

APPROVED
43-1989

Rockville, Maryland
November 21, 1989

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Tuesday, November 21, 1989, at 7:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Dr. James E. Cronin, President
in the Chair
Mrs. Sharon DiFonzo
Mr. Blair G. Ewing
Mr. Bruce A. Goldensohn
Mrs. Catherine E. Hobbs
Mrs. Marilyn J. Praisner
Ms. Alison Serino

Absent: Dr. Robert E. Shoenberg

Others Present: Dr. Harry Pitt, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Paul L. Vance, Deputy Superintendent

Re: ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Cronin announced that Dr. Shoenberg was out of town because of a family commitment; however, he would read all the testimony.

Re: MUNICIPALITIES, COUNTYWIDE ORGANIZATIONS
AND CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

1. Jeffrey Katz, Commission on Children and Youth
2. Karen Monaco, Shaw Avenue Community Association
3. Jeremy Harris, Connecticut Avenue/Greenwood Knolls Civic Association
4. Valerie Kellogg, BELT Group
5. Peter Munson, Greater Colesville Citizens Association

Re: BOARD/COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

Mrs. Praisner requested information on the comments made by the Commission on Children and Youth as to the items they were recommending be part of health rooms and what would be the costs associated with them. She also asked how the health rooms as described by the Commission compared with health rooms in other counties within the state.

For the record, Mr. Ewing made the following statement:

"If there is a suggestion that the Board of Education has in any way been a party to any agreement concerning Belt that would deliberately engage the Board with either the county executive or developers for purposes of favoring some particular interest, then it is a total secret from me, and I have been on this Board for 13 years and

observed all of the school closings and subsequent need for schools. So I think it needs to be said for the record that if there is some such agreement or even some such effort or putting the worst construction on it, some sort of conspiracy afoot, it is, I think, the world's best kept secret because it is certainly not known to me."

Re: WHEATON CLUSTER

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

1. Essie Schloss, cluster coordinator
2. Jay Wood, Harmony Hills ES PTA
3. Mike Waterman, Viers Mill ES PTA

Re: BOARD/COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

In regard to the Aspen Hill Apartments, Dr. Cronin asked that staff go back to the apartments to make sure that they understood what was being considered. Mr. Ewing asked whether there were present plans or plans for the future to expand into all-day kindergarten at Viers Mill Elementary School. He noted that this was an opportunity to focus on a number of elements of early childhood education. That kind of approach probably required some additional space, and there was an opportunity here to be more comprehensive and inclusive in terms of programs, and he would like the superintendent's reaction to that suggestion for Viers Mill.

Re: SPRINGBROOK CLUSTER

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

1. Gloria Martin-Pressman, cluster coordinator
2. Cindy Waetjen, Westover ES PTA

Re: BOARD/COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

Dr. Cronin noted the need for close monitoring of construction projects in the Springbrook Cluster and asked that the Board be alerted if any projects got significantly behind. Mr. Ewing asked that staff keep on top of the Argyle situation and make sure the lease for the Barrie School was not extended by the county government. In regard to Westover, Mrs. Praisner noted that the community had indicated a percentage of utilization in 1992 without reassignment, and she asked staff to verify this in writing.

Re: SHERWOOD CLUSTER

Howard Zuses, cluster coordinator, appeared before the Board of Education.

Re: BOARD/COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

Mr. Ewing asked for staff's reaction to issues raised in testimony about Farquhar's leaking roof, lighting, and need to be in the six-year capital budget for renovation planning. He noted that the Sherwood Cluster would end the six-year capital program with space if Olney #6 were built sooner. He asked if other clusters would end up in deficit at the end of the six-year period. Mrs. Praisner asked that staff review testimony and verify each of the projects listed and the figures for each as to whether they were in projections. Dr. Cronin requested a map showing the developments with a note as to what the proposed development contained.

Re: PAINT BRANCH CLUSTER

Bea Gordon, cluster coordinator, appeared before the Board of Education.

Re: KENNEDY CLUSTER

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

1. Mary Batchter, cluster coordinator
2. John Finklea, Georgian Forest ES PTA
3. Lisa Itte, Kemp Mill ES PTA
4. Erik Olson, Glenallan ES PTA
5. Greg Praske, Bel Pre/Strathmore PTA
6. Karen Rabin, Kennedy HS PTSA

Re: BOARD/COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

Mr. Ewing requested an assessment as to whether plans for E. Brooke Lee Middle School would be adequate to house the students and the program. He asked staff to explore creative solutions to the holding school issue. Dr. Cronin asked that costs be supplied if the Board did consider alternatives to holding schools and requested that this be scheduled in executive session on November 28.

Re: EINSTEIN CLUSTER

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

1. Judith Treanor, cluster coordinator
2. Alyce Amussen, Oakland Terrace ES PTA
3. Barbara Gownder, Einstein HS PTSA
4. Margaret Ascienzo, Rock View ES PTA

Re: BOARD/COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

Dr. Cronin asked Dr. Rohr to get in touch with Delegate Billings. She had offered to help with the problem of the traffic light at Denfield and Connecticut.

Re: MONTGOMERY BLAIR CLUSTER

Barbara Henry, cluster coordinator, appeared before the Board of Education.

Re: BOARD/COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

Dr. Cronin asked that in the very near future the superintendent provide his reaction to the year of study proposed by the Blair community. Mr. Ewing asked that staff provide reactions to the proposal that three elementary schools be housed in the Peary High School building. Mrs. Praisner requested that staff provide an update on the Kay tract. Mrs. Hobbs asked for background information on the location of the Kay tract and potential student yields. Mrs. Praisner asked staff to keep an eye on enrollment projections for Pine Crest.

Re: ADJOURNMENT

The president adjourned the meeting at 11:35 p.m.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

HP:mlw