The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at Piney Branch Elementary, Takoma Park, Maryland, on Thursday, May 17, 1984, at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Mrs. Marilyn J. Praisner, President in the Chair

Dr. James E. Cronin
Mr. Blair G. Ewing
Mrs. Suzanne K. Peyser
Mr. Peter Robertson
Mrs. Odessa M. Shannon
Dr. Robert E. Shoenberg

Absent: Dr. Marian L. Greenblatt

Others Present: Dr. Wilmer S. Cody, Superintendent of

Schools

Dr. Harry Pitt, Deputy Superintendent Mr. Thomas S. Fess, Parliamentarian

Re: Public Hearing on Blair/Einstein

Middle Schools

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

- 1. Lynn Bradley, City of Takoma Park
- 2. Virginia Guy, Sligo Intermediate
- 3. Judith Treanor, Highland Intermediate
- 4. Richard Whitney, Oakland Terrace Elementary
- 5. Barbara Faigin, Woodlin Elementary
- 6. Margaret Hammar and Dianne Smith, Sligo Planning Group
- 7. Clarence Steinberg, Eastern Intermediate
- 8. Margaret Donnelly, Forest Knolls Elementary
- 9. Pam McGrath, Montgomery Knolls/Pine Crest Elementaries
- 10. Paul Manchester, Woodmore/Pinecrest Civic Association
- 11. Linda Williams, Oak View Elementary
- 12. Andrea Pitts, C.A.M.P.S.
- 13. Michael Richman, Rolling Terrace Elementary
- 14. Mary Duru and Joe Steinbock, Takoma Park Junior High School
- 15. Alinda Sommers-Ingraham, East Silver Spring Elementary
- 16. Eileen Cotter, Highland View Elementary
- 17. David Bernal and Howard Sumka, Piney Branch Elementary
- 18. Corinne Gleason, Takoma Park Elementary
- 19. Tony Hausner and Jean Narayanan, Eastern/Takoma Local School Planning Groups

Re: Board Dialogue

Mrs. Peyser requested a report from the superintendent on the costs of converting from intermediate to middle schools as to what will be the costs of educating youngsters at the secondary level rather

than the elementary. She asked if the superintendent planned to add positions of coordinators to implement his recommendations and, if so, what the costs would be. She inquired about any physical changes and their costs. She requested information on the educational advantage of the interdisciplinary team over the departmental organization. Dr. Cronin inquired about the Eastern immersion program and the statement in testimony that the program may be in jeopardy. Mrs. Shannon asked for responses from the staff on questions raised in the testimony about magnet schools, the immersion program, the orthopedic program, and the utilization question. She asked about the number of schools that would be seriously underutilized if they went to the middle school and what staff saw as the future of these schools.

Mrs. Praisner asked for a brief response on the articulation of elementary school magnet programs, the plans for the orthopedically handicapped and any facility modifications, utilization figures, and Piney Branch as a two-grade school or as a three-grade school and what would happen at the other levels. She asked about the number of students in Oak View who were transfers in and did or did not go on to Eastern. She requested that a copy of what the Board did regarding B-CC assurances be provided to the Board and community. Dr. Shoenberg stated that they were asking for staff's best guess of what would happen if they converted to middle schools. He recalled asking for information on what they were going to do regarding overutilization in the Blair area, and it was important to have that information under 7-8 or 6-7-8 before a decision was made. Ewing requested information on what would be done to the educational programs and what would happen to utilization if the Board were to create 7-8 schools at both Eastern and Takoma Park.

Re: Adjournment

The president adjourned the meeting at 10 p.m.

President

Secretary

WSC:mlw