The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in regular session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on July 29, 2003, at 8:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL  Present: Mrs. Patricia B. O'Neill, President in the Chair
Ms. Sharon Cox
Mr. Reginald M. Felton
Dr. Charles Haughey
Mr. Gabe Romero
Mr. Sagar Sanghvi, Student Board Member
Dr. Jerry Weast, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: Mr. Kermit V. Burnett
Mr. Walter Lange

# or ( ) indicates student vote does not count. Four votes needed for adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. 383-03 Re: CLOSED SESSION

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Mr. Felton, 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 July 29, 2003, in Room 120 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. to discuss the Human Resources appointments and monthly report, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(1) of the State Government Article; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County receive legal advice as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(7) of the State Government Article; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County dedicate part of the closed sessions on July 29, 2003, to acquit its executive functions and to adjudicate and review appeals, which is a quasi-judicial function outside the purview of the Open Meetings Act under Section 10-503(a) of the State Government Article; and be it further

Resolved, That portions of the meeting continue in closed session until the completion of business.
RESOLUTION NO. 384-03  Re:  AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education delete Item 6.5 (Appointment to Montgomery County Council for Career and Technology Education) from its agenda.

RESOLUTION NO. 385-03  Re:  APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Haughey seconded by Mr. Sanghvi, the following resolution, as amended, was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for July 29, 2003.

Re:  PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following people testified before the Board of Education:

Person  Topic
1.  Stan Freeman  Burning Tree Elementary School Gym
2.  Mark Drury  Career Education
3.  Louis Farante  Career Education

RESOLUTION NO. 386-03  Re:  PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS OF $25,000 OR MORE

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awardee</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criswell Chevrolet, Inc.</td>
<td>$ 56,553</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PGC Tires and Tubes
83-03

Awardee
Donald B. Rice Tire Company $ 182,000

4101.1.1 Recycled Toner Cartridges

Awardee
P S Data Supply, Inc. $ 176,004

4144.1 Technology Laboratory Workstations

Awardees
Diversified Educational Systems, Inc. $ 94,847
Glover Equipment, Inc. 51,038
Total $ 145,885

7065.2.1 Vehicle Maintenance Repair and Inspection

Awardees (See note)
General Automotive Servicenter, Inc.
J. Price International Truck, Inc.
J&M Truck Repair Inc.
Light Truck Service Company, Inc.
Vehicare Corporation
Total $ 210,000

7072.1 Novell Network Desktop Licenses

Awardee
Novell, Inc. $ 207,210

7111.2 Lawn Maintenance Equipment

Awardees
Gaithersburg Rental Center $ 31,672
Lawn & Power Equipment 99,549
Total $ 131,221

TOTAL PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS EXCEEDING $25,000 $1,108,873

Note: Contract amounts will be based on individual requirements.
RESOLUTION NO. 387-03  Re:  AWARD OF CONTRACT – DAMASCUS HIGH SCHOOL

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, The following sealed bids were received on July 9, 2003, for corridor circulation improvements for Damascus High School, with work to begin immediately and be completed by January 2, 2004:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bidder</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Keller Brothers, Inc.</td>
<td>$961,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dustin Construction, Inc.</td>
<td>991,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System “42”, Inc.</td>
<td>1,172,037</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and

WHEREAS, Keller Brothers, Inc., has submitted 7-percent Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) participation, which is woman-owned; and

WHEREAS, Keller Brothers, Inc., has submitted a waiver for the balance of the MBE requirements; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Facilities Management MBE coordinator has reviewed and certified that the waiver meets the contract requirements, and staff recommends waiving the remaining balance of the MBE requirements; and

WHEREAS, Keller Brothers, Inc., has completed similar work successfully for the Montgomery County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, The low bid is below the staff estimate; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a $961,000 contract be awarded to Keller Brothers, Inc., for corridor circulation improvements for Damascus High School, in accordance with drawings and specifications prepared by McDonald Williams Banks Architects and Planners.

RESOLUTION NO. 388-03  Re:  AWARD OF CONTRACT – SLIGO MIDDLE SCHOOL

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, The following sealed bids were received on July 3, 2003, for modifications at
Sligo Middle School for the Infants and Toddlers Program, with work to begin immediately and be completed by August 22, 2003:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bidder</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Keller Brothers, Inc.</td>
<td>$141,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith &amp; Haines, Inc.</td>
<td>202,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Construction, Inc.</td>
<td>209,471</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and

WHEREAS, There is limited opportunity for minority vendor participation because of the work scope involved in this project, and staff recommends waiving the Minority Business Enterprise participation goal for this project; and

WHEREAS, Keller Brothers, Inc., has completed similar work successfully for the Montgomery County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, The low bid is below the staff estimate; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a $141,000 contract be awarded to Keller Brothers, Inc., for necessary modifications to the Infants and Toddlers Program facility at Sligo Middle School, in accordance with drawings and specifications prepared by Smolen Emr + Associates Architects.

RESOLUTION NO. 389-03 Re: AWARD OF CONTRACT – SPRINGBROOK HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM LIGHTING

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, Funds were appropriated in the FY 2004 Capital Budget to install stadium lights at Springbrook High School, with the understanding that the booster club would pay 50 percent of the cost; and

WHEREAS, The following sealed bids were received on July 7, 2003, for stadium lighting for Springbrook High School:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bidder</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lighting Maintenance, Inc.</td>
<td>$111,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalton Electric Service, Inc.</td>
<td>124,095</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and
WHEREAS, All of the work on this project is self-performed by the low bidder and since there is limited opportunity for minority vendor participation, staff recommends waiving the Minority Business Enterprise participation goal for this project; and

WHEREAS, Lighting Maintenance, Inc., has completed similar work successfully; and

WHEREAS, The low bid is below the staff estimate; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a $111,750 contract be awarded to Lighting Maintenance, Inc., for stadium lighting at Springbrook High School, in accordance with drawings and specifications prepared by the Department of Facilities Management.

RESOLUTION NO. 390-03 Re: ARCHITECTURAL APPOINTMENT – ROSEMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM ADDITION

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, It is necessary to appoint an architectural firm to provide professional and technical services during the design and construction phases for the Rosemont Elementary School classroom addition that includes 10 classrooms, support spaces, and the design for an additional 6 classrooms as an add alternate; and

WHEREAS, The preliminary construction cost estimate for this work is $4,000,000; and

WHEREAS, Funds for architectural planning were programmed as part of the FY 2004 Capital Budget; and

WHEREAS, An architect selection committee, in accordance with procedures adopted by the Board of Education on July 14, 1998, selected Rubeling & Associates, Inc., 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 Rubeling & Associates, Inc., to provide professional architectural and engineering services for the Rosemont Elementary School addition for a fee of $316,020.

RESOLUTION NO. 391-03 Re: ARCHITECTURAL APPOINTMENT – SENECA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL MINOR CORE SPACE IMPROVEMENTS

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by
Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, It is necessary to appoint an architectural firm to provide professional and technical services during the design and construction phases for the minor space improvements for Seneca Valley High School that include reconfiguring science classrooms, modifying the guidance suite, and expanding the cafeteria space; and

WHEREAS, The preliminary construction cost estimate for this work is $1,125,000; and

WHEREAS, Funds for architectural planning were programmed as part of the FY 2004 Capital Budget; and

WHEREAS, An architect selection committee, in accordance with procedures adopted by the Board of Education on July 14, 1998, selected Lance Bailey & Associates, Inc., 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 Lance Bailey & Associates, Inc., to provide professional architectural and engineering services for the Seneca Valley High School minor core space improvements for a fee of $69,000.

RESOLUTION NO. 392-03 Re: GRANT OF UTILITY EASEMENT AT WOODWARDS ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SITE

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, Staff negotiated a lease agreement with APC Realty and Equipment Company, LLC, to permit the installation of a telecommunications monopole at the future Woodwards Road elementary school site located on Emory Grove Road, in accordance with Board Policy ECN, Telecommunication Transmission Facilities; and

WHEREAS, The lease agreement is conditioned upon granting an easement to the local utility and telecommunications companies to provide service to their equipment; and

WHEREAS, The Potomac Electric Power Company and Verizon Maryland, Inc., have jointly requested a grant of utility easement consisting of 4,417 square feet to install, operate, and maintain electric power, distribution, and underground communication facilities to serve the proposed telecommunications monopole; and

WHEREAS, All construction, restoration, and future maintenance will be performed at no
cost to the Board of Education, with Potomac Electric Power Company and Verizon Maryland, Inc., and their contractors assuming liability for all work; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the president and secretary of the Board of Education be authorized to execute a grant of utility easement and right-of-way of 4,417 square feet to the Potomac Electric Power Company and Verizon Maryland, Inc., at the Woodwards Road elementary school site.

RESOLUTION NO. 393-03 Re: FY 2003 OPERATING BUDGET CATEGORICAL TRANSFER

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, Category 6 Special Education reflected a deficit as of June 30, 2003, due to higher-than-anticipated expenditures for nonpublic placement of special education students and a variety of other factors; and

WHEREAS, Category 9 Student Transportation reflected a deficit as of June 30, 2003, as a result of lower-than-anticipated lapse and turnover, higher-than-expected labor costs, additional court-mandated costs for special education transportation, mandated costs for special transportation for homeless students, and higher-than-expected bus fuel costs; and

WHEREAS, Category 12 Fixed Charges reflected a deficit as of June 30, 2003, as a result of higher-than-anticipated claims in the Employee Benefit Plan; and

WHEREAS, The required funds are available for transfer from Category 1 Administration; Category 2 Mid-level Administration, Category 3 Instructional Salaries, Category 4 Textbooks and Instructional Supplies, and Category 10 Operation of Plant and Equipment; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized, subject to County Council approval, to effect the following categorical transfers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>To</th>
<th>From</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mid-level Administration</td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Instructional Salaries</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Textbooks and Instructional Salaries</td>
<td>3,500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>$3,700,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Student Transportation</td>
<td>4,100,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Operation of Plant and Equipment</td>
<td>800,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Fixed Charges</td>
<td>1,100,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Total $8,900,000 $8,900,000

and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive and County Council be given a copy of this resolution;
and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of the
categorical transfer to the County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 394-03 Re: HUMAN RESOURCES APPOINTMENT

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

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective July 30, 2003:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
<th>As</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peter Cahall</td>
<td>Principal, Rocky Hill MS</td>
<td>Principal, Watkins Mill HS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESOLUTION NO. 395-03 Re: HUMAN RESOURCES APPOINTMENT

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

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective July 30, 2003:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
<th>As</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael Doran</td>
<td>Principal, Thomas W. Pyle MS</td>
<td>Principal, Thomas S. Wootton HS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESOLUTION NO. 396-03 Re: HUMAN RESOURCES APPOINTMENT

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

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective July 30, 2003:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
<th>As</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Billie-Jean Bensen</td>
<td>Assistant Principal,</td>
<td>Principal, Herbert Hoover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Earle B. Wood MS</td>
<td>MS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESOLUTION NO. 397-03 Re: HUMAN RESOURCES APPOINTMENT

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

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective July 30, 2003:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
<th>As</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Rivera</td>
<td>Assistant Principal, Rockville HS</td>
<td>Principal, Benjamin Banneker MS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESOLUTION NO. 398-03 Re: HUMAN RESOURCES APPOINTMENT

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

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective July 30, 2003:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
<th>As</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carol Solomon</td>
<td>Coordinator, Humanities Signature Program, Thomas S. Wootton HS</td>
<td>Coordinator, International Baccalaureate Program, Richard Montgomery HS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESOLUTION NO. 399-03 Re: HUMAN RESOURCES APPOINTMENT

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

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective July 30, 2003:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
<th>As</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jerrilyn Andrews</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant, Office of Shared Accountability</td>
<td>Coordinator, Student Assessment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESOLUTION NO. 400-03 Re: HUMAN RESOURCES APPOINTMENT

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

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective July 30, 2003:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
<th>As</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sherwin Collette</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant, Office of Global Access</td>
<td>Special Assistant for Technology Initiatives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESOLUTION NO. 401-03  Re:  HUMAN RESOURCES APPOINTMENT

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

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective July 30, 2003:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
<th>As</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Janet Dunn</td>
<td>Principal, Takoma Park ES</td>
<td>Coordinator, Extended Learning Opportunities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESOLUTION NO. 402-03  Re:  HUMAN RESOURCES APPOINTMENT

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

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective July 30, 2003:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
<th>As</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Leighty</td>
<td>Acting Supervisor, Upcounty Field Office</td>
<td>Supervisor, Upcounty Field Office</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Re:  PROPOSAL – BURNING TREE FOUNDATION TO CONSTRUCT NEW GYMNASIUM WITH PRIVATE DONATIONS

On recommendation of the Superintendent the following resolution was placed on the table:

WHEREAS, The Department of Facilities Management has received a proposal from the Burning Tree Elementary School Education Foundation, a nonprofit, nonstock corporation, requesting approval to construct a gymnasium facility for community and school use on the Burning Tree Elementary School site with private funds; and

WHEREAS, Policy CNE, Facility Improvements That Are Not Funded with Montgomery County Revenues, requires that the Board of Education approve proposals for facility improvements funded with private donations that exceed $50,000 before any activities associated with the proposal can begin; and

WHEREAS, Prior to Board discussion and action on these matters, the director of the Department of Facilities Management is required to evaluate proposals for facility improvements funded with private donations for compliance with Policy CNE and provide a recommendation; and
WHEREAS, Attached is a recommendation from the director of the Department of Facilities Management supporting the Burning Tree Elementary School Educational Foundation proposal, with conditions; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the proposal from the Burning Tree Elementary School Educational Foundation to use private funds to construct a gymnasium facility for community and school use on the Burning Tree Elementary School site, with the following conditions:

1. The approval is for concept purposes only until the building plans are finalized and approved by the Department of Facilities Management.

2. Fund-raising cannot begin unless the Board of Education includes a request in the FY 2005–2010 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) and the County Council approves funding in the CIP to continue the elementary school gymnasium program for all county schools.

3. Construction cannot begin until the above conditions are satisfied and the County Council approves the acceptance of the private funds for appropriation to the Montgomery County Public Schools.

Re: DISCUSSION

Mrs. O’Neill commented that Burning Tree Elementary School was modernized in 1990 without a gym. Some clusters have gyms at all schools, and other clusters do not. It is a governmental responsibility to provide adequate and equitable facilities. However, previous Boards have not created equitable situations, and the Burning Tree community is frustrated since other communities have gyms. Moreover, there are no projects in the current CIP for Burning Tree. There needs to be an equitable process for schools that have no capital projects. Also, a gym is an essential part of the school’s program, and it is the system’s responsibility to build gymnasiums. She asked what the cost was for an elementary school gym. Mr. Hawes replied that some gyms have been built for as little as $750,000 in the past few years.

Mrs. O’Neill asked about the economy of bidding for multiple gyms. Mr. Hawes replied that the prices for individual gyms were better.

Mrs. O’Neill asked if municipalities and educational foundations could contribute to make a community-sized gym. Mr. Hawes responded that has been done in the past, such as Rockville.

Dr. Haughey thought the discussion should be tabled until all Board members were present. Mrs. O’Neill replied that Ms. Cox had a motion regarding gym facilities.
Ms. Cox said she supported the idea of tabling the discussion since all Board members should have the opportunity to ask questions of staff. The school community that brought the proposal forward did a wonderful job. Their concern and frustration are shared by all school communities without gyms. She believed that gyms are essential and the responsibility of the school system.

Re: **PROVISION OF GYMNASIUMS IN ALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

On motion of Ms. Cox and seconded by Mr. Felton, the following new business resolution was introduced:

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Board of Education believes that gymnasiums enhance the quality of educational programs, especially those that support children’s health; and

WHEREAS, Due to fiscal constraints, not all elementary schools have been provided gymnasiums; and

WHEREAS, The Board believes that, consistent with policy CNE, *Facility Improvements That Are Not Funded with Montgomery County Revenues*, the provision of school gymnasiums is the responsibility of the school system and that, as a matter of equity, every elementary school should be equipped with a gymnasium; now therefore be it

**Resolved**, That the Board request the Superintendent of Schools to prepare an implementation plan that includes in the FY 2005 to FY 2010 Capital Improvements Plan the provision of gymnasiums in all elementary schools that do not currently have gymnasiums; and be it further

**Resolved**, That every new elementary school in Montgomery County Public Schools will include a gymnasium; and be it further

**Resolved**, That the Superintendent consider the use of cost-saving alternatives such as pre-engineered (prefabricated) gyms in his proposed plans.

Re: **DISCUSSION**

Dr. Weast commented that the Board has established over a number of years the educational need for gyms. With the experience of last year’s snow and sniper crisis, it became apparent that gyms are a critical need. The problem is the added cost of building a gym as part of a new school or modernization. If the dedication of the recordation tax is placed back in construction, the gyms should be included in the CIP. The school system
can use the dedicated revenue stream to build needed facilities, including gyms.

**Re:** PROPOSAL – BURNING TREE FOUNDATION TO CONSTRUCT NEW GYMNASIUM WITH PRIVATE DONATIONS

On motion of Ms. Cox and seconded by Mr. Felton, the following resolution was placed on the table:

Resolved, That the Board of Education defer the proposal until the superintendent brings forward his recommendations in the Capital Improvement Program.

**Re:** DISCUSSION

Mr. Felton thought that the policy should be reviewed again. If the gyms are the responsibility of the school system, the system should not accept any funding for a gym. Dr. Weast thought Ms. Cox’s resolution mooted Mr. Felton’s question. The motion would allow for all gyms to be in the CIP with Council funding.

Mr. Felton thought it would be unfair to the Burning Tree Foundation if the gym were not funded. If the CIP is not passed and funded, Mrs. O’Neill stated that Burning Tree’s proposal could be brought back for approval or disapproval.

Mrs. O’Neill said that if Board members have questions about the following new business item or elementary school gyms they should submit questions to the superintendent prior to the August 25, 2003, Board meeting.

**RESOLUTION NO. 403-03** Re: PROPOSAL – BURNING TREE FOUNDATION TO CONSTRUCT NEW GYMNASIUM WITH PRIVATE DONATIONS

On motion of Ms. Cox and seconded by Mr. Felton, the following resolution was adopted with Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, Mrs. O’Neill, and Mr. Romero voting in the affirmative:

Resolved, That the Board of Education defer the proposal until the superintendent brings forward his recommendations in the Capital Improvement Program.

**Re:** TENTATIVE ACTION, POLICY CFB, PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Mrs. O’Neill, the following resolution was placed on the table:
WHEREAS, Policy CFB, *Public Charter Schools*, sets forth the objectives to be followed with regard to the application, evaluation, and approval of public charter schools; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly has enacted the Public Charter School Act of 2003 (SB 75); and

WHEREAS, The Board Policy Committee has considered and recommended revisions to Policy CFB, *Public Charter Schools*, based upon the lessons learned from the review of two charter school applications; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education take tentative action on Policy CFB, *Public Charter Schools*; and be it further

Resolved, That Policy CFB, *Public Charter Schools*, be sent out for public comment.

Re: DISCUSSION

Ms. Cox suggested that Policy CFB, *Public Charter Schools*, should read at C.11.(4)(b):

> A waiver may not be requested from provisions of state law or regulation relating to the measurement of student academic achievement, including all assessments required for other public schools.

Mr. Felton pointed out that the Board used “uniqueness” to determine whether or not a charter application should be approved. If the Board uses the broader language of “innovative nature,” he thought that language expands the standard. How could the Board use uniqueness as a standard in the approval process? Mr. Fulton thought the regulations would establish criteria for approval. The school system might want to embrace an innovative program that is not a one-of-a-kind program.

Ms. Cox was concerned with a too prescriptive policy and the possibility of reversible appeals at the state level.

Mr. Sanghvi pointed out that the application must be innovative to come to the Board for approval, but the Board does not have to accept the application. With that wording, a broader range of programs will come before the Board.

Mr. Felton asked the intent of the phrase “unduly detrimental.” If there were collocation of programs, Mrs. O’Neill thought there had to be a detrimental effect on the educational programs.

Dr. Haughey pointed out the timeline and that an approval application would be in abeyance until the superintendent’s budget was approved by the Board and County Council in June. Mr. Margolies stated that the Board has a tight timeline for acting on an
application. However, several things can delay the opening of a school, such as funding and a negotiated start date.

Mr. Felton asked about distance learning and online courses. Mr. Fulton stated that when the local school system does the attendance policy, it would apply to the charter school.

RESOLUTION NO. 404-03 Re: TENTATIVE ACTION, POLICY CFB, PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS

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

WHEREAS, Policy CFB, Public Charter Schools, sets forth the objectives to be followed with regard to the application, evaluation, and approval of public charter schools; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly has enacted the Public Charter School Act of 2003 (SB 75); and

WHEREAS, The Board Policy Committee has considered and recommended revisions to Policy CFB, Public Charter Schools, based upon the lessons learned from the review of two charter school applications; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education take tentative action on Policy CFB, Public Charter Schools; and be it further

Resolved, That Policy CFB, Public Charter Schools, be sent out for public comment.

Public Charter Schools

A. PURPOSE

To establish criteria for the evaluation of proposals for public charter schools, the principles guiding the negotiation and contracting process, and assignment of responsibility for oversight of approved public charter schools

B. ISSUE

The Board of Education believes in maintaining an educational system designed to provide success for every student and in delivering services through a variety of innovative programs designed to meet the needs of a diverse student body. Nationally, public charter schools reflect a movement that focuses on student achievement within an educational environment that differs from the traditional
public schools. The Board of Education needs to have criteria with which to consider proposals for public charter schools and procedures for overseeing approved public charter schools.

C. POSITION

1. The Board of Education supports the Maryland law that vests primary authority to establish charter schools with each local board of education.

2. A public charter school is defined as a public school that operates under a charter, or contract, within the public school system and is accountable to the Board of Education.

   a) The public charter school must focus on improving student performance, strive for high academic standards, and be accountable for results.

   b) The public charter school must function as a semi-independent education operation within the local school system. It can establish its own “learning community” governance subject to approval by the Board of Education, and create its own priorities, creative solutions, instructional design, professional development, and its system for measuring client satisfaction.

   c) The public charter school must be nonprofit, nonreligious, nonsectarian, and not based in private homes.

3. A public charter school is subject to the federal, state, and local policies, regulations, and statutes that affect traditional elementary and secondary public schools unless the policies, regulations, and statutes are waived by the appropriate governing authority. The public charter school must demonstrate in any waiver request that the exemption would advance the educational goals and objectives of the school. Policies, regulations, and/or statutes related to audits, health and safety, measurement of student academic achievement, or civil rights cannot be waived.

4. A public charter school must comply with federal, state, and local provisions for all students, including those with disabilities, demonstrate the human, fiscal and organizational capacity to meet the needs of all students and have an appropriate physical plant to fulfill school responsibilities.

5. The superintendent or his/her designee will evaluate proposals and make recommendations to the Board.
6. The superintendent will submit to the Board of Education a fiscal impact statement as a component of his/her recommendation.

7. All recommendations are contingent upon the Board’s final action on the MCPS budget. Board of Education approval of an application is a commitment to request appropriations from funding agencies. All implementation and final contracting is contingent upon appropriation.

8. The Board will render a decision within 120 days of receipt of a completed application. The superintendent will establish a process and format for the submission of applications including application deadlines and timelines.

9. The superintendent or his/her designee will oversee the implementation of approved public charter schools.

10. Criteria for assessing a public charter school proposal

   a) Application must be submitted by one or any combination of the following:

      1. Current MCPS staff
      2. Parent of a current MCPS student
      3. A nonprofit entity that is nonsectarian in all its programs, policies, and operations
      4. A Maryland institution of higher education that is nonsectarian in all its programs, policies, and operations

   b) Applications will not be considered from private schools, parochial schools, or home schools.

   c) A public charter school proposal must identify the innovative nature of its program.

   d) The total costs to MCPS for operating the proposed public charter school will not exceed the equivalent costs for like students in MCPS.

   e) A public charter school applicant must demonstrate fiscal and ethical integrity.

   f) The proposal must identify the means by which it will demonstrate improved student performance.
g) The proposal must delineate how academic and programmatic reporting will occur.

h) Public charter school decisions must not have an unduly detrimental impact on other MCPS public schools.

11. Application

a) Those interested in applying to operate a public charter school must submit a proposal to the superintendent or designee. Each proposal shall include, but not be limited to, the following components:

(1) The applicant’s vision of public charter school expectations and mission

(2) The primary mission must remain focused on student academic achievement

(3) Specific plans and strategies for developing and delivering educational programs

(4) Specific educational results including student academic outcomes and how they will be measured and reported
   (a) The public charter school must meet or exceed current accountability provisions of MCPS and state regulations and statutes.
   (b) A waiver may not be requested from provisions of state law or regulation relating to the measurement of student academic achievement, including all assessments required for other public schools.

(5) The public charter school may have a major emphasis, such as reclaiming dropouts or basic instructional programs or to provide innovative learning opportunities and educational approaches for the education of students.

(6) Facilities

   The applicant must submit a facilities plan that specifies cost, location, available space and its use, and, if it is a lease, the terms and conditions. The location of the public charter school must be approved by the Board of Education. Use of existing
MCPS buildings must be negotiated with the Board of Education. Policies and regulations related to health and safety cannot be waived.

(7) Student admission

(a) Students residing in Montgomery County will be eligible for admittance without tuition charge. No eligible Montgomery County student may be denied admittance in order to accept an out-of-county student. Others residing outside of Montgomery County must comply with MCPS policy and state law governing nonresident students.

(b) The public charter school may not deny admission based on illegal discriminatory factors such as race, gender, ethnicity, religious preference, socioeconomic conditions, disability, or sexual orientation.

(c) The public charter school must require students to be physically present on school premises for at least a period of time substantially similar to the period of time other MCPS students are required to be on school premises.

(d) A random-selection process (lottery) will be used if the number of qualified applicants exceeds the predetermined student capacity in the public charter school.

(8) Staffing plan for the school

(a) Public charter school employees are employees of MCPS with all the rights, responsibilities, and benefits granted by law. They shall be covered by the existing contract agreements for similar employees in MCPS, to the extent negotiated with the duly-recognized employee representative.

(b) Any proposals for contracts to provide services which in any way obligate MCPS must be developed with and approved by the Board of Education.

(c) Certification requirements for public charter school
professional or paraeducators are no different than for professional or paraeducators in other MCPS schools.

(d) The superintendent retains the authority to assign and transfer educators as the needs of the system require and as negotiated in the charter.

(9) Management plan for the school

(a) Applicants must clearly define the governance structure that will be in place for the public charter school. Staff must be represented in the governance structure.

(b) Applicants must specify the methods by which they expect to achieve legal, fiscal, and programmatic accountability for the operation of the public charter school and must be accountable to the Board of Education for results.

(c) The public charter school must have a school improvement team. The roles, operating procedures, and responsibilities of the school improvement team may be determined by the public charter school participants consistent with state and local guidelines for school improvement teams.

(10) Financial plan for the school

A financial plan must include, but not be limited to, a proposed budget outline and revenue sources, and the conditions for providing operating support such as custodial, mail service, subject content coordinators, legal counsel, professional development, transportation, food services, etc.

(a) An approved public charter school must receive funding for instructional costs for students equivalent to what would have been provided for like students in MCPS, taking into account federal, state, and county revenues.

(b) Other fiscal support such as transportation will be part of the negotiations between the charter school and the school system.

(c) An approved public charter school may seek and
receive other grants through local, state, or federal government sources or private sources without a reduction in its fair share allocation unless other provisions are included in the charter.

(d) The public charter school must provide for appropriate insurance, including the possibility of being named as co-insured, against any loss or damage to its property or any liability resulting from the use of its property or from the acts or omissions of its officers and employees.

(e) The public charter school will be subject to the same internal and external audit requirements and all other financial information as may be requested from any other MCPS schools.

(f) The public charter school will be subject to the same financial reporting requirements as all MCPS schools.

(11) Community support

A description of the type and extent to which appropriate communities support the proposal for a public charter school

(12) Length of time the public charter school will operate with current contract and provisions for termination of the charter

(a) A charter may be granted for no longer than four years and will be reviewed annually by the Board of Education.

(b) The superintendent must set a timeframe and deadline for requests for renewals. The deadline must be at least six months prior to the expiration of the charter school contract.

(c) Notice of closure or intent to renew the contract must be provided to MCPS at least six months prior to closure, expiration of the contract, or upon decision of the governing board, whichever occurs first.

(d) For approved public charter schools to remain in operation, they must be able to meet the needs of their
students, maintain a high degree of parent involvement and student enrollment, and remain accountable under the terms of the charter.

(e) The superintendent or designee will evaluate proposals and make a recommendation to the Board of Education for approval and renewal.

(f) Contract provisions must delineate contingencies for the continued education of charter school students should the charter school cease to operate. Additionally, the contract must specify how employees will be assigned should the charter school cease to exist.

12. An approved public charter school application shall become part of a contract (charter) between the public charter school and the Board of Education. The contract shall reflect all agreements including the release of the public charter school from any agreed-upon school system policies and all requests for release from state regulations. A revision of the terms of the contract may be made only with the approval of the Board and the governing body of the public charter school.

13. Denials of a public charter application may be appealed to the Maryland State Board of Education within 30 days.

14. A starting date for the public charter school will be established through the contracting process.

15. The superintendent will oversee the public charter school and provide support for the operational and implementation issues at his/her discretion or as negotiated through the contracting process.

16. The superintendent will make recommendations to the Board regarding renewal, significant operational or implementation problems, and/or revocation.

a) A charter may be revoked for the following reasons:

(1) The school has not fulfilled any condition imposed by the Board of Education in connection with the granting of the charter

(2) The school has violated any provisions of the charter
(3) The fiscal condition of the school is substantially deficient

(4) The academic condition of the school is substantially deficient

b) The Board may place a public charter school on probationary status to allow the implementation of a remedial plan, pending a decision to revoke the school's charter.

c) Upon revocation, students and staff will be reassigned at MCPS' discretion or as negotiated through the contracting process.

d) Resources provided by MCPS shall remain the property of MCPS and will immediately revert to MCPS possession upon revocation.

D. DESIRED OUTCOME

Have opportunities for innovative and creative educational approaches for students and a fair and consistent process with which to evaluate, renew, or revoke public charter school applications or contracts in Montgomery County.

E. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

1. The superintendent will provide information to the public about the process for making application to operate a public charter school.

2. The superintendent will develop and implement a regulation which sets forth a process for accepting and evaluating applications for public charter schools.

3. The superintendent will develop and implement a process for obtaining waivers from Board of Education policy and/or administrative regulations.

4. The superintendent will develop and implement a process for expediting waiver requests to the State Superintendent of Schools.

5. The superintendent will develop and implement a process for the revocation and renewal of charter schools.

F. REVIEW AND REPORTING

1. This policy will be reviewed in accordance with Policy BFA: Policysetting.

2. An annual report on each public charter school will be presented to the Board of Education that includes fiscal accountability and performance on
recognized academic measures, as described in the approved charter.

Re: BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Dr. Weast reported that three additional MCPS International Baccalaureate programs have received formal approval from the International Baccalaureate Organization. The IB Middle Years Program at Julius West Middle School, a middle school program that interfaces with Richard Montgomery High School, is the first IB middle schools program authorized by the IBO in Maryland. Albert Einstein and Watkins Mill high schools have been approved to offer the IB Diploma Program for eleventh and twelfth grade students beginning in the fall of 2004. The IB program at Einstein will be one of an array of specialized academic opportunities available to students attending any of the five high schools in the Downcounty Consortium. The demanding IB curriculum is offered in 1,464 schools in 115 countries around the world. Three MCPS schools currently offer the IB diploma program: Richard Montgomery, Bethesda-Chevy Chase, and Springbrook high schools.

Dr. Weast added that members of the Department of Facilities Management and other staff involved in all aspects of school construction and maintenance recently met to focus on environmental issues and energy conservation in school design and construction. The pilot will be a design for Northwest Elementary School #7 in Germantown, scheduled to open in 2006. The design will serve as a model and prototype for future school construction. One of the project team’s goals is to design and build a school that can be registered as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) school. The LEED rating system for buildings, established by the U.S. Green Building Council, awards points based on the degree to which the building is environmentally friendly. Currently, only one school building in the country (in North Carolina) has been rated a LEED Gold Medal school.

Dr. Lacey reported to the Board that through Baldrige and No Child Left Behind, disaggregated data and results will be displayed on a chart in every school.

Mrs. O'Neill commented that the Board had invited mayors and the County Council to tour the ELO sites. It was wonderful to visit classes that served 5,000 students this year. She thanked the volunteers and business partners for their participation. There is a need for books that students can take home, and a book drive could help.

Mrs. O'Neill said she and Ms. Cox were at the Maryland Association of Boards of Education Legislative Committee meeting, and there is a coalition in the state to support full funding for the Bridge to Excellence. The PTAs will get signatures of support at back-to-school nights.

Dr. Haughey stated that he attended the Business Roundtable Strategies Committee meeting in which members discussed a proposal for an extensive communications study.

Mr. Sanghvi reported that he attended the supply drive at Rosa Parks Middle School, which
raised 5,000 pounds of supplies.

Ms. Cox commented that she served as the Board’s representative on the Steering Committee for Baldrige, and there was a report on training for schools implementing the Baldrige strategy. It will revolutionize school improvement planning and parent involvement.

RESOLUTION NO. 405-03 Re: CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Sanghvi seconded by Dr. Haughey, 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 closed sessions on Monday, August 25, 2003, in Room 120 of the Carver Educational Services Center to meet from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and from 6:00 to 6:30 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 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.

RESOLUTION NO. 406-03 Re: REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Sanghvi seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

On July 8, 2003, by unanimous vote of members present, the Board of Education voted to conduct closed sessions 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 sessions on July 8, 2003, from 8:30 to 10:10 a.m. and 1:10 to 2:25 p.m. in Room 120 of the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, and

2. Reviewed the Superintendent’s recommendation for Human Resources Appointments and Human Resources Monthly Report, subsequent to which the votes to approve were taken in open session.

3. Conducted a portion 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.

4. Consulted with counsel to receive legal advice as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(7) of the State Government Article.

5. 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: Elizabeth Arons, Steve Bedford, Larry Bowers, Judy Bresler, Kermit Burnett, Pat Clancy, Sharon Cox, Susanne DeGraba, Reggie Felton, Wes Girling, Charles Haughey, Roland Ikheloa, Don Kress, Frieda Lacey, Walter Lange, George Margolies, Pat O’Neill, Brian Porter, Lori Rogovin, Gabe Romero, Glenda Rose, Sagar Sanghvi, Greg Thornton, Roger Titus, Jerry Weast, and Carey Wright.

RESOLUTION NO. 407-03 Re: APPEALS 2002-51

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2002-51, reclassification, overtime pay, and attorney fees, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, Mrs. O’Neill, Mr. Romero, and Mr. Sanghvi voting to affirm; Mr. Lange was absent when this case was adjudicated.

RESOLUTION NO. 408-03 Re: APPEALS 2003-12

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2003-12, student expulsion, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, Mr. Lange, Mrs. O’Neill, Mr. Romero, and Mr. Sanghvi voting to affirm.

RESOLUTION NO. 409-03 Re: APPEALS 2003-20

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2003-20, student expulsion, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Burnett, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, Mrs. O’Neill and Mr. Sanghvi voting to affirm in part and to reverse in part; Ms. Cox and Mr. Romero voting to affirm; Mr. Lange was absent when this case was adjudicated.

RESOLUTION NO. 410-03 Re: APPEALS 2003-22
On motion of Ms. Cox and seconded by Mr. Sanghvi, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2003-22, student expulsion, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Burnett, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, Mrs. O'Neill and Mr. Sanghvi voting to affirm in part and to reverse in part; Ms. Cox and Mr. Romero voting to affirm; Mr. Lange was absent when this case was adjudicated.

RESOLUTION NO. 411-03 Re: APPEALS 2003-25

On motion of Ms. Cox and seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2003-25, student expulsion, reflective of the following vote: Ms. Cox, Dr. Haughey, Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. Romero, and Mr. Sanghvi voting to affirm; Mr. Burnett, Mr. Felton, and Mr. Lange voting to reverse.

RESOLUTION NO. 412-03 Re: APPEALS 2003-30

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2003-30, admission to Blair magnet, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, Mr. Lange, Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. Romero, and Mr. Sanghvi voting to affirm.

RESOLUTION NO. 413-03 Re: APPEALS T-2003-28

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Order in Appeal T-2003-28, student transfer, reflective of the following vote: Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. Romero, and Mr. Sanghvi voting to affirm; Mr. Burnett and Mr. Lange were absent when this case was adjudicated.

RESOLUTION NO. 414-03 Re: APPEALS NEC-2003-29

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Order in Appeal NEC-2003-29, student transfer, reflective of the following vote: Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. Romero, and Mr. Sanghvi voting to reverse; Mr. Burnett and Mr. Lange were absent when this case was adjudicated.
RESOLUTION NO. 415-03  Re: APPEALS T-2003-31

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal T-2003-31, student transfer, reflective of the following vote: Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, Mrs. O’Neill, Mr. Romero, and Mr. Sanghvi voting to affirm; Mr. Burnett and Mr. Lange were absent when this case was adjudicated.

Re: NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. O’Neill and Ms. Cox moved and Mr. Felton seconded the following:

WHEREAS, May 17, 2004 will be the 50th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education, the landmark decision by the U.S. Supreme Court that desegregated public schools throughout the country and launched decades of policy changes intended to improve equitable access to education resources; and

WHEREAS, The Supreme Court’s decision made a historic impact on the civil rights struggle in America by striking down laws and policies that were motivated by prejudice and discrimination; and

WHEREAS, As we approach the 50th anniversary of this landmark decision, it is appropriate that Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) recognize the importance of and demonstrate our commitment to the principles embodied in this historic decision through a series of activities that heighten student and community awareness of the historical importance of this ruling; and

WHEREAS, MCPS honors the vision of the Supreme Court’s decision by striving to ensure success for all our children, raising the bar of academic achievement and closing the gap in academic performance among all ethnic groups; and

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Board of Education recognizes that fostering diversity in our school communities enhances students’ individual learning and the quality of life in Montgomery County; now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education direct the Superintendent of Schools to ensure that all schools in MCPS participate in activities and events designed to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court ruling of Brown v. Board of Education; and be it further
Resolved, That these activities and events teach students about the struggles for full inclusion in our schools that have been a crucial part of America’s history; and be it further

Resolved, That this awareness program ensure that all students acquire the appropriate intercultural and civic knowledge and capacities that are needed in a diverse society, and a deep knowledge of the continuing struggles in America and the world to achieve equity and justice for all; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board hold a discussion at a business meeting proximate to May 17, 2004, addressing the desegregation of our school system and the measures taken to ensure a quality integrated education.

RESOLUTION NO. 416-03 Re:  ADJOURNMENT

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting of July 29, 2003, at 10:35 p.m.

________________________________________________________________________

PRESIDENT

________________________________________________________________________

SECRETARY

JDW:gr