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DATE: NOVEMBER 8, 1990  
TEXT:

APPROVED  
42-1990

Rockville, Maryland  
November 8, 1990

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Thursday, November 8, 1990, at 8 p.m.

ROLL CALL           Present:   Dr. Robert E. Shoenberg, President  
  in the Chair  
  Mr. David Chang  
  Dr. James E. Cronin  
  Mrs. Sharon DiFonzo  
  Mr. Blair G. Ewing  
  Mrs. Catherine E. Hobbs  
  Mrs. Marilyn J. Praisner

Absent:   Mr. Bruce A. Goldensohn

Others Present:  Dr. Harry Pitt, Superintendent  
  Dr. Paul L. Vance, Deputy Superintendent  
  Mrs. Frances Brenneman, Board Member-  
  elect  
  Dr. Alan Cheung, Board Member-elect  
  Mrs. Carol Fanconi, Board Member-elect

#indicates student vote does not count. Four votes are needed for adoption.

Re:   ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Shoenberg welcomed Mrs. Brenneman, Dr. Cheung, and Mrs. Fanconi to their first official meeting as Board members-elect.

Re:   FACILITIES ALTERNATIVES

Dr. Shoenberg explained that the Board would review the capital budget cluster by cluster. If there were alternatives to the superintendent's recommendations, it would take four votes of the Board to adopt the alternative.

Re:   A MOTION BY MR. EWING ON THE  
          BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE CLUSTER  
          (FAILED)

A motion by Mr. Ewing that the Board adopt as an alternative the community proposal (alternative 1) for the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster failed with (Mr. Chang), Mr. Ewing, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Mrs. DiFonzo, Mrs. Hobbs, and Mrs. Praisner abstaining#.

November 8, 1990

RESOLUTION NO. 661-90 Re: BOARD ALTERNATIVE - BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE CLUSTER

On motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mrs. Praisner, the following resolution was adopted with (Mr. Chang), Dr. Cronin, Mrs. DiFonzo, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Hobbs, and Mrs. Praisner voting in the affirmative; Dr. Shoenberg abstaining#:

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education adopt the following alternative for the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster:

Option 3 - Reopen a closed school

Board members asked that the alternative be worked up using various grade level configurations, K-2, 3-5, K-2, 3-6. The option should not include Rollingwood Elementary School.

RESOLUTION NO. 662-90 Re: BOARD ALTERNATIVE - MONTGOMERY BLAIR CLUSTER

On motion of Mrs. DiFonzo seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted with (Mr. Chang), Dr. Cronin, Mrs. DiFonzo, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Praisner, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Mrs. Hobbs voting in the negative#:

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education adopt the following alternative for the Montgomery Blair Cluster:

Alternative A in Supplement C as an add-on to B-1 which stated that the French Immersion Program could be housed at Northwood.

Re: A MOTION BY MRS. HOBBS ON THE MONTGOMERY BLAIR CLUSTER (FAILED)

A motion by Mrs. Hobbs that the Board of Education adopt as an alternative B4 which would reopen Northwood as a new high school cluster failed with (Mr. Chang), Mrs. DiFonzo, and Mrs. Hobbs voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the negative; Mrs. Praisner abstaining#.

Re: A MOTION BY MRS. HOBBS ON THE MONTGOMERY BLAIR CLUSTER (FAILED)

A motion by Mrs. Hobbs that the Board of Education adopt as an alternative B6 which would provide a Blair Facility for 2,000 students and a smaller facility for about 800 students failed with Mrs. Hobbs and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; (Mr. Chang), Mrs. DiFonzo, and Mr. Ewing voting in the negative; Dr. Cronin and Mrs. Praisner abstaining#.

November 8, 1990

Re: A MOTION BY MRS. HOBBS ON THE  
MONTGOMERY BLAIR CLUSTER (FAILED)

A motion by Mrs. Hobbs that the Board of Education adopt as an alternative 2-B from Supplement C failed with Mrs. Hobbs voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin and Mr. Ewing voting in the negative; (Mr. Chang), Mrs. DiFonzo, Mrs. Praisner, and Dr. Shoenberg abstaining#.

RESOLUTION NO. 663-90 Re: MONTGOMERY BLAIR CLUSTER

On motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Dr. Shoenberg, the following resolution was adopted unanimously#:

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education remove the Blair Option A out of the secondary schools and consider it in conjunction with Supplement C, the superintendent's recommendation.

RESOLUTION NO. 664-90 Re: AN ALTERNATIVE FOR THE RICHARD  
MONTGOMERY CLUSTER

On motion of Mrs. DiFonzo seconded by Mr. Ewing, the following resolution was adopted with (Mr. Chang), Dr. Cronin, Mrs. DiFonzo, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Hobbs, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Mrs. Praisner abstaining#:

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education adopt the community plan as an alternative for the Richard Montgomery Cluster.

Re: REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION ON THE  
FACILITIES PLAN

Board members made the following requests:

1. Dr. Cronin suggested that the tables in the cluster write-ups be reorganized to add another column to include the previous year's enrollment projections. In this way the Board and public would be able to see what was projected and what was actual enrollment.

2. In regard to the Bethesda-Chevy Chase cluster, Mrs. DiFonzo asked for information comparing costs of reopening with expansion of existing buildings. Mr. Ewing wanted to know the costs of replicating Rosemary Hills if they opened a school.

3. Mr. Ewing requested information on the amount of money staff projected that Piney Branch would need in PLAR funds and what staff expected to do in that school.

4. Mr. Ewing requested a clear map of the Richard Montgomery High School plan.

5. Mrs. DiFonzo reported that there was a rumor in the Rockville area that Rockville HS was going to be modernized and all students would go to Peary. She asked that staff put this rumor to rest and inform the community that Rockville was under consideration for a gym and the Peary Center would not be available because it was being used as a holding school for elementary schools.

6. Dr. Pitt asked that staff communicate to the Damascus, Magruder, and Gaithersburg clusters that there would be a study next year on the assignment of students out of the Gaithersburg cluster.

7. Board members asked staff to look at the issue of assigning ESOL students to Gaithersburg and Springbrook. Mr. Ewing was concerned about the impact of ESOL students on the feeder schools to Gaithersburg HS. For example, what would happen if the Board were to defer the assignment of the ESOL center until September, 1992. If they could not delay the assignment, staff was to look at other options for solving this. Mr. Ewing cautioned that care be taken regarding the socioeconomic and racial balance at Gaithersburg if the proposal was to remove an elementary school or two in the next facilities go-around.

8. Staff was requested to provide a clearer explanation of the middle school issue in the pages for the Seneca Valley cluster.

9. Mrs. Fanconi called attention to the need for maintenance at Montgomery Village because of the fact that the school was not scheduled for modernization in the near future.

10. Dr. Cronin asked that the spring boundary recommendations for Stratford Woods and Briars Acres show projections from last year and actual enrollments for this year.

11. In regard to Springbrook, Mrs. Praisner requested information about the number of portables and the location of the portables on the Northwood site if the ESOL students were added.

12. Mrs. Praisner asked that the future school sites be designated by number and high school area in keeping with the Board's policy on school names.

13. Mr. Ewing asked staff to look at the issue of special education housing. He pointed out that if MCPS was projected to grow by 25,000 students, one might expect a proportional growth in handicapped students. The CIP appeared to assume that all of the increase except for ESOL would be accommodated in the regular schools. This had an impact on the design of the regular schools and on the operating budget. The superintendent agreed that staff needed to come back to the Board on this issue. He said that they had to add something to the CIP to qualify this issue in some way.

14. Mrs. DiFonzo called attention to the language on elementary gyms on pages 4-97 which she suggested should be moved to the front of the book.

15. Board members asked about the central food construction facility. Dr. Pitt suggested that it might be well to have a 15-minute briefing on this. Mrs. Praisner thought they needed to document long-term savings and potential use of this facility beyond the school system.

16. Mr. Ewing asked that the language under the section on page 4-115 on security systems should state that the system would cover buildings other than schools. He asked about how much upgrading of outside lighting they would be able to do each year. Mrs. Praisner asked about the criteria and process they would use to determine which facility received the upgraded lighting.

Re: ADJOURNMENT

The president adjourned the meeting at 11:35 p.m.

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

HP:mlw