The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in regular session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Tuesday, September 9, 1997, at 10:10 a.m.

ROLL CALL  Present:  Mr. Reginald M. Felton, President
                   in the Chair
                   Dr. Alan Cheung
                   Mr. Blair G. Ewing
                   Mrs. Beatrice B. Gordon
                   Ms. Ana Sol Gutiérrez
                   Mrs. Nancy J. King
                   Ms. Mona M. Signer
                   Ms. Debra Wheat
                   Dr. Paul L. Vance, Secretary/Treasurer

                         Absent:  None

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

Re:  ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Felton announced that Mr. Ewing and Mrs. King were testifying before the County Council on the unification of Takoma Park and the capital budget.

RESOLUTION NO. 549-97  Re:  AGENDA

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for September 9, 1997.

RESOLUTION NO. 550-97  Re:  HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

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

WHEREAS, On August 17, 1988, the United States Congress by joint resolution authorized the President to proclaim annually the 31-day period beginning September 15 and ending on October 15 as National Hispanic Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of this month is to commemorate the invaluable past and present
CONSIDERING the contributions of people of Hispanic descent to our nation; and

WHEREAS, In the twenty-first century, Hispanics will soon be the largest minority group in the nation, and

WHEREAS, Hispanics now comprise almost 40 percent of new labor force entrants; and

WHEREAS, The contributions of Hispanic Americans have always been and can only become increasingly crucial to the economic growth and development of this community; and

WHEREAS, The continued successful educational efforts of Hispanic students, parents, staff and community members contribute to the present success of Montgomery County, the State of Maryland, and our nation as a whole; now therefore be it

Resolved, That on behalf of the superintendent, students, parents, and staff of the Montgomery County Public Schools, the members of the Board of Education hereby declare the period of September 15 to October 15, 1997, to be observed as Hispanic Heritage Month.

RESOLUTION NO. 551-97  Re: RECOGNITION OF 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

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

WHEREAS, The Mental Health Association of Montgomery County was founded in 1957 as a private, nonprofit organization committed to addressing the mental health needs of the citizens of our county; and

WHEREAS, The Mental Health Association is recognized widely as an authority in the field of mental health, advocating before State and county agencies and testifying before the County Council on behalf of individuals with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, One of the primary missions of the Mental Health Association has been the education of elected officials, civic leaders, and the community at large as to the field of mental health; and

WHEREAS, Utilizing the expertise and services of a small professional staff, augmented by over 1000 dedicated volunteers, the Mental Health Association manages sixteen major direct service programs for children, youth, families, and the elderly; and

WHEREAS, The school system, its staff, and students have received direct benefit from
such programs as the Family and Student Support Network, Kensington Wheaton Youth Services, Voices vs. Violence, Kids on the Block, and MOMS, among other worthy programs; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education congratulates the Mental Health Association on the occasion of its celebration of forty years of service to the citizens of Montgomery County.

* Ms. Gutiérrez temporarily left the meeting at this point.

Re: BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Ms. Signer commented about the summer reading program that the school system offers students. It is an important program since reading is important. There is no reason that young minds need to vegetate over the summer. She thought that some of the comments that she has heard are valid, especially that the program and requirements were not applied uniformly. In some schools the material was collected the day the students returned to school as required, and, in other schools, the students were given additional time to complete the assignments. In some schools, it was graded and in other schools, it was not. She hoped that the school system will continue the program, but that it will strive for some consistency in its application of the countywide program so that the students who complete the assignments in a timely way are rewarded, and there are consequences for those students who do not complete their assignments on time.

Dr. Vance reported that last year’s graduating seniors of the Montgomery County Public Schools achieved the highest systemwide average score in 23 years on the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT). The achievement was fueled by double-digit increases at specific schools, systemwide improvements in both the mathematics and verbal portions of the exam, and significant gains in the systemwide average scores among African American, Hispanic, and White students.

A 14-point gain by African American students (933) helped erase a major portion of the decline in the average score experienced the year before that sparked the formation of specialized intervention teams at selected schools last fall. A four-point gain by Hispanic students (1006) marked the third consecutive year of improved scores. The average score among Asian American students declined by 18 points but remained the second highest score among all racial and ethnic groups at 1115 points. Dr. Vance told the Board that the decline has prompted a school-by-school analysis and development of intervention strategies, similar to the steps undertaken last year for African American students, that will focus on specific patterns and characteristics of student performance related to the decrease among Asian American students.
Mr. Felton reported that the George B. Thomas Learning Academy was beginning its 11th year. He encouraged parents and community members to volunteer with tutorial programs since that is one way that helps share the responsibility of academic success of students. Mr. Felton thanked Dr. Vance and staff for their support to that program.

On behalf of the entire Board, Mr. Felton publically thanked Miss Sharon Prather, who was a member of the Board staff, for her outstanding support to the Board over the past few years. She has accepted a promotion at Stephen Knolls School. While the Board wishes her well, it wanted her to know that it will very much miss her. Again, congratulations to her for success.

Re: **ORAL REPORT ON THE OPENING OF SCHOOLS**

Mrs. Gemberling invited the following staff to the table: Mr. David Fischer, associate superintendent for the Office of Supportive Services; Dr. Steven Seleznow, associate superintendent for the Office of School Administration; and Dr. Mary Helen Smith, associate superintendent for the Office of Instruction and Program Development.

Mrs. Gemberling highlighted some of the issues that were before staff this summer. Albert Einstein High School was moved back into its modernized building, and John F. Kennedy High School has been relocated into the Northwood facility in order to start Kennedy’s modernization. Westland Middle School moved back into its modernized building, and Takoma Park Middle School has been moved into the Tilden facility in order to start Westland’s modernization. Wyngate and Ritchie Park elementary schools have moved into modernized buildings, and Westover and Lucy V. Barnsley elementary schools have been moved into holding schools while those buildings are renovated. John Poole and Kingsview middle schools are two new schools. Next year, MCPS will open three new high school buildings. Other facility issues include roof repairs, maintenance projects, basic cleaning, and grounds upkeep. Instructional issues include staff training, Global Access training, the CRT grading process, and planning for the new school year.

Mr. Fischer stated that he was filled with pride with MCPS and its ability to assure students that schools will open as planned and teachers will be ready to start instruction. Every year MCPS is ready, and staff and students take that for granted.

Dr. Seleznow reported on a smooth opening which assured that within minutes 126,000 students were situated in 183 schools. The key story in opening schools is people — from leadership staff to principals and teachers to building service staff. The work that goes on before school starts assures a good first day for students.

Dr. Smith pointed out that every school is a community, and staff feels a part of that community.
Ms. Wheat added that part of the smooth opening has to do with the students who were ready for school to start.

Mr. Felton congratulated all school staff for a successful opening of schools this fall.

Re: TENTATIVE ACTION ON POLICY IID, SELECTION AND AIRING OF PROGRAMS ON MCPS EDUCATION CHANNELS

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Gordon seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was placed on the table:

WHEREAS, The superintendent has the responsibility for all programming on the MCPS Education Channels; and

WHEREAS, There are increasing requests to air programs on the MCPS Education Channels that are produced by individuals outside of the MCPS Instructional Television Unit that require a consistent means of processing the requests; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education received an appeal regarding a decision by the superintendent not to air a program on the Education Channels and as a result the Board of Education requested the superintendent to develop a policy that will govern discretion in the selection of materials for broadcast on the MCPS Education Channels; and

WHEREAS, Staff has prepared a policy analysis recommending a separate policy governing this issue; and

WHEREAS, Staff has prepared a draft policy, now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education take tentative action to adopt Policy IID, Selection and Airing of Programs on MCPS Education Channels.

Re: DISCUSSION

Mr. Felton suggested that C. 2. should read:

The Board of education affirms that the superintendent has the responsibility for to control the content, quality, and timing of the educational curriculum including programs that air on the MCPS Educational Channels.

Mrs. Gordon suggested that C. 4. should read:
The individual who develops the program shall be responsible will be held accountable for the content of the program and for airing the program as approved.

Ms. Signer suggested that E. 1. b) should read:

Guidelines for evaluating whether a program will be aired, including whether it will be aired live or on tape.

By consensus, these suggestions were incorporated into the tentative policy.

RESOLUTION NO. 552-97 Re: TENTATIVE ACTION ON POLICY IID, SELECTION AND AIRING OF PROGRAMS ON MCPS EDUCATION CHANNELS

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

WHEREAS, The superintendent has the responsibility for all programming on the MCPS Education Channels; and

WHEREAS, There are increasing requests to air programs on the MCPS Education Channels that are produced by individuals outside of the MCPS Instructional Television Unit that require a consistent means of processing the requests; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education received an appeal regarding a decision by the superintendent not to air a program on the Education Channels and as a result the Board of Education requested the superintendent to develop a policy that will govern discretion in the selection of materials for broadcast on the MCPS Education Channels; and

WHEREAS, Staff has prepared a policy analysis recommending a separate policy governing this issue; and

WHEREAS, Staff has prepared a draft policy, now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education take tentative action to adopt Policy IID, Selection and Airing of Programs on MCPS Education Channels.
SELECTION AND AIRING OF PROGRAMS ON MCPS EDUCATION CHANNELS

A. PURPOSE

To affirm the Board of Education’s commitment to air programs on the Education Channels the content of which supports the educational goals of MCPS and/or provides information regarding the school system to the community, consistent with MCPS policies and regulations.

To ensure that a clear, consistent process is used as the basis for selecting programs to be aired on the MCPS Education Channels.

B. ISSUES

In the age of communication and information technologies, there is an increasing demand for airing programs on the MCPS Education Channels. Decisions made by MCPS as to whether or not to air a program need to be made based on a clearly articulated set of guidelines following a consistent process.

C. POSITION

1. The content of programs aired on the Education Channels will support the educational goals of MCPS and/or provide information regarding the school system to the community.

2. The Board of Education affirms that the superintendent has the responsibility and the authority to control the content, quality, and timing of the educational curriculum including programs that air on the MCPS Education Channels.

3. Decisions on what to broadcast on the MCPS Education Channels will be based on a set of guidelines that will include:
   a) A review of the content of the program including the programming format
   b) A review of the technical quality of the program

4. The individual who develops the program will be held accountable for the content of the program and for airing the program as
D. DESIRED OUTCOMES

A consistent process is used as the basis for selecting programs to be aired on the MCPS Education Channels.

E. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

1. The superintendent will establish a process that includes:
   a) Procedures for requesting that a program be aired on the MCPS Education Channels, including acknowledgment for responsibility of the program
   b) Guidelines for evaluating whether a program will be aired, including whether it will be aired live or on tape

2. The procedures and guidelines will be made available to schools and organizations.

3. Regulations to implement this policy will be developed as needed.

F. REVIEW AND REPORTING

This policy will be reviewed on an ongoing basis in accordance with the Board of Education policy review process.

* Mr. Ewing joined the meeting at this point.

RESOLUTION NO. 553-97 Re: CONTRACTS FOR MORE THAN $25,000

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Gordon seconded by Ms. Signer, 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, Bid No. 219-97, for the lease/purchase of computers and related equipment was deleted from the Board of Education agenda of August 25, 1997, in order that additional vendors be included in the lease/purchase agreement; and
WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the lease/purchase of computers and related equipment (Bid No. 219-97) for the Division of Food and Nutrition Services, now therefore be it

Resolved, That computers and related equipment (Bid No. 219-97) for the Division of Food and Nutrition Services be purchased under the Master Lease/Purchase Agreement; 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:

7000 Heating Oil - Extension
2339

Awardees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awardee</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apex Oil</td>
<td>$177,924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naughton Energy</td>
<td>$570,211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Petroleum Company</td>
<td>$19,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$767,605</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

72522 Diesel Fuel - Extension

Awardee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awardee</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Global Petroleum Corporation</td>
<td>$1,725,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

150-95 Boiler Supplies and Associated Materials - Extension

Awardees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awardee</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Combustion, Inc.</td>
<td>$35,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bearings, Inc.</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Boiler Store</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boland Trane Services</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capp, Inc.</td>
<td>10,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferguson Enterprises, Inc.</td>
<td>52,642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M &amp; M Controls, Inc.</td>
<td>2,639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R &amp; J Supply</td>
<td>19,448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roberts Oxygen Company, Inc.</td>
<td>20,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Somerville Company</td>
<td>56,765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Utilities Company, Inc.</td>
<td>33,594</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superior Specialty Company</td>
<td>50,332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extension</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-96</td>
<td>Custodial Equipment Repair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-96</td>
<td>Security Locking Devices</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
18-97  Bus Wash Chemicals, Service and Maintenance - Extension

Awardee

DuBois  $  31,500

43-97  Refuse Compactor Truck for the Division of Maintenance

Awardee

Chesapeake Ford Truck Sales, Inc.  $  76,000

213-97  Novell Software License Agreement - Extension

Awardee

Novell, Inc.  $  120,000

219-97  Lease/Purchase of Computers for the Division of Food and Nutrition Services

Awardees

Gateway 2000, Inc.  $  336,714
SSI Business Centers, Inc.  121,139  *
MCPS Maintenance  32,760
Total  $  490,613

1004  Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) Data Imaging System

Awardees

Kunz, Inc.  $  89,636
Nicholas P. Pipino Associates  39,920
Total  $  129,556

7000  Processed Cheese

Awardee

Shane Meat Company  $  55,800
### 7003 Fruit Snacks and Bottled Water

**Awardees**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polar Water</td>
<td>$10,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotion in Motion, Inc.</td>
<td>$60,375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$70,695</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 7004 Audio Visual Equipment and Supplies

**Awardees**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carpel Video, Inc.</td>
<td>$8,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Century Magnetics, Inc.</td>
<td>40,364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crest Audio Video and Electronics</td>
<td>5,265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTL Communications Televideo</td>
<td>205,009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keyboard World</td>
<td>2,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kunz, Inc.</td>
<td>21,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landon Systems Corporation</td>
<td>22,167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Audio Visual Corporation</td>
<td>40,643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas P. Pipino Associates</td>
<td>25,407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peirce Phelps, Inc.</td>
<td>2,271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn Camera Exchange, Inc.</td>
<td>2,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ritz Camera Center</td>
<td>1,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target Distributing Company</td>
<td>14,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Audiovisual Systems</td>
<td>6,075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valiant International Multimedia Corp.</td>
<td>2,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington Professional System</td>
<td>27,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$426,860</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MORE THAN $25,000 $4,380,240**

* Denotes MFD vendors

**RESOLUTION NO. 554-97**  
Re: **UTILIZATION OF FY 1998 FUTURE SUPPORTED PROJECT FUNDS FOR THE INTENSIVE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAM**

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

**Resolved**, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend within
the FY 1998 Provision for Future Supported Projects a grant award of $122,727 from the Maryland Department of Human Resources, Community Services Administration, Office of Refugee Affairs, under the Refugee Act of 1980, for the Intensive English Language Program, in the following categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Systemwide Support</td>
<td>$  3,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Instructional Salaries</td>
<td>108,335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Textbooks and Instructional Supplies</td>
<td>1,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Other Instructional Costs</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Fixed Charges</td>
<td>8,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$122,727</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and be it further

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

RESOLUTION NO. 555-97 Re: UTILIZATION OF FY 1998 FUTURE SUPPORTED PROJECT FUNDS FOR THE COMMUNITY TEAM COLLABORATION PROJECT

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

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend within the FY 1998 Provision for Future Supported Projects a grant award of $29,028 from the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education, under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part B State Grant Preschool Discretionary Program, for the Community Team Collaboration Project in the following categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Special Education</td>
<td>$27,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Fixed Charges</td>
<td>1,512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$29,028</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and be it further

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

RESOLUTION NO. 556-97  Re:  UTILIZATION OF FY 1998 FUTURE SUPPORTED PROJECT FUNDS FOR THE SUCCESS FOR SCHOOLS/GOALS 2000 PROJECT

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

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend within the provision for Future Supported Projects an FY 1998 grant award of $120,000 from the Maryland State Department of Education Schools for Success/Goals 2000 Project, in the Rockville Cluster in the following categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Instructional Salaries</td>
<td>$ 45,965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Textbooks and Instructional Supplies</td>
<td>28,631</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Other Instructional Costs</td>
<td>41,727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Fixed Charges</td>
<td>3,677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 120,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and be it further

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

* Mrs. King joined the meeting at this point.

RESOLUTION NO. 557-97  Re:  RECOMMENDED FY 1998 SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE TECHNOLOGY LITERACY CHALLENGE FUND PROGRAM

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

Resolved, That authorization is requested to receive and expend an FY 1998 supplemental appropriation for a grant award of $196,935 from the Maryland State Department of Education for the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund program in the following categories:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Positions*</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instructional Salaries</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>$105,782</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textbooks and Instructional Supplies</td>
<td></td>
<td>10,853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Instructional Costs</td>
<td></td>
<td>66,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Charges</td>
<td></td>
<td>14,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>$196,935</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.0 Instructional Specialist, 12-month (B-D)

and be it further

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

Mr. Ewing requested a copy of the grant proposal for the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund program.

RESOLUTION NO. 558-97 Re: MONTHLY PERSONNEL REPORT

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


RESOLUTION NO. 559-97 Re: APPOINTMENT

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

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective September 23, 1997:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment</th>
<th>Present Position</th>
<th>As</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joan Benz</td>
<td>Principal, Poolesville HS</td>
<td>Principal, Winston Churchill HS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESOLUTION NO. 560-97 Re: APPOINTMENT

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Gordon seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:
Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective September 10, 1997:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment</th>
<th>Present Position</th>
<th>As</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Judith A. Theiss</td>
<td>Acting Assistant Principal, Olney ES</td>
<td>Principal, Cannon Rad ES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESOLUTION NO. 561-97 Re: APPOINTMENT

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

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective September 10, 1997:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment</th>
<th>Present Position</th>
<th>As</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deanna Svrcek</td>
<td>Acting Coordinator, Richard Montgomery International Baccalaureate Program</td>
<td>Coordinator, Richard Montgomery International Baccalaureate Program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Mrs. King temporarily left the meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 562-97 Re: BOARD APPEAL NO. 1997-17

On motion of Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution was adopted by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 1997-17, a student matter, reflective of the following vote: Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, Ms. Signer, and Ms. Wheat voting to affirm; Mr. Felton absent.

RESOLUTION NO. 563-97 Re: BOARD APPEAL NO. 1997-20

On motion of Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution was adopted by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 1997-20, a student matter, reflective of the following vote: Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, Ms. Signer, and Ms. Wheat voting to affirm; Mr. Felton absent.
RESOLUTION NO. 564-97    Re:  BOARD APPEAL NO. 1997-24

On motion of Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution was adopted by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 1997-24, a student matter, reflective of the following vote: Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, Ms. Signer, and Ms. Wheat voting to affirm; Mr. Felton absent.

RESOLUTION NO. 565-97    Re:  BOARD APPEAL NO. T-1997-50

On motion of Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution was adopted by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Order in Appeal T-1997-50, a student transfer matter, reflective of the following vote: Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, and Ms. Signer voting to affirm; Ms. Wheat recused herself.

RESOLUTION NO. 566-97    Re:  BOARD APPEAL NO. T-1997-54

On motion of Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution was adopted by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Order in Appeal T-1997-54, a student transfer matter, reflective of the following vote: Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, Ms. Signer, and Ms. Wheat voting to affirm.

RESOLUTION NO. 567-97    Re:  BOARD APPEAL NO. T-1997-55

On motion of Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution was adopted by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Order in Appeal T-1997-55, a student transfer matter, reflective of the following vote: Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, and Ms. Signer voting to affirm; Mr. Felton and Ms. Wheat voting to reverse.

RESOLUTION NO. 568-97    Re:  BOARD APPEAL NO. T-1997-63

On motion of Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution was adopted by members present:
Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Order in Appeal T-1997-63, a student transfer matter, reflective of the following vote: Dr. Cheung, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, and Ms. Signer voting to affirm; Mr. Ewing and Ms. Wheat voting to reverse.

RESOLUTION NO. 569-97 Re: BOARD APPEAL NO. T-1997-64

On motion of Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was adopted by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Order in Appeal T-1997-64, a student transfer matter, reflective of the following vote: Dr. Cheung and Mrs. Gordon voting to affirm; Mr. Ewing, Mr. Felton Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, Ms. Signer, and Ms. Wheat voting to reverse.

* Mrs. King rejoined the meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 570-97 Re: CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION

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

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Montgomery County is authorized by the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and Title 10 of the State Government Article to conduct certain meetings or portions of its meetings in closed sessions; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County conduct a portion of its meeting on Monday, September 22, 1997, from 7:30 to 8:00 p.m. to discuss personnel matters and other matters protected from public disclosure by law, to review and adjudicate appeals, and to address other issues including consultation with counsel to obtain legal advice; 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 Section 10-508 of the State Government Article; and be it further

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

On July 29, 1997, by the unanimous vote of members present, the Board of Education voted to conduct a closed session on August 25, 1997, as permitted under § 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 August 25, 1997, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:58 p.m. The meeting took place in Room 120, Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland.


In attendance at part or all of the closed sessions were: Elizabeth Arons, Larry Bowers, Alan Cheung, Blair Ewing, David Fischer, Katheryn Gemberling, Bea Gordon, Ana Sol Gutiérrez, Pat Hahn, Roland Ikheola, Nancy King, Don Kopp, George Margolies, Brian Porter, Glenda Rose, Steven Seleznov, Mona Signer, Roger Titus, Paul Vance, and Debbie Wheat.

Re: MINUTES of JULY 8, 1997

On motion of Dr. Cheung seconded by Mr. Ewing, the following resolution was placed on the table:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its July 8, 1997, minutes.

RESOLUTION NO. 571-97 Re: AMENDMENT OF JULY 8, 1997, MINUTES

On motion of Ms. Signer and seconded by Mrs. Gordon, the following amendment was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education amend the July 8, 1997, minutes as follows: On
page 7 in the Discussion of the Takoma Park Solution; strike the 2nd and 4th paragraphs
and add, at the conclusion of the discussion the response from the staff that they made to
a question from Mr. Ewing, indicating that this project would neither bump nor be bumped
by any other project.

RESOLUTION NO. 572-97 Re: MINUTES of JULY 8, 1997

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its July 8, 1997, minutes, as amended.

RESOLUTION NO. 573-97 Re: MINUTES of JULY 29, 1997

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve it July 29, 1997, minutes.

Re: ANNOUNCEMENT

Mrs. King reported that the County Council approved by a vote of 7 for and 2 abstaining
to allow MCPS to put the elementary and middle schools on the Wayne Avenue site.

The Board recessed for lunch and closed session from 11:15 a.m. to 1:40 p.m.

* Dr. Cheung temporarily left the meeting, and Ms. Gutiérrez rejoined the meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 574-97 Re: LOCAL BILLS FOR 1998 SESSION OF GENERAL
ASSEMBLY

On motion of Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was
adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education introduce local legislation changing the time line
for transfer appeals from 30 to 10 days.

RESOLUTION NO. 575-97 Re: LOCAL BILLS FOR 1998 SESSION OF GENERAL
ASSEMBLY

On motion of Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was
adopted unanimously by members present:
Resolved, That the Board of Education introduce local legislation to increase Board salaries and tie that increase to the Maryland legislators’ salaries.

Re: LOCAL BILLS FOR 1998 SESSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

On motion of Ms. Gutiérrez and seconded by Ms. Wheat, the following resolution failed with Ms. Gutiérrez voting in the affirmative; Mr. Ewing, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. King, Ms. Signer, and Ms. Wheat voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the Board of Education introduce local legislation that would permit Board members to qualify for health benefits through the school system.

Re: PUBLIC COMMENTS

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Topic</th>
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<td>2. Carole Brand</td>
<td>Bethesda Elementary School Modernization</td>
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<td>3. Marilyn Ermer</td>
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<td>4. Judy Koenick</td>
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<td>5. Nancy Leopold</td>
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<td>6. John Bruce</td>
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<td>7. Marcy Toney</td>
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<td>8. Syed Asghar</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
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<td>9. Sharon W. Southerland</td>
<td>Bethesda Elementary School Modernization</td>
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Re: DISCUSSION

Ms. Signer would appreciate a response from staff before the preliminary plan for Bethesda Elementary School comes back to the Board regarding the size of the facility. She would like that information based on the current and projected enrollment and whether those two classrooms ought to be added back into the plans.

Board members requested that the superintendent respond to Mr. Syed Asghar’s testimony. In addition:

a. Mrs. Gordon asked the superintendent to have someone from transportation follow up with Mr. Asghar.

b. Mrs. King asked for clarification as to whether the walking distance to school is on the driving distance to school or walking distance using established paths.
RESOLUTION NO. 576-97  Re:  AWARD OF NATURAL GAS CONTRACT

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

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of natural gas, and

WHEREAS, Bid No. 1002.1.1, for the purchase of natural gas has been duly advertised, and

WHEREAS, Enron Capital & Trade Resources Corporation was the low, responsive bidder meeting specifications; now therefore be it

Resolved, That Enron Capital & Trade Resources Corporation be awarded a contract in the amount of $612,606 for the purchase of natural gas.

Re:  ELEMENTARY SCIENCE FRAMEWORK

Dr. Vance invited the following people to the table: Dr. Mary Helen Smith, associate superintendent for the Office of Instruction and Program Development; Dr. Patricia Flynn, director of the Department of Academic Programs; Ms. Virginia Tucker, director of the Division of Enriched and Innovative Instruction; Dr. Ramon Lopez, director of Education Outreach, American Physical Society, and associate research professor, Astronomy Department, University of Maryland, College Park; and Mr. William N. McDonald, coordinator of elementary science.

Dr. Smith reported that in 1989, following a task force report on the status of the K-12 science program, the superintendent asked staff to begin exploring and carrying out the recommendations. Staff began the process by identifying exemplary models of science instruction and field-testing science units. Simultaneously, a work group consisting of scientists, administrators, teachers, parents, and science educators developed a philosophical framework and began to design a curriculum framework to replace the existing Program of Studies. In 1991, the Board of Education gave additional impetus to the revision effort when it confirmed science as a priority through its Mathematics and Science Initiatives.

The revised elementary science curriculum and supporting program centers on the belief that the major goal of science education is science literacy for every student, regardless of the career path eventually taken by that student. Science literacy includes not only possession of a core body of scientific knowledge but also an understanding of the kind of thinking that scientists do.
The science task force had determined that, in order for a new curriculum to be successfully implemented, the science program that supported it would need to be revised. This program revision included adopting nationally developed state of the art units of instruction, providing extensive teacher training in science content and pedagogy, and establishing a means of providing teachers with the materials of instruction necessary to teach hands-on, inquiry-based science.

In 1991, based on the quality of the revision effort underway, MCPS was awarded a $1.6 million national Science Foundation teacher enhancement grant to establish a science materials center and provide extensive training for the nearly 3,000 elementary teachers responsible for teaching science. In the final year of the grant and with additional materials and training support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, the following goals were accomplished: (1) establishing a science leadership cadre; (2) adopting units of instruction for each grade level from the National Science Foundation supported projects; (3) providing material sets for each class of students for each unit; and (4) training all teachers in exemplary science instructional approaches using the units.

Ms. Tucker stated that current research on elementary classrooms indicates that effective instruction in all subject areas is student-centered and developmentally appropriate and differentiated. It provides authentic tasks that connect with students’ backgrounds and experiences, and then integrates those tasks with other subject areas. In addition, effective instruction finds that match between what students already know and are able to do and sets forth that next challenging task that continues their interest, motivation, and achievement. Effective instruction in science classrooms reflects these elements through planning that is inquiry-based, facilitation of student learning, ongoing assessment of student learning, and continuing reflection on the instructional processes that the teacher is using. A management of the learning environment provides students with the time, space, and resources for learning science. Development of communities of science learners reflects the intellectual rigor of scientific inquiry. Finally, the participation in the planning and development of a school-wide science program by creating a structure that will allow instruction to tap into the natural curiosity and awareness that elementary students have of the world around them. The revised elementary science framework provides carefully designed circumstances for shared inquiry. These are challenging, but they come with direction, support, and guidance for students and teachers.

Dr. Lopez reported that what Montgomery County is doing has to be seen in a broader, national context. Beginning in 1983 with the Nation at Risk, there was a general concern in this country of what that document referred to as a “rising tide of mediocrity.” One area in particular that was in significant need of improvement was science and math education. As Montgomery County has proceeded with its elementary implementation, it has been paralleled by the development of national documents, such as *Benchmarks for Science Literacy* and the National Science Education Standards that represent the best thinking
on the part of scientists, science educators, and other interested parties across the nation. What Montgomery County has been able to achieve is a true implementation of, not only the letter, but also the spirit of those documents. What has been going on in MCPS has been a model for other school districts around the country. The American Physical Society has a very strong interest in supporting exemplary science education. That Society has been working for three years with MCPS involving scientists in the professional development. There have been over 130 scientists participating in professional development activities with teachers in MCPS. What has been learned from that experience has been taken to many other communities around the country. This has been a critical laboratory, as a scientific organization interested in science education, to learn from the best of what is happening and to replicate that model. The Society’s view is that the kind of science education that is going on in MCPS with the emphasis on hands-on and minds-on instruction is really at the core of good science. The science standards say that science is something that students do -- not something that is done to them. He was very pleased to say that is what he sees, and what his children are receiving at Rolling Terrace Elementary School. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to work with skilled educators in MCPS to help improve science education.

Mr. McDonald stated that the MCPS curriculum framework is based on a premise that science is for everyone. In a world where more and more personal and political decisions are based on scientific knowledge, we can no longer afford to provide science education aimed at only producing scientists. Every person to some degree must be scientifically literate. A science curriculum with this goal in mind must therefore answer two questions: (1) what should students know, and (2) what should they be able to do in science? The MCPS Elementary Science Curriculum framework is divided into two parts which answer these two questions. It defines what children should know — science concepts — and what they should be able to do — science processes. The concepts of science are derived directly from the *Benchmarks for Science Literacy* which was published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. They are also consistent with the National Science Education Standards, the new Standards Project, and the Maryland Science Outcomes. The science concepts are organized into three strands (life, earth, and physical science) in pre-kindergarten through Grade 2, and Grade 3 through Grade 5. The process outcomes are also consistent with national and state science standards, but have been developed by MCPS. They are sought after by other school districts as a model and are one of the main reasons for the National Science Foundation’s funding and recognition that has been received. The process outcomes are organized into four strands that conform to the learning cycle instructional model in which students conduct scientific inquiry. The four strands consist of: (1) asking questions, (2) collecting data, (3) making sense of data, and (4) communicating.

Dr. Smith added that MCPS has a grant for middle school science that will continue what is being done in Grades 5 and 6.
Ms. Signer has commented that her son did not have the science curriculum, but her daughter did have the curriculum. It is amazing what her daughter knows at a younger age compared to her son who did not have the benefit of the science curriculum. She applauded staff and is thrilled to hear that there is a grant to revise the middle school curriculum.

Ms. Gutiérrez was delighted that the Board had a presentation on the elementary science framework. This is one of the best stories in education, not just in MCPS, that can be told. The whole transformation on how science is taught as well as providing the development for teachers are key elements of this curriculum. What MCPS has done is unique in its scope because staff has been fortunate to work with the National Science Foundation, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the American Physical Society. This has been a wonderful partnership since MCPS has been a test district as well as an innovator, since this will not only benefit MCPS students but will help students across the nation. She asked how consistent was the instruction delivery, how was MCPS assuring that that level of excellence in every elementary school, how will MCPS attain that, and how will instruction and learning be at that level of excellence? Dr. Smith replied that there is a training plan to assure that all teachers in all grade levels will be able to implement the program. There is a science materials center that is a national model which supplies teachers with the materials needed to implement the curriculum.

* Dr. Cheung rejoined the meeting at this point.

Mrs. King thanked staff for the update on the science curriculum. She would love to be a child again and go through the school system with this new and exciting curriculum.

Mr. Ewing thought it was not an exaggeration to say what has happened within the last decade in science education in MCPS is a revolution — a revolution for the school system, and a revolutionary in its implications for other school systems. It also is remarkable that the school system has achieved this through a collaborative effort that has involved so many institutions and organizations beyond but including MCPS staff. The story is really one that needs to be told. But, the real story is the impact on children. The gains of this revolution have to be sustained, and the school system needs to know over a certain period of time how well it is working for children.

Mr. Felton thanked staff for the tremendous shift in the environment toward science for students both with teachers feeling more comfortable, and more importantly, students now have the opportunity to get absorbed in science.

Re: **THE FAMILY WORKS, A PROGRESS REPORT**

Dr. Vance invited the following people to the table: Dr. Hiawatha Fountain, associate
superintendent for the office of Pupil and Community Services; Ms. Carol Walsh, executive
director for the Child Care Connection; and Ms. Georgia Lewis, parent educator of the
Department of Alternative Programs.

In the summer of 1995, Child Care Connection (CCX), the child care resource and referral
service in Montgomery County, Maryland, and Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS)
began an exciting collaboration. The Family Works was created in response to the needs
of families, schools, and child care agencies to enhance family-school partnerships that
support success for all children and their families.

To more effectively respond to parental needs, CCX and MCPS successfully wrote a grant
proposal for funding from the U.S. Department of Education Goals 2000 Parenting
Assistance Program title. As the required nonprofit organization, CCX is the recipient
agency. Funding began in October 1995, with $470,041 annually and is expected to
continue for four years.

A majority of the funding must be used to serve families who are economically or
educationally disadvantaged or have limited English proficiency. Services should be
delivered to children from birth through high school and to families in urban, suburban, and
rural settings.

The Family Works goals are to:

• support parents as nurturers and first teachers of their children,
• create and enhance the partnerships between parents and their children’s
  educational settings, and
• foster linkages with other programs.

To fulfill these goals, CCX and MCPS have worked for the past 18 months to expand one
existing program and begin five new programs. These programs are:

**Parenting Resource Centers:** parent-child drop-in programs where families learn
about child development and parenting through early childhood activities (these
currently existing MCPS centers were expanded via grant funds);

**Home Visitor Program:** parent educators, using the Missouri “Parents as
Teachers” curriculum, make visits to the homes of low-income and other at-risk
families who have children under three years of age (new program);

**Waiting Room Program:** delivery of parenting information and parent-child
activities to families waiting to apply for social services and income supports within
county government buildings (new program);
Parent Warline: a telephone assistance service where trained volunteers respond to individual parent’s concerns about child development and behavior (new program);

Families and Child Care in Partnership: workshops and on-site consultation for child care programs to enhance their abilities to support families (new program);

Families and Public Schools in Partnership: training and mini-grants to school-based teams to encourage parental involvement in public education (new program).

Several principles have governed The Family Works program development and operation. They include:

- An interrelationship and integration of community/parenting support services and academic and instructional services will yield success for every student.
- A comprehensive array of services must be available that is responsive to and seeks to increase the parent’s current level of engagement.
- Successful service strategies are based on relationship-building: between the parent educator and the family, educational staff and parents, parents and children.
- Continuity of support throughout family life stages will enable all to anticipate/support critical transitions (beginning a family, entry into child care, entry into kindergarten, moving from grade school to middle school, moving from middle school to high school).
- Grant resources can expand partnerships and stimulate the creation of new ideas and short- and long-term programs and practices.

The Family Works is successfully moving toward fulfillment of its goals. To date, over 4,400 families have been impacted by the project. More than 40% of these families have low incomes; 48% are from minority groups, and 15% are limited in English proficiency.

Many parents from our target populations are using several of the parenting resource and support programs. We have developed programs not in the original grant proposal, such as the Waiting Room Program, in response to parent needs. Parents and educational staff are successfully working together to increase parental involvement and understanding of children’s educational settings. Principals have seen a small amount of funding work to focus their school community’s attention on family-school partnerships, with several of The Family Works projects spinning off additional efforts and benefits that are responsive to local needs. Partnerships have expanded to include several programs within the county’s Department of Health and Human Services, as well as many private human services organizations.
Mr. Felton stated that there were over 1,000 families participating in the program. He wanted to know the rate of growth, and whether there were any projections of families that might become involved. He asked about the number of volunteers needed to expand the programs to meet that need. Ms. Lewis replied that 1,000 families come to the resource centers which represents an increase of 200 families over the past year. The demographics have changed, and the center serves more low-income families. If the program was expanded, the need would be for more sites not volunteers.

Mrs. Gordon was pleased to hear the presentation, and stated that Family Works is clearly addressing a need that is growing in the county. She was also interested in how the school system is going to take the lessons learned and provide a culture in each school that is open, welcoming, and supportive to parent partnerships with the grant. She hoped that as MCPS looks at replicating the lessons learned, it will not just share information, but there will be a dissemination of the culture that makes every school amenable and supportive to all parents.

Ms. Gutiérrez thanked staff for a very informative presentation. She commented on the importance of keeping statistics, especially in light of budget cuts in the parent resource centers by the County Council. The parent resource centers are incredibly valuable, especially focusing on early childhood education and helping young parents who have not had parenting role models. The value of this effort needs to be measured and marketed. When funding is being eliminated, it was important for the Board to have the ability to articulate why the service is beneficial and what is the return on that investment. Another reason to keep good records is that it helps as an evaluation mechanism.

As Ms. Gutiérrez looked at the statistics, she was very concerned about a sector of the population that needs these services. Those are the limited-English speaking parents, especially the Spanish-speaking parents. The statistics reflect that those parents are receiving the least amount of services and in some case down to zero. There must be some barriers that are not permitting the level of participation that, as a minimum, would be representative of the percentage of the student population. She was particularly troubled about Piney Branch Elementary School at zero percent participation. It is essential that MCPS focus on a better provision of services for parents in a Spanish-speaking area. She asked staff what they were experiencing as some of the problems for why there is such low participation.

Ms. Lewis commented on the early childhood program. It has helped to have a location near the community that is being served. Dr. Fountain reported that the school system is working with non-English speaking parents and staff. This project was geared toward 16 elementary schools this past year. This project was especially developed for parents who have not traditionally been involved in their child’s education. A staff person has been
working with the Blair Cluster to increase parental involvement. Dr. Riggott, principal of Piney Branch Elementary School, suspected that the zero was an error since many Hispanic students participate in after school programs and Hispanic parents meet with staff in the evenings.

Ms. Gutiérrez asked if the parent survey was translated. Staff responded that it was translated into five different languages.

Dr. Cheung complimented the staff for their work with Family Works. He suggested that the staff break down the statistics into aggregates of various ethnic groups. That would enable staff to know what population it is serving, and whether there are potential gaps that need to be met. Ms. Walsh reported that staff is planning data collection that can be evaluated to provide programs where needed.

Mr. Ewing thought that staff was doing exciting outreach for parents, and he was pleased to hear the report. In the report, there was a statement about compiling a directory and a web site as well as institutionalizing promising practices by providing technical support. He asked how does staff validate or verify successful or promising practices? Are there criteria? Ms. Walsh replied that validation is anecdotal and part is application of the grant when each school reports its successes. For example, some schools are tying together homework clubs and student performance as an evaluation criterion. The Department of Educational Accountability is exploring ways to measure parental involvement with student achievement.

Mr. Felton pointed out that throughout the community there are different tutorial programs. He asked if there was a way of bringing some of this expertise to parents who, in fact, bring their children on Saturday mornings to tutorial programs, and they could participate in parental programs, if available, at that time. Dr. Fountain stated that has not been done, but it certainly is a good idea.

Re: **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Dr. Cheung stated that the Board had passed a resolution regarding the Interagency Coordinating Board (ICB), and the County Council will have a hearing on September 16, 1997. He thought that the Board should testify on its position. Mr. Felton agreed and a Board member will testify at that hearing.

2. On motion of Mr. Ewing and seconded by Dr. Cheung:

   WHEREAS, The Board of Education approved over the last several years many changes in the structure, staffing, budget, and operations of educational programs for students with disabilities; and
WHEREAS, The impact of these changes on the education of students and the ability of teachers in these programs to be effective is not fully known; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education directs the superintendent of schools to provide to the Board data showing the impact on students and teachers of the changes made over the past six years (1991-1997) in the structure, staffing, budget, and operations of educational programs for students with disabilities; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent provide these data to appropriate advisory groups and to advocacy groups, asking them for their views of the data, and for their recommendations, if any, to the Board, based on the data; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent provide these views and recommendations to the Board of Education, together with his recommendations for any future actions; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education schedule time for discussion and action on these issues.

3. Ms. Signer inquired as to the status of the recommendation of the superintendent in consolidating special education advisory groups, and if it was on an upcoming agenda. Staff replied that they would follow up.

4. Mr. Ewing asked about the Board’s directive to the superintendent to develop a list of recommendations on the needs of the school system that could be met by state action. After a short discussion on the list being developed for the Governor and shared with Mr. Duncan, Mr. Ewing asked that the list be approved by the Board prior to presentation to Mr. Duncan. The county executive’s suggestions should be shared with the Board prior to submission to the state.

Re: ITEMS OF INFORMATION

1. Items in Process
2. Construction Progress Report

RESOLUTION NO. 577-97 Re: ADJOURNMENT

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Ms. Signer seconded by Ms. Gutiérrez, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:
Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting of September 9, 1997, at 3:40 p.m.

______________________________________________

PRESIDENT

______________________________________________

SECRETARY

PLV:gr
MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SUMMARY SHEET
September 9, 1997

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