

Resolved, That the Board of Education supports HB 34 - State Aid for Public Education-School Operating Support Grants - which would establish a \$29.7 million School Operating Support (SOS) program of unrestricted aid to local school systems for each of the next three fiscal years.

Re: **DISCUSSION ON HB 6 — MARYLAND AFTER-SCHOOL OPPORTUNITY ACT**

Dr. Vance was concerned about the statement that the Maryland State Department of Education would administer the fund through a governmental or non-governmental intermediary in consultation with a 15-member advisory committee that did not include a local board of education or county government member. He was supportive of the funds coming into Montgomery County, but excluding both the Board of Education and other governmental agencies was presumptuous.

Mr. Abrams agreed with Dr. Vance. Also, he was concerned that the purpose of the bill was a Maryland After-School Opportunity Act not a Maryland School Opportunity Act. Therefore, he questioned the governing structure of including the Maryland State Department of Education. He was apprehensive that this might open education budgets for non-educational purposes.

Mr. Felton pointed out that there was movement on the federal level to move into the arena of after-school programs with the funds coming from the Department of Education.

Mr. Abrams responded that the Department of Agriculture administered the school lunch program and had no jurisdiction over school systems. The source of federal funding was not as relative as the structure of the local budget since the bulk of the funds for the school system came from local funds. He did not want local educational funds directed to activities not related to education.

Mrs. Gordon agreed with the comments by her colleagues. She was concerned that the legislation appeared to be very prescriptive, and the bill focused on grade-level math skills, development of skills and knowledge beyond the school day, reduced delinquency behavior, and to provide a safe and healthy environment. She hoped that when these programs were established, that it would not become the assumption that it is the sole responsibility of the school system to implement the programs.

RESOLUTION NO. 36-99

Re: **ITEM OF LEGISLATION**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Abrams seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education supports, if amended, House Bill (HB) 6 -

Education - Maryland After-School Opportunity Act - which would establish a \$10 million Maryland After-School Opportunity Fund Program to fund before- and after-school programs for elementary, middle, and high school students throughout the state, beginning in FY 2001.

RESOLUTION NO. 37-99 Re: ITEM OF LEGISLATION

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Gordon seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education supports House Bill (HB) 9 - Quality Teacher Incentive Act of 1999 - which would implement several of State Superintendent Grasmick's proposals to recruit and retain quality teachers.

Included in the proposed legislation are competitive grants to enable local school boards to expand mentoring programs for new teachers, stipends for teachers earning National Board Certification, a signing bonus for individuals who graduate in the top 10 percent of their class and teach in Maryland for three consecutive years, and an annual stipend for teachers with Advanced Professional Certification who teach or mentor in a public school with a high at-risk student population.

RESOLUTION NO. 38-99 Re: ITEM OF LEGISLATION

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Abrams seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education strongly opposes House Bill (HB) 52 - Education - Public Schools - Domicile - which would change current law to permit a child to attend school tuition-free in a county where he or she is domiciled with a person acting in the absence of the parent or guardian.

RESOLUTION NO. 39-99 Re: ITEM OF LEGISLATION

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Signer seconded by Mrs. Gordon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education strongly opposes House Bill (HB) 24 - Education - Public Schools - Promotion of Students - which would establish specific factors to be considered when student promotion decisions are made. Although there is nothing in the bill that is contrary to MCPS policy, the proposal would give the General Assembly authority that properly belongs to local boards of education.

RESOLUTION NO. 40-99

Re: **ITEM OF LEGISLATION**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Gordon seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education supports Senate Bill (SB) 40 - Motor Vehicles - School Buses-Loading and Unloading of Passengers - which provides that a school bus driver may load or unload passengers residing on the same side of the road only at an approved loading zone in an off-road location. The bill also clarifies the 8-light safety system of alternately flashing lights required to meet national standards.

RESOLUTION NO. 41-99

Re: **ITEM OF LEGISLATION**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Signer seconded by Mrs. O'Neill, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education takes no position on House Bill (HB) 81 - Vehicle Laws - School Buses-Pick Up and Discharge of Passengers - which clarifies that school buses may stop in roadways to load and unload passengers provided the alternately flashing warning lights are activated.

Re: **FY 2000 OPERATING BUDGET AND SUPERINTENDENT'S AMENDMENTS**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Gordon seconded by Mr. Abrams, the FY 2000 Proposed Operating Budget and the following Superintendent's amendments were placed on the table:

Dr. Vance proposed amendments of \$3,132,331 decreasing the Superintendent's Recommended FY 2000 Operating Budget from \$1,092,331,763 to \$1,089,199,432, including grants and enterprise funds. For the purpose of spending affordability, excluding grants and enterprise funds, these amendments result in a decrease of \$3,986,218 in the recommended budget from \$993,829,220 to \$989,843,002.

1. Savings in Retirement Contribution - (\$2,923,380)
2. Additional SAFE Funding for ESOL - \$900,000
3. Enrollment Projection Adjustment for Special Education - (\$146,655)
4. Savings in Tuition for Students in Non-Public Placements - (\$450,000)
5. Noyes Children's Center - (\$46,113)
6. New Employee Benefit Plan Accounting Unit - \$0
7. Master Lease Agreement - \$33,817
8. Instructional Salaries - (\$500,000)

RESOLUTION NO. 42-99

Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET**

On motion of Ms. Signer and seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

Resolved, That the Board of Education place \$144,923 in the budget to expand Outdoor Education (middle schools) to four days and three nights phased in over two years.

Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET**

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill and seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was placed on the table:

Resolved, That the Board of Education place \$1.9 million in the budget to reduce oversized classes in elementary schools.

Re: **DISCUSSION**

Mrs. Gordon asked if staff could eliminate all of the oversized classes with that amount of money, and if a cap were placed on classes, what would happen with new enrollees that exceeded the cap? Mr. Bowers explained that class sizes would be reduced, but movement in and out would cause some classes to go over the cap. Also, Mrs. Gordon was concerned that the flexibility of the principals to make adjustments in classes would be eliminated.

If a class reached the class size guideline, Ms. Signer asked if an instructional assistant would be assigned to the class in lieu of splitting the class. Also, she wanted to know if reducing oversized classes would result in more combination classes.

Mr. Felton thought the intent of the resolution was to provide resources to support class size reduction without affecting flexibility at the local school.

Mrs. Gordon thought combination classes was not a negative since there was a growing body of thought that multi-age and multi-grade education were more child-center structures.

RESOLUTION NO. 43-99

Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET**

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill and seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

Resolved, That the Board of Education place \$1.9 million in the budget to reduce

oversized classes to recommended guidelines in elementary schools.

RESOLUTION NO. 44-99 Re: AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET

On motion of Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Mrs. O'Neill, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present: #

Resolved, That the Board of Education place \$172,374 in the budget for JV Lacrosse and that approximately \$300,000 be funded from the additional funds generated by activity fees before funds are returned to the schools.

RESOLUTION NO. 45-99 Re: AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET

On motion of Mr. Felton and seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted with Mr. Abrams, Mr. Burnett, Mr. Felton, and Mrs. King voting in the affirmative; Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. O'Neill, and Ms. Signer voting in the negative: #

Resolved, That the Board of Education place \$310,028 for 7.9 FTE art/music teachers.

RESOLUTION NO. 46-99 Re: AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET

On motion of Mrs. King and seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present: #

Resolved, That the Board of Education place an additional \$100,000 in the budget for the new program model in Alternative Programs.

RESOLUTION NO. 47-99 Re: AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET

On motion of Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present: #

Resolved, That the Board of Education place \$230,000 in the budget for disaster preparedness, including a diesel generator to keep computers operational and an annual outside contract for redundancy of key computer programs.

RESOLUTION NO. 48-99 Re: AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET

On motion of Mr. Burnett and seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present: #

Resolved, That the Board of Education place \$49,252 in the budget for one full-time

position for on-going technology training.

RESOLUTION NO. 49-99 Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET**

On motion of Ms. Signer and seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted with Mr. Abrams, Mrs. King, Mrs. O'Neill, and Ms. Signer voting in the affirmative; Mr. Burnett, Mr. Felton, and Mrs. Gordon voting in the negative: #

Resolved, That the Board of Education place an additional \$75,000 in the budget for support of the "Sharp Street" type of programs as seed money and some continuing support for existing programs.

Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET**

Mrs. O'Neill moved and later withdrew a resolution to place \$543,000 in the budget to reduce oversized classes to recommended guidelines in middle schools.

Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET**

Mrs. King moved and later withdrew a resolution to place \$162,976 in the budget to fund four all-day kindergarten teachers to bring the total number of all-day kindergarten classes to eighteen.

Both of the above resolutions were withdrawn after a discussion on the policy and priorities of the Board. A subsequent discussion will be scheduled to develop a strategy for reducing oversized classes and all-day kindergarten.

Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET**

A motion of Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Abrams to add \$46,750 to the budget to add a student support specialist failed with Mr. Abrams and Mrs. King voting in the affirmative; Mr. Burnett, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. O'Neill, and Ms. Signer voting in the negative.

Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET**

On motion of Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was placed on the table:

Resolved, That the Board of Education place \$50,000 in the budget to provide planning funds for an up-county math/science program at the middle and high school levels.

RESOLUTION NO. 50-99

Re: **A SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET**

On motion of Ms. Signer and seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following resolution was adopted with Mr. Abrams, Mr. Burnett, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. O'Neill, and Ms. Signer voting in the affirmative; Mrs. King voting in the negative:#

Resolved, That the Board of Education place \$75,000 in the budget for planning funds for middle and high school special focus programs countywide.

RESOLUTION NO. 51-99

Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET**

On motion of Ms. Signer and seconded by Mrs. Gordon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

Resolved, That the Board of Education place \$41,198 in the budget for a .5 ethics officer in the Board Office.

Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET**

On motion of Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was placed on the table:

Resolved, That the Board of Education increase the amount of money for the peer/teacher evaluation program to \$1 million, including a dynamic evaluation with principal participation.

RESOLUTION NO. 52-99

Re: **A SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET**

On motion of Ms. Signer and seconded by Mrs. Gordon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

Resolved, That the Board of Education place \$300,000 in the budget for increased funding for planning and implementation of the new teacher evaluation system.

RESOLUTION NO. 53-99

Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET**

On motion of Ms. Signer and seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following resolution was adopted with Mr. Abrams, Mr. Burnett, Mrs. King, Mrs. O'Neill, and Ms. Signer voting in the affirmative; Mr. Felton and Mrs. Gordon voting in the negative:#

Resolved, That the Board of Education place \$20,000 for a .5 teacher specialist for GT/LD

coordination at the secondary school level.

RESOLUTION NO. 54-99 Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET**

On motion of Ms. Signer and seconded by Mrs. Gordon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

Resolved, That the Board of Education place \$28,000 in the budget for activity bus service twice a week at Mark Twain School.

Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET**

A motion by Ms. Signer to add \$562,000 to the budget to decrease the walking distance for high school students to 1.75 miles failed for lack of a second.

Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2000 OPERATING BUDGET**

A motion by Ms. Signer and seconded by Mr. Abrams to ask for proposals to contract out all high school bus service (to and from school and activity bus service) failed with Mr. Abrams, Mrs. Gordon, and Ms. Signer voting in the affirmative; Mr. Burnett, Mr. Felton, Mrs. King, and Mrs. O'Neill voting in the negative.

RESOLUTION NO. 55-99 Re: **FY 2000 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET**

On motion of Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

WHEREAS, The Superintendent's Proposed FY 2000 Operating Budget with the Superintendent's and Board's amendments totals \$1,092,945,207, an increase of \$613,444 above the total of \$1,092,331,763 recommended in December by the Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, For purposes of spending affordability, the adopted budget represents a decrease of \$240,443 from \$993,829,220 recommended in December by the Superintendent to \$993,588,777; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the proposed FY 2000 Operating Budget.

RESOLUTION NO. 56-99 Re: **REDUCTIONS IN CLASS SIZE**

On motion of Mr. Felton and seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education support further reductions in the number of oversized classes at the secondary level and amends the multi-year budget initiatives by adding \$5.3 million in FY 01 and 02.

RESOLUTION NO. 57-99 Re: **SCHOOL HEALTH**

On motion of Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education encourages the County Executive and County Council to fund sufficient health resources to fully staff school health nurses and health technicians.

RESOLUTION NO. 58-99 Re: **HIGH SCHOOL BUS SERVICE**

On motion of Ms. Signer and seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following resolution was adopted with Mr. Abrams, Mr. Burnett, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, and Ms. Signer voting in the affirmative; Mrs. King and Mrs. O'Neill voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the Board of Education study the feasibility of contracting out all high school bus service.

The meeting was adjournment at 10:33 p.m.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

PLV:gr