

APPROVED  
8-1993

Rockville, Maryland  
January 27, 1993

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Wednesday, January 27, 1993, at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL           Present:  Dr. Alan Cheung, President  
                                                          in the Chair  
                                                          Mrs. Frances Brenneman  
                                                          Mr. Blair G. Ewing  
                                                          Mrs. Carol Fanconi  
                                                          Mrs. Beatrice Gordon  
                                                          Ms. Ana Sol Gutierrez  
                                                          Mr. Jonathan Sims

                                  Absent:  Mr. Stephen Abrams

                          Others Present:  Dr. Paul L. Vance, Superintendent  
                                                          Mrs. Katheryn W. Gemberling, Deputy  
                                                          Dr. H. Philip Rohr, Deputy  
                                                          Mr. Thomas S. Fess, Parliamentarian

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

                                  Re:  ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Cheung announced that Mr. Abrams was ill and would watch the cablecast of Board deliberations from his home.

                                  Re:  WORKSESSION ON FY 1994 OPERATING  
                                                          BUDGET

Board members requested the following information:

1. Ms. Gutierrez requested information on the rate increases in insurance, particularly workmen's compensation.
2. Mr. Ewing suggested that they include language on V-16 about successes in cost containment in health insurance.
3. Mr. Ewing asked that the Board receive a response to his question about changing the incentive for early retirement in time for budget consideration.
4. Mr. Ewing requested a schedule for implementing on-line payroll if they had the funds. Dr. Rohr indicated that they would provide information on the payroll and logistics system and cost it out for the Board.
5. In regard to payroll, Mrs. Fanconi asked what areas would have priority if they were to restore a position and about the cost of restoration.

6. Mrs. Fanconi requested a year's history of the backlog in payroll and what this had cost MCPS.

7. Ms. Gutierrez asked for information about large corporations and the percentage of their budgets devoted to the payroll operation.

8. Ms. Gutierrez asked about computer needs in Facilities Planning.

9. It seemed to Mr. Ewing that it would be helpful to have a history of demographic planning and projections to provide to the community. This monograph could explain how planning was done now and how far they had come in this process.

10. Mrs. Fanconi requested information on how other districts supported a grants position as well as the advantage of having a full-time person supported by the grants.

11. In regard to Personnel, Mrs. Fanconi requested some idea of what the cost outlays and cost savings would be for improved technology for file maintenance and overall personnel operations.

12. Mr. Ewing pointed out that on V-56 there was a description of what they were doing in the personnel system database with regard to the applicant tracking system. He would appreciate a fuller description of what was happening here.

13. Ms. Gutierrez asked that the Board be informed if they could take some initial steps in charging back computer services.

14. Dr. Cheung requested a clarification of numbers of the personnel changes on V-59, Department of Technology Planning because the figures did not add up.

15. In the Division of Construction, Mrs. Fanconi asked for a justification for the recommendation to eliminate an inspector position rather than an administrator.

16. Mrs. Fanconi requested information on how Fairfax's central procurement revolving fund operated.

17. Board members requested that the language in the section on Transportation be clarified regarding the spare fleet and the replacement of school buses.

18. Mrs. Fanconi asked for information over a three-year to five-year period on the number of bus breakdowns and what had happened after they extended the age of their buses.

19. Mr. Ewing suggested that the Board be provided with

information on what they expected the computerized bus routing to accomplish. They should have information before going to the County Council. He also asked that he receive a demonstration when the project was up and running. Ms. Gutierrez indicated that she would be interested in receiving information about the project as well.

20. Ms. Gutierrez asked staff to take another look to see if they could show reimbursable field trips as a cost neutral item.

21. Mr. Ewing asked staff to clarify the tables and text on increases in fuel costs. He also requested that they explain the reasons why MCPS had shifted from gasoline to diesel buses.

22. In regard to the self-insurance fund and the actuarial report, it was suggested that a letter go to the county asking for additional information on why insurance costs increased.

23. Mrs. Fanconi asked staff to provide her with information on a motion to remove evening high school, GED, and Saturday school from the enterprise fund.

24. Mrs. Fanconi asked for information on whether the summer school extended-year employment (EYE) was the most cost effective way of providing these services. Mrs. Brenneman said she would be interested in knowing whether this was a place where they could contract out and save money.

25. Mrs. Fanconi asked that the Board be provided with a list of charges for rental of buildings to offer adult education courses.

26. In regard to the interagency coordinating board, Mr. Ewing asked for information on savings in operating costs if MCPS were to take over this function. He also asked that Board members be kept informed on the status of the legislative oversight committee report on this subject.

27. Mrs. Fanconi requested information on the MCPS buildings rented to private schools as to whether they had increased rental fees and whether the fees covered costs.

28. Mr. Ewing asked for a table showing trends in terms of numbers and percentage increases for the last three to five years on students eligible for free and reduced-price meals.

29. Ms. Gutierrez asked that they look at the write-up under Success for Every Student on VI-13. She would like to see more outreach to the non-English speaking community to have more access to free and reduced-price meals.

30. Mr. Ewing suggested changing "non-county" on VI-16 to indicate that it was 100 percent non-MCPS budget and no local tax

dollars were appropriated by the county to support this.

31. On II-5 Board members suggested tightening up the wording as well as saying "continuum of services" rather than "full continuum of services."

32. Mr. Ewing requested information on the state pupil/teacher ratios for autistic children.

33. In regard to therapeutic services to autistic children, Mr. Ewing asked that the Board be informed of the results of the meeting on this issue particularly if MCPS were required to provide additional services.

34. In regard to OT/PT, Mrs. Fanconi requested information on the cost of contracting these services versus hiring MCPS staff to do this work.

35. Mrs. Fanconi asked for a language change on II-16 regarding "DPST's coordination of complaints."

36. Mrs. Fanconi requested rewrites of the descriptions for DPST and the Central Placement Unit to reflect the actual work done by these units.

37. Mr. Ewing asked for information on the number of speech pathologists serving more than two schools, and Mrs. Fanconi requested the caseload of these specialists.

38. In regard to special services for students with multiple disabilities, Mr. Ewing asked about the mechanism for decided how much service was appropriate for different student disabilities.

Re: ADJOURNMENT

The Board president adjourned the meeting at 11:10 p.m.

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

PLV:mlw