

APPROVED  
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Rockville, Maryland  
January 26, 1999

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Tuesday, January 26, 1999, at 7:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Mr. Reginald M. Felton, President  
in the Chair  
Mr. Stephen Abrams  
Mr. Kermit V. Burnett  
Mrs. Beatrice B. Gordon  
Mrs. Nancy J. King  
Mrs. Patricia O'Neill  
Ms. Mona M. Signer  
Dr. Paul L. Vance, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: Mr. Geonard F. Butler, Jr., Student Board Member

Re: **WORKSESSION ON THE FY 2000  
OPERATING BUDGET**

Mr. Felton announced that Mr. Butler was preparing for final exams and would not be present at this meeting.

The Board members made the following requests during the worksession:

**K-12 INSTRUCTION, ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

1. Ms. Signer requested information on which elementary schools have staffing beyond the normal staffing allocation for assistant principals and guidance counselors, the flexible staffing for instructional assistants, schools that have all-day kindergarten, EEEP programs and Head Start programs, the QIE positions that are available, ESOL support teachers, cluster magnet support, disadvantaged support, differentiated staffing, media assistants, and teacher assistants. This information should be broken out by the current year and by school and organized within clusters.
2. Mrs. King wanted to know what schools have room for all-day kindergarten. Indicate if these are schools where all-day kindergarten was needed.
3. Mrs. Gordon pointed out that there should be community input and dialogue regarding all-day kindergarten and day care options.

4. Mr. Felton commented that all-day kindergarten and class size compliance were two areas that the Board was committed to solving over the next four years. In dealing with these two issues, there would be the budget process and a strategic approve.
5. Mrs. O'Neill asked for the dollar amount for reducing all oversized classes at the elementary level, and what would be the impact on facilities.
6. Regarding the cost and limitations of implementing in 1, 2, or 3 elementary schools, Mr. Abrams asked for information on the class size reduction in K-3 grades using the STAR plan in Tennessee with a class size reduction to 15 to 17 students.

### **K-12 INSTRUCTION, MIDDLE SCHOOLS**

7. Ms. Signer requested information by cluster on which middle schools have staffing beyond the normal staffing allocation for assistant principals and guidance counselors, support specialists, mainstreaming support, special needs teachers, disadvantaged teachers, instructional assistants, media assistants, teacher assistants, math support teachers, magnet coordinators, QIE staffing, cluster magnet support, resource teachers, and additional teachers for alternative programs if schools have them on site..
8. Mr. Abrams asked for the costs that need to be included in the FY 2000 budget as planning money for the development and introduction of another middle school math/science signature/magnet program for the upcounty.
9. Mrs. Gordon stated that MCPS had a process for applying for a signature program in the high schools and asked if that process was still in place and if there had been any changes. She asked if there was a similar process for the mid-level schools.
10. Ms. Signer wanted to know how much money would need to be budgeted for planning funds for a special focus program at a single middle school .
11. Regarding the French Immersion Program, Ms. Signer asked if there was a sequence planned for the Blair and Maryvale elementary schools, and what would be the cost.

### **K-12 INSTRUCTION, HIGH SCHOOLS**

12. Regarding Global Ecology Program at Poolesville High School, Mrs. King asked for information on the planned transportation for the program after the grant stops.
13. Mr. Abrams asked when the science laboratories would be upgraded at Poolesville

High School.

14. Mr. Abrams requesting information on the planning costs for the introduction of a math/science magnet program in the upcounty, and when would the planning stage start based on the sequence from the middle school. (Frame of reference was a comparable magnet to the magnet at Montgomery Blair High School.)
15. Ms. Signer requested information by cluster on which high schools have staffing beyond the normal staffing allocation for assistant principals and guidance counselors, support specialists, mainstreaming support, special needs teachers, disadvantaged teachers, instructional assistants, media assistants, teacher assistants, math support teachers, magnet coordinators, QIE staffing, cluster magnet support, resource teachers, additional teachers for alternative programs if schools have them on site, consortium counselors, signature coordinators or teachers, consortium resource teachers, and vocational support and career prep positions.

#### **TRANSITIONAL ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT UNIT**

16. Mrs. Gordon requested an update on the Transitional Organizational Development Unit.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY**

17. Mr. Felton inquired if the Department of Educational Accountability had sufficient funds to ensure research and increasing demands, especially with the reauthorization of ESEA.

#### **OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT**

18. Regarding Outdoor Education, Mrs. King requested models on increasing the program to a 3 night/4 day without charging higher student fees. Mrs. Gordon asked for a plan to phase in the expanded program.

#### **OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

19. Mrs. Gordon asked what funds would be necessary to have the high school improvement and assessment exams ready in time to coincide with the state's program, including the piloting of the program. Ms. Signer asked if there was a psychometric equivalent of the state exams.
20. Mr. Abrams wanted a breakout of the funds budgeted for the teacher evaluation

pilot and how large is the pilot.

#### **OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, HEAD START**

21. Ms. Signer requested the evaluation of the community-based Head Start model.

#### **OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, ENRICHED AND INNOVATIVE INSTRUCTION**

22. Ms. Signer asked for the cost of adding the position of a GT/LD coordinator at the secondary level.

#### **OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

23. Mr. Abrams asked for the level of funding required to commence a review of the vocational education curriculum to make sure that it is relevant to the current workforce. Specially, there should be an inclusion of Montgomery College and the private sector to work collaboratively to develop new directions in the vocational education curriculum. The areas of interest are language specific to technology and math courses with emphasis on integrated and seamless vocational education curriculum.

#### **OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, AESTHETIC, HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

24. Regarding music and arts, Mr. Felton asked for the cost to ensure the level of funding prior to reductions in this area.
25. Mrs. Gordon asked for the cost of implementing JV lacrosse in those schools where there was varsity lacrosse.

#### **OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, SPECIAL EDUCATION**

26. Ms. Signer requested the cost of additional mental health support at Mark Twain School.
27. Regarding the savings and efficiencies in legal services, Ms. Signer asked for trend data for the number of lawsuits over the past 5 years. She was curious to see how much of the \$200,000 savings was a reduction of lawsuits and how much was realized by hiring in-house attorneys and paralegals.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

PLV:gr