APPROVED 21-1983

Bethesda, Maryland February 24, 1983

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, Bethesda, Maryland, on Thursday, February 24, 1983, at 8:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Mr. Blair G. Ewing, President in the Chair Dr. James E. Cronin Dr. Marian L. Greenblatt Mr. Kurt Hirsch Mrs. Suzanne K. Peyser Mrs. Marilyn J. Praisner Mrs. Odessa M. Shannon Dr. Robert E. Shoenberg

Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Edward Andrews, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Harry Pitt, Deputy Superintendent Dr. Robert S. Shaffner, Executive

Resolution No. 180-83 Re: Board Agenda for February 24, 1983

On motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Praisner, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Dr. Greenblatt and Mrs. Peyser voting in the negative (Mr. Hirsch voting in the affirmative):

<u>Resolved</u>, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for February 24, 1983.

Re: Bethesda Chevy Chase Cluster

Dr. Greenblatt read the following letter from Mr. Norman Christeller, of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, into the record:

On February 17, 1983 the Planning Board reviewed the Superintendent's final recommendations and various options for the Bethesda-Chevy Chase school cluster as an element in the 1982 Update of the 15-year Comprehensive Master Plan of Educational Facilities. After reviewing the discussion, the Planning Board reached the following conclusions and observations:

- 1. The choice of option must have, as a primary objective, the achievement of stability in attendance patterns for an extended period of time.
- 2. The Board's decision should provide academic programs that

will succeed in retaining students from within the area, well as attracting new students from outside the area.

3. The solution must result in support for quality education and balance; however, a relatively high minority enrollment is no necessarily a negative factor and may even contribute to community stability, cohesion, and quality education.

- 4. Sufficient capacity in the schools must be retained for necessary and desirable community uses, especially day-care. This consideration must be balanced against declining enrollments and the destabilizing effect of any future closing of a school.
- 5. There is some land in this area available for future addition development. In addition, there is some evidence that, with freeing-up of the housing market, turnover in existing homes result in a growth in number of students. This is a further for leaving some excess in capacity at this time. As you know, our planning policies endorse the retention of a sufficient number of public schools to encourage the recycling of older housing stock for use by younger families.

We are aware that no one of the options will achieve an ideal solution to the many complex issues confronting the Board of Education. Our recommendation is that you assure the continuation of a strong Rosemary Hills Elementary School. This is an important educational and community resource and is recognized as an important community facility in the Silver Spring Sector Plan.

> Re: A Motion by Dr. Cronin on the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster (FAILED)

The following motion by Dr. Cronin failed of adoption with Dr. Cronin in the affirmative; Mr. Ewing, Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the negative (Mr. Hirsch voting in the negative):

<u>Resolved</u>, That the Board of Education adopt the following for the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster:

Bethesda (K-6)

- o Send to Rosemary Hills/North Chevy Chase the Lynnbrook service area students, with the exception of the 1983 6th grade class, beginning in 1983-1984
- o Receive from Rosemary Hills all K-6 students in the Paddington Square Apartments, beginning in 1983-84

as

Rosemary Hills (EC-2)

- Receive all students (EC-2) from North Chevy Chase and Lynnbrook, beginning in 1983-84
- Begin a gifted and talented program in 1983-84 North Chevy Chase (3-6)

North Chevy Chase (3-6)

 Receive from Rosemary Hills all Grades 3-6 students; beginning in 1983-84

Rock Creek Forest (K-6)

o No change

Chevy Chase (K-6)

o Receive from Rosemary Hills 8500 16th Street, beginning 1983-84

Somerset (K-6)

o Receive from Westbrook all K-6 students, beginning 1983-84 Westbrook (K-6)

o Close in June 1983.

Re: Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster

Mrs. Praisner moved and Dr. Shoenberg seconded the following:

WHEREAS, The Policy on Long-range Educational Facilities Planing establishes goals, principles, and a process for addressing changing enrollment; and

WHEREAS, The primary goal of the policy is to provide those facilities and future school sites necessary to sustain high quality educational programs at reasonable cost; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland State Board of Education in its decision of August 20, 1982, directed the Montgomery County Board of Education to conduct further study and to take appropriate action in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase cluster elementary schools; and

WHEREAS, The community involvement process portion of the policy has implemented; and

WHEREAS, Alternative proposals have been received from communities and options have been developed as requested by the Board; and

WHEREAS, Dialogues have been held on the recommendations and public hearings have been held on the recommendations and options; now therefore be it

<u>Resolved</u>, That the Board take the following actions affecting the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster elementary schools:

Bethesda\_K-6

- o Send to Chevy Chase all Grades 3-6 students in the Paddington Square Apartments, beginning with Grade 3 in 1985-86
- Send to Rosemary Hills all Grades K-2 students in the Paddington Square Apartments, beginning with Grades K-1 in 1983-84

Chevy Chase (3-6)

- Receive from Bethesda all Grades 3-6 students in the Paddington Square Apartments, beginning with Grade 3 in 1983-84
- Send to Rosemary Hills all Grades K-2 students, beginning with Grades K-1 in 1983-84

North Chevy Chase (3-6)

- Receive from Rosemary Hills all Grades 2-6 students in 1983-84 all Grades 3-6 students thereafter
- o Begin a gifted and talented program in 1984-85

Rock Creek Forest (K-6) No change

Rosemary Hills (HS-2)

- Receive from Bethesda all Grade K-2 students in the Paddington Square Apartments, beginning with Grades K-1 in 1983-84
- Receive from Chevy Chase all Grades K-2 students, beginning with Grade K-1 in 1983-84
- o Send to North Chevy Chase all Grades 2-6 students in 1983-84; Grades 3-6 students thereafter
- o Begin a gifted and talented program in 1983-84

Somerset (K-6) No change

Westbrook (K-6) No change

and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>, That the State Board of Education and state superintendent schools be made aware of these actions on or before March 2, 1983.

Mrs. Praisner assumed the chair.

Resolution No. 181-83 Re: An Amendment to the Proposed Resolution on Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster

On motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mr. Hirsch, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Dr. Greenblatt and Mrs. Praisner abstaining; Mrs. Peyser being temporarily absent (Mr. Hirsch voting in the affirmative):

<u>Resolved</u>, That the proposed resolution on Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster be amended by the addition of a <u>Resolved</u> clause:

<u>Resolved</u>, That the Board of Education commits itself to the development of magnet programs including mathematics, science, computer science, and gifted and talented programs in Rosemary Hills, North Chevy Chase, and Chevy Chase Elementary Schools and to consider whether there might also be appropriate magnets in other schools in the cluster not now having such magnets.

Resolution No. 182-83 Re: An Amendment to the Proposed R Resolution on Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster

On motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

<u>Resolved</u>, That the proposed resolution on Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster be amended by the addition of a <u>Resolved</u> clause:

<u>Resolved</u>, That the Board of Education commits itself to assuring that students are treated equally and have available to them the option of selecting appropriate educational programs in other cluster schools within the bounds of the Quality Education/Racial Balance Policy.

Mr. Ewing assumed the chair.

Re: A Motion by Dr. Greenblatt to Amend Proposed Resolution on Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster (FAILED)

A motion by Dr. Greenblatt to delete North Chevy Chase Elementary School from the option and not reopen North Chevy Chase failed with Dr. Greenblatt and Mrs. Peyser voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the negative (Mr. Hirsch voting in the negative).

> Re: A Motion by Dr. Greenblatt to Amend the Proposed Resolution on Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster (FAILED)

A motion by Dr. Greenblatt to delete Chevy Chase Elementary (3-6) from the option and make it a K-6 school failed with Dr. Greenblatt and Mrs. Peyser voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the negative (Mr. Hirsch voting in the negative)

Re: A Motion by Dr. Cronin to Amend the Proposed Resolution on Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster Schools

Dr. Cronin moved that the proposed resolution on Bethesda-Chevy Chase Schools be amended to put Lynnbrook into the feeder pattern of North Chevy Chase and Rosemary Hills.

Resolution No. 183-83 Re: An Amendment to Dr. Cronin's Motion on Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster Schools

On motion of Dr. Shoenberg seconded by Dr. Greenblatt, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

<u>Resolved</u>, That Dr. Cronin's proposed motion on Bethesda-Chevy Chase Schools be amended by the addition of a <u>Resolved</u> clause:

<u>Resolved</u>, That all former Lynnbrook students who started at Bethesda Elementary School be allowed to finish there.

Re: A Motion by Dr. Cronin to Amend the Proposed Resolution on Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster Schools (FAILED)

A motion by Dr. Cronin to amend the proposed resolution on Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster Schools by putting the former Lynnbrook students into the pattern of North Chevy Chase and Rosemary Hills and stipulating that former Lynnbrook students who started at Bethesda be allowed to finish there failed with Dr. Cronin voting in the affirmative; Mr. Ewing, Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the negative (Mr. Hirsch voting in the negative).

> Re: A Substitute Motion by Dr. Greenblatt on the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster (FAILED)

A substitute motion by Dr. Greenblatt on the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster that all schools in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase cluster be K-6 except for Rosemary Hills which would become a Head Start-Grade 2 primary school, North Chevy Chase reopening as a 3-6 school with the computer magnet center at North Chevy Chase and Rosemary Hills as well as the gifted and talented program, and the Board would continue to monitor the racial balance and utilization in the cluster, and the superintendent would review the enrollment and utilization at Westbrook and Somerset as part of the annual update, and that transfers would be encouraged and permitted according to the racial balance policy failed with Dr. Greenblatt and Mrs. Peyser voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the negative (Mr. Hirsch voting in the negative).

Re: A Motion by Mrs. Peyser to Adjourn

A motion by Mrs. Peyser that the Board adjourn its meeting failed for lack of a second.

Resolution No. 184-83 Re: An Amendment to the Proposed Resolution on the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster

On motion of Dr. Shoenberg seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

<u>Resolved</u>, That the proposed resolution on Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster be amended in the first <u>Resolved</u> clause:

<u>Resolved</u>, That the following plan be adopted:

- North Chevy Chase Elementary open in September, 1983 as a Grade 3-6 school
- Chevy Chase Elementary be a Grade 1-6 school in September, 1983, a Grade 2-6 school in September, 1984, and a Grade 3-6 school thereafter
- o Rosemary Hills Elementary School be a Head Start-2 school in September, 1983

and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>, That the phase-in of Option 3 be completed over a three-year period with the understanding that any students wishing to leave Chevy Chase or any Paddington Square students wishing to leave Bethesda may do so earlier.

Re: A Motion by Dr. Cronin to Amend the Proposed Resolution on the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster (FAILED)

A motion by Dr. Cronin that the superintendent be directed to prepare an option for next year's facility review which includes the closure of Westbrook with the assignment of the students to Somerset failed for lack of a second.

Resolution No. 185-83 Re: An Amendment to the Proposed Resolution on the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster

On motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mr. Hirsch, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Dr. Greenblatt and Mrs. Peyser abstaining (Mr. Hirsch voting in the affirmative):

<u>Resolved</u>, That the proposed resolution on the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster be amended by the addition of the following:

<u>Resolved</u>, That the Board of Education makes the following assurances:

- o The Board would give an assurance that the solution once adopted would stay in place with respect to its major elements for at least four years, until at least the fall of 1987, giving time to develop and put in place smooth transitions, stable patterns of enrollment, clearly articulated educational objectives and specific educational programs with the necessary staff and other resources to make them succeed.
- o The Board would provide, if possible (given the budgetary dependency of MCPS on the executive and Council and state government), resources beyond the norm and beyond mere transport costs to implement with a high level of effectiveness and success the educational programs adopted and needed for the cluster.
- o The Board would assure that there was continuous Board attention and staff attention to the progress and to the issues faced by the cluster schools, and would do that through regular monitoring, Board meetings with staff and community, perhaps a mandated cluster-wide organization of principals and another mandated cluster-wide advisory

committees parents and citizens. In addition, resources would be targeted for formal evaluation of the cluster programs. The purpose would not be to make short-term changes in such matters as attendance areas or program locations or magnet program shifts or student assignment patterns to make sure that those things put in place had the requisite attention and resources to succeed.

o The Board would give assurances that it would, through its own involvement and through involvement of staff and every elementary school community, engage this spring in intensive educational planning for the educational programs in the cluster, the aim being to assure a high level of excellence in every school in the cluster in educational terms.

Resolution No. 186-83 Re: An Amendment to the Proposed Resolution on Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster Schools

On motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mrs. Praisner, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Dr. Greenblatt and Mrs. Peyser voting in the negative (Mr. Hirsch abstaining):

<u>Resolved</u>, That the proposed resolution on Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster Schools be amended to state that this was a tentative action with final action to be taken on March 1.

Resolution No. 187-83

Re: Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster Schools

On motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Dr. Greenblatt and Mrs. Peyser voting in the negative (Mr. Hirsch voting in the affirmative):

WHEREAS, The Policy on Long-range Educational Facilities Planing establishes goals, principles, and a process for addressing changing enrollment; and

WHEREAS, The primary goal of the policy is to provide those facilities and future school sites necessary to sustain high quality educational programs at reasonable cost; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland State Board of Education in its decision of August 20, 1982, directed the Montgomery County Board of Education to conduct further study and to take appropriate action in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase cluster elementary schools; and

WHEREAS, The community involvement process portion of the policy has been implemented; and

WHEREAS, Alternative proposals have been received from communities and have been developed as requested by the Board; and

WHEREAS, Dialogues have been held on the recommendations and public hearings have been held on the recommendations and options; now therefore be it

<u>Resolved</u>, That the Board take the following actions affecting the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster elementary schools:

Bethesda K-6

- Send to Chevy Chase all Grades 3-6 students in the Paddington Square Apartments, beginning with Grade 3 in 1986-87
- o Send to Rosemary Hills all Grades K-2 students in the Paddington Square Apartments, beginning with kindergarten in 1983-84

Chevy Chase (3-6)

- o Receive from Bethesda all Grade 3-6 students in the Paddington Square Apartments, beginning with Grade 3 in 1986-87
- o Send to Rosemary Hills all Grades K-2 students, beginning with Kindergarten in 1983-84

North Chevy Chase (3-6)

o Receive from Rosemary Hills all Grades 3-6 students in 1983-84

Rock Creek Forest (K-6) No change

Rosemary Hills (HS-2)

- o Receive from Bethesda all Grades K-2 students in the Paddington Square Apartments, beginning with Kindergarten in 1983-84
- Receive from Chevy Chase all Grades K-2 students, beginning with Kindergarten in 1983-84
- o Send to North Chevy Chase all Grades 3-6 students in 1983-84

Somerset (K-6) No change

Westbrook (K-6) No change

and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education commits itself to the

development of magnet programs including mathematics, science, computer science, and gifted and talented programs in Rosemary Hills, North Chevy Chase, and Chevy Chase Elementary Schools and consider whether there might also be appropriate magnets in other schools in the cluster not now having such magnets; and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>, That the Board of Education commits itself to assuring that all students are treated equally and have available to them the option of selecting appropriate educational programs in other cluster schools within the bounds of the Quality Education/Racial Balance Policy; and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>, That the phase-in of Option 3 be completed over a three-year period with the understanding that any students wishing to leave Chevy Chase or any Paddington Square students wishing to leave Bethesda may do so earlier; and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>, That the Board of Education makes the following assurances:

- o The Board would give an assurance that the solution once adopted would stay in place with respect to its major elements for at least four years, until at least the fall of 1987, giving time to develop and put in place smooth transitions, stable patterns of enrollment, clearly articulated educational objectives and specific educational programs with the necessary staff and other resources to make them succeed.
- o The Board would provide, if possible (given the budgetary dependency of MCPS on the executive and Council and state government), resources beyond the norm and beyond mere transport costs to implement with a high level of effectiveness and success the educational programs adopted and needed for the cluster.
- The Board would assure that there was continuous Board 0 attention and staff attention to the progress and to the issues faced by the cluster schools, and would do that through regular monitoring, Board meetings with staff and community, perhaps a mandated cluster-wide organization of principals and another mandated cluster-wide advisory committee of parents and citizens. In addition, resources would be targeted for formal evaluation of the cluster The purpose would not be to make short-term programs. changes in such matters as attendance areas or program locations or magnet program shifts or student assignment patterns, but to make sure that those things put in place had the requisite attention and resources to succeed.
- o The Board would give assurances that it would, through its own involvement and through involvement of staff and every elementary school community, engage this spring in intensive

educational planning for the educational programs in the cluster, the aim being to assure a high level of excellence in every school in the cluster in educational terms.

and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>, That these actions will be made final on March 1, 1983, in order to allow time for the Board to receive written comment from affected communities;

and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>, That the State Board of Education and state superintendent of schools be made aware of these actions on or before March 2, 1983.

Re:

Adjournment

The president adjourned the meeting at 12:30 a.m.

President

Secretary

EA:mlw