APPROVED 42-1997

Rockville, Maryland November 13, 1997

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Wednesday, November 13, 1997.

ROLL CALL Present: Mr. Reginald M. Felton, President

in the Chair
Dr. Alan Cheung
Mr. Blair G. Ewing
Mrs. Beatrice B. Gordon

Ms. Ana Sol Gutiérrez Mrs. Nancy J. King Ms. Mona M. Signer Ms. Debra Wheat

Dr. Paul L. Vance, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: None

Re: PUBLIC HEARING ON THE REQUESTED FY 1999

CAPITAL BUDGET AND THE FY 1999 TO FY 2004

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

The public hearing was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

- 1. David Magill, Fallsberry Homeowners Association
- 2. Gary Kushner, Potomac Glen Homeowners Association
- 3. Ray Sherbill, Fallsreach Homeowners Association
- 4. Michael Mueller, Normandie Falls Homeowners Association
- 5. Jerry Klobukowski, The Commissioners of Poolesville
- 6. Jack Markowitz, Fallswick Homeowners Association
- 7. Judy Tankersley, Aspen Hill Civic Association
- 8. Councilwoman Geraldine Edens, City of Gaithersburg
- 9. Elliot Chabot, Robert E. Peary Alumni Association
- 10. Susan Scofield, Seneca Valley Cluster
- 11. Jay Mandelbaum, Quince Orchard Cluster
- 12. Karin Askin, Debby Vivari, Linda Short, and Gigi Godwin, Wootton Cluster
- 13. Beth Kellar and Lafe Solomon, Whitman Cluster
- 14. Nick Farson, Wheaton Cluster
- 15. Bob Hydorn, Watkins Mills Cluster
- 16. Liz Smith, Poolesville Cluster
- 17. Georgia Johnson, Lucie Campbell, Debbie Stein, Jill Lavin, Mary Vincent, Susan Beck, Pat Fried, Lynn Klein, and Laura Siegel, Churchill Cluster

- 18. Linda Rigsby, Gaithersburg Cluster
- 19. Margaret Ascienzo, Damascus Cluster and Northwest Area High School
- 20. Jeffery Mohr
- 21. Lindsey Capon
- 22. Vincent Le
- 23. Carolyn and Ross Eichberg
- 24. David Ehrlick
- 25. Wendy Schwartz
- 26. Susan Plotnick
- 27. David Gross
- 28. Ellen Goldman
- 29. Heidi Mirviss
- 30. Paula Perelman
- 31. Jack Cassell
- 32. Bernie Brill
- 33. Rosanne Alexander
- 34. Nina Weisbroth
- 35. Amy Guterman
- 36. Sharon Schick
- 37. Polly Sekercan
- 38. Keith Rust
- 39. Scott Greenspan
- 40. Ashok Sazena
- 41. William Askinazi
- 42. Jeffrey Gage
- 43. Jeffrey Kaufman
- 44. Bob and Linda Davies
- 45. Lisa Cantor
- 46. Mason Harris
- 47. Patricia Semple
- 48. Terry Townsend

The Board of Education members requested information on the following issues:

Mrs. King requested information on the cost of adding a gym at Sally Ride Elementary School.

Mrs. King asked for information on the cost and how an addition to the cafeteria could be accomplished at Seneca Valley High School, if feasible.

Ms. Signer referred to Quince Orchard Cluster's testimony and the problems at Ridgeview Middle School and Brown Station and Diamond elementary schools. She asked for a staff

response to those concerns, especially Brown Station where an inspector has declared the roof unfit and beyond repair.

Ms. Signer pointed out that there are safe access issues raised in connection with Jones Lane with cars blocking buses entering and exiting the parking lot. Please advise.

Mrs. King asked for a report on the safe access issue at Lakewood Elementary School.

Ms. Signer requested additional information on Lakewood Elementary School and the unsecured entrance.

Ms. Signer wanted to know what core improvements will be made to Thomas S. Wootton High School with the addition, and what the size of the core is built for now.

Mrs. King requested a report on the safe access issues at Montgomery Village Middle School and South Lake Elementary School.

Mrs. King asked how much it would cost to take the carpets out of Stedwick Elementary School and replace with tile.

Ms. Gutiérrez asked for the general practice and history regarding replacing carpet with tile.

Mr. Ewing asked for the cost estimate of an addition like the one requested for Watkins Mill High School.

Ms. Signer noted that when she toured Wood Acres Elementary School, she asked that attention be given to the roof. She thought that the issue had been addressed, and asked for an update on that concern.

Ms. Signer pointed out that she had already asked for information on how Whittier Woods would be used to address the needs at Whitman and whether that would include science labs, and she hoped that information would be provided to Ms. Kellar.

Mrs. King requested a report on the safe access issues at Weller Road Elementary School.

Ms. Signer asked about the incremental cost of four rooms on the Wheaton High School and Harmony Hills Elementary School additions. She also wanted a staff assessment of why those rooms are not included in each case.

Regarding the rapid growth and projections for the Northwest Area High School, Mr. Ewing

asked for the updated projections for that school and any suggestions that staff presently has about were those students will be housed if capacity is exceeded by the year 2000.

Mr. Felton pointed out that Damascus Elementary School raised the issue about accessibility to playgrounds. He wanted to know the full scope of this problem and whether or not there are schools that are not accessible and the cost per school to make them accessible.

Ms. Gutiérrez pointed out the large available space in the Damascus Cluster and the mention of a Milestone Elementary School. She wanted to know if there is a plan for another elementary school.

Mrs. King requested information as to the maintenance issues at Gaithersburg High School mentioned in Ms. Rigsby's testimony.

Mrs. Gordon requested an update on the air quality issues at Washington Grove Elementary School.

Mrs. Gordon pointed out that every cluster reports a safe access issue and information has been requested on individual schools. She would like more global information on the safe access program that MCPS has in place and how schools get placed.

With respect to the comprehensive environmental evaluation at Gaithersburg High School, Mr. Ewing wanted to know what kind of environmental evaluation MCPS does as a routine matter, what are the standards and criteria for environmental quality inside buildings, and what it costs for MCPS to do the kind of assessment Ms. Rigsby proposes.

Mr. Ewing wanted to know what it would cost to add a full size gym to the Poolesville Middle School. He also wanted to know whether the superintendent thinks MCPS might be able to obtain support for that, in part, from the county government since it would be a great community asset.

Regarding the Poolesville Cluster, Mr. Felton stated they had raised the issue of accessability in labs. To what extent is that a problem systemwide? What is the cost per school and what is the plan for addressing the accessability within science labs.

The superintendent has in the capital budget a proposal to deal with the renovation of the greenhouse, but the other requests made in the Poolesville testimony for various capital and maintenance are not addressed. Mr. Ewing wanted the superintendent to tell the Board which of those requests could be done, are being done, are planned for in some other part of the budget, and what is not being planned for and what it might cost.

Ms. Signer wanted to know (as well as the community) what the figures would look like if all of Zone 2 were moved to Seven Locks in the superintendent's recommendation. How would the staff address the capacity issues that have been raised for the middle schools in Alternative 6, and what core space is built for each of those schools. She also wanted information on walkers in the superintendent's recommendation and in all of the alternatives under consideration.

With respect to the Winston Churchill High School's modernization, even with the full 20 room addition, the school will be over capacity in 2005. It is Ms. Signer's understanding that there will be no additional space on the site to fully build out the 20 rooms. She wanted to know how the superintendent will address over capacity under those circumstances.

With respect to Seven Locks Elementary School, the superintendent's proposal does not provide sufficient students to meet the criterion of two classes of children in each grade. Mr. Ewing asked if the superintendent would recommend additional resources for Seven Locks in view of the absence of those resources based on an enrollment figure.

With respect to Hoover Middle School, the superintendent's recommendation is for an 11-room addition, but the testimony suggests that this does not address the overcrowding in the core facility. Mr. Ewing wanted to know whether there has been consideration of an increase in the core facilities and, if not, how that might be handled and what that might cost.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

PRESIDENT		
SECRETARY		

PLV:gr