APPROVED   Rockville, Maryland
3-2009   January 21, 2009

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in a hearing at the Carver Educational
Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Wednesday, January 21, 2009, at 7:05 p.m.

> Present: Ms. Shirley Brandman, President
>   in the Chair
>   Mr. Christopher Barclay
>   Ms. Laura Berthiaume
>   Dr. Judy Docca
>   Mr. Philip Kauffman
>   Mrs. Patricia O'Neill
>   Mr. Larry Bowers, Acting Secretary/Treasurer
>
> Absent: Ms. Quratul-Ann Malik
>   Mrs. Nancy Navarro
>   Dr. Jerry Weast

Re: **FY 2010 OPERATING BUDGET HEARING**

The following people testified before the Board of Education:

1.   Jerry Klobukowski, Commissioner of Poolesville
2.   Luis Aguilera, student, Gaithersburg High School
3.   Mayra Dubon, student, Gaithersburg High School
4.   Janet Guzman, Students Advancement Via Individual Determination
5.   Joanna Miller, student, Commission on Children and Youth
6.   Andrew Jaime and Diana Garcia, Loiederman Middle School PTSA
7.   Bonnie Cullison, President, Montgomery County Education Association
8.   Rebecca Newman, President, Montgomery County Association of Administrative
         and Supervisory Personnel
9.   Betty Montgomery, SEIU Local 500
10.   Wayne Goldstein, Montgomery County Civic Federation
11.   Robert Monsheimer, Montgomery County Taxpayers League
12.   Henry Hailstock, NAACP Parents Council
13.   Laura Siegel, Churchill Cluster
14.   Lori Merrill, Richard Montgomery Cluster
15.   Roy Broussard, Rockville Cluster
16.   Rich Edelman, Wootton Cluster
17.   Bladimir Duenas, Blair Cluster
18.   Kelly Giblin, Einstein Cluster
19.   Ricky Ford, Kennedy Cluster
20.   Jennifer Chambers, Northwood Cluster
21.   Chris Zawlocki, Wheaton Cluster
22.   Joy White, Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster

23. Dee Dee Jacobson, Walter Johnson Cluster
24. Deborah Goldman, Whitman Cluster
25. Joan Karasik, Special Education
26. Karen Leggett, Transition Work Group
27. Janis Sartucci, Parents Coalition
28. Tim Johnson, Padres Latinos en Acción
29. Liz Roth, ARC of Montgomery County/Autism Society of America
30. Tina Progar, Least Restrictive Environment Access Group
31. Robert Astrove, Individual
32. Kathryn Marshall, Collaborative Autism Pre-School Program
33. Dwayne Herndon, Individual
34. Evie Frankl, Montgomery County Education Forum
35. Linda Krimm, Individual
36. Bryan Bloomer, Individual
37. Doreen Muller, Individual
38. Susan Conbere, Individual
39. Mike Dinkin, Individual
40. Bruce Meier, President, Parkland Middle School PTA
41. Joyce Breiner, Individual

The Board of Education asked the following questions:

1. Ms. Berthiaume asked how many students are coming into the middle school magnet consortium from out of the area. Is it done by a lottery? Will it be done on the same basis next year? How many out-of-area applications were there last year for this year's enrollment in sixth grade?
2. Ms. Brandman inquired about Advanced Placement certification that requires adequacy of science materials (Churchill Cluster). Please explain those requirements and the impact on the budget.
3. Ms. Brandman wanted to know about the focus schools that may have 17 students in the kindergarten class (Richard Montgomery Cluster). Would the current proposal hold at 17 students or would there be any anticipated increases?
4. Ms. Berthiaume asked about the 8.7 elementary special program teachers. Will that affect the French Immersions program at Sligo Creek Elementary School?
5. Ms. Berthiaume asked about class size limits and the increase in focus schools. Will there be 19 or 20 children in a kindergarten class before another teacher is assigned?
6. Ms. Berthiaume inquired about school copiers and maintenance. What is the plan for maintenance, cost reductions, and what are the practical implications?
7. Mr. Barclay asked about academic intervention positions and literacy coaches. He requested the last evaluation of those positions (if evaluations have been done). How did the system arrive at these decisions?
8. Ms. Brandman asked about the impact of reductions on Title I schools, focus schools, schools with high FARMS rates, and schools where students are not

reading on grade level. Could staff develop a chart or graphic to identify the reductions in focus schools or chart schools that did not make AYP?

9.   Mr. Barclay clarified what would be helpful in looking at reductions and asked what exactly is going to replace the work or benefits of the positions. For example, if a literacy coach is eliminated, who is going to do the work? How will the system maintain the services and quality of the schools? What is the system doing to ensure the high quality of education?

10.   Ms. Berthiaume asked about the middle school magnet consortium. Is there a preference for FARMS students for those outside the consortium?

11.   Mrs. O'Neill asked for a list of elementary schools without vice principals.

12.   Mrs. O'Neill inquired about the status of transportation for out-of- consortium middle school magnet students. What is the cost of transporting the remaining students?

13.   Ms. Berthiaume asked about the CAPP. Is the proposal to eliminate the program? What is proposed to replace it? Are the same quality of services going to be offered at the same student/staff ratio? Where will it be located?

14.   Ms. Berthiaume asked if staff has a projection of total special education enrollment. She requested an explanation of why staff thinks there will be an increase of 600 special education students from the current year to the next year. How did staff arrive at that number?

15.   Mrs. O'Neill said she had heard that the state might reduce state aid on nonpublic placements from 80 to 50 percent. What is the current expenditure for nonpublic placements? What would be the impact of a reduction to 50 percent?

16.   Mr. Kauffman asked if there were any middle schools in the county with an eight-period schedule. Do the teachers in those schools teach five or six periods? Mr. Barclay asked how those schools are comparatively doing on MSAs.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

JDW:gr