The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Wednesday, September 17, 2003 at 6:50 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Mrs. Patricia B. O’Neill, President in the Chair
Mr. Kermit V. Burnett
Mr. Reginald M. Felton
Dr. Charles Haughey
Mr. Walter Lange
Dr. Jerry Weast, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: Ms. Sharon Cox
Mr. Gabe Romero
Mr. Sagar Sanghvi, Student Board Member

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

After introductions, the MCCSSE President spoke about the collaborative process of interested-based negotiations. Even though members were apprehensive, training and communication led to a challenging, rewarding, and focused negotiations. The president read the preamble to the contract which is the vision statement for the union.

Chapter presidents gave a snapshot on how they were collaborating and communicating with the school system. Topics included computer technology support, best practices for school secretaries, financial reports, human relations skill training, transportation bid system, ICB activities, media assistance, paraeducators, maintenance internships, and safety and security.

Even though the labor management teams have resolved or have plans to ameliorate issues, there are still some long-standing issues that must be focused on in the future. Those include respect, clerical staffing levels, building service worker staffing in the elementary schools, night building services workers, apprenticeship for maintenance workers, alternative methods of training support staff, recruitment, reclassification, and cost-shifting for insurance.

The meeting adjourned 8:35 p.m.