

APPROVED
11-2003

Rockville, Maryland
February 11, 2003

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in regular session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Tuesday, February 11, 2003, at 10:15 a.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Mrs. Patricia B. O'Neill, President
 in the Chair
 Mr. Kermit V. Burnett
 Ms. Sharon Cox
 Mr. Reginald M. Felton
 Dr. Charles Haughey
 Mr. Walter Lange
 Mr. Gabe Romero
 Mr. Mihyar Alnifaidy, Student Board Member
 Dr. Jerry Weast, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: None

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

RESOLUTION NO. 45-03 Re: **CLOSED SESSION**

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

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 portions of its closed sessions on February 11, 2003, in Room 120 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 to 2:15 p.m. to discuss the Human Resources Monthly Report and an appointment, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(1) of the *State Government Article*; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County conduct a portion of its closed sessions to discuss collective bargaining negotiations, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(9) of the *State Government Article* and Section 4-107(d)(2)(ii) of the *Education Article*; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County conduct a portion of its closed sessions to receive legal advice as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(7) of the *State Government Article*; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County dedicate part of the closed sessions on February 11, 2003, to acquit its executive functions and to adjudicate and review appeals, which is a quasi-judicial function outside the purview of the Open Meetings Act under Section 10-503(a) of the *State Government Article*; and be it further

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

RESOLUTION NO. 46-03 Re: **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for February 11, 2003.

RESOLUTION NO. 47-03 Re: **ITEMS OF LEGISLATION**

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill and seconded by Mr. Lange, the following resolution was adopted with Mr. Burnett, Dr. Haughey, Mr. Lange, Mrs. O'Neill, and Mr. Romero voting in the affirmative; Mr. Alnifaidy, Ms. Cox, and Mr. Felton voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the Board of Education support **HB 3 – Income Tax – Credit for Classroom Supplies Purchased by Teachers** that would provide an income tax credit to teachers in elementary and secondary schools equal to 100% of expenses paid during the taxable year for classroom supplies up to \$300.

RESOLUTION NO. 48-03 Re: **ITEMS OF LEGISLATION**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education took no position on **SB 151 – Education – Resident Teacher Corps Pilot Program** that would establish the Resident Teacher Corps Pilot Program as an alternate route into the teaching profession and a way to attract career-changers to the teaching profession.

RESOLUTION NO. 49-03 Re: **ITEMS OF LEGISLATION**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education support **SB 27 – Teachers Retirement and Pension Systems – Reemployment of Retired Speech-Language Pathologists and**

Audiologists that would add these categories of school personnel to the list of school system positions for which retired employees are eligible to be rehired without retirement penalty.

RESOLUTION NO. 50-03 Re: **ITEMS OF LEGISLATION**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education support (with concerns expressed) **SB 7 – Creation of a State Debt – Aging School Program – Qualified Zone Academy Bonds** that would authorize the Board of Public Works to issue \$9.1 million in interest-free Qualified Zone Academy Bonds and grant the proceeds to the Interagency Committee on School Construction to be used for the aging school program.

RESOLUTION NO. 51-03 Re: **ITEMS OF LEGISLATION**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Mrs. O'Neill, the following resolution was adopted with Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Dr. Haughey, Mr. Lange, and Mrs. O'Neill; Mr. Alnifaidy, Mr. Felton, and Mr. Romero voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the Board of Education support with an amendment (copy of the application for adoption) **HB 9 – Education – Liability for Education Costs – Exemptions for Out-of-State Adoption Agencies** that would provide that an out-of-state agency that arranges for a child's placement for adoption in Maryland is not responsible for paying the educational costs associated with the child.

Re: **ITEMS OF LEGISLATION**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Lange seconded by Mrs. O'Neill, the following resolution failed with Mr. Alnifaidy, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, and Mr. Lange voting in the affirmative; Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Mrs. O'Neill, and Mr. Romero voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the Board of Education oppose **SB 32 – Education – Children in Out-of-County Living Arrangements – Informal Kinship Care** that would require a county superintendent to allow a student whose parent or guardian resides in another school district to attend the local public school system if the student is living with a relative within the school district due to a serious family hardship.

RESOLUTION NO. 52-03 Re: **ITEMS OF LEGISLATION**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted with Mr. Alnifaidy, Mr. Burnett, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, and Mr. Lange voting in the affirmative; Ms. Cox, Mrs. O'Neill, and Mr. Romero voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the Board of Education took no position on **SB 32 – Education – Children in Out-of-County Living Arrangements – Informal Kinship Care** that would require a county superintendent to allow a student whose parent or guardian resides in another school district to attend the local public school system if the student is living with a relative within the school district due to a serious family hardship.

RESOLUTION NO. 53-03 Re: **ITEMS OF LEGISLATION**

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill and seconded by Mr. Felton, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education support **SB 81 – Education – Superintendent of Schools** that would eliminate the role of the state superintendent of schools in the process of hiring and removing local school system superintendents, and the authority would be vested solely with the local board of education.

RESOLUTION NO. 54-03 Re: **ITEMS OF LEGISLATION**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Mr. Lange, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education support **HB 870 – Search of Students on School-Sponsored Trip** that would allow a designee of the principal to search students on a field trip.

RESOLUTION NO. 55-03 Re: **REAPPOINTMENT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill and seconded by Mr. Felton, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Dr. Jerry Weast's current term as superintendent of schools ends on June 30, 2003; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Weast has made known to the Board his desire to be reappointed to a new four-year term as superintendent of schools; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education desires to reappoint Dr. Weast to a new four-year term; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Section 4-201 (c) of the *Education Article* of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the State Superintendent of Schools must approve such appointment in writing; and

WHEREAS, The Board and the Superintendent have agreed upon the terms of a new four-year contract; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education hereby reappoint Dr. Jerry D. Weast as superintendent of schools of Montgomery County for a term of four years, commencing July 1, 2003, and ending June 30, 2007; and be it further

Resolved, That the President of the Board of Education forthwith seek the written approval of Dr. Nancy Grasmick to this appointment; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the new contract on the same terms and conditions as the existing Agreement with the Superintendent, except as modified by the attached Amendment.

**AMENDMENT TO THE 1999 AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
AND
DR. JERRY D. WEAST**

IT IS THIS 11th day of February, 2003, agreed by and between the Board of Education of Montgomery County, Maryland (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") and Dr. Jerry D. Weast (hereinafter referred to as the "Superintendent") that the 1999 Agreement Between the Montgomery County Board of Education and Dr. Jerry D. Weast (hereinafter referred as the "Superintendent's Original Contract") is continued with the following amendments:

1. The term of the Superintendent's reappointment shall be from July 1, 2003, to June 30, 2007.
2. The Superintendent's salary for the 2003-2004 year, the first year of his second four-year appointment, shall be based on his current 2002-2003 salary and he shall be entitled to cost-of-living increments and any additional compensation, including bonuses, as provided with paragraph III.A. of the Superintendent's Original Contract.
3. The following sentence shall be added to paragraph III.C. of the

Superintendent's Original Contract and shall supercede any other provisions to the contrary: Upon vesting in the Maryland State and Montgomery County pension systems, the Superintendent, upon leaving Montgomery County Public Schools for any reason, shall be entitled to health insurance benefits that are the same or comparable to those provided to retirees from the Montgomery County Public School system.

- 4. Paragraph III L.2. shall become moot and no longer of any force and effect on August 1, 2004, when the Superintendent vests in the Maryland State and Montgomery County pension systems.
- 5. Paragraph IV and the "First Amendment to the Agreement Between the Montgomery County Board of Education and Dr. Jerry D. Weast" are deleted as moot.

In all other respects the terms and conditions of the Superintendent's Original Contract are renewed, republished, and reaffirmed.

This Amendment has been approved by the Board, in accordance with its duly adopted resolution, and accepted by the parties as evidenced by the signatures of the President of the Board and the Superintendent.

Patricia B. O'Neill
 President
 Montgomery County Board of Education

Jerry D. Weast
 Superintendent of Schools
 Montgomery County Public Schools

RESOLUTION NO. 56-03 Re: BOARD ACADEMIC PRIORITIES (2003-2007)

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill and seconded by Ms. Cox, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education has reappointed Dr. Jerry D. Weast to a second four-year term as Superintendent of Schools, commencing July 1, 2003; and

WHEREAS, The Board and the Superintendent have recently met to review and refine the academic priorities adopted by the Board in 1999 at the beginning of Dr. Weast's first term; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board, with the full support and commitment of Dr. Weast, hereby adopts the following academic priorities for 2003-2007, in furtherance of the school system's strategic plan:

- , Organize and optimize resources for improved academic results
- , Align rigorous curriculum, delivery of instruction and assessment for continuous improvement of student achievement
- , Develop, expand and deliver a literacy-based pre-kindergarten to grade 2 initiative
- , Use student, staff, school and system performance data to monitor and improve student achievement
- , Foster and sustain systems that support and improve employee effectiveness
- , Strengthen family-school relationships and continue to expand civic, business, and community partnerships that support improved student achievement

Re: **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following people testified before the Board of Education:

	<u>Person</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1.	Judy Docca	Head Start
2.	Stan Doore	Science Program
3.	Lyda Astrove	Special Education
4.	Bob Astrove	Special Education
5.	Jill Lyons	Special Education
6.	Mark Drury	Career Education
7.	Carl Lavin	Dissent

Re: **OUR CALL TO ACTION – THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE – THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Dr. Weast invited the following people to present the item: Mr. Larry Bowers, Dr. James Williams, Dr. Frieda Lacey, and members of the executive staff.

Since 1999, the work of all schools and offices within MCPS has been guided by the Board of Education's Academic Priorities and the findings and recommendations of the landmark report, *Our Call to Action*. The academic priorities have provided the foundation for the development of *Our Call to Action*, which in turn has set the stage for an unprecedented effort to improve the instructional program in each and every school and the professional development plans for all teachers. Schools annually develop and implement specific

school improvement plans based on these academic priorities. Office and department strategic plans are aligned with these academic priorities and, guided by these plans, staff members support schools with their efforts to improve student achievement. This focused planning effort has resulted in new funding for critical school-based improvements and helped focus the energy and resources of all staff, students, parents, and the general community on a single set of priorities that not only guide the school system on a macro level, but also served as the defining measure at the micro level of individual initiatives and day-to-day operations. Through a detailed system of strategies, initiatives, and implementation schedules, *Our Call to Action—The Pursuit of Excellence* continues to guide the work of the school system.

Input has been sought from various stakeholder groups throughout the process of developing the strategic plan and continues to provide necessary insight and guidance for the development, mid-course corrections, and implementation of the plan. As a result of the input from external and internal stakeholders, a need was identified to provide a concise and consolidated document that includes the vision, mission, system goals, core values, and priorities of the Board of Education initiatives, milestones, and data points. This consolidated document would serve as the means for public accountability regarding student achievement and the work of the school system. Additionally, as presented to the Board of Education at the January 14, 2003, meeting, Maryland's *Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act* requires that each local school system in Maryland develop and implement a master plan for student improvement. *Our Call to Action—The Pursuit of Excellence* includes crosswalks to the *Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act* and will serve as the foundation for the comprehensive master plan that must be submitted to the Maryland State Department of Education by October 1, 2003.

MCPS Draft Strategic Plan

This draft strategic plan represents the work of the offices, departments, and divisions of the school system and their interactions with school and community stakeholders as they developed their strategic plans, goals, and objectives. This document consolidates previously committed priorities, initiatives, and accountability measures into one document with references and connections to the *Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act* goals and focus areas. The MCPS strategic plan will continue to guide the work of the school system and will be used as the basis of the commitment to public accountability.

Overview of the Strategic Plan Document

The strategic planning document is organized around the MCPS guiding tenets and is aligned to the work of the school system. These guiding tenets include the core values, vision, mission, system goals, Board of Education priorities, and critical questions. An introduction to the plan provides a history and timeline of strategic planning in MCPS and up dates the strategic planning process. An overview of the Maryland State Department of Education's *Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act* is provided and identifies the requirements of the five-year comprehensive plan, focus areas, and performance goals.

The document then provides details of the work to support the system goals: ensure success for every student, provide an effective instructional program, strengthen productive partnerships for education, and create a positive work environment in a self-renewing organization. Within each goal area, the document details the related Board of Education priorities, milestones, data points, objectives, measures, responsible office, and supporting office(s). Additionally, the document provides a crosswalk to the *Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act* goals and focus areas as they relate to specific objectives.

Stakeholder Involvement

To continue with the extensive stakeholder involvement and to meet the requirements of the *Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act* guidelines, staff has developed an involvement plan and timeline for distribution and review of the draft strategic plan to staff, parents, and the community. The timeline for review of the draft plan will conclude in May, and a final draft of the strategic plan will be submitted to the Board of Education in late May. Following the Board of Education's adoption of the strategic plan, it will be presented to the County Council and county executive before it is submitted to the Maryland State Department of Education prior to October 1, 2003.

Collaborative and coordinated effort among the executive staff offices, staff, parents, students, and community will ensure the implementation, monitoring, and public reporting of the school system's work. *The Pursuit of Excellence* will drive continuous improvement throughout the school system and will be the cornerstone of school improvement plans and student achievement.

Re: DISCUSSION

Ms. Cox noted the objectives for the *Ensure Success for Every Student* goal. There is not a direct correlation to the data points used for the milestones. Most of the objectives refer to strategies and not outcomes. Why are some measures tied a performance measure as opposed to a program measure? Mr. Bowers replied that staff is constantly reviewing data since it is an accountability document.

Mr. Felton observed that there are a lot of data collection and analysis, and he asked if the school system could meet the demands required by the plan. Mr. Bowers replied that cross-functionally teams will work together to identify the data necessary to analyze situations, but some data is not currently available. Dr. Weast explained that the system was on overload and in some instances the technology is not available as well as the staff.

Mr. Felton thought it was value to identify the data for analysis, but he wanted to be realistic about when and how much can be done. Dr. Weast remarked that the school system will do the best it can with data analysis. There are organizations, such as Achieve, Inc., that can do it faster and cheaper.

Mr. Felton asked that the school system identify the impact of data collection which is valuable information for the state and federal governments. Dr. Weast stated that it was unclear what data collection was required by *No Child Left Behind*. Mr. J. Porter added that the state is still clarifying the implications and interpretations of the data requirements.

Mrs. O'Neill remarked that the school system had sent comments to the state about the master plan, such that there is still a quandary about the mandates. Furthermore, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) will have difficulty in monitoring the process. Dr. Weast stated that MCPS has 15,000 students entering the system and 12,000 students leaving the system each year. The data collection implications are huge, and he was more concerned that the requirements will be quantitative data not qualitative data. This Board was more interested in students achieving, and if not, why.

Mr. Felton asked about organizational barriers because there has to be a natural flow of information.

Ms. Cox noted that the school system has focused, aligned, and discontinued programs. The information for the public is terrific, and she was impressed by the way it is laid out. However, there needs to be more of a connection between the measures for the specific objectives.

Mr. Burnett was pleased with connection to goals and the identification of the data points. There are very tight deadlines, but there should be wide input from the community. Dr. Weast thought this would be problematic if there was some unforeseen event. The Board networks with the community and this plan can be shared with the community. Working together there can be a wide scope of input. Ms. Cox was pleased with the focus questions since it led the community to thoughtful responses.

Mr. Lange asked how facilities are delineated in the plan to be submitted to MSDE. Mr. Bowers stated that the school system will eventually submit a much thicker master plan to MSDE, including the Capital Improvements Program.

Mr. Romero was concerned about the timeline, and he wanted to encourage community participation, especially citizens with intensive needs. There needs to be more community involvement from homeowners' associations and the linkage with the school system.

Dr. Haughey suggested that symbolically the Board and superintendent should be shown in the master plan. Also, there is an interesting crosswalk between the master plan and the operating budget.

Re: **LUNCH AND CLOSED SESSION**

The Board of Education recessed from 12:50 to 2:15 p.m. for lunch and closed session.

** Mr. Alnifaidy and Mr. Burnett temporarily left the meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 57-03 Re: **PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS OF \$25,000 OR MORE**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Dr. Haughey, 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 shown for the bids as follows:

1507 000113	Unleaded Gasoline	
	<u>Awardee</u>	
	Truman Arnold Compan	\$2,072,500
227-97	Office Supplies-Systems Contract—Extension	
	<u>Awardee</u>	
	Boise Cascade Office Products	\$1,021,000
4064.5	Art Supplies	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	AFP Industries, Inc.*	\$ 17,473
	Commercial Art Supply	34,795
	Elgin School Supply Company, Inc.	3,668
	Henry S. Wolkins*	11,299
	Integrity School Supplies*	22,142
	Interstate Office Supply Company*	3,480
	Jackman's, Inc.	1,112
	Pyramid School Products	15,688
	Sax Arts and Crafts	78,022
	School Specialty	61,573
	Sheffield Pottery, Inc.	540
	Standard Stationary Supply Company	29,328
	Windtree Enterprises, Inc.	<u>2,983</u>

	Total	\$ 282,103
4064.5	Art Tools	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Elgin School Supply Company, Inc.	\$ 9,651
	George W. Allen Company	242,176
	Grainger, Inc.	2,364
	Henry W. Wolkins, Company*	5,417
	Integrity School Supplies*	4,851
	Pyramid School Products	24,391
	Sax Arts and Crafts	52,998
	School Specialty	9,274
	Sears Industrial Sales	605
	Standard Stationary Supply Company	6,324
	Windtree Enterprises, Inc.	<u>6,882</u>
	Total	\$ 364,933
4064.5	Ceramic Supplies	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Bailey Pottery Equipment Corporation	\$ 1,800
	Campbell's Ceramics Supply Company	49,796
	Ceramic Supply of New York and New Jersey	2,840
	Cutlass Enterprises, Inc.	720
	Pyramid School Products	1,611
	Sax Arts and Crafts	1,815
	Windtree Enterprises, Inc.	<u>1,836</u>
	Total	\$ 60,418
4086.4	Office and School Supplies	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	AFP Industries, Inc.	\$ 80,180
	AJ Stationers*	10,554
	BC Lucas Binders	45,659
	Boise Cascade Office Products	41,093
	Bye Mor, Inc.*	152
	Corporate Express	1,387
	Elgin School Supply Company, Inc.	3,873
	Fiber Products Industrial, Inc.	5,950
	Frank W. Winne and Son, Inc.	4,032
	Henry S. Wolkins, Company*	69,194
	Integrity School Supplies*	25,371

	Interstate Office Supply Company*	83,208
	Kurtz Brothers	1,230
	Pyramid School Products	397,162
	Quill Corporation	622
	Reliable Reproduction Supply Company	2,787
	RIS Paper Company, Inc.	344
	Rudolph's Office and Computer Supply, Inc.*	18,910
	School Specialty	6,732
	Standard Stationery Supply Company	147,365
	Staples Business Advantage	3,504
	Windtree Enterprises, Inc.	<u>4,963</u>
	Total	\$ 954,272
4089.3	Envelopes	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Frank Parsons Paper Company	\$ 12,097
	Quill Corporation	3,035
	Standard Stationary Supply Company	3,782
	Tri State Envelope Corporation	5,916
	Unisource	42,581
	Westvaco Envelope Division	<u>67,205</u>
	Total	\$ 134,616
4114.2	Microscopes—Extension	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Fisher Science Education	\$ 13,875
	General Precision Specialties	19,488
	Nada Scientific Limited	1,174
	Parco Scientific Company	15,058
	Universal Scientific Instruments	<u>6,580</u>
	Total	\$ 56,175
4131.1	Digital, Color, Copier/Printer—Extension	
	<u>Awardee</u>	
	BCE Corporation*	\$ 25,990
7066.2	Vehicle Repair and Inspection—Addition to Contract	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Auto Truck and RV	
	General Automotive Service Center, Inc.	

	J & M Truck Repair, Inc. Vehicare Corporation Total	\$ 200,000
7078.2	Paperback and Pre-bound Paperback Books—Extension	
	<u>Awardee</u> Perfection Learning Corporation	\$ 350,000
7121.1	Translation Equipment for Summit Hall and Rosemont Elementary Schools	
	<u>Awardee</u> Visual Sound, Inc.	\$ 25,800
9001.3	Door Hardware, Closures and Exit Devices—Extension	
	<u>Awardees</u> Liberty Lock and Security, Inc. Precision Door and Hardware Taylor Security and Lock Company, Inc. Total	\$ 5,000 4,500 <u>216,912</u> \$ 226,412
9002.2	Hardware Supplies—Extension	
	<u>Awardees</u> Amsco A Maintenance Supply Company Miller Ventures—T/A Bay Fasteners MSF County Services Company Paxton Patterson Pikesville Lumber Company Total	\$ 292 224 100,366 129 <u>1,007</u> \$ 102,018
9005.5	Industrial and Technology Education Lumber	
	<u>Awardees</u> Allied Plywood Corporation Lafferty Company, Inc. Mann & Parker Lumber Company O'Shea Lumber Company Pikesville Lumber Company Total	\$ 8,715 7,348 27,522 11,816 <u>36,865</u> \$ 92,266

9013.3	Industrial and Technology Education-Hand Tools—Extension	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Diamond Tool Company	\$ 35,000
	Fastenal Company	2,160
	Grainger, Inc.	88,710
	K. Layne, Inc.	322
	Metco Supply Company, Inc.	11,265
	Paxton Patterson	1,517
	Rutland Tool and Supply Company	1,544
	Satco, Inc.	43,162
	Sears Industrial Sales	675
	Snap On Tools Corporation	<u>10,000</u>
	Total	\$ 194,355
9061.4	Fitness and Team Handball Supplies and Equipment	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Cannon Sports, Inc.*	\$ 1,806
	Creative Health Products*	774
	DVF Sporting Goods Company	1,393
	Gopher Athletic Sport	5,096
	Morley Athletic Supply Company, Inc.	2,994
	Passon's Sports	6,498
	Sportmaster Recreation Equipment Unlimited	1,800
	Sports Imports, Inc.	9,720
	Sports Stops, Inc.	<u>14,781</u>
	Total	\$ 44,862
9330.2	Unit Ventilator Replacement at Poolesville Elementary School**	
	<u>Awardee</u>	
	Tyler Mechanical Contracting, Inc.	\$ 604,800
9350.1	AHU-1 and AHU-5 Air Unit Replacements at Diamond Elementary School**	
	<u>Awardee</u>	
	RW Warner, Inc.	\$ 351,800
TOTAL PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS OVER \$25,000		\$7,164,320

- * Denotes Minority-, Female-, or Disabled-owned Business
- ** Planned Life-cycle Asset Replacement Bid (PLAR)

RESOLUTION NO. 58-03 Re: **AWARD OF CONTRACT – FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS**

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

WHEREAS, The following sealed bid was received on October 29, 2002, for fire protection system modifications in the kitchens and home economics labs at 16 schools and educational centers:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Guardian Fire Protection Service, Inc.	\$354,600

and

WHEREAS, Guardian Fire Protection Service, Inc., was the sole bidder and all work was based on an overtime basis; and

WHEREAS, Staff negotiated a lower fee of \$328,655, based on completing part of the work during the spring break; and

WHEREAS, The work included in this project is largely self-performed by the bidder and there is limited opportunity for minority business enterprise participation; and

WHEREAS, Staff recommends waiving the minority business participation goal for this project; and

WHEREAS, Guardian Fire Protection Service, Inc., has completed similar work successfully for the Montgomery County Public Schools; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a \$328,655 contract be awarded to Guardian Fire Protection Service, Inc., for fire protection system modifications at 16 schools and educational centers, in accordance with drawings and specifications prepared by Delmar Architects, P.A.

RESOLUTION NO. 59-03 Re: **REDUCTION OF RETENTION – KINGSLEY WILDERNESS CENTER**

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

WHEREAS, Henley Construction Company, Inc., general contractor for the Kingsley Wilderness Center project, has completed 90 percent of all specified requirements as of January 31, 2003, and requested that the 10 percent retainage, which is based on completed work to date, be reduced to 5 percent; and

WHEREAS, The project bonding company, Hartford Accident and Indemnity Company, has consented to this reduction; and

WHEREAS, The project architect, Wiencek + Zavos Architects, P.C., recommends approval of the reduction; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the 10 percent retainage withheld from periodic payments to Henley Construction Company, Inc., general contractor for the Kingsley Wilderness Center project, be reduced to 5 percent, with the remaining 5 percent to become due and payable after completion of all remaining contract requirements and formal acceptance of the completed project.

RESOLUTION NO. 60-03

Re: **REDUCTION OF RETENTION – WALTER JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL**

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

WHEREAS, Henley Construction Company, Inc., general contractor for the Walter Johnson High School addition and core improvements project, has completed 99 percent of all specified requirements as of January 31, 2003, and requested that the 10 percent retainage, which is based on completed work to date, be reduced to 5 percent; and

WHEREAS, The project bonding company, Hartford Accident and Indemnity Company, has consented to this reduction; and

WHEREAS, The project architect, Samaha Associates, P.C., recommends approval of the reduction; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the 10 percent retainage withheld from periodic payments to Henley Construction Company, Inc., general contractor for the Walter Johnson High School addition and core improvements project, be reduced to 5 percent, with the remaining 5 percent to become due and payable after completion of all remaining contract requirements and formal acceptance of the completed project.

RESOLUTION NO. 61-03

Re: **FY 2003 SPECIAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST FOR RELOCATABLE CLASSROOMS**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by

Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

WHEREAS, The Board of Education's Amended FY 2003-2008 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) request includes \$5 million in the FY 2004 budget for relocatable classrooms to accommodate student population changes for the 2003-04 school year; and

WHEREAS, These funds are programmed to be expended during the summer of 2003, but will not be available until the County Council takes final action on the Board of Education's CIP request, in May 2003; and

WHEREAS, The contracts for the relocation and installation work for the FY 2004 relocatable classroom moves must be executed prior to April 1, 2003, in order to have the units ready for the start of school; and

WHEREAS, The appropriation authority to expend the funds programmed for FY 2004 must be approved by the County Council before the Board of Education can enter into contracts; now therefore be it

Resolved, That an amendment to the Board of Education's Requested FY 2004 Capital Budget and Amendments to the FY 2003-2008 Capital Improvements Program be requested for an FY 2003 capital budget special appropriation in the amount of \$5 million to contract for the relocatable classroom moves that are proposed for the summer of 2003 to meet student population changes for the 2003-2004 school year; and be it further

Resolved, That this request be forwarded to the county executive and the County Council for action.

RESOLUTION NO. 62-03

Re: **LEASE OF ADDITIONAL SPACE AT METRO PARK NORTH**

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

WHEREAS, Staff in the Department of Facilities Management has negotiated a tentative agreement with Hughes Network Systems to lease space in Metro Park North that is needed for the new Employee and Retiree Services Center; and

WHEREAS, The lease terms are very favorable and will be fixed for a 27-month period; and

WHEREAS, Space is not available at Montgomery County Public Schools-owned facilities to house the shared services staff; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a sublease with Hughes Network Systems for space located at 7361

Calhoun Place, Rockville, Maryland be approved at the terms contained in the tentative agreement negotiated by staff in the Department of Facilities Management.

RESOLUTION NO. 63-03 Re: **UTILIZATION OF THE FY 2003 PROVISION FOR
FUTURE SUPPORTED PROJECT FUNDS**

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

WHEREAS, The above-noted grants qualify for a transfer of appropriation from the Provision for Future Supported Projects pursuant to the provisions of County Council Resolution No. 14-1270, approved May 23, 2002; and

WHEREAS, The above-noted programs do not require any present or future county funds; and

WHEREAS, Sufficient appropriation is available, within the FY 2003 Provision for Future Supported Projects, to permit the above-noted transfers within state categories; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend, within the FY 2003 Provision for Future Supported Projects, as specified below:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Advanced Placement Incentive Program	\$ 15,000
Governor's Class Size Reduction/Reading Initiative Program	237,000
Title V Innovative Education Program	8,577
Emergency Immigrant Education "2003"	77,873
HHMI Student Inquiry Project	133,250
Online Technology Assessment for Teachers and Administrators	10,000
Maryland Students Online	20,000
Classroom Curriculum Management	<u>150,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 651,700</u>

and be it further

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

RESOLUTION NO. 64-03

Re: **RECOMMENDED FY 2003 SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM**

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

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend, subject to County Council approval, an FY 2003 supplemental appropriation of \$874,128 from MSDE for the Home and Community Based Services Waiver for Children with Autism in the following categories:

	<u>Category</u>	<u>Positions</u>	<u>Amount</u>
06	Special Education	1.0	\$ 850,058
12	Fixed Charges		<u>24,070</u>
	Total	1.0*	<u>\$ 874,128</u>

Positions

* 1.0 Coordinator

and be it further

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

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of this resolution to the County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 65-03

Re: **FY 2003 SECOND QUARTER CATEGORY OBJECT TRANSFERS REQUEST**

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

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to effect FY 2003 categorical transfers of \$294,024 in the following categories:

Technology in Maryland Schools

<u>Category</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
3 Instructional Salaries		\$ 8,425
4 Textbooks and Instructional Supplies		10,200
12 Fixed Charges	<u>\$18,625</u>	<u> </u>
Total	<u>\$18,625</u>	<u>\$18,625</u>

Judy Center—Gaithersburg

<u>Category</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
2 Mid-level Administration		\$ 27,263
4 Textbooks and Instructional Supplies		59,255
5 Other Instructional Costs	\$13,700	
8 Health Services		1,500
10 Operation of Plant and Equipment	9,713	
14 Community Services	<u>64,605</u>	<u> </u>
Total	<u>\$ 88,018</u>	<u>\$ 88,018</u>

Gifted and Talented Incentive

<u>Category</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
2 Mid-level Administration		\$ 150,493
3 Instructional Salaries	\$ 93,527	
4 Textbooks and Instructional Supplies		31,888
5 Other Instructional Costs		5,000
9 Student Transportation	32,911	
12 Fixed Charges	<u>60,943</u>	<u> </u>
Total	<u>\$187,381</u>	<u>\$187,381</u>

and be it further

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

RESOLUTION NO. 66-03

Re: **APPOINTMENT OF ERNST & YOUNG LLP AS EXTERNAL AUDITOR**

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

WHEREAS, In May 2002, the Board of Education awarded Ernst & Young LLP a one-year contract to perform auditing services for the Montgomery County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Ernst & Young LLP successfully completed the MCPS FY 2002 audit within a reduced time frame; and

WHEREAS, Ernest & Young LLP has agreed to complete the MCPS audit for FY 2003 for \$133,000, and complete the audit within the required time frame; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education appoint Ernst & Young LLP as the auditor for the FY 2003 Montgomery County Public Schools audit for a fee of \$133,000.

RESOLUTION NO. 67-03

Re: **HUMAN RESOURCES MONTHLY REPORT**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the Human Resources Monthly Report dated February 11, 2003.

RESOLUTION NO. 68-03

Re: **DEATH OF SOPHIA TIGNOR-BISHOP, ELEMENTARY COUNSELOR ON LONG-TERM LEAVE, HIGHLAND VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

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

WHEREAS, The death on January 10, 2003, of Sophia Tignor-Bishop, elementary counselor on long-term leave from Highland View Elementary School, has deeply saddened the staff, students, and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Tignor-Bishop had been a dedicated counselor with Montgomery County Public Schools for more than five years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Tignor-Bishop 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 att the death

of Sophia Tignor-Bishop and extend deepest sympathy to her family; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be made a part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy forwarded to Mrs. Tignor-Bishop's family.

RESOLUTION NO. 69-03 Re: **DEATH OF MARY JO RIGBY, PUPIL PERSONNEL
WORKER ON LONG-TERM LEAVE, DEPARTMENT
OF STUDENT SERVICES**

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

WHEREAS, The death on January 17, 2003, of Mary Jo Rigby, pupil personnel worker on long-term leave from the Department of Student Services, has deeply saddened the staff, students, and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rigby was a dedicated pupil personnel worker with Montgomery County Public Schools for more than twenty-four years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rigby's hard work, leadership, and collegial support for student advocacy were the basis of her high level of effectiveness and professional respect; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education express their sorrow att the death of Mary Jo Rigby and extend deepest sympathy to her family; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be made a part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy forwarded to Mrs. Rigby's family.

Re: **MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mr. Bowers stated that this report reflects the projected financial condition through December 31, 2002, based on program requirements and estimates made by primary and secondary account managers. At this time, revenues are on budget while expenses have a projected surplus of \$200,000.

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

Re: **DIALOGUE WITH ACHIEVE, INC. ON THE MCPS
CURRICULAR STANDARDS**

Dr. Weast invited the following people to the table: Mr. Dale E. Fulton, associate superintendent, Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs; Mr. Matthew Gandal, executive vice president, Achieve, Inc.; and other members of the Achieve, Inc.

Benchmarking Initiative.

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Board of Education with a summary of the findings and recommendations of *Achieve—Measuring Up Report for Montgomery County Public Schools*, a review of the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Curriculum Frameworks and the semester final examinations in English 9, Algebra I, and Geometry. This review was conducted by Achieve, Inc., to verify the rigor of the curriculum, and to ensure that the final examinations are aligned and in support of the Maryland High School Assessment (HSA) program and exemplary state and national standards.

The goal of the MCPS System of Shared Accountability is to prepare all of the graduates for college-level work or to enter the challenging work place of the 21st century. The MCPS revised standards-based curriculum and assessment measures, including the final examinations, are designed to achieve this goal.

Achieve, Inc., is an independent, nonprofit, bipartisan organization created by the nation's governors and business leaders following the 1996 National Education Summit. To help states and districts in their efforts to continuously improve teaching and learning for all students, Achieve, Inc., provides a *benchmarking service*. Through benchmarking, the Achieve, Inc., review was designed to address the following set of questions:

- Do the curriculum frameworks clearly spell out the essential knowledge and skills in each subject area and provide the basis for a robust, challenging instructional program that builds from grade to grade?
- How do the frameworks compare with the Maryland standards and the best standard from other states and nations?
- Are the county's semester tests of high quality and well aligned with the state's end-of-course tests?
- Will performance on these tests be a good predictor of success on the state end-of-course examinations that will be required for graduation in 2007?

In 2001, Achieve, Inc., conducted an external review of Maryland's standards-based reform efforts, at the invitation of Dr. Nancy Grasmick, state superintendent of schools. Their recommendations were published in the report *Aiming Higher: The Next Decade of Education Reform in Maryland*. The partnership with MCPS marks the first time that Achieve, Inc., has conducted a study of a local district's curriculum and related assessments.

Background

On February 13, 2001, the Board of Education adopted Policy IFA, *Curriculum*, that guides the development, implementation, and monitoring of curriculum throughout the school system. This policy calls for a clear and coherent written curriculum in the form of a set of objectives derived from local, state, national, and international standards and a learned

curriculum, as demonstrated by assessment of student performance. The curriculum revision and assessment development process in MCPS represents the school system's commitment to ensure that every student experiences a rich and challenging curriculum that prepares them for college-level courses or the world of work.

Alignment of content standards, performance standards, and assessments is a key element of successful school reform endorsed by Achieve, Inc. Likewise, this alignment has driven the entire curriculum revision and assessment development process in MCPS. Also, congruent with the beliefs of Achieve, Inc., is the MCPS effort to provide teachers with formative assessments that effectively monitor student progress and promote continuous improvement of teaching and learning. The MCPS Assessment Program and the countywide final examinations are designed to be reflective of mastery of the curriculum and predictive of student success on the state assessments.

An integral component of the curriculum and assessment development process has been stakeholder input and feedback. Additionally, external reviews have been solicited from respected groups such as Council for Basic Education, the College Board, and Achieve, Inc. The school system is committed to excellence and have held the work up to the scrutiny of national experts in the field of standards-based educational reform.

Summary of Findings

The Achieve, Inc., report found that while the MCPS expectations are, overall, quite challenging, they could be strengthened in a few specific areas. The county's semester tests in English 9, Algebra I, and Geometry are thoughtfully constructed and well aligned to both the county's frameworks and the state's Content Standards and Core Learning Goals. This should make them good predictors of student performance on the state's end-of-course examinations, which students will soon need to pass to graduate. As with the frameworks, Achieve, Inc., has recommended several ways to improve the examinations and make them more challenging.

Achieve, Inc., summarized the findings of their benchmarking report in the context of the following six questions:

- 1. Do the Montgomery County Public Schools' Curriculum Frameworks in English/language arts and mathematics adequately address the essential knowledge and skills of each discipline?**
 - Achieve, Inc., found that, overall, the MCPS Curriculum Frameworks in English and mathematics are comprehensive and contain the core knowledge and skills found in high-quality curriculum guides.
- 2. Are the Curriculum Frameworks designed in a way that is easily understood and accessible to teachers and school leaders? Are the standards clearly articulated and measurable?**

- The frameworks were found to be clearly articulated and jargon-free, with a format and numbering system that makes them easy to use. The knowledge and skills students should learn in each grade was explicit.
- The specificity of the frameworks was seen to increase the likelihood that teachers will hold students to a common, high expectation.
- The clarifying examples used to illustrate the framework indicators were described as an “exceptional feature,” making the standards concrete and demystifying the performance expected of students.
- Language used in the indicators in the English/language arts framework across grade levels should be reviewed for consistency and clarity.

5. How do the MCPS Curriculum Frameworks compare with Maryland’s standards?

- The Curriculum Frameworks in English/language arts and mathematics were found to be very consistent with Maryland’s Content Standards (Grades K–8) and the Core Learning Goals (Grades 9–12).
- Achieve, Inc., cited that MCPS further developed, clarified, and added to the Maryland Content Standards, resulting in a set of pre-K–8 standards that are aligned but not limited by the state standards.
- Although the Maryland Content Standards and Core Learning Goals are structured differently, the report found that, despite this disconnect, MCPS did a credible job, including the significant aspects of the goals in the Curriculum Frameworks for high school courses in English 9, Algebra, and Geometry.

4. How do the MCPS frameworks compare with those of exemplary states and nations? Are expectations for schools and students rigorous yet reasonable?

- The MCPS frameworks were determined to be rigorous and reasonable and, if strengthened in several key areas, can be on par with the best in the nation and the world.
- Mathematics indicators pre-K–8 were found to progress across grades, with strong progressions in the earlier grades. Geometry was cited as an exceptional strand, with essential knowledge and skills carefully laid out from pre-K through the high school framework.
- To ensure the rigor required by the MCPS System of Shared Accountability, Achieve, Inc., recommends that MCPS continue to raise the rigor of the English/language arts frameworks by improving the specificity and progression from grade to grade.
- Achieve, Inc., recommends that the content of the algebra and numbers standards in mathematics, particularly at the middle and high school levels, be refined to ensure increased rigor.

5. How well do the MCPS high school semester tests in English 9, Algebra I, and Geometry measure the knowledge and skills laid out in Maryland’s Core Learning Goals? Are they predictive of student success on the state tests?

- Semester examinations were found to be of high quality and aligned both with the frameworks and the state tests and, as such, predictive of performance on the HSA.
- The alignment of the tests to Maryland's Core Learning Goals is strong, indicating that the MCPS semester exams accurately measure those skills and concepts expected by the state.
- Challenging items contained in the second semester test for Algebra I extend beyond the content of the state's core learning goals. These items are aligned with the MCPS framework, which tends to be more rigorous than the state's.

4. How challenging are the MCPS high school tests? Are they sufficiently rigorous that students passing these tests will be prepared to complete more advanced courses?

- The semester examinations are generally rigorous and assess important high school content.
- Although the semester examinations address challenging content, the level of rigor of the items should be adjusted so that responses require more complex reasoning, strategic thinking, use of evidence, explanation of the method of solution, or development of conjectures.

Achieve, Inc., summarized their findings with the following statement:

“In the course of completing their review, it became evident that MCPS has made remarkable progress in creating and continually improving an aligned system of frameworks, instructional guides, diagnostic tests, and other instructional supports. There is more work to be done, for sure, but this careful attention to high standards and capacity building should go a long way toward helping county teachers and students understand and meet the intellectual demands of the twenty-first century.”

Next Steps

The curriculum revision process includes a continuous improvement loop of feedback, review, and revision. It is in this spirit that the partnership with Achieve, Inc., was initiated. The collaboration with Achieve, Inc., has been a valuable experience for MCPS and, in particular, for staff in the Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs. Program supervisors, curriculum writers, and directors of instruction have benefitted from the intellectual dialogue and the constructive and insightful feedback. MCPS will maintain in partnership with Achieve, Inc., as it continues the curriculum revision process.

Staff will review the summary of findings and opportunities for improvement provided in the Achieve, Inc., report and address and improve the frameworks and semester examinations accordingly. Dr. Weast will keep the Board apprised of revisions to the frameworks and semester examinations on an ongoing basis.

Re: DISCUSSION

Mrs. O'Neill thanked the personnel from Achieve, Inc. for their report, and she was impressed with the candor and fair assessment of the school system. How did Achieve, Inc. review Montgomery County Public Schools? Ms. Jean Slattery, Benchmarking Initiative, Achieve, Inc., stated that the standards are sent out to a set of reviewers who benchmark it with guiding questions to determine strengths and weaknesses of rigor. Those reviewers return individual analysis to Achieve, Inc., and it is synthesized to produce a balanced report. However, the alignment analysis has a different process with protocols for English, math, and science. That protocol examines specific criteria to compare the tests to the standards with respect to content match, performance centrality, source of challenge, assessments, and balance.

Mr. Felton wanted to know in benchmarking standards, how much depends on the teacher. It is clear some teachers and parents need a "clearer" understanding. How much variation is in the use of the standard? Ms. Slattery replied that there should be a clear set of standards because that is the framework, but it will never be enough. As part of a whole instructional system, MCPS has developed instructional guides, diagnostic tests, and professional development to enhance the delivery of the standards. However, the standards are a roadmap and could be refined or retooled over time.

Ms. Cox noted that the benchmarks allow for students to be successful in college without remediation. How did Achieve, Inc. choose the standards? Ms. Slattery replied that they looked national reports, and international benchmarks. They took a collection of the best and reviewed them, and teased out what students need to know. Mr. Gandal answered that high education and business must be at the table to respond to what skills a student must have to succeed.

Mrs. O'Neill commented that the school system aligned its curriculum framework with Maryland's standards. It is important to have MCPS' standards compared to the identified high standards of the nation and world. Mr. Gandal stated that the reviewers were balanced in all disciplines in order to identify the highest standards.

Mr. Romero noted that the benchmarks cited California and Massachusetts for English Language Arts. California is very similar demographically to Montgomery County. Since California established standards in 1997, what is in the improvement in California? Mr. Gandal responded that the state is not meeting those standards as well as they would like. The question becomes what have they done beyond the standards, such as instructional guides, diagnostic tests, and professional development. Other states have done a better job of closing the gap, especially Texas and North Carolina.

Mr. Felton was concerned about reliable tests for diverse students (race, ethnicity, and poverty). Ms. Slattery remarked that the report that there is an expectation that states will conduct a bias review.

Ms. Cox asked Mr. Fulton to address the recommendations and response of the school system, and how do we change and implement those recommendations on an ongoing basis. Mr. Fulton acknowledged that this is a process. In developing and implementing curriculum, the following needs to be addressed: (1) communication with staff, students and parents, (2) support for teachers, and (3) specificity of the documents.

Mr. Lange remarked that the report has identified the weaknesses as well as the strengths of the school system. How do we get the elementary school teachers out of the schools of education in adequate numbers and competence to meet the increasing expectations with the standards in math? Ms. Slattery replied that there is a national emergency in mathematics. At the district level, there have to be different strategies to build strengths – considerations might include team teaching, improved staff development, and the use of technology.

Dr. Haughey asked if the standards will serve the high achieving students. Mr. Fulton replied that MCPS has the standards in place for these students, but will continue to examine their tests results to fine tune curriculum. Mr. Gandal thought a good tracking system for graduates will yield data for curriculum assessment.

Mrs. O'Neill thought that staff development was key to implementation of high standards and the delivery of the curriculum.

Ms. Cox noted a disconnect between the English Language Arts curriculum and the Maryland standards in K-8 and the core learning goals in the high school. The suggestion in the report was to rethink maintaining high school learning goals that do not progress from the K-8 standards. However, students must pass the Maryland high school assessment based on the core learning goals. What should MCPS do? Mr. Fulton replied that individual course frameworks are valid for the high school assessment subjects. If the progression is not worked out then the rigor does not continue.

Ms. Cox remarked that a suggestion was to move algebra down to 8th grade math. Mr. Fulton stated that Math A, B, and C may need to be replaced for better understanding.

Ms. Cox noticed the discussions about the pace of the new math curriculum at the elementary level. It is not the amount of indicators, but the familiarity of the content by the teacher and the preparation of the student. What are the number of indicators covered in elementary school? Ms. Slattery replied that the system should make sure that fundamental strands are followed from kindergarten through algebra and geometry. The progression should be clear that foundational skills are in place in order for students to succeed in assessments.

Mr. Burnett thought the report gave the school system a basis to continue its curriculum work. Regarding math, he was pleased to hear the discussion on staff development and teacher training because that is where children are engaged to become interested in math.

Re: BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Dr. Weast commented that Montgomery County Public Schools has been named a "gold medal" school system for the eighth consecutive year by Expansion Management magazine. The designation is a measure of the attractiveness of the school system to the business community. Montgomery County and Howard County public schools were the only school systems in Maryland to earn the gold medal designation this year.

Col. Zadok Magruder and Wheaton high schools are among 11 in Maryland that will share a \$200,000 federal Tech Prep grant to implement a pre-engineering program for students.

Monica Delizo, an eighth grade student at Julius West Middle School, has been named one of Maryland's top two youth volunteers for 2003 by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program. Jeffrey Finkelstein, Bethesda Chevy Chase High School, designed and implemented a baseball program for underprivileged youth. Nora Jabbour, Bethesda Chevy Chase High School, created a basketball camp for 9-13 year olds while their parents worked or ran errands. Valerie Payne, John F. Kennedy High School, led volunteers to clean up and renovate a community bus stop in front of the school.

Ms. Cox noted that there was aggregate data on Head Start and EEEP in the kindergarten curriculum results. She asked for the data to be disaggregated to determine how well the EEEP students did without the benefit of wrap-around services. Ms. Cox asked for information on whether or not it is possible for MCPS to negotiate a separate Memorandum of Understanding on the autism waiver.

Mr. Alnifaigy reported that student Board member elections have six candidates and on March 6 the nominating convention will narrow the field to two candidates. The overall election will be held on April 10, 2003.

Mr. Romero noted that his business partner sat on a jury for the Jefferson Scholar, and there were an overwhelming number of students from Montgomery County. One of MCPS' students is a finalist who will receive a full scholarship to the University of Virginia.

Dr. Haughey attended the orientation for new educators conducted by the Office of Staff Development. Many of the teachers were experienced and had recently joined Montgomery County. Also, Dr. Haughey represented the Board at the Federal Relations Network where *No Child Left Behind* and IDEA were discussed.

Mr. Felton reported that Secretary Paige issued guidance on school prayer and constitutionally protected prayer. It raises some issues that MCPS will have to address, and on March 15 MCPS will need to certify compliance.

Mrs. O'Neill reported that she represented to Board at Montgomery County Honors Band

and Orchestra Concert at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School. There are many amazing and talented students in MCPS.

RESOLUTION NO. 70-03 Re: **CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Dr. Haughey, 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 Monday, February 24, 2003, in Room 120 of the Carver Educational Services Center to meet from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m. to discuss personnel matters, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(1) of the *State Government Article*, consult with counsel to obtain legal advice, as permitted by Section 10-508(a)(7) of the *State Government Article*; review and adjudicate appeals in its quasi-judicial capacity; and to discuss matters of an executive function outside the purview of the Open Meetings Act (Section 10-503(a) of the *State Government Article*); and be it further

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

Re: **REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION**

On January 14, 2003, by unanimous vote of members present, the Board of Education voted to conduct a closed session as permitted under the *Education Article* § 4-107 and *State Government Article* § 10-501, *et seq.*, of the *Annotated Code of Maryland*.

The Montgomery County Board of Education met in closed sessions on January 14, 2003, from 9:00 to 10:05 a.m. and 1:35 to 2:40 p.m. in Room 120 of the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, and

1. Reviewed and/or adjudicated the following appeals: 2002-40, 2002-63, 2002-64, 2002-65, 2002-66, 2002-67, 2002-70, and 2003-3.
2. Reviewed the Superintendent's recommendation for the Human Resources Monthly Report and human resources appointments, subsequent to which the vote to approve was taken in open session.
3. Considered the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.
4. Conducted a portion of its closed sessions to discuss collective bargaining negotiations, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(9) of the *State Government Article* and Section 4-107(d)(2)(ii) of the *Education Article*;

5. Consulted with counsel to receive legal advice as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(7) of the *State Government Article*.
6. Discussed matters of an executive function outside the purview of the Open Meetings Act (Section 10-503(a) of the *State Government Article*).

In attendance at the closed session were: Mihyar Alnifaidy, Elizabeth Arons, Larry Bowers, Kermit Burnett, Sharon Cox, Reggie Felton, Charles Haughey, Roland Ikheloa, Don Kopp, Don Kress, Frieda Lacey, Walter Lange, George Margolies, Pat O'Neill, Brian Porter, Lori Rogovin, Gabe Romero, Glenda Rose, Roger Titus, and Jerry Weast.

On January 23, 2003, by unanimous vote of members present, the Board of Education voted to conduct a closed session as permitted under the *Education Article* § 4-107 and *State Government Article* § 10-501, *et seq.*, of the *Annotated Code of Maryland*.

The Montgomery County Board of Education met in closed session on January 23, 2003, from 8:30 to 9:50 p.m. in Room 120 of the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, and conducted a closed session to discuss collective bargaining negotiations, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(9) of the *State Government Article* and Section 4-107(d)(2)(ii) of the *Education Article*.

In attendance at the closed session were: Larry Bowers, Sharon Cox, Reggie Felton, Charles Haughey, Don Kopp, Walter Lange, George Margolies, Pat O'Neill, Gabe Romero, Glenda Rose, Jerry Weast, and James Williams.

On February 6, 2003, by unanimous vote of members present, the Board of Education voted to conduct a closed session as permitted under the *Education Article* § 4-107 and *State Government Article* § 10-501, *et seq.*, of the *Annotated Code of Maryland*.

The Montgomery County Board of Education met in closed session on February 6, 2003, from 7:30 to 8:00 p.m. in Room 120 of the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, and conducted a closed session to discuss collective bargaining negotiations, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(9) of the *State Government Article* and Section 4-107(d)(2)(ii) of the *Education Article*.

In attendance at the closed session were: Mihyar Alnifaidy, Larry Bowers, Kermit Burnett, Sharon Cox, Reggie Felton, Charles Haughey, Don Kopp, Don Kress, Frieda Lacey, Walter Lange, George Margolies, Pat O'Neill, Brian Porter, Gabe Romero, Glenda Rose, Jerry Weast, and James Williams.

On February 9, 2003, by unanimous vote of members present, the Board of Education voted to conduct a closed session as permitted under the *Education Article* § 4-107 and *State Government Article* § 10-501, *et seq.*, of the *Annotated Code of Maryland*.

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in closed session on February 9, 2003,

at the Quality Suites, 3 Research Court, Rockville, Maryland from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(1) of the *State Government Article*.

In attendance at the closed session were: Mihyar Alnifaidy, Kermit Burnett, Judith Bresler, Sharon Cox, Reggie Felton, Charles Haughey, Walter Lange, George Margolies, Pat O'Neill, Gabe Romero, and Glenda Rose.

RESOLUTION NO. 71-03 Re: **MINUTES OF DECEMBER 10, 2002**

On motion of Dr. Haughey and seconded by Mr. Lange, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the minutes for its December 12, 2002, meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-03 Re: **MINUTES OF JANUARY 7, 2003**

On motion of Mr. Romero and seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the minutes for its January 7, 2003, meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-03 Re: **MINUTES OF JANUARY 15 (2), 16, and 23, 2003**

On motion of Mr. Lange and seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the minutes for its January 15 (2), 16, and 23, 2003, meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 74-03 Re: **MINUTES OF JANUARY 23, 2003**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the minutes for its January 23, 2003, meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 75-03 Re: **APPEAL NO. 2002-66**

On motion of Ms. Cox and seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2002-66, student discipline, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Alnifaidy, Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, Mr. Lange, Mrs. O'Neill, and Mr. Romero voting to affirm.

RESOLUTION NO. 76-03 Re: **APPEAL NO. 2002-67**

On motion of Ms. Cox and seconded by Mr. Romero, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2002-67, student expulsion, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Alnifaidy, Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, Mr. Lange, Mrs. O'Neill, and Mr. Romero voting to affirm.

RESOLUTION NO. 77-03 Re: **APPEAL NO. 2002-70**

On motion of Ms. Cox and seconded by Mr. Romero, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2002-70, student expulsion, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Alnifaidy, Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, Mr. Lange, Mrs. O'Neill, and Mr. Romero voting to affirm.

RESOLUTION NO. 78-03 Re: **APPEAL NO. T-2003-1**

On motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Opinion in Appeal T-2003-1, reinstatement to home school, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Alnifaidy, Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Dr. Haughey, Mr. Lange, Mrs. O'Neill, and Mr. Romero voting to affirm.

Re: **SPECIAL EDUCATION REVIEW**

On motion of Mr. Burnett and seconded by Ms. Cox, the following resolution was placed on the table:

WHEREAS, On October 25, 1999, the report of the Classical Program Review included nine recommendations for improvement of special education services; and

WHEREAS, MCPS has held several focus groups to redesign and realign parent outreach and problem solving within the Department of Special Education for the purpose of improving services and outreach to families with, or concerned about, children with special needs; now therefore be it

Resolved, That an ad-hoc or standing committee of the Board hold a series of work-sessions to review the recommendations emanating from the Classical Program Review

including actions taken to date to address the recommendations; and be it further

Resolved, That the committee review on-going efforts to redesign and realign parent outreach and problem solving within the Department of Special Education; and be it further

Resolved, That the committee engage in dialogue with individuals and groups concerned about children with special needs to gather input on concerns and issues relating to special education; and be it further

Resolved, That the committee present a report to the Board of Education, no later than December 2003, outlining its findings and recommendations for further action.

Re: **DISCUSSION**

Mr. Felton asked if a committee could handle this without staff. Mr. Burnett agreed that there would have to be staff involvement. Mr. Felton thought this resolution was different from how staff supports the Board's other standing committees. The resolution asks the committee to hold worksessions and meet with the community.

Dr. Haughey asked if the resolution by implication allocation of resources for programs. Mr. Burnett thought that would be part of the recommendations.

Ms. Cox thought there were two topics: (1) review the recommendations from the classical program review, and (2) a dialogue that may or may not restrict itself to the program review. Mr. Burnett wanted to review the classical review, and if in doing so, more information is needed, the dialogue could be expanded.

Ms. Cox pointed out that the December 2003 report would be too late for inclusion in the FY 2005 Operating Budget. Mr. Burnett thought it should be ready for budget implications.

Mr. Lange asked if the committee would consist of members of the Board or an advisory committee to the Board. Mr. Burnett stated it would be a committee of the Board, such as the Long-range and Strategic Planning Subcommittee or an ad hoc committee.

RESOLUTION NO. 79-03

Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE RESOLUTION ON
SPECIAL EDUCATION REVIEW**

On motion of Mr. Burnett and seconded by Dr. Haughey, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education amend the last resolves to read:

Resolved, That the Board of Education schedule on its agenda a review of the recommendations emanating from the Special Education Classical

Program Review (10/25/99), including actions taken to date to address the recommendations; and be it further

Resolved, That an ad-hoc or standing committee of the Board engage in dialogue with individuals and groups concerned about children with special needs to gather input on concerns and issues relating to special education, and the committee should present a report to the Board of Education, no later than December 2003, outlining its findings and recommendations for further action.

RESOLUTION NO. 80-03

Re: **SPECIAL EDUCATION REVIEW**

On motion of Mr. Burnett and seconded by Ms. Cox, the following resolution, as amended, was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, On October 25, 1999, the report of the Classical Program Review included nine recommendations for improvement of special education services; and

WHEREAS, MCPS has held several focus groups to redesign and realign parent outreach and problem solving within the Department of Special Education for the purpose of improving services and outreach to families with, or concerned about, children with special needs; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education schedule on its agenda a review of the recommendations emanating from the Special Education Classical Program Review (10/25/99), including actions taken to date to address the recommendations; and be it further

Resolved, That an ad-hoc or standing committee of the Board engage in dialogue with individuals and groups concerned about children with special needs to gather input on concerns and issues relating to special education, and the committee should present a report to the Board of Education, no later than December 2003, outlining its findings and recommendations for further action.

Re: **REVIEW OF MIDDLE SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSE OFFERINGS**

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill and seconded by Ms. Cox the following resolution was introduced:

WHEREAS, Several parents have expressed to Board members a wish to see an expansion of foreign language course offerings in middle schools; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Superintendent of Schools shall establish a workgroup to review middle

school foreign language offerings (which are currently limited to French and Spanish), and report the workgroup's findings to the Board, prior to the publication of the Superintendent's recommended FY 2005 Operating Budget Request; and be it further

Resolved, That the areas of study shall include, but not be limited to, the following: local school and community support, availability of teachers, developmental appropriateness, curriculum already in place at the high schools, and the additional cost, if any, of implementation of new course offerings.

Re: **ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

The following items were available:

1. Legal Fees Report
2. Construction Progress Report
3. Minority-, Female-, or Disabled-owned Business Procurement Report for the Second Quarter of Fy2003

RESOLUTION NO. 81-03

Re: **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting of February 11, 2003, at 4:40 p.m.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

JDW:gr

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SUMMARY SHEET

February 11, 2003

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