

APPROVED
47-1981

Rockville, Maryland
October 20, 1981

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at Wheaton High School, Wheaton, Maryland, on Tuesday, October 20, 1981, at 9:10 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Carol F. Wallace,
President in the Chair
Mr. Blair G. Ewing*
Dr. Marian L. Greenblatt
Mrs. Suzanne K. Peyser
Mrs. Elizabeth W. Spencer*
Mrs. Eleanor D. Zappone

Absent: Mr. Joseph R. Barse
Mr. Jonathan Lipson

Others Present: Dr. Edward Andrews,
Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Harry Pitt,
Deputy Superintendent
Mr. Thomas S. Fess,
Parliamentarian

Re: Announcements

Mrs. Wallace announced that Mr. Barse and Mr. Ewing were at work. Mr. Lipson was attending school, and Mrs. Spencer would be flying in this morning and would join the meeting in the afternoon. She said that all promised to read the testimony.

Re: Public Hearing for
Cresthaven Elementary
School

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

1. Mrs. Nancy Loss
2. Mrs. Sarah Crooke
3. Mrs. Rosalind Kelman, Burnt Mills Hills Citizens Association

Re: Public Hearing for
Cannon Road Elementary
School

Mrs. Diane Phillips appeared before the Board of Education.

Re: Public Hearing for
Westover Elementary
School

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

1. Mrs. Benne Druckenmiller
2. Mrs. Mildred Morse
3. Judge Jon G. Lotis
4. Mrs. Ann Jelen
5. Mrs. Vivian Portner
6. Mrs. Robin Lannom
7. Mrs. Risa Garon
8. Dr. Marillyn Nickels
9. Mr. Fred Shand (read by Mrs. Betsy Thomas)
10. Mrs. Rosemary Behrens

* Mr. Ewing and Mrs. Spencer joined the meeting at a later time.

Re: Public Hearing for
Jackson Road Elementary
School

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

1. Mr. Charles Rothbard
2. Mrs. Karen Tang, Northwest Branch Citizens Association
3. Miss Gina Penaranda
4. Mrs. Pamela Mason, Burnt Mills Manor Civic Association
5. Mrs. Cathy Schultheis
6. Mrs. Elizabeth McCann, PTA President
7. Mrs. Carol Schifter
8. Mrs. Karen Freed

Re: Board Dialogue

Mrs. Wallace asked the superintendent to provide approximate distances from Cresthaven to Key (portions of the former Burnt Mills and Hillandale areas feeding into Key), the distance between Cannon Road and White Oak, and the distance between the other White Oak feeder schools. The superintendent agreed to relook at the Springbrook area elementary schools in the annual update of the 15-year plan.

Mrs. Spencer joined the meeting at this point.

Re: Public Hearing for
Lake Normandy Elementary
School

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

1. Mrs. Ann Beerman, PTA President
2. Mr. Andy Greenwald
3. Mr. Ira Apatoff
4. Mr. Jay Bernstein
5. Mrs. Barbara Pickholtz

Re: Potential Receiving
Schools

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

Mrs. Jean Kaufman, Bells Mill PTA President
Mr. Richard Milstein, Wayside PTA Vice President
Mrs. Fran Barock, Beverly Farms PTA Co-president

Re: Board Dialogue

Dr. Fisher requested additional time to study the capacity figures for Lake Normandy. Mrs. Wallace asked for an update of the enrollment at Seven Locks Elementary including what the future projections were.

Re: Public Hearing for
Bethesda Elementary
School

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

1. Mrs. Nancy Nathan
2. Mrs. Diane Novotny
3. Mr. Stephen O'Neil

Re: Board Dialogue

Mrs. Wallace requested information on when Walt Whitman High School would be open to transfers in.

Re: Public Hearing for
East Silver Spring
Elementary School

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

1. Mrs. Michele Sumka
2. Mrs. Janet Lew Carr
3. Mrs. Roberta Hartman
4. Mrs. Doris Senko
5. Mrs. Georgia Kaiser
6. Dr. Tony Hausner

Re: Public Hearing for
Piney Branch Elementary
School

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

1. Mr. David Bernal
2. Mrs. Jean Narayanan, PTA President
3. Councilman Vernon Ricks

Re: Public Hearing for
Takoma Park Elementary

School

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

1. Mrs. Kathryn O'Connor
2. Mrs. Diane Ware
3. Mrs. Dee Allison
4. Mr. William Leary

Re: Board Dialogue

In regard to the Takoma Cluster, Mrs. Spencer asked about the extent to which the reassignment because of schools closures could be made without the destruction of the grade-level and program-magnet emphasis now present in the cluster. She inquired about the extent to which the closure-generated reassignment could not be accommodated within the present framework and how could staff redesign assignments while maintaining the present cluster programmatic characteristics. She asked whether the staff's proposed reassignments would result in racial imbalance requiring remedial action within five years.

She wanted to know about the alternate possibilities and whether the likelihood of racial imbalance was as immediate with conversion to K-6 neighborhood schools as with continuation of the present grade-level and program-magnet cluster schools. She inquired as to whether they had legal counsel's comment on the implications of each of the proposals before the Board. She asked whether the superintendent's recommendation assumed the continuation of the presently constituted Takoma Cluster, the demolition of any elementary cluster, or an expanded Takoma Cluster defined by Blair's attendance area with transportation provided between all schools, or none of the above.

In regard to the French Immersion Program, Mrs. Wallace asked about the cost implications for transportation for the Takoma Cluster to Forest Knolls and Sligo. She asked about the facilities costs of converting East Silver Spring, Piney Branch, and Takoma Park Elementaries to K-6. She also wanted to know whether the numbers would support a half-day kindergarten at East Silver Spring. In regard to the swimming program at Piney Branch, Mrs. Wallace inquired about numbers of students participating when the program was operative, whether the program would be available to other schools in the cluster and what the options would be for K-6 schools to use the facility during school hours. She requested cost and transportation implications. She asked the superintendent for a reaction as to what the Takoma Cluster would look like if they maintained K-2, HS-3 schools with closures and how this could be effected and stay within racial balance guidelines.

Mr. Ewing joined the meeting at this time.

Re: Public Hearing for
Laytonsville Elementary

School

Mrs. Patricia Stabler appeared before the Board.

Re: Public Hearing for
Gaithersburg Junior/
Senior High School

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

Mr. Brian Kildee, Gaithersburg Junior High PTA
Mr. John King
Mrs. Nancy Schoenke, Gaithersburg High School PTA

Re: Public Hearing for
Redland Middle School

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

Mr. John Vail, PTA President
Mr. Paul O'Connor

Re: Board Dialogue

Mr. Ewing requested staff reactions to the suggestions made by Mr. Kildee in his testimony regarding Gaithersburg Junior High School (converting space with partitions, etc.). He requested cost information on making more classrooms in the school. Mrs. Zappone asked about program impact if the band, shop, and home economics areas were changed at Gaithersburg Junior High.

Re: Public Hearing for
Eastern Intermediate
School

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

Mrs. Sybil Brounstein
Mr. Michael DeMouey
Dr. Faith Stern, Takoma Park Junior High PTA

Re: Board Dialogue

In regard to split high schools (Blair, 9-10 and 11-12), Mrs. Spencer requested narrative as to how other school districts managed with split campuses. Mrs. Zappone requested information about and a timetable for the study the National Center for Policy Review was doing regarding integration in Montgomery County. Mr. Ewing suggested that staff contact Mr. Scott Rutherford on this matter. Mrs. Wallace asked about other options for housing Blair students if "C" building is renovated and for the pros and cons of each option. Dr. Greenblatt asked for an estimate of when they could expect to receive funds for the renovation of "C" building.

Re: Public Hearing for
Montgomery Blair High
School

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

Mrs. Barbara Braodwater, PTSA Co-president
Mr. Martin Feldman
Dr. Thomas Broadwater, PTSA Co-president

Re: Board Dialogue

In regard to Blair, Mrs. Peyser asked that staff check into the
ESOL teacher situation and the staffing of the basic reading
program.

Re: Adjournment

The president adjourned the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

President

Secretary

EA:mlw:mag