

APPROVED
64-1983

Rockville, Maryland
November 8, 1983

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in regular session at the Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Tuesday, November 8, 1983, at 10:15 a.m.

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

Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Wilmer S. Cody, Superintendent of
Schools
Dr. Harry Pitt, Deputy Superintendent
Dr. Robert S. Shaffner, Executive
Assistant
Mr. Thomas S. Fess, Parliamentarian

Re: Announcement

Mr. Ewing announced that the Board had been meeting in executive session on personnel and human relations issues. The Board had met in the morning with the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce to discuss ways of working together.

Resolution No. 905-83 Re: Board Agenda - November 8, 1983

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for November 8, 1983.

Resolution No. 906-83 Re: Proclamation for Community
Education Day

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Public Schools and the Montgomery County Government continue to be innovative and successful in combining school and government resources through the Interagency Coordinating Board and its Community School Program; and

WHEREAS, It has been demonstrated that public, community, nonprofit, and private services can be delivered in school facilities to increase the availability of services and to enhance the total program for students and their families; and

WHEREAS, Citizens are volunteering in community schools and providing important contributions toward solving school and community problems and broadening the lines of communication between the school and the community; and

WHEREAS, By their participation, the citizens of Montgomery County are contributing toward the improvement of the education of their children and youth and the betterment of the quality of life throughout the county; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County hereby proclaim the day of November 16, 1983, as "COMMUNITY EDUCATION DAY"; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County urge citizens to recognize the importance of using public school facilities for community services and encourage citizens to participate in community school programs.

Re: Energy Conservation Award

Mr. Ray Pratt, Energy Management Specialist, presented Mr. Ewing and Dr. Cody with a plaque received by the MCPS energy program at the ASBO meeting.

Re: Student Performance

Board members heard a performance by vocal music students from Springbrook High School.

Re: Ethics Legislation

Dr. Cody explained that the Board had the county's policy and proposals from the state. He had received information that almost all other school districts were adopting Form B of the state version. Staff had looked at the three versions, thought that Form A of the state version was inappropriate, and was proposing a modification of the plans. Mr. Charles Reese, Board attorney, provided a brief history of ethics legislation in Maryland. Dr. Greenblatt reported that the matter of ethnics had been under consideration by the Maryland Association of Boards of Education because boards of education were state agencies rather than under county government. She suggested that they look at Form B and fill in the blanks. Dr. Kenneth Muir, director of the Department of Information, reported that the president of the County Council supported by a majority of Council members felt the Board should be included under the county ethnics law.

* Dr. Cronin joined the meeting at this point.

Board members raised several questions about the sections on lobbying, the partisan nature of the county ethics commission, and holdings in a business which might create a conflict of interest.

Mrs. Jane Stern, president of MCEA, raised questions about the section on lobbying. Mr. Ewing suggested that it might be worthwhile to find out what other school systems were doing with the section on lobbying and their employee organizations.

Mrs. Praisner suggested that when the Board returned to this topic on November 21 they needed to incorporate the suggestions made by Mr. Fess in his memo on this subject. Mr. Ewing asked Board members for their directions to staff. Dr. Greenblatt and Mrs. Peyser indicated their preference for Model B. Other Board members preferred the staff version. Dr. Muir agreed to check with other school systems on the plans they they were adopting. Dr. Shoenberg asked that staff show where their version departed from Form B.

Re: Board of Education Policies

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

WHEREAS, On July 25, 1983, the Board of Education adopted a procedure and schedule for the review of Board policies; and

WHEREAS, The first section to be reviewed consisted of Section A on Foundations and Basic Commitments and Section B on School Board Governance and Operations; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education subcommittee on policy review completed its study on October 14, 1983; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education requests that corrections be made to the following policies:

ACA - Statement on Human Relations - citation correction from 595-60 to 595-69

ACB - Resolution on Discrimination be changed to its Board-adopted title of "Resolution on Nondiscrimination

ACC - Resolution on Nondiscrimination - citation correction from 392-79, April 3, 1979, to 514-81, July 14, 1981

AEA - Goals of Education - move to AD - Philosophy in accordance with NSBA categories

AFA - Educational Accountability - restore missing section 6 (see attached)

and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of Educational Accountability be directed to correct sexist language in policy AEA - Goals of Education, and that they be given the authority to eliminate sexist wording wherever it may appear in the policy handbook; and be it

further

Resolved, That the superintendent be requested to review AEB - Comprehensive Planning to see whether a more general policy statement that ties together current planning activities and functions should be developed; and be it further

Resolved, That AGA - Releasing School by School Test Scores be removed from the Policies and Regulations Handbook because it is covered by the Public Information Law; and be it further

Resolved, That Board staff be requested to develop the following revised policies for Board action:

Governance and Operations of the Board of Education
Including BBA, BCA, BCB, BCC, BCD, BDA, BDB, BDC, BDD, BDE, BDF, BDG, and BLA. The goal is to develop a separate section of the policies and regulations handbook which would consist of Board regulations for its own operations. The regulation section would incorporate existing procedures, Blue Ribbon Commission resolutions, and general resolutions adopted by the Board on its operations. Adoption of the regulations will serve as a "housekeeping" device to clean up the many conflicting resolutions adopted by various Boards in the past 20 years. These regulations would be adopted by the Board and reviewed every two years. In some cases sections of the policies listed above would remain as separate policies, others would be listed as state law, and others would become part of the regulations.

Board of Education Committees
Including BMA, BMB, BMC, BMD, and BME. The goal is to develop both a general policy on Board committees and a regulation section on operating procedures for committees in general and guidelines for all continuing committees.

Policies

A review of portions of BDE may result in the need to retain some general policy on "policies."

and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the following changes in the following policies:

1. ACB - Resolution on Nondiscrimination - Add "age" to the third Resolved clause after "race, creed, and sex" to read:

Resolved, That all existing policies, i.e., discipline, Human Relations, and Community Involvement, will be equitably and equally implemented with regard to race, creed, sex, age, handicap, religion, and/or national origin; and be it further

2. BDH - Public Participation in Board Meetings - Delete from No. 5 "and area advisory councils to make policy recommendations to the Board"

3. BDH - substitute the following for the paragraph on Citizen Participation in Board of Education Meetings:
"At each regular business meeting of the Board, there is a brief period when visitors and news media representatives are invited to ask questions or to present comments to the Board. The following guidelines are established for participation in these question and answer periods:"

and be it further

Resolved, That the Board makes the following changes to BGA - Board-Student Communications:

- A. That Resolutions 257-69 and 62-81 on Board-Student Communications be rescinded.
- B. That the following consolidated resolution be established as Board policy on communications with students:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education is interested in the views and concerns of the students; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education recognizes the need for student input and reaction in its decision-making process; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of the Board of Education to meet with students both formally and informally to discuss student views and concerns; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education will schedule annual meetings by area with representatives of the Montgomery County Region of the Maryland Association of Student Councils, an annual meeting with the officers of that organization, and an annual meeting with representatives of the Montgomery County Junior Councils; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education will provide MCR and MCJC, upon their request, time at Board meetings to address issues of concern.

Resolution No. 907-83 Re: An Amendment to the Proposed
Resolution on Board of Education
Policies

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

Resolved, That the proposed resolution on Board of Education policies be amended to delete "question and answer" from BDH - Public Participation in Board Meetings.

Re: A Motion by Dr. Greenblatt to
Amend the Proposed Resolution on Board
of Education Policies (FAILED)

A motion by Dr. Greenblatt to amend the proposed resolution on Board of Education policies by deleting "by area" from BGA - Board-student Communications 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. Robertson voting in the negative).

Resolution No. 908-83 Re: Board of Education Policies

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

WHEREAS, On July 25, 1983, the Board of Education adopted a procedure and schedule for the review of Board policies; and

WHEREAS, The first section to be reviewed consisted of Section A on Foundations and Basic Commitments and Section B on School Board Governance and Operations; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education subcommittee on policy review completed its study on October 14, 1983; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education requests that corrections be made to the following policies:

ACA - Statement on Human Relations - citation correction from 595-60 to 595-69
ACB - Resolution on Discrimination be changed to its Board-adopted title of "Resolution on Nondiscrimination
ACC - Resolution on Nondiscrimination - citation correction from 392-79, April 3, 1979, to 514-81, July 14, 1981
AEA - Goals of Education - move to AD - Philosophy in accordance with NSBA categories
AFA - Educational Accountability - restore missing section 6 (see attached)

and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of Educational Accountability be directed to correct sexist language in policy AEA - Goals of Education, and that they be given the authority to eliminate sexist wording wherever it may appear in the policy handbook; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent be requested to review AEB -

Comprehensive Planning to see whether a more general policy statement that ties together current planning activities and functions should be developed; and be it further

Resolved, That AGA - Releasing School by School Test Scores be removed from the Policies and Regulations Handbook because it is covered by the Public Information Law; and be it further

Resolved, That Board staff be requested to develop the following revised policies for Board action:

Governance and Operations of the Board of Education
Including BBA, BCA, BCB, BCC, BCD, BDA, BDB, BDC, BDD, BDE, BDF, BDG, and BLA. The goal is to develop a separate section of the policies and regulations handbook which would consist of Board regulations for its own operations. The regulation section would incorporate existing procedures, Blue Ribbon Commission resolutions, and general resolutions adopted by the Board on its operations. Adoption of the regulations will serve as a "housekeeping" device to clean up the many conflicting resolutions adopted by various Boards in the past 20 years. These regulations would be adopted by the Board and reviewed every two years. In some cases sections of the policies listed above would remain as separate policies, others would be listed as state law, and others would become part of the regulations.

Board of Education Committees
Including BMA, BMB, BMC, BMD, and BME. The goal is to develop both a general policy on Board committees and a regulation section on operating procedures for committees in general and guidelines for all continuing committees.

Policies

A review of portions of BDE may result in the need to retain some general policy on "policies."

and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the following changes in the following policies:

1. ACB - Resolution on Nondiscrimination - Add "age" to the third Resolved clause after "race, creed, and sex" to read:

Resolved, That all existing policies, i.e., discipline, Human Relations, and Community Involvement, will be equitably and equally implemented with regard to race, creed, sex, age, handicap, religion, and/or national origin; and be it further

2. BDH - Public Participation in Board Meetings - Delete from No. 5 "and area advisory councils to make policy recommendations to the Board"

3. BDH - substitute the following for the paragraph on Citizen Participation in Board of Education Meetings:

"At each regular business meeting of the Board, there is a brief period when visitors and news media representatives are invited to ask questions or to present comments to the Board. The following

guidelines are established for participation in these question and answer periods:"

4. Delete "question and answer" from 3. above.

and be it further

Resolved, That the Board makes the following changes to BGA - Board-Student Communications:

- A. That Resolutions 257-69 and 62-81 on Board-Student Communications be rescinded.
- B. That the following consolidated resolution be established as Board policy on communications with students:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education is interested in the views and concerns of the students; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education recognizes the need for student input and reaction in its decision-making process; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of the Board of Education to meet with students both formally and informally to discuss student views and concerns; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education will schedule annual meetings by area with representatives of the Montgomery County Region of the Maryland Association of Student Councils, an annual meeting with the officers of that organization, and an annual meeting with representatives of the Montgomery County Junior Councils; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education will provide MCR and MCJC, upon their request, time at Board meetings to address issues of concern.

Re: A Motion by Mrs. Peyser to Postpone the Item on Release of Information on Appeals to the Board (FAILED)

A motion by Mrs. Peyser to postpone the item on release of information on appeals to the Board failed for lack of a second.

Re: Release of Information on Appeals to the Board

Dr. Cody stated that unless someone made a motion regarding employees they were precluded from releasing information and much of the information they received about students was also precluded from release. Mr. Ewing explained that they had a memo from Mr. Fess which had a legal opinion and a copy of the public information law. Ms. Judy Bresler outlined the various legal provisions governing executive session. The state public information act, state school law, and federal law all played a part in what was and was not confidential. The open meeting law did not apply to executive and quasi-judicial functions; however, the Board had used the exceptions to the open meeting law as a guideline for itself. There was provision in the education article for personnel matters and land acquisitions being discussed in executive session. There was mention in the documents section of the school law of the custodian of student records not making them available for public inspection.

She said that when appeals came to the Board, there was information about the student which could not be disclosed.

Mr. Fess pointed out that in the rules of procedure disciplinary actions were confidential. Appeals of the superintendent's decision were public unless one of the parties or both wished it to be private or the Board wished it to be private. However, when the state had an appeal, it had no exclusionary rights. Mr. Roger Titus reported that he had discussed this with a state official and the answer was the state was not the employer. The state decisions were appellate decisions, but they recognized that the local boards had a different role.

In response to Dr. Cronin's question, Mr. Charles Reese said that at the local level the superintendent was the custodian of records, and he assumed at the state level that the state superintendent was the custodian. Mr. Titus advised that a local agency could ask the attorney general for a formal opinion on this topic. As Mr. Ewing read the paper, in regard to student transfers the Board was not precluded from identifying the name, the school, and the disposition of the case once it met in executive session. Ms. Bresler thought they could look at it that way because they could say this was not an educational record.

Dr. Shoenberg asked if the law required them to take a public vote after executive session. Mr. Reese explained that Section 3-703 dealing with Montgomery County meetings seemed to say this. If the Board wanted to change, 3-703 could be amended. Dr. Shoenberg remarked that they could go the route suggested by Mr. Ewing or get the law amended. If the parents wished to go public with the information, it would be their choice. He thought 3-703 should be amended so they could have clarification.

Dr. Cronin thought the public record should show what the Board did in executive sessions as to whether or not it acted on a personnel matter. Mrs. Praisner commented that she would hate to see the Board using student names because it was their responsibility to protect students. If the parents wanted to go public, the option

was there. She pointed out that there was an MCPS report on transfers in general. Mrs. Shannon thought that the schools involved should be a matter of public record. Mr. Ewing emphasized that his remarks had to do with student transfers. Dr. Shoenberg suggested the Board discuss this in the context of the transfer policy. Dr. Greenblatt asked if the attorneys could prepare a background paper on 3-703. It seemed to Mrs. Praisner they would proceed with their present process unless there was a motion to do otherwise. Dr. Shoenberg asked the attorneys for a suggestion of the way 3-703 could be modified and a process by which it could be modified. The paper should be in a form the Board could vote on if it wished to seek a change in the law.

Mr. Fess said the Board would have the option of having a separate procedure on student transfer appeals. Dr. Cronin thought it was not a separate procedure but rather a redefinition of the way in which they took the vote. Mr. Fess said they still have the option of creating a separate procedure similar to those procedures on transportation and textbooks.

Resolution No. 908-83 Re: Postponement of Policy on Rules of Procedure in Contested Matters

On motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the policy on rules of procedure in contested matters be postponed.

Re: Executive Session

Mr. Ewing announced that the Board had met in executive session from 12:45 to 1:35 p.m. to discuss appeals and other legal matters.

Resolution No. 910-83 Re: An Amendment to the Agenda for November 8, 1983

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

Resolved, That the agenda for November 8, 1983, be amended to add an item on Washington Grove Elementary School.

Re: A Motion by Dr. Shoenberg to Reconsider BOE Case 1983-12 (FAILED)

A motion by Dr. Shoenberg to reconsider BOE Case 1983-12 (student transfer) failed with Mrs. Peyser and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Praisner, and Mrs. Shannon voting in the negative; Dr. Greenblatt being temporarily absent (Mr. Robertson voting in the negative).

Dr. Greenblatt rejoined the meeting at this point. She asked that the minutes show that she had supported the appeal reconsideration in executive session.

Resolution No. 911-83 Re: BOE Case 1983-36

On motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously (Mr. Robertson abstaining):

Resolved, That the Board of Education instruct its attorney to prepare a decision and order dismissing the appeal (1983-36) as not being timely filed.

Re: Annual Progress Report on Education
of Gifted and Talented

Dr. Cody thanked the committee for its recommendations, and Dr. Shoenberg commented that this was as good a report from an advisory committee as they had ever had. Mr. Ewing added his words of praise and asked for comments from the committee.

Mr. Robert Davidson, co-chairperson, reported that the committee had collected some historical data which had not been provided in a while. The main activity of the committee was to review plans, programs, and procedures. They pointed out in their first recommendation that the school system had a plan for putting the Board's policies into effect, but while the timelines had not always been met, basically the plan had been followed. He thought the plan was sound and should continue to be revised, updated, and followed.

Mr. Davidson explained that if there was a problem in implementation at the elementary level, it was that the programs were delivered unevenly at the schools. The plan was to make appropriate opportunities available to children in all schools. The committee felt there needed to be some continuing monitoring to make that happen. They also felt there was a gap in service at the early grades. He remarked that there was parental pressure for early entry to first grade, but good programs in kindergarten would lessen the pressure. He recommended that attention be given to provide solid academic programs for gifted and talented students in the primary grades.

Mr. Davidson pointed out that for a small group of highly gifted students they did support programs in the areas to cluster those students and provide an intensive experience. He suggested those programs be expanded and transportation be provided. He said that various programs for gifted and talented had benefitted from having a center for specialized studies such as a math program. They thought math centers were cost effective and supported the concept of a center. They recommended that the summer opportunities for gifted and talented students be expanded. Locations should be selected to provide opportunities for more students. He indicated that part of the difficulty in providing programs was the budget

cycle.

Mr. Davidson noted that the school system was undertaking a countywide experiment called the honors program. This was an attempt to provide opportunities for academically able high school students in every high school. The committee thought that the problem they had seen was a sound one; however, it would need funding for training and they hoped resources would be provided. He said that the Board had had the foresight to provide coordinators for gifted and talented programs who would be the facilitators for the new honors program. He thought that for each .2 position they were receiving the work from one and a half persons. He said that there was work to be done in developing curriculum resources for the gifted and talented, and less had been done in getting that material out into the field. He urged them to provide resources to use the curriculum that already had been developed. He said that some units in some subjects were still needed, especially in the high schools. He indicated that attendant with this was the need for training time because there had been cuts in the training budget. He felt that funds for training were well spent. As a parent, he would pick teacher training as the most important and beneficial thing they had done. He commented that gifted and talented students sometimes had social and emotional problems which required the services of counselors; however, training for counselors had lagged behind. He reported that they had heard stories about counselors telling students not to take honors courses.

Mr. Davidson recommended that they continue to refine programs to identify gifted and talented students. This should be extended into the higher grades and down into the lower grades. Information about students should be passed from school to school. He explained that the crux of their recommendations was in the section on budget and they recommended the Board accept all of these. He pointed out that the school system had only recently begun to look at the needs of students talented in the visual and performing arts. He suggested that the TAPESTRY program should be expanded if its evaluation was as positive as it appeared to be. The second program in that category was the PADI program for identifying gifted and talented students who were minority or had limited English proficiency. This should be expanded. He asked that the Board look at the resources needed for the program and continue to provide these resources.

Mrs. Diane Ippolito noted that their last recommendation was to continue the committee. Mr. Davidson suggested strengthening the area advisory committees as well. Dr. Shoenberg remarked that the committee did a marvelous job of organizing the recommendations and giving a sense of direction. He thought it would help if the superintendent would give some thought to what might be a reasonable budgetary strategy in moving toward a program of this scope. He asked what it would cost in 1984 dollars to move to full implementation of the plan. He was aware that they could not do everything at once but thought they should have a budgetary game plan. He noted that they had a continuing recommendation about monitoring the elementary program. He said they kept saying they

had a county system and, therefore, a gifted and talented program was not a local option. He commented that they could not keep on saying they did not have a program in a school because someone did not want to do it.

Dr. Cronin inquired about the need for a separate office for gifted and talented programs. Dr. Cody thought that this would cause more problems than it would solve. He stressed the need for coordination with programs in Instruction and Program Development. Mrs. Ippolito added that as a principal she had seen good working relationships develop because of the location of the staff for gifted and talented programs.

Mrs. Shannon complimented the committee on the report and remarked that she did not want to see the recommendations get lost. She asked that each of the recommendations be addressed by staff regarding time frames and budget implications. Mrs. Praisner pointed out that the Board had received a report on the honors program and suggested that this be called the "honors curriculum." Honors courses should be available to students when they meet the requirements. She asked for information on the honors curriculum and its impact on scheduling, the small high school, the 9-12 high school, and the 10-12 high school.

Mrs. Peyser was concerned that they were making it difficult for students taking advanced placement courses. This year only 1,250 were enrolled, while in Fairfax County 6,000 students were enrolled in AP courses. She pointed out that in Fairfax the grades were weighed for AP courses. She asked whether the committee had discussed weighted grades. Mr. Robertson added his praise to the committee for their excellent report. Mr. Ewing thanked the committee and the chairpersons for the report and their recommendations.

Re: Uniform Countywide Examinations

On recommendation of the superintendent Mrs. Praisner moved and Dr. Greenblatt seconded the following:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education has received the results of the pilot test of uniform countywide examinations over the past three years; and

WHEREAS, In the third year of the pilot, all students in Algebra I, Geometry, Narrative/Drama as Literature I, and Introduction to High School English took the test prepared for countywide use as part of their final examinations in those courses; and

WHEREAS, On July 12, the Board of Education discussed the pilot results with teachers, resource teachers, principals, and central office staff and requested alternative proposals for further consideration; and

WHEREAS, Recommendations and alternatives were presented to the

Board on September 13, and an additional request for reactions from principals, PTA/PTSAs, teachers, and students was made; and

WHEREAS, Math and English achievement are among the Board's priorities, the superintendent recommends that the Board approve the plans as described in the attached document; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve implementation of two-hour countywide semester final exams in core math courses; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education authorize that semester final exams for on-level English courses in the high schools include items from a central item bank as a portion of each department's examination, with each department selecting appropriate items.

Re: A Substitute Motion to the Proposed
Resolution for Uniform Countywide
Examinations (FAILED)

Dr. Shoenberg's substitute motion that the superintendent will hereafter determine and report regularly to the Board on the nature of any countywide supplements to, or replacements of, the required departmental final examinations in academic subjects failed with Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Mrs. Peyser and Mrs. Shannon voting in the negative; Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Dr. Greenblatt and Mrs. Praisner abstaining (Mr. Robertson voting in the negative).

Re: A Substitute Motion to the Proposed
Resolution for Uniform Countywide
Examinations

Mr. Robertson moved and Mrs. Shannon seconded the following:

Resolved, That the last Whereas be deleted and the following be substituted for the two Resolved clauses:

Resolved, That the Board discontinue implementation of countywide uniform semester final exams and continue to require department developed exams in all high school courses; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board authorize development of a central objective-referenced test item bank for the use of departments in preparing their exams based on items already developed and expanded in the future as possible given test item demand and budgetary constraints.

Re: An Amendment to Mr. Robertson's
Substitute Motion on Uniform
Countywide Examinations (FAILED)

Dr. Cronin motion's to rescind the second and third paragraphs of Policy IED, B.6 and authorize the superintendent to direct that

semester final exams for on-level English courses and core math courses in the high schools include items from a central item bank as a portion of each department's examinations with each department selecting appropriate items failed with Mr. Ewing, Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, Mr. Shannon and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the negative; Dr. Cronin and Mrs. Praisner abstaining (Mr. Robertson abstaining).

Re: Mr. Robertson's Substitute Motion
to the Proposed Resolution on
Countywide Final Examinations (FAILED)

Mr. Robertson's substitute motion to discontinue implementation of countywide uniform semester final exams and to authorize development of a central objective-referenced test item bank for departmental final exams 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. Robertson voting in the affirmative).

Re: A Substitute Motion to the Proposed
Resolution for Uniform Countywide
Examinations

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

Resolved, That the following be substituted for the last Whereas and the last two Resolved clauses:

Resolved, That the Board rescind its policy for uniform countywide final examinations; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent be directed to continue implementation of two-hour semester final exams including the possibility of countywide exams if and when the superintendent and staff deem it appropriate.

Re: An Amendment to Mrs. Praisner's
Substitute Motion

Mrs. Shannon moved and Dr. Shoenberg seconded the following amendment to Mrs. Praisner's substitute motion:

Resolved, That the Board rescind those portions of the existing policy which require the development and piloting of countywide final examinations.

Mrs. Praisner accepted Mrs. Shannon amendment's as a substitute for the first Resolved clause.

Resolution No. 912a-83 Re: A Substitute Motion to the
Proposed Resolution for Uniform
Countywide Examinations

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. Robertson voting in the affirmative):

Resolved That the following be substituted for the last Whereas and the last two Resolved clauses:

Resolved, That the Board rescind those portions of the existing policy which require the development and piloting of countywide final examinations; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent be directed to continue implementation of two-hour semester final exams including the possibility of countywide course exams if and when the superintendent and staff deem it appropriate.

Resolution No. 912b-83 Re: Uniform Countywide Examinations

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Greenblatt, 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. Robertson voting in the affirmative):

WHEREAS, The Board of Education has received the results of the pilot test of uniform countywide examinations over the past three years; and

WHEREAS, In the third year of the pilot, all students in Algebra I, Geometry, Narrative/Drama as Literature I, and Introduction to High School English took the test prepared for countywide use as part of their final examinations in those courses; and

WHEREAS, On July 12, the Board of Education discussed the pilot results with teachers, resource teachers, principals, and central office staff and requested alternative proposals for further consideration; and

WHEREAS, Recommendations and alternatives were presented to the Board on September 13, and an additional request for reactions from principals, PTA/PTSAs, teachers, and students was made; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board rescind those portions of the existing policy which require the development and piloting of countywide final examinations; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent be directed to continue implementation of two-hour semester final exams including the possibility of countywide course exams if and when the superintendent and staff deem it appropriate.

Resolution No. 913-83

Re: Proposed Resolution Concerning
Implementation of Final Exams

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

Resolved, That Mr. Robertson's proposed resolution be referred to the superintendent for the development of a final examination schedule procedure and for a report back to the Board on the subject.

Re: Board/Press/Visitor Conference

The following individuals appeared before the Board:

1. Mrs. Vicki Bowers
2. Mr. Andy Shorr
3. Mr. Roscoe Nix, Montgomery County Chapter of NAACP
4. Mrs. Nancy Shaplin, Peary High School PTSA

Mrs. Shannon temporarily left the meeting at this point.

Resolution No. 914-83

Re: Pilot Project for Procurement of
Fresh Eggs, Fresh Fruits, Vegetables,
and Salad Mixes and Rejection of
Bid No. 185-83

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Bids have been received for the purchase of fresh eggs, fresh fruits, vegetables, and salad mixes under Bid 185-83; and

WHEREAS, Funds have been appropriated for fresh eggs, fresh fruits, vegetables, and salad mixes; and

WHEREAS, The performance of vendors in the distribution of these products to schools has been unacceptable; and

WHEREAS, The MCPS Food Services Warehouse can receive and distribute these items more economically and provide better quality control; now therefore be it

Resolved, That Bid 185-83 for fresh eggs, fresh fruits, vegetables, and salad mixes be rejected; and be it further

Resolved, That a pilot project to purchase these items from Lehman Associates and Baer Packing Company for delivery to the Warehouse be implemented for one year to provide better quality of fresh produce.

Resolution No. 915-83

Re: Bid 3-84, High Pressure Hot Water
Washers

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of high pressure hot water washers; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised August 3, 1983, the contract for the furnishing of high pressure hot water washers under Invitation to Bid 3-84 be awarded to the low bidder meeting specifications as follows:

	Dollar Volume	Line Items Awarded
Myco Service and Supply Upper Marlboro, Maryland	\$9,638	1
Resolution No. 916-83	Re: Rejection of Bid 12-84, Lavatory Partitions	

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That having been duly advertised August 11, 1983, the bid received for the furnishing and installation of lavatory partitions at various schools under Invitation to Bid 12-84 be rejected.

Resolution No. 917-83 Re: Bid 18-84, Refrigerated Van

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of a refrigerated van; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised September 6, 1983, the contracts for the furnishing of a refrigerated van under Invitation to Bid 18-84 be awarded to the low bidders meeting specifications as follows:

	Dollar Volume	Line Items Awarded
E. Lehnert & Sons, Inc. Baltimore, Maryland	\$19,035	1
Jacobs Ford Truck Sales, Inc. Landover, Maryland	41,521	1
Total	\$60,556	2

Resolution No. 918-83 Re: Bid 21-84, Plain Paper Copying

Machine

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of a plain paper copying machine; and

WHEREAS, Xerox Corporation, the low bidder meeting specifications, has offered a five-year lease purchase contract at a monthly payment of \$2,686 for principal and interest at 8 percent, and this contract can be terminated at the end of any fiscal year, if sufficient funds are not appropriated for the next fiscal year; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised September 12, 1983, the contract for the furnishing of a plain paper copying machine under Invitation to Bid 21-84 be awarded to Xerox Corporation, the low bidder meeting specifications.

Resolution No. 919-83 Re: Bid 29-84, Woodwind and Brass
Instrument Repair

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for woodwind and brass instrument repairs; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised September 30, 1983, the contract for the furnishing of woodwind and brass instrument repairs for the period of November 10, 1983, through November 9, 1984, under Invitation to Bid 29-84 be awarded to the low bidder meeting specifications as follows:

	Dollar Volume	Line Items	Awarded
Washington Music Sales Center, Inc. Wheaton, Maryland	\$23,626	1	

Resolution No. 920-83 Re: Bid 32-84, Preprinted Continuous
Scan Forms

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of preprinted continuous scan forms; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised October 14, 1983, the contract for the furnishing of preprinted continuous scan forms

under Invitation to Bid 32-84 be awarded to the low bidder meeting specifications as follows:

	Dollar Volume	Line Items Awarded
National Computer Systems Lancaster, Pennsylvania	\$11,336	1

Resolution No. 921-83 Re: Bid 40-84, Optical Scanners

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of optical scanners; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised October 17, 1983, the contract for the furnishing of optical scanners for the period of November 9, 1983, through February 9, 1984, under Invitation to Bid 40-84 be awarded to the low bidder meeting specifications as follows:

	Dollar Volume	Line Items Awarded
Chatsworth Data Corp. Chatsworth, California	\$27,925	1

Mrs. Shannon rejoined the meeting at this point.

Resolution No. 922-83 Re: Bid 39-84, Spot Lights

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of spot lights; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised October 17, 1983, the contract for the furnishing of spot lights under Invitation to Bid 39-84 be awarded to the low bidder meeting specifications as follows:

	Dollar Volume	Line Items Awarded
Theatre Service and Supply Baltimore, Maryland	\$5,816	2

Re: Recommendation to Utilize a Portion of the FY 1984 Appropriation for Supported Programs to Conduct a Family Systems Counseling Workshop

employee of Montgomery County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Kreiel's management skills, initiative and willingness to accept responsibility made her an asset to staff and community; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education express their sorrow at the death of Mrs. Rhoda A. Kreiel and extend deepest sympathy to her family; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be made part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy be forwarded to the family of the deceased.

Resolution No. 926-83 Re: Death of Dr. Calvin C. Rubens,
Resource Teacher at Montgomery Blair
High School

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The sudden death on October 12, 1983, of Dr. Calvin C. Rubens, a resource teacher at Montgomery Blair High School, has deeply saddened the staff and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, In the thirty-two years that Dr. Rubens had been a member of the Montgomery County Public Schools, he was recognized as a leader in the business education field; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rubens provided excellent instruction and was a model of professional business behavior for students; now therefore be it
Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education express their sorrow at the death of Dr. Calvin C. Rubens and extend deepest sympathy to his family; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be made part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy be forwarded to the family of the deceased.

Resolution No. 927-83 Re: Personnel Appointments and Transfer

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the following personnel appointments and transfer be approved:

Appointment	Present Position	As
Robert H. Bertin	Teacher Placement Asst. Division of Staffing Dept. of Personnel Svcs.	Asst. Principal Walt Whitman HS Eff. 11/14/83

Grace Smith Acting Systems Analyst Systems Analyst
 Div. of Systems Dev. Div. of Systems Dev.
 Dept. of Management Info. Dept. of Mgmt.
 and Computer Services Info. and
 Computer Svcs.
 Grade G
 Eff. 11/9/83

Transfer	From	To
James Suit	Psychologist, Half-time Div. of Head Start	Psychologist Mark Twain School Eff. 11/9/83

Mrs. Peyser rejoined the meeting at this point.

Resolution No. 928-83 Re: Death of Mrs. Donna J. Allard,
 Special Education Instructional
 Assistant, Maryvale ES

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The death on November 4, 1983, of Mrs. Donna J. Allard, a special education instructional assistant at Maryvale Elementary School, has deeply saddened the staff and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Allard had earned the respect of staff and students during her more than eight years of service in the Montgomery County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Allard's superior performance and initiative made her an asset to Montgomery County Public Schools; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education express their sorrow at the death of Mrs. Donna J. Allard and extend deepest sympathy to her family; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be made part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy be forwarded to the family of the deceased.

Re: Board Member Comments

1. Mrs. Praisner reported that she and Mrs. Peyser had attended the National Federation of Urban/Suburban School Districts meeting in Mesa, Arizona and had participated in the program. She thanked Mrs. Sally Keeler for the information she had provided on the MCPS community survey. In regard to business items at the meeting, the bylaw change on the number of meetings was defeated and a position paper on merit pay would be written for discussion at the May

conference.

2. Mrs. Praisner read the following letter into the record:

"Dear Mrs. Praisner:

"I am writing this letter to you in the hope that you will share it with your fellow Board members on Tuesday during your regular session.

"SAS Day, November 3, 1983, was from all reports and by all standards truly a success. The reasons for the success were many; but I feel our Montgomery County Public School teachers and principals made SAS Day the tremendous success it turned out to be. While there was a great deal of effort put forth by all of the Task Force members, there is no question in my mind that the real success of the day lies with our caring, talented and very able teachers.

"There were three teachers in particular who extended themselves far beyond what might have been expected. Each of them gladly shared their special talents with us all. Mark Simon, social studies teacher at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, developed the idea for the evening program and brought it to the Task Force. The 'pilot' for this project was first put together last year, then expanded and defined this past summer with his support and hard work. He was also responsible for working with the students from Bethesda-Chevy Chase who performed in the evening program. His efforts demonstrated a very special commitment.

"Ms. Marion Griffin and Mr. Orville Bell also gave a great deal to SAS. The work and creativity that went into the "hangman" ballet in the evening program was exceptional, and their commitment to their students was complete. This was reflected in the quality of the performance and the commitment of the students to their teachers and the SAS concept.

"There is one other contributor who extended himself beyond the call of duty. Your colleague, Dr. James Cronin, proved to be not only a strong leader among Task Force members, but an excellent theatrical producer and production manager. Without his efforts there might not have been an evening program.

"We on the Task Force have learned a great deal during these past few months. I feel certain that the Task Force will be voting to continue the work of SAS and broaden its scope. In the event this does happen, I intend to recommend to my fellow Task Force members that the composition of the Task Force be broadened to include additional representation from our teachers. I expect there will be an expansion and refinement of the SAS day program curriculum materials, and I hope the Task Force will look to our talented Montgomery County Public School teachers for additional input in this area.

"For myself and on behalf of the Task Force, I want to extend a very large thank you to all of those in Montgomery County Public Schools who made SAS Day such a special success.

"Finally, I want to thank you and the entire School Board for your support.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Gudis
President Pro Tem, Montgomery County Council
Chairman, Sensitivity Awareness Symposium Day
Task Force"

3. Dr. Cronin urged Board members to get involved in SAS Day next year. He said he would add Ann Wilson, the art teacher at Richard Montgomery, to the list of those making significant contributions. He introduced Bob Gierszewski, the technical services assistant from Richard Montgomery High School. He explained that Bob was responsible for the technical success of the production and praised him for his professionalism and maturity in coping with changes in the production format.

4. Mr. Robertson reported that as a student and having heard from other students, he thought that SAS Day was very much of a success. He felt that it was heartening to hear students really talking about issues raised during classroom discussions.

5. Mrs. Peyser said that she had also attended the NFUSSD meeting in Mesa. She thanked Mr. David Fischer for the materials he provided on merit pay. She indicated that she had also attended a conference in Towson on excellence in education, and she had information and notes she would be pleased to share.

6. Mrs. Peyser said that Mr. Ewing had received a letter from the guidance committee at Einstein High School. She asked for a response from staff, particularly on the question having to do with the grading policy.

7. Mr. Ewing reported that this morning the Board had met with the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, which was the first time the Board had done this. They had discussed ways of sharing information and ways of working together. During that meeting, the president of the Chamber reported that his three children in the public schools were impressed by SAS Day activities.

8. Mr. Ewing stated that on Wednesday there would be a hearing before the Civiletti Commission. The Board would join with the county executive and County Council in presenting testimony.

Resolution No. 929-83

Re: Executive Session - Negotiations

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Peyser

seconded by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Montgomery County is authorized by 76A, Section 11(a) of the Annotated Code of Maryland to conduct certain meetings in executive closed session; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County hereby conduct meetings in executive closed session at times to be determined to conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters and issues in connection therewith; and be it further

Resolved, That the president of the Board of Education will announce business meetings when the Board of Education has held these executive sessions.

Resolution No. 930-83 Re: Executive Session - November 14, 1983

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Peysner by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Montgomery County is authorized by 76A, Section 11(a) of the Annotated Code of Maryland to conduct certain meetings in executive closed session; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County hereby conduct its meeting in executive closed session beginning on November 14, 1983, at 10 p.m. to discuss, consider, deliberate, and/or otherwise decide the employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, compensation, discipline, removal, or resignation of employees, appointees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction, or any other personnel matter affecting one or more particular individuals as permitted under Article 76A, Section 11(a) and that such meeting shall continue in executive closed session until the completion of business.

Resolution No. 931-83 Re: Executive Session - December 13, 1983

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Peysner by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Montgomery County is authorized by Article 76A, Section 11(a) of the Annotated Code of Maryland to conduct certain of its meetings in executive closed session; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County hereby conduct its meeting in executive closed session beginning on December 13, 1983, at 9 a.m. to discuss, consider, deliberate, and/or otherwise decide the employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, compensation, discipline, removal, or resignation of employees, appointees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction, or any other personnel matter affecting one or more particular individuals and to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory or judicially imposed requirement protecting particular proceedings or matters from public disclosure as permitted under Article 76A,

Section 11(a) and tthat such meeting shall continue in executive closed session until the completion of business; and be it further

Resolved, That such meeting continue in executive closed session at noon to discuss the matters listed above as permitted under Article 76A, Section 11(a) and that such meeting shall continue in executive closed session until the completion of business.

Resolution No. 932-83 Re: Appointment of Members to the
Advisory Committee on Counseling and
Guidance

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, In accordance with the Policy Statement on Counseling and Guidance adopted by the Board of Education on October 22, 1973, which was revised and adopted on June 12, 1978, the members of the Advisory Committee on Counseling and Guidance are appointed by the Board; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the following persons be appointed to the Advisory Committee on Counseling and Guidance:

Students

Any Shorr, Churchill High School
Elsie Bernstein, Whitman High School
Michael Streissguth, Damascus High School
Lisa Kathleen O'Connor, Springbrook High School

Teachers

Robert Pine, Peary High School
Martha Wright, Carderock Springs Elementary

Parents:

Andrea Graham
Bruce R. Fretz

Principals and Area Office

Maxine H. Counihan, Farquhar Middle School
Mary Helen Smith, Supervisor of Secondary Instruction

Re: Proposed Resolution on Moratorium
on School Closures

On October 24, 1983, Mr. Ewing moved and Dr. Shoenberg seconded the following:

Resolved, That the Board of Education discuss the issue of whether or not it should pursue a moratorium on school closures for some period of time to permit the Board to focus on school educational issues.

Resolution No. 933-83

Re: Suspension of Rules of Board of
Education

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education suspend its rules and vote on Mr. Ewing's proposed resolution on school closures.

Mrs. Praisner assumed the chair.

Re: A Motion by Mr. Ewing on a
Moratorium on School Closings for
Two Years (FAILED)

A motion by Mr. Ewing for a moratorium on school closings for two years failed with Mr. Ewing and Mrs. Shannon voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, Mrs. Praisner, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the negative (Mr. Robertson abstaining).

Mr. Ewing assumed the chair.

Resolution No. 934-83

Re: Rejection of Construction Bids -
Washington Grove Elementary School
Modernization Project

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

WHEREAS, Sealed bids were received on October 4 for the modernization of the Washington Grove Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education on October 11, 1983, acted to award a construction contract to the low bidder, Kimmel & Kimmel Inc., contingent upon a local emergency appropriation of \$253,983; and

WHEREAS, On November 8, 1983, the County Council denied our request for the emergency appropriation for this project; now therefore be it

Resolved, That all bids to accomplish the requirements of the plans and specifications entitled, "Washington Grove Elementary School Modernization," dated August 25, 1983, prepared by Thomas Clark Associates Architects, be, and hereby are, rejected as the cost exceeds the available appropriation; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools rebid this project in accordance with County Council action at the earliest possible date.

Re: New Business

1. Mrs. Peyser moved and Mrs. Praisner seconded that the Board discuss and review the Maryland Association of Boards of Education dues situation and the necessity of remaining in MABE.
2. Mrs. Shannon moved and Mrs. Praisner seconded that the annual report of the Department of Personnel be scheduled for discussion.
3. Dr. Greenblatt called attention to the information report on a procurement program for minority, female or disabled-owned businesses. She asked whether staff was going to be pressing to have the law change. Mr. Richard Fazakerley, associate superintendent, replied that this was a potential action; however, if they were going to do this, it would have to come to the Board for action.
4. Dr. Cronin noted the report on the honors program and asked that the Board discuss the final report on this program in the spring.

Resolution No. 935-83 Re: Limitation on Sealed Bidding and
Requirements for Formal Bidding;
Rescission of Board Resolution No. 585-73,
September 24, 1973

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Section 5-110 of the Education volume of The Annotated Code of Maryland provides that if the cost of any school building, improvement, supplies, or equipment is more than \$5,000, the county board, at least two weeks before bids are to be filed, shall advertise for bids in at least one newspaper published in the county and that a contract for the school building, improvements, supplies, or other equipment shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder who conforms to specifications; and

WHEREAS, It has been 18 years since this statute was amended to raise the bidding exemption amount from \$1,000 to the current amount of \$5,000; and

WHEREAS, There are legal principles which might be used to support the proposed delegation of the Board's authority to the superintendent and staff to award contracts pursuant to this statute; and

WHEREAS, The Procurement Manual provides that approval by the Board of Education is required for contracts of \$5,000 and above; and

WHEREAS, The MORE Report on Procurement Practices in Montgomery County Public Schools by Touche Ross and Company has recommended that the limit for obtaining Board approval be increased from \$5,000 to \$25,000 to enable the Board of Education to focus on major procurement decisions; and

WHEREAS, Other counties have adopted a practice whereby formal approval by their Boards of Education is not required; and

WHEREAS, Productivity can be significantly increased without negative economic or legal impact on the procurement process; and

WHEREAS, Considerable staff and Board time is spent in the preparation and consideration of Board resolutions for awarding contracts exceeding \$5,000; and

WHEREAS, The superintendent serves as secretary/treasurer of the Board of Education; now therefore be it

Resolved, That Resolution 585-73, dated September 24, 1973, be rescinded; and be it further

Resolved, That when the cost of any school building, improvement, supplies, or equipment is \$5,000 or more, the superintendent of schools shall continue, as in the past, to advertise for bids are required by law; and be it further

Resolved, That the State Board of Education be requested to support an amendment to the bidding statute to increase the competitive bidding limitation and requirement for public advertisement from \$5,000 to \$10,000; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent with assistance of staff be authorized to act on behalf of the Board of Education and award contracts in accordance with provisions of the Procurement Manual for \$25,000 or less on the basis of quotations and sealed bids and that the superintendent be required to provide periodic reports to the Board of his action; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent prepare a recommendation to the Board of Education for contract award whenever a contract cost exceeds \$25,000; and be it further

Resolved, That the State Board of Education be advised of the action by the Board of Education to extend its delegation of authority to the superintendent from \$5,000 to \$25,000 on the award of contracts pursuant to Section 5-110 of the Education volume of The Annotated Code of Maryland; and be it further

Resolved, That as in the past these requirements shall not apply to contracts for the purchase of books or materials of instruction and emergency repairs which are specifically exempt by law from competitive bidding.

Re: Items of Information

Board members received the following items of information:

1. Items in Process

2. Construction Progress Report
3. Procurement Program for Minority, Female or Disability-owned Business (MFD)
4. Timetable for Second Annual Update Long-range Facilities Plan Including Consideration of Middle School in Blair and Einstein Group
5. Grant Management Function
6. Functions of Office of Instructional Resources
7. Annual Report - Human Relations
8. Annual Report - Department of Educational Accountability
9. Annual Report - Personnel Department
10. Annual Report - Employee Assistance Program
11. Annual Report - Supportive Services
12. Annual Report - Special and Alternative Education
13. Report on Honors Program

Re: Adjournment

The president adjourned the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

President

Secretary

WSC:mlw

