

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Rockville, Maryland**

January 13, 2009

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Quratul-Ann Malik, Student Member of the Board of Education

Subject: Traci L. Williams, Student Member of the Board of Education (1980-1981)

WHEREAS, Ms. Traci L. Williams, actress and arts educator, graduate of Walt Whitman High School, and former Student Member of the Montgomery County Board of Education (SMOB) passed away on December 14, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Williams, as a student leader and Student Member of the Board from July 1, 1980 to June 30, 1981, blazed a pioneering trail as the third SMOB and the first African American SMOB in the history of Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS); and

WHEREAS, In Ms. Williams tenure as a student of MCPS and as a leader, she displayed uncommon grace, dignity, and strength of character as she worked to assure respect and authority for the voice of the student by successfully fighting for the expansion of the SMOB's voting rights and ensuring that the SMOB votes on key issues affecting MCPS; now therefore be it,

Resolved, That on behalf of the Montgomery County Board of Education and the children of Montgomery County Public Schools, the Board sends condolences to the family of Ms. Traci L. Williams and salutes her legacy as a powerful voice and advocate for the welfare of all children and youth and as a visionary pioneer whose quiet but persistent advocacy enhanced the stature and authority of the office of the Student Member of the Board; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the family of Ms. Traci L. Williams.