

APPROVED
29-2009

Rockville, Maryland
November 5, 2009

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on November 5, 2009, at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Ms. Shirley Brandman, President
in the Chair
Mr. Christopher Barclay
Ms. Laura Berthiaume
Dr. Judy Docca
Mr. Michael Durso
Mr. Timothy Hwang
Mr. Philip Kauffman
Mrs. Patricia O'Neill
Dr. Jerry Weast, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: None

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

Re: **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

RESOLUTION NO. 395-08Re: **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for November 5, 2009.

Re: **BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION SLIGO CREEK, TAKOMA PARK, AND PINEY BRANCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, AND SILVER SPRING INTERNATIONAL AND TAKOMA PARK MIDDLE SCHOOLS**

Dr. Weast recommended the following boundary change:

Reassign Zones SC4 and SC5 from Sligo Creek Elementary School to Takoma Park and Piney Branch elementary schools and from Silver Spring International Middle School to Takoma Park Middle School.

Re: DISCUSSION

Ms. Berthiaume inquired about the number of students in the Sligo Creek Elementary School Academy Program now and in June. Staff replied that Sligo Creek Elementary School came in above projection by 25 students; therefore, the total forecast was higher. Last spring, staff was using enrollment figures that were a year old.

Mr. Hwang asked about the phase-in during transition. Would families have children in different schools? Staff explained that during boundary changes, transfers are restricted as usual.

Mr. Kauffman stated that there was concern in the community that there would not be enough students to justify two classes per grade. Staff thought there was a concern for the fifth and sixth year of the forecast.

Re: BOARD OF EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education provide the community with the following alternative:

Reassign Sligo Creek Elementary School zones SC4 and SC5 to Takoma Park and Piney Branch elementary schools, and reassign East Silver Spring Elementary School zone ESS 5b to Sligo Creek Elementary School and Silver Spring International Middle School.

Re: DISCUSSION

Mr. Barclay voiced his concern about the Sligo Creek Elementary School community and the size of grades, which could lead to combination classes. He thought the alternative would allow a discussion on how enrollment impacts programs.

Mrs. O'Neill pointed out that Board members had heard about the concerns of the academy at Sligo Creek Elementary School. She wanted to know the impact on East Silver Spring Elementary School. Staff replied that the school would lose 25 students.

Mrs. O'Neill remarked that any alternative proposed by the Board does not guarantee final action. An alternative is for further input from the community. Within Sligo Creek Elementary School, the discussion of the French Immersion Program and academy are

different topics. How many Sligo Creek catchment area children attend the French Immersion Program at Sligo Creek? Staff replied that 59 students attended the program this year out of 300 enrollees.

RESOLUTION NO. 460-09Re: **BOARD OF EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE**

On motion of Mr. Kauffman and seconded by Ms. Berthiaume, the following resolution was unanimously adopted: #

Resolved, That the Board of Education provide the community with the following alternative:

Reassign Sligo Creek Elementary School zones SC4 and SC5 to Takoma Park and Piney Branch elementary schools, and reassign East Silver Spring Elementary School zone ESS 5b to Sligo Creek Elementary School and Silver Spring International Middle School.

Re: **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDED FY 2011 CAPITAL BUDGET AND FY 2011-2016 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM**

The Board of Education reviewed the superintendent's recommendations, which include, over the next six-year planning period:

- The opening of one elementary school.
- The opening of one middle school.
- The construction of 11 school additions.
- The planning and construction of nine new elementary school addition projects and one high school addition project.
- The modernization of 3 high schools, 3 middle schools, and 12 elementary schools.
- The construction of 10 elementary school gymnasiums.
- The construction of facility improvements to two middle schools.
- The funding for the Facility Planning project to conduct the next round of Facilities Assessment with Criteria and Testing assessments for modernizations.
- The funding for the Restroom Renovation project to provide additional funds for schools identified in the second round of assessments.
- The funding for systemic projects such as Planned Life-cycle Asset Replacement; Roof Replacement; Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning; Indoor Air Quality; and Improved Safe Access.

Re: DISCUSSION

Mrs. O'Neill inquired about Gaithersburg High School and the status of the construction. Staff replied that they were meeting with the community to develop schematic plans, and design will be complete by May 2011. The time is needed for the drawings and permits and approval for bids.

Mr. Kauffman inquired about the specifications for restroom renovations. Staff explained that it varies from school to school based on the assessment of staff. Typically, the work is to make the restroom functional, meet code, and remove graffiti.

Ms. Berthiaume asked if bathroom maintenance is in any other section of the budget. Staff replied that the Department of Maintenance has an ongoing work order system with requests from schools. Ms. Berthiaume asked for information on the scope of routine restroom maintenance work versus the restroom renovations program.

Mr. Hwang asked if the restroom renovation is cost effective. What is the system doing differently over the past years with restroom and HVAC? Staff explained that a new building will have an HVAC system that will last 20 years. The goal is to line up the schools in a cycle to replace HVAC. The restroom renovations are to make the restroom functional using like replacement fixtures and materials.

Mr. Kauffman asked a procedural question about the priority of the projects, such as critical health, capacity, etc. What is the process to reorder those topics? Staff explained that the superintendent's recommendations have no order of priorities. Everything is needed based on capacity and modernization.

Mrs. O'Neill noted that there was not only interest from the community, but there is a need to move forward with portables that have indoor air quality issues. She wanted to ask for what is needed by the school system. The other piece is holding schools for middle schools if those schools are to be modernized. The County Council needs to fund the entire six-year budget, not just the first couple of years.

Dr. Docca asked about the present population of Monocacy Elementary School and the projection for the next five years. The community has stated that there is an addition scheduled for Poolesville Elementary School. Staff replied that there is no addition in the six-year plan.

Mr. Barclay questioned the communication to the community about the consolidation. Staff explained that they will use newspapers among other notifications, such as mailings to homeowners associations, flyers, website, and emails.

Mr. Kauffman asked about the advisory committee that will review the consolidation. Is

there any limit to the scope of the of what that committee can recommend? Could it recommend a boundary change? Staff replied that the committee will make a response to the superintendent's recommendations, but it is not a boundary committee.

Ms. Brandman asked about the capacity at Monocacy planned at 206 students. It was her understanding that this recommendation was made because of the downward enrollment trend at both Monocacy and Poolesville elementary school. Staff explained that there was not capacity to consolidate in the past. There are concerns over the educational program with low enrollment.

Ms. Berthiaume wanted to know if the Board wants to weigh the relative merits of addressing the declining enrollment either through the consolidation, programmatic changes, or through a boundary study. Staff replied that if the Board wants a boundary study, the Board would have to forgo the consolidation and closing of Monocacy. Ms. Berthiaume requested information on what alternatives to closing Monocacy were considered prior to the recommendation to consolidate Monocacy Elementary School at Poolesville Elementary School.

Mr. Barclay noted that there was a superintendent's recommendation, and it was the Board's responsibility to accept or reject that recommendation. Either the procedure will be followed or there will be a different process adopted by the Board. There are many factors to consider, such as cost and impact on families.

Mr. Kauffman requested a breakdown of the cost savings associated with the consolidation of Monocacy Elementary School at Poolesville Elementary School.

Re: TIMELINE FOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

On motion of Ms. Berthiaume and seconded by Mr. Kauffman, the motion failed with Ms. Berthiaume and Mr. Kauffman voting in the affirmative; Mr. Barclay, Ms. Brandman, Dr. Docca, Mr. Durso, (Mr. Hwang), and Mrs. O'Neill voting in the negative:#

Resolved, That the Board of Education modify the timelines for the advisory committee to extend the proposed deadlines by a month.

Re: DISCUSSION

Ms. Brandman asked for the list of HVAC replacements, and where the system is in completing the list.

Ms. Brandman requested that construction and staff funding be placed on the Montgomery Delegation agenda.

RESOLUTION NO. 461-09Re: **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting of November 5, 2009, at 8:40 p.m.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

JDW:gr

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SUMMARY SHEET
November 5, 2009**

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