

APPROVED
4-2001

Rockville, Maryland
January 18, 2001

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Thursday, January 28, 2001, at 7:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Mrs. Nancy J. King, President
 in the Chair
 Mr. Stephen Abrams
 Mr. Kermit V. Burnett
 Ms. Sharon Cox
 Mr. Reginald M. Felton
 Mr. Walter Lange
 Mrs. Patricia B. O'Neill
 Mr. Christopher Lloyd, Student Board Member
 Dr. Jerry Weast, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: None

RESOLUTION NO. 35-01 Re: **CLOSED SESSION**

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

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 January 18, 2001, in Room 120 from 6:45 to 7:00 p.m. to discuss matters that relate to collective bargaining negotiations, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(9) of the *State Government Article* and Section 4-107(d) of the *Education Article*; and be it further

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

Re: **FY 2002 OPERATING BUDGET HEARING**

The following people testified before the Board of Education:

1. Town of Poolesville: Jerry Klobukowski
2. Dean of Students, Rockville Campus/Montgomery College: Dr. Mary Ann Beatty
3. Commission on Children and Youth: Majoyim Onijula
4. MCAASP: Ken Evans; SSAA: Durinda Anderson; ESAA: Michael Headman and Tim Riggott

5. MCCSSE: Steve Poor
6. Garrett Park City Council: Nguyen Minh Chau
7. Seneca Valley Cluster: Meredith Walters
8. Quince Orchard Cluster: Brian Gifford
9. Poolesville Cluster: Link Hoewing
10. Northwest Cluster: Patty Rapp
11. Magruder Cluster: Terri Schott
12. Gaithersburg Cluster: Linda Rigsby
13. Watkins Mill Cluster: Gabriel Romero
14. Damascus Cluster: Dale Ryan
15. Magruder, Gaithersburg, Watkins Mill and Damascus clusters conclusion: Susan Filocco
16. Whitman Cluster: Lafe Solomon
17. Wheaton Cluster: Jim Patterson
18. Walter Johnson Cluster: Shelley Miller
19. Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster: Sharon Strauss
20. MC Civic Federation: Bob Astrove
21. Joint ESOL Liaison Committee: Ellen Daniels
22. MC PPW Association: Karen Craney
23. MC School Psychologists: Mickie Chapman and Jeff Hoffman
24. ESOL Bilingual Advisory Committee: Gadi Romem
25. Gifted and Talented Association: David Fishback
26. Manette Niu
27. Chinese American Students and Parents Association: Dorothy Yen and Stanley Liu
28. Organization of Chinese Americans/DC Chapter: Dr. Wia-Yee Chan
29. Metropolitan Washington Association of Chinese Schools: Michelle Yu
30. Dr. Wen Chikuang
31. Action in Montgomery/AIM: Larry Froehlich
32. NAACP Education Committee: Ruby Rubens
33. League of Woman Voters: Carla Satinsky
34. Susan Keys
35. Black Ministers Conference: Rev. Chester Burke
36. William Ramsey
37. MC Booster Club Association: Mike Johnson
38. MC Counselors Association: Juli Griffin
39. Martin Klauber
40. Bethesda Youth Services: Cary Fellows

The Board of Education asked the following questions:

1. Ms. Cox asked for a breakdown on the costs for the Global Ecology program and the funding sources.

2. Ms. Cox requested information from Human Resources on the staffing requirements for the Community Outreach positions in Ms. Chau's testimony.
3. Mr. Abrams asked for the costs for the additional positions in the Poolesville Cluster's testimony.
4. Mr. Felton noted that the Seneca Valley Cluster's testimony stated that counselor assignments were not consistent with MCPS criteria. How many schools are not currently meeting the criteria?
5. Mr. Felton asked for a paragraph on what barriers preclude the ESOL program from moving back to Thomas S. Wootton High School from Quince Orchard High School.
6. Regarding the Seneca Valley testimony requesting an ESOL counselor, Ms. Cox requested information on the impact of the allocation across the county for the six requested counselors. How would that affect the different programs?
7. Mrs. O'Neill asked about the increased cost to add a full-time counselor for every elementary school.
8. Mrs. O'Neill requested the cost of accelerating the number of guidance counselors and PPWs from the 2003 operating budget into the 2002 budget and the number of positions required.
9. Mr. Abrams asked for the cost implications of locating a French Immersion program at Gaithersburg Middle School.
10. Mr. Abrams noted the concerns raised about counselors. Some other groups have discussed looking at some non-traditional ways of achieving the objectives. The system asks counselors to perform multiple functions. Could MCPS tap into the corporate human relations network to identify second career individuals for parts of those functions, such as career counseling, technical counseling, college/port-secondary education counseling? If MCPS could do that, staff might be able to leverage the use of guidance counselors in conjunction with PPWs addressing current student academic and socialization needs. He asked if there were alternative models MCPS could examine and implement for a multi-cluster demonstration or test run in conjunction with some public/private partnerships with the business community.
11. Mr. Lange asked how many Sharp Street programs exist in MCPS high schools and the cost of supporting those programs.

12. Mr. Lange asked for the number of courses in which classes used exclusively photocopied material.
13. Mr. Burnett asked how many PPWs and IAs speak more than one language and for the ethnic breakdown of PPWs and IAs.
14. In addition to the MCPS funding, Ms. Cox asked for the collaborative costs for the Sharp Street programs and for data on the success of those programs relating to recidivism rates, etc.
15. Mrs. King asked for the cost of placing an IB program in the upcounty.
16. Referring to the Watkins Mill Cluster's testimony about the money that goes to high schools for athletic programs, Mrs. King asked for the allocation formula and how it was determined.
17. Mr. Felton requested the background for the practice that "buses follow the drivers."
18. Mr. Abrams commented on elementary schools with language immersion programs. These programs were created to bring diversity into schools and stabilize populations under the theory that there would be some cross fertilization within the schools. That has not proven to be the case. The superintendent's *Call to Action* and initiative of focusing resources on where they are needed tend to be driven by FARMs or ESOL characteristics. Unfortunately, applying this formula to the total enrollment of schools with immersion programs, in which students are segregated on a full-time basis, provides a skewed perspective of the resources that needed and allocated. If the system could examine the demographic characteristics of only the non-immersion population in these schools, what would the appropriate staffing levels be, given the agenda the superintendent has laid out to address those issues?
19. Mr. Lange asked for a description of the system that is used for the bidding by drivers for the preferred bus routes.
20. Mr. Lange requested comparative numbers for Fairfax, Prince George's, and Howard counties for the secretarial support in elementary schools, secretarial support for guidance offices at the high schools, and the ratio used at all levels for the building services workers.
21. Mr. Lloyd asked for information on the algebra initiative and the student/teacher ratios in the ninth and eighth grades. What would be the cost to reduce classes to

a lower ratio?

22. Mrs. O'Neill requested clarification on the plans for the Home School initiative (B-CC Cluster testimony) and funding.
23. Mr. Lloyd asked for information on the CASPA program and the funding requested for it.
24. Mr. Lloyd asked for the cost of hiring additional Asian and bilingual parent services staff.
25. Mr. Lloyd asked for information on who is being served by the Blair magnet and IB programs in terms of geographic distribution, demographics of race, and what middle schools the students are coming from.
26. Ms. Cox wanted the rationale for the enrollment limitation on the Chinese Immersion program at Potomac Elementary School. What would be the eligibility for federal funds if the system expanded the program?
27. Ms. Cox asked that the testimony on the bridge classes and intensive writing be passed on to staff for consideration in the ESOL review. In the ESOL review, what are the options for translating more material, such as special education material? Can that be contracted out?
28. Ms. Cox asked if it was possible to have an Asian Outreach program under the community superintendents.
29. Mr. Felton wanted clarification on the Asian-American parent outreach positions. Would the superintendent's budget cover the request, or was the request for additional staff?
30. Mr. Abrams asked about the turnover rate of teachers. He was under the impression that the rate in MCPS is low compared to other jurisdictions. He thought it would be useful to get the information to the community on the number of applications MCPS still has for positions, the number of hirings that reflect the transition of the workforce as teachers retire and are being replaced, and the increased population. MCPS still needs to pay attention to workforce development and recruitment issues. However, MCPS is still the premier school system with regard to the number of applicants, pool, diversity, salary and benefit schedules.
31. Mr. Burnett asked for the cost of fully funding and for the number of staff required for the MCPS shared accountability effort.

32. Mrs. King requested the cost for adding a fourth day of outdoor education for schools without the additional day.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

JDW:gr