

APPROVED
40-2003

Rockville, Maryland
November 20, 2003

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Thursday, November 20, 2003, at 7:40 p.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. Sagar Sanghvi, Student Board Member
 Mr. Larry Bowers, Acting Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: None

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

Re: **ANNOUNCEMENT**

Mrs. O'Neill announced that Mr. Felton would join the meeting while in progress.

RESOLUTION NO. 581-03 Re: **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for November 20, 2004.

RESOLUTION NO. 582-03 Re: **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION FOR ALL-DAY KINDERGARTEN**

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

WHEREAS, In March 2003, the superintendent convened the Full-day Kindergarten Task Force comprised of representatives from the Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Gaithersburg, Walter Johnson, Colonel Zadok Magruder, Northwest, Seneca Valley, Sherwood, Thomas S. Wootton, and Walt Whitman clusters that currently do not have a full-day kindergarten program in every school; representatives from the Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher

Associations; and staff from the Division of Early Childhood Programs and Services; and

WHEREAS, The Full-day Kindergarten Task Force met in March, April, and May 2003 and submitted a report to the superintendent on June 1, 2003, with task force evaluations of eight policy-level approaches to provide a full-day kindergarten program in the remaining elementary schools in the county; and

WHEREAS, The superintendent reviewed and carefully considered the Full-day Kindergarten Task Force report and cluster position papers and presented on October 15, 2003, a recommendation for consideration by the Board of Education to provide a full-day kindergarten program in all of the elementary schools in the county by September 2007; and

WHEREAS, On November 5, 2003, the Board of Education conducted a work session to consider the superintendent's recommendation to provide a full-day kindergarten program in all elementary schools and adopted no alternatives; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted public hearings on November 12 and 13, 2003, in accordance with the Board of Education Policy FAA, *Long-range Educational Facility Planning*, on the superintendent's recommendation; and

WHEREAS, Downcounty Consortium Elementary School #27 (Connecticut Park reopening), Downcounty Consortium Elementary School #28 (Arcola reopening), and Northeast Consortium Elementary School #16 (Brookview reopening) will relieve overcrowding at schools that, as part of the Early Success Plan, currently offer full-day kindergarten programs with a staffing ratio of 15:1 and need to offer these programs when they open; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a full-day kindergarten program be provided for the remaining elementary schools in the county that do not currently have a full-day kindergarten program, as outlined on the attached table; and be it further

Resolved, That the implementation begin in the 2004–2005 school year with 17 elementary schools for the first three years of the implementation schedule and ending in the 2007–2008 school year with 14 elementary schools; and be it further

Resolved, That in addition to the elementary schools on the attached list, Downcounty Consortium Elementary School #27 (Connecticut Park reopening), Downcounty Consortium Elementary School #28 (Arcola reopening), and Northeast Consortium Elementary School #16 (Brookview reopening) scheduled to open in September 2006 will have a full-day kindergarten program with a student-to-teacher ratio of 15:1 when they open; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution with attachments be transmitted to the county

executive and County Council.

	School Name	Cluster
Year 1		
1	Waters Landing	Seneca Valley
2	Germantown	Northwest
3	Lake Seneca	Seneca Valley
4	Fields Road	Quince Orchard
5	Clearspring	Damascus
6	Rachel Carson	Quince Orchard
7	Bells Mill	Winston Churchill
8	Goshen	Gaithersburg
9	Ritchie Park	Richard Montgomery
10	S. Christa McAuliffe	Seneca Valley
11	Garrett Park	Walter Johnson
12	Ronald McNair	Northwest
13	Olney	Sherwood
14	Kensington Parkwood	Walter Johnson
15	Poolesville	Poolesville
16	Travilah	Thomas S. Wootton
17	Burning Tree	Walt Whitman
Year 2		
1	Lucy Barnsley	Rockville
2	Thurgood Marshall	Quince Orchard
3	Flower Valley	Rockville
4	Lois Rockwell	Damascus
5	Monocacy	Poolesville
6	Ashburton	Walter Johnson
7	Damascus	Damascus
8	Candlewood	Col. Zadok Magruder

9	Westover	Springbrook
10	Rosemary Hills	Bethesda-Chevy Chase
11	Stonegate	James Hubert Blake
12	Diamond	Northwest
13	Cloverly	Paint Branch
14	Brooke Grove	Sherwood
15	Stone Mill	Thomas S. Wootton
16	Wayside	Winston Churchill
17	Bannockburn	Walt Whitman
Year 3		
1	Northwest ES #7	New School Opens
2	Clarksburg ES #7	New School Opens
3	Clarksburg*	Damascus
4	Cedar Grove*	Damascus
5	Sherwood	Sherwood
6	College Gardens	Richard Montgomery
7	Laytonville	Gaithersburg
8	Greenwood	Sherwood
9	Burtonsville	Paint Branch
10	Spark Matsunaga*	Northwest
11	Luxmanor	Walter Johnson
12	Jones Lane	Quince Orchard
13	Belmont	Sherwood
14	Somerset	Bethesda-Chevy Chase
15	Fallsmead	Thomas S. Wootton
16	Potomac*	Winston Churchill
17	Bradley Hills	Walt Whitman
Year 4		
1	Cashell	Col. Zadok Magruder

2	Farmland*	Walter Johnson
3	Bethesda	Bethesda-Chevy Chase
4	Woodfield	Damascus
5	Wyngate	Walter Johnson
6	Cold Spring	Thomas S. Wootton
7	DuFief	Thomas S. Wootton
8	Lakewood	Thomas S. Wootton
9	Seven Locks	Winston Churchill
10	Westbrook	Bethesda-Chevy Chase
11	Beverly Farms	Winston Churchill
12	Darnestown	Northwest
13	Carderock Springs	Walt Whitman
14	Wood Acres	Walt Whitman
Total for Year 4		

**Re: SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDED FY 2005
CAPITAL BUDGET AND FY2005-2010 CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENTS PLAN**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Lange seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was placed on the table:

WHEREAS, In accordance with 5-306 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the superintendent of schools released the Recommended FY 2005 Capital Budget and FY 2005–2010 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) on October 29, 2003; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted a work session on November 5, 2003, to review the superintendent's recommendations, which include the opening of one high school, one middle school, and three elementary schools; the reopening of one high school, one middle school, and three elementary schools; the construction of 22 school additions; the acceleration of the modernization schedule; the planning and construction of 33 elementary school gymnasiums; core improvements to three high schools, two middle schools, and one elementary school; and the funding for systemic projects such as Planned Life-cycle Asset Replacement (PLAR); Roof Replacement; Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning (HVAC); Indoor Air Quality; Improved Safe Access; and School Security; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted public hearings on November 12 and 13, 2003, on the superintendent's recommendations for all capital and noncapital items for the FY 2005 Capital Budget and FY 2005–2010 CIP; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve a FY 2005 Capital Budget appropriation request totaling \$308.0 million and a FY 2005–2010 CIP request totaling \$956.2 million, as indicated on Attachment A; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the FY 2005 State CIP request, as indicated on Attachment B, in the amount of \$59.9 million for FY 2005; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the individual capital and noncapital items included in the Recommended FY 2005 Capital Budget and the FY 2005–2010 CIP that was released on October 29, 2003; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve a middle school boundary study in the Northeast Consortium, limited to Briggs Chaney and Benjamin Banneker middle schools, to be conducted in the winter of 2003 to relieve projected overutilization at Benjamin Banneker Middle School with Board action scheduled for March 2004; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve a middle school boundary study in the Quince Orchard Cluster, limited to Ridgeview and Kingsview middle schools, to be conducted in the spring of 2004 to relieve projected overutilization at Kingsview Middle School and to create boundaries for the new Quince Orchard Middle School #2; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve an elementary school boundary study in the Downcounty Consortium, limited to Weller Road, Viers Mill, and Wheaton Woods elementary schools, to be conducted in the spring of 2004 to relieve projected overutilization at these three schools and to create boundaries for the reopening of the Downcounty Consortium Elementary School #27 (Connecticut Park); the boundary committee formed for the elementary school boundary study will simultaneously conduct a middle school boundary study, limited to the elementary schools that feed into Parkland Middle School, to create boundaries for the reopening of the Downcounty Consortium Middle School #9 (Belt); and be it further

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

Re: **DISCUSSION**

Mr. Burnett asked why Arcola Elementary School is not mentioned in the resolution. Mr. Lavorgna stated that other schools are listed because there will need to be a boundary study this year. Arcola will be done the following year.

Ms. Cox said that the Board should refer concerns it had received from the community to staff, so that the community could have a response to its question: What is the real data on the environmental issues at Poolesville High School? Mr. Richard Hawes, director of the Department of Facilities Management, replied that MCPS staff worked with the principal and students who did the environmental study, and it was determined that the chemicals used by the students had exceeded their expiration date. After another test with calibrated instruments, it was determined that the carbon monoxide levels were normal.

Mr. Lange commented on technology and the significant commitment the school system has made to support education. He was interested in the different kinds of equipment and different departments. Mr. John Q. Porter, chief information officer for the Office of Global Access Technology, replied that the kinds of equipment are servers, desktop computers, laptop computers, printers, software, wiring, monitors, and AV equipment. Upgrades of equipment also were included. A cross-functional team interviewed school staff about their needs based on the curriculum.

Mr. Romero remarked that air quality was an issue for the school system. What are the challenges? Mr. Hawes said there are a number of older buildings that were not designed to meet the current standards. It is impractical to consider replacement of equipment since the buildings were designed for a lower air flow. The older buildings must be renovated or modernized. However, the air quality teams make the equipment run as efficiently as possible, and they follow a maintenance plan until the equipment is replaced.

**Mr. Felton joined the meeting at this point.

Mr. Romero remarked that the air quality teams were reduced from three to two, due to budget constraints. He thought that the Board should add funds in the operating budget to address air quality.

Dr. Haughey stated that everyone was surprised and heartened by the staff's ability to put together such a complicated capital budget. Also, the community support is important. He was concerned about the reaction from the Seven Locks community to the proposed improvements.

Mrs. O'Neill thought the traffic study was one of the key elements. The Board could amend the CIP based on newer information. Mr. Hawes responded that if the addition is delayed there will be overutilization of the facility. The concept is to provide the addition, safe access, and the gymnasium before the modernization. Mr. Lavorgna pointed out that the addition and gym will be bid as one contract.

Dr. Haughey thought the paramount concern was that the youngsters would be moved out of

the school for an extended period of time, and then they would be moved again for the modernization. Mr. Hawes stated that the students would not be moved during the addition/gym construction. Dr. Haughey thought that this was not well understood in the community.

Mrs. O'Neill remarked on the safe access and roads study. If there is burdensome traffic, this plan could be reconsidered. Mr. Hawes responded that there would be two choices – amend the CIP or ask for road improvements to accommodate construction.

Ms. Cox asked about the impact of core capacity to Seven Locks if there is an addition without modernization. What is the domino effect of changing the placement of the school in the modernization process? Mr. Hawes stated that there were minor core improvements with the addition, such as the ESOL support room, special education, and cafeteria. Mr. Lavorgna replied that the holding facility schedule would have to be altered to have Seven Locks delayed and Farmland accelerated.

Mr. Felton thought there was no need to make a decision at this time. However, he was concerned that the people agreeing to the delay will not be the people that are affected by that decision. Mrs. O'Neill thought it was important for the Farmland community to be involved in the discussion.

RESOLUTION NO. 583-03 Re: CAPACITY AND HEALTH/SAFETY PRIORITIES

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill and seconded by Ms. Cox, the following amendment was adopted unanimously:#

Resolved, That the Board of Education direct staff to make recommendations to the Board on a range of options for acceleration of projects based on capacity or health/safety issues as a priority should additional funds become available in the earlier years.

Re: DISCUSSION

Mr. Felton asked if there was a follow-up meeting to address Bethesda-Chevy Chase's concerns, and he asked for a status report. Mr. Hawes reported that there was a meeting with the leadership at the school. It was decided to make some minor changes to the five rooms in order to use that space, but not for classrooms. The bigger project will make those five rooms into classroom space with planning funds of \$150,000.

Mr. Felton pointed out that the Board had approved a policy for foundations to donate funds for facilities. If Bethesda-Chevy Chase could identify \$150,000, would MCPS accept that money as a donation or as a no-interest loan? Mr. Hawes stated that if the project funds were included in the CIP, he would recommend accepting the funds.

Ms. Cox remarked that the funds are for planning classrooms that are supported by the school system.

Mr. Felton stated that even if the Board wanted to, it could not put the money into the budget for planning, because the funds are not available. But, if the community offered a loan for two years, the Board would reject it.

Dr. Haughey asked about the feasibility study to check how the ground-level space could be used. Mr. Hawes replied that there was a consideration to use the space for storage so that other parts of the building could be used for classroom space.

Mr. Romero asked staff to prepare an interpretation of Policy CNE and whether or not a loan from a foundation would be acceptable.

Mrs. O'Neill would like to see the acceleration of the feasibility study, but was not sure this was a priority. The community feels those five classrooms should have been done at the time of modernization, and there is no space for portables. Mr. Lavorgna stated that the capacity at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School has a shortfall of 56 seats; the school will be overcapacity until the addition is built.

Ms. Cox noted that the plan calls for portables until the classrooms are completed. Mr. Lavorgna stated that parking space would be used if portables were placed on the site.

Ms. Cox asked if there were other projects for which the planning dollars could be moved forward, and what the criteria was for including Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School and not other schools. Mr. Hawes added that the planning costs for Thomas W. Pyle Middle School would be \$200,000 in FY 2007.

Mr. Lange was concerned that there is no space for portables, yet Bethesda-Chevy Chase is over capacity. What made this compelling for Mr. Lange was that there is no space for portables, and the school is over capacity. Mr. Lavorgna pointed out that the system does not add portables until a school is at least 100 students over capacity.

RESOLUTION NO. 584-03 Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDED FY 2005 CAPITAL BUDGET AND FY2005-2010 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN**

On motion of Mr. Felton and seconded by Mrs. O'Neill, the following amendment was adopted with Mr. Burnett, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, Mr. Lange, and Mrs. O'Neill voting in the affirmative; Ms. Cox and Mr. Romero voting in the negative: Mr. Sanghvi did not vote:#

Resolved, That the Board of Education direct the superintendent to move \$150,000 from FY

2008 to FY 2005 for planning funds for the addition of five classrooms to Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, and this directive would be the last project for FY 2005 if funds are available.

Re: DISCUSSION

Ms. Cox recalled to testimony of Silver Springs International Middle School, and the need to refurbishment of the auditorium at a cost of \$1.4 million. The rationale for this project is to provide support for the Middle Years Programme. However, there is a stage in the field house that is capable of meeting the program needs. Mr. Hawes replied that there was not a stage in the field house, but there is a portable stage in the all-purpose room. Also, there is a small gym which is used by the elementary school, but an arrangement could be worked out between the two schools. Mr. Hawes stated that no middle school has an auditorium. It has been the Board's position that the community would form a coalition to make the auditorium a performing arts theater.

Mr. Romero inquired about the status of the auditorium. Mr. Hawes responded that it is an auditorium with everything in place when it was in use by the high school. To reopen the auditorium, there could be two levels – community use at \$1.4 million and a performing theater at \$3 million. Mrs. O'Neill asked if there was a need to write to the council and delegation to explore grant or matching opportunities to make this auditorium an asset to the community.

RESOLUTION NO. 585-03 Re: AUDITORIUM AT SILVER SPRING INTERNATIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill and seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education attach to the CIP Request the previously sent documents outlining to the council and delegation the need to explore grant or matching opportunities to make this auditorium an asset to the community.

Re: DISCUSSION

Mr. Lange commented on Redland Middle School and the need for an acoustical engineer to identify low-cost remedies for the open-space issue. Mr. Hawes replied that staff would do that until the modernization is scheduled.

Mr. Romero commented on the need for a large auditorium in the county that would accommodate graduations. Since a Clarksburg high school is to be built, he had asked staff to investigate the feasibility of expanding the auditorium. Staff had responded that the auditorium could be enlarged at a cost of \$6.5 million. Mr. Romero asked if it was possible to design a larger auditorium if funds were available at the time of construction. Mr. Hawes replied that the master plan could include a larger auditorium with no impact to the budget at this time.

RESOLUTION NO. 586-03 Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S
RECOMMENDED FY 2005 CAPITAL BUDGET AND
FY2005-2010 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN**

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill and seconded by Mr. Felton, the following amendment was adopted with Mr. Burnett, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, Mr. Lange, and Mrs. O'Neill voting in the affirmative; Ms. Cox and Mr. Romero voting in the negative: Mr. Sanghvi did not vote:#

Resolved, That the Board of Education direct the superintendent to accelerate the planning for Thomas W. Pyle Middle School to move the \$200,000 from FY 2007 into FY 2005 (last item on the list of projects).

Re: **DISCUSSION**

Mr. Romero stated that he voted against the motion because the budget has already reached its limit, and the Board did not have enough time to study the issue of equity.

RESOLUTION NO. 587-03 Re: **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDED FY 2005
CAPITAL BUDGET AND FY2005-2010 CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENTS PLAN**

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

WHEREAS, In accordance with 5-306 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the superintendent of schools released the Recommended FY 2005 Capital Budget and FY 2005–2010 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) on October 29, 2003; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted a work session on November 5, 2003, to review the superintendent's recommendations, which include the opening of one high school, one middle school, and three elementary schools; the reopening of one high school, one middle school, and three elementary schools; the construction of 22 school additions; the acceleration of the modernization schedule; the planning and construction of 33 elementary school gymnasiums; core improvements to three high schools, two middle schools, and one elementary school; and the funding for systemic projects such as planned life-cycle asset replacement (PLAR); roof replacement; heating, ventilating, and air Conditioning (HVAC); indoor air quality; improved safe access; and school security; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted public hearings on November 12 and 13, 2003, on the superintendent's recommendations for all capital and noncapital items for the FY 2005 Capital Budget and FY 2005–2010 CIP; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve a FY 2005 Capital Budget appropriation request totaling \$308.0 million and a FY 2005–2010 CIP request totaling \$956.2 million, as indicated on Attachment A; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the FY 2005 State CIP request, as indicated on Attachment B, in the amount of \$59.9 million for FY 2005; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the individual capital and noncapital items included in the Recommended FY 2005 Capital Budget and the FY 2005–2010 CIP that was released on October 29, 2003; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve a middle school boundary study in the Northeast Consortium, limited to Briggs Chaney and Benjamin Banneker middle schools, to be conducted in the winter of 2003 to relieve projected overutilization at Benjamin Banneker Middle School with Board action scheduled for March 2004; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve a middle school boundary study in the Quince Orchard Cluster, limited to Ridgeview and Kingsview middle schools, to be conducted in the spring of 2004 to relieve projected overutilization at Kingsview Middle School and to create boundaries for the new Quince Orchard Middle School #2; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve an elementary school boundary study in the Downcounty Consortium, limited to Weller Road, Viers Mill, and Wheaton Woods elementary schools, to be conducted in the spring of 2004 to relieve projected overutilization at these three schools and to create boundaries for the reopening of the Downcounty Consortium Elementary School #27 (Connecticut Park); the boundary committee formed for the elementary school boundary study will simultaneously conduct a middle school boundary study, limited to the elementary schools that feed into Parkland Middle School, to create boundaries for the reopening of the Downcounty Consortium Middle School #9 (Belt); and be it further

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

RESOLUTION NO. 588-03 Re: **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION FOR REVIEW OF MODERNIZATION VERSUS RENOVATION COSTS**

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

WHEREAS, In accordance with Board of Education Policy FAA, *Long-range Educational*

Facility Planning, the superintendent of schools recommended in the FY 2004 Capital Budget that a study be conducted to review the cost effectiveness of the current modernization strategy versus a renovation process; and

WHEREAS, The superintendent reviewed and carefully considered the study and released his recommendation on October 29, 2003 as Supplement A to the Superintendent's Recommended FY 2005 Capital Budget and FY 2005–2010 Capital Improvements Program (CIP); and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted a work session on November 5, 2003, to review the superintendent's recommendations and supplements to the FY 2005 Capital Budget and FY 2005–2010 CIP; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted public hearings on November 12 and 13, 2003, on the superintendent's recommendations for all capital and noncapital items for the FY 2005 Capital Budget and FY 2005–2010 CIP; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the superintendent's recommendation in Supplement A to continue the current scope and approach to modernization and capital maintenance renewal; and be it further

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

Re: **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION FOR
THE CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION
SIX-YEAR PLAN**

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

WHEREAS, During the 2002–2003 school year, the following groups participated in the development of the proposed plan and provided feedback for developing program Hubs and the smaller learning communities model—the Montgomery County Business Roundtable for Education; the National Academy Foundation—Academy of Information Technology Advisory Board; principals at Seneca Valley and Gaithersburg high schools; the Montgomery County Students Construction Trades Foundation; the Associated Builders and Contractors; the Metropolitan Subcontractor's Association; the Montgomery County Advisory Council for Career and Technology Education; Career Cluster Advisory committees; and teachers, principals, parents, and students; and

WHEREAS, The superintendent reviewed and carefully considered the work of the groups in

developing the career and technology six-year plan and presented on October 29, 2003, as Supplement B to the Superintendent's Recommended FY 2005 Capital Budget and FY 2005–2010 Capital Improvements Program, a recommendation to develop the Hub delivery model for providing career-themed programs utilizing regional Hubs in high schools; and

WHEREAS, On November 5, 2003, the Board of Education held a worksession to consider the superintendent's recommendation for a six-year career and technology plan; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted public hearings on November 12 and 13, 2003, in accordance with the Board of Education Policy FAA, *Long-range Educational Facility Planning*, on the superintendent's recommendation; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Hub delivery model approach for providing career-themed programs utilizing regional Hubs be implemented in high schools throughout the county; and be it further

Resolved, That staff from the Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs finalize the program implementation with career-themed programs organized around the 11 career clusters and coordinate links between the career program and academic rigor at all of the high schools; and be it further

Resolved, That staff from the Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs continue to work with the business community to ensure a well-prepared, educated workforce for the future; and be it further

Resolved, That a feasibility study be conducted to evaluate the scope and cost of building the facilities to accommodate a Construction Trades Program at either Clarksburg or Gaithersburg high school and the Academy of Information Technology Program at Seneca Valley High School during the 2004–2005 school year; and be it further

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

RESOLUTION NO. 589-03 Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION SIX-YEAR PLAN**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education add **to complement the Thomas Edison High School of Technology** to the first resolve.

RESOLUTION NO. 590-03 Re: **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION SIX-YEAR PLAN**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution, as amended, was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, During the 2002–2003 school year, the following groups participated in the development of the proposed plan and provided feedback for developing program Hubs and the smaller learning communities model—the Montgomery County Business Roundtable for Education; the National Academy Foundation–Academy of Information Technology Advisory Board; principals at Seneca Valley and Gaithersburg high schools; the Montgomery County Students Construction Trades Foundation; the Associated Builders and Contractors; the Metropolitan Subcontractor's Association; the Montgomery County Advisory Council for Career and Technology Education; Career Cluster Advisory committees; and teachers, principals, parents, and students; and

WHEREAS, The superintendent reviewed and carefully considered the work of the groups in developing the career and technology six-year plan and presented on October 29, 2003, as Supplement B to the Superintendent's Recommended FY 2005 Capital Budget and FY 2005–2010 Capital Improvements Program, a recommendation to develop the Hub delivery model for providing career-themed programs utilizing regional Hubs in high schools; and

WHEREAS, On November 5, 2003, the Board of Education held a worksession to consider the superintendent's recommendation for a six-year career and technology plan; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted public hearings on November 12 and 13, 2003, in accordance with the Board of Education Policy FAA, *Long-range Educational Facility Planning*, on the superintendent's recommendation; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Hub delivery model approach for providing career-themed programs utilizing regional Hubs be implemented in high schools throughout the county to complement the Thomas Edison High School of Technology; and be it further

Resolved, That staff from the Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs finalize the program implementation with career-themed programs organized around the 11 career clusters and coordinate links between the career program and academic rigor at all of the high schools; and be it further

Resolved, That staff from the Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs continue to work with the business community to ensure a well-prepared, educated workforce for the future; and be it further

Resolved, That a feasibility study be conducted to evaluate the scope and cost of building the facilities to accommodate a Construction Trades Program at either Clarksburg or Gaithersburg high school and the Academy of Information Technology Program at Seneca Valley High School during the 2004–2005 school year; and be it further

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

RESOLUTION NO. 591-03 Re: **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION FOR EAST SILVER SPRING, TAKOMA PARK, AND PINEY BRANCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ARTICULATION**

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

WHEREAS, In January 2002, the superintendent convened a roundtable discussion group comprised of representatives from the Montgomery Blair Cluster leadership and the East Silver Spring, Takoma Park, and Piney Branch elementary schools principals and parent-teacher association representatives; and

WHEREAS, The roundtable discussion group met in February, March, and April 2002 and submitted a report to the superintendent on May 20, 2002, that included evaluations of four approaches that explored other articulation patterns for East Silver Spring, Takoma Park, and Piney Branch elementary schools; and

WHEREAS, In the fall of 2002, the Office of School Performance conducted a comprehensive study of student achievement data at the East Silver Spring, Takoma Park, and Piney Branch elementary schools in relation to the current articulation pattern; and

WHEREAS, In the fall of 2003, the Office of School Performance met with school community leaders of East Silver Spring, Takoma Park, and Piney Branch elementary schools; and

WHEREAS, The superintendent reviewed and carefully considered the roundtable discussion group's report, the results from the study of achievement data, and community concerns and presented on October 29, 2003, as Supplement C to the Superintendent's Recommended FY 2005 Capital Budget and FY 2005–2010 Capital Improvements Program a recommendation to change the grade articulation pattern between East Silver Spring and Piney Branch elementary schools; and

WHEREAS, On November 5, 2003, the Board of Education held a worksession to consider the superintendent's recommendation to change the grade articulation pattern for East Silver Spring and Piney Branch elementary schools and adopted no alternatives; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted public hearings on November 12 and 13, 2003, in accordance with the Board of Education Policy FAA, *Long-range Educational Facility Planning*, on the superintendent's recommendation; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the articulation pattern and grade organization for East Silver Spring Elementary School be changed from Grades K–3 to Grades K–2 and the grade organization for Piney Branch Elementary School be changed to include Grade 3 from East Silver Spring Elementary School; and be it further

Resolved, That the Office of School Performance develop an implementation plan for this articulation change by January 2004 so that a recommendation can be made by the superintendent for Board of Education action in March 2004; and be it further

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

Re: **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION FOR
MARK TWAIN PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT**

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

WHEREAS, The superintendent reviewed and carefully considered the work developed by all of the groups that have examined the Mark Twain Program; and

WHEREAS, The superintendent presented, on October 29, 2003, as Supplement D to the Superintendent's Recommended FY 2005 Capital Budget and FY 2005–2010 CIP, a recommendation to improve the services to the students served by the Mark Twain Program and improve the utilization of the Mark Twain facility; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted a work session on November 11, 2003, to review the superintendent's recommendations contained in Supplement D to the Recommended FY 2005 Capital Budget and FY 2005–2010 CIP; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted public hearings on November 12 and 13, 2003, on the superintendent's recommendations for all capital and noncapital items for the FY 2005 Capital Budget and FY 2005–2010 CIP; and

WHEREAS, After considering the Board's discussion and public testimony, a broader scope of approaches to consider for improving the services to students and the cost effectiveness of the Mark Twain Program is desired; and

WHEREAS, A draft charge outlining a broader scope of approaches for a Mark Twain Program Feasibility Study Group to review is attached for the Board's consideration; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the creation of a Mark Twain Program Feasibility Study Group led by the Department of Special Education to develop options for future improvements to the Mark Twain Program; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve a Mark Twain Program Feasibility Study Group to review cost-effective options to improve the Mark Twain Program and improve the utilization of the Mark Twain facility.

Charge to the Mark Twain Program Feasibility Study Group

Background

The Mark Twain Program is operated in a special education center serving middle and high school students with emotional disabilities. The Mark Twain facility has been underutilized for more than four years. The facility's capacity is approximately 300 students and current enrollment is between 120 and 130. Given the current focus on providing early intervention strategies and decreasing the overrepresentation of African American students in special education, it is anticipated that enrollment in the Mark Twain Program will continue to be low and possibly decline further. This trend of declining enrollment, combined with the new requirements for having highly qualified teachers in all academic content areas, will result in an increased per-pupil cost of the Mark Twain Program during a time when the county and state are experiencing significant budgetary constraints. Accordingly, the superintendent has directed staff in the Department of Special Education to work with a committee of Mark Twain Program staff, parents, and other departments to review options for utilizing the Mark Twain facility and providing an effective, cost-efficient, comprehensive educational program to the students currently served by the Mark Twain Program.

Scope

The committee is to research the educational, practical, and economic feasibility of the following options that have been suggested from previous studies and recent discussions regarding the Mark Twain Program:

- ! Utilizing a portion of the Mark Twain facility to provide space for other existing Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) programs that may enhance opportunities for students, while retaining the existing Mark Twain Program.
- ! Contracting with a Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)-approved nonpublic special education provider for administrative, educational, and therapeutic services to combine its students with the Mark Twain Program students utilizing the Mark Twain facility as a public school program.

- ! Closing the existing Mark Twain Program and contracting with an MSDE-approved nonpublic special education provider to serve current Mark Twain Program students and future students as nonpublic school students utilizing the Mark Twain facility.
- ! Renting space in the Mark Twain facility to an outside entity that could collocate with the existing Mark Twain Program and possibly share some instructional as well as facilities resources.
- ! Serving students from the existing Mark Twain Program in enhanced Emotional Disabilities (ED) Cluster Model centers at regional middle and high schools in MCPS and using the Mark Twain facility to meet other MCPS space needs.

Desired Outcome

The desired outcome is a cost and program review by the committee of a variety of options that could provide improved services to the students currently served by the Mark Twain Program and provide cost-efficient utilization of the Mark Twain facility.

Committee Representation

Representatives from the Mark Twain Program staff, Mark Twain parents, the Department of Special Education, the Office of School Performance, the Department of Planning and Capital Programming, and other stakeholders will participate on the Mark Twain Program Feasibility Study Group.

Committee Report

The Mark Twain Program Feasibility Study Group will prepare a report for the superintendent and the Board of Education that will incorporate evaluations by committee members of options for the Mark Twain Program and facility. The report is due to the superintendent in June 2004.

Re: DISCUSSION

Mr. Burnett was pleased with the modifications, which are more inclusive, expand the timeframe, and support the needs of the students.

Mr. Felton was concerned about the approach to this program review. This did not need to be part of the CIP. As it is written and drafted, there is a focus on whether or not the program is meeting the needs of the students. Mr. Bowers stated that the building is underutilized. Mr. Lavorgna explained that it is the custom of MCPS to examine special education facilities as part of the CIP. Usually, facility utilization is addressed through boundary studies. However, special education facilities are unique with very specialized programs.

MS. Cox was pleased to see the expansion of the timeframe and participation of committee members. Also, the charge includes using the facility by other existing programs. However, she would have appreciated more Board discussion before this plan was presented to the Board.

Mr. Lange was concerned about the focus of privatization for the study. He was pleased that the study is now open-ended with collaboration from all stakeholders.

Mr. Romero agreed with Mr. Felton, but he wanted more community involvement reflected in the resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 592(a)-03 Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S
RECOMMENDATION FOR MARK TWAIN
PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT**

On motion of Mr. Romero and seconded by Ms. Cox, the following amendment was adopted with Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Dr. Haughey, Mr. Lange, Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. Romero, and Mr. Sanghvi voting in the affirmative; Mr. Felton voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve, **as described in the attached charge**, a Mark Twain Program Feasibility Study Group to review cost-effective options to improve the Mark Twain Program and improve the utilization of the Mark Twain facility.

RESOLUTION NO. 592(b)-03 Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S
RECOMMENDATION FOR MARK TWAIN
PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT**

On motion of Mr. Felton and seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following amendment was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the creation of a Mark Twain Program Feasibility Study Group led by the Department of Special Education to develop options for future improvements to the Mark Twain Program **as well as other options identified by the committee.**

Re: **DISCUSSION**

Dr. Haughey thought there should be a hearing or open forum after the committee's report is issued. Mrs. O'Neill agreed that the Board could have hearings.

Dr. Haughey was concerned that the material did not reflect that Mark Twain has historically been a secondary school, and it is important to keep that status among the options.

Ms. Cox inquired about students who complete their education at Mark Twain and others who graduate from their high schools. Dr. Wright replied that the goal for any special education student is being educated in a least-restrictive environment.

RESOLUTION NO. 592-03 Re: **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION FOR MARK
TWAIN PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution, as amended, was adopted with Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Dr. Haughey, Mr. Lange, Mrs. O'Neill, and Mr. Sanghvi voting in the affirmative; Mr. Felton and

Mr. Romero voting in the negative:

WHEREAS, The superintendent reviewed and carefully considered the work developed by all of the groups that have examined the Mark Twain Program; and

WHEREAS, The superintendent presented, on October 29, 2003, as Supplement D to the Superintendent's Recommended FY 2005 Capital Budget and FY 2005–2010 CIP, a recommendation to improve the services to the students served by the Mark Twain Program and improve the utilization of the Mark Twain facility; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted a work session on November 11, 2003, to review the superintendent's recommendations contained in Supplement D to the Recommended FY 2005 Capital Budget and FY 2005–2010 CIP; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted public hearings on November 12 and 13, 2003, on the superintendent's recommendations for all capital and noncapital items for the FY 2005 Capital Budget and FY 2005–2010 CIP; and

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WHEREAS, A draft charge outlining a broader scope of approaches for a Mark Twain Program Feasibility Study Group to review is attached for the Board's consideration; now therefore be it

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Resolved, That the Board of Education approve, as described in the attached charge, a Mark Twain Program Feasibility Study Group to review cost-effective options to improve the Mark Twain Program and improve the utilization of the Mark Twain facility.

Charge to the Mark Twain Program Feasibility Study Group

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strategies and decreasing the overrepresentation of African American students in special education, it is anticipated that enrollment in the Mark Twain Program will continue to be low and possibly decline further. This trend of declining enrollment, combined with the new requirements for having highly qualified teachers in all academic content areas, will result in an increased per-pupil cost of the Mark Twain Program during a time when the county and state are experiencing significant budgetary constraints. Accordingly, the superintendent has directed staff in the Department of Special Education to work with a committee of Mark Twain Program staff, parents, and other departments to review options for utilizing the Mark Twain facility and providing an effective, cost-efficient, comprehensive educational program to the students currently served by the Mark Twain Program.

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Committee Representation

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Study Group.

Committee Report

The Mark Twain Program Feasibility Study Group will prepare a report for the superintendent and the Board of Education that will incorporate evaluations by committee members of options for the Mark Twain Program and facility. The report is due to the superintendent in June 2004.

RESOLUTION NO. 593.04 Re: **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting of November 20, 2003, at 9:55 p.m.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

JDW:gr

Attachments