The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Thursday, September 23, 1999, at 7:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL  Present:  Mr. Reginald M. Felton, President
in the Chair
Mr. Stephen Abrams
Mr. Kermit V. Burnett
Mrs. Beatrice B. Gordon
Mrs. Nancy J. King
Mrs. Patricia O’Neill
Laura Sampedro, Student Board Member
Ms. Mona M. Signer
Dr. Jerry Weast, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent:  None

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

RESOLUTION NO. 593-99  Re: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for September 23, 1999.

Re: ANNUAL MEETING WITH MCCSSE

The following MCCSSE Executive Board members were present: Mr. Stephen Poor, Ms. Betty Montgomery, Ms. Evelyn Gaston, Ms. Mary Belin, Ms. Charlotte Arrington-Heard, Ms. Audrey Buscher, Ms. Barbara Abramson, Ms. Sandra Watson, Ms. Teresa Henderson, Ms. Lisa Conners, and Mr. Olive Giddings, Jr.

After each unit chair made a presentation, the following themes emerged

1. Appropriate training;
2. Adequate staffing;
3. Compensation and evidence that support positions are valued by the system;
4. Inclusion and collaboration of support staff during planning phases; and
5. Pay for work beyond scheduled duty hours.
The Board members made the following requests:

1. Regarding the state’s task force on certification for paraprofessionals, Mrs. Gordon asked where MCPS was on the requirements that were passed on the local school districts for explaining what the career ladder opportunities were for paraprofessionals as in training opportunities. There was a requirement that came from the state legislature for each district to supply the state with the career ladder and advancement plan for paraprofessionals and training opportunities for them. Mrs. Gordon asked how staff had responded to that requirement.

2. Mr. Abrams asked if the classification study for supporting services employees had been updated or if there was a need for another study based on restructuring of the school system and use of technology.

3. Mr. Abrams asked if the school system defined how much time it took to perform a task. If there was a culture of work expectations from a salaried employee, the school system should evaluate the compensation for the hourly employee.

4. Mr. Abrams thought the school system should explore options for MCPS food services to become a profit center.

5. Ms. Signer requested information from staff to what extent hours were cut back in transportation.

6. Ms. Signer asked why the schools are only protected with motion detectors and why was sound detection eliminated.

7. Ms. Signer asked for an update on what the current staffing levels are for the new and modernized school versus the older buildings.

8. Mr. Felton asked what the impact of technology was on staffing and work expectations.

9. Mr. Felton asked if there was a relationship between Edison Technology Center to provide skilled personnel for MCPS jobs.

RESOLUTION NO. 594-99 Re: CLOSED SESSION

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

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Montgomery County is authorized by the Education Article and State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland 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 closed session on September 23, 1999, in Room 120 from 9:05 to 9:30 p.m. to acquit its executive functions which are outside the purview of the Open Meetings Act under Section 10-503(a) of the State Government Article; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County conduct a closed session on September 23, 1999, in Room 120 at 10:05 p.m. to discuss collective bargaining negotiations, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(9) of the State Government Article and Section 4-107(d)(2)(ii) of the Education Article; and be it further

Resolved, That these portions of the meeting continue in closed session until the completion of business.

Re: CLOSED SESSION

The Board met in closed session from 9:00 to 9:25 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 595-99 Re: YEAR 2000 COMPLIANCE PLAN

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

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Public Schools published a Year 2000 Compliance Plan on September 10, 1999; and

WHEREAS, A public notice was issued that this plan was available and that comments were requested; and

WHEREAS, It is necessary for the Board of Education to adopt this Year 2000 Compliance Plan prior to October 1, 1999, to be afforded protection under Maryland law; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education adopts the Montgomery County Public Schools Year 2000 Compliance Plan.


On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Abrams seconded by Mrs. Gordon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:
WHEREAS, The Board of Education appointed Dr. Jerry D. Weast to a four-year term as Superintendent of Schools to lead the Montgomery County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Weast, on numerous occasions, has expressed his commitment to implement the Success for Every Student strategic plan, revised in May of 1999, in a manner that ensures that all of the school system’s efforts demonstrate that success and achievement matter for all students; and

WHEREAS, The Board and the Superintendent have recently met to identify and discuss mutual priorities for the next four years; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board, with the full support and commitment of Dr. Weast, adopts the following “Steps for Success” to be addressed from 1999-2003 in furtherance of the Success for Every Student strategic plan:

♦ Improve the educational design and delivery of instruction and curriculum by utilization of proven best practices.

♦ Organize and optimize assets for improved academic results.

♦ Analyze and measure teachers’ and principals’ effectiveness in improving student performance and results.

♦ Develop, expand, and coordinate a literacy-based birth to kindergarten initiative.

♦ Create unique, innovative family and community friendly partnerships to improve academic results.

RESOLUTION NO. 597-99 Re: ADJOURNMENT

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Abrams seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:
Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting of September 23, 1999, at 9:30 p.m.

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PRESIDENT

__________________________________________
SECRETARY

JDW:gr