The Board of Education of Montgomery County held a work session at the Carver Educational Services Center, 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, Maryland, on September 24, 2012, beginning at 5:40 p.m.

Present: Ms. Shirley Brandman, President in the Chair
        Ms. Laura Berthiaume
        Dr. Judy Docca
        Mr. Michael Durso
        Mr. Philip Kauffman
        Mr. John Mannes
        Mrs. Patricia O'Neill
        Dr. Joshua Starr, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: Mr. Christopher Barclay

Ms. Brandman welcomed those present and reviewed what was to be accomplished during this work session. The superintendent’s evaluation tool focused on seven overarching professional standards. Since the Board’s and superintendent’s evaluations, the next step is to establish annual and short-term goals for the superintendent.

The agenda will focus on:

- Framework (strategic vision) for renovation of the strategic plan
- Professional development
- Interventions
- Alignment of the proposed budget to the Board’s budget priorities

Dr. Starr thought it was important to memorialize the expectations for the superintendent for the coming year, and to be clear on the work ahead of the school system. He wanted to take the opportunity to come back to the Board with a responsible interpretation of the goals and statements of the data which would show progress on the focus areas.

RENOVATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN
Progress is being made based on moving from values to a plan. There is a desire not to sacrifice quality for speed, and the final document may not be ready by June. Since the core values will be the drivers for the strategic plan, it was agreed that there will be a draft document by June with a finalized document at a later date.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Board members were interested in professional development and how it all fits together. How does an individual teacher plan for the year and coordinate all professional
development obligations? There is a need to understand the coherence of professional development. Dr. Starr agreed that there should not be just coherence but evidence of success shown in different ways. There should be a plan and a focus for long-term implementation of professional development which is funded by the operating budget.

TECHNOLOGY
After the request to the county council is reviewed and adopted, there will be a level playing field for all schools with system supplied technology. Thereafter, a plan will be developed for the long-term use of technology by the school system. The Board was interested in the vision for students, and the options technology can offer. Dr. Starr observed that the market is changing, and the framework for technology will focus on core competencies plus flexibility.

CURRICULUM 2.0
The Board was interested in evidence of success and a smooth transition. Dr. Starr noted it will be determined on what is agreed to and what is measured since students will also be preparing for a different test. Staff will need to determine which indicators to use to show progress. The Board was interested in understanding the results and when that would happen.

SUSPENSIONS
There will be a need to develop regulations to comply with the new state policy. The Board will solicit questions for the November discussion. The comment period ends in January. Dr. Starr stated that staff will review the state’s changes, and they will spend time working on procedures.

It was decided to review no more than five yearly topics since there will always be unexpected issues, such as Race to the Top. Finally, the Board needs information from the superintendent on topics of importance around the county, state, and nation in order to be informed when speaking with colleagues and community members.

Dr. Starr stated that he will have his goals and proposed outcomes prepared for the conversation on November 13, 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

________________________________________________________

PRESIDENT

________________________________________________________

SECRETARY

JPS:gr