

APPROVED
27-1981

Rockville, Maryland
May 7, 1981

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on May 7, 1981, at 8 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Carol F. Wallace,
President in the Chair
Mr. Joseph R. Barse
Mr. Blair G. Ewing
Dr. Marian L. Greenblatt
Mrs. Suzanne K. Peyser
Mrs. Elizabeth W. Spencer
Miss Traci Williams
Mrs. Eleanor D. Zappone

Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Edward Andrews,
Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Harry Pitt, Deputy
Superintendent
Dr. Robert S. Shaffner,
Executive Assistant
Mr. Thomas S. Fess,
Parliamentarian

Re: Public Hearing for Leland
Junior High School

The following individuals appeared before the Board:

1. Mrs. Louise Feigin
2. Mrs. Joyce Constantine
3. Mrs. Anne Freedman
4. Mr. George Hescock
5. Mrs. Della Cooper
6. Mr. Nigel Scott
7. Mrs. Anne Bushart
8. Mrs. Marlene Grodsky
9. Mrs. Josie Kelly
10. Mrs. Marie Sippel
11. Mrs. Vicki Rafel
12. Mrs. Linda Gross
13. Mr. Al Britt
14. Mrs. Marcella Burris
15. Mr. Jeff Benson
16. Mr. Andy Manatos, Western Junior High School PTA

Re: Dialogue with the Board

Referring to the testimony of Mrs. Freedman, Mr. Ewing asked what "routine and cosmetic renovations" were required for Leland and

if they could have them in writing. Mrs. Freedman said they would get a list of the renovations in to the Board.

Mr. Ewing asked for an explanation of the idea expressed by the Coalition to Save Leland that busing to Western would be much like forced busing. The superintendent believed it was difficult to view out of context but he indicated that students from the elementary schools that fed into Leland would be kept together in the junior high attendance area.

As a followup on the bus transportation issue, Mr. Barse requested data on transportation requirements for each alternative, using person-mile as the basis for the comparison.

Mr. Ewing said that Mrs. Constantine had observed that the Board's action in regard to Leland was not in keeping with its long range facilities planning. He believed it was important to point out that Mrs. Spencer, Mrs. Wallace, and he did not want to be present at this hearing. He thought the process was fundamentally unfair and there was a lack of due process.

Dr. Greenblatt said she had a concern about the distance students would be travelling and would like to travel by bus to Leland and Western. She noted that a question had been raised about racial balance and thought it should be clear that the entire population will spend their seventh and eighth grades at either Leland or Western. She said there was no intention of shifting the population and the master plan called for a top-down approach.

Mrs. Zappone thought it was difficult for the superintendent to come up with recommendations that people would not view as undercutting their neighborhood. She hoped they would recognize the courage it required for him to do so and to realize the Board was trying to be fair.

Re: Adjournment

The president adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

President

Secretary

EA:kn:mag