Rockville, Maryland December 13, 1983

APPROVED 70-1983

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in regular session at the Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Tuesday, December 13, 1983, at 10:20 a.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Dr. James E. Cronin

Mr. Blair G. Ewing

Dr. Marian L. Greenblatt
Mrs. Suzanne K. Peyser
Mrs. Marilyn J. Praisner
Mr. Peter Robertson
Mrs. Odessa M. Shannon
Dr. Robert E. Shoenberg

Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Wilmer S. Cody, Superintendent of

Schools

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

Assistant

Mr. Thomas S. Fess, Parliamentarian

Re: Election of Officers

The superintendent explained that as secretary-treasurer of the Board of Education he would preside until the election of the president. He announced that on the first ballot for Board president Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, Mrs. Praisner, Mr. Robertson (if counted), Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg had voted for Mrs. Praisner. Mrs. Praisner was the new Board president. Mrs. Praisner announced that on the first ballot for vice president Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, Mrs. Praisner, Mr. Robertson (if counted), Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg had voted for Dr. Shoenberg. Dr. Shoenberg was the new Board vice president. Dr. Cody presented Mr. Ewing with an engraved gavel which was "symbolic of the leadership Mr. Ewing had provided in the past year."

Re: Statement by Mrs. Praisner

Mrs. Praisner read the following into the record:

"I am deeply honored by the vote of confidence that the Board members have given me this morning, but before I comment on the next year and the challenges ahead I would like to express my personal thanks and congratulations to Mr. Ewing on what I think has been a very successful year as president. Blair, having served as your vice president, I know how many hours you have spent in service to the Board and the children of this county. You came into office dedicated to insuring that Board meetings be conducted in a fair and

careful manner and you have succeeded. You came into office at the beginning of a year which promised to be both busy and difficult. Your leadership through a superintendent search process was superb as witnessed by the candidate we selected but also by the fact that all eight Board members were so confident with the process that only one unanimous vote was needed. I'm certain that many members of the community, given the history of Board member relations, would not have thought that possible before the process began. You deserve much of the credit for making it not only possible but a reality, and I want to offer my thanks again.

"Now it is a new year and there are other issues to occupy our time and our agendas. Some like the budget process, state funding, and facility decisions we can anticipate. I look forward to working with other Board members to assure that the county government, the County Council, and the Delegation understand the needs and the priorities of this school system. I anticipate another intense session with the budget and it will require all Board members' efforts and time. We will need to reiterate that it is the Board of Education which sets educational policy for the county, and our adopted budget is determined with great thought and is a reflection of that policy and is necessary if we are to achieve our objectives for excellence in education in Montgomery County.

"The Board recently adopted a set of priorities which having been defined now need to be achieved. The priorities are good ones. They speak to what we all want for children in Montgomery County. They speak to increased effectiveness and staff capabilities. They speak to better planning for the future of our school system. It is a positive sign that this Board adopted these goals and in doing so recognized them as goals not for one year or even one Board term. I expect that over the next year we will address methods for refining and attaining these goals and that Board members will continue to discuss these priorities with staff, students, and the community. Education is a hot topic this year, and it is safe to assume that the debate will continue well into next year, at least to the early part of November. But our interest in im- proving education came long before the reports and will continue long after the next election. Our recent discussion on high school education, although not new to Montgomery County, is another positive step. encouraging and refreshing and important change from the many meetings and hours Board members have spent in recent years on administrative and facility issues. Should not a Board, having decided on how many buildings it will operate, concentrate on what goes on in those buildings?

"I anticipate that in the year ahead we will hold several similar discussions and that at some point we will reach consensus on the educational needs for Montgomery County as we enter the 21st century. Hopefully our discussions will be as intense as those we have had on other issues, without being as heated.

"Whatever is on the Board agenda I believe it is important for the

president to insure that every member has a chance to present his or her views, and that actions come after ample opportunity for discussions. I would be a Pollyanna if I expected discussion at this table always to be harmonious or that our decisions will please everyone. It is important, however, that the Board president insure that the discussions are fair and that those on any side of an issue are satisfied with the process if not with the outcome. "I anticipate over the next year that there will still be time for me to visit schools and attend special programs so I hope the invitations will continue. My family has adjusted to setting one less place for dinner and, except for the dog, everyone in the house now knows how to iron. If I could only get them to wash windows, I would have it made. Seriously, we have a lot of work ahead. I have enjoyed this year working with the seven colleagues around this Board table and with the staff and the superintendent. My high regard for them has grown in the last year. I hope that meetings will be businesslike and efficient without being officious and that we can all feel positive about the hours I know we are going to spend together. Thank you very much."

Re: Statement by Dr. Shoenberg

Dr. Shoenberg read the following into the record:

"I certainly would like to express my appreciation to my colleagues for their confidence and the unanimity of the vote. I thank you all very much. I certainly must add my words to those of others in praise of the leadership that Blair Ewing has shown to the Board. It has been a year in which we have had many tasks to accomplish, many of them very difficult and delicate. I think that his leadership has been masterful in guiding us through those problems. There are many that lie ahead. I have equal confidence in Mrs. Praisner's ability to carry on and very much look forward to working with her. Despite what may sometimes appear in public, despite some of the details of Board action and behavior over which people might quibble, I have a great deal of confidence in this group of people to do a serious and extensive job with care and with attention paid to detail and to principle equally well. This is a first rate organization. It is one that I am awfully proud to be associated with, and I look forward to an opportunity to have some leadership responsibility. Thank you all. It will be, I am sure, a good year."

Re: Statement by Mr. Ewing

Mr. Ewing read the following into the record:

"I want to thank you, Mrs. Praisner, for those kind words and those of Dr. Shoenberg and all my colleagues for a very good year. My view is best expressed at this juncture by a brief verse from Ecclesiastes which says: 'Better is the ending of a thing than the beginning thereof.' In some respects I feel that in fact we have ended the year better than we began it. It has been a good year in many ways, but it has also ended up being a much quieter year at the

end of it and that I think is good. I am also glad that Mrs. Praisner will now have to sign all those letters, and that will be a relief.

"Let me say that one of things being president makes one aware of is what an extraordinary school system this is, and what remarkably fine people operate it, and work in it, and support it, and support the learning process of children. Board members all know that, I suppose, but as Board president you get special insights into that and that has been, for me, a very great and rewarding part of being Board president, so I want to thank my colleagues for permitting me that opportunity and to work with an extraordinarily good staff. Thank you."

Resolution No. 968-83 Re: Board Agenda - December 13, 1983

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Peyser seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for December 13, 1983, with the deletion of the study of the Budget Office from the item on Award of Procurement Contracts.

Resolution No. 969-83 Re: Keep Montgomery County Beautiful

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education recognizes the need for litter control within the boundaries of Montgomery County; and

WHEREAS, The "Keep Montgomery County Beautiful" Program has been established by the county government and representatives of the county civic, business, industry, and citizen sectors to:

- 1. Use education to change the public's attitudes about littering with an end toward obtaining voluntary compliance with litter-control ordinances
- Ask all walks of citizenry to take and keep pledges not to litter and to initiate or support cleanup and beautification projects
- Institute plans and procedures to clean up the county and sustain the effort
- 4. Reduce the amount of litter and conserve energy and natural resources through recycling and source separation programs, and
- 5. Assist in upgrading and improving county litter-control ordinances including making them easier to enforce; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education is committed to countywide anti-litter, beautification, and recycling programs; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education hereby endorses the above objectives of the "Keep Montgomery County Beautiful" Program and agrees to provide such support as is needed or determined by the Board of Education as feasible to give.

Resolution No. 970-83 Re: FY 1984 Categorical Transfer

Within the Appropriation for Projected Supported Projects

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized, subject to County Council approval, to effect the transfer below in the FY 1984 Appropriation of \$250,000 for Projected Supported Projects in accordance with the FY 1984 Provision for Transfer as adopted by Council Resolution 10-470 of November 15, 1983:

	Category	From	To
02	Instructional Salaries		\$5,000
04	Special Education	\$5,000	

and be it further

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

Resolution No. 971-83 Re: Utilization of a Portion of the FY

1984 Appropriation for Projected Supported Projects and Effect a Categorical Transfer Within the FY 1984 Head Start Program

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend, within the FY 1984 Appropriation of \$250,000 for Projected Supported Projects, a grant award of \$332 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Administration for Children, Youth, and Families, through the Montgomery County Community Action Agenda for the FY 1984 Head Start Program in the following category:

Category Amount

03 Instructional Other \$332

and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to effect within the FY 1984 Head Start Program the following categorical

transfer in accordance with the FY 1984 Provision for Transfer as adopted by Council Resolution 10-470 of November 15, 1983:

	Category	From	То
02	Instructional Salaries	\$301	
03	Instructional Other		\$301

and be it further

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

Resolution No. 972-83 Re: Utilization of a Portion of the FY
1984 Appropriation for Supported
Programs Within the Adult Basic
Education Program

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend, within the FY 1984 Appropriation of \$250,000 for Projected Supported Projects, a supplemental grant award of \$21,343 in the following categories from the Maryland State Department of Education under the Adult Education Act for the Adult Basic Education Program:

	Category			Amount
02	Instructional	Salaries		\$17,548
03	Instructional	Other		2,900
10	Fixed Charges			895
			Total	\$21,343

and be it further

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

Resolution No. 973-83 Re: Utilization of a Portion of the FY
1984 Appropriation for Projected
Supported Projects for
Drug/Alcohol Awareness Workshops

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend, within the FY 1984 Appropriation of \$250,000 for Projected Supported Projects, a supplemental grant award of \$6,000 in Category 03, Instructional Other, from the Maryland State

Department of Education under the ECIA, Chapter II (Block Grant) to conduct training workshops on drug and alcohol awareness in the Gaithersburg school community and maintain existing community action teams; and be it further

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

Resolution No. 974-83 Re: FY 1984 Supplemental Appropriation

for Career and Vocational Education Programs

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized, subject to County Council approval, to receive and expend \$70,668 from the Maryland State Department of Education under the Vocational Education Act for FY 1984 career and vocational education programs:

	Category	Supplemental
03	Instructional Other	\$67,368
07	Student Transportation	3,300
	Total	\$70,668

and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of this resolution to the County Council and a copy be sent to the county executive and the County Council.

Resolution No. 975-83 Re: FY 1984 Supplemental Appropriation Within the Intensive English

wichin the intensive Eng

Language Program

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized, subject to County Council approval, to receive and expend the supplemental grant award within the following categories from the Montgomery County Department of Social Services, Division of Family Resources, for the Intensive English Language Program:

	Category	Supplemental
02	Instructional Salaries	\$49,328
03	Instructional Other	905
80	Operation of Plant & Equ	ip. 300
10	Fixed Charges	4,193
	Total	\$54,726

#### and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend the approval of this resolution to the County Council and a copy be sent to the county executive and the County Council.

Resolution No. 976-83 Re: Award of Construction Contract - Washington Grove Elementary School Modernization (Area 3)

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Shoenberg seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Sealed Bids were received on November 30 for the modernization of the Washington Grove Elementary School as indicated below:

Bidder	Base Bid	Add Alt.1	Add Alt.2	Add Alt.3	Add
Alt.4 Total*					
1. The McAlister-	\$1,237,161	\$411,539	\$7,000	\$27,615	\$23,784
\$1,707,099					
Schwartz Co.					
2. J. Roland	1,282,700	401,000	4,800	27,000	
25,000 1,740,500					
Dashiell & Sons					
3. Ernest R. Sines	1,249,000	449,000	8,500	28,000	
24,000 1,758,500					
Inc.					
4. Jesse Dustin	1,297,000	420,000	8,100	27,500	
22,000 1,774,600					
& Son, Inc.					
5. Kimmel & Kimmel	1,314,000	414,000	5,700	28,500	
24,500 1,786,700					
Inc.					
6. N.S. Stavrou	1,364,000	474,000	8,500	28,500	
24,000 1,899,000					
Const. Co., Inc.					

<sup>\*</sup> Indicates acceptance of base bid and alternates 1, 2, 3, and 4.

## Description of Alternates:

Add Alternate 1: Construct new gymnasium

Add Alternate 2: Install synthetic athletic floor system in gymnasium

Add Alternate 3: Furnish and install kitchen equipment

Add Alternate 4: Furnish and Install misc. specialities and unit kitchen

## and

WHEREAS, The low bidder, The McAlister-Schwartz Co., has successfully completed work of this nature for MCPS; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a contract for \$1,707,099, which constitutes acceptance of the base bid and Add Alternates 1, 2, 3, and 4, be awarded to The McAlister-Schwartz Co. to accomplish the requirements of the plans and specifications entitled "Modernization & Addition--Washington Grove Elementary School," dated November 15, 1983, prepared by Thomas Clark Associates Architects.

Resolution No. 977-83 Re: Partial Reroofing at Col. Zadok Magruder High School (Area 3)

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Shoenberg seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Sealed bids were received on December 1, for partial reroofing and modifications to sections of existing roofs at Col. Zadok Magruder High School as indicated below:

Bidder	Lump Sum
<ol> <li>R. D. Bean, Inc.</li> <li>Orndorff &amp; Spaid, Inc.</li> <li>Colbert Roofing Corporation and</li> </ol>	\$182,830.00 209,612,00 219,870.00

WHEREAS, The low bidder R. D. Bean, Inc., has performed similar projects satisfactorily; and

WHEREAS, Low bid is within staff estimate and sufficient funds are available in Account No. 999-42 to effect award; now therefore be it Resolved, That a contract for \$182,830.00 be awarded to R. D. Bean, Inc., to accomplish a reroofing project at Col. Zadok Magruder High School in accordance with plans and specifications covering this work dated November 18, 1983, prepared by the Department of School Facilities.

Resolution No. 978-83 Re: Accessibility Modifications for the Handicapped - Various Schools

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Shoenberg seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Sealed bids were received on December 6, 1983, for accessibility modifications for the handicapped at various schools, as indicated below:

	Bidder	Lump Sum
1.	Ernest R. Sines, Inc.	\$ 77,900
2.	Jesse Dustin & Son, Inc.	78,500
3.	Construction-Commercial Inc.	91,483
4.	Smither & Co., Inc.	103,446
5.	E. Freimanis Construction, Inc.	105,575

6. Deneau Construction, Inc.

7. Edwill, Inc.

119,000 124,943

WHEREAS, The low bidder, Ernest R. Sines, Inc., has performed similar projects satisfactorily; and

WHEREAS, Recommended bid is within staff estimate and sufficient funds are available to effect award; now therefore be it Resolved, That a contract for \$77,900 be awarded to Ernest R. Sines, Inc., to accomplish accessibility modifications for the handicapped at various schools (listed below) in accordance with plans and specifications covering this work dated November 10, 1983, prepared by Arley J. Koran, Inc., architect:

- 1. Beverly Farms Elementary School
  2. Burtonsville Elementary School
  3. Carallaward Elementary School
  4. Carallaward Elementary School
  5. Rosemont Elementary School
  7. Strathmore Elementary School
  8. Carallaward Elementary School
- 3. Candlewood Elementary School
- 4. Olney Elementary School
- 5. Rockville High School

- 8. Summit Hall Elementary School
- 9. Watkins Mill Elementary School
- 10. Earle B. Wood Jr. High School

Resolution No. 979-83 Re: Architectural Appointment - New Gaithersburg Area Elementary School (Area 3)

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Shoenberg seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education acted on November 8 to request both planning and construction funds for the new Gaithersburg Area Elementary School with the goal of opening the facility in September 1983; and

WHEREAS, In order to design the school and bid it by mid-1984 it is necessary to utilize existing plans; and

WHEREAS, Staff is of the opinion that designing a project similar to the currently planned Lake Seneca Elementary School would be most appropriate from an educational and construction point of view; and

WHEREAS, Educational Facilities Planning and Development, County Executive, and Park and Planning Commission staff recommend that the school be located on the Flower Hill site; and

WHEREAS, The Lake Seneca project architects and staff have negotiated a fee proposal of \$120,787 (Lake Seneca's fee for architectural/engineering services is \$179,479); and

WHEREAS, Sufficient local funds exist in the East Gaithersburg Elementary Project, the proposed Independence School, which was never constructed; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education enter into a contractual agreement with the firm of Grimm & Parker to provide required design services and administration of the construction contract for the lump sum of \$120,787 for the new Gaithersburg Area Elementary School; and be it further

Resolved, That the State Interagency Committee for Public School Construction be informed of this appointment.

Resolution No. 980-83

Re: Architectural Appointment - Feasibility Study of Conversion of Montgomery Ward Building to an Upcounty Career Center and Area 3 Administrative Offices

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Shoenberg seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, It is necessary to appoint an architect to accomplish a feasibility study of conversion of the Montgomery Ward building to an Upcounty Career Center and Area 3 administrative offices; and

WHEREAS, Staff has negotiated a fee not to exceed \$18,750 with the firm of Thomas Clark Associates; and

WHEREAS, The locally funded Planning Future Projects Account can be utilized for this study; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education enter into a contractual agreement with the firm of Thomas Clark Associates to provide a feasibility study of conversion of the Montgomery Ward building to an Upcounty Career Center and Area 3 administrative offices for a fee not to exceed \$18,750; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent be authorized to utilize the Planning Future Projects Account as a source of funding so that the study will be available prior to final approval of the FY 1985 CIP.

Resolution No. 981-83 Re: Award of Procurement Contracts

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mr. Ewing, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of equipment, supplies, and contractual services; now therefore be it Resolved, That having been duly advertised, the contracts be awarded to the low bidders meeting specifications as shown for the following bids:

36-84 School Buses

Resolution No. 982-83 Re: Monthly Personnel Report

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted

### unanimously:

Resolved, That the following appointments, resignations, and leaves of absence for professional and supporting services personnel be approved: (TO BE APPENDED TO THESE MINUTES).

Resolution No. 983-83 Re: Extension of Sick Leave

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The employees listed below have suffered serious illness; and

WHEREAS, Due to the prolonged illness, the employees' accumulated sick leave has expired; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education grant an extension of sick leave with three-fourths pay covering the number of days indicated:

Name Position and Location No. of Days

Bradbury, Violet Bus

Operator 30

Area III

Hovermale, Herbert Auto Service Worker 15

Division of Transportation

Maio, Francis J. Bus

Operator 30

Area II

Resolution No. 984-83 Re: Death of Mrs. Nina B. Harlow,

Administrative Secretary in the Office of the Superintendent of

Schools

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The death on November 17, 1983, of Mrs. Nina B. Harlow, administrative secretary in the Office of the Superintendent of Schools has deeply saddened the staff and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, In the more than fourteen years that Mrs. Harlow had been a member of the staff of the Montgomery County Public Schools, she had made valuable contributions to the school system in the Department of Records, Reports and Training and in the Superintendent's Office; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Harlow's ability to perform her duties with graciousness, tact, and quiet competence will be missed by the superintendent of schools, her co-workers, and the members of the Board of Education; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools and members of the Board of Education express their sincere sorrow at the death of Mrs. Nina B. Harlow and extend deepest sympathy to her family; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be made part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy be forwarded to Mrs. Harlow's family.

Resolution No. 985-83 Re: Death of Mr. Herbert C. Hovermale,
Automotive Service Worker in the
Department of Transportation

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The death on December 3, 1983, of Mr. Herbert C. Hovermale, an automotive service worker in the Department of Transportation has deeply saddened the staff and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, In the more than two years that Mr. Hovermale had worked for Montgomery County Public Schools he had demonstrated competence as an automotive service worker; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hovermale's eagerness to learn the automotive mechanic trade, his pleasant personality and good relationships with his fellow workers made him a valuable employee; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education express their sorrow at the death of Mr. Herbert C. Hovermale and extend deepest sympathy to his family; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be made part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy be forwarded to the family of the deceased.

Resolution No. 986-83 Re: Death of Mr. Garland C.

Offenbacker, Construction
Inspector in the Division of
Construction and Capital Projects

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The death on December 3, 1983, of Mr. Garland C. Offenbacker, a construction inspector in the Division of Construction and Capital Projects, has deeply saddened the staff and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Offenbacker had been a loyal employee of Montgomery County Public Schools for over nineteen years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Offenbacker's initiative in accomplishing a task and his comprehensive knowledge of construction made him an asset to

Montgomery County Public Schools; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education express their sorrow at the death of Mr. Garland C. Offenbacker and extend deepest sympathy to his family; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be made part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy be forwarded to the family of the deceased.

Resolution No. 987-83 Re: Death of Mrs. Sadie W. Yette,
Media Specialist at Rolling
Terrace Elementary School

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The sudden death on December 12, 1983 of Mrs. Sadie W. Yette, media specialist at Rolling Terrace Elementary School, has deeply saddened the staff and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Yette had earned the respect of colleagues and students during her more than eight years of service in Montgomery County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Yette's warm personality, cooperative attitude, and outstanding professional skills made her an asset to Montgomery County Public Schools; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education express their sorrow at the death of Mrs. Sadie W. Yette and extend deepest sympathy to her family; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be made part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy be forwarded to Mrs. Yette's family.

Re: Death of Dr. Eugene Moran

Mrs. Praisner expressed the Board's sorrow at the death of Dr. Eugene (Pat) Moran. She noted that prior to his retirement, Dr. Moran had given over 31 years of his life to working for students in Montgomery County. She extended sympathy to his family and friends.

Resolution No. 988-83 Re: Executive Session - January 10, 1984

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Peyser seconded by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Montgomery County is authorized by Article 76A, Section 11(a) of the Annotated Code of Maryland to conduct certain of its meetings in executive closed session; now

### therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County hereby conduct its meeting in executive closed session beginning on January 10, 1984, at 9 a.m. to discuss, consider, deliberate, and/or otherwise decide the employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, compensation, discipline, removal, or resignation of employees, appointees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction, or any other personnel matter affecting one or more particular individuals and to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory or judicially imposed requirement protecting particular proceedings or matters from public disclosure as permitted under Article 76A, Section 11(a) and that such meeting shall continue in executive closed session until the completion of business; and be it further Resolved, That such meeting continue in executive closed session at noon to discuss the matters listed above as permitted under Article 76A, Section 11(a) and that such meeting shall continue in executive closed session until the completion of business.

Resolution No. 989-83 Re: Minutes of October 5, 1983

On motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mr. Ewing, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the minutes of October 5, 1983, be approved.

Dr. Shoenberg assumed the chair.

Resolution No. 990-83 Re: Minutes of October 10, 1983

On motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the minutes of October 10, 1983, be approved.

Mrs. Praisner assumed the chair.

Resolution No. 991-83 Re: Minutes of November 2, 1983

On motion of Mrs. Shannon seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the minutes of November 2, 1983, be approved.

Resolution No. 992-83 Re: Minutes of November 14, 1983

On motion of Dr. Shoenberg seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the minutes of November 14, 1983, be approved.

Resolution No. 993-83 Re: Minutes of November 17, 1983

On motion of Mr. Robertson seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following

resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the minutes of November 17, 1983, be approved.

Re: Student Performance

The Parkland Junior High School Jazz Ensemble performed for the members of the Board of Education.

Re: Measures of Board/Montgomery
County Public Schools Priorities

Dr. Cody explained that this item was on the agenda to provide the Board a report about the various measures to determine progress on and success of the various priorities that had been adopted. He said the Board had been provided with some information on the process and their attention to the indicators and measures. He indicated that staff had chosen the second priority to proceed with as quickly as possible and were further along with these measures. They were now working on the other priorities. He suggested that the Board focus on the types of measures they were thinking about because the keystone to the whole effort was the answer to the question of how they knew when they got there. He said there needed to be some agreement by staff and Board as to what the measures

In regard to the second priority, Dr. Cody stated that in math they had identified the Maryland Functional Mathematics Test, enrollment in Grade 9 higher level math courses, the California Achievement Test, and the achievement of ISM objects. In reading they had identified the Maryland Functional Reading Test, the CAT, and MCPS criterion-referenced tests. In English/language arts, they were looking at the CAT and the Maryland Functional Writing Tests. For participation, they would look at percentages of students enrolled in gifted and talented programs, and for extracurricular activities, they would look at nonathletic activities.

Dr. Cody reported that on Priority 1A they would determine measures by April 1. These would include the CAT, the Maryland Functional Tests, and MCPS tests. They were also looking at college boards and overall enrollment in higher level courses. They hoped by April to have a proposal as specific as the one on minority achievement. They planned to have measures for science, technology and computer literacy by May 1. He felt that the key was the computer policy the Board was being asked to adopt. He indicated that assessing student knowledge in computer literacy was very new in the country; however, he was sure there were available measures to use.

In regard to higher order intellectual skills and increasing ability in independent learning, their basic intent at this point in time was to have staff work done to assess what was in the curriculum at present to address those areas. Dr. Cody thought that in the spring there would be involvement of staff, citizens and university

personnel to give shape and form to certain objectives and to provide a definition and direction to the ideas of improving independent learning. They were at a stage in the process where they needed to spend time on defining what they wanted to accomplish. This spring they would be doing planning for Priority 3. There was staff work going on in the area of rewarding excellence and in improving evaluation systems.

In regard to the development of instruments to measure school effectiveness, he thought that this was the device they could use to tie the whole thing together, or at least a major portion of it. He remarked that as they proceeded with these, it would be increasingly successful if they could move forward with an overall comprehensive perspective throughout the school system so that the priorities were not seen as separate, isolated projects. He said that the Board would be receiving a copy of the committee report on school effectiveness. The report describes two procedural models for assessing school effectiveness. In that report were different indicators for the two models, one internal and one external. He listed the indicators in the committee report.

Dr. Cody said that in minority achievement they were at the point of identifying the measures, and in academic achievement they were at the beginning stage of reviewing what they had. As to intellectual development, science, technology, and computer literacy, student ability as an independent learner, responsible citizenship, and effective group cooperation, they were at the stage of trying to define what they wanted to accomplish in these areas. They were trying to define Montgomery County's definition of educational excellence. This was complicated and needed to be taken a piece at a time. He said the focal point was on the effectiveness criteria for achieving their priorities.

Dr. Lois Martin, associate superintendent, reported that the priorities were discussed several times with the Administrative Team. One concern that was expressed was that all priorities should be dealt with as related to each other. She said they saw the first two priorities as being first for Montgomery County in setting priorities relating to student outcome. The others were overarching and did not stand alone. They saw these as meriting very careful planning and continued attention.

Mrs. Shannon commented that most of what she saw so far had involved a process and what she had found missing in all of this was the individual student in the classroom. They were talking about system averages and class averages, and she wanted to know about the focus on the student. To her, it would be for every child in Montgomery County to be at or above grade level in the next five years. Dr. Cody replied that the targets in minority achievement were system-wide targets. These targets needed to be referred to and drawn upon by local schools to get their own objectives in terms of student outcome. Dr. Robert Shekletski, area associate superintendent, added that in some of the preliminary analyses the school had a profile on each of the students and would use the data

as they formulate plans. Mrs. Shannon did not want to see them involved in averages because there were a number of minority students who did very well in the system, and she did not want to see those who did not do well get lost in an average. In regard to three NCE points, Mrs. Shannon noted that previously

Dr. Frankel had thought this was extremely ambitious. However, in his paper it stated that where the jump had occurred, minority students were not performing as high as students currently enrolled in MCPS. She asked whether he thought it was both a realistic and achievable goal. Dr. Cody replied that Dr. Frankel's point of view was well known. He said that some of the school systems did have NCE gains of over three. Last time the Board had inquired about other school systems having a gain of this magnitude, and the data they received did indicate that some had had gains of this magnitude. However, he would not want to urge the Board to use what other school systems had done as a quide to determining what MCPS could achieve. In recent weeks they had had a dialogue going on among senior staff members about what they thought could be done. He thought on the basis of that and other experiences that three NCE points could be achieved or set as a goal and could be achieved in a lot of places. He thought that a lot of schools would achieve three NCEs. However, he was not sure it made a lot of difference because he was encouraged with what was going on in the schools right now.

Mrs. Shannon said that she would accept Dr. Cody's explanation that this was a goal to be achieved in some places. She said the paper stated that NCE's should be used to evaluate individualized performance with caution. Dr. Steve Frankel, director of the Department of Educational Accountability, explained that they were using standardized tests and the tests were brief. Therefore, for individual students the results were much more unreliable. He urged when they looked at individual schools they would take a poor score as an indica- tion that they would have to look at that student more closely. He explained that grade level was defined as the fiftieth NCE; therefore, the Board could say that it wanted all children above the fiftieth NCE. He said that if they put just the grade level on they would be shortchanging half of their minority children who were already there. He thought that the problem was not three NCEs for one year, it was sustaining that level of growth for five years.

In regard to higher order intellectual skills and the fourth priority, Dr. Shoenberg said that when they got to looking at measures of those it seemed to him at some point they were going to have to look at the tasks students were given to do. He was talking about tests and assignments. He explained that to improve in these areas involved asking students to do different things in the large.

Mrs. Peyser said she had some concern about measures to determine the progress students were making. She noted they were using the Maryland Functional Tests which measured minimal competencies. She said that passing these tests did not assure students would pass the courses they were in. After seeing some of the samples in the writing test, she did not know how so many students were receiving passing grades in English if this was the kind of writing they did.

Dr. Martin explained that in one way this was addressed in Target 10, but in another sense they would be looking at it in Priority 1. They would be looking at grades and enrollment in an appropriate academic program. Dr. Cody added they should not assume a definition of excellence would be fully covered by a set of standardized measures.

Mr. Ewing observed that it was important for them to focus on the kind of measures listed because they were measures that students had to perform on for graduation. He did think it was important for them also to attempt to recognize that what they had here were not the ultimate kinds of data which would help them to conclude how well they were doing. They had a set of limited indicators which by themselves gave them some data from which they could draw conclusions. They needed interpretation and to be bounced off a whole range of other measures. He hoped that as they began to build evaluation mechanisms they did so in a way which showed them what the indicators were and what some of the nonquantitative ways of looking at performance. They should begin to offer some analyses of these and ask questions about differences. He said they had focused on minority achievement because they had noticed a difference in minority student performance and had asked why this was so. He would not want them to produce a report that

was all statistics and no interpretation. He asked whether they were going to put together a composite analysis with some things that were not quantitative.

Dr. Cronin stated that there was a polarity he saw existing in their system. That was a critical polarity between teacher and student. He had a series of concerns and thought they should talk about the delivery system which got them to the measures. For example, a student existed in a microcosm and a macrocosm. The microcosm was the classroom and the relationship between teacher and student. The macrocosm was the larger world outside of school. He would urge MCPS to link the school system to the social service agencies in the county government. He thought it was time they started a communication network which established that what social services did was critical to the student in the classroom, and what they did in the classroom leavened society and made the work of social services easier. He asked the system to look at how students were measured. They were measured by K-8 and 9-12 on different standards. In going from eighth grade to ninth grade they changed the ground rules for students. He suggested they had to be more demanding of a content level in their K-8 process and alert the upper school system that students may be coming through with weaknesses. This would give them a far better coordination with K-6, 7-8, and 9-12. He felt that the anomaly of 7-8 had to be addressed because they were neither K-6 nor high school students. He questioned whether they were preparing these students for the ninth grade exams. He noted that they had two workshops and inserted

between the two was a workshop with teachers. He found results of Workshops I and II, but he did not know what the teachers said about viable teaching techniques. Therefore, he still found the professionals in the classroom not a part of this.

Mrs. Praisner requested information on feedback indicators and evaluating and monitoring what was going on from area to area. Dr. Lee Etta Powell, area associate superintendent, explained that the people in the work conferences agreed that to use the state competency tests was only one piece. Throughout their deliberations there was the concern that these were only minimums. They had a preference for using criterion-reference tests which would measure the student's performance on the attainment of the objectives of the course. In terms of students and teachers in the classroom, she explained that this was part of the implementation that was a little bit further down the road. In system-wide planning they had to get to the individual school level to assess the needs of an individual school. This was being done now in the school self-assessment process. Teachers were discovering as they did the self-study they were identifying their needs for training. In the areas they had determined that the first two priorities were so closely related it was almost impossible to separate them. As far as process, in the work conferences a plan was designed for the system to use in addressing the Board priorities. The plan was being used across the three areas to assure consistency.

Mrs. Praisner assumed that at different points there would be sharing so there would continue to be consistency across the areas. Dr. Cody added the general plan and scheme were the same. Some particular events would be scheduled at different times by the various offices.

Mr. Robertson stated that Mrs. Peyser's concern about students passing the state test and not passing ninth grade English was a concern of his also. He was concerned about the process to achieve that product. They had to create well educated students and not just remediated students who could pass a number of functional tests. He would hope that their approach would be one of education.

Mrs. Shannon suggested that a Target 12 be added which went to actual student achievement going beyond the statistics and averages. Dr. Cody thought it was important for the schools for a document to be out there; however, at some point they had to see this as a whole. They should work on it but should be prepared down the track to look at ways of rephrasing things. Mrs. Shannon asked for language dealing with the student, and Dr. Cody agreed to take that and work it in. Dr. Martin asked that wording be provided so that the document could be distributed to the schools as soon as possible. Mrs. Shannon said she would like to know that every student in Montgomery County was performing at least at grade level. Dr. Martin replied that this was a concept related to standardized testing that would create lots of problems because standardized tests were designed to distribute students all over.

She explained that the plan could not be adopted by schools because schools had to look at their own data and regard these as countywide targets. She said that after the institutional targets were set, the process was for every faculty to work together with its own community and make their own plans. Dr. Frankel explained that the norm reference test was not curved and every student could go above what was the mean five years ago. Dr. Cody suggested that one way was to display the percentage of students falling in national percentile ranking groupings. The objective would be to move the numbers up in each distribution.

Dr. Pitt heard the concern about areas working together. With a large system, it was difficult to get very far with a lock step approach. They had to give opportunity for creativity among areas and various schools. However, they had established a meeting with top staff which would occur every two weeks or so to review concerns. Dr. Cronin indicated he would like to avoid the grand pyramid with the Board trusting people to communicate to the next level and the next level. However, by the time it got to the teachers, public, and students, the story had been retold so many times no one knew what the objectives were originally. He asked staff whether it was clear to teachers how objectives might be clustered so that a single activity could satisfy a number of objectives. This might streamline the process so teachers would not see it as an add-on. He would not like to have this seen as a punishment to teachers. He would like this to be seen as a way a community of interest could be built with staff, teachers, students, community, and area office personnel participating. He pointed out that within the next three months top staff would be heavily involved in budget and there might not be time every two weeks to talk. He asked whether it would be possible to select a blue ribbon panel of administrators and teachers to be the lead force. Dr. Martin replied that there was a steering group of six plus three from MCAASP and MCEA. In regard to clustering objectives, she said it would depend on how skilled teachers were.

Dr. Powell stated that they had done in-service training on clustering objectives and the training had been effective. However, she felt they needed continuing training. They were on their way, but they did have a way to go.

Dr. Cody asked whether the chairmen of the steering group had the power to put this through. Dr. Martin explained that they did not because in a school system they had to work with the people who have the authority. She was liaison to the superintendent for that group, and their work was discussed with the implementation team. Dr. Cronin thought they should have a considerable amount of authority to proceed independently. Mrs. Praisner was not sure everyone would agree with Dr. Cronin.

Dr. Greenblatt thought that the staff work had been excellent. She said they should do this in an orderly fashion; however, she was concerned that they were being overly ambitious. Therefore, many schools might feel they were failing. She thought the goals should

be more realistic and reward those going beyond. With regard to Mrs. Shannon's concern about individual students, she would suggest they try to make sure they were setting a goal that the students individually would achieve one year academically according to the measures they currently have. The test would show one year improvement or the grade level improvement. However, what they were asking on the other targets was beyond that. They were saying that students at the third grade level were going to have to do two years growth in one year. She noted that a lot of students who were not minority were not achieving well. These were low-income white students, and there were some schools they could target that had the She hoped they would not be ignoring these students. same problem. She reminded them that they had a K-8 policy which talked about ending social promotion. She said they must be on grade level before moving to the high school because otherwise they were asking for problems. She hoped that as a school system they were going to protest to the state Board of Education that the method of grading the writing test was atrocious and did not meet MCPS standards. thought that the samples of those passing were terrible.

Mr. Ewing said on goals it was important for them to set goals that were ambitious. He thought it would cause pressure, but it was desirable pressure. He said that the crisis was the failure of minority students to achieve in the way they should. The Board and staff were addressing that. He was not con- vinced that three NCEs in itself was the right objective, but the goals had to be ambitious ones. With respect to the whole effort, he thought it was so important he would not want the superintendent to be out of it. He wanted the superintendent to be involved in it, directing it, and accountable for it. Dr. Cody commented that they would revisit this topic before too long.

Re: Executive Session

Mrs. Praisner announced that the Board had been meeting in executive session on appeals and personnel matters from 12:40 to 2 p.m.

Re: Maryland Association of Boards of Education Dues

Mrs. Praisner welcomed Mrs. Rita Gordon, president; Mrs. Maureen Steinecke, executive director; and Mr. Glennon DeRoy, treasurer of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education. She explained that Mrs. Peyser had made a motion that the Board discuss the increase in MABE dues and the services provided by MABE.

Mr. DeRoy reported on the history of the dues structure of MABE. Mrs. Peyser thought that doubling the dues was unfortunate and indicated that she would support an increase in line with inflation. Dr. Shoenberg questioned why the fee was based on numbers of students and asked how it related to services provided.

Mrs. Gordon replied that one of the prime values of MABE membership was access to membership in the National School Boards Association

and the lobbying that organization did in Washington. On the state level MABE provided liaison with a number of associations and was a statewide voice in informing and educating its membership. They also recommended Board members to serve on state task forces and represented all of the Boards in the General Assembly. In addition, MABE collected and provided policies from across the state. They also recommended Board members to serve on NSBA clinics and seminars. They tried to speak with one voice to represent education in the state. Mrs. Gordon realized that the 1984 dues represented a substantial increase, but they felt the organization should be self supporting. Mrs. Steinecke explained that the funding committee had decided that student enrollment should be a component in the dues structure.

Dr. Cronin noted that Montgomery County was providing 25 percent of the increase in the operating budget of MABE. Mrs. Steinecke replied that other Boards were providing a proportional amount. Mr. Ewing commented that undeniably an organization like MABE had some major benefits; however, they had to make a judgment about whether they could represent their own interests as well by using an amount of money. They had to consider the extent to which the organization was representing the interests of Montgomery County. Mrs. Steinecke commented that no statewide organization could serve the interest of one of its components exclusively. The organization needed to reach consensus and serve the interests expressed by its membership.

Dr. Shoenberg did not think the basis for dues had been well chosen. He hoped that the organization would be willing to rethink some of the ways it did business and reorganize the dues structure. Dr. Greenblatt reported that she had been surprised when the new MABE dues structure had been proposed; how- ever, she did not think they should take the step of removing themselves from the state organization because it was important for the view of Boards across the state to be expressed. She hoped that next year they would look at the dues structure and concerns raised. Mrs. Praisner hoped that over the next year they could look at the services provided by the association and do some cost evaluation. She pointed out that the National Federation of Urban/Suburban School Districts provided many of these services.

Re: A Motion by Mrs. Peyser on Maryland Association Dues (FAILED)

A motion by Mrs. Peyser that Montgomery County not continue to be a member of MABE this year unless the dues increase was held to the level of inflation failed with Mr. Ewing and Mrs. Peyser voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the negative (Mr. Robertson being temporarily absent).

Re: Board/Press/Visitor Conference

The following individuals appeared before the Board:

- 1. Nancy Dacek, MCCPTA
- 2. Linda Williams, Oak View PTA
- 3. Joseph Simpson

Re: Policy on the Instructional Use of Computers

Mrs. Shannon moved and Dr. Cronin seconded the following: Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County adopt the following policy on the Instructional Uses of Computers: Policy

### A. Purpose

- 1. To ensure that students become computer literate by: Becoming familiar with computers, computer usage, and common computer terminology Becoming familiar with and learning to use programming language Becoming familiar with and learning to use computer application programs in diverse academic and creative subject areas Understanding the social, ethical, and technological impact and implications of computers
- 2. To enable students to become competent in using the computer as a tool for school and lifetime learning through:
   Computer-aided instruction such as drill and practice, tutorial, and simulation programs
   Understanding and application of data retrieval, manipulation, and organization
   Problem solving in the context of problem definition, analysis, and programming
   Understanding and application of computer-related information skills such as keyboarding, composing, and text editing
- 3. To ensure that students have an opportunity to explore and prepare for careers requiring computer literacy and/or competency
- 4. To ensure that the instruction and opportunities to use computers are provided in an equitable manner for all students
- 5. To ensure that instructional staff has the necessary knowledge and skills to teach with and about computers

### B. Process

The superintendent will develop and implement instructional programs incorporating computer use which will include the following provisions:

1. Curriculum

The following curricula will be developed and implemented: K-8 computer literacy
Computer literacy and computer science courses, 9-12
Vocational computing courses, 9-12
Materials and methods for using computers in all appropriate subject areas as an aid to learning, K-12
Computer-based activities appropriate for special needs students

2. Student Competency

Students should demonstrate specific competencies in the

programs and courses developed in accord with this policy.

3. Staff Competency

Staff competency consistent with the responsibilities of each position will be required. In addition, selection of staff to teach the elective computer literacy/computer science courses will be based on demonstrated knowledge of and skill in using and teaching about and with computers.

4. Staff Training

Training will be made available so that staff can implement the curriculum and incorporate computer use in all appropriate subject areas.

5. Instructional Materials

Software for approved computer equipment and other instructional materials related to computers will be evaluated and selected or developed to support the Program of Studies. All materials will be evaluated and selected in accordance with the Board of Education policy as set forth in Evaluation and Selection of Instructional Materials and Equipment. Approved materials will be provided to support the instructional use of computers and will be used in accordance with copyright laws.

6. Hardware

The evaluation and selection of cost-effective computers and peripherals will be based on the requirements of the curriculum. Approved equipment will be provided and maintained.

7. Extended Use of Computers

Staff will explore means of making computers, or computer time, available to students and staff outside the classroom and beyond the school day.

8. Community Involvement

The school system will work in cooperation with community representatives from business, government, higher education, PTSA's, and other groups in planning and implementing the use of computers in instruction.

### C. Feedback Indicators

The superintendent will ensure that:

- 1. Annual operating and capital budget requests support continuous progress toward the goals of the policy to result in full implementation in five years.
- The computer literacy, computer science, and vocational computer curricula will be described in MCPS Program of Studies.
- 3. Measures of student and staff computer skills and knowledge will be developed and the results reported.
- 4. Progress in training instructional staff and in providing curricular support will be reported regularly.
- 5. The follow-up survey of MCPS graduates will collect and report data on the usefulness of computer competencies acquired in Montgomery County Public Schools.

Re: A Motion by Dr. Shoenberg to Amend the Proposed Computer Policy (FAILED)

A motion by Dr. Shoenberg to amend the proposed policy on the instructional use of computers by substituting "appropriate" for "equitable" in A. 4 failed with Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Mrs. Praisner, and Mrs. Shannon voting in the negative; Mr. Ewing being temporarily absent (Mr. Robertson voting in the negative).

Resolution No. 994-83 Re: An Amendment to the Policy on Instructional Use of Computers

On motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the policy on instructional use of computers be amended by adding a feedback indicator after the third indicator to read:

4. Measures are developed and implemented for assessing the contribution to student learning and achievements of the MCPS investment in its computer literacy and computer science programs.

Resolution No. 995-83 Re: Policy on Instructional Use of Computers

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Shannon seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County adopt the following policy on the Instructional Uses of Computers: Policy

### A. Purpose

- To ensure that students become computer literate by: Becoming familiar with computers, computer usage, and common computer terminology Becoming familiar with and learning to use programming language Becoming familiar with and learning to use computer application programs in diverse academic and creative subject areas Understanding the social, ethical, and technological impact and implications of computers
- 2. To enable students to become competent in using the computer as a tool for school and lifetime learning through:
   Computer-aided instruction such as drill and practice,
   tutorial, and simulation programs
   Understanding and application of data retrieval,
   manipulation, and organization
   Problem solving in the context of problem definition,
   analysis, and programming
   Understanding and application of computer-related

information skills such as keyboarding, composing, and text editing

- 3. To ensure that students have an opportunity to explore and prepare for careers requiring computer literacy and/or competency
- 4. To ensure that the instruction and opportunities to use computers are provided in an equitable manner for all students
- 5. To ensure that instructional staff has the necessary knowledge

and skills to teach with and about computers

#### B. Process

The superintendent will develop and implement instructional programs incorporating computer use which will include the following provisions:

### 1. Curriculum

The following curricula will be developed and implemented: K-8 computer literacy
Computer literacy and computer science courses, 9-12
Vocational computing courses, 9-12
Materials and methods for using computers in all appropriate subject areas as an aid to learning, K-12
Computer-based activities appropriate for special needs students

## 2. Student Competency

Students should demonstrate specific competencies in the programs and courses developed in accord with this policy.

### 3. Staff Competency

Staff competency consistent with the responsibilities of each position will be required. In addition, selection of staff to teach the elective computer literacy/computer science courses will be based on demonstrated knowledge of and skill in using and teaching about and with computers.

## 4. Staff Training

Training will be made available so that staff can implement the curriculum and incorporate computer use in all appropriate subject areas.

### 5. Instructional Materials

Software for approved computer equipment and other instructional materials related to computers will be evaluated and selected or developed to support the Program of Studies. All materials will be evaluated and selected in accordance with the Board of Education policy as set forth in Evaluation and Selection of Instructional Materials and Equipment. Approved materials will be provided to support the instructional use of computers and will be used in accordance with copyright laws.

### 6. Hardware

The evaluation and selection of cost-effective computers and peripherals will be based on the requirements of the curriculum. Approved equipment will be provided and maintained.

# 7. Extended Use of Computers

Staff will explore means of making computers, or computer time, available to students and staff outside the classroom and beyond the school day.

## 8. Community Involvement

The school system will work in cooperation with community

representatives from business, government, higher education, PTSA's, and other groups in planning and implementing the use of computers in instruction.

## C. Feedback Indicators

The superintendent will ensure that:

- Annual operating and capital budget requests support continuous progress toward the goals of the policy to result in full implementation in five years.
- The computer literacy, computer science, and vocational computer curricula will be described in MCPS Program of Studies.
- 3. Measures of student and staff computer skills and knowledge will be developed and the results reported.
- 4. Measures are developed and implemented for assessing the contribution to student learning and achievements of the MCPS investment in its computer literacy and computer science programs.
- 5. Progress in training instructional staff and in providing curricular support will be reported regularly.
- 6. The follow-up survey of MCPS graduates will collect and report data on the usefulness of computer competencies acquired in Montgomery County Public Schools.

Resolution No. 996-83 Re: Utilization of a Portion of the FY 1984
Appropriation for Supported Programs to
Conduct a Counseling Workshop

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Mrs. Peyser voting in the negative (Mr. Robertson voting in the affirmative):

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend, within the FY 1984 Appropriation of \$250,000 for Projected Supported Projects, a supplemental grant award of \$4,000 in Category 03, Instructional Other, from the Maryland State Department of Education under the Education Consolidation and Improvement Act, Chapter II to conduct a Family Systems Counseling Workshop; and be it further

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

Re: Middle Schools in the Blair and Einstein High School Attendance Area

Dr. Shoenberg moved and Mrs. Shannon seconded the following:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education directed that consideration be given to middle schools in the Blair and Einstein High School attendance areas in the 1983 Update of the 15-year Facilities Plan; and

WHEREAS, Data and analyses in the 1983 Update reveal that reorganizing to middle schools in these high school areas is possible; and

WHEREAS, The Middle School Policy requires that "community characteristics and readiness" be considered before establishing middle schools in a given area; now therefore be it

Resolved, That study and community involvement as required by the Middle School Policy be initiated to consider middle schools in the Blair and Einstein High School attendance areas; and be it further Resolved, That the County Council, county executive, and the Montgomery County Legislative Delegation be made aware of this action.

Resolution No. 997-83 Re: An Amendment to the Proposed Resolution on Middle Schools

On motion of Mrs. Peyser seconded by Dr. Greenblatt, the following resolution was adopted with Mr. Ewing, Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin and Mrs. Praisner voting in the negative (Mr. Robertson abstaining):

Resolved, That the proposed resolution on middle schools be amended to add the following Resolved clause:

Resolved, That a survey of all parents in all of the Blair and Einstein elementary schools be conducted as part of this study and that the survey letter to the parents include the pros and cons, well balanced, of middle schools as well as enrollment and utilization figures for each elementary school with sixth grade and without the sixth grade and that the statement that Board policy required that a school below 70 percent utilization be considered for closure be included in the information provided to parents as they vote in this survey.

Mr. Ewing suggested and the Board agreed to add "whether the Board should establish" after "consider" in the first Resolved clause.

Resolution No. 998-83 Re: Middle Schools in the Blair and Einstein High School Attendance Area

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Shoenberg seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Dr. Greenblatt and Mrs. Peyser voting in the negative (Mr. Robertson voting in the affirmative):

WHEREAS, The Board of Education directed that consideration be given to middle schools in the Blair and Einstein High School attendance areas in the 1983 Update of the 15-year Facilities Plan; and

WHEREAS, Data and analyses in the 1983 Update reveal that reorganizing to middle schools in these high school areas is possible; and

WHEREAS, The Middle School Policy requires that "community characteristics and readiness" be considered before establishing middle schools in a given area; now therefore be it

Resolved, That study and community involvement as required by the Middle School Policy be initiated to consider whether the Board should establish middle schools in the Blair and Einstein High School attendance areas; and be it further

Resolved, That a survey of all parents in all of the Blair and Einstein elementary schools be conducted as part of this study and that the survey letter to the parents include the pros and cons, well balanced, of middle schools as well as enrollment and utilization figures for each elementary school with sixth grade and without the sixth grade and that the statement that Board policy required that a school below 70 percent utilization be considered for closure be included in the information provided to parents as they vote in this survey; and be it further

Resolved, That the County Council, county executive, and the Montgomery County Legislative Delegation be made aware of this action.

Re: Board of Education Ethics Policy

Mr. Ewing moved and Dr. Cronin seconded the following:

WHEREAS, Chapter 257 of the 1983 Laws of Maryland provides that boards of education may adopt provisions to ensure the highest standards of ethical conduct by the board and by school employees; and

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Board of Education, recognizing that our system of representative government is dependent in part upon the people maintaining the highest trust in their public officials and employees, wishes to assure citizens that the impartiality and independent judgment of public officials and employees will be maintained; and

WHEREAS, It is evident that this confidence and trust is eroded when the conduct of public business is subject to improper influence, or the appearance of improper influence; now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education adopts this Ethics Policy to guard against improper influence by requiring Board members and certain school officials and employees to disclose their financial affairs and by setting minimum standards for the conduct of school system business; and be it further

Resolved, That it is the Board's intention that this policy be liberally construed to accomplish this purpose; and be it further

Resolved, That any existing Board policies or administrative regulations or portions thereof that are inconsistent with the provisions of this policy are hereby repealed; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this policy be sent to the State Ethics Commission, the Montgomery County Council, the County Executive, and to interested citizens.

### I. CONDITION

Chapter 257 of the 1983 Laws of Maryland, which became effective July 1, 1983, authorizes local boards of education to adopt appropriate provisions concerning conflicts of interest, financial disclosure and lobbying to help ensure the highest public confidence in the impartiality and independent judgment of Board members and school employees. These provisions, which generally must parallel similar requirements for state and local government officials, must be adopted by December 31, 1983, or the county Board and its employees automatically will be covered by the Montgomery County Ethics Law.

Conflict of interest provisions in the Education Article (.5-111) expire January 1, 1984. Faced with the opportunity to adopt its own stringent, but appropriate provisions concerning conflicts of interest, financial disclosure and lobbying, the Board of Education has adopted this policy.

### II. POLICY

- A. Definitions. Words in this policy have their normal accepted meanings except as set forth below:
- 1. "Business entity" means any corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, joint venture, unincorporated association or firm, institution, trust, foundation or other organization, whether or not operated for profit.
- 2. "Compensation" means any money or thing of value received or to be received by any person covered by this policy from an employer for services rendered.
- 3. "Doing business with" means having or negotiating a contract that involves the commitment, in a single or combination of transactions, of \$1,000 or more of school system funds during a calendar year.
- 4. "Employee" means any person employed by the Montgomery County Public Schools, except that full- and part-time teachers are exempt from financial disclosure provisions by Maryland law (Art. 40A, .6A-201(C)(2)(III).
- 5. "Employer" means any person paying or agreeing to pay compensation to another person for services rendered.
  - 6. "Financial interest" means:
- a) Ownership of any interest as the result of which the owner has received within the past 3 years, is receiving, or is entitled to receive in the future in excess of \$500 annually; or
- b) Ownership, or the ownership of securities of any kind representing or convertible into ownership, of more than 3 percent of a business entity.

- 7. "Gift" means the transfer of any service or thing of more than nominal value, regardless of form, without adequate and lawful consideration. "Gift" does not include the solicitation, acceptance, or receipt of political campaign contributions regulated under Maryland law. (See also exemptions in Section B.3.)
- 8. "Interest" means any legal or equitable economic interest, whether or not subject to an encumbrance or a condition, which was owned or held in whole or in part, jointly or severally, directly or indirectly, at any time during the calendar year. "Interest" does not include:
- a) An interest held in the capacity of a personal representative, agent, custodian, fiduciary or trustee, unless the holder has an equitable interest therein;
- b) An interest in a time or demand deposit in a financial institution;
- c) An interest in an insurance or endowment policy or annuity contract under which an insurance company promises to pay a fixed sum for life or some other specified period; or
- d) A common trust fund or a trust which forms part of a pension or profit-sharing plan which has more than 25 participants and which is qualified under the Internal Revenue Code.
  - 9. "Lobbying" means:
- a) Communicating in the presence of a school official or employee with the intent to influence any official action of that official or employee, where in excess of \$25 is spent for food, entertainment or other gift, or a series of gifts exceeding \$100 during the calendar year, in furtherance of this activity; or
- b) Engaging in activities having the expressed purpose of soliciting others to communicate with a school official or employee with the intent to influence that official or employee in the outcome of any official action, where \$300 or more is spent in furtherance of this activity during the calendar year.
- 10. "Official" or "school official" means each member of the Montgomery County Board of Education, the superintendent, and any other employee identified by the Board as a school official.
- 11. "Panel" means the Montgomery County Board of Education Ethics Panel.
  - 12. "Person" includes an individual or a business entity.
- 13. "Subject to the authority of" refers to business entities regulated by the Board of Education or subject to significant control or impact by policies of the school system relating to the operations of the entity.
- B. Conflicts of interest.
- 1. Board of Education members, school officials and employees may not participate in a recommendation or decision on behalf of the school system in any matter which would, to their knowledge, have a direct financial impact on them, their spouse or dependent child, as distinguished from the public generally, including matters where the official or employee:
- a) Holds or acquires a financial interest in a business entity subject to the authority of the school system or one that has or is negotiating a contract of \$1,000 or more with the school

system;

- b) Is employed by a business entity subject to the authority of the school system or one that has or is negotiating a contract of \$1,000 or more with the school system;
- c) Holds any outside employment relationship that would impair their impartiality or independence of judgment;
- d) Represents any party for a contingent fee before the school system;
- e) Acts as a compensated representative of another, within 1 year following termination of school system service, in connection with any specific matter in which he participated substantially as a school official or employee;
- f) Solicits or accepts any gift of greater than \$25 in value, or a series of gifts exceeding \$100 in value in a calendar year, from

series of gifts exceeding \$100 in value in a calendar year, from any person

subject to the authority of the school system or who has or is negotiating a contract with the school system, except where such gifts would not present a conflict of interest as determined by the Ethics Panel;

- g) Uses the prestige of their office for their own economic benefit or that of another. The performance of usual and customary constituent services without additional compensation does not constitute the use of prestige of office.
- h) Discloses or uses confidential information acquired in their official school system position for their own economic benefit or that of another person.
- 2. If a disqualification under this section leaves the Board of Education with less than a quorum capable of acting, or if the disqualified official is required by law to act or is the only person authorized to act, the disqualified person shall disclose the nature and circumstances of the conflict in writing to the Board of Education and may then participate or act.
- 3. Unless a gift of any of the following would tend to impair the impartiality and the independence of judgment of the school official or employee receiving it, or would give the appearance of doing so, or the recipient has reason to believe that it is designed to do so, this section does not apply to:
  - a) Meals and beverages;
- b) Ceremonial gifts or awards of insignificant monetary value;
- c) Unsolicited gifts of nominal value or trivial items of informational or advertising value only;
- d) Reasonable expenses for food, travel, lodging and scheduled entertainment given in return for participating on a panel or for speaking at a meeting;
- e) Tickets or free admission to attend an interscholastic or intercollegiate sporting event or charitable, cultural or political event, if the gift is a courtesy extended to the office. C. Financial disclosure.
- 1. The following persons shall file public financial disclosure statements as provided in this section:
  - a) Board of Education members;
  - b) Candidates for election to the Board of Education;

- c) Superintendent of schools, deputy superintendent, executive assistant to the superintendent, and all associate superintendents.
- 2. Any school official or employee who has responsibility for preparing, approving or auditing, or who has the authority to commit the school system to rent, purchase or lease, any of the following items with an aggregate value of \$100,000 in any fiscal year, shall file a confidential financial disclosure statement as provided in this section:
  - a) Personal service contracts;
  - b) Specifications for materials, supplies or equipment; or
  - c) Requests for proposals or bids.
- 3. All persons specified in sections C.1 and 2 shall file an annual financial disclosure statement by April 30 for the preceding calendar year on a form approved by the Montgomery County Board of Education.
- a) Those officials specified in Section C.1.a and c shall file financial disclosure statements with the Montgomery County Board of Education Ethics Panel, and those statements shall be public, subject to restrictions stated below. The panel shall review the statements for completeness of form and for determination of any existing or potential conflict of interest. These statements shall be retained for a period of four years and then destroyed.
- b) Those persons specified in Section C.1.b shall file a financial disclosure statement for the preceding calendar year with the Board of Supervisors of Elections at the time they submit their certificate of candidacy, and these forms shall be public, subject to restrictions stated below. Upon a candidate's election to the Board of Education, the Board of Supervisors of Elections shall transmit the financial disclosure form to the Ethics Panel.
- c) Those officials or employees specified in Section C.2 shall file confidential financial disclosure statements with the superintendent of schools. The superintendent shall review the statements for completeness of form and for determination of any existing or potential conflict of interest. These statements shall be retained for a period of four years and then destroyed, and during that time shall not be released except to an authorized person investigating an alleged conflict of interest.
- 4. All statements filed by persons specified in Sections C.1. shall be made available during normal office hours for examination and copying by the public, subject to whatever reasonable fees and administrative procedures are established. Any person examining or copying such statements shall be required to record his name, home address, and the name of the person whose disclosure statement was examined or copied.
- 5. All statements filed pursuant to this section shall disclose, if known, the following interests:
- a) Interests in real property located in Montgomery County, including the nature of the property and its location by street or mailing address or legal description; the nature and extent of the interest held, including conditions or encumbrances; for interests acquired or transferred in the year for which the filing is made, the nature and amount of consideration or the fair market value of the interest at the time acquired or transferred;

and the identity of any other person with an interest in the property.

- b) Financial interest in a business entity with which the school system has been known to or is likely to do business, including: the name and address of its principal office; the nature and extent of the interest held either in terms of number of shares or percent of equity interest, including conditions or encumbrances; for interests acquired or transferred in the year for which the filing is made, the nature and amount of consideration or the fair market value of the interest at the time acquired or transferred and, if known, the person from or to whom the property was acquired or transferred; and the identify of any other person who may share the interest.
- c) Any gift in excess of \$25 in value, or a series of gifts in excess of \$100 from any person received during the calendar year, or by any other person at the direction of the person making the statement, from or on behalf of any person doing business with the school system, including the nature and value of the gift and the identity of the person from whom, or on behalf of whom, the gift was received.
- d) Employment by any entity doing business with the school system, including offices, directorships, or salaried employment held by the person making the statement or his spouse or dependent child during the calendar year, including the name and address of the principal office of the business entity; title and nature of the office, directorship, or salaried employment and its beginning date; the unit in the school system with which the entity has done or is doing business; and indicating the nature of "doing business" as specified in the Definitions section of this policy.
- e) Amounts in excess of \$250 owed by the person filing the statement, his spouse or dependent child during the calendar year, other than retail credit accounts, to persons doing business with the school system, including: the identity of the person owed and the date the liability was incurred; the amount owed at the end of the calendar year; the terms of payment and the extent to which the principal amount of the liability was increased or decreased during the year; and any security pledged for the liability.
- $\ensuremath{\mathtt{f}})$  Names of spouse or dependent children employed by the school system.
- g) Each source of earned income in excess of \$500 for the person filing the statement, and the name of each business entity of which the person, his spouse, or dependent child was a sole or partial owner and from which earned income was received during the calendar year.
- h) Any other interests or information the person making the statement may wish to disclose.
- 6. If any financial disclosure statement filed with the panel or with the superintendent of schools does not appear to comply with the provisions of this policy, the person filing the statement will be notified of any apparent omission or discrepancy, and the panel or superintendent, whichever is appropriate, shall pursue evidence of noncompliance with this policy.
- D. Lobbying Disclosure.

- 1. Any person who personally appears before the Board of Education, a school official or employee with the intent to influence that body or individual in the performance of official duties, and who, in connection with such intent expends or reasonably expects to expend in excess of \$25 on food, entertainment or other gift or series of gifts exceeding \$100 in any calendar year for any member of the Board or a school official, shall register with the Ethics Panel within 5 days after first making the appearance.
- 2. Any person who communicates with one or more members of the Board of Education or school employees, or who solicits others to communicate with a school official or employee with the intent to influence that official or employee in the outcome of any official action, and who incurs expenses of more than \$300 for this purpose in any calendar year, shall register with the Ethics Panel within 5 days after expending these funds or receiving this level of compensation.
- 3. The registration statement shall identify the name and address of the lobbyist and any person on whose behalf he acts, and the subject matter on which the registrant appeared before the Board or school official.
- 4. Registrants under this section shall file a report within 30 days after the end of any calendar year disclosing the value, date, and nature of any food, entertainment, or other gift provided to a Board member or school official. Where the value of a gift exceeds \$25, or a series of gifts exceeds \$100 in the calendar year, the registrant shall disclose the name of the Board member, school official or employee to whom it was made.
- 5. Registrations and reports filed pursuant to this section shall be maintained by the Ethics Panel as public records, available for inspection and copying subject to the conditions specified in section C.4 of this policy.
- 6. The provisions of this section do not apply to the following acts:
- a) Appearances before the Board of Education or any school official by specific invitation or request, if the person engages in no further or other activities in connection with the passage or defeat of Board policies related to the matter on which the appearance is made.
- b) Appearances before the Board of Education or any school official as part of the official duties of a duly elected or appointed official or employee of the Board of Education, the State, a political subdivision of the State, or of the United States, and not on behalf of any other entity.
- c) Actions of a publisher or working member of the news media in the ordinary course of disseminating news or making editorial comment to the general public, but who does not engage in further or other lobbying that would directly and specifically benefit the economic, business or professional interests of that person or that person's employer.
- d) Appearances before the Board of Education or any school official at the specific invitation or request of a registrant, provided no other act is undertaken for which reporting is required, and provided the witness identifies himself as testifying at the

request of another person.

- e) Representation of a bona fide religious organization solely for the purpose of protecting the right of its members to practice the doctrine of the organization.
- E. Exemptions or Modifications to the provisions of this policy may be permitted by the Ethics Panel if it determines that application of those provisions would:
  - 1. Constitute an unreasonable invasion of privacy;
- 2. Significantly reduce the availability of qualified persons for public service; and
- 3. Not be required to preserve the purposes of this policy.

  F. Ethics Panel. There is a Montgomery County Board of Education

  Ethics Panel which consists of three members appointed by the Board

  of Education. Terms of members shall be for three years, and

  established so that one member's term expires each year. Panel

  members shall not be incumbent members of the Board, school

  officials or employees, or persons employed by a business entity

  subject to the authority of the Board, or spouses of such persons.

  The panel may be assisted in carrying out the responsibilities

  specified in this policy by the Office of the Board of Education

  which, in consultation with the superintendent, shall see that

  needed legal, technical and clerical assistance is provided to the

  panel. The panel shall:
- 1. Interpret this policy and advise persons subject to it as to its application. The panel shall respond promptly to a request by any official, employee or other person subject to the provisions of this policy for an advisory opinion concerning its application. Copies of these interpretations, with the identity of any person deleted, shall be made public in accordance with applicable federal or Maryland laws regarding public records. The panel shall provide interpretations of this policy based on the facts provided or reasonably available to it, and if necessary:
- a) Refer to the "Model Board of Education Ethics Regulations A" as initially published in the Maryland Register, volume 10, issue 15, July 22, 1983, and subsequent changes as may be approved by the State Ethics Commission; or
- b) Ask the Montgomery County Board of Education for an addition or amendment to this policy, which shall be subject to subsequent approval by the State Ethics Commission.
- 2. Be responsible for hearing any complaint filed regarding an alleged violation of this policy by any person. Complaints shall be made in writing and under oath, and shall be referred to the ombudsman/staff assistant in the the Office of the Board of Education for investigation and review in consultation with the superintendent and legal counsel. From the time a complaint is filed until there is a final determination by the Board, all actions regarding the complaint shall be confidential. If, after receiving an investigative report, the panel determines that:
- a) There is no violation, or insufficient facts upon which to determine a violation, it shall dismiss the complaint.
- b) There is a reasonable basis for believing a violation has occurred, it shall give the subject of the complaint a hearing. A report of the hearing shall include findings of fact and conclusions of law. If it finds a violation, the panel shall report

its findings and recommendations for action to the superintendent and Board of Education.

- 3. Determine any exemptions or modifications to the provisions of this policy as provided for in Section E.
- 4. Approve financial disclosure and lobbying disclosure forms to implement this policy.
- 5. Receive, file, and provide public access to financial disclosure and lobbying forms which are filed with the panel.
- 6. Direct the implementation of an educational program to inform school employees and the public about the purposes and implementation of this policy.

#### G. Sanctions.

- 1. A finding that a Board member, school official or employee has violated these provisions shall constitute grounds for removal from office, discipline or other personnel action consistent with provisions of the Education Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, or the policies of the Montgomery County Board of Education.
- 2. Persons or organizations found in violation of the lobbying provisions of this policy shall be publicly identified and subject to other penalties as provided by law.

Resolution No. 999-83 Re: An Amendment to the Proposed Ethics Policy

On motion of Dr. Shoenberg seconded by Dr. Greenblatt, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, Mrs. Shannon and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing and Mrs. Praisner voting in the negative (Mr. Robertson abstaining):

Resolved, That Section II.C.5.g) be deleted.

Re: An Amendment to the Proposed Ethics Policy

Dr. Greenblatt moved the following seconded by Mrs. Peyser:

Resolved, That the words "in excess of \$25" be deleted from Section II.A.9.a), Section II.B.1.f) and Section II.C.5.c), leaving \$100 as the total dollar amount.

Mrs. Praisner asked that the question be divided.

Resolution No. 1000-83 Re: An Amendment to the Proposed Ethics Policy

On motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, Mrs. Shannon and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Mr. Ewing and Mrs. Praisner voting in the negative (Mr. Robertson abstaining):

Resolved, That the words "in excess of 25" be deleted from Sections II.A.9.a), II.B.1.f) and II.C.5.c).

Resolution No. 1001-83 Re: An Amendment to the Proposed Ethics Policy

On motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following

resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative (Mr. Robertson abstaining):

Resolved, That "\$75" be inserted in place of "\$100" in Sections II.A.9.a), II.B.1.f) and II.C.5.c).

Resolution No. 1002-83 Re: An Amendment to the Proposed Ethics Policy

On motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Dr. Greenblatt, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, Mrs. Shannon and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Mr. Ewing and Mrs. Praisner voting in the negative (Mr. Robertson abstaining): Resolved, That "\$500" be changed to "\$1,000" in Section II.A.6.a).

Re: A Motion by Dr. Greenblatt to Amend the Proposed Policy on Ethics (FAILED)

A motion by Dr. Greenblatt to amend the proposed policy on ethics by substituting \$50,000 for \$100,000 in C. Financial disclosure failed for lack of a second.

Resolution No. 1003-83 Re: Board of Education Ethics Policy

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously (Mr. Robertson abstaining):

WHEREAS, Chapter 257 of the 1983 Laws of Maryland provides that boards of education may adopt provisions to ensure the highest standards of ethical conduct by the board and by school employees; and

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Board of Education, recognizing that our system of representative government is dependent in part upon the people maintaining the highest trust in their public officials and employees, wishes to assure citizens that the impartiality and independent judgment of public officials and employees will be maintained; and

WHEREAS, It is evident that this confidence and trust is eroded when the conduct of public business is subject to improper influence, or the appearance of improper influence; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education adopts this Ethics Policy to guard against improper influence by requiring Board members and certain school officials and employees to disclose their financial affairs and by setting minimum standards for the conduct of school system business; and be it further

Resolved, That it is the Board's intention that this policy be liberally construed to accomplish this purpose; and be it further

Resolved, That any existing Board policies or administrative regulations or portions thereof that are inconsistent with the provisions of this policy are hereby repealed; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this policy be sent to the State Ethics Commission, the Montgomery County Council, the County Executive, and to interested citizens.

#### I. CONDITION

Chapter 257 of the 1983 Laws of Maryland, which became effective July 1, 1983, authorizes local boards of education to adopt appropriate provisions concerning conflicts of interest, financial disclosure and lobbying to help ensure the highest public confidence in the impartiality and independent judgment of Board members and school employees. These provisions, which generally must parallel similar requirements for state and local government officials, must be adopted by December 31, 1983, or the county Board and its employees automatically will be covered by the Montgomery County Ethics Law.

Conflict of interest provisions in the Education Article (.5-111) expire January 1, 1984. Faced with the opportunity to adopt its own stringent, but appropriate provisions concerning conflicts of interest, financial disclosure and lobbying, the Board of Education has adopted this policy.

### II. POLICY

- A. Definitions. Words in this policy have their normal accepted meanings except as set forth below:
- 1. "Business entity" means any corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, joint venture, unincorporated association or firm, institution, trust, foundation or other organization, whether or not operated for profit.
- 2. "Compensation" means any money or thing of value received or to be received by any person covered by this policy from an employer for services rendered.
- 3. "Doing business with" means having or negotiating a contract that involves the commitment, in a single or combination of transactions, of \$1,000 or more of school system funds during a calendar year.
- 4. "Employee" means any person employed by the Montgomery County Public Schools, except that full- and part-time teachers are exempt from financial disclosure provisions by Maryland law (Art. 40A, .6A-201(C)(2)(III).
- 5. "Employer" means any person paying or agreeing to pay compensation to another person for services rendered.
  - 6. "Financial interest" means:
- a) Ownership of any interest as the result of which the owner has received within the past 3 years, is receiving, or is entitled to receive in the future in excess of \$1000 annually; or
- b) Ownership, or the ownership of securities of any kind representing or convertible into ownership, of more than 3 percent of a business entity.
- 7. "Gift" means the transfer of any service or thing of more than nominal value, regardless of form, without adequate and lawful consideration. "Gift" does not include the solicitation, acceptance, or receipt of political campaign contributions regulated under Maryland law. (See also exemptions in Section B.3.)
- 8. "Interest" means any legal or equitable economic interest, whether or not subject to an encumbrance or a condition, which was owned or held in whole or in part, jointly or severally, directly or indirectly, at any time during the calendar year. "Interest" does not include:
  - a) An interest held in the capacity of a personal

representative, agent, custodian, fiduciary or trustee, unless the holder has an equitable interest therein;

- b) An interest in a time or demand deposit in a financial institution;
- c) An interest in an insurance or endowment policy or annuity contract under which an insurance company promises to pay a fixed sum for life or some other specified period; or
- d) A common trust fund or a trust which forms part of a pension or profit-sharing plan which has more than 25 participants and which is qualified under the Internal Revenue Code.

### 9. "Lobbying" means:

- a) Communicating in the presence of a school official or employee with the intent to influence any official action of that official or employee, where in excess of \$75 is spent during a calendar year for food, entertainment or other gift, or a series of gifts in furtherance of this activity; or
- b) Engaging in activities having the expressed purpose of soliciting others to communicate with a school official or employee with the intent to influence that official or employee in the outcome of any official action, where \$300 or more is spent in furtherance of this activity during the calendar year.
- 10. "Official" or "school official" means each member of the Montgomery County Board of Education, the superintendent, and any other employee identified by the Board as a school official.
- 11. "Panel" means the Montgomery County Board of Education Ethics Panel.
  - 12. "Person" includes an individual or a business entity.
- 13. "Subject to the authority of" refers to business entities regulated by the Board of Education or subject to significant control or impact by policies of the school system relating to the operations of the entity.

# B. Conflicts of interest.

- 1. Board of Education members, school officials and employees may not participate in a recommendation or decision on behalf of the school system in any matter which would, to their knowledge, have a direct financial impact on them, their spouse or dependent child, as distinguished from the public generally, including matters where the official or employee:
- a) Holds or acquires a financial interest in a business entity subject to the authority of the school system or one that has or is negotiating a contract of \$1,000 or more with the school system;
- b) Is employed by a business entity subject to the authority of the school system or one that has or is negotiating a contract of \$1,000 or more with the school system;
- c) Holds any outside employment relationship that would impair their impartiality or independence of judgment;
- d) Represents any party for a contingent fee before the  $school\ system;$
- e) Acts as a compensated representative of another, within 1 year following termination of school system service, in connection with any specific matter in which he participated substantially as a school official or employee;
  - f) Solicits or accepts any gift or series of gifts

exceeding \$75 in value in a calendar year, from any person subject to the authority of the school system or who has or is negotiating a contract with the school system, except where such gifts would not present a conflict of interest as determined by the Ethics Panel;

- g) Uses the prestige of their office for their own economic benefit or that of another. The performance of usual and customary constituent services without additional compensation does not constitute the use of prestige of office.
- h) Discloses or uses confidential information acquired in their official school system position for their own economic benefit or that of another person.
- 2. If a disqualification under this section leaves the Board of Education with less than a quorum capable of acting, or if the disqualified official is required by law to act or is the only person authorized to act, the disqualified person shall disclose the nature and circumstances of the conflict in writing to the Board of Education and may then participate or act.
- 3. Unless a gift of any of the following would tend to impair the impartiality and the independence of judgment of the school official or employee receiving it, or would give the appearance of doing so, or the recipient has reason to believe that it is designed to do so, this section does not apply to:
  - a) Meals and beverages;
- b) Ceremonial gifts or awards of insignificant monetary value;
- c) Unsolicited gifts of nominal value or trivial items of informational or advertising value only;
- d) Reasonable expenses for food, travel, lodging and scheduled entertainment given in return for participating on a panel or for speaking at a meeting;
- e) Tickets or free admission to attend an interscholastic or intercollegiate sporting event or charitable, cultural or political event, if the gift is a courtesy extended to the office. C. Financial disclosure.
- 1. The following persons shall file public financial disclosure statements as provided in this section:
  - a) Board of Education members;
  - b) Candidates for election to the Board of Education;
- $\,$  c) Superintendent of schools, deputy superintendent, executive assistant to the superintendent, and all associate superintendents.
- 2. Any school official or employee who has responsibility for preparing, approving or auditing, or who has the authority to commit the school system to rent, purchase or lease, any of the following items with an aggregate value of \$100,000 in any fiscal year, shall file a confidential financial disclosure statement as provided in this section:
  - a) Personal service contracts;
  - b) Specifications for materials, supplies or equipment; or
  - c) Requests for proposals or bids.
- 3. All persons specified in sections C.1 and 2 shall file an annual financial disclosure statement by April 30 for the preceding calendar year on a form approved by the Montgomery County Board of Education.

- a) Those officials specified in Section C.1.a and c shall file financial disclosure statements with the Montgomery County Board of Education Ethics Panel, and those statements shall be public, subject to restrictions stated below. The panel shall review the statements for completeness of form and for determination of any existing or potential conflict of interest. These statements shall be retained for a period of four years and then destroyed.
- b) Those persons specified in Section C.1.b shall file a financial disclosure statement for the preceding calendar year with the Board of Supervisors of Elections at the time they submit their certificate of candidacy, and these forms shall be public, subject to restrictions stated below. Upon a candidate's election to the Board of Education, the Board of Supervisors of Elections shall transmit the financial disclosure form to the Ethics Panel.
- c) Those officials or employees specified in Section C.2 shall file confidential financial disclosure statements with the superintendent of schools. The superintendent shall review the statements for completeness of form and for determination of any existing or potential conflict of interest. These statements shall be retained for a period of four years and then destroyed, and during that time shall not be released except to an authorized person investigating an alleged conflict of interest.
- 4. All statements filed by persons specified in Sections C.1. shall be made available during normal office hours for examination and copying by the public, subject to whatever reasonable fees and administrative procedures are established. Any person examining or copying such statements shall be required to record his name, home address, and the name of the person whose disclosure statement was examined or copied.
- 5. All statements filed pursuant to this section shall disclose, if known, the following interests:
- a) Interests in real property located in Montgomery County, including the nature of the property and its location by street or mailing address or legal description; the nature and extent of the interest held, including conditions or encumbrances; for interests acquired or transferred in the year for which the filing is made, the nature and amount of consideration or the fair market value of the interest at the time acquired or transferred; and the identity of any other person with an interest in the property.
- b) Financial interest in a business entity with which the school system has been known to or is likely to do business, including: the name and address of its principal office; the nature and extent of the interest held either in terms of number of shares or percent of equity interest, including conditions or encumbrances; for interests acquired or transferred in the year for which the filing is made, the nature and amount of consideration or the fair market value of the interest at the time acquired or transferred and, if known, the person from or to whom the property was acquired or transferred; and the identify of any other person who may share the interest.
- c) Any gift or series of gifts in excess of \$75 from any person received during the calendar year, or by any other person at the direction of the person making the statement, from or on behalf

of any person doing business with the school system, including the nature and value of the gift and the identity of the person from whom, or on behalf of whom, the gift was received.

- d) Employment by any entity doing business with the school system, including offices, directorships, or salaried employment held by the person making the statement or his spouse or dependent child during the calendar year, including the name and address of the principal office of the business entity; title and nature of the office, directorship, or salaried employment and its beginning date; the unit in the school system with which the entity has done or is doing business; and indicating the nature of "doing business" as specified in the Definitions section of this policy.
- e) Amounts in excess of \$250 owed by the person filing the statement, his spouse or dependent child during the calendar year, other than retail credit accounts, to persons doing business with the school system, including: the identity of the person owed and the date the liability was incurred; the amount owed at the end of the calendar year; the terms of payment and the extent to which the principal amount of the liability was increased or decreased during the year; and any security pledged for the liability.
- $\,$  f) Names of spouse or dependent children employed by the school system.
- g) Any other interests or information the person making the statement may wish to disclose.
- 6. If any financial disclosure statement filed with the panel or with the superintendent of schools does not appear to comply with the provisions of this policy, the person filing the statement will be notified of any apparent omission or discrepancy, and the panel or superintendent, whichever is appropriate, shall pursue evidence of noncompliance with this policy.

# D. Lobbying Disclosure.

- 1. Any person representing himself, a business entity or an organization, who personally appears before the Board of Education, a school official or employee with the intent to influence that body or individual in the performance of official duties, and who, in connection with such intent expends or reasonably expects to expend in excess of \$75 in any calendar year on food, entertainment or other gift or series of gifts for any member of the Board or a school official, shall register with the Ethics Panel within 5 days after first making the appearance.
- 2. Any person representing himself, a business entity or an organization, who communicates with one or more members of the Board of Education or school employees, or who solicits others to communicate with a school official or employee with the intent to influence that official or employee in the outcome of any official action, and who incurs expenses of more than \$300 for this purpose in any calendar year, shall register with the Ethics Panel within 5 days after expending these funds.
- 3. The registration statement shall identify the name and address of the lobbyist and any person on whose behalf he acts, and the subject matter on which the registrant appeared before the Board or school official.
- 4. Registrants under this section shall file a report within 30 days after the end of any calendar year disclosing the value, date,

and nature of any food, entertainment, or other gift provided to a Board member or school official. Where the value of a gift or series of gifts exceeds \$75 in the calendar year, the registrant shall disclose the name of the Board member, school official or employee to whom it was made.

- 5. Registrations and reports filed pursuant to this section shall be maintained by the Ethics Panel as public records, available for inspection and copying subject to the conditions specified in section C.4 of this policy.
- 6. The provisions of this section do not apply to the following acts:
- a) Appearances before the Board of Education or any school official by specific invitation or request, if the person engages in no further or other activities in connection with the passage or defeat of Board policies related to the matter on which the appearance is made.
- b) Appearances before the Board of Education or any school official as part of the official duties of a duly elected or appointed official or employee of the Board of Education, the State, a political subdivision of the State, or of the United States, and not on behalf of any other entity.
- c) Actions of a publisher or working member of the news media in the ordinary course of disseminating news or making editorial comment to the general public, but who does not engage in further or other lobbying that would directly and specifically benefit the economic, business or professional interests of that person or that person's employer.
- d) Appearances before the Board of Education or any school official at the specific invitation or request of a registrant, provided no other act is undertaken for which reporting is required, and provided the witness identifies himself as testifying at the request of another person.
- e) Representation of a bona fide religious organization solely for the purpose of protecting the right of its members to practice the doctrine of the organization.
- E. Exemptions or Modifications to the provisions of this policy may be permitted by the Ethics Panel if it determines that application of those provisions would:
  - 1. Constitute an unreasonable invasion of privacy;
- 2. Significantly reduce the availability of qualified persons for public service; and
- 3. Not be required to preserve the purposes of this policy.

  F. Ethics Panel. There is a Montgomery County Board of Education Ethics Panel which consists of three members appointed by the Board of Education. Terms of members shall be for three years, and established so that one member's term expires each year. Panel members shall not be incumbent members of the Board, school officials or employees, or persons employed by a business entity subject to the authority of the Board, or spouses of such persons. The panel may be assisted in carrying out the responsibilities specified in this policy by the Office of the Board of Education which, in consultation with the superintendent, shall see that needed legal, technical and clerical assistance is provided to the panel. The panel shall:

- 1. Interpret this policy and advise persons subject to it as to its application. The panel shall respond promptly to a request by any official, employee or other person subject to the provisions of this policy for an advisory opinion concerning its application. Copies of these interpretations, with the identity of any person deleted, shall be made public in accordance with applicable federal or Maryland laws regarding public records. The panel shall provide interpretations of this policy based on the facts provided or reasonably available to it, and if necessary:
- a) Refer to the "Model Board of Education Ethics Regulations A" as initially published in the Maryland Register, volume 10, issue 15, July 22, 1983, and subsequent changes as may be approved by the State Ethics Commission; or
- b) Ask the Montgomery County Board of Education for an addition or amendment to this policy, which shall be subject to subsequent approval by the State Ethics Commission.
- 2. Be responsible for hearing any complaint filed regarding an alleged violation of this policy by any person. Complaints shall be made in writing and under oath, and shall be referred to the ombudsman/staff assistant in the the Office of the Board of Education for investigation and review in consultation with the superintendent and legal counsel. From the time a complaint is filed until there is a final determination by the Board, all actions regarding the complaint shall be confidential. If, after receiving an investigative report, the panel determines that:
- a) There is no violation, or insufficient facts upon which to determine a violation, it shall dismiss the complaint.
- b) There is a reasonable basis for believing a violation has occurred, it shall give the subject of the complaint a hearing. A report of the hearing shall include findings of fact and conclusions of law. If it finds a violation, the panel shall report its findings and recommendations for action to the superintendent and Board of education.
- 3. Determine any exemptions or modifications to the provisions of this policy as provided for in Section E.
- 4. Approve financial disclosure and lobbying disclosure forms to implement this policy.
- 5. Receive, file, and provide public access to financial disclosure and lobbying forms which are filed with the panel.
- 6. Direct the implementation of an educational program to inform school employees and the public about the purposes and implementation of this policy.

### G. Sanctions.

- 1. A finding that a Board member, school official or employee has violated these provisions shall constitute grounds for removal from office, discipline or other personnel action consistent with provisions of the Education Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, or the policies of the Montgomery County Board of Education.
- 2. Persons or organizations found in violation of the lobbying provisions of this policy shall be publicly identified and subject to other penalties as provided by law.

Re: Student Board Member Election Dr. Shoenberg moved and Mr. Ewing seconded that the student Board

member election be conducted as proposed by MCR.

Resolution No. 1004-83 Re: Substitute Motion on Student Board Member Election

On motion of Dr. Shoenberg seconded by Dr. Greenblatt, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Mr. Ewing voting in the negative (Mr. Robertson voting in the negative):

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt the election process in effect last year and seek a response from the secondary school principals on the plan that follows the word "proposal" on page 2 of the MCR paper.

Re: Area 3 Task Force Response - Staff Response

Dr. Cody stated that the Area 3 Task Force report was extremely constructive and very helpful. The response before the Board was a preliminary one. Dr. Pitt commented that the Task Force did an excellent job. The staff had a short time to respond, and the responses were provided in relation to the recommendations. his point of view that QIE positions and the Magnet Clusters were put in with the idea of supporting a desegregation process. There was a small amount of federal money for a QIE team, but the major support came from local funds. The positions were focused in a relatively small area. The clusters were developed with the idea of supporting the maintenance of stability in the downcounty area and trying to provide for more majority population moving into those schools. Dr. Pitt said they recognized the problems in Area 3 and thought the Area was not talking about the concept but rather staffing. However, this was a relatively expensive proposition of approximately \$1 million and was focused primarily in the Blair and B-CC Clusters. He thought if they were going to have that kind of focus in other areas, the Board would have to make a decision on what magnets should do and whether they should be in other places. It appeared to Mrs. Peyser that Area 3 needed teachers rather than other positions. She asked whether they would rather have a teacher at Poolesville than an administrative position. Mrs. Janet Garrison, co-chairperson, replied that additional teachers at Poolesville would not solve the problem. The problem was underenrollment at Poolesville, and they already had a good allotment of teaching staff. Mrs. Peyser said that students at Poolesville did not have the courses they wanted to take. Mrs. Garrison replied that they did not have self-contained honors classes, and the recommendation was that staffing be allotted to teach those honors classes. In regard to the administrative person allocated to Poolesville this year, Dr. Powell explained that in her meetings with community representatives there was tremendous concern about the grade span at Poolesville and a strong desire on the part of the community that the organizational levels be separated in some way. They had to try to do that by reassigning classes to a separate location in the building and providing an administrator for

the junior high school program.

Mr. Ewing commented that if they did not offer honors courses, people would not enroll in them. If you offered courses, but no one enrolled, the prin- cipal was unlikely to do anything in that regard. He thought the answer was some effort to offer and then to recruit. This did not solve the problem of numbers of students, but they had not responded to the idea of encouraging students who could benefit from honors courses to take them. One way was to make sure they were offered, but students had to know about them. Dr. Pitt explained that part of this was the assumption that honors had to be taught in self-contained classrooms. Mr. Ewing said he would like to see someone follow up and explore the notion of offering self-contained classes and recruiting.

Dr. Cronin said that one of the statements in the Task Force report was that QIE positions were used as support to the regular program. He asked about the possibility of creating a comparable type position in the upcounty. He noted that they did not have a minority student concentration upcounty, yet there were schools where they did have similar test scores. He wondered as they went through the self-study on minority student performances that they might adopt the same procedure upcounty. Mr. Timothy O'Shea replied that this was exactly their recommendation which was based on underachievement. Dr. Cronin noted that the staff was recommending a study but in some future time, but they had the possibility right now of going forward without the needs of the study. He would like to bypass the need of a study and start at the same time they were assisting downcounty. Dr. Cody replied that basic information they were collecting would lead to the increasing improvement of all students. He thought they were working in the same direction.

Dr. Cronin stated that there was another section relating to the needs of handicapped students. Dr. Hiawatha Fountain, associate superintendent, replied that the problem was that space was at a premium in the upcounty area. They had been looking at the long transportation time for upcounty students for some time. About a year ago they talked about moving the orthopedic program to a more central area in Rockville. That recommendation was not received as well as they thought it would be. If they were to divide the program, it would cost more money. It was his recommendation at that time that they wait a while, study it, and determine the location of the students and the length of time they would be in the program. They would make recommendations based on space available and whether or not the transportation and other costs could be cut. In the past five years they had lowered the transportation time from an hour and a half down to one hour. In some cases, where the transportation took longer than an hour the students had been placed in cabs. Dr. Cronin was hoping they were looking at at least three elementary schools upcounty, and he wondered whether Dr. Fountain's office could be included in the planning so the schools could be expanded for special education needs. Dr. Fountain explained that they were involved in the planning of the new school and would be involved with the planning of the other two schools.

Mrs. Shannon reported that the Board had approved a feasibility study for the possible use of Montgomery Wards. She asked whether any area in the Task Force report needed more immediate attention. Mr. O'Shea replied that he did see a slow move toward a four-year high school organization. He had a feeling that the area might be willing to look at a more radical move to a four-year structure. He wondered whether they could look at a faster conversion by looking at a school with all ages. It seemed to him that they were contemplating making King an expanded school in 1986, and he wondered whether it was possible to have a four-year school there in 1986. Dr. Cody agreed that the staff would look at other alternatives. Mrs. Garrison was concerned about the area office being relocated out of Area 3. Dr. Pitt replied that they were looking at renting space because they did not think the Wards building would be available soon enough.

In regard to magnets, Mr. Ewing recalled an earlier discussion as to whether magnets addressed needs other than improving racial balance. He said he had been involved in developing the plans for the original magnets in the Blair area and their intent was to provide options of an educational kind as well as to improve racial balance. It was his view that the Board need to discuss whether it wanted to use magnets in other parts of the county for this purpose. He said there were many unresolved issues which put them up against the budget. He hoped they could get and share with the Task Force something like a crosswalk showing where in the budget Task Force recommendations were. Mrs. Praisner asked that policy implications be pointed out as well. She said she had prepared a memo listing questions and hoped she could get a response from the committee. She had questions about course offerings, disadvantaged posi- tions, and staff allocation from the area office. She said she would like to see a review of criteria for elementary counselor placements, and she had not seen an answer to the question about the condition of the relocatables. She noted that there were other high schools in the county that were not 9-12. They needed to look at addressing all of these schools as far as educational implications. She said they needed a research discussion of the impact of a high mobility rate. This had implications not only for Area 3 but also for the Board's priorities. She would like to know what the research said on that issue.

Mr. O'Shea explained that they did not mean to say other areas should not have 9-12 schools. It seemed to them to be the least expensive way to house students without building additional schools. Mrs. Praisner recalled that when the secondary schools task force met in 1975 they had discussed opening Martin Luther King as a junior high school with the potential to convert the school to a high school.

Dr. Shoenberg stated his support of the notion that staff equivalent to QIE staffing probably would be a good idea for this area. Dr. Powell reported that this year the QIE action team had started working in three elementary schools in Area 3. Dr. Shoenberg asked

about the statement that conversion of Martin Luther King had not been recommended at this time. Dr. George Fisher, director of planning, replied that the Task Force did not have time to look at all the data. Staff had looked at one alternative; however, Dr. Fisher still had a concern about building secondary facilities in Area 3 in that timeframe. He thought this was a reasonable solution once they started to experience the numbers at the middle school level. Mr. O'Shea asked if they could get Dr. Fisher's concerns spelled out and compared to the program concerns. Dr. Shoenberg explained that he was trying to get at whether it was still viable to think of making King a high school.

Dr. Cronin stated that he saw three issues in transportation: distance, traffic, and absenteeism. He hoped that MCPS staff would continue to work with county planners. He was concerned about absenteeism and inquired about what they had in place to make sure people showed up for work. Mr. Richard Fazakerley, associate superintendent, explained that absenteeism meant the individual driver did not come to work that day, not that he failed to call In Area 1 it was 9 percent, but in Area 3 it was as high as 17 percent. They did have a standby pool available in every area. Dr. Cronin asked why the absentee rate was double in Area 3. Mr. Fazakerley explained that driving was not their primary job, and many drivers were women and mothers with family responsibilities. However, he could not give a reason for the differences in rates among the areas. Dr. Cronin hoped he could have an answer before the Board took up the transportation budget. Mr. Fazakerley explained that they had added supervisors and were training them. Dr. Cody felt it was important for them to find out what was going on and the reasons for the difference in rates. The key question was what they could do to change this.

Mrs. Praisner thanked the staff for their preliminary response to the Task Force report. She assumed they would get additional information, and Dr. Cody agreed that there would be followup. Mr. Robertson left the meeting at this point.

Re: Report from the County Executive's Office of Minority Affairs

Mrs. Praisner introduced Mr. DeVance Walker and explained that before he started his presentation Mr. Hanley Norment would make some remarks. Mr. Norment presented Board members with copies of the official report of the Black Community Convention which was held on October 8. He reported on the opening of several "Saturday Schools" and said by the end of the year they would have 16 centers in operation. He thanked the Board for their cooperation, and Mrs. Praisner commented that the Board was looking forward to reading the report.

Mr. Walker stated that he had served as an employee of the school system for seven years and as a member of the county government for four years. He continued to be a public school system advocate but had found that staffs in both locations often worked in isolation.

He listed several agencies in the county government which would join with MCPS staff in working for the needs of minority children. He stated that the Board must continue to develop relationships with the overall black community. They should commend the citizens' Minority Relations Monitoring Committee for its recommendations. He suggested that teachers and staff attend community functions and programs. He would be sending copies of his newsletter to principals so that they would be made aware of these meetings.

Mr. Walker explained that there was little or no involvement of black students and parents with staff outside the school setting. He called attention to community days where the school system could provide displays or information booths. He provided the Board with a list of organizations and churches active in the black community. He noted that some of these organizations had tutorial programs, and the school system should consider identifying students to send to these programs. He said that the black community had a strong business organization which could assist the school system in contracting with black firms. He had a list of black speakers who could be invited into the schools, especially during black history month.

Mr. Walker suggested establishing a mechanism to channel information his office had to the school system. He cited cooperative efforts in the three areas and explained that he had made recommendations to the superintendent on bridging the gap between the school system and the minority community.

Mr. Walker recommended that additional aides and team teaching be provided to improve academic achievement and participation. He said that in-house suspensions seemed to be working; however, there was a cultural and behavior misunderstanding of black students by staff. He commented that black parents wanted to work with the school system. He felt there was a willingness on the part of county employees, school staff, community organizations, parents and students to work together. He looked forward to meeting with the Board and/or staff on community programs and government services. Mrs. Praisner thanked Mr. Walker for the useful information he had provided. Dr. Cody suggested that he meet with Mr. Walker to go into more detail about his recommendations.

## Re: Board Member Comments

- 1. Dr. Greenblatt reported on the excellent meeting on "Excellence in Education" that she had attended in Indianapolis. She promised to share information and material with Board members.
- 2. Dr. Cronin noted that Damascus High School had been invited to participate in the 40th anniversary of D-Day.
- 3. Mrs. Peyser said that she had viewed a film, "Girl Stuff," which was being recommended for fifth grade co-ed classes. She hoped that the superintendent would not approve the film because it perpetuated sexist myths.

- 4. Mrs. Peyser stated that the Board had received reports on class size. She hoped that the Board had looked at classes under 15 and over 30. She said that Board policy provided that courses with enrollment of under 15 could be offered every other year, and she asked that principals be informed of this. In addition, some of the courses were offered by the Recreation Department. She thought that about 100 classes could be eliminated which would free staff to reduce class sizes in academic courses.
- 5. Mr. Ewing reported that he had attended a meeting at Rockville High School with the Rockville Chamber of Commerce and the city government. The purpose of the meeting was to consider the "adoption" of that school by the Chamber of Commerce.
- 6. Mr. Ewing noted that the Commission on Children and Youth had scheduled a hearing on their recent recommendations. He volunteered to be Board liaison to the Commission.
- 7. Mr. Ewing said they continued to hear about the issue of the career education technician at Peary High School. He hoped that the school system would learn from this experience and be more sensitive to issues related to school closures.
- 8. Mr. Ewing said he would introduce a resolution calling for the renaming of the Educational Services Center to restore the name "George Washington Carver" to the building. However, he would ask that the Board vote on this next fall.
- 9. In regard to Peary High School, Mrs. Praisner suggested that staff keep a list of things so that they would learn from the process.
- 10. Mrs. Praisner reported that she and Mr. Robertson had attended a state conference on guidance. She had sent the Board a copy of the information provided by the state. Benjamin Cardin had spoken on the issue of funding, and it was his view that if there were any additional funding Boards would have to earmark how those funds would be spent.

Mrs. Shannon temporarily left the meeting.

Resolution No. 1005-83 Re: Advisory Committee on Minority Student Education

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mr. Ewing, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, On November 21, 1983, the Board of Education appointed citizen members to its Advisory Committee on Minority Student Education; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the following staff members be appointed to the committee for the term indicated:

Mr. Michael Glascoe, Assistant Principal,
Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School 1 year

Mrs. Suzanne L. Peangmeth, Secretary,
Mark Twain School 2 years

Ms. Regina Skyles, Teacher,
Northwood High School 1 year

Dr. Huong Mai Tran, Teacher Specialist,
Department of Human Relations 2 years

### and be it further

Resolved, That the following students be appointed to the committee for the terms indicated:

Mr.	Cosme Lopez, Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School	1 year
Mr.	Richard Park, Wheaton High School	1 year
Ms.	Terri Sheppard, Gaithersburg High School	2 years

#### and be it further

Resolved, That the terms of citizen members be as follows:

${\tt Mr.}$	Carlos Anzoategui	1	year
${\tt Ms.}$	Anna Solimando Buc	2	years
${\tt Ms.}$	Verna P. Dickerson	1	year
${\tt Ms.}$	Ruth Landman	2	years
Dr.	Janice Mitchell	1	year
Rev.	. Maurice S. Moore	2	years
${\tt Ms.}$	Anita Moore-Hackney	1	year
Dr.	Joseph W. Neale	2	years
${\tt Mr.}$	Emilio Perche Rivas	1	year
${\tt Ms.}$	Ann S. Powell	2	years
${\tt Mr.}$	Timothy Shackleford	1	year
Dr.	Harold Szu	2	years
Ms.	Josephine Jung-shan Wang	1	year
Mr.	Paul S. Young	2	years

## and be it further

Resolved, That the citizen members appointed to a one-year term may reapply to serve on the committee for a second term of office; and be it further

Resolved, That the charge to the committee will be delivered by the president, vice president and superintendent of schools at the first meeting of the com- mittee on Tuesday, January 3, 1984 at 7:30 p.m.

Resolution No. 1006-83 Re: Postponement of Item on Appeals and Contested Matters

On motion of Mrs. Peyser seconded by Mr. Ewing, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the item on appeals and contested matters be postponed.

Re: BOE Case 1983-37

Mrs. Praisner announced that BOE Case 1983-37 was postponed in order to obtain additional information from the superintendent.

Resolution No. 1007-83 Re: BOE Case 1983-39

On motion of Dr. Shoenberg seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Praisner, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Mr. Ewing and Mrs. Peyser voting in the negative:

Resolved, That a hearing be denied in BOE Case 1983-39.

Resolution No. 1008-83 Re: BOE Case 1983-40

On motion of Dr. Shoenberg seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That a hearing be denied in BOE Case 1983-40.

Re: New Business

Dr. Shoenberg assumed the chair.

1. Mrs. Praisner moved and Dr. Cronin seconded the following and requested that the Board take action on it:

WHEREAS, On February 8, 1983, the Board of Education adopted a policy on recognizing MCPS staff and student achievements; and

WHEREAS, This policy establishes the practice of recognizing students' and employees' outstanding achievements at "monthly evening business meetings"; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education recently adopted a framework for Board business meetings with an emphasis on Board priorities, facilities, budget, and negotiations; and

WHEREAS, It would be desirable to have the latitude to schedule special meetings to recognize staff and students or, time permitting, to schedule this ceremony at a business meeting; now therefore be it

Resolved, That Resolution 103-83, dated February 8, 1983, on recognizing MCPS staff and student achievements be amended to delete "regular business" from the second WHEREAS clause and "monthly evening business" from the first Resolved clause.

Mrs. Praisner assumed the chair.

2. Mr. Ewing moved and Dr. Shoenberg seconded the following for action in the fall:

WHEREAS, The Educational Services Center was once the George Washington Carver High School, serving black students only prior to desegregation in 1954; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education has committed itself to finding ways to assist black students and other minority students in improving their academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, George Washington Carver was himself a distinguished teacher, scientist, artist and musician, who believed in education and in the potential of black students to achieve great things in American life; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting and appropriate that the Montgomery County Public Schools should honor the memory and the accomplishments of George Washington Carver now and in the future; now therefore be it Resolved, That the Educational Services Center is renamed the George Washington Carver Educational Services Center, to be called the Carver Educational Services Center; and be it further

Resolved, That there be held an appropriate ceremony to which the public will be invited on the occasion of the dedication of the building to the memory of the values for which George Washington Carver stood.

Dr. Shoenberg assumed the chair.

Re: A Motion by Mrs. Praisner to Vote on the Policy on Recognizing MCPS Staff and Student Achievement (FAILED)

A motion by Mrs. Praisner to take up a policy issue failed with Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Peyser, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative. No negative vote taken, and a unanimous vote required for adoption.

3. Mrs. Praisner moved and Mr. Ewing seconded the following: Resolved, That at the next Board meeting the Board consider the elimination of student performances at Board meetings.

Mrs. Praisner assumed the chair.

Re: Items of Information

Board members received the following items of information:

- 1. Items in Process
- 2. Construction Progress Report
- 3. Annual Report Quality Integrated Education
- 4. Annual Report Information Office
- 5. Report on Policy on Child Abuse
- 6. Report on Nonresident Tuition

Re: Adjournment

The president adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

President

Secretary

WSC:mlw