

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

RESOLUTION NO. 476-02 Re: **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for October 28, 2002.

RESOLUTION NO. 477-02 Re: **MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMPLOYEES' CHARITY**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Mrs. O'Neill, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The 2002 Montgomery County Employees Charity Campaign is organized and supported by the Montgomery County Government, in collaboration with the Montgomery County United Way; and

WHEREAS, The Office of the County Executive of Montgomery County has expressed its support for the resolution of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) in "supporting a sound and well managed United Way consolidated giving campaign in the national capital region and encouraging continued donor support"; and

WHEREAS, The action by COG acknowledged that the United Way leadership has adopted a comprehensive reform program to restore trust and focus on its core mission and to institute a system of rigorous oversight; and

WHEREAS, The needs of others have long depended on the generosity of the employees of the Montgomery County Public Schools who have contributed to charity campaigns organized by the Montgomery County Government and implemented by the Montgomery County United Way; and

WHEREAS, Last year school system employees contributed \$309,469 to the campaign, an increase of seventeen percent from the previous year; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the period of October 28 through December 13, 2002, is hereby designated for participation in the Montgomery County Employees' Charity Campaign by the Board of Education of Montgomery County; and be it further

Resolved, That all employees of the Montgomery County Public Schools are urged to demonstrate their charity by donating to this campaign as a reflection of their commitment to addressing the needs of people who need our support.

Re: **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following people testified before the Board of Education:

	<u>Person</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1.	Samira Hussein	Test Dates and Muslim Holiday
2.	Linda Goldsholl	Nutrition
3.	Patti Twigg	Delayed Opening
4.	Taimur Malik	Test Dates and Muslim Holiday
5.	Usma Hashmi	Test Dates and Muslim Holiday
6.	Sayed Naved	Test Dates and Muslim Holiday
7.	Kasim Chaudhry	Test Dates and Muslim Holiday
8.	Hamid Chaudhry	Test Dates and Muslim Holiday
9.	Mehreen Ajaz	Test Dates and Muslim Holiday
10.	Mark Drury	Construction Trades

RESOLUTION NO. 478-02

Re: **PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS OF \$25,000 OR MORE**

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

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of equipment, supplies, and contractual services; now therefore be it

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

1082.2 Professional Service and Temporary Personnel for Computer Programming, Analysis, Database Administration, Systems Engineering and Consulting Services

Awardees

- David Barr
- Chesapeake Computer Engineering*
- Compumatics, Inc.
- DigiTerra
- Linda K. Gallo*
- Lighthouse Management Consulting
- Mason Dixon Consulting Services, Inc.*
- Richard Metcalfe
- Sandra Metcalfe*
- Metro Technical Consulting, LLS
- NexGen Infosys, Inc.

	Peace Technology*	
	Milton Wilkerson	
	Total	\$625,000
4078.4	Health Room Supplies	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Amzco Health Supply*	\$ 9,654
	Armstrong Medical Industrial, Inc.	4,528
	Calipor/Roane Barker Division	5,245
	Cole Medical, Inc.	13,020
	Eddor Safety	1,428
	EverReady First Aid and Medical Supply*	3,408
	Gamma Medical System, Inc.	1,768
	Leonard Paper Company	41,855
	Medco Supply Company	1,853
	Micro Bio Medics, Inc.	31,119
	Moore Medical Corporation	21,178
	National Health Supply Company*	11,407
	Safetec of America, Inc.	611
	Safety Touch of Javithon, Inc.	448
	School Health Corporation	899
	Sport Master Recreation Equipment	<u>3,503</u>
	Total	\$151,924
	TOTAL PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS OVER \$25,000	\$776,924

* Denotes Minority-, Female-, or Disabled-owned Business

RESOLUTION NO. 479-02 Re: **DISPOSITION OF FORMER POOLESVILLE
COLORED SCHOOL**

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

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Government has requested that the Board of Education surplus the former Poolesville Colored School, currently known as the Poolesville Depot property, located on Jerusalem Road in Poolesville; and

WHEREAS, The site, which was conveyed to the Board of Education on November 28, 1927, was the site of the Poolesville Colored School from approximately 1925 to 1949, when it was closed due to declining enrollment; and

WHEREAS, The site is being used by the Montgomery County Department of Public

Works and Transportation as a transportation depot; and

WHEREAS, The original school building still exists but has been modified to support operations at the depot site that include two salt domes, a solid waste transfer facility, re-fueling stations, and miscellaneous outbuildings for automotive service; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the former Poolesville Colored School, now known as the Poolesville Depot, located at Jerusalem Road in Poolesville, consisting of four acres, is no longer needed for school purposes and, with the approval of the state superintendent of schools, shall be conveyed to the Montgomery County Government.

RESOLUTION NO. 480-02 Re: **ARCHITECTURAL APPOINTMENT – QUINCE ORCHARD MIDDLE SCHOOL #2**

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

WHEREAS, It is necessary to appoint an architectural firm to provide professional and technical services during the design and construction phases for Quince Orchard Middle School No. 2; and

WHEREAS, Funds for architectural planning were programmed as part of the FY 2003 Capital Budget; and

WHEREAS, An Architect Selection Committee, in accordance with procedures adopted by the Board of Education on July 14, 1998, selected Grimm + Parker Architects to provide the necessary professional architectural and engineering services; and

WHEREAS, Staff has negotiated a fee for the architectural services; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education enter into a contractual agreement with the architectural firm of Grimm + Parker Architects to provide professional architectural and engineering services for Quince Orchard Middle School No. 2, for a fee of \$900,000.

RESOLUTION NO. 481-02 Re: **ARCHITECTURAL APPOINTMENT – CLARKSBURG HIGH SCHOOL CONVERSION**

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

WHEREAS, The FY 2003–08 Capital Improvements Program includes funds for the conversion of Rocky Hill Middle School to a high school for the Clarksburg area; and

WHEREAS, It is necessary to appoint an architectural firm to provide professional and technical services during the design and construction phases for the Clarksburg High School conversion project; and

WHEREAS, Funds for architectural planning were programmed as part of the FY 2003 Capital Budget; and

WHEREAS, An Architect Selection Committee, in accordance with procedures adopted by the Board of Education on July 14, 1998, selected Delmar Architects, P.A., to provide the necessary professional architectural and engineering services; and

WHEREAS, Staff has negotiated a fee for the architectural services; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education enter into a contractual agreement with the architectural firm of Delmar Architects, P.A., to provide professional architectural and engineering services for the Clarksburg High School conversion project, for a fee of \$1,875,000.

RESOLUTION NO. 482-02

Re: **SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION – WILLIAM TYLER PAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

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

WHEREAS, A contract for the modernization of William Tyler Page Elementary School was awarded by the Board of Education on October 16, 2001; and

WHEREAS, William Tyler Page Elementary School will need two relocatable classrooms when the modernization is completed to support reduced class-size initiatives, funded on an annual basis as part of the operating budget; and

WHEREAS, The current practice for providing space for class-size initiatives is to use relocatable buildings, unless the space can be added more cost effectively as part of new construction or a modernization project; and

WHEREAS, The William Tyler Page Elementary School modernization design included a Master Plan for up to four future additional classrooms; and

WHEREAS, Staff has negotiated a proposal with the modernization contractor to add two of the Master-Planned classrooms for less than the initial placement, leasing, and life-cycle cost of two relocatable classrooms; and

WHEREAS, Staff has recommended that the proposal for the permanent space be accepted because it is less than the overall cost of two relocatable classrooms; now

therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education request an FY 2003 Capital Budget supplemental appropriation and amendment to the FY 2003–08 Capital Improvements Plan, in the amount of \$280,000, to fund two permanent classrooms as part of the William Tyler Page Elementary School modernization project; and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of this request to the County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 483-02 Re: **CHANGE ORDERS OVER \$100,000**

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

WHEREAS, The Department of Facilities Management has received the following change order proposals from various contractors that are over \$100,000; and

WHEREAS, Staff and the project architect have reviewed these change orders and found them to be equitable; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the following change orders for the amounts indicated:

Activity 1

- Project: Lakewood Elementary School
- Description: Construction of a gymnasium
- Contractor: Hess Construction Company
- Amount: \$1,309,729

Activity 2

- Project: William Tyler Page Elementary School
- Description: Construction of a two-classroom addition
- Contractor: HRGM Corporation
- Amount: \$280,000

RESOLUTION NO. 484-02 Re: **SPECIAL APPROPRIATION – FEDERAL SCHOOL
RENOVATION PROGRAM FUNDS**

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

WHEREAS, The state of Maryland, through the Maryland State Department of Education, submitted an application to the U.S. Department of Education to access Federal School Renovation Program funds; and

WHEREAS, On September 21, 2001, the Maryland State Department of Education was notified that the application was approved and a total of \$10.5 million would be available to all local education agencies in the state of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, All Maryland school systems were eligible to compete for Federal School Renovation Program grants through a Request for Proposals process; and

WHEREAS, The competitive grants were awarded using a rating scale of 100 points and three groupings: high poverty, rural, and other; and

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Public Schools submitted 39 proposals totaling \$3.79 million for projects that were not included in the FY 2003-08 Capital Improvements Program; and

WHEREAS, The Public School Construction Program determined that eight projects submitted by the Montgomery County Public Schools were the most competitive and awarded the entire \$1.586 million available in the "other" category of the Federal School Renovation Program grant to MCPS; and

WHEREAS, The grant will enable the Montgomery County Public Schools to complete critical capital maintenance projects beyond the approved funding in the FY 2003–08 Capital Improvements Program; now therefore be it

Resolved, That an FY 2003 special appropriation and amendment to the FY 2003–2008 Capital Improvements Program in the amount of \$1.586 million be requested to recognize the grant funding as state aid and provide appropriation authority to spend the funds awarded through the Federal School Renovation Program grant; and be it further

Resolved, That these funds be included in the Planned Life-cycle Asset Replacement Project; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be forwarded to the county executive and the County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 485-02 Re: **UTILIZATION OF FY 2003 PROVISION FOR FUTURE SUPPORTED PROJECT**

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

WHEREAS, The above-noted grants qualify for a transfer of appropriation from the Provision for Future Supported Projects, pursuant to the provisions of County Council Resolution No. 14-1270, approved May 23, 2002; and

WHEREAS, The above-noted programs do not require any present or future county funds; and

WHEREAS, Sufficient appropriation is available, within the FY 2003 Provision for Future Supported Projects, to permit the above-noted transfers within state categories; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend, within the FY 2003 Provision for Future Supported Projects, as specified below:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Positions</u>	<u>Amount</u>
English as a Second Language Training Program for Refugees		\$ 94,000
Gifted and Talented Education Program Development Grant	.2	250,200
Head Start		218,189
American Indian Education Grant		4,102
Judy Center, Gaithersburg		322,000
Cigarette Restitution Fund	<u>.75</u>	<u>60,000</u>
Total	<u>.95</u>	<u>\$ 948,491</u>

and be it further

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

Re: **POLICY ABC, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was placed on the table:

WHEREAS, Policy ABC, *Parental Involvement*, affirms the Montgomery County Public Schools' belief that parents are valued partners in their child's education and its firm commitment to promoting and fostering effective, comprehensive parental involvement;

and

WHEREAS, Policy ABC, *Parental Involvement*, ensures that parental involvement efforts reflect the rich cultural and linguistic diversity of local school communities; and

WHEREAS, The draft revision of Policy ABC, *Parental Involvement*, was tentatively adopted by the Board of Education on May 14, 2002, and sent out for public comment; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education has received comments and the superintendent's recommendations thereto; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt draft Policy ABC, *Parental Involvement*.

Parental Involvement

A. PURPOSE

- a) To reaffirm the Montgomery County public school system's strong commitment to the role of parents as valued partners in their children's education and to promote and increase effective, comprehensive parental involvement
- b) To ensure that parental involvement efforts reflect the rich cultural and linguistic diversity of local school communities

B. ISSUE

Family involvement in a child's learning is a critical link to achieve academic success and to ensure a safe and disciplined learning environment.

C. POSITION

1. Definition

In this policy, "parent" is intended to include parents, guardians, and other family members involved in supervising the child's schooling.

2. Achievement of the purpose will be sought through a variety of efforts including:

- a) Effective two-way communication between all parents and schools regarding school system policies and regulations, local school

policies, and an individual child's progress

- b) Activities to encourage parental volunteer opportunities in schools both in the classroom and in other areas of the school including attendance at local school programs and events
 - c) Information and programs for parents on how to establish a home environment to support learning and appropriate behavior
 - d) Information and programs for parents about how they can assist their own children to learn
 - e) Assistance to develop parental involvement in educational advocacy through PTAs and other organizations, including school system task forces and advisory committees
3. While each division, office, and school must assess its role and plan of action to meet these goals, all MCPS employees are expected to convey a commitment to parental involvement.
- a) Consistent with this commitment, local schools are expected to:
 - 1. Provide an inviting and welcoming environment where parent involvement is respected and valued
 - 2) Develop activities and materials that provide for effective two-way communication between parents and the school on local school policies and individual student progress
 - 3) Support and encourage parental volunteer opportunities including participation in the development of school improvement plans
 - 4) Provide programs that assist parents in learning how they can help children learn, including activities that are connected to what children are learning in the classroom
 - 5) Work with PTA, other parent organizations, and parent outreach personnel to ensure parental input from a broad range of culturally and linguistically diverse groups
 - b) Consistent with this commitment, local schools are encouraged, in collaboration with their parent community, to develop a local school statement which articulates a shared responsibility and strategies to

support student learning and high achievement; shared responsibility for effective, frequent, **two-way** communication between school and home; and shared responsibility for building capacity for the family, school, community partnership through volunteering and training

4. In addition, appropriate staff in central offices are expected to support local school efforts and, where relevant:
 - a) Communicate with parents on school system policies and regulations
 - b) Provide for the development of parenting programs and materials, including the use of cable television, pamphlets, adult education courses, parent resource centers, and programs designed to orient new parents to MCPS
 - c) Support and encourage the use of interpretation and translation services whenever feasible
 - d) Maintain and support parental volunteer opportunities with appropriate information and training
 - e) Assist in the development of parental leadership through PTAs and other recognized groups
 - f) Work with businesses, organizations, and other government agencies which by their policies and activities can provide support and assistance for parental involvement efforts
 - g) Provide appropriate teacher and staff training to support effective parental involvement; conduct staff and parent training in ways to communicate and work together including problem solving, conflict resolution skills, and outreach strategies
 - h) Identify and publicize promising programs and practices related to parental involvement
 - i) Work with colleges and universities that prepare teachers and administrators to support the inclusion of school and family connections in their training programs
 - j) Develop methods to accommodate and support parental involvement for all parents, including those with special needs, limited English proficiency, limited financial resources and individuals with disabilities

- k) Develop mechanisms for local schools to use in order to assess the effectiveness of their parental involvement efforts

D. DESIRED OUTCOME

Schools and families will work together to ensure that the educational process includes quality learning at home, in school, and in the community.

E. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

1. The superintendent will assess the status of parental involvement, review existing policies and procedures, and develop necessary regulations and procedures to support this policy, including a review of staff and budget support.
2. The Board of Education will parental input on school system policies, including curriculum, facilities, and funding issues from a broad spectrum of our culturally and linguistically diverse community.

F. REVIEW AND REPORTING

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

Re: **DISCUSSION**

Mr. Lange asked how the school system assists schools with parental involvement since it becomes a capacity question and implementation is always an issue. Staff relied that a person that could coordinate all parental activities would be ideal; however, it is usually done piece meal through various staff and PTA leaders. Mr. Lange thought the PTA might undertake the coordination of these activities. Ms. Yu agreed that it was a partnership between the principals and PTAs to encourage a welcome environment for all parents.

Mr. Lange commented on line 115 – “support and encourage the interpretation and translation services whenever feasible” – and he was concerned about the caveat of “whenever feasible.”

Mrs. King remarked that there was a great deal of public input to this draft policy, and most of the input was good and encompassed in the draft. There are not as many “stay-at-home” moms, and the school system must encourage parents to be involved in their children’s school life.

Mrs. O’Neill noted that this policy originated in 1990, and the update of the policy took into considered that the county is more diverse both culturally and linguistically. As this

diversity grows, it is important to engage other parents along with PTA members. Also, she was pleased that it was clearly stated that parents should be involved in the development of local school improvement plans.

Mr. Burnett thought the Policy Committee, aided by public comment, had put together a strong policy. He celebrated the inclusion of many parent organizations and groups.

Ms. Cox noted that the school system will have to provide a written parental involvement policy to all parents in schools receiving Title I funds, hold an annual meeting with those parents, and develop a parent/school compact. Those specifics were not included in the draft policy, and Ms. Cox asked if details would be included in the regulation. Ms. Richardson replied that Title I requirements are encompassed in this policy, but all Title I schools will develop written parent involvement guidelines based on the requirements of *No Child Left Behind* legislation.

Mr. Felton commented that when he proposed the resolution on parental involvement, the intent was beyond Title I schools, and it would provide a framework for schools to implement parental involvement and, ultimately, improved student academic performance.

RESOLUTION NO. 486-02 Re: **AMENDMENT TO THE POLICY ABC, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

On motion of Ms. Cox and seconded by Mr. Lange, the following resolution was adopted with Mr. Abrams, Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Mrs. King, Mr. Lange, and Mrs. O'Neill voting in the affirmative (Mr. Alnifaigy was absence from the meeting when this vote was taken):

Resolved, That the Board of Education amend Policy ABC at C.1. to read:

In this policy, "comprehensive parental involvement" is intended to include the research-based Six National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement Programs as follows:

- a) Communicating
- b) Parenting
- c) Student Learning
- d) Volunteering
- e) School Decision-Making and Advocacy
- f) Collaborating with Community

RESOLUTION NO. 487-02

Re: **AMENDMENT TO THE POLICY ABC, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

On motion of Ms. Cox and seconded by Mr. Lange, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education amend Policy ABC at C.2.a) and C.3.a)3) to read:

Effective two-way communication between all parents and school regarding school system policies and regulations, local school polices **and practices**, and an individual child's progress

and

Develop activities and materials that provide for effective two-way communication between parents and the school on local school policies **and practices**, and individual student progress

Re: **AMENDMENT TO THE POLICY ABC, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

On motion of Mr. Felton and seconded by Ms. Cox, the following amendment failed with Mr. Alnifaidy, Ms. Cox, and Mr. Felton voting in the affirmative; Mr. Abrams, Mr. Burnett, Mrs. King, Mr. Lange, and Mrs. O'Neill voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the Board of Education amend Policy ABC at C.3.a) to read:

Consistent with this commitment, local schools are ~~expected to~~ **shall**:

RESOLUTION NO. 488-02

Re: **AMENDMENT TO THE POLICY ABC, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education amend Policy ABC at C.3.b) to read:

Consistent with this commitment, local schools are encouraged, in collaboration with their parent community, to develop a local school statement which articulates a shared responsibility and strategies to support student learning and high achievement; ~~shared responsibility for effective, frequent, two-way communication between school and home; and shared responsibility for building capacity for the family, school, community partnership through volunteering and training~~ **aligned with school improvement plan goals**

RESOLUTION NO. 489-02 Re: **POLICY ABC, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

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

WHEREAS, Policy ABC, *Parental Involvement*, affirms the Montgomery County Public Schools' belief that parents are valued partners in their child's education and its firm commitment to promoting and fostering effective, comprehensive parental involvement; and

WHEREAS, Policy ABC, *Parental Involvement*, ensures that parental involvement efforts reflect the rich cultural and linguistic diversity of local school communities; and

WHEREAS, The draft revision of Policy ABC, *Parental Involvement*, was tentatively adopted by the Board of Education on May 14, 2002, and sent out for public comment; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education has received comments and the superintendent's recommendations thereto; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt draft Policy ABC, *Parental Involvement*.

Parental Involvement

A. PURPOSE

1. To reaffirm the Montgomery County public school system's strong commitment to the role of parents as valued partners in their children's education and to promote and increase effective, comprehensive parental involvement
2. To ensure that parental involvement efforts reflect the rich cultural and linguistic diversity of local school communities

B. ISSUE

Family involvement in a child's learning is a critical link to achieve academic success and to ensure a safe and disciplined learning environment.

C. POSITION

1. Definition

In this policy, “parent” is intended to include parents, guardians, and other family members involved in supervising the child’s schooling.

In this policy, “comprehensive parental involvement” is intended to include the research-based Six National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement Programs as follows:

- a) Communicating
- b) Parenting
- c) Student Learning
- d) Volunteering
- e) School Decision-Making and Advocacy
- f) Collaborating with Community

2. Achievement of the purpose will be sought through a variety of efforts including:

- a) Effective two-way communication between all parents and schools regarding school system policies and regulations, local school policies and practices, and an individual child’s progress
- b) Activities to encourage parental volunteer opportunities in schools both in the classroom and in other areas of the school including attendance at local school programs and events
- c) Information and programs for parents on how to establish a home environment to support learning and appropriate behavior
- d) Information and programs for parents about how they can assist their own children to learn
- e) Assistance to develop parental involvement in educational advocacy through PTAs and other organizations, including school system task forces and advisory committees

3. While each division, office, and school must assess its role and plan of action to meet these goals, all MCPS employees are expected to convey a commitment to parental involvement.

- a) Consistent with this commitment, local schools are expected to:
 - 1. Provide an inviting and welcoming environment where parent involvement is respected and valued

- 2) Develop activities and materials that provide for effective two-way communication between parents and the school on local school policies and practices and individual student progress
 - 3) Support and encourage parental volunteer opportunities including participation in the development of school improvement plans
 - 4) Provide programs that assist parents in learning how they can help children learn, including activities that are connected to what children are learning in the classroom
 - 5) Work with PTA, other parent organizations, and parent outreach personnel to ensure parental input from a broad range of culturally and linguistically diverse groups
- b) Consistent with this commitment, local schools are encouraged, in collaboration with their parent community, to develop a local school statement which articulates a shared responsibility and strategies to support student learning and high achievement; effective, frequent, two-way communication between school and home; and family, school, community partnership aligned with school improvement plan goals
4. In addition, appropriate staff in central offices are expected to support local school efforts and, where relevant:
- a) Communicate with parents on school system policies and regulations
 - b) Provide for the development of parenting programs and materials, including the use of cable television, pamphlets, adult education courses, parent resource centers, and programs designed to orient new parents to MCPS
 - c) Support and encourage the use of interpretation and translation services whenever feasible
 - d) Maintain and support parental volunteer opportunities with appropriate information and training
 - e) Assist in the development of parental leadership through PTAs and other recognized groups

- f) Work with businesses, organizations, and other government agencies which by their policies and activities can provide support and assistance for parental involvement efforts
- g) Provide appropriate teacher and staff training to support effective parental involvement; conduct staff and parent training in ways to communicate and work together including problem solving, conflict resolution skills, and outreach strategies
- h) Identify and publicize promising programs and practices related to parental involvement
- i) Work with colleges and universities that prepare teachers and administrators to support the inclusion of school and family connections in their training programs
- j) Develop methods to accommodate and support parental involvement for all parents, including those with special needs, limited English proficiency, limited financial resources and individuals with disabilities
- k) Develop mechanisms for local schools to use in order to assess the effectiveness of their parental involvement efforts

D. DESIRED OUTCOME

Schools and families will work together to ensure that the educational process includes quality learning at home, in school, and in the community.

E. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

1. The superintendent will assess the status of parental involvement, review existing policies and procedures, and develop necessary regulations and procedures to support this policy, including a review of staff and budget support.
2. The Board of Education will parental input on school system policies, including curriculum, facilities, and funding issues from a broad spectrum of our culturally and linguistically diverse community.

F. REVIEW AND REPORTING

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

Ms. Cox asked for a timeline on when the regulations would be ready to implement Policy ABC, *Parental Involvement*.

**Re: UPDATE ON THE OFFICE OF GLOBAL ACCESS
TECHNOLOGY**

Dr. Weast invited the following people to the table: Mr. John Q. Porter, chief information officer; Ms. Doreen Heath, assistant chief information officer; Mr. Michael Kline, principal, Ronald McNair Elementary School; and Ms. Hannah Karp, Grade 4 teacher, Burning Tree Elementary School.

Th2 report highlighted the work of the Office of Global Access Technology (OGAT) over the past year in addressing Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) priorities. It summarized recent administrative realignments, progress on the technology modernization in schools, the roll out of the instructional management system, developments in the information assurance program, and coordination of efforts on e-learning opportunities.

Administrative Realignments—Several administrative realignments have been made within OGAT to improve services, products, and efficiencies. These realignments affect the elementary user support specialists, the e-learning team, the Department of Systems Engineering, and the Electronic Graphics and Publishing Services unit.

Technology Modernization Program—By accelerating the installation of 5,591 computers and wiring in 42 schools in FY 2003, the original Global Access project was completed three years ahead of schedule. This work was accomplished during an eight-week period this past summer. In FY 2002, by comparison, 12 elementary schools received 1,704 computers and associated file servers and peripherals.

Instructional Management System—The Web-based instructional management system (IMS) was launched on September 4, 2002. Student data for all elementary schools (kindergarten through Grade 5) was loaded into the application for school year 2002–2003. The initial phase of the IMS training focused on the capacity of elementary administrators, staff development teachers, and reading specialists to support the roll out of the system. The next phase of IMS training was expanded to include media specialists.

Information Technology Security—An external information technology security audit reported that MCPS meets or exceeds standards for safeguarding information technology assets. OGAT has implemented measures to protect MCPS student and educational business data, including Web content protection measures to address the mandates of the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

E-learning Technology—OGAT has initiated a plan to implement the Web-based *Blackboard.com* in our schools. The office has provided staff development and supported classroom instruction. Elementary, middle, and high school teachers in 41 schools are

using Blackboard.com to post announcements, assignments, curricular goals and objectives, instructional resources, and discussion forums. Blackboard.com will strengthen the home-school partnership.

OGAT has remained focused on providing effective tools that support instruction and improve the school system's administrative services. The office's continuous improvement program ensures the alignment of its vision and objectives with its strategies, plans, and activities. Increased cross-functional collaboration with other offices has resulted in important changes in planning, budgeting, and operations.

Re: **DISCUSSION**

Ms. Cox asked if people tried to enter the school system's computers without authorization. Mr. Porter replied that was correct, but internal breaches are also a problem. There are challenges from both sides.

Ms. Cox pointed out that 41 schools were using *Blackboard.com*, and she asked what training was provided to staff. What is the plan for eventually implementing the use of this tool systemwide? Mr. Porter replied that a work group asked OGAT to purchase the program. There are a variety of staff development classes through OPIC and OGAT.

Mrs. King asked how all teachers could be infected with an enthusiasm to experiment with a new software program to challenge students. Staff replied that it can be done through training, and the utilization of programs that are user friendly.

Mr. Felton was pleased with the acceleration of the long-range plan for computers in the classroom. He asked for the value of the program since the community needs to see the relationship between technology and quality instruction. What is the return on the investment? Mr. Porter replied that the IMS will allow teachers and principals to access data for planning purposes. The tools are there to help in curriculum and instruction.

In the requirements of *No Child Left Behind*, Mr. Felton noted there were tremendous efforts to manage data and the need to implement and report annual progress. Does MCPS have the capacity to generate those reports? Mr. Porter replied that the system is assessing the technology around the state. MCPS is in a position with its technology in place and that which will be enhanced to meet the requirements.

Ms. Cox noted that OGAT was collaborating with the workgroup on grading and reporting. Does the technology lend itself to give better information parents on student achievement relating to indicators – grade level or course outcomes? Mr. Porter responded that the capacity of the IMS system will allow parents to have access to student data. Right now, the system has K-2 capacity, and there is model that ultimately it will be expanded to all grades.

Mc. Cox noted that the reading specialist received the same training as the principals, and staff development teachers had to option to attend the class on data analysis. Was the training a choice or was the time a choice? Mr. Porter replied that training was not mandatory, and there was a great deal of interest in talking this training.

Mr. Burnett asked with the use of *Blackboard.com* will be implemented systemwide. Mr. Porter replied that use of the program will continue to grow as staff works with curriculum and instructional programs.

Mr. Burnett asked what MCPS does with computers as the system continues tech-mod and refreshment. Mr. Porter answered that MCPS is working with other county agencies with extending the school day and getting technology into the community.

Mr. Lange asked about the using of technology, researching, and assimilating that into original work. Are the students aware of copyrights and plagiarism? Teaching staff replied that those topics are discussed, and the elements of a good website are stressed. At the high school level, there is software to check on plagiarism.

Mr. Lange asked about new technology and whether or not wireless technology is under consideration. Mr. Porter replied that one of the challenges is security, but there are pilots within the system using wireless technology.

With the massive infusion of hardware, Mr. Lange asked if there were enough technical support staff. Mr. Porter replied that the school system could use more specialists.

Re: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOUNDARY CHANGES

Dr. Weast invited the following people to the table: Mr. Joseph Lavorgna, director, Department of Planning and Capital Programming, and Mr. Bruce Crispell, senior planner, Department of Planning and Capital Programming.

The boundary study has resulted in a great deal of consensus among committee members and PTA leaders over the desired option. Dr. Weast agreed with the points made by the committee in favor of assigning Hidden Creek to Strawberry Knoll Elementary School. Without reassigning Hidden Creek to Strawberry Knoll Elementary School, the projected enrollment will exceed the capacity of Gaithersburg Elementary School, even with the approved nine-classroom addition slated to be completed by September 2005.

The assignment of Land Bays 2 and 3 of Hidden Creek to Strawberry Knoll Elementary School provides the opportunity to gradually increase enrollment at the school as the development builds. The gradual build out will allow ample time to plan for the growing enrollment. Options that would assign students currently attending Gaithersburg Elementary School to Strawberry Knoll Elementary School would result in unnecessary disruption of school staffs, students, and facilities.

Consistent with the committee evaluations and the Strawberry Knoll PTA position paper, Dr. Weast recommended that Option #1 be adopted by the Board of Education. This would result in the reassignment of the Hidden Creek, Land Bay 3 development from Gaithersburg Elementary School to Strawberry Knoll Elementary School. In addition, Dr. Weast recommended the reassignment of the small Land Bay 2 section of Hidden Creek from Judith A. Resnik Elementary School to Strawberry Knoll Elementary School. Apart from this reassignment of an unoccupied area of the Judith A. Resnik Elementary School service area, no middle school or high school boundaries are affected by these recommendations. In addition, no changes to existing communities in the Gaithersburg or Judith A. Resnik service areas occur because of these recommendations. The reassignments are recommended to take effect immediately upon Board action scheduled for November 21, 2002. This ensures that no homes will be occupied prior to the boundary change. A map showing this recommendation and a table displaying the enrollment effect of this recommendation appear at the end of this paper.

In summary, assignment of the Hidden Creek development to Strawberry Knoll Elementary School provides a desirable solution to relieve overutilization at Gaithersburg Elementary School without disrupting students attending this school. Staff knew that the overutilization at Gaithersburg Elementary School will continue until the scheduled nine-classroom addition is complete in September 2005; however, without the reassignment of the Hidden Creek development, overutilization at Gaithersburg Elementary School would continue beyond 2005. The support expressed by the Strawberry Knoll Elementary School representatives for the recommended assignment underscores the merits of this plan.

Re: **DISCUSSION**

Mrs. King was concerned that the school system not repeat the Forest Oak boundary situation. Mr. Lavorgna replied that Gaithersburg Elementary School is unique because it feeds into both Forest Oak and Gaithersburg middle schools. However, there is no direct street access from the development to Forest Oak Middle School.

Mr. Felton wanted to know what was the public information plan in order for the developer to properly inform buyers. Mr. Lavorgna replied that the developer cannot proceed with building permits until school capacity available at Gaithersburg Elementary School.

Re: **DIALOGUE ON CURRENT ISSUES – *Sniper Crisis***

Mr. Felton announced that the dialogue would center on the magnificent way the school system responded during the sniper crisis. There have been many lessons learned, and he asked if the school system would catalog that information for future use. Dr. Weast replied that staff was pulling together that information. There are many issues, including communications with parents and students on dealing with stress. Mr. Felton thought that information to the community during the crisis was outstanding. He was appreciative of the clarification on excused absences.

Mrs. O'Neill thanked Dr. Weast and staff for their remarkable response to the recent crisis. She asked about seniors seeking college admission and athletes' applications to colleges. Could a letter explain why there was a suspension of games for a three-week period? Dr. Weast stated that coaches were solidly behind all their athletes and will work with the coaches at colleges and universities.

Ms. Cox complimented the superintendent on his leadership during the crisis. She pointed out that he had worked with the federal government to acquire additional funding for the expenses that were incurred. She asked if there were further impact on the budget since the Police Department had expended tremendous resources. Dr. Weast thought this crisis would widen the gap between expenditures and revenues. Hopefully, the county will appeal to the federal government for financial relief.

Mr. Abrams thought Chief Moose was an excellent leader during this situation. Nextel, a corporate partner, with the communications network developed for the task force for the crisis. Also, the last month should lay to rest the arguments against security resource officers (SROs), and the importance of the relationship between the school system and the police department. Furthermore, the leadership in the county focused on what was in the best interest of children and keeping school open in a safe fashion. The school system can build on what it has learned with a constructive evaluation

Mr. Lange expressed appreciation to the superintendent, all staff, and parents. The behavior of the students exceeded expectations.

Mr. Alnifaidy commended the superintendent and leadership team during the crisis. The students handled the situation very well.

Mr. Burnett thanked the entire school system and students were understanding of what the situation meant. One of the important things was the valued added of the police officers to schools.

Re: **BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS**

Dr. Weast commented that Montgomery County Public Schools will be a partner in two major grant projects totaling \$12.7 million funded by the National Science Foundation. One \$7.5 million grant will fund a collaboration with MCPS, the University of Maryland System and Montgomery College focusing on a K-16 professional development model for high school science teachers, prospective teaching candidates, and college faculty. A second \$5.2 million grant is a partnership with George Washington University focusing on middle school instruction and differentiating the science curriculum for diverse student populations. These successful grant applications underscore the importance of working closely with area colleges and universities as well as the National Science Foundation. Together with our science teachers, we have a great opportunity to make lasting improvements in what students know and are able to do in science.

RESOLUTION NO. 490-02 Re: CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. King seconded by Ms. Cox, 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 portion of its meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2002, in Room 120 of the Carver Educational Services Center to meet in closed sessions from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m., 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 to 5:05 p.m. to discuss personnel matters, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(1) of the *State Government Article*, consult with counsel to obtain legal advice, as permitted by Section 10-508(a)(7) of the *State Government Article*; review and adjudicate appeals in its quasi-judicial capacity; and to discuss matters of an executive function outside the purview of the Open Meetings Act (Section 10-503(a) of the *State Government Article*); and be it further

Resolved, That such meetings shall continue in closed session until the completion of business.

Re REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION

On October 15, 2002, by unanimous vote of members present, the Board of Education voted to conduct a closed session as permitted under the *Education Article* § 4-107 and *State Government Article* § 10-501, *et seq.*, of the *Annotated Code of Maryland*.

The Montgomery County Board of Education met in closed session on October 15, 2002, from 9:05 to 10:05 a.m., 12:45 to 1:55, and 5:20 to 5:30 p.m. in Room 120 of the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, and

1. Reviewed and/or adjudicated the following appeals: 2002-54, 2002-56, 2002-59, 2002-61, T-2002-54, NEC-2002-59, T-2002-61, and T-2002-62.
2. Reviewed the Superintendent's recommendation for the Human Resources Monthly Report and human resources appointments, subsequent to which the vote to approve was taken in open session.
3. Considered the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.
4. Conducted portions of its closed sessions 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*;
5. Consulted with counsel to receive legal advice as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(7) of the *State Government Article*.

6. Discussed matters of an executive function outside the purview of the Open Meetings Act (Section 10-503(a) of the *State Government Article*).

In attendance at the closed session were: Steve Abrams, Mihyar Alnifaidy, Larry Bowers, Sharon Cox, Reggie Felton, Dick Hawes, Roland Ikheloa, Nancy King, Don Kopp, Frieda Lacey, Walter Lange, George Margolies, Pat O'Neill, Brian Porter, Lori Rogovin, Glenda Rose, Roger Titus, Jerry Weast, and James Williams.

RESOLUTION NO. 491-02 Re: **APPEAL 2002-56**

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2002-56, foreign exchange student, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Alnifaidy, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Mrs. King, Mr. Lange, and Mrs. O'Neill voting to dismiss; Mr. Abrams and Mr. Burnett were absent when this case was adjudicated.

RESOLUTION NO. 492-02 Re: **APPEAL 2002-59**

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2002-59, course objectives and grading policy, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Alnifaidy, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Mrs. King, Mr. Lange, and Mrs. O'Neill voting to affirm; Mr. Abrams and Mr. Burnett were absent when this case was adjudicated.

RESOLUTION NO. 493-02 Re: **APPEAL 2002-61**

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2002-61, non-resident tuition waiver, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Alnifaidy, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Mrs. King, Mr. Lange, and Mrs. O'Neill voting to affirm; Mr. Abrams and Mr. Burnett were absent when this case was adjudicated.

RESOLUTION NO. 494-02 Re: **APPEAL T-2002-64**

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Order in Appeal T-2002-64, foreign exchange student, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Abrams, Mr. Alnifaidy, Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Mrs. King, Mr. Lange, and Mrs. O'Neill voting to reverse.

Re: **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

RESOLUTION NO. 495-02 Re: **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting of October 28, 2002, at 11:15 p.m.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

JDW:gr

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SUMMARY SHEET**

October 28, 2002

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