional concerns associated with, but not limited to, class size issues that were raised by the Board of Education’s discussion of class size on October 8, 1996.

Mr. Abrams made the following statement for the record: “I have no assurance that if this is voted on, that will be done (research in Montgomery County based on the Tennessee model). I see it in conflict for the following reasons. I am not looking for a smorgasbord based on the mantra of class size. If there is something I am looking for, it is optimization and focusing on class size where, in fact, we get the largest bang for the buck. Having heard all the discussions, site-based and every other buzz word you want to throw into this thing, the best research I have seen presented were the impacts on minority populations in selective schools in the Tennessee model. I want to find out how much different or how much alike Tennessee and Montgomery County are in terms of addressing the issue of class size. It is the one thing that came out of this that was concrete and where there were some measurable results already. If we are going to do something on it, I want the assurance that we are going to focus on it. I want us to get more information at the high school level, and I would suggest that aside from the excellent principals you have here who have been involved in it, you bring in the folks who have been involved in some of our special programs and talk about the impact of class size on specific populations.”

Re: BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Mr. Felton commented on (1) attendance at the preferred choice forms, and it was clear that are many citizens who do not understand the concept; (2) the NAACP Youth Summit showing the collaborative effort between the Board, staff, and community; and (3) the meeting with Success, Inc. with continuing support for MCPS from the corporate community

Mr. Abrams remarked about (1) additional fees being charged in schools on a case-by-case basis, and MCCPTA will gather that information on a school-by-school basis prior to
budget considerations; and (2) a concern from a Bethesda-Chevy Chase parent about calculators being required for certain math classes and only one available at the school which is contrary to policy.

Mr. Ewing stated that November 14 there will be a meeting of those liaisons from the Future Search Conference to plan next steps.

Dr. Cheung attended the preliminary session of the Montgomery County workshop on the Community of Choice for the Turn of the Century, and those work groups have indicated the importance of education in the future.

Mrs. Gordon followed up on items of future legislation and reported that the MABE conference (1) adopted on the Board’s strengthened the maintenance-of-effort bill with two additional statements; and (2) did not support the Board’s recommendation to shorten the appeal time on transfers from 30 to 10 days.

Ms. Prager commented on the community services requirement for students and what measures are being taken to address the issue of students who have not completed their community service requirement and are scheduled to graduate this year.

Ms. Gutiérrez announced that on October 25 there will be a large college fair sponsored at American University in cooperation with the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities where there will be information on financial aid, recruitment of students, and other activities.

RESOLUTION NO. 700-96 Re: RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County conduct a portion of its meeting on Monday, October 28, 1996, at 7:30 p.m. to discuss personnel matters, matters protected from public disclosure by law, review and adjudicate appeals, and other issues including consultation with counsel to obtain legal advice, specifically pertaining to the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and related matters; and be it further

Resolved, That these meetings be conducted in Room 120 of the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, as permitted under Section 4-106, Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and State Government Article 10-501; and be it further

Resolved, That such meeting shall continue in closed session until the completion of business.
Re: REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

On September 10, 1996, by the unanimous vote of members present, the Board of Education voted to conduct a closed session on September 24, 1996, as permitted under Section 4-106, Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and State Government Article 10-501.

The Montgomery County Board of Education met in closed session on September 24, 1996, from 7:12 to 8:35 p.m. The meeting took place in Room 120, Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland.

The Board met to discuss personnel issues, legal matters with its attorneys, and matters protected from public disclosure by law.

The Board reviewed and adjudicated BOE Appeals 1996-27 and 1996-32.

In attendance at part or all of the closed sessions were: Steve Abrams, Betsy Arons, Larry Bowers, Judith Bresler, Alan Cheung, Blair Ewing, David Fischer, Reggie Felton, Kathy Gemberling, Bea Gordon, Ana Sol Gutiérrez, Marlene Hartzman, Roland Ikheloa, Nancy King, George Margolies, Brian Porter, Glenda Rose, Ruby Rubens, Steve Seleznow, Pam Splaine, Roger Titus, Paul Vance, and Joe Villani.

RESOLUTION NO. 701-96 Re: BOE APPEAL 1996-26

On motion of Mr. Felton and seconded by Mrs. Gordon, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Order in BOE Appeal 1996-26, a student placement matter, affirming the superintendent’s decision reflective of the following vote: Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, and Ms. Prager voting in the affirmative; Mr. Abrams was absent during deliberations.

RESOLUTION NO. 702-96 Re: BOE APPEAL 1996-30

On motion of Mr. Felton and seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Order in BOE Appeal 1996-30, a student placement matter, affirming the superintendent’s decision reflective of the following vote: Mr. Abrams, Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, and Ms. Prager voting in the affirmative.
RESOLUTION NO. 703-96  Re:  BOE APPEAL 1996-31

On motion of Mr. Felton and seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Order in BOE Appeal 1996-31, a student placement matter, affirming the superintendent’s decision reflective of the following vote: Mr. Abrams, Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, and Ms. Prager voting in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 704-96  Re:  BOE APPEAL 1996-32

On motion of Mr. Felton and seconded by Mr. Ewing, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Order in BOE Appeal 1996-32 a student placement matter, affirming the superintendent’s decision reflective of the following vote: Mr. Abrams, Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, and Ms. Prager voting in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION NO. 705-96  Re:  BALLOT QUESTION D

On motion of Mr. Ewing and seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Felton, Ms. Gutiérrez, and Ms. Prager voting in the affirmative; Mr. Abrams voting in the negative; Mrs. Gordon and Mrs. King abstaining.

WHEREAS, Appearing on the ballot, as Question D, will be an initiative to change the County Charter to permit the County Council to adopt a final operating budget for the school system in any given fiscal year that exceeds the final spending affordability guidelines, without requiring a super-majority vote as is now required for such adoption. The effect of this will be to foster and allow the majority of the Council to adopt budgets responsive to the needs of the school system as revenues allow; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education go on record in support of Ballot Question D, “Budget Adoption--Majority Vote”, seeking to amend Section 305 of the County Charter, and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be sent to the County Executive and County Council and communicated widely, including to the media, and that the Superintendent use any authorized means to convey the Board’s position on the ballot question.

Re:  TRANSPORTATION FEE

With consent of the seconder, Ms. Prager, Mr. Abrams withdrew the following motion:
Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt a fee structure of $100 per semester to be assessed to families of the 1,800 students affected by the loss of bus routes, resulting in $360,000 for the cost of reinstating transportation.

RESOLUTION NO. 706-96  Re:  ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE GIFTED AND TALENTED POLICY

On motion of Mr. Felton and seconded by Mrs. King, the following motion was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education schedule time in January for an annual review of the progress with respect to the Gifted and Talented Policy.

Re:  ACTIVITY FEES FOR CREDITED COURSES

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education seek clarification of the Board’s intent on activity fees with regard to credited courses.

RESOLUTION NO. 707-96  Re:  AMENDMENT TO ACTIVITY FEES FOR CREDITED COURSES

On motion of Mr. Ewing and seconded by Ms. Prager, the following amendment was adopted with Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, and Ms. Prager voting in the affirmative; Mr. Abrams voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the Board of Education schedule this item for discussion at a subsequent meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 708-96  Re:  ACTIVITY FEES FOR CREDITED COURSES

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education seek clarification of the Board’s intent on activity fees with regard to credited courses; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education schedule this item for discussion at a subsequent meeting.
On motion of Mr. Ewing and seconded by Ms. Gutiérrez, the following motion failed with Mr. Ewing voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cheung, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, and Ms. Prager voting in the negative; Mr. Abrams abstaining:

**Resolved**, That the Board of Education restore bus service for Wayside Elementary School students in Bedfordshire and Potomac Green/Roberts Glen subdivisions that would eliminate the need for students to walk on Bedfordshire Avenue and Ambleside Drive.

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**Re: NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Ewing moved and Mr. Felton seconded the following:

- **Resolved**, That the Board of Education schedule for discussion and action the possibility for implementation of block scheduling for all high schools, and be it further

- **Resolved**, That the superintendent be directed to provide to the Board before that meeting an analysis showing impacts on the school system, individual schools, teachers, quality of student instruction, and containing such recommendations as may seem reasonable to him; and be it further

- **Resolved**, That staff and other appropriate persons (students and parents) from Wheaton High School be asked to participate in this discussion.

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

- **Resolved**, That the Board of Education schedule a time to discuss with the County Council the issues of bids and facilities and that discussion should be scheduled prior to the time that the FY 1997 request goes forward.

Ms. Prager moved and Mr. Abrams seconded the following:

- **Resolved**, That the Board of Education schedule time for an update and discussion on what measures are being taken to address the issue of students who have not completed their community service requirement and are scheduled to graduate this year.

Mr. Felton moved and Mr. Ewing seconded the following:

- **Resolved**, That the Board of Education schedule time to be updated on the special education issues that relate to budgetary implications.
Mr. Abrams moved and Mrs. King seconded the following:

Resolved, That the Board of Education designate before October 23, 1996, who our spokesman should be to testify on the issue of the audit before the General Assembly’s special legislative committees.

Re: ITEMS OF INFORMATION

1. Items in Process
2. Block Scheduling
3. Construction Progress Report

RESOLUTION NO. 709-96 Re: ADJOURNMENT

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting of October 8, 1996, at 6:45 p.m.

______________________________
PRESIDENT

______________________________
SECRETARY

PLV:gr
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