



The Board made the following comments or asked the following questions:

1. Mrs. King and Mrs. O'Neill thanked the principals for coming to the meeting in support of their cluster speakers and the FY 2001 Operating Budget.
2. Mrs. King asked why there are not enough desks at Watkins Mill Elementary School, and what is the plan to remedy that situation.
3. In the Damascus Cluster's testimony, Ms. Ryan raised the issue of textbooks in schools with high enrollment growth. Ms. Signer asked how MCPS allocates textbook funds, and what accommodations, if any, are made for schools with sharp increases in enrollment.
4. Ms. Signer wanted a list of the schools without full-time reading specialists and the educational load for those schools.
5. Mr. Felton asked staff to identify in the operating budget those funds that addresses the relationship with the business community. Also, are there any allocations to ensure enhancement of that with either the African-American or Hispanic business communities?
6. Ms. Signer asked for a list of the elementary schools and an indication of whether or not they have assistant principals, the enrollment in those schools, and the number of staff. Mrs. O'Neill asked if those schools could be ranked by educational load.
7. Regarding Poolesville Cluster's testimony on security assistants and, specifically, the request for women, Mr. Felton asked for the ratio of female security assistants by school and how does that compare with school districts (if that information is available) and how are they addressing similar problems.
8. Mr. Burnett asked for the cost to hire paraprofessionals to assist counselors in scheduling and other duties.
9. Mrs. King thanked Mr. Jeter, MCR President, for bringing testimony to the Board from his fellow students. Mrs. O'Neill agreed that it was helpful for the Board to hear from students.
10. Mrs. Gordon asked staff if the Board could be assured that there were sufficient funds in the operating budget to continue to support all schools that are eligible for Title I services.

11. Mr. Felton asked to what extent is MCPS locally funding Title I beyond that which it receives from the federal government.
12. Ms. Signer wanted to know in which areas MCPS has had a shortage of teachers. In Mr. Savage's testimony, he referenced science, math, and special education.
13. Mr. Felton reminded those testifying that Del. Dembrow had a bill that would preclude activity fees. He asked the community to contact their delegates to express concern.
14. Mrs. Gordon noted that in this week's *Bulletin* there was an extensive list of training opportunities in reading, math, science, social studies, and other curriculum areas. Almost every single one of those was developed for teachers. Given the comments made by Ms. Cullison and the understanding that training for instruction needs to take place, she asked if the additional training funds in the FY 2001 Operating Budget would allow for support staff to take advantage of those training opportunities.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

JDW:gr