The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Quality Suites, 3 Research Court, Rockville, Maryland, on February 8 and 9, 2003 beginning at 8:30 a.m.

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

Absent: None

On February 8, 2003, the Board of Education met and discussed the following topics:

Re: TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITY

The facilitators, Kitty Blumsack and Michael Perich, presented an activity to lead the participants from awareness to renewal.

Re: AN OVERVIEW OF MCPS STRATEGIC PLANNING EFFORTS

The Board of Education and Executive Staff reviewed the administrative history and education in Montgomery County over the past 30 years. Building upon where the school system has been, the future goals were outlined through strategic planning. The Call to Action and the Board of Education’s priorities have been the blueprint on which to build the strategic plans for the Bridge to Excellence Act (state law) and No Child Left Behind Act (federal law). The strategic plan has become an integrated document to meet the requirements of law as well as to increase the academic rigor in Montgomery County.

Re: REVIEW/REFINEMENT OF BOARD PRIORITIES

The Board discussed and developed the following priorities to support the strategic plan:

Ç Organize and optimize resources for improved academic results
On February 9, 2003, the Board of Education met and discussed the following topics:

Re: REVIEW/REFINEMENT OF BOARD PRIORITIES

The Board of Education finished the refinement of the priorities.

Re: ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT

After break-out sessions, the following four alternative mission statements were developed:

The mission of the Montgomery County Board of Education is to

Ç Ensure a quality educational system with community-supported goals, policies, budgets, and overseeing in the interest of children

Ç Provide leadership and direction of MCPS by offering challenging opportunities for a diverse student population by employing sound policies, committing appropriate resources and applying rigorous oversight for the school system

Ç Provide leadership and oversight for our growing and diverse student population by adopting policies, developing budgets and engaging parents, government, civic, and business agencies
Provide effective leadership, governance, fiscal management and oversight for high quality public education by establishing policies, strengthening community relationships and actively engaging families in supporting student success.

Working together, the Board came to a consensus that the mission statement should be similar to the following:

The mission of the Montgomery County Board of Education is to provide leadership, fiscal management and oversight for high quality education for our growing and diverse student population by establishing policies and engaging the community.

However, it was decided that an ad hoc committee of the Board should refine the mission statement for adoption by the entire Board. The ad hoc committee will consist of Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, and Mr. Romero.

Re: CLOSED SESSION

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in closed session on February 9, 2003, at the Quality Suites, 3 Research Court, Rockville, Maryland from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(1) of the State Government Article.

The retreat ended at 2:30 p.m.

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

JDW:gr