

APPROVED
19-2001

Rockville, Maryland
June 25, 2001

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in regular session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Monday, June 25, 2001, at 8:45 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Mrs. Nancy J. King, President
 in the Chair
 Mr. Kermit V. Burnett
 Ms. Sharon Cox
 Mr. Reginald M. Felton
 Mr. Walter Lange
 Mrs. Patricia B. O'Neill
 Mr. Christopher Lloyd, Student Board Member
 Mr. Dustin Jeter, Student Board Member-Elect
 Dr. Jerry Weast, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: Mr. Stephen Abrams

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

RESOLUTION NO. 335-01 Re: **CLOSED SESSION**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Mr. Burnett, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Montgomery County is authorized by the *Education Article* and *State Government Article* of the *Annotated Code of Maryland* to conduct certain meetings or portions of its meetings in closed sessions; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County conduct a portion of its closed session on June 25, 2001, in Room 120 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. to discuss personnel matters, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(1) of the *State Government Article*; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education consult with counsel to receive legal advice as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(7) of the *State Government Article*; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County dedicate part of the closed session on June 25, 2001, to acquit its executive functions and to adjudicate and review appeals, which is a quasi-judicial function outside the purview of the Open Meetings Act under Section 10-503(a) of the *State Government Article*; and be it further

Resolved, That this portion of the meeting continue in closed session until the completion of business.

RESOLUTION NO. 336-01 Re: APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Ms. Cox, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for June 25, 2001.

Re: RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES OF MCPS-UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

The following people were recognized at the Board meeting: Mr. William Wilson, Towson University; Dr. Roxy Della Vecchia, Towson University; Dr. Gloria Grantham, Trinity College; Ms. Poinsettia Peterson, Trinity College; Ms. Carri Commer, Trinity College; and Mr. Jerry Isaac, Bowie State University

Re: PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following people testified before the Board of Education:

	<u>Person</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1.	Ken Shields	Silver Spring International Middle School
2.	Patricia Smith	Curriculum Framework
3.	Laurie Richardson	Silver Spring International Middle School
4.	Leslie Roosevelt	Silver Spring International Middle School
5.	Reuben Gist	Silver Spring International Middle School
6.	Janet Springsteen	Silver Spring International Middle School
7.	Gerald Pressman	Mascots
8.	Susanna Ravinsky-Gray	Silver Spring International Middle School
9.	George Shenkovich	Silver Spring International Middle School
10.	Nancy Wesensten	Silver Spring International Middle School
11.	Valerie Ervin	Silver Spring International Middle School
12.	Doug McManus	Accountability
13.	Christine McNair	Silver Spring International Middle School
14.	Susan Remmert	Silver Spring International Middle School

RESOLUTION NO. 337-01 Re: AWARD OF CONTRACT – SURFACE-MOUNTED SWING DOOR OPERATORS FOR CLASSROOM BUILDINGS

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. O'Neill seconded by Mr. Lange, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

WHEREAS, The following sealed bid was received on June 4, 2001, for the installation of

surface-mounted swing door operators at various locations and unit price bids for additional doors needed on an emergency basis, with work to begin immediately and be completed by August 10, 2001:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>
Atlantic Door Control, Inc.	\$19,876	\$1,975

and

WHEREAS, Atlantic Door Control, Inc., has completed similar work successfully; and

WHEREAS, The bid is within the staff estimate; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a contract in the amount of \$19,876 be awarded to Atlantic Door Control, Inc., for the installation of surface-mounted swing door operators at various locations, in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by the Department of Facilities Management, and that subsequent doors needed on an emergency basis be awarded at the unit price of \$1,975 each.

RESOLUTION NO. 338-01 Re: **AWARD OF CONTRACT – WESTBROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REROOFING**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. O'Neill seconded by Mr. Lange, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

WHEREAS, The following sealed bids were received June 11, 2001, for the reroofing of Westbrook Elementary School, with work to begin immediately and be completed by September 1, 2001:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Orndorff & Spaid, Inc.	\$186,285
Interstate Corporation	286,000

and

WHEREAS, The low bidder, Orndorff & Spaid, Inc., has completed similar work successfully for the Montgomery County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, The low bid is below the staff estimate; and

WHEREAS, The work included in this project is largely self-performed by the bidder and there is limited opportunity for minority business enterprise participation; and

WHEREAS, The State Interagency Committee for Public School Construction will fund 50 percent of the eligible work as part of the state systemic renovation program; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a \$186,285 contract be awarded to Orndorff & Spaid, Inc., for the reroofing of Westbrook Elementary School, in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by the Department of Facilities Management; and be it further

Resolved, That the contract be forwarded to the State Interagency Committee for Public School Construction for approval to reimburse the Montgomery County Public Schools for the state-eligible portion of the reroofing of Westbrook Elementary School.

RESOLUTION NO. 339-01 Re: **AWARD OF CONTRACT – MODULAR CLASSROOM RELOCATION AND INSTALLATION**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. O'Neill seconded by Mr. Lange, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

WHEREAS, The following sealed bids were received June 12, 2001, for the relocation and installation of locally owned and leased and state-owned modular classroom units, with work to begin immediately and be completed by August 10, 2001:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Relocation and Installation of Locally Owned and Leased Units</u>	
EMH Environmental, Inc.	\$1,301,000
Cottonwood Construction, Inc.	1,311,000
J & L Services, Inc.	1,311,800
<u>Relocation and Electrical Hook-ups for State-Owned Units</u>	
EMH Environmental, Inc.	\$ 160,215
Cynthia M. Hastings, Inc.	210,617
<u>Steps, Decks, Ramps, Canopies, and Sitework for State-Owned Units</u>	

EMH Environmental, Inc.	\$ 23,570
Cottonwood Construction, Inc.	38,900
Cynthia M. Hastings, Inc.	47,100

and

WHEREAS, The low bidder, EMH Environmental, Inc., has completed similar work successfully for the Montgomery County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, The low bid is within the staff estimate; and

WHEREAS, There is limited opportunity for minority business enterprise participation on this project because of the work scope; and

WHEREAS, Staff recommends waiving the minority business participation goal for this project; and

WHEREAS, The State Interagency Committee for Public School Construction will fund 50 percent of the eligible work for the relocation of the state-owned modular classroom buildings; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a contract be awarded to EMH Environmental, Inc., in the amount of \$1,484,785 for relocation and installation of modular classroom units, in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by the Department of Facilities Management; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this contract be forwarded to the State Interagency Committee for School Construction for reimbursement of the state's share of the cost.

RESOLUTION NO. 340-01 Re: MODULAR DAY CARE UNIT INSTALLATION AT COLD SPRING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. O'Neill seconded by Mr. Lange, the following resolution was adopted with Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Mrs. King, Mr. Lange, Mr. Lloyd, and Mrs. O'Neill voting in the affirmative; Mr. Felton voting in the negative:#

WHEREAS, Academy Child Development Center, Inc., has provided high quality child-care service to the Cold Spring Elementary School community for several years; and

WHEREAS, The child-care program must vacate space in the main building to make way for

the relocation of the LFI program from Garrett Park Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Academy Child Development Center, Inc., has agreed to pay for the installation of a free-standing modular classroom unit for the continuance of child-care service to the Cold Spring Elementary School community; and

WHEREAS, The Board's attorney has prepared the modular-unit agreement; and

WHEREAS, EMH Environmental, Inc., has provided a fair bid to provide and install a 3,456-square-foot modular classroom unit; and

WHEREAS, Academy Child Development Center, Inc., has agreed to the bid price submitted by EMH Environmental, Inc.; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board president and superintendent be authorized to execute a Lease/Purchase Agreement with Academy Child Development Center, Inc., to occupy a free-standing modular classroom unit for the continuance of child-care service at Cold Spring Elementary School; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent be authorized to contract with EMH Environmental, Inc., to provide and install a 3,456-square-foot modular classroom unit at a cost not to exceed \$300,000, contingent on deposit of a similar amount by Academy Child Development Center, Inc., in an escrow account managed by Reese and Carney, LLP, to pay for the cost of installation of the modular classroom unit.

RESOLUTION NO. 341-01 Re: UTILIZATION OF FY 2001 FUTURE SUPPORTED FUNDS

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. O'Neill seconded by Mr. Lange, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

WHEREAS, The grant qualifies for a transfer of appropriation from the Provision for Future Supported Projects pursuant to the provisions of County Council Resolution No. 14-525, approved May 25, 2000; and

WHEREAS, The programs do not require any present or future county funds; and

WHEREAS, Sufficient appropriation is available within the FY 2001 Provision for Future Supported Projects to permit the transfer within state categories; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend, within the FY 2001 Provision for Future Supported Projects awards, as specified below:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Head Start Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Prevention/Getting a Head Start on Drugs	\$12,300

Total	<u>\$ 12,300</u>

and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the county executive and County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 342-01 Re: UTILIZATION OF FY 2002 FUTURE SUPPORTED FUNDS

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. O'Neill seconded by Mr. Lange, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

WHEREAS, The grant qualifies for a transfer of appropriation from the Provision for Future Supported Projects pursuant to the provisions of County Council Resolution No. 14-890, approved May 24, 2001; and

WHEREAS, The programs do not require any present or future county funds; and

WHEREAS, Sufficient appropriation is available within the FY 2002 Provision for Future Supported Projects to permit the transfer within state categories; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend, within the FY 2002 Provision for Future Supported Projects awards, as specified below:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Science Connection Fund	\$270,283

Total	<u>\$270,283</u>

and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the county executive and County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 343-01 Re: RECOMMENDED FY 2001 SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR FOOD AND NUTRITION

SERVICES FUND

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. O'Neill seconded by Mr. Lange, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:#

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend, subject to County Council approval, an FY 2001 supplemental appropriation of \$1,738,901 for the Food and Nutrition Services Fund, in the following category:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Amount</u>
61 Food and Nutrition Services Fund	\$1,738,901

Total	<u>\$1,738,901</u>

and be it further

Resolved, That this supplemental appropriation be funded with \$1,738,901 from increased food service sales revenue; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the county executive and County Council; and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of this resolution to the County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 344-01 Re: HUMAN RESOURCES APPOINTMENT

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Mr. Burnett, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective July 1, 2001:

<u>Appointment</u>	<u>Current Position</u>	<u>As</u>
George Arlotto	Assistant Principal, Wheaton HS	Principal, Wheaton HS

RESOLUTION NO. 345-01 Re: HUMAN RESOURCES APPOINTMENT

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Mr. Burnett, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective July 1, 2001:

Appointment
Michael Cohen

Current Position
Vice President, Alternatives
Unlimited

As
School Performance
Director, OSP

RESOLUTION NO. 346-01 Re: HUMAN RESOURCES APPOINTMENT

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Mr. Burnett, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective July 1, 2001:

<u>Appointment</u>	<u>Current Position</u>	<u>As</u>
Jane Lai Mah Woodburn	Administrative Assistant to Associate Superintendent, Student and Community Services	School Performance Director, OSP

RESOLUTION NO. 347-01 Re: HUMAN RESOURCES APPOINTMENT

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Mr. Burnett, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective July 1, 2001:

<u>Appointment</u>	<u>Current Position</u>	<u>As</u>
Chrisandra Richardson	Principal, Georgian Forest ES	Coordinator, Academic Support, Federal and State Programs, OIPD

RESOLUTION NO. 348-01 Re: HUMAN RESOURCES APPOINTMENT

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Mr. Burnett, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective July 1, 2001:

<u>Appointment</u>	<u>Current Position</u>	<u>As</u>
Carl W. Reed	Supervisor, Family and Consumer Sciences Career Development, Prince George's County Public Schools	Coordinator, Career Initiatives and Family Consumer Sciences, OIPD

RESOLUTION NO. 349-01 Re: HUMAN RESOURCES APPOINTMENT

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by

Mr. Burnett, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective July 1, 2001:

<u>Appointment</u>	<u>Current Position</u>	<u>As</u>
Shelly Johnson	Instructional Facilitator, Howard County Public Schools	Coordinator, Information Technology and Business Studies, OIPD

RESOLUTION NO. 350-01 Re: **HUMAN RESOURCES APPOINTMENT**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Felton seconded by Mr. Burnett, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the following personnel appointment be approved effective July 1, 2001:

<u>Appointment</u>	<u>Current Position</u>	<u>As</u>
Pamela Garcia	Acting Program Supervisor, Pre K-12 Foreign Language, OIPD	Program Supervisor, Pre K-12 Foreign Language, OIPD

Re: **SYSTEM OF SHARED ACCOUNTABILITY**

Dr. Weast invited the following people to the table: Dr. Frieda K. Lacey, executive assistant to the superintendent; Dr. Pamela Y. Hoffler-Riddick, associate superintendent, Office of Shared Accountability; Dr. John Larson, coordinator, Applied Research Unit; Ms. Bonnie Leister, principal, Wyngate Elementary School; Ms. Sylvia Morrison, principal, Shady Grove Middle School; Mr. Dan Shea, principal, Quince Orchard High School; and Dr. Frank Stetson, community superintendent.

As part of *Our Call to Action*, an MCPS accountability plan was established. The purpose of this discussion is to present for adoption the newly developed school measurement system – specifically, standards and targets of the System of Shared Accountability (SSA).

Background

At the February 23, 2000, meeting, the Board of Education received preliminary information about the SSA. At the conclusion of the presentation, the Board of Education adopted a resolution endorsing the plan for the SSA and directed the superintendent to proceed with further development and implementation.

The February 2000 model has been updated to include the identification of appropriate high school measures, the establishment of standards for all measures, and the establishment of

school targets for elementary and middle schools. Targets for high schools will be finalized in the fall. The system is designed to be flexible and adaptable, and staff expects that measures will be added or deleted over time as a result of the High School Assessments and changes to the local assessment program.

Through summer 2000, the Strathmore Group – which included Board of Education members, principals, teachers, supporting services staff, and central office administrators – continued to advise the Office of Shared Accountability (OSA) on the SSA. Since that time, the SSA has undergone substantial refinement, including ensuring that it is consistent with the advice MCPS received from the Baldrige assessors. Although many areas of strength were cited in the Baldrige report, it was apparent that MCPS needed to take a systems approach to improving student achievement. In particular, the need to establish clear standards and targets for measures that could be used by each organizational unit, department, and office was a recurring theme throughout the weaknesses cited in the Baldrige report.

Work on the SSA has evolved as a result of input from principals, teachers, community members, central office staff, and the accountability subgroup of the Montgomery Business Roundtable. These groups have provided feedback on the indicators, measures, standards, and targets.

Indicators, Measures, and Standards

The four key components used to organize the data and information provided by the school accountability component of the SSA are indicators, measures, standards, and targets. Indicators are the primary dimensions of the SSA. The primary indicators are performance, relative performance, and quality. The quality indicator will be finalized in the fall and presented to the Board of Education in November. These indicators are interpreted through two additional dimensions: equity and trends. Measures are the standardized tests and other factors used to evaluate performance; and standards are the expected level of performance for a school on a measure. These indicators provide different dimensions for examining student results. Table 1 summarizes the measures and standards recommended for each grade level.

Table 1
School-Level Measures and Standards Used To Evaluate Student Results

Level	Grade	Measure	School Level Standard	
Elementary	2	CTBS Composite	At least 70% at or above the 60th percentile	Local
	3	MSPAP Composite	At least 70% at or above satisfactory	State
	4	CTBS Composite	At least 70% at or above the 60th percentile	Local
	5	MSPAP Composite	At least 70% at or above satisfactory	State
Middle	6	CTBS Composite	At least 70% at or above the 60th percentile	Local
		MD Functional Reading	At least 90% at or above "passing" on the first administration	Local
	MD Functional Math	At least 90% at or above "passing" on the first administration	Local	
	8	MD Writing Test	At least 90% at or above "passing" on the first administration	Local
		MSPAP Composite	At least 70% at or above satisfactory	State
High	12	Academic Attainment Composite	1. At least 40% of students College Rigorous 2. At least 80% of students College Ready or higher 3. 100% of students College Capable or higher	Local

Targets

The SSA model identifies annual targets for schools based on the performance indicators for elementary and middle schools. The school targets are expressed as the increase in the percentage of students at or above the school standard. Since the school standards for CTBS were aligned with the school standards for MSPAP, the same schedule of annual targets was developed for both measures. School standards for the Maryland Functional Tests in middle schools are set higher than those for MSPAP, so a separate schedule of annual targets was developed for the functional tests in Table 3.

Table 2
Elementary and Middle School Annual Performance Targets for MSPAP and CTBS

Performance Range on MSPAP and CTBS Composite	Proposed Annual Targets
0–39.9%	+4
40–54.9%	+3
55–69.9%	+2

70-84.9%	+1
85-99.9%	+0.5

Table 3
Middle School Annual Performance Targets for Maryland Functional Tests

School Performance Level (Percent Meeting Standard)	Target (Change in Percentage Points)
0 – 49.9%	+ 8
50 - 59.9%	+ 6
60 - 69.9%	+ 5
70 - 79.9%	+ 4
80 - 89.9%	+ 3
90 – 99.0%	1

Although the targets are ambitious, they are attainable with significant effort. The Office of Shared Accountability calculated the average annual progress over the past three years for each elementary and middle school in Maryland.¹ That analysis, summarized below in Table 4, showed that between one-fourth and one-third of the elementary and middle schools in Maryland were able to sustain, on average over a three-year period, most of the percentage point increases on the proposed schedule of targets. In effect, the proposed schedule of targets aspires to have MCPS schools perform at levels equivalent to the top one-fourth to one-third of all schools in Maryland.

Table 4
Percentage of Schools in Maryland that Maintained a Three-year Average Increase On MSPAP as High or Higher than the Proposed Targets

Performance Range on MSPAP and CTBS Composite	Proposed Annual Targets	Grade 3 % of Schools	Grade 5 % of Schools	Grade 8 % of Schools
0-39.9%	+4	24%	25%	28%
40-54.9%	+3	17%	23%	34%
55-69.9%	+2	24%	31%	31%
70-84.9%	+1	26%	37%	31%
85-99.9%	+0.5	0%	0%	0%

¹ Data describing the annual MSPAP performance of each school in Maryland are available on the Maryland State Department of Education web site.

Targets for high schools on the newly developed academic attainment composite will be finalized in the fall and presented to the Board of Education in November, along with an update on the SSA. The standards for high schools are more complicated than those for elementary and middle schools for the following reasons:

- Three standards are proposed for high schools, and each standard is aimed at a different stratum of academic attainment.
- The academic attainment composites are formulated from a four-year study of students' transcripts, and thus will be slower to alter than the results in elementary and middle schools based on one-year changes on a single composite score.
- Prioritizing which standards to address in which types of high schools at what pace of change will require careful planning about how to deploy the kinds of resources required to meet the targets.

A collaborative group of principals, community superintendents, and OSA staff, along with community stakeholders, will meet periodically between July and October 2001 to deliberate these issues and develop annual targets for high schools.

Communicating Results

The SSA will report more information than currently provided about student achievement with respect to the percentage of students meeting standards. For example, the Maryland State Department of Education reports a systemwide MSPAP composite for all students in MCPS as if it were a single school. The SSA will report the number and percentages of schools in the county that meet the standard. This information will be presented for the district and detailed for each community superintendent's jurisdiction.

The System of Shared Accountability

This discussion focuses on the school measurement component contained within the SSA. The annual targets for high schools and the quality indicators will be finalized in the fall. The SSA is an information-sharing system based on the evaluation of student performance on standardized tests and other performance indicators. The SSA enables parents, students, teachers, principals, and central office service providers to work together continuously to improve organizational performance. The basic premise of the SSA is that improvements in teaching and learning take place when all the partners collaborate in sharing their expertise.

Given this information and the request made by the Board of Education to establish an accountability plan to monitor student achievement, Dr. Weast is proposing that the Board of Education take action to adopt the school measurement system.

Re: **DISCUSSION**

Mrs. King noted that a great deal of effort had gone into developing the system of shared

accountability. She stated that the school system is aligning the MCPS curriculum and standards with the state's standards. She asked if MCPS students were doing better than the state's average. Dr. Hoffler-Riddick replied that students' performance on the functional tests in reading, writing, and mathematics is higher than the state's standards. Overall, MCPS is meeting and exceeding the state's standards on the MSPAP. However, MCPS is low in math, and the SSA will allow students to move faster. Mrs. King clarified that the standards MCPS was setting will not adversely affect any student.

Ms. Cox thanked staff for the presentation and the time involved in the project. When the *Call to Action* was formulated, the community was concerned that the school system would focus on certain populations that were underachieving in order to make the targets, and that would result in a lack of support for students who were already performing well or needed to be accelerated. Do the principals feel that the supports with staff development and a curriculum framework will ensure student improvement across the board? Mr. Shea thought the supports were comprehensive and flexible. The whole school can be assessed to ascertain what training is needed. Data from tests can be examined to apply instructional programming across the board. However, flexibility allows different staffing for literacy and math. Ms. Cox asked if on-grade-level students are helped to achieve their full potential. Ms. Leister replied absolutely.

Ms. Cox asked about the assessment in the instructional planning model in middle schools. Will those tests have higher standards than the functional level? Dr. Hoffler-Riddick replied that, as a result of curriculum revisions, the assessment will focus on what MCPS identifies in looking at state and national standards. However, the assessment is a survey to give staff a general look at the instructional program. Formal exams are designed to ascertain if a student is on grade level or not, and the instruction for the child can be adjusted accordingly.

Ms. Cox asked if there was a timeframe for individual program evaluations. Mr. Bowers responded that the *Call to Action* initiative included a number of ongoing assessments and evaluation. As part of last year's budget process, staff began to look at ongoing programs as well as the initiatives. Over the next several months, staff will develop a timeframe on all program evaluations. Ms. Cox stated that, if fiscal constraints were greater in the future, she would like the Board to receive information on which programs may need to be discontinued or not fully funded as part of the effort to improve student achievement.

Mr. Felton thanked staff for its excellent work. He wanted to make sure the community understood what a major step the SSA is for MCPS. He asked for clarification of the individual student versus the school. He was concerned about how the school system would ensure that the targeted students were improving. Dr. Hoffler-Riddick answered that the equity indicator analysis looks at all student populations, and the target for the school will not be achieved over three years unless all populations are analyzed. The answer lies in targeting underachieving students with strategies to improve their performance.

Mr. Felton asked how the school system planned to realign resources when it is clear that a school needs an intervention to be successful. Mr. Bowers replied that staff will assess all programs to make sure they are productive and effective and in line with the school system's priorities. Mr. Stetson added that the community superintendents will work closely with principals to ensure an alignment of resources. Dr. Weast added that if a school is achieving high results with a majority of the students, the principal should have the autonomy to rearrange resources to reach additional goals. If there is a further need, Dr. Weast would expect the community superintendent to work with the principal to fund that request, and, eventually, it would be built into the school system's budget. However, if a school is not or has not done well and cannot compete over a three-year period with similar schools across the state, there would be more control by the community superintendent with targeted interventions.

Mr. Felton asked how difficult it would be for MCPS to make a transition with the federal government in moving to annual assessments in grades three through eight. Dr. Hoffer-Riddick replied that the federal government was reviewing Maryland as an existing model to determine the cost of establishing a testing program. She hoped that the government would not simply expand the role of the CTBS. However, MCPS will be able to subsume any mandate into the assessment plans.

Mr. Felton asked about targets for school performance levels. Is there a date when all schools should reach a competency level? Mr. Bowers stated that the administration planned this effort over the next three years without a timeline for all schools to reach a required mark. Based on state-wide data, staff will continue to evaluate the sustained increase in student achievement to set a realistic goal.

Mr. Burnett asked about setting targets based on a school's prior performance and if considerations were given to factors such as the percentage of students on Free and Reduced-price Meals (FARMS) program. How flexible are the targets to future changes based on school's population or character? Dr. Weast responded that mobility and the FARMS rate are automatically factored in across the state.

Mr. Burnett asked why having access to this information will make changes occur in the schools and in student performance. Dr. Weast noted that with reasonable targets, a balanced approach with resources, and a curriculum framework, the school system should expect total alignment and, therefore, higher student achievement. Dr. Larson stated that the accountability model is one of the trend benders. This measurement model will illuminate what is happening in the schools. When schools study themselves and their neighbors, this knowledge will stimulate information sharing, staff development, and reorganizing the material. Dr. Weast added that, with the model, an analysis can be done systemwide for comparisons throughout the county and state.

Mrs. O'Neill stated that the functional tests were part of the assessments in middle school. She was under the impression that the functional tests were to be discontinued as part of the Maryland reform effort. She did not believe that students took these tests seriously except as a check-off for graduation. The school system just back mapped from the Maryland Learner Outcomes, and she wanted to know if the Maryland functional tests were aligned with those outcomes. Mr. Larson replied that were aligned with the MSPAP in the eighth grade.

Mrs. O'Neill remarked that the curriculum framework that is being developed was based on the Maryland Learner Outcomes. She was uneasy about adding layers of testing, but said that principals should know what is at stake if the functional tests are part of shared accountability. The Maryland Functional Writing test has come under criticism for its scoring and validity. Dr. Hoffer-Riddick replied that the functional tests were proposed for elimination. However, the High School Assessment will increasingly use the data from those tests. The basic knowledge must be learned before the MSPAP tests can be successfully mastered.

Mr. Jeter thought staff made a wonderful presentation. Shared accountability will work when all the details are worked out. He asked if there were targets for high schools. Mr. Shea replied that at the high school level there are targets that would be monitored and measured throughout the four years. Mr. Jeter added that high school students must know what is expected of them. Therefore, the guidelines for various student achievement levels need to be publicized.

Mr. Lloyd knew that a great deal of work went into this presentation. He noted that there was feedback from stakeholders, especially students. He thought it was a good idea to look at individual schools and compare them to similar schools. However, he suggested that staff should look at a range of students' abilities and achievement within those schools. Mr. Larson replied that the evolution of the model through equity would add a category of prior performance levels which would address Mr. Lloyd's concern.

Mr. Lloyd asked how continuous feedback on the overall model would work. Dr. Hoffer-Riddick replied that high school targets still need to be established. The same stakeholders will be used to define all factors. The 2001 data will be the starting point for the performance indicators. In addition, external evaluators will review the technical merits of the system to improve the model.

Mr. Lange thanked staff and stakeholders for their work. He asked staff to offer some assurances about whether the system would mean an increase level of testing. Dr. Hoffer-Riddick replied that testing and teaching were not enemies. Testing would not be increased, but staff would use the information more effectively. Curriculum, instruction, and assessments are integrated.

Mr. Lange asked about the infrastructure to support shared accountability, such as the

instructional management system and the data warehouse. Dr. Hoffler-Riddick replied that the school system will not wait for the data warehouse, but will use the model in a web-enabled product. Dr. Weast noted that 25 to 30 percent of the schools across the state are making gains without a fancy computer system. MCPS schools should be able to sustain the same gains as those schools that they are compared to within a classification. The time is now to prepare students for graduation.

RESOLUTION NO. 351-01 Re: SYSTEM OF SHARED ACCOUNTABILITY

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Mr. Felton, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, On February 23, 2000, the Board of Education endorsed the plan for the System of Shared Accountability and

WHEREAS, On February 23, 2000, the Board of Education directed the superintendent to proceed with further development and implementation of the System of Shared Accountability; and

WHEREAS, The Office of Shared Accountability has developed the school component of the System of Shared Accountability, including measures, standards for those measures, and targets; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education Research and Evaluation Subcommittee has provided valuable direction on both the conceptual development and the specific details contained in the school component of the System of Shared Accountability; and

WHEREAS, Input has been provided on the school component by principals, teachers, business and community members, and central office staff; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt the school measurement system measures, standards, indicators, and targets presented and discussed at the Board of Education meeting of June 25, 2001.

Re: BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Dr. Weast congratulated the 550 people who retired from the school system this year. Most schools sent staff to the first Career and Technology Institute, which was a collaboration of Montgomery College, John Hopkins University, and MCPS.

RESOLUTION NO. 352-01 Re: CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Mr. Felton, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Montgomery County is authorized by the *Education Article* and *State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland* to conduct certain meetings or portions of its meetings in closed sessions; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County conduct a portion of its meeting on Monday, July 2, 2001, in Room 120 of the Carver Educational Services Center to meet in closed sessions from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. to discuss personnel matters, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(1) of the *State Government Article*, consult with counsel to obtain legal advice, as permitted by Section 10-508(a)(7) of the *State Government Article*; and review and adjudicate appeals in its quasi-judicial capacity and to discuss matters of an executive function outside the purview of the Open Meetings Act (Section 10-503(a) of the *State Government Article*); and be it further

Resolved, That such meetings shall continue in closed session until the completion of business.

Re: REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION

On June 12, 2001, by unanimous vote of members present, the Board of Education voted to conduct closed sessions as permitted under the *Education Article* § 4-107 and *State Government Article* § 10-501, *et seq.*, of the *Annotated Code of Maryland*.

The Montgomery County Board of Education met in closed sessions on June 12, 2001, from 9:05 to 10:10 a.m. and 1:05 to 1:35 p.m. in Room 120 of the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, and

1. Reviewed and/or adjudicated the following appeals: 2001-7, 2001-17, 2001-19, 2001-20, 2001-22, T-2001-4, T-2001-5, T-2001-6, T-2001-7, T-2001-8, T-2001-9, T-2001-11, and T-2001-12.
2. Reviewed the Superintendent's recommendations for personnel appointments, Human Resources Monthly Report, and retirements, subsequent to which the votes to approve all items were taken in open session.
3. Considered the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.
4. Consulted with counsel to receive legal advice as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(7) of the *State Government Article*.
5. Discussed matters of an executive function outside the purview of the Open Meetings Act (Section 10-503(a) of the *State Government Article*).

In attendance at the closed session were: Steve Abrams, Elizabeth Arons, Larry Bowers, Kermit Burnett, Sharon Cox, Reggie Felton, Theresa Flak, Dick Hawes, Jay Headman, Roland Ikheloa, Dustin Jeter, Nancy King, Walter Lange, Freida Lacey, Christopher Lloyd, George Margolies, Louis Martinez, Pat O'Neill, Brian Porter, Glenda Rose, Maree Sneed, Frank Stetson, Roger Titus, Janice Turpin, Jerry Weast, and James Williams.

RESOLUTION NO. 353-01 Re: **BOARD APPEAL – 2001-19**

On motion of Mr. Burnett and seconded by Mr. Felton, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2001-19, student suspension, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Abrams, Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Mrs. King, and Mrs. O'Neill voting to affirm; Mr. Lange and Mr. Lloyd were absent when the case was adjudicated.

RESOLUTION NO. 354-01 Re: **BOARD APPEAL – 2001-22**

On motion of Mr. Burnett and seconded by Mr. Felton, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2001-22, student schedule, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, and Mrs. King voting to affirm; Mr. Abrams and Mr. Felton voting to reverse; Mrs. O'Neill recusing; Mr. Lange and Mr. Lloyd were absent when the case was adjudicated (absent a majority of the full Board to either affirm or reverse, the decision of the deputy superintendent stands).

RESOLUTION NO. 355-01 Re: **BOARD APPEAL – 2001-32**

On motion of Mr. Burnett and seconded by Mr. Felton, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Decision and Order in Appeal 2001-32, employee suspension, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Mrs. King, Mr. Lange, and Mrs. O'Neill voting to accept the superintendent's recommendation; Mr. Abrams was absent; Mr. Lloyd does not have a vote on negative employee appeals.

RESOLUTION NO. 356-01 Re: **BOARD APPEAL – T-2001-13**

On motion of Mr. Burnett and seconded by Mr. Felton, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Order in Appeal T-2001-13, student transfer, reflective of the following vote: Ms. Cox and Mr. Lloyd voting to affirm; Mr. Burnett, Mr. Felton, Mrs. King, Mr. Lange, and Mrs. O'Neill voting to reverse; Mr. Abrams was absent.

RESOLUTION NO. 357-01 Re: **BOARD APPEAL – T-2001-15**

On motion of Mr. Burnett and seconded by Mr. Felton, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Order in Appeal T-2001-15, student transfer, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Mrs. King, Mr. Lange, Mr. Lloyd, and Mrs. O'Neill voting to reverse; Mr. Abrams was absent.

RESOLUTION NO. 358-01 Re: **BOARD APPEAL – T-2001-16**

On motion of Mr. Burnett and seconded by Mr. Felton, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt its Order in Appeal T-2001-16, student transfer, reflective of the following vote: Mr. Lloyd voting to affirm; Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Mrs. King, Mr. Lange, and Mrs. O'Neill voting to reverse; Mr. Abrams was absent.

Re: **MASCOT ISSUE AT POOLESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL**

On June 12, 2001, Mr. Abrams moved and Mr. Felton seconded the following:

Resolved, That the Board of Education review and take action on the school mascot issue at Poolesville High School.

(The resolution was deferred until July 2, 2001, when Mr. Abrams would be present.)

RESOLUTION NO. 359-01 Re: **BUDGET FOR RESEARCH**

On motion of Mr. Felton and seconded by Mrs. O'Neill, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education direct the superintendent to consider establishing a line item for research and small studies as the Board considers matters of policy.

RESOLUTION NO. 360-01 Re: **PRIVATE DONATIONS FOR PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS ON CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS**

On motion of Ms. Cox and seconded by Mr. Felton, the following resolution was adopted with Mr. Burnett, Ms. Cox, Mr. Felton, Mr. Lange, Mr. Lloyd, and Mrs. O'Neill voting in the affirmative; Mrs. King voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the Board of Education obtain recommendations from the superintendent and

review policy relating to private donations for project improvements on construction projects.

Re: **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

RESOLUTION NO. 361-01 Re: **ADJOURNMENT**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. O'Neill seconded by Ms. Cox, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting of June 25, 2001, at 11:40 p.m.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

JDW:gr

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SUMMARY SHEET

June 25, 2001

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