

APPROVED
32-2000

Rockville, Maryland
November 28, 2000

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in regular session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Tuesday, November 28, 2000, at 8:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Mrs. Patricia B. O'Neill, President
 in the Chair
 Mr. Stephen Abrams
 Mr. Kermit V. Burnett
 Ms. Sharon Cox, Board Member-Elect
 Mr. Reginald M. Felton
 Mrs. Beatrice B. Gordon
 Mrs. Nancy J. King
 Mr. Walter Lange, Board Member-Elect
 Mr. Christopher Lloyd, Student Board Member
 Ms. Mona M. Signer
 Dr. Jerry Weast, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: None

or () indicates student vote does not count. Four votes needed for adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. 761-00 Re: **CLOSED SESSION**

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 Board of Education of Montgomery County is authorized by the *Education Article* and *State Government Article* of the *Annotated Code of Maryland* 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 closed session on November 28, 2000, in Room 120 from 7:45 to 8:00 p.m. to consult with counsel to receive legal advice as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(7) of the *State Government Article*; and be it further

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

RESOLUTION NO. 762-00 Re: **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by

Ms. Signer, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for November 28, 2000.

RESOLUTION NO. 763-00 Re: **BOARD APPEAL – 2000-30**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2000-30, a student expulsion, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Abrams, Mr. Burnett, Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. King, Mr. Lloyd, Mrs. O'Neill, and Ms. Signer voting to affirm; Mr. Felton was absent.

RESOLUTION NO. 764-00 Re: **BOARD APPEAL – 2000-31**

On motion of Mrs. King and seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2000-31, a student expulsion, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Abrams, Mr. Burnett, Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. King, Mr. Lloyd, Mrs. O'Neill, and Ms. Signer voting to affirm; Mr. Felton was absent.

RESOLUTION NO. 765-00 Re: **BOARD APPEAL – 2000-50**

On motion of Mrs. King and seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2000-50, a tuition waiver, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Abrams, Mr. Burnett, Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. King, Mr. Lloyd, Mrs. O'Neill, and Ms. Signer voting to reverse; Mr. Felton was absent.

RESOLUTION NO. 766-00 Re: **BOARD APPEAL – 2000-51**

On motion of Mrs. King and seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2000-51, a complaint from the public, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Abrams, Mr. Burnett, Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. King, Mr. Lloyd, Mrs. O'Neill, and Ms. Signer voting to dismiss; Mr. Felton was absent.

RESOLUTION NO. 767-00 Re: **BOARD APPEAL – 2000-52**

On motion of Mrs. King and seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2000-52, a tuition waiver, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Abrams, Mr. Burnett, Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. King, Mr. Lloyd, Mrs. O'Neill, and Ms. Signer voting to reverse; Mr. Felton was absent.

RESOLUTION NO. 768-00 Re: **APPEALS BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THE SENECA
VALLEY CLUSTER**

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

WHEREAS, In April 2000, the superintendent convened a boundary advisory committee comprised of representatives from Seneca Valley Cluster elementary schools; and

WHEREAS, The boundary advisory committee met in April, May, and June 2000, and submitted a report to the superintendent with committee evaluations of nine boundary options on June 15, 2000; and

WHEREAS, The superintendent reviewed and carefully considered the boundary advisory committee's report, school PTA position papers, and feedback received from the community at-large and presented on October 18, 2000, a recommendation for boundary changes for consideration by the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, On November 8, 2000, the Board of Education considered the superintendent's recommendation for boundary changes and adopted no alternatives; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted a public hearing on November 16, 2000, on the superintendent's recommendation; now therefore be it

Resolved, That effective September 2001 the following reassignments be implemented. (A map displaying the boundaries, with zones referred to in the descriptions, is attached.):

- The Woods at North Lake community that is south of Middlebrook Road and accessed via Cross Ridge Drive (known during the boundary study process as Zone R5) is reassigned from Dr. Sally K. Ride Elementary School to S. Christa McAuliffe Elementary School.
- The portion of The Colony Apartments that is west of Crystal Rock Drive (known during the boundary study process as Zone R4A) is reassigned from Dr. Sally K.

Ride Elementary School to Lake Seneca Elementary School. This includes residences with even-number addresses in the 19500, 19600, and 19700 blocks of Crystal Rock Drive.

- The portion of The Colony Apartments that is east of Crystal Rock Drive (known during the boundary study process as Zone R4B) is reassigned from Dr. Sally K. Ride Elementary School to Waters Landing Elementary School. This includes residences with odd-number addresses in the 19600 and 19700 blocks of Crystal Rock Drive.
- The area bounded by Crystal Rock Drive, Little Seneca Creek, Route 270, and Route 118 that includes the Cloverleaf Center residential development (known during the boundary study process as Zone R7) is reassigned from Dr. Sally K. Ride Elementary School to Waters Landing Elementary School.
- The South Shore Harbour community, along South Shore Harbour Drive, and the Landing Glen community, along Ambassador Drive and Ambassador Terrace (known together during the boundary study process as Zone WL3) are reassigned from Waters Landing Elementary School to Lake Seneca Elementary School; and be it further

Resolved, That reassignments described above be phased, beginning with Grades K-4 in September 2001; and be it further

Resolved, That effective immediately, the planned community known as the Germantown Town Center, located in the area bounded by Crystal Rock Drive, Route 118, Middlebrook Drive, Locbury Drive, and Rexmore Drive (known during the boundary study process as Zone WL2) is reassigned from Waters Landing Elementary School to Lake Seneca Elementary School.

RESOLUTION NO. 769-00

Re: **BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THE NORTHWEST
CLUSTER (ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #6)**

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, In April 2000, the superintendent convened a boundary advisory committee comprised of representatives of the communities within the Ronald McNair Elementary School service area; and

WHEREAS, The boundary advisory committee met in April, May, and June 2000, and

submitted a report to the superintendent with committee evaluations of five boundary options on June 15, 2000; and

WHEREAS, The superintendent reviewed and carefully considered the boundary advisory committee's report, community position papers, and feedback from the community at-large and presented on October 18, 2000, a recommendation for boundary changes for consideration by the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, On November 8, 2000, the Board of Education considered the superintendent's recommendation for boundary changes and adopted no alternatives; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted a public hearing on November 16, 2000, on the superintendent's recommendation; now therefore be it

Resolved, That effective September 2001 the area south of Clopper Road currently assigned to Ronald McNair Elementary School be reassigned to Northwest Elementary School #6, with the following exceptions for areas that continue at Ronald McNair Elementary School:

- The area bounded by Clopper Road, Richter Farm Road, the park that is north of Tatani Drive, and Schaeffer Road (known during the boundary study process as Zone 4 for residences along the south side of Clopper Road, and Zone 11 for a portion of the Woodcliffe Park Community) continues at Ronald McNair Elementary School.
- The Seneca View community, located south of Clopper Road and north of the Little Seneca Tributary (known during the boundary study process as Zone 3) continues at Ronald McNair Elementary School; and be it further

Resolved, That effective September 2001 the Rolling Hills apartment community currently assigned to Ronald McNair Elementary School be reassigned to Northwest Elementary School #6, (known during the boundary study process as Zone 2). A map displaying the boundaries, with zones referred to in the descriptions, is attached; and be it further

Resolved, That reassignments be phased, beginning with Grades K-4, in September 2001.

Re: **BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION TO APPROVE
THE REQUESTED FY 2002 CAPITAL BUDGET
AND AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2001-2006
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM**

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

WHEREAS, In accordance with 5-306 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the superintendent of schools has recommended an FY 2002 Capital Budget and Amendments to the FY 2001-2006 Capital Improvements Program (CIP); and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted public hearings on November 15 and 16, 2000, on the superintendent's recommendations for all capital and non-capital actions for the FY 2002 Capital Budget and Amendments to the FY 2001-2006 CIP; and

WHEREAS, In adopting this capital budget and amendments to the CIP, the Board of Education considered the implication of decisions on the Annual Growth Policy and is aware that the requested timing of space solutions enables all clusters to meet the school's test and to remain open to residential development; and

WHEREAS, The County Council and the County Executive, having demonstrated a long-standing commitment to appropriate significant local dollars to fund school construction, are properly expecting the state to continue to fund its appropriate share, amounting to no less than \$50 million for FY 2002; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the FY 2002 Capital Budget appropriation request totaling \$209,646,000 and Amendments to the FY 2001-2006 Capital Improvements Program; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the attached priority list for state-eligible projects in the amount of \$55.7 million for FY 2002; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education is committed to working with state and local officials to continue the efforts to change the state regulations in order to increase the level of state funding; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve a Quince Orchard Cluster elementary school boundary study for the spring of 2001 to address projected overutilization at Rachel Carson Elementary School, and that the following elementary schools be included in the study: Brown Station, Rachel Carson, Fields Road, Jones Lane, and Thurgood Marshall; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve an Albert Einstein Cluster middle school boundary study for the spring of 2001 to address the reopening of Albert Einstein Middle School #2; and be it further

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

RESOLUTION NO. 770-00

Re: **AMENDMENT TO THE REQUESTED FY 2002
CAPITAL BUDGET AND AMENDMENTS TO THE
FY 2001-2006 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
PROGRAM**

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 add four classrooms into the master plan for construction at the time of the modernization of William Tyler Page Elementary School.

Re: **AMENDMENT TO THE REQUESTED FY 2002
CAPITAL BUDGET AND AMENDMENTS TO THE
FY 2001-2006 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
PROGRAM**

On motion of Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mrs. O'Neill, the following amendment was placed on the table:

Resolved, That the Board of Education accelerate the construction of Richard Montgomery High School by moving \$475,000 from FY 2003 to FY 2002 and moving the construction funds from FY 2004 to FY 2003.

Re: **DISCUSSION**

Mrs. King noted that the County Council's projections for revenues are not encouraging. The CIP is already very ambitious, and people should be aware that the Board may not be able to acquire funding for all projects. Mr. Abrams agreed with Mrs. King. However, he thought projects that were ready should be included in this CIP. Whether funding was available or not, the Board had done its job. Mrs. King thought it was crucial that the Board relayed the Council's fiscal concerns to avoid raising the hope of communities.

Ms. Signer asked if the project could be ready if the Board accelerated only the planning money and not the project itself, and what the net affect would be on the earlier year in the CIP. Mr. Hawes replied that MCPS had the design funds and would be able to accelerate the construction if the Council agreed.

Dr. Weast underscored the seriousness of the funding issue since there are three facility modernizations (Northwest Elementary School #6, Eastern Middle School, and Thomas S. Wootton High School) over estimate by \$5.9 million due to labor shortages, material increases, and economic growth. It is only November, and the Council has just \$13 million in reserve. Therefore, the Council opted to take \$1.9 out of the reserve and transfer money (\$4 million) from one modernization (Wood Acres Elementary School) to cover the

expense. Therefore, the CIP must request those funds next year for that modernization to continue on schedule. Mr. Hawes stated that if the Richard Montgomery project were accelerated there would be a net increase of \$1.3 million in FY 2002, with \$4.8 million targeted for elementary school gymnasiums, an \$8-million increase in FY 2003 with \$1.7 million targeted for elementary school gymnasiums, and an \$11-million increase in FY 2004 with \$1.5 million targeted for elementary school gymnasiums. Mr. Lavorgna added that there would be a net decrease of \$10.5 million in FY 2005 and \$8.9 million in FY 2006.

Ms. Signer said she would not support the amendment because (1) it will be difficult to get the projects done on schedule and (2) it is an off-year CIP and this amendment would be more appropriate next year.

Mrs. Gordon noted that the Board would be taking action on the Belt facility, and there were no costs on the green sheet. She asked what staff expected those costs to be. Mr. Hawes replied that the facility planning process would take place before costs could be determined, but the overall cost could be in the \$20-25 million range. However, the school system will have to spend about \$10 million to increase the capacity of Parkland Middle School to relieve overcrowding.

Mrs. Gordon cited the concerns of Mrs. O'Neill and Dr. Weast, and, based on the critical needs in the Wheaton Cluster, she could not justify accelerating the Richard Montgomery project.

Mr. Abrams clarified that there was no need to increase the planning money and there would be an opportunity in the spring or fall to accelerate the project. With those assurances, he withdrew his amendment.

Mr. Abrams asked what the cost would be for a feasibility study on upgrading the Life Science classrooms at William H. Farquhar Middle School. Mr. Hawes replied that the feasibility study would cost \$15,000, with a \$2-million projected cost of the upgrade scheduled to take place during an FY 2010 renovation. Mr. Abrams asked staff to look at other opportunities, such as moving equipment between schools, that might provide relief.

Mrs. King asked about the status of Seneca Valley High School's lead problems. She was still hearing from the communities that there were major concerns with the filters on the water fountains and the lack of filters in the kitchen. She also wanted to know what level of lead in the drinking water was safe. She asked for a report for the Board.

Mrs. Gordon asked if the restroom facilities for portables at Board Acres and Cresthaven elementary schools would be ready for the next school year. Mr. Hawes said those facilities would be available.

Mr. Felton asked about there was adequate funding to address the major health and safety issues existing at many schools. Mr. Hawes replied that there are three ongoing projects – Safe Access Project, Fire Safety Code Project, and the IEQ Program – for \$4 million of funding. Mr. Felton asked why some schools have to wait for repairs. Mr. Hawes explained that after a situation is brought to staff's attention, there has to be an engineering analysis before a project can be included in the plan.

Noting the lead in the pipes at Seneca Valley High School, Mrs. O'Neill asked if there were other schools with similar situations. Mr. Hawes replied that the lead abatement program, in which every school was inspected, was finished three years ago. Mrs. O'Neill wanted the school system to be more proactive in safety issues, especially with the recent ballast problem.

Mr. Felton asked about the accessibility of school playgrounds. He noted that this is a requirement under ADA and said a survey should be conducted before next year's budget request.

Ms. Signer said the Board created the southeast consortium, including Blair, Einstein and Northwood clusters and the Wheaton Cluster for planning purposes last March. She asked when the superintendent would bring forward a recommendation on whether to include Wheaton for decision-making. Dr. Weast replied that the recommendation would be before the Board in December 2000.

Ms. Signer pointed out that Albert Einstein High School had been scheduled to receive a 20-classroom addition and the current CIP lists a Visual Art Center addition. Mr. Lavorgna replied that the number of rooms in the addition would be based on the plan for the consortium and that the addition in the CIP was for the Visual Art Center only. Dr. Weast added that Einstein has pushed forward in the fine arts area, whether the cluster is configured as a stand-alone signature or as a collaboration of schools. Because of that, he supported an addition, which would be larger if it becomes a full collaboration of all four high schools. Ms. Signer said the Board was not precluding an addition for capacity. Staff agreed and said the recommendation was in the CIP to support the program needs under any future scenarios.

Assuming that Newport and Belt are reopened, Ms. Signer asked how much excess middle school capacity would be in the two clusters, and what the plans would be to use that space. Mr. Lavorgna replied that the combined capacities with the reopening of Newport would be 1,950 students. The plans would be to reduce class size and add programs, such as relocating the programs from the Connecticut Park Center. The opening of Belt provides the opportunity to keep Parkland at a more appropriate middle school size with a combined size of 1,500 students.

**Mr. Burnett joined the meeting at this point.

Ms. Signer noted that if Walter Johnson High School was modernized on site, the core improvements would be accelerated. She asked if there was a need for an amendment to add 20 classrooms. Dr. Weast said the requested CIP budget contained sufficient funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 771-00 Re: **AMENDMENT TO THE REQUESTED FY 2002
CAPITAL BUDGET AND AMENDMENTS TO THE
FY 2001-2006 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
PROGRAM**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Lloyd seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following resolution was adopted with Mr. Abrams, Mr. Burnett, Mrs. King, Mr. Lloyd, and Mrs. O'Neill voting in the affirmative; Mr. Felton and Mrs. Gordon voting in the negative; and Ms. Signer abstaining:#

Resolved, That the Board of Education add \$35,000 to bring the playground up to today's standards for handicapped students at Judith A. Resnik Elementary School.

RESOLUTION NO. 772-00 Re: **AMENDMENT TO THE REQUESTED FY 2002
CAPITAL BUDGET AND AMENDMENTS TO THE
FY 2001-2006 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
PROGRAM**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Mrs. O'Neill, the following resolution was adopted with Mr. Felton, Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. King, Mr. Lloyd, Mrs. O'Neill, and Ms. Signer voting in the affirmative; Mr. Abrams and Mr. Burnett voting in the negative:#

Resolved, That the Board of Education add \$100,000 for placeholder funds to identify three additional playgrounds to be upgraded for handicapped accessibility based on a survey to prioritize/rank all playgrounds.

RESOLUTION NO. 773 Re: **BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION TO APPROVE
THE REQUESTED FY 2002 CAPITAL BUDGET
AND AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2001-2006
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM**

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

WHEREAS, In accordance with 5-306 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the

superintendent of schools has recommended an FY 2002 Capital Budget and Amendments to the FY 2001-2006 Capital Improvements Program (CIP); and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education conducted public hearings on November 15 and 16, 2000, on the superintendent's recommendations for all capital and non-capital actions for the FY 2002 Capital Budget and Amendments to the FY 2001-2006 CIP; and

WHEREAS, In adopting this capital budget and amendments to the CIP, the Board of Education considered the implication of decisions on the Annual Growth Policy and is aware that the requested timing of space solutions enables all clusters to meet the school's test and to remain open to residential development; and

WHEREAS, The County Council and the County Executive, having demonstrated a long-standing commitment to appropriate significant local dollars to fund school construction, are properly expecting the state to continue to fund its appropriate share, amounting to no less than \$50 million for FY 2002; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the FY 2002 Capital Budget appropriation request totaling \$209,646,000 and Amendments to the FY 2001-2006 Capital Improvements Program; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the attached priority list for state-eligible projects in the amount of \$55.7 million for FY 2002; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education is committed to working with state and local officials to continue the efforts to change the state regulations in order to increase the level of state funding; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve a Quince Orchard Cluster elementary school boundary study for the spring of 2001 to address projected overutilization at Rachel Carson Elementary School, and that the following elementary schools be included in the study: Brown Station, Rachel Carson, Fields Road, Jones Lane, and Thurgood Marshall; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve an Albert Einstein Cluster middle school boundary study for the spring of 2001 to address the reopening of Albert Einstein Middle School #2; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education accelerate the construction of Richard Montgomery High School by moving \$475,000 from FY 2003 to FY 2002 and moving the construction funds from FY 2004 to FY 2003; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education add \$35,000 to bring the playground up to today's standards for handicapped students at Judith A. Resnik Elementary School; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education add \$100,000 for placeholder funds to identify three additional playgrounds to be upgraded for handicapped accessibility based on a survey to prioritize/rank all playgrounds; and be it further

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

RESOLUTION NO. 774-00

Re: **BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION TO AMEND THE
FY 2001 STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
PROGRAM REQUEST**

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

WHEREAS, The FY 2001 State CIP amount for Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) approved by the Board of Public Works totals \$51.2 million, including a set-aside amount of \$14.7 million in undesignated funds; and

WHEREAS, \$59,000 of the undesignated funds has been applied to the Relocatable Classroom Project, leaving \$14.6 million as the set-aside balance; and

WHEREAS, The staff of the Interagency Committee on School Construction (IAC) has recognized the justification for a regional cost adjustment for MCPS; and

WHEREAS, The IAC staff is reconsidering the allocation of additional funds to certain projects approved in FY 2001 by applying a regional cost adjustment, as well as allocating funds for additional projects not approved in the FY 2001 State CIP using the \$14.6 million in undesignated funds; and

WHEREAS, The items being considered by the IAC staff for a regional cost adjustment and additional projects total \$9.92 million, with \$4.68 million remaining as the balance of the set-aside; and

WHEREAS, MCPS believes that four projects that received State funding in FY 2000 should be reconsidered for additional funding from the set-aside based on a regional cost adjustment for FY 2000 in the amount of 15.6 percent; and

WHEREAS, The approval of the FY 2001 adjustments considered by the IAC staff and the regional cost adjustment for four projects approved in FY 2000 will deplete the entire set-

aside of \$14.6 million; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education revise its FY 2001 State CIP request to include funding for a regional cost adjustment and additional projects in the amount of \$9.9 million; and be it further

Resolved, That the MCPS FY 2001 State CIP request be revised to include funding for a regional cost adjustment in the amount of \$9.42 million for four projects partially funded in FY 2000 to apply against any remaining balance of the \$14.6 million set-aside; and be it further

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

RESOLUTION NO. 775-00

Re: **RECOMMENDED REOPENING OF COL. JOSEPH
A. BELT JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

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

WHEREAS, Significant enrollment and academic issues impacting the Wheaton Cluster require creativity and resourcefulness in finding ways to bring about educational facility and program improvements that address the needs of this community; and

WHEREAS, Parkland Middle School in the Wheaton Cluster is currently overutilized and is projected to be severely impacted by rising enrollments over the next several years; and

WHEREAS, The option to modernize Parkland Middle School on its current 9.2-acre site and to enlarge the school capacity to accommodate the projected enrollment of 1,350 students given the needs of the Parkland Middle School community is not considered educationally sound; and

WHEREAS, A second middle school in the Wheaton Cluster not only would relieve the overcrowding but also would provide the necessary space to target additional interventions, program supports, and class-size reductions to address the needs of under-performing students, English language learners, and children in poverty; and

WHEREAS, The former Col. Joseph A. Belt Junior High School facility is leased by the Montgomery County Government to the Yeshiva of Greater Washington with an option to purchase the building; and

WHEREAS, Yeshiva representatives met with Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) staff and indicated a willingness to discuss the possibility of the Belt facility being returned to MCPS provided that they could obtain a similar building at an acceptable location with features identical to work under way at the Belt facility; and

WHEREAS, The former Montgomery Hills Junior High School facility was suggested as the new location for the Yeshiva program and was considered to be acceptable contingent on the following:

1. The Yeshiva of Greater Washington would receive assurances that the Montgomery Hills facility would be modified to include the same level of improvements that are being undertaken at Belt;
2. The lease/purchase agreement secured for the Belt facility would be transferred to the Montgomery Hills facility;
3. The Board of the Yeshiva of Greater Washington would ratify the proposal; and

WHEREAS, A tentative schedule for reopening the Belt facility as Wheaton Middle School #2, relocating the Yeshiva program to the Montgomery Hills facility, and modernizing Parkland Middle School would be as follows:

1. A feasibility study will be completed by March 2001 and will be used to formulate a request for the FY 2002 Capital Budget and an amendment to the FY 2001-2006 for planning and construction for the opening of Wheaton Middle School #2 and for modifications to the Montgomery Hills facility to relocate the Yeshiva program;
2. MCPS will schedule the work at the Montgomery Hills facility to be completed by summer 2004 and move the Yeshiva program to the renovated facility;
3. MCPS will begin the modernization of Parkland Middle School as scheduled in the fall of 2003, and begin the work on the Belt facility in the summer of 2004;
4. Both Parkland Middle School and Wheaton Middle School #2 will be scheduled to reopen in August 2005 for the 2005-2006 school year; and

WHEREAS, Based on the willingness of representatives of the Yeshiva of Greater Washington to cooperate with MCPS on returning the Belt facility to the school system; and

WHEREAS, Staff has recommended that the Board of Education request that the process to reclaim the Belt facility be initiated to ensure that the facility is available and preclude any disposition prior to the completion of the feasibility study; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education request the County Executive, County Council, and the State Superintendent of Schools initiate the process to reclaim the former Col. Joseph A. Belt Junior High School facility for MCPS to relieve overcrowding at the middle school level in the Wheaton Cluster; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board request the County Executive and the Montgomery County Government transfer the lease/purchase arrangement between the County and the Yeshiva of Greater Washington from the Belt facility to the former Montgomery Hills Junior High School facility; and be it further

Resolved, That as part of the agreement to transfer the lease, MCPS and the Montgomery County Government agree to improve the Montgomery Hills facility to the same standard that Yeshiva officials have set for the Belt facility; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board allocate currently approved FY 2001 Facility Planning funds for MCPS to immediately begin a feasibility study that will be completed in March of 2001 to determine the project costs and to develop agreements for the various property exchanges

necessary to reopen the Belt facility as Wheaton Middle School #2 in August 2005; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the County Executive, County Council, and the State Superintendent of Schools.

RESOLUTION NO. 776-00 Re: **ADJOURNMENT *SINE DIE***

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting of November 28, 2000, at 9:55 p.m.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

JDW:gr

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SUMMARY SHEET**

November 28, 2000

CLOSED SESSION 1

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA 1

BOARD APPEALS 2

**APPEALS BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THE
SENECA VALLEY CLUSTER 3**

**BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THE NORTHWEST
CLUSTER (ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #6) 4**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION TO APPROVE THE REQUESTED FY 2002 CAPITAL BUDGET
AND AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2001-2006 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM 5**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION TO AMEND THE FY 2001 STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
PROGRAM REQUEST 12**

RECOMMENDED REOPENING OF COL. JOSEPH A. BELT JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL 13

ADJOURNMENT *SINE DIE* 15