The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Thursday, January 13, 2005, at 7:10 p.m.

Present: Mrs. Patricia B. O’Neill, President
in the Chair
Ms. Sharon W. Cox
Ms. Valerie Ervin
Dr. Charles Haughey
Mrs. Nancy Navarro
Dr. Frieda Lacey, Acting Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: Mr. Steve Abrams
Mr. Gabriel Romero
Mr. Sagar Sanghvi, Student Board Member
Dr. Jerry Weast

Re: **FY 2006 OPERATING BUDGET HEARING**

The following people testified before the Board of Education:

1. Candra Johnson-Hardy, Head Start Policy Council
2. Cindy Kerr, President of MCCPTA
3. Janet Friedman, Blake Cluster
4. Geri Ginsberg, Paint Branch Cluster
5. Leslie Ridgway and Robin Steinwand, Springbrook Cluster
6. Shari Kottler, Sherwood Cluster
7. Lilo Mitz, Churchill Cluster
8. Kate Savage, Richard Montgomery Cluster
9. Linda Dutka, Gaithersburg Cluster
10. Linda Kuserk, Magruder Cluster
11. Allyson Morrison, Watkins Mill Cluster
12. Kay Romero
13. Jean Heilprin
14. Walt Lange
15. Henry Lee
16. Diane McHale
17. Jay Larson, SpecialEd Voters
18. Becky Wagner, St. Mark Coalition on Mental Health
19. Felicia Turner, Community Action Board
20. Ivy Leichman, Montgomery County Pupil Personnel Workers Association
21. Michelle Palmer and Faith Schwartz, Montgomery County Psychologists Association
22. Carla Satinsky, League of Women Voters
23. Robin Steinwand
24. Dolores Barnes, College Gardens PTA
25. Sandy Vogelgesang
26. Robert Monsheimer, Montgomery County Taxpayers League
27. Cyril Draffin
28. Joan Karasik, ARC
29. Jay Weinstein
30. Lanell Drasbek
31. Frances Maane
32. David Tiktinsky
33. Selene Almazan, Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Education
34. Livleen Gill, Seven Locks Elementary School PTA
35. Mary Ellen Himes, White Oak Middle School PTSA

The Board of Education asked the following questions:

1. Regarding the Head Start testimony, Ms. Cox asked for an explanation of the relationship between the expansion of the 4-year-old programs that MCPS is required to provide and the gap that was mentioned after children finish the 3-year-old program.

2. Mrs. O’Neill noted that Walt Whitman High School was constructed without using a holding school. Could the experiences involving sports be used as a model for Richard Montgomery High School?

3. Mrs. O’Neill asked for the cost of six community outreach specialists.

4. Regarding Dr. Lee’s testimony, Dr. Haughey inquired if staff had information about some cooperative programs.

5. Dr. Haughey wanted the numbers regarding the increase in the diagnosis of children with autism and the growth in MCPS programs.

6. Mrs. Navarro wanted to see what evaluation MCPS has for programs such as Linkages and the consortium of mental health programs that are school-based. How can MCPS integrate the PPW’s work?


8. Dr. Haughey asked about the implications of Ms. Barnes’ deferential budgeting for the
early years program.

9. Ms. Cox asked staff if there was an FAQ page on the budget that explains the difference between the operating and capital budgets and explains the funding for each budget.

10. Dr. Haughey asked what would be involved in implementing the request of Ms. Himes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

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PRESIDENT

_________________________________________________________________
SECRETARY

JDW:gr