

APPROVED  
17-1998

Rockville, Maryland  
April 20, 1998

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in regular session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Monday, April 20, 1998, at 8:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present:                   Mrs. Nancy J. King, President  
  in the Chair  
  Dr. Alan Cheung  
  Mr. Blair G. Ewing  
  Mr. Reginald M. Felton  
  Mrs. Beatrice B. Gordon  
  Ms. Ana Sol Gutiérrez  
  Ms. Mona M. Signer  
  Ms. Debra Wheat  
  Dr. Paul L. Vance, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent:           None

#indicates student vote does not count. Four votes needed for adoption.

Re:   **ANNOUNCEMENT**

Mrs. King announced that Mr. Ewing and Ms. Gutiérrez would be joining the meeting in progress.

RESOLUTION NO. 262-98           Re:   **AMENDMENT OF THE AGENDA**

On motion of Mr. Felton and seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following amendment was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education add an item on the FY 1999 Operating Budget (Non-recommended Reductions) after the discussion/action on Bell Times.

RESOLUTION NO. 263-98           Re:   **AGENDA**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its amended agenda for April 20, 1998.

RESOLUTION NO. 264-98

Re: **ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cheung seconded by Mr. Felton, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, In 1990, the traditional celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Week by presidential proclamation was extended to a month-long observance, proclaiming the month of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of this month is to recognize Americans of Asian and Pacific Islands descent and their continued and invaluable contributions to this country; and

WHEREAS, The heritage of Asian Pacific Americans enhances the diversity and richness of the student body and staff of the Montgomery County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Asian Pacific American students and staff contribute to the success of the Montgomery County Public Schools through their participation in all aspects of education; now therefore be it

Resolved, That on behalf of the superintendent, staff, and students of the Montgomery County Public Schools, the members of the Board of Education hereby declare the month of May 1998 to be observed in Montgomery County Public Schools as "Asian Pacific American Heritage Month."

RESOLUTION NO. 265-98

Re: **VOLUNTEER MONTH**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Gordon seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, A goal of the Success for Every Student Plan is to secure the commitment of the entire community to maintain quality education in Montgomery County by building partnerships that promote and support initiatives to help all children succeed; and

WHEREAS, Every school in Montgomery County relies on volunteers to supplement and enrich programs for students; and

WHEREAS, Schools rely on both paid and volunteer staff to provide coordinated efforts to develop and manage school volunteer and partnership programs that serve staff and student needs; and

WHEREAS, Last year, 123 schools met the criteria and earned a citation of merit from the Maryland State Department of Education for an outstanding school volunteer program; and

WHEREAS, During the last school year more than 54,800 volunteers gave almost four million hours of service to staff and students and provided the equivalent hours of 1,876 full-time, 12-month employees; and

WHEREAS, If a dollar value were attached to the hours of service volunteers provided, the sum would be more than \$43 million; and

WHEREAS, As volunteers share their time, energy, and experience in schools, they inspire the school and the community to renew their commitment to success for every student; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education express its appreciation to all volunteers and volunteer coordinators for their assistance, generosity of spirit, commitment to our schools and our young people, and outstanding contribution to the Montgomery County community.

RESOLUTION NO. 266-98            Re:    **STUDENT LEADERSHIP WEEK**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Wheat seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Board of Education has a continuing commitment to support active student participation in school and community activities; and

WHEREAS, An open dialogue between the Board of Education and student organizations is productive and useful; and

WHEREAS, Participation by our youth is valued by the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, In April student leadership activities include the election of the student member of the Board of Education, Montgomery County Region of the Maryland Association of Student Councils, and Montgomery County Junior Councils elections, and National Student Leadership Week; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education hereby join with the superintendent of schools in designating the week of April 19-April 25, 1998, as Student Leadership Week in Montgomery County Public Schools; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education commend student leaders for their efforts and achievements on behalf of Montgomery County Public Schools.

RESOLUTION NO. 267-98

Re: **RECOGNITION OF MS. DOROTHY REITZ**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Signer seconded by Mr. Felton, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, Board policy establishes MCPS' strong commitment to success for every student and identifies mastery of science and mathematics as critical to student success; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dorothy Reitz has demonstrated outstanding teaching in the area of mathematics, as well as an excellent educational philosophy and application of that philosophy in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Reitz has served as an instructional leader in her role as an interdisciplinary resource teacher at Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School, with a strong commitment to working with teams of teachers, parents, and students; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Reitz has been awarded the 1997 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching for Secondary Mathematics for the state of Maryland by the National Science Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Reitz will receive said award at a ceremony at the White House in Washington, DC, in June 1998; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education and the superintendent of schools hereby present commendation and appreciation to Ms. Dorothy Reitz for her distinguished service to Montgomery County Public Schools, its students, parents, and the community at large; and be it further

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education and the superintendent hereby offer their congratulations and best wishes for continue success; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be presented to Ms. Reitz as a token of our appreciation.

RESOLUTION NO. 268-98

Re: **RECOGNITION OF MS. KAREN SHRAKE**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cheng seconded by Mrs. Gordon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, Board policy establishes MCPS' strong commitment to success for every student and identifies mastery of science and mathematics as critical to student success; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Karen Shrake has demonstrated outstanding teaching in the area of science; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Shrake has distinguished herself as an MCPS Lead Science Teacher since 1991, providing leadership and training to her fellow teachers across the county and state; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Shrake has been awarded the 1997 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching for Elementary Science for the state of Maryland by the National Science Foundation; and

WHEREAS Ms. Shrake will receive said award at a ceremony at the White House in Washington, DC, in June 1998; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education and the superintendent of schools hereby present commendation and appreciation to Ms. Karen Shrake for her distinguished service to Montgomery County Public Schools, its students, parents, and the community at large; and be it further

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education and the superintendent hereby offer their congratulations and best wishes for continued success; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be presented to Ms. Shrake as a token of our appreciation.

**Re: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following people testified before the Board of Education:

	<u>Person</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1.	Sheri Morgan	Autism Program
2.	Samira Hussein	Arab Americans
3.	John Hoven	Average Students
4.	Valerie Price	Social Studies Curriculum
5.	George Mendelsohn	MCPS Ethics Panel

RESOLUTION NO. 269-98      Re:    **PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS MORE THAN \$25,000**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Mrs. Gordon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present: #

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of equipment, supplies, and contractual services; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised, the following contracts be awarded to the low bidders meeting specifications as shown for the bids as follows:

COG BL- 9810599 521	Motor Oils, Lubricants and Greases  <u>Awardees</u>  Century Autoline Dryden Oil Company Fuchs Lubricants Total	\$ 112,000
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## 44.2 Athletic Supplies and Team Sports

Awardees

Alert Services, Inc.	\$ 2,023
Aluminum Athletic Equipment Company	13,178
Anaconda Sports, Inc.	11,512
Bremen	2,500
Cannon Sports, Inc.	54,559 *
DTI Soccer	1,158
DVF Sporting Goods, Inc.	17,775
Bill Fritz Sports Corporation	14,011
Gerstung Gym Thing, Inc.	2,416
Gill Sports Corporation	1,471
Goal, Inc.	175
Marlow Sports, Inc.	4,634 *
McArthur Towels, Inc.	1,293
MF Athletic Company	3,238
Passons Sports	50,668
Scale People, Inc.	8,075 *
Spieth Anderson USA, Inc.	7,040
Sportmaster Recreation Equipment Unlimited	12,720

	Sports Imports, Inc.	55,215
	Sports Stop, Inc.	21,110
	Tiffin Athletic Mats, Inc.	<u>47,782</u> *
	Total	\$ 332,553
1011.1	Office Papers	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Alling and Cory	\$ 252,736
	Boise Cascade Office Products	2,603
	Lindenmeyer Munroe	47,374
	Frank Parsons	125,346
	RIS Paper Company, Inc.	123,640
	Unisource	727,045
	WWF Paper Company	271,697
	Zellerbach Company	<u>69,626</u>
	Total	\$1,620,067
1032.1	Playground Equipment	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Little Tikes Commercial Playsystems	\$ 180,295
	RecCreative, Inc.	4,197 *
	Taylor Sports and Recreation, Inc.	184,307
	Triple J Construction, Inc.	159,200
	West Recreation, Inc.	<u>186,861</u>
	Total	\$ 714,860
1045.1	Xerox 6135 Laser Printer for Electronic Graphics and Publishing Services	
	<u>Awardee</u>	
	Xerox Corporation	\$ 306,495
	MORE THAN \$25,000	\$3,085,975

\* Denotes MFD vendors

RESOLUTION NO. 270-98

Re: **AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR MAINTENANCE  
PROJECT AT CESC**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

WHEREAS, The following sealed bids were received on April 3, 1998, in accordance with Montgomery County Public Schools procurement practices, for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning modifications at Carver Educational Services Center, with work to begin on April 21, 1998, and to be completed by July 15, 1998:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount</u>
E.J. Snyder, Inc.	\$ 98,257
PowerMax, Inc.	109,800
Beardsley Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.	112,520
ACMI	124,000
Shapiro & Duncan, Inc.	149,723
Calvert Mechanical, Inc.	195,550

and

WHEREAS, The low bid is below staff estimates, and that the low bidder met specifications; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a contract for \$98,257 be awarded to E.J. Snyder, Inc., for the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning modifications at Carver Educational Services Center.

RESOLUTION NO. 271-98

Re: **AWARD OF CONTRACTS FOR MAINTENANCE  
PROJECTS AT VARIOUS SCHOOLS**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

WHEREAS, The following sealed bids were received on March 11, 1998, and April 1, 1998, in accordance with Montgomery County Public Schools procurement practices, for locally owned modular classrooms reroofing at various sites, and library security system replacements at various school locations, with work to begin on April 21, 1998, and to be completed by April 20, 1999, respectively; and

WHEREAS, Details of the bid activity are available in the Department of Facilities Management; and



WHEREAS, The low bids are below staff estimates, and the low bidders met specifications; now therefore be it

Resolved, That contracts be awarded to the low bidders meeting specifications for the projects and amounts listed below:

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Locally Owned Modular Classrooms Reroofing Various Schools Low Bidder: J. E. Wood & Sons Co., Inc.	\$ 45,540.00
Library Security System Replacements Various Schools Low Bidder: Check Point Systems, Inc.	81,407.50

RESOLUTION NO. 272-98      Re:    **AWARD OF CONTRACT - POOLESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL PHASE II - REROOFING**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

WHEREAS, The following sealed bids were received on March 26, 1998, for the Poolesville High School Phase II reroofing, with work to begin June 18, 1998, and to be completed by August 31, 1998:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount</u>
R. D. Bean, Inc.	\$ 336,551
Orndorff & Spaid, Inc.	349,787
Brothers Construction Company, Inc.	357,795
Alliance Roofing & Sheet Metal, Inc.	412,250
Vatica Contracting, Inc.	482,960
J. E. Wood & Sons Company, Inc.	531,056

and

WHEREAS, The low bidder, R. D. Bean, Inc., has completed similar work successfully for Montgomery County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, The low bid is below the staff estimate of \$350,000; and

WHEREAS, The State Interagency Committee for Public School Construction will fund 50 percent of the eligible work for the Poolesville High School Phase II reroofing as part of the state systemic renovation program; and

WHEREAS, Staff has verified that the contractor has made a good-faith effort to obtain minority participation; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a contract for \$336,551 be awarded to R. D. Bean, Inc., for the Poolesville High School Phase II reroofing in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by the Department of Facilities Management; and be it further

Resolved, That the contract be forwarded to the State Interagency Committee for Public School Construction for approval to reimburse Montgomery County Public Schools for the state eligible portion of the Poolesville High School Phase II reroofing.

RESOLUTION NO. 273-98            Re:    **CAPITAL PROJECTS TO BE CLOSED EFFECTIVE  
JUNE 30, 1998**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

WHEREAS, The Board of Education annually closes capital projects and transfers any unencumbered balances to the appropriate accounts; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Facilities Management has reviewed capital projects that may be closed effective June 30, 1998; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the superintendent be authorized to close, effective June 30, 1998, capital construction projects listed below, subject to final audit:

<u>Project No.</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Balance</u>
227-205	Ritchie Park Elementary School	\$ -0-
243-001	Seneca Valley Middle School No. 2	-0-
304-007	Broad Acres Elementary School Health Center	-0-
422-209	Wyngate Elementary School	-0-
503-020	Sherwood High School	-0-
506-204	Flower Valley Elementary School	-0-
805-005	Kemp Mill Elementary School	-0-
822-004	Strathmore Elementary School	-0-
919-026	Carver Educational Services Center	-0-
9917-17	Local Capital Projects	-0-

and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the county executive and County Council, to be included in the FY 1999 Educational Facilities Master Plan and the FY 1999-2004 Capital Improvements Program.

RESOLUTION NO. 274-98      Re:    **UTILIZATION OF FY 1998 FUTURE SUPPORTED PROJECT FUNDS FOR THE MARYLAND EQUIPMENT INCENTIVE FUND II PROJECT**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cheung seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend within the FY 1998 Provision for Future Supported Projects a grant award of \$3,250 from the Maryland Equipment Incentive fund Supplemental Grant, a component of the Governor's Mathematics/Science Initiatives, for the purchase of selected science equipment to be placed in elementary and secondary schools, in Category 5 Other Instructional Costs; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the county executive and County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 275-98      Re:    **RECOMMENDED FY 1998 CATEGORICAL TRANSFER FOR THE EVENT-BASED SCIENCE II PROJECT**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cheung seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized, subject to County Council approval, to effect an FY 1998 categorical transfer within the Event-Based Science II Project Grant funded by the National Science Foundation, in the following categories:

<u>Category</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
3 Instructional Salaries	\$46,653	
4 Textbooks and Instructional Matierials		\$ 3,700
5 Other Instructional Costs		67,143
12 Fixed Charges	<u>24,190</u>	_____
Total	<u>\$70,843</u>	<u>\$70,843</u>

and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the county executive and County Council; and be it further

Resolved, The county executive be requested to recommend approval of this categorical transfer.

RESOLUTION NO. 276-98            Re:    **RECOMMENDATION TO SUBMIT AN FY 1998 GRANT PROPOSAL FOR THE SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION PROGRAM**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cheung seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to submit a grant proposal in the amount of \$25,000 to the Maryland State Department of Education for the Sexual Assault Prevention Program; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the county executive and County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 277-98            Re:    **PERSONNEL MONTHLY REPORT**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Gordon seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the Personnel Monthly Report dated April 20, 1998.

RESOLUTION NO. 278-98            Re:    **MRS. JEANNE N. KLUGEL, INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST, SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT TRAINING UNIT**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Gordon seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, The death on April 14, 1998, of Mrs. Jeanne N. Klugel, instructional specialist in the School Improvement Training Unit, has deeply saddened the staff, students, and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Klugel was a dedicated employee with Montgomery County Public Schools for more than 22 years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Klugel was committed to students and sensitive to the needs of all people, making her an asset to the school system and community; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education express their sorrow at the death of Mrs. Jeanne N. Klugel 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 Mrs. Klugel's family.

RESOLUTION NO. 279-98            Re:    **MRS. WENDY A. PAYNTER, BUS OPERATOR,  
DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Gordon seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, The death on April 6, 1998, of Mrs. Wendy A. Paynter, bus operator in the Division of Transportation, has deeply saddened the staff, students, and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, In more than 14 years with Montgomery County Public Schools, Mrs. Paynter demonstrated competence as a bus operator; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Paynter's eagerness to learn and her pleasant personality and good relationships with her fellow workers made her a valuable employee; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education express their sorrow at the death of Mrs. Wendy A. Paynter 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 Mrs. Paynter's family.

RESOLUTION NO. 280-98            Re:    **MRS. MILDRED C. SHOEMAKER, INSTRUCTIONAL  
ASSISTANT AND LUNCH HOUR AIDE, LAYTONSVILLE  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Gordon seconded by Ms. Signer, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, The death on March 31, 1998, of Mrs. Mildred C. Shoemaker, instructional assistant and lunch hour aide at Laytonsville Elementary School, has deeply saddened the staff, students, and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Shoemaker had been a member of the staff of Montgomery County Public Schools for over 11 years and made valuable contributions to the school system; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Shoemaker displayed good rapport with students, believed every child was special and set very good behavior expectations, and was interested in helping students toward success; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education express their sorrow at the death of Mrs. Mildred C. Shoemaker 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 Mrs. Shoemaker's family.

Re: **FINAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Mrs. Stoner reported on the following topics:

Funding

Overarching the many education-related bills considered by the 1998 General Assembly was the issue of additional funding for at-risk students proposed initially by the Task Force on Education Funding Equity, Accountability and Partnerships. Although HB I - School Accountability Funding for Excellence (SAFE), which incorporated the Task Force proposal, passed the House in late January, the Senate did not give serious consideration to the bill until the last two weeks of the session. After intensive review by a small Senate work group and consideration by the Senate Budget and Taxation Education Subcommittee, the bill and its Senate counterpart, SB 171, passed the full committee in early April with a number of amendments. These included: additional program and assessment requirements in order to receive state funding for Limited English Proficient students; an additional \$2 million for a teacher mentoring program in Prince George's County Public Schools similar to the one in Baltimore County; very proscriptive accountability requirements for Prince George's County Public Schools related to the additional funding for the Effective Schools and Magnet Schools Programs; redirection of the additional public school library funding to elementary schools only with a required match of new local funds for this purpose; and enhanced assessment and reporting requirements by LEAs for the entire SAFE program.

An uncodified amendment, initially in HB 171 describing the school construction provisions for Prince George's County, was deleted after being added to a local Prince George's County bill, HB 657 -Prince George's County - School Construction. As filed, HB 657 would permit the Prince George's County Board of Education to construct a school on property owned by another county agency where joint use would be permitted. As you are aware

from the numerous newspaper articles on this subject, the final solution, included in HB 657, guarantees \$35 million in state school construction aid for Prince George's County for each of the next four years to be shared on a 75%/25% state/local ratio for school construction costs. The aid will be rescinded if any party to the Prince George's County agreement ending court-ordered busing abrogates the agreement.

Although the capital and operating budgets together allocate \$222 million for school construction, \$129.5 million in bonds, \$88.5 million in PAYGO and \$4 million in recycled funds, the county allocations have not yet been decided by the Board of Public Works. The governor declined to answer a question to this effect at the Montgomery County Delegation press conference on Tuesday.

#### Audit Review

On the last night of session, an amended version of HB 1212 - Retirement Contributions - Local School systems - Review of Audit Determinations finally passed. With Roger Titus' strong support, we nursed it through the Senate over the weekend as the state Department of Management and Budget worked hard to kill the bill since it diminishes their authority. As passed, the audit appeal still will go initially to the Department where the hearing officer would now be an attorney and a transcript would be available at cost. Additionally, the enrolled bill would permit an LEA to appeal an adverse decision to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH), which will issue a written decision within 45 days after the hearing record closes. This decision will be the final finding of fact and conclusion of law binding all parties. The law becomes effective on June 1, 1998 and will apply to any pending appeals. Deleted as part of the compromise was the section that would have called this kind of appeal a contested case subject to judicial review.

#### Escheat

Despite the simplicity of this bill, which clarifies the limitation period within which relatives may file a refund claim after distribution of property to local boards from a deceased person's estate, it also did not pass until the final session day because the House Judiciary Committee and the Senate Judiciary Committee were holding bills filed by the opposite house's committee members. Only after Senator Forehand told her Senate Committee that the bill's primary sponsor was no longer a member of the House Judiciary Committee was the bill released by the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee and sent to the Senate floor for easy passage.

#### Pesticides

This was another issue on which the final decision was not reached until the last session day. Unfortunately, the bill preferred by the Board - HB 286 - Public Schools - Integrated Pest Management was significantly amended by the House and further amended by the Senate, primarily to correct incongruous provisions in the amended House bill. In addition to the Integrated Pest Management notice required at the beginning of each school year,

the legislation will require universal notification of elementary school parents and staff at least 24 hours prior to a pesticide application although in secondary schools only those on a notification list must be informed. These mandates are effective for the 1999-2000 school year, although schools are urged to implement them as far as possible next year.

### Pensions

Still, another bill of interest to public school educators achieved final form on the last day of the session. Amended first by the House and then by the Senate, the House on Monday agreed to concur in the Senate amendments permitting the proposal to become law. Among the final provisions applicable to all current members of the Teachers' Pension System who must join the new system are the following:

- 1.4% multiplier, rather than the current bifurcated multiplier for future service;
- 1.2 % multiplier for past service;
- 2% employee contribution;
- no additional vesting period in the new system;
- no transfer offset for those members who transferred into the Pension System from the Retirement System;
- optional defined contribution for state government employees only;
- compound COLA for retirees; and
- a study of various issues that were not able to be resolved prior to Sine Die.

The overall cost to the state of this new pension plan is estimated to be \$150 million annually.

### Charter Schools

HB 999 - Task Force on Public Charter Schools was completely changed from the original version and turned into a bill that creates a twelve-member task force made up of four legislators, the state Superintendent of schools, a local Superintendent, a principal of an established Maryland charter school, a parent of a Maryland public charter school student, and one member of each of the following: the State Board of Education, MSTA, AFT-Maryland, and a local Board of education. The Task Force is charged with reviewing the original HB 999 and other states' laws on charter schools and recommending legislation by December 1, 1998 for the 1999 General Assembly that will ensure that Maryland public charter schools will qualify for federal assistance.

### Late Filed Senate Bills

In the final weeks of the session, two late-filed Senate bills that had not come to the Board assumed an active life, moving quickly through both houses. The first bill, SB 723 - Public Schools Confidentiality of Student Records, initially added home address and phone number of students to the list of records that should not be made available to the public. The bill was amended by the Senate and House to permit alumni, parent, teacher and



student groups, and the military or any person engaged by a school or Board of Education to confirm a home address or phone number to have access to these two records.

SB 791 - Task Force to Study Work-Based Learning and Apprenticeship Programs was initially filed as an alternative to another bill that would have required any school construction project contractor to have an approved and registered apprenticeship program. As originally filed, SB 791 would have required contractors to negotiate with an LEA to establish a work-based learning program. Because the differences between these two proposals could not be reconciled in the waning days of the session, the sponsor agreed to the establishment of a 14-member task force to review the issues and make recommendations on how to expand and improve work-based learning and apprenticeship programs involved with public school construction projects statewide by December 15, 1999.

#### Other Issues

Although the statewide bomb threat bills - SB 101 and HB 219 were killed by the House Judiciary and Senate Judicial Proceedings Committees, a local Anne Arundel bill - HB 1307 survived in the House by an assignment to the Ways and Means Committee. However, when it moved to the Senate, a killer amendment was added that would have applied the provisions statewide.

An amended HB 443 - English Language - Formal Recognition passed the House, but languished in the Senate EEA Committee where the Senate version had been recommitted by the full Senate in early March. No further action taken on either bill before sine die.

The State Department of Education has established a work group to review the issue of assuring that the causes, effects and lessons of mass starvation in Ireland in the nineteenth century are covered in history classes throughout Maryland as a follow-up to the failure of companion bills, SB 16 and HB 242 -Education - School Systems - Required Curriculum in the House Ways and Means Committee.

HJR 15 - Class Size Reduction Program - Appointment of Special Study Committee passed in the form of a seventeen member committee with a directive to report findings and recommendations to the governor and General Assembly by December 1, 1999.

Two major labor bills supported by MSTA received little support. SB 544 - Labor Relations Between Public Employers and Designated Employee Organizations did not even receive a hearing in the Senate Finance Committee. HB 1007 - Education - Professional Educators - Certification did have a hearing in the House Ways and Means Committee, but no vote was taken. Clearly, the energies of MSTA and legislators on their behalf were concentrated on assuring that an improved pension bill passed.

Attached is the final status of bills on which the Board took a position. After official copies of the bills that passed are printed, I will send you copies. Unfortunately, the enrolled bills that passed on the last day of session were not yet printed when I was in Annapolis yesterday. Attached also are the state aid allocations, including the aid authorized under HB 1, except for the \$4.3 million in additional aid for Baltimore City and the \$2.2 million for Prince George's County, which will be distributed after January 1, 1999 as a deficiency appropriation.

Re: **BELL TIMES**

Dr. Vance invited the following people to the table: Mr. David Fischer, associate superintendent for the Office of Supportive Services; Dr. Hiawatha Fountain, associate superintendent for the Office of Pupil and Community Services; Dr. Steven Seleznow, associate superintendent for the Office of School Administration; Ms. Elizabeth Boone, facilitator of the Bell Times Work Group; Dr. Patricia Flynn, director of the Department of Academic Programs; Dr. Marlene Hartzman, director of the Department of Educational Accountability; and Mr. John Matthews, transportation specialist.

After reviewing the work of the Bell Times Work Group, Dr. Vance recommended that a community interagency task force be appointed that would design an action plan that involved all segments of the community to address the health and welfare of adolescents with respect to sleep deprivation. He recommended that the charge to the task force be structured to allow the flexibility to find creative solutions within the purview of the school system, with recommendations as they may relate to other agencies, organizations, and individuals. The report should be ready to present to the Board of Education before the end of the calendar year to allow time to review implications as they may relate to the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2000.

\*\* Ms. Gutiérrez joined the meeting at this point.

Mr. Felton stated that he was willing to support the Superintendent's recommendation even though he wanted to move more quickly on this initiative. This was an issue of the quality of life and an interest within the community.

Ms. Signer thanked Dr. Vance and Mr. Fischer for the work they had done on this subject. She agreed with staff that bell times should not be a fiscal issue, but one that relates to the health and well being of MCPS students. She supported the Superintendent's recommendation even though there was the risk of over-analysis. The deadline by the end of the calendar year was too late, especially in relationship to the purchase of the needed new buses if bell times were changed. Mr. Fischer replied that the bid was submitted in early September, but if it was included in the bid, the time could be extended to late November.

Ms. Signer asked the Superintendent to explore the options and feasibility of the start times in Aurora and Denver, Colorado. Also, she wanted the details on the composition of the Interagency Task Force on Bell Times.

Ms. Gutiérrez was pleased with the recommendation from the Superintendent. She was concerned about a community interagency task force to design an action plan. Bell times were the purview of the Board of Education and it should be up to the school system to establish specific plans based on research and experience. She thought it was an operations problem. The Board should establish the times and staff could work out the details. She thought that the school system should present two proposals to the community and receive input with recommendations to the Board in July or August. If the Board was serious about moving forward, a pilot could be arranged within one or two clusters.

\*\* Mr. Ewing joined the meeting at this point.

Dr. Cheung agreed with the Superintendent's recommendations because it affects families, businesses, and society at large. He asked for academic data on students participating in competitive sports (ice skating, swimming, etc.) that required them to practice very early in the morning.

Ms. Wheat volunteered to serve on the Interagency Task Force on Bell Times.

Mr. Ewing supported the Superintendent's recommendation that would take a broader look at the issue. Until the Board had more information, it would be difficult to make a decision. The issue raised by the Hispanic Alliance was important since there are students that must work.

RESOLUTION NO. 281-98      Re:    **BELL TIMES**

On motion of Ms. Signer moved and seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education direct the Superintendent to appoint a community interagency task force that would design an action plan that involved all segments of the community to address the health and welfare of adolescents with respect to sleep deprivation; and be it further

Resolved, That the Superintendent's charge to the task force be structured to allow the, flexibility to find creative solutions within the purview of the school system, with recommendations as they may relate to other agencies, organizations, and individuals; and be it further

Resolved, The report should be ready to present to the Board of Education in November, 1998, to allow time to review implications as they may relate to the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2000.

**Re: FY 1999 OPERATING BUDGET**

Mr. Bowers and Dr. Spatz reported that on April 14, 1998, the County Council adopted revised spending affordability guidelines (SAG) for the FY 1999 Operating Budget. Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) received an allocation of \$936,100,000 for tax-supported expenditures (excluding grants and enterprise funds). On February 10, 1998, the Board of Education adopted its FY 1999 Operating Budget Request as amended to reflect the negotiated agreements with its three employee organizations. The SAG portion of the budget request totals \$956,411,192. This leaves a difference of \$20,311,192 or 2.1 percent of the budget.

As part of its operating budget review process, the Council voted to provide each committee with targets based on spending affordability allocations. The Education Committee's target for MCPS will be \$936.1 million, but it will have an opportunity to put additional expenditures on a "wish list" for Council review.

On February 23, 1998, the Board of Education adopted a list of non-recommended reductions totaling \$39,811,192, the amount that the operating budget request exceeded the SAG allocation then in effect. This was necessary to comply with the SAG law. At that time I stated that "Once we receive a more precise estimate of what reductions will be needed based on available resources, we will prepare a more specific listing of nonrecommended reduction alternatives. Based on this list, the Board of Education will be able to inform the county executive and the County Council the amount and potential consequences of possible reductions." Now that the final allocation is established and potential revenues more clearly known, it is appropriate to address potential non-recommended reductions so that the Council will understand the serious consequences of reductions in the Board's requested budget.

Although the Council should fund the full amount requested by the Board, it was recommended that the Board consider alternatives for these potential reductions. Cuts in existing services would be extremely harmful to classroom instruction and make it more difficult to achieve the outcomes that the Board has endorsed related to the improvement initiatives. Nevertheless, to the extent that the Board provides guidance concerning its priorities, the Council will have the best possible information available to make its budget decisions.

Ms. Gutiérrez asked if the state aid had been excluded from the figures since MCPS cannot expend those funds except for the targeted populations. Mr. Bowers replied that

that was not the assumption of the County Executive or County Council. The legislative bill for at-risk children would be provided to the Board. Ms. Gutiérrez noted that the Maryland State Department of Education would not provide guidelines since the bill was clear and based on ESOL populations. The bill should not be broadened and the County Executive's assumption was wrong. The Board should clarify this point and stand very firm that the state aid will not supplant MCPS funding.

Mrs. King thought that there was a phrase in the bill that if the school system was spending \$1,350 per ESOL student, the funds could be used for at-risk students across the board. Dr. Spatz replied that there was a provision in the bill that if improved funding was met, the money could be diverted to other at-risk students.

Mr. Ewing thought that the issue about use of state aid was extremely confusing to the Board, Council, and others. He asked to what extent could the Board assume that it would be able to use in a fungible way the state aid. The school system knows that the money was restricted, but the Board did not know if every last dollar was earmarked for a specific issue. Therefore, using the \$10 million to cut the deficit was not a good approach by the County Executive. Since state aid was restricted and did not further the Board's priorities, that money presented a problem. It would behoove the Board to communicate with the Governor and legislators to clarify its position on earmarked state aid since this issue had persisted for two years.

If the Board did not give the Council specifics on non-recommended reductions, the Council would invent reductions based on their staff's analysis. Therefore, it was important for the Board to convey its priorities to the Council. However, the Council could fund the entire MCPS budget since there were sufficient revenue. Mr. Ewing suggested identifying \$10 - 12 million non-recommended reductions and making it clear to the Council that reductions beyond that point would be harmful to the school system.

Mr. Felton agreed with Mr. Ewing's approach, but he could not reduce instructional categories. To delay an increase was one issue, but he would not support identifying further reductions.

Mrs. Gordon stated that she would not support any of the Superintendent's recommendations. She believed that there was a time when the Board could have devoted substantial time to prepare a list to identify non-recommended reductions. She would not support anything that reduced instructional categories by any amount.

Ms. Signer stated that she would not support the Superintendent's recommended list of non-recommended reductions. Apart from not reducing instructional categories, she had concerns about other reductions, such as a 4.6 percent reduction in the employee health plan.

Dr. Cheung agreed with his colleagues regarding SAG and the recommendations of the Superintendent. There should be no impact on the instructional programs, especially since the county had the resources. He was willing to support the first 14 items on the Superintendent's list for a non-recommended reduction of \$13 million.

Mr. Ewing suggested that the Board provide the Council with the Superintendent's list with the caveat that the Board did not agree with the reductions and enumerate the principles. In the alternative, the Board could identify a few items, but the Council would not be satisfied.

Mrs. Gordon pointed out that the Education Committee had to provide reductions in the school system's budget to comply with the Council's procedures. They would use the Board's list, Superintendent's list, or something completely different. The non-recommended reductions should have been sent at the same time the budget was sent to the County Executive in order for the Board to have had time for reasonable consideration of such a list. That list would have set the priorities and implications of those reductions.

Mr. Ewing suggested that the Board take an approach that would make it the most effective in what the Council eventually did. The Superintendent's recommendations could be sent to the Council with an explanation that the Board was appalled by the reductions and reasonably state the implications and impact on MCPS programs.

**Re: A MOTION BY MR. FELTON ON THE FY 1999  
OPERATING BUDGET (Failed)**

On motion of Mr. Felton and seconded by Dr. Cheung to prepare a list that would include Item 1 and 3 - 14 from the Superintendent's recommendations which totals approximately \$10 million and representing one-half of the identified deficit, failed with Dr. Cheung and Mr. Felton voting in the affirmative; Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Gutiérrez, and Mrs. King voting in the negative; Ms. Signer and (Ms. Wheat) abstaining.

**Re: A MOTION BY MR. FELTON ON THE FY 1999  
OPERATING BUDGET (Failed)**

On motion of Mr. Ewing and seconded by Mrs. King to express the Board's disapproval of the Superintendent's non-recommended reduction list, explain to the Council the progress used making that decision, and express interest in working with the Council to find a solution, failed with Dr. Cheng, Mr. Ewing, and Mrs. King voting in the affirmative; Ms. Gutiérrez voting in the negative; Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Signer, and (Ms. Wheat) abstaining.

**Re: FY 1999 OPERATING BUDGET (Failed)**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Gordon seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution failed by a unanimous vote:#

WHEREAS, The Board of Education adopted an FY 1999 Operating Budget Request of \$956,411,192, excluding grants and enterprise funds, on February 10, 1998; and

WHEREAS, On April 14, 1998, the County Council designated a spending affordability guideline allocation for MCPS for FY 1999 of \$936,100,000; and

WHEREAS, The County Council has requested its Education Committee to recommend a budget for MCPS at the target allocation with an opportunity to request funding for important priorities in addition to the allocation target; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education submit the attached list of funding priorities (Attachment A) totaling \$20,311,192, in the following categories:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Non-recommended Reduction</u>
1 Administration	\$3,174,917
2 Mid-level Administration	288,382
3 Instructional Salaries	3,551,533
4 Textbooks and Instructional Supplies	3,065,019
5 Other Instructional Costs	549,565
6 Special Education	1,238,982
7 Student Personnel Services	100,474
9 Student Transportation	711,000
10 Operation of Plant and Equipment	852,811
11 Maintenance of Plant	781,798
12 Fixed Charges	<u>5,996,711</u>
Total	<u>\$20,311,192</u>

and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education continue to request full funding of its FY 1999 Operating Budget; and be it further

Resolved, That if full funding of the Operating Budget Request is not approved and the identified reductions are made, the consequences for MCPS programs are described on Attachment B; and be it further

Resolved, That reductions such as those listed would have a highly detrimental effect on the quality of education in Montgomery County; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the county executive and County Council.

Re: **BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS**

Due to the lateness of the meeting, there were no comments.

RESOLUTION 282-98

Re: **CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Signer seconded by Mrs. Gordon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Montgomery County is authorized by the *Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland* and Title 10 of the *State Government Article* to conduct certain meetings or portions of its meetings in closed sessions; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County conduct a portion of its meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 1998, from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. to discuss personnel matters and other matters protected from public disclosure by law, to review and adjudicate appeals, and to address other issues including consultation with counsel to obtain legal advice; and be it further

Resolved, That these meetings be conducted in Room 120 of the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, as permitted under Section 4-107, *Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland* and Section 10-508 of the *State Government Article*; and be it further

Resolved, That such meeting shall continue in closed session until the completion of business.

Re: **REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION**

On March 23, 1998, by the unanimous vote of members present, the Board of Education voted to conduct a closed session on April 8, 1998, as permitted under § 4-107, *Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland* and *State Government Article* §10-501.

The Montgomery County Board of Education met in closed session on April 8, 1998, from 8:45 to 10:00 a.m. The meeting took place in Room 120, Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland.



The Board met to discuss personnel issues, EEOC matters, and legal matters with its attorney. The Board reviewed and adjudicated Appeals 1998-6 and 1998-7.

In attendance at part or all of the above closed sessions were: Aggie Alvez, Elizabeth Arons, Larry Bowers, Judy Bresler, Alan Cheung, Blair Ewing, Reggie Felton, David Fischer, Hiawatha Fountain, Kathy Gemberling, Ana Sol Gutiérrez, Pat Hahn, Roland Ikheloa, Nancy King, Oliver Lancaster, George Margolies, Brian Porter, Glenda Rose, Ruby Rubens, Steven Seleznow, Mona Signer, Mary Helen Smith, Roger Titus, Paul Vance, Ron Walsh, and Debbie Wheat.

RESOLUTION NO. 283-98            Re:    **BOARD APPEAL 1998-6**

On motion of Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopts its Decision and Order in Appeal 1998-6, ban on extracurricular activities, reflective of the following vote: Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Felton, Ms. Gutiérrez, and Mrs. King voting to affirm; Ms. Signer voting to dismiss; Ms. Wheat voting to reverse; Mrs. Gordon did not participate in this Decision and Order.

RESOLUTION NO. 284-98            Re:    **BOARD APPEAL 1998-7**

On motion of Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopts its Decision and Order in Appeal 1998-7, illegible signature on a form, reflective of the following vote: Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Felton, Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, Ms. Signer, and Ms. Wheat voting to affirm; Mrs. Gordon did not participate in this Decision and Order.

RESOLUTION NO. 285-98            Re:    **GRADUATION ATTIRE**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education request that the Superintendent provide to the Board guidelines given to schools regarding what a graduate may and may not wear with their cap and gown.

RESOLUTION NO. 286-98

Re: **CEREMONY TO HONOR ATHLETES**

On motion of Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Ms. Wheat, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education acknowledge and honor the high school athletic county champions in each sport highlighting the scholar-athletes.

RESOLUTION NO. 287-98

Re: **SAFE AND DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS PROGRAM**

On motion of Mr. Ewing and seconded by Ms. Gutiérrez, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education schedule a discussion with the staff in the Safe and Drug Free Schools Program regarding the issues related to safety and drug-free schools.

Re: **DARNESTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SERVICE AREA**

On motion of Mr. Ewing and seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution was placed on the table:

Resolved, That Board of Education allow students in the Darnestown Elementary School service area who are now in Grades 9, 10, and 11 to choose to attend Quince Orchard High School rather than the Northwest High School; and be it further

Resolved, That this motion, if approved by the Board, would be done as amendment to past action and in conjunction with existing policy.

Re: **DISCUSSION**

Mr. Ewing thought this motion was a minor adjustment in the assignment of classes and urged the Board to make that determination.

Ms. Signer stated that she would not support the motion because she thought it was a reconsideration of a boundary decision and not a good precedent. First, it was out of the normal CIP cycle, and second, it is a major change with no community input. This particular boundary assignment had been legally challenged by the community, and the school system prevailed. The Board would lose credibility if it now changed its position. She would be willing to consider individual student transfers.

Mr. Ewing replied that there was virtue in consistency; however, there was virtue in recognizing that a decision did not account for all the data that illustrated there was space available.

Mrs. Gordon thought the recommended change was major and set a dangerous precedent. While there may be space at Quince Orchard High School, it would have a negative impact on the Northwest High School.

Re: **DARNESTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SERVICE AREA (Failed)**

On motion of Mr. Ewing and seconded by Mrs. King, the following resolution failed with Mr. Ewing voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cheung, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Ms. Gutiérrez, Mrs. King, Ms. Signer, and Ms. Wheat voting in the negative:

Resolved, That Board of Education allow students in the Darnestown Elementary School service area who are now in Grades 9, 10, and 11 to choose to attend Quince Orchard High School rather than the Northwest High School; and be it further

Resolved, That this motion, if approved by the Board, would be done as amendment to past action and in conjunction with existing policy.

For the Record: Mr. Ewing asked the Superintendent to communicate with the parents of students in the Darnestown Elementary School service area who are now in Grades 9, 10, and 11 and inform them that student transfers will be reviewed on an individual basis.

Re: **NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Signer moved and Mr. Felton seconded the following:

WHEREAS, On April 20, 1998, the Board of Education met with its Ethics Panel; and

WHEREAS, The Ethics Panel has raised issues about conflicts between Policy BBB, *Ethics Policy*, and Policy GCA, *Conflict of Interest Including Other Employment of School System Personnel*; and

WHEREAS, The Ethics Panel has made recommendations about enforcement of conflict of interest provisions; public and confidential disclosure forms for elected officials and employee training; establishment of an MCPS ethics officer; and other issues; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education schedule time for discussion of and action on the recommendations from the Ethics Panel; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education's staff work with the Ethics Panel to bring to the Board specific proposals to implement the Ethics Panel's recommendations.

**RESOLUTION NO. 288-98            Re:    VOTE ON NEW BUSINESS ITEM**

On motion of Ms. Signer and seconded by Ms. Wheat, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education vote on the new business item on Teacher's Pension Plan introduced by Ms. Signer.

**RESOLUTION NO. 289-98            Re:    TEACHERS' PENSION PLAN**

On motion of Ms. Signer and seconded by Mrs. Gordon, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. King, Ms. Signer, and Ms. Wheat voting in the affirmative; Ms. Gutiérrez abstaining:

WHEREAS, The Maryland General Assembly has enacted legislation modifying the Teachers' Pension System, with the goal of providing a more generous benefit to retirees; and

WHEREAS, The overall cost to the state of this new pension plan is estimated to be \$150 million annually;and

WHEREAS, MCPS pays a 10 percent supplement above the benefits provided by the current Maryland State Teachers' retirement and pension systems; and

WHEREAS, During its meeting with the Montgomery County Council of Supporting Service Employees, MCCSSE representatives voiced concern about the level of retirement benefits provided under the MCPS retirement system and expressed interest in a defined contribution retirement plan; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education direct the Superintendent to make recommendations to the Board's Audit Committee; and

Resolved, That the Board of Education direct its Audit Committee to analyze the impact on MCPS of changes to the Teachers' Pension System; and be it further

Resolved, That the Audit Committee compare the provisions of and the level of benefits provided by the new Teachers' Pension System and the MCPS supplement with those of the MCPS retirement system; and be it further

Resolved, That the Audit Committee explore the advantages, disadvantages, and feasibility of a defined contribution retirement plan for MCPS employees; and be it further

Resolved, That the Audit Committee report its findings and recommendations to the Board of Education and that the Board schedule time no later than June 30, 1998, for discussion of and action on the Audit Committee's report.

For the Record: Ms. Gutiérrez stated that this was an unnecessary motion because staff would have commented on the Teachers' Pension Plan.

RESOLUTION NO. 290-98            Re:    **ADJOURNMENT**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting of April 20, 1998, at 11:15 p.m..

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

PLV:gr

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April 20, 1998

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