

APPROVED
26-1981

Rockville, Maryland
May 5, 1981

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on May 5, 1981 at 7:45 p. m

ROLL CALL Present: Mrs. Carol F. Wallace, President in
the Chair

Mr. Joseph R. Barse
Mr. Blair G. Ewing
Dr. Marian L. Greenblatt
Mrs. Suzanne K. Peyser
Mrs. Elizabeth W. Spencer
Miss Traci Williams
Mrs. Eleanor D. Zappone

Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Edward Andrews, Superintendent of
Schools

Dr. Harry Pitt, Deputy Superintendent
Dr. Robert S. Shaffner, Executive
Assistant

Mr. Thomas S. Fess, Parliamentarian

Re: Public Hearing for Argyle Junior
High

The following individuals appeared before the Board:

1. Mr. Al Ritter, Co-President, Argyle Junior High School PTA
2. Mrs. Lee Charles, Member, PTA Board
3. Mrs. Dottie Peters
4. Mr. Granville Hall, Bel Pre Square
5. Mrs. Phyllis Feldman, Layhill Civic Association
6. Mr. Eliot Cohen, Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association
7. Mrs. Frances Greene, Layhill Village East
8. Mrs. Margo Aron
9. Mrs. Toby Kramer
10. Mr. Richard McKernon
11. Mr. John Pride
12. Mrs. Mincy Neil
13. Mr. Jim Bloom
14. Miss Margo Perkins
15. Miss Ingrid Fey
16. Mr. Michael Goodman
17. Judge Stephen Grossman, Lee Junior High School
18. Mayor William Hanna, City of Rockville

Re: Dialogue With The Board

Mr. Ewing noted that Mrs. Spencer, Mrs. Wallace and he did not want to be present tonight. He felt they might have done better if they had proceeded within the context of the 15-year plan.

Board members asked the following questions pertaining to Argyle Junior High:

1. Dr. Greenblatt asked staff to make a comparison of fire safety at Argyle and Lee, as indicated by Dottie Peters in her testimony that the fire marshal said that Argyle was more "ideal" in that respect.
- 2) Mrs. Wallace asked, relative to the same testimony, that the facilities for handicapped be checked; what modifications would be required, what the cost and problems would be. She also asked that staff respond to all other issues addressed on Page 2 of Mrs. Peters' testimony.
- 3) Mr. Barse asked for clarification on the question of whether the county will be responsible for the bonded indebtedness in the event Lee was closed.
- 4) Dr. Greenblatt asked for an analysis by staff as to the issues relating to enrollment data brought forward by Argyle--whether they had been included and to what degree. Who was involved in reaching enrollment projections (MNCPPC, etc.?)
- 5) Mrs. Wallace asked about the developable land in the Argyle area and if the land is zoned for single or multiple family dwelling units.
- 6) Dr. Greenblatt asked for clarification of an August, 1979, quote to the effect that "Argyle is by far the least likely closure choice...."
- 7) Mrs. Zappone asked for information on utility costs for Argyle and Lee and what makes the difference in these costs. What is the percentage of walkers at each school.
- 8) Mrs. Wallace said the warning Argyle supposedly received in November, 1979, at a public meeting on Middle Schools at Saddlebrook, to the effect that Argyle either become a middle school or consider closing was a serious allegation and she wanted it checked out.
- 9) Mrs. Wallace asked about the possibility of boundary changes in the Argyle area and what the factors would be.

Re: Public Hearing For Broome Middle School

The following individuals appeared before the Board:

1. Ms. Sally Drummond, Broome Middle School PTA
2. Mrs. Ruth Litzenberger, Burgundy Estates
3. Mrs. John Rys, Twinbrook Civic Association
4. Mr. Steven Webb, Burgundy Knolls Civic Association
5. Miss Michele Speidel
6. Mrs. Diane Wheeler
7. Mrs. Charlene Janes
8. Mr. Richard McKernon
9. Mrs. Linda Poole
10. Mrs. Jane Carter
11. Dr. Gordon Bonham
12. Mr. Stanley Long
13. Ms. Aura Majica
14. Mrs. Martha Wilson
15. Mrs. Sandi Sonner, PTA President, Julius West Middle School
16. Mr. Leslie Weiss, PTA President, Earl B. Wood Junior High School

Board members asked the following questions regarding Broome:

- 1) Mrs. Spencer asked for information on the number of closed schools where the facilities continue to be available to the community for recreational purposes, particularly junior highs. Is there a precedence whereby the county recreation department does not charge residents of incorporated areas participation fees for recreational activities.
- 2) Mr. Ewing asked for clarification of the statement that Broome had been promised a period of five years before there were any more changes.
- 3) Mrs. Wallace wanted to know what was being planned for the current fifth grade students at Lone Oak if the closure went through.
- 4) Mrs. Wallace asked for an explanation of the discrepancies addressed by Dr. Bonham.
- 5) Dr. Greenblatt asked what kind of staffing will be provided to the receiving school to meet the student needs in the consolidated schools.
- 6) Mr. Barse asked about the safety of walking and biking students to Wood in the event of Broome's closure, the distance and traffic obstacles from Twinbrook to Julius West. He wanted a detailed analysis of these issues, including the routes that the busses will take from Twinbrook to Julius West.

Re: Adj ournment

The president adjourned the meeting at 11 p. m.

Presi dent

Secretary

EA: kn