

APPROVED  
36-1998

Rockville, Maryland  
November 12, 1998

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Thursday, November 12, 1998, at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present:                   Mrs. Nancy J. King, President  
  in the Chair  
  Mr. Geonard F. Butler, Jr.  
  Dr. Alan Cheung  
  Mr. Blair G. Ewing  
  Mr. Reginald M. Felton  
  Mrs. Beatrice B. Gordon  
  Ms. Ana Sol Gutiérrez  
  Mrs. Patricia O'Neill, Board Member-Elect  
  Ms. Mona M. Signer  
  Dr. Paul L. Vance, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent:                   Mr. Steve Abrams, Board Member-Elect

Re:    **PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CAPITAL BUDGET AND  
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM**

The following people testified before the Board of Education:

1. Leslie Duka Semanyk, Pond Road Home Owners Association
2. Edward Taubman, NEMPAC
3. Bob Braun, Norwood Village Home Owners Association
4. Bob Astrove, Parents for Options in Special Education
5. Craig Hart, Middlebrook Home Owners Association
6. Diane Creed, Longview PTA
7. Nancy Vincent, Magruder Cluster
  - a. Steve Rose, Mill Creek Towne Elementary School PTA
8. Kevin Byrne, Rockville Cluster
9. Nick Farson, Wheaton Cluster
10. Bert Kramer, Northeast Consortium
11. Steve Carstens, Anne Stein, and Sherry Davis, Blake Cluster
  - a. Julie Reiner, Burnt Mills Elementary School PTA
  - b. Susan Burger, Stonegate Elementary School PTA
12. Bernie Karns, Paint Branch Cluster -
  - a. Laura Robey, Briggs Chaney Middle School PTSA
  - b. Patty Twigg, Cloverly Elementary School PTA
13. Cynthia Waetjen, Springbrook Cluster

- a. George W. Rutherford, Jr., Cannon Road Elementary School PTA
- b. Carol B. Penne, Cresthaven Elementary School PTA
- c. David L. Peña, Charles R. Drew Elementary School PTA
14. B.J. Mills and Gail West, Sherwood Cluster
  - a. Liz Folk, Farquhar Middle School PTA
15. Peggy Stone, Damascus Cluster
16. Joseph Daniels
17. Pat McComas
18. Linda Glixon
19. George Coyle
20. Lynn Lowman
21. Jon Terrell
22. Phil Kauffman
23. Marybeth Lerner
24. Christine Hamilton
25. Linda Johnson
26. John Low
27. Mike Miller
28. Dave Mason
29. Lisa Rager
30. Anne Carson
31. Lynn Raufaste, Mayor, Town of Kensington
32. Ranelle Bruch
33. Tammy Rickman
34. Bob Baker

Board of Education members asked the following questions:

Mrs. King asked how many children would be coming from Cloverly "A." Ms. Signer asked for that number by grade level. Mrs. Gordon requested the number of students that would go to Farquhar Middle School from Stonegate Elementary School.

Mr. Ewing noted that there were, in addition to Northwood, four other holding schools that were not air conditioned. The Board was given information about the costs of air conditioning those schools, but it would be helpful if information was redistributed before November 19, 1998.

Ms. Signer requested the Superintendent to provide his recommendation to maintain resources at Farquhar Middle School. Also, for the Superintendent's recommendation and each of the Board's adopted alternatives, she requested the percentage of consortium and Sherwood students at Farquhar Middle School when the recommendation was fully phased in.

Mrs. Gordon asked for the plans for Cresthaven Elementary School in the long term, especially given the FDA relocation and the increased enrollment that might bring to the school. Also, she asked if there would be any possibility of accelerating the modernization of Cresthaven.

Ms. Signer pointed out that testimony indicated the need for a portable at Greenwood Elementary. She knew that there had been some issues with after-school childcare using Greenwood's all-purpose room. She asked the Superintendent to provide information on how soon a portable could be placed at Greenwood.

Regarding the innovative program at Farquhar Middle School suggested by Ms. Folk's testimony, Ms. Signer asked for a response from the Superintendent.

Mr. Ewing wanted to know what the specific plans were to relieve Greenwood Elementary School's overcrowding now and, if there were no plans, what it would take if the Board were to decide to place an additional portable at the school.

Mr. Ewing asked the Superintendent to account for the purported absence of 39 portables reported in the Sherwood Cluster's testimony. Also, he asked where portables were located and the number.

Mr. Ewing asked about the split articulation of Stonegate Elementary School between Farquhar and White Oak middle schools. Of that, some seven to eight options developed by staff during the boundary process proposed that all of Stonegate should go to Farquhar. He wanted both verification of that statement as accurate and an explanation of the reasoning behind the Superintendent's decision to recommend another option.

Mr. Felton asked for information on the unsafe lighting at Farquhar Middle School.

Mr. Felton requested information about a special program at Farquhar Middle School. What would be the options recommended for such a program? How feasible was open enrollment within the consortium?

Ms. Gutiérrez asked for clarification on the allocation and decisions on the placing of portables.

Mr. Felton asked about additional portables and the tally of the portables placed in each cluster. He asked for the total number of portables that would be needed if there were no limitations on space or dollars.

If the Board agreed with the Superintendent's recommendation, Mr. Ewing asked what would be the impact on staffing and programs now offered at Farquhar Middle School.

Mr. Felton asked if staff had any information about the relocation of FDA that would project expected changes when that facility would be fully occupied.

Dr. Cheung wanted information on the cost of a special program at Farquhar Middle School similar the proposed program at Magruder Middle School #2.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

PLV:gr