

APPROVED  
24-2002

Rockville, Maryland  
September 18, 2002

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Wednesday, September 18, 2002, at 8:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present:                   Mr. Reginald M. Felton, President  
  in the Chair  
  Mr. Mihyar Alnifaidy, Student Board Member  
  Mr. Kermit V. Burnett  
  Ms. Sharon Cox  
  Mr. Walter Lange  
  Mrs. Patricia B. O'Neill  
  Dr. Jerry D. Weast, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent:                   Mr. Stephen Abrams  
  Mrs. Nancy J. King

The Board of Education met with the Executive Board of the Montgomery County Council of Supporting Services Employees (MCCSSE) and discussed the following issues.

After introductions, the MCCSSE President brought to the Board the issue of lack of recognition and respect for the services performed by support staff. This environment has lead to inadequate staffing levels, the need for reclassification of positions, and administrative placements. The union was willing to work collaboratively with the administration to change the work climate. The Board members assured support staff that they were a valued part of the school system.

There was a discussion about "working off the clock," which masks staff shortages and why time worked is not accurately reported. The reasons appeared to be the desire of support staff to get the job done and, with technology, supervisors are unclear about the time needed to complete a task or variety of tasks. Reclassifications of many positions could eliminate this by shifting workloads.

All agreed that MCPS is doing wonderful work for all its students, and together there is a need to stay focused on the important issue of student achievement.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

JDW:gr