The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Thursday, November 14, 2002, at 7:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Mr. Reginald M. Felton, President in the Chair
Mr. Kermit V. Burnett
Ms. Sharon Cox
Mrs. Nancy J. King
Mr. Walter Lange
Mrs. Patricia B. O’Neill
Dr. Charles Haughey, Board Member-Elect
Mr. Gabe Romero, Board Member-Elect
Dr. Jerry Weast, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: Mr. Stephen Abrams
Mr. Mihyar Alnifaidy, Student Board Member

Re: PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CAPITAL BUDGET AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

The following people testified before the Board of Education:

1. Jerry Klobukowski, Town of Poolesville Commissioners
2. Amy Sutter, Committee for Excellence at Richard Montgomery (CERM)
3. Dr. Wai-Yee Chan, Organization of Chinese Americans
4. Stephen Cohn, Milestone Home Owners Association
5. Sonya Leaman, Damascus Cluster
6. Karen Fritz, Magruder Cluster
7. Allyson Morrison, Watkins Mill Cluster
8. Tami Fries, Northwest Cluster
9. Mark O’Connor, Quince Orchard Cluster
10. Link Hoewing, Poolesville Cluster
11. Meredith Walters, Seneca Valley Cluster
12. Northeast Consortium – Leslie Ridgway, Ellen Salins, Phil Kauffman
13. Patti Gragnani, Sherwood Cluster
14. Nanette Niu
15. Kevin Mohs
16. Bruce Olsson
17. Dale Ryan
18. Cynthia Sung
19. David Zwerdling
The Board of Education asked the following questions:

1. Ms. Cox asked how program capacity is calculated, including gymnasiums.

2. Mrs. O’Neill requested a schedule of schools needing gyms for which such projects are funded, are planned, or are not included in the CIP.

3. Mr. Lange noted that testimonies from clusters questioned MCPS long-range enrollment projections. Also, there had been reference to a study done by Mr. Alan Schwartz, MCCPTA Area Vice President. Mr. Lange asked staff to provide a comparison or a review of the differences between in Mr. Schwartz’ commentary and MCPS projections.

4. Mr. Lange requested information about the air quality issues that were cited in the testimonies from the Quince Orchard and Seneca Valley clusters.

5. Mrs. O’Neill asked about the standards for school bathrooms that are not to be modernized. Has there been a feasibility study? What will it take to bring the bathrooms up to health standards? What is the cost?

6. Mr. Felton asked for an update on correcting fire code violations. Are there sufficient funds?

7. Mrs. King asked for a status report on when the access road and ADA accessibility at the stadium at James Hubert Blake High School will be addressed.

8. Mr. Felton requested the implications of a phase-in of the ESOL realignment at Springbrook High School. What will it mean for the budget and program?

9. Ms. Cox wanted to know the status of the air quality and asbestos concerns at William H. Farquhar Middle School.

10. Ms. Cox requested that Belmont Elementary School be added to the status report on air quality and environment issues.

11. Mrs. King asked if it is common that students share lockers (Sherwood testimony).

12. Mr. Lange noted that air quality status reports were requested for a number of individual schools. He asked if there was a comprehensive listing with a summary table of all the schools identified with air quality problems.

13. Mr. Burnett wanted staff to identify where there might be room for the placement of
a countywide Chinese Immersion program.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

JDW:gr