

APPROVED
9-2006

Rockville, Maryland
March 14, 2006

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in regular session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Tuesday, March 14, 2006, at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Dr. Charles Haughey, President
in the Chair
Mr. Steve Abrams
Ms. Sharon W. Cox
Ms. Valerie Ervin
Mrs. Nancy Navarro
Mrs. Patricia O'Neill
Mr. Gabriel Romero
Mr. Sebastian Johnson, Student Board Member
Dr. Jerry Weast, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: None

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

RESOLUTION NO. 120-06 Re: **RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSIONS**

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

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 closed sessions on March 14, 2006, in Room 120 from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. and 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County

1. Discuss the Human Resources Monthly Report, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(1) of the *State Government Article*
2. Consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(3) of the *State Government Article* and Section 4-107(d) of the *Education Article*
3. 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 sessions on March 14, 2006, 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 the meeting continue in closed session until the completion of business.

RESOLUTION NO. 121-06 Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Abrams seconded by Ms. Cox, the following resolution was adopted with Mr. Abrams, Ms. Cox, Ms. Ervin, Dr. Haughey, Mrs. Navarro, Mrs. O'Neill, and Mr. Romero voting in the affirmative; Mr. Johnson voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the Board of Education amend its agenda to add a discussion item after action on Policy ABA entitled, "Next Steps on the Kendall/Seven Locks Situation."

RESOLUTION NO. 121-06 Re: **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Abrams seconded by Ms. Cox, the following resolution, as amended, was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approved its agenda for March 14, 2006.

RESOLUTION NO. 123-06 Re: **DEATH OF ROSE C. KRAMER**

On recommendation of the Board President and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The death on March 3, 2006, of Rose C. Kramer, former Member of the Montgomery County Board of Education, at the age of 94, has resulted in a tremendous loss to this community; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Kramer, won election to the Board of Education in 1954 in the first general election after the General Assembly changed the law from an appointed board to an elected board; and

WHEREAS, During her tenure on the Board of Education from 1955-1960, Mrs. Kramer played a pivotal role in the integration of the school system, introducing the historic Statement of Policy on Integration adopted by the Board of Education on March 21, 1955;

and

WHEREAS, Following her tenure on the Board of Education, Mrs. Kramer served a four-year term on the Montgomery County Council from 1966-1970; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Kramer, well into her nineties, continued to share her knowledge, insight, and experiences with her fellow citizens, as evidenced by her active participation in our 2004 commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court's landmark decision of *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education express its sorrow upon the death of Rose C. Kramer and express deepest sympathy to her family, while celebrating her remarkable life and the contributions she made to this school system and county.

RESOLUTION NO. 124-06 Re: **ITEM OF LEGISLATION**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education support **HB 353 – Teachers and School Administrators – Sexual Contact with Students – Prohibition** which would prohibit a person in a position of authority from engaging in a sexual act with a minor who, at the time of the act, is a student enrolled at a school where the person is employed, and a violator would be guilty of the misdemeanor of fourth degree sexual offense and subject to maximum penalties of imprisonment for one year and/or a fine of \$1,000.

RESOLUTION NO. 125-06 Re: **ITEM OF LEGISLATION**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education support **HB 378 – Crimes – Restitution – Victims and Payments** which would expand the list of entities (including school boards) to which restitution can be ordered to be paid for the commission of offenses relating to destructive devices and toxic materials; would expand the list of persons to whom a court is authorized to order restitution; would establish the priority of payment of restitution to a victim; and establishes that the Department of Juvenile Services shall forward specified restitution to a specified person or governmental unit.

RESOLUTION NO. 126-06 Re: **ITEM OF LEGISLATION**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education oppose **HB 954 – Education – Number of School Days and School Hours – Increase** which would phase in over a three-year period an increase in the number of school days and minimum school hours that a public school is required to be open for pupil attendance each year. Currently, schools are required to provide instruction at a minimum of 180 days and 1080 hours for elementary and middle schools, and 1170 hours at the high school level.

RESOLUTION NO. 127-06 Re: **ITEM OF LEGISLATION**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education oppose **HB 1531 – Education – Public Schools and Institutions of Higher Education – Academic Freedom Acts** which would specify teacher and faculty rights and protections relating to the expression of scientific views in applicable curricula and course of learning; specify protections relating to employment and against discrimination relative to the presentation of specified information; and specify student protections.

RESOLUTION NO. 128-06 Re: **ITEM OF LEGISLATION**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education oppose **SB 600 – Education – Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists – Licensing Fee Reimbursement** which would require local boards of education to reimburse audiologists and speech-language pathologists for their licensing fees if they: (1) provide audiology and speech-language services on a third-party billing basis in schools; and (2) are licensed by the State Board of Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, and Speech-Language Pathologists.

RESOLUTION NO. 129-06 Re: **ITEM OF LEGISLATION**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education oppose **SB 621 – Education – Student Absence from School to Participate in Agriculture Programs or Activities** which would specify that a student participating in an agriculture program or activity that is sponsored, conducted, or sanctioned by specified organizations not be deemed absent from school or assessed a penalty for the absence.

Re: **DISCUSSION**

Mr. Abrams asked staff to get information on the bill introduced by a Rockville legislator that would authorize a special tax for adequate public facilities.

Re: **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following people testified before the Board of Education:

	<u>Person</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1.	Sandra Max	Bells Mill Elementary School
2.	Marion Cantor	Bells Mill Elementary School
3.	Mindi Cohen	Bells Mill Elementary School
4.	Greer Dellaflora	Bells Mill Elementary School
5.	Fran Simons	Hampshire Greens Resolution
6.	Leslie Ridgway	Hampshire Greens Resolution
7.	Lisa Edgley	Hampshire Greens Resolution
8.	Jesse Brande	Hampshire Greens Resolution
9.	Gareth Owen	Hampshire Greens Resolution
10.	Natasha Chopra	Hampshire Greens Resolution
11.	Betsy Sirk	Hampshire Greens Resolution
12.	Darnell Daisey	Hampshire Greens Resolution
13.	Sarita Winter	Hampshire Greens Resolution
14.	Sarah Hund	Sex Education Curriculum
15.	Michelle Turner	COMAR

Re: **DISCUSSION**

Mr. Romero inquired about the addition schedule for Bells Mill Elementary School. Mr. Bowers suggested that staff prepare a written history on facilities issues at the school.

Mrs. Navarro asked about the health issues regarding the portables at Bells Mill Elementary, and she knew that staff would work out the funding and logistics to ameliorate that situation. Dr. Weast reaffirmed the school system's commitment to replace two of the portables, and staff will continue to monitor all portables.

Mr. Abrams wanted the following information: (1) current CIP for the number of portables to be replaced; (2) standard for portable replacement; (3) evidence required for indoor/outdoor air quality for replacements; and (4) if there has been an attempt to reclaim the Potomac Recreation Center for use as a public school.

Ms. Cox thanked Bells Mill community members for advocating for their school, and she encouraged them to become involved in the MCCPTA leadership.

Re: BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Dr. Weast commented that Mrs. O'Neill has just received a very prestigious award from the Education Commission of the States, the National School Boards Association, and the American Association of School Administrators. She has been named one of 100 District Leaders for Citizenship and Service Learning, a newly formed national network of district superintendents and school board members.

Dr. Weast continued that Dr. Frieda Lacey has received the Nancy S. Grasmick Excellence for Minority Achievement Award, sponsored by the Achievement Initiative for Maryland's Minority Students Council. The award recognizes those who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in promoting student excellence through equity in education at either the state or local level. This recognition from education, business, and civic leaders from throughout Maryland who serve on the Council pays tribute to Dr. Lacey's commitment to removing barriers to student achievement and to providing opportunities for success for all children.

Dr. Weast announced that two senior girls from Montgomery Blair High School are among the 40 finalists in the 65th Annual Intel Science Search. The MCPS finalists are: Minh-Phuong Huynh-Le and Yuan Zhang.

Dr. Weast commented further that The College Board has named Wheaton High School one of nine national finalists in the 2006 Inspiration Awards program. The annual awards honor three outstanding secondary schools for exemplary work in improving the academic environment for students with economic and cultural barriers to academic success. Three winning schools each will receive \$25,000.

Mr. Romero appreciated the Sherwood Cluster for the meeting and the history of the area. He thanked the student, parents, and teachers for their participation.

Mrs. O'Neill commented that Walt Whitman High School won the State 4A basketball champion. It was a great game, and the sportsmanship was outstanding. Mrs. O'Neill congratulated Clara Floyd for being elected president of the Maryland State Teachers Association.

Mr. Abrams stated that the new agenda item will focus on next steps on the Kendall/Seven Locks situation. He wanted to take this opportunity to cover prior activities. He was taken back by the events of the last few weeks, especially by spin versus facts between the Board and the County Council based on the inspector general's report and a Capital Improvement Program decision. Additionally, the president of the Council gave his spin on an agreement that was signed Mr. Michael Subin, Dr. Haughey, and himself. The Washington Post reported on the futile attempts by one Council member to overextend the role of the Council into the jurisdiction of the federal government. Another futile attempt is comments by the members of the Council during the recent public hearing in defending a

non-response to a letter from the inspector general regarding his authority to pursue certain activities. The Council has become more assertive and has created friction where there was once clarity between the bodies. He was hopeful that the next steps will reestablish clarification. He challenged Councilman Denis to provide evidence that suggests there is a parallel between the Seven Locks replacement school and the Clarksburg matter.

Mrs. Navarro thanked the parents and students who attended the Latino Education Coalition meeting. There was a meeting with the Embassy of South Africa that extended an invitation for MCPS to participate in a children's literature exhibit.

Mr. Johnson thanked the Sherwood Cluster, especially the students. He has visited schools including Springbrook High School, Brooke Grove Elementary School, and Quince Orchard High School. Nationally, he had received offers from Hawaii, Kentucky, and New York to speak to students. He reported he was working with the National School Boards Association to develop a national network of student board members. There is an organization seeking one million signatures to support education as a civil right.

Dr. Haughey reported that he met with representatives from the Japanese Embassy, and they wanted more information on planning to replicate some initiatives in Japan.

Re: **TENTATIVE ACTION OF POLICY ABA –
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

On motion of the Policy Committee, the following resolution was placed on the table:

WHEREAS, Policy ABA, *Community Involvement*, reflects the ongoing collaboration and communication among schools, offices, departments, divisions, and stakeholders that are critical to support students and families; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education Policy Committee has considered and recommended revisions to Policy ABA, *Community Involvement*, and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education has received the Policy Committee's recommendation; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education take tentative action on Policy ABA, *Community Involvement*, and be it further

Resolved, That Policy ABA, *Community Involvement*, be sent out for public comment.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

A. PURPOSE

The Board of Education is committed to fostering and supporting community interest and involvement in the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) because citizen support of the schools is essential to student success. The Board of Education will ensure the ideas, interests, and concerns of its stakeholders are considered and valued in decision-making processes and that input and involvement is sought and encouraged from a broad spectrum of our diverse community. The Board is committed to the maintenance and monitoring of ongoing collaborative and productive communication processes with the community.

B. ISSUE

Creating processes for community involvement in a large, diverse community such as Montgomery County presents challenges and opportunities. Ensuring that the members of the community are encouraged, supported, and recruited to contribute time, knowledge, skills, and ideas to the public school system is both challenging and essential. Commitment and resources are required to design, maintain, and monitor processes for productive collaboration and communication between MCPS and the community. These processes must create an environment where diverse views can be heard and considered in an atmosphere of respect.

C. DEFINITIONS

1. *Community Involvement* ensures that the breadth of interests and values from across the community are heard and considered by the Board of Education, superintendent, principals, and other educational leaders, thereby enhancing the decision-making process.
2. *Community* is comprised of numerous constituents with a vested interest in the education of children. Some of these constituents include, but are not limited to, Montgomery County residents, advocacy, nonprofit, parent or community-based organizations; business, civic and non-government organizations; local postsecondary educational institutions; state and federal agencies; and cultural, ethnic, racial and religious groups.

D. POSITION

1. As part of its responsibility as a community member, the Board of Education will:

- a. Develop its role as an advocate, using the best interest of the students as a guiding principle
 - b. Engage community members in building an organizational culture of respect
 - c. Establish processes for community involvement through the use of Advisory Committees (See Board of Education Policy BMA: *Board of Education Advisory Committees*)
 - d. Ensure community involvement by utilizing opportunities for input such as, but not limited to, hearings, forums, and public comment
 - e. Solicit and consider community comments and concerns regarding the development of Board of Education policies and other decisions
 - f. Seek to engage members of our diverse community, particularly organizations representing new or traditionally underrepresented communities, in a committed, productive partnership to support the MCPS strategic plan
 - g. Advocate for MCPS students and their families through engagement with local, state, and federal government agencies
2. As part of its responsibility as a community member, the school system offices will:
- a. Integrate resources and services from the community to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning and development
 - b. Seek collaboration with a broad range of community members and organizations that reflect the diverse citizenry and interests of Montgomery County
 - c. Seek and support the involvement of local organizations, particularly organizations representing new or traditionally underrepresented communities, in the school system
 - d. Provide access and opportunity for broad segments of the community, representing the wide variety of interests within the community, to participate in decision-making processes

- e. Provide, to the extent possible, translations of important information about school system programs, services, policies, or issues
3. As part of its responsibility as a community member, each school will:
- a. Seek involvement from the community and provide opportunities to strengthen the home/school connection
 - b. Establish and maintain regular and continuous two-way communication with families and the community to provide information and solicit feedback about school progress, resources, policies, and issues
 - c. Provide, to the extent possible, information in the native languages of members of the school community
 - d. Access community services to support and foster academic achievement and positive development for all students
 - e. Participate actively and responsibly in the life and social fabric of the local community

E. DESIRED OUTCOME

There will be an actively engaged community that is reflective of all residents. The system will benefit from the community's contribution of its skills, knowledge, ideas, and time to support the success of all students in partnership with MCPS.

F. REVIEW AND REPORTING

This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the Board of Education policy review process.

**Ms. Ervin and Mr. Johnson temporarily left the meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 130-06

Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO POLICY ABA – COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill and seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following amendment was adopted unanimously by those present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education amend Policy ABA at C.1. to read:

Community Involvement **seeks to** ensure that the breadth of interests and values from across the community are heard and considered by the Board of Education, superintendent, principals, and other educational leaders, thereby enhancing the decision-making process.

RESOLUTION NO. 131-06 Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO POLICY ABA – *COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT***

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill and seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following amendment was adopted unanimously by those present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education amend Policy ABA at C.2. to read:

Community is comprised of numerous constituents with a vested interest in the education of children. Some of these constituents **may** include, but are not limited to, Montgomery County residents, advocacy, nonprofit, parent or community-based organizations; business, civic and non-government organizations; local postsecondary educational institutions; state and federal agencies; and cultural, ethnic, racial and religious groups.

**Mr. Johnson rejoined the meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 132-06 Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO POLICY ABA – *COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT***

On motion of Mrs. O'Neill and seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following amendment was adopted unanimously by those present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education amend Policy ABA at C.2. to read:

Community is comprised of numerous constituents with a vested interest in the education of children. Some of these constituents may include, but are not limited to, Montgomery County residents, advocacy, nonprofit, parent or community-based organizations; business, civic and non-government organizations; local postsecondary educational institutions; state, **local** and federal agencies; and cultural, ethnic, racial and religious groups.

**Ms. Ervin rejoined the meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 133-06 Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO POLICY ABA – *COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT***

On motion of Ms. Cox and seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following amendment was adopted unanimously by those present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education amend Policy ABA at D.3.b. to read:

Establish and maintain regular and **ongoing** ~~continuous~~ two-way communication with families and the community to provide information and solicit feedback about school progress, resources, policies, and issues

RESOLUTION NO. 134-06 Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO POLICY ABA – COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

On motion of Mr. Romero and seconded by Ms. Cox, the following amendment was adopted unanimously by those present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education amend Policy ABA at D.1.a. to read:

Develop and **seek to expand** its role as an advocate, using the best interest of the students as a guiding principle

RESOLUTION NO. 135-06 Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO POLICY ABA – COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

On motion of Ms. Cox and seconded by Mr. Abrams, the following amendment was adopted unanimously by those present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education amend Policy ABA at D.2.e. to read:

Provide, to the extent possible, **interpretation services and** translations of important information about school system programs, services, policies, or issues

RESOLUTION NO. 136-06 Re: **TENTATIVE ACTION OF POLICY ABA – COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

On motion of the Policy Committee, the following amended resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Policy ABA, *Community Involvement*, reflects the ongoing collaboration and communication among schools, offices, departments, divisions, and stakeholders that are critical to support students and families; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education Policy Committee has considered and recommended revisions to Policy ABA, *Community Involvement*; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education has received the Policy Committee's recommendation; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education take tentative action on Policy ABA, *Community Involvement*, and be it further

Resolved, That Policy ABA, *Community Involvement*, be sent out for public comment.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

A. PURPOSE

The Board of Education is committed to fostering and supporting community interest and involvement in the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) because citizen support of the schools is essential to student success. The Board of Education will ensure the ideas, interests, and concerns of its stakeholders are considered and valued in decision-making processes and that input and involvement is sought and encouraged from a broad spectrum of our diverse community. The Board is committed to the maintenance and monitoring of ongoing collaborative and productive communication processes with the community.

B. ISSUE

Creating processes for community involvement in a large, diverse community such as Montgomery County presents challenges and opportunities. Ensuring that the members of the community are encouraged, supported, and recruited to contribute time, knowledge, skills, and ideas to the public school system is both challenging and essential. Commitment and resources are required to design, maintain, and monitor processes for productive collaboration and communication between MCPS and the community. These processes must create an environment where diverse views can be heard and considered in an atmosphere of respect.

C. DEFINITIONS

1. *Community Involvement* seeks to ensure that the breadth of interests and values from across the community are heard and considered by the Board of Education, superintendent, principals, and other educational leaders, thereby enhancing the decision-making process.
2. *Community* is comprised of numerous constituents with a vested interest in the education of children. Some of these constituents may include, but are not limited to, Montgomery County residents, advocacy, nonprofit, parent or community-based organizations; business, civic and non-government organizations; local postsecondary educational institutions; state, local and federal agencies; and cultural, ethnic, racial and religious groups.

D. POSITION

1. As part of its responsibility as a community member, the Board of Education will:
 - a. Develop and seek to expand its role as an advocate, using the best interest of the students as a guiding principle
 - b. Engage community members in building an organizational culture of respect
 - c. Establish processes for community involvement through the use of Advisory Committees (See Board of Education Policy BMA: *Board of Education Advisory Committees*)
 - d. Ensure community involvement by utilizing opportunities for input such as, but not limited to, hearings, forums, and public comment
 - e. Solicit and consider community comments and concerns regarding the development of Board of Education policies and other decisions
 - f. Seek to engage members of our diverse community, particularly organizations representing new or traditionally underrepresented communities, in a committed, productive partnership to support the MCPS strategic plan
 - g. Advocate for MCPS students and their families through engagement with local, state, and federal government agencies
2. As part of its responsibility as a community member, the school system through its offices will:
 - a. Integrate resources and services from the community to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning and development
 - b. Seek collaboration with a broad range of community members and organizations that reflect the diverse citizenry and interests of Montgomery County
 - c. Seek and support the involvement of local organizations, particularly organizations representing new or traditionally underrepresented communities, in the school system

- d. Provide access and opportunity for broad segments of the community, representing the wide variety of interests within the community, to participate in decision-making processes
 - e. Provide, to the extent possible, interpretation services and translations of important information about school system programs, services, policies, or issues
3. As part of its responsibility as a community member, each school will:
- a. Seek involvement from the community and provide opportunities to strengthen the home/school connection
 - b. Establish and maintain regular and ongoing two-way communication with families and the community to provide information and solicit feedback about school progress, resources, policies, and issues
 - c. Provide, to the extent possible, information in the native languages of members of the school community
 - d. Access community services to support and foster academic achievement and positive development for all students
 - e. Participate actively and responsibly in the life and social fabric of the local community

E. DESIRED OUTCOME

There will be an actively engaged community that is reflective of all residents. The system will benefit from the community's contribution of its skills, knowledge, ideas, and time to support the success of all students in partnership with MCPS.

F. REVIEW AND REPORTING

This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the Board of Education policy review process.

Re: **NEXT STEPS ON THE KENDALE/SEVEN LOCKS SITUATION**

Mr. Abrams thought there was a need to clarify on how the Board operates as it relates to this issue. There have been questions on the process that has been used in the past; authority of officers to speak on behalf of the Board; what it means when the Board is polled; and how the polling is signed off and conveyed. The reason he brought it to the

Board table was to get clarification and the next steps in this confused circumstance. For example, he received a call from a cluster coordinator inquiring who was in control of this situation. The Board must lay out its expectations and be informed about the process. The first question is: has the Potomac Elementary School community raised issues about the validity of a decision. Is there verification? Dr. Weast thought it was hard to determine the official source of the information.

Mr. Abrams stated that if a decision has been made, it needs to be conveyed appropriately to the Board. Whether there is agreement or not on the jurisdiction of the inspector general, transparency should be the goal so that everyone in the cluster knows what is happening. Dr. Haughey replied that there is a scouting team of representatives of the school system and the council.

Mr. Abrams stated that when he offered an amendment to expand it to the entire cluster, there could have been a second. The work group will be looking at the entire Churchill Cluster as to capacity issues and any other alternatives. Is it limited to that cluster? Dr. Weast stated that there are many recommendations that can be considered, considering the geographic area and the projected enrollment.

Mr. Abrams asked if elementary schools adjacent to the Churchill Cluster would be considered, such as Carderock Springs. Dr. Weast thought it was about getting children in buildings and not portables. The council and MCPS staff will examine this issue, and Carderock Springs would be considered.

Mrs. O'Neill thanked Dr. Haughey for working with the Council president and the Education Committee. It is appropriate to step back and take another look at the process with complicated issues. There are concerns in the Churchill Cluster that are not limited to Seven Locks and Potomac elementary schools.

Mr. Abrams wanted to help the public understand the process. Then, what happens with the recommendations from the work group? Dr. Weast pointed out that Seven Locks Elementary School is one of the smallest schools in the county. There had been a plan to do an addition and modernization, but that got out of sync. Everyone has agreed to look at all the options through a fair and open process.

Mr. Abrams noted that the Bells Mill parents came to the Board at this meeting asking for immediate relief with the portables. They were thinking that schedules could be changed quickly. He did not want anyone to have a misconception on what can and cannot be done. He wanted them to know who and where to intervene with the proper process. Under the *Education Article*, he thought that capital considerations have to be addressed by the Board, and those decisions cannot be imposed on the Board. The process to deal with capital issues takes time. It is nice to talk about transparency, but at the same time an ad hoc process is being created.

Dr. Haughey explained that the first task of the work group is to identify the scope of the study. The Council has not yet acted on the capital budget, and with the input from the work group decisions will be possible.

Ms. Cox stated that Dr. Haughey has not committed the Board to anything but a collaborative process to review issues and make decisions on the interests of children. The goal is to find a new approach to alleviate overcrowding in elementary schools in the Churchill Cluster, not just one school. In exploring all options, does it mean that Bells Mill and Potomac elementary schools would get new buildings to address capacity before 2010? Was there any discussion on the parameters? Dr. Haughey explained that was part of the work group's decision on the scope of the study.

Ms. Cox asked if there were discussions on the weight given to the interests of those in the cluster. Also, what are the implications for the other areas in the county? There are 22 additions across the county still to be determined and 12 modernizations.

Ms. Cox corrected Mr. Abrams in that the *Education Article* allows for the County Council to adopt amendments. But, they must provide the Board with notice before it becomes final with a 30-day response period. If there are changes in the Churchill Cluster, what are the implications for the other clusters?

Mrs. Navarro expressed gratitude for the work to set a work group to explore options and the parameters of the study.

Mrs. O'Neill commented on the elementary schools in the Churchill Cluster. Mr. Abrams brought up the name of Carderock Springs, and there is a need to communicate clearly on what is being addressed.

Mr. Romero was concerned that the work group look at the issue very objectively. Since the Board has followed a process, he wanted the work group to be very careful about their recommendations and not set a precedent.

Re: **LUNCH AND CLOSED SESSION**

The Board of Education recessed for lunch and closed session from 12:35 to 2:00 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 137-06

Re: **CONTRACTS OF \$25,000 OR MORE**

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

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of equipment, supplies, and contractual services; and

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted and/or identified for the purchase of copier systems through Contract No. 4139.1; and

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted and/or identified for the purchase of a DocuTech copier/ printer through Contract No. 4163.2; and

WHEREAS, The acquisition of copier systems and a DocuTech copier/printer through lease/purchase arrangements has been reviewed by legal counsel; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the copier systems through Contract No. 4139.1 in the amount of \$44,471 be lease/purchased for a five-year term under the Master Lease/Purchase Agreement with Carlyle Financial Services; and be it further

Resolved, That a DocuTech copier/printer through Contract No. 4163.2 in the amount of \$151,450 be lease/purchased for a five-year term under the Master Lease/Purchase Agreement with Carlyle Financial Services; and be it further

Resolved, That the proceeds from the financing be used to reimburse Montgomery County Public Schools' accounts to the extent that such equipment will be acquired before closing; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board president and superintendent be authorized to execute the documents necessary for these transactions; and be it further

Resolved, That having been duly advertised, the following contracts be awarded to the low bidders meeting specification as shown below:

45070 00129AC	Unleaded Gasoline—Extension		
	<u>Awardee</u>		
	Truman Arnold Companies	\$	400,000
4060.3	Modular Computer Furniture—Extension		
	<u>Awardees</u>		
	Contract Furniture Options, Inc.*	\$	3,049
	Douron, Inc.*		150,246
	Glover Equipment, Inc.		<u>114,564</u>
	Total	\$	267,859
4062.8	Art Supplies		
	<u>Awardees</u>		
	AFP Industries, Inc.*	\$	288

	Commercial Art Supply	4,406
	Dick Blick East	5,191
	Elgin School Supply Company, Inc.	1,894
	Integrity School Supplies*	9,723
	Interstate Office Supply Company*	1,245
	Pyramid School Products	73,939
	Sax Arts and Crafts	60,874
	Standard Stationery Supply Company	25,186
	Windtree Enterprises, Inc.	14,928
	Henry S. Wolkins Company, Inc.*	<u>47,757</u>
	Total	\$ 245,431
4064.8	Ceramic Supplies	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Campbells Ceramics Supply Company	\$ 61,419
	Ceramic Supply of New York and New Jersey	506
	Pyramid School Products	887
	Sax Arts and Crafts	706
	Windtree Enterprises, Inc.	<u>3,824</u>
	Total	\$ 67,342
4087.7	Media Center Supplies	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Brodart Company	\$ 12,221
	Demco, Inc.	1,696
	Gaylord Brothers, Inc.	5,180
	On Time Label	12,763
	Pyramid School Products	22,640
	Smith Office and Computer Supply	<u>84,399</u>
	Total	\$ 138,899
4088.6	Laminating Supplies	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	AFP Industries, Inc.*	\$ 9,200
	Kunz, Inc.*	4,537
	Pyramid School Products	112,000
	Scott Electric	2,368
	Smith Office and Computer Supply	9,401
	Spiral Binding Company	<u>57,585</u>
	Total	\$ 195,091

4123.2	Library Furniture—Extension		
	<u>Awardees</u>		
	Brodart Company	\$	1,101
	Douron, Inc.*		56,390
	Glover Equipment, Inc.		6,533
	Highsmith, Inc.		<u>4,033</u>
	Total	\$	68,057
4138.1	Copier Systems		
	<u>Awardee</u>		
	BCE Corporation*	\$	44,471
4142.1	Purchase of Uniforms—Extension		
	<u>Awardee</u>		
	Classic Custom Products*	\$	155,432
4162.2	DocuTech Copier/Printer—Extension		
	<u>Awardee</u>		
	Xerox Corporation	\$	151,450
7093.2	Aftermarket Automotive Parts—Extension		
	<u>Awardees</u> (See note)		
	Alban Engine Power Systems		
	American Truck and Bus, Inc.		
	Arrow Auto Parts		
	Criswell Chevrolet, Inc.		
	Delcoline, Inc.		
	Harco Auto Electric and Parts		
	Jasper Engines and Transmissions		
	Johnson and Towers, Inc.		
	Keller Truck Parts, Inc.		
	Kingmor Supply, Inc.		
	Looper Servicenter, Inc.		
	Middleton and Meads Company, Inc.		
	K. Neal International Trucks, Inc.		
	Northern Virginia Supply, Inc.		
	Ourisman's Rockmont Chevrolet		
	Parts Distributors, LLC*		
	School Bus Parts Company		

	Vehicle Maintenance Program, Inc.*	
	Wareheim Air Brakes, Inc.	
	Total	\$3,000,000
9001.4	Door Hardware, Closures and Exit Devices—Extension	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Clark Security Products	\$ 50,000
	Liberty Lock and Security, Inc.	5,000
	Taylor Security and Lock Company, Inc.	<u>205,000</u>
	Total	\$ 260,000
9002.3	Hardware Supplies—Extension	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	MSF County Services Company	\$ 104,311
	Pikesville Lumber Company	<u>2,802</u>
	Total	\$ 107,113
9015.4	Electrical Supplies and Equipment	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Atlantic Electric Supply Corporation	\$ 19,281
	Consolidated Electrical District, Inc.	2,407
	Fastenal Company	11,205
	Grainger, Inc.	16,142
	Graybar Electric Company, Inc.	49,986
	Maurice Electric Supply Company, Inc.	115,093
	C. N. Robinson Lighting Supply Company	85,444
	United Electric Supply	<u>288,758</u>
	Total	\$ 588,316
9056.5	Baseball Supplies and Equipment—Extension	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Anaconda Sports, Inc.	\$ 11,658
	Cannon Sports, Inc.*	1,891
	Bill Fritz Sports Corporation	12,876
	Passon's Sports	<u>3,925</u>
	Total	\$ 30,350
9068.7	Softball Supplies and Equipment	

	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Anaconda Sports, Inc.	\$ 17,294
	Passon's Sports	4,910
	Sportmaster	18,638
	Sports Stop, Inc.	<u>11,894</u>
	Total	\$ 52,736
9083.4	Physical Education Supplies and Equipment	
	<u>Awardees</u>	
	Aluminum Athletic Equipment Company	\$ 9,602
	Bremen Company, Inc.	3,180
	Cannon Sports, Inc.*	23,859
	Deary's Gymnastics Supply	40,064
	DVF Sporting Goods Company	505
	Flaghouse, Inc.	1,610
	Gregg United Sports, Inc.	3,853
	JDL Equipment Company	8,439
	Greg Larson Sports	3,546
	MF Athletic Company	4,050
	Passon's Sports	168,821
	Pyramid School Products	11,504
	Resilite Sports Products, Inc.	27,430
	S & S Worldwide	791
	Henry Schein, Inc.	2,706
	Sportime LLC	7,888
	Sportmaster	11,138
	Sports Imports, Inc.	44,013
	Sports Stop, Inc.	8,421
	Sportsman's	<u>3,919</u>
	Total	\$ 385,339
9106.4	Uniforms for the Division of Food and Nutrition Services—Extension	
	<u>Awardee</u>	
	Superior Uniform Group	\$ 45,000
9162.3	Tennis Court Color Coating and Accessories**	
	<u>Awardee</u>	
	American Tennis Courts*	\$ 370,576
9180.2	Masonry Thru-Wall Flashing and Waterproofing—Extension**	

	<u>Awardee</u> Walker Willis/T/A Custom Masonry	\$ 70,000
9181.2	Concrete Removal and Replacement at various facilities**	
	<u>Awardee</u> Daco Construction Corporation*	\$ 40,000
9342.2	Repair and Replace Exterior Canopy Ceilings**	
	<u>Awardee</u> Walker Willis/T/A Custom Masonry	\$ 71,601
9397.1	Retaining Walls and Storm Management Modifications**	
	<u>Awardee</u> Walker Willis/T/A Custom Masonry	\$ 120,000
TOTAL PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS EXCEEDING \$25,000		\$6,875,063

* Denotes Minority-, Female-, or Disabled-owned Business

** Planned Life-cycle Asset Replacement Bid (PLAR)

NOTE: Contract amounts will be based on individual requirements.

RESOLUTION NO. 138-06 Re: **UTILIZATION OF THE FY 2006 PROVISION FOR
FUTURE SUPPORTED PROJECTS FUNDS**

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

WHEREAS, The grants qualify for a transfer of appropriation from the Provision for Future Supported Projects, pursuant to the provisions of County Council Resolution No. 15-631, approved May 27, 2005; and

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

WHEREAS, Sufficient appropriation is available, within the FY 2006 Provision for Future Supported Projects, to permit the transfers within state categories; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend, within the FY 2006 Provision for Future Supported Projects, as specified below:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Positions*</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Advanced Placement: Great Expectations Maryland Virtual High School Core Model in Science Education	1.0	\$ 10,000 160,787
Project OPEN: Online Professional Educators' Network	___	<u>20,000</u>
Total	<u>1.0</u>	<u>\$ 190,787</u>

Positions*

1.0 Teacher

and be it further

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

RESOLUTION NO. 139-06 Re: **HUMAN RESOURCES MONTHLY REPORT**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the Human Resources Monthly Report dated March 14, 2006.

RESOLUTION NO. 140-06 Re: **DEATH OF MS. LILLIAN M. BLACK, SPEECH PATHOLOGIST, SILVER SPRING INTERNATIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL**

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

WHEREAS, The death on January 15, 2006, of Ms. Lillian M. Black, speech pathologist at Silver Spring International Middle School, has deeply saddened the staff, students, and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, In the ten years that Ms. Black worked for Montgomery County Public Schools, she was recognized as a genuinely caring person, showing warmth and sincerity of commitment in her position; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Black's dedication to her students and willingness to go the extra mile made her a highly respected speech pathologist; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education and the superintendent of schools express their sorrow at the death of Lillian M. Black and extend deepest sympathy to her family; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be made a part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy be forwarded to Ms. Black's family.

RESOLUTION NO. 141-06 Re: **DEATH OF MS. TERESA GIRT-GLOVER, SCHOOL SECRETARY II, HERBERT HOOVER MIDDLE SCHOOL AND WINSTON CHURCHILL HIGH SCHOOL**

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

WHEREAS, The death on January 30, 2006, of Ms. Teresa Girt-Glover, school secretary II at Herbert Hoover Middle School and Winston Churchill High School, has deeply saddened the staff, students, and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, During the 24 years that Ms. Girt-Glover worked for Montgomery County Public Schools, she was very organized, dependable and reliable; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Girt-Glover possessed excellent human relation skills and responded positively to the needs of staff, students, and parents; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education and the superintendent of schools express their sorrow at the death of Teresa Girt-Glover and extend deepest sympathy to her family; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be made a part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy be forwarded to Ms. Girt-Glover's family.

RESOLUTION NO. 141(a)-06 Re: **DEATH OF NAIMEH RIZKALLAH, CAFETERIA WORKER I, DIVISION OF FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES**

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

WHEREAS, The death on January 30, 2006, of Ms. Naimeh Rizkallah, cafeteria worker I, at the Food Services Central Production Facility in the Division of Food and Nutrition Services, has deeply saddened the staff, students, and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, During the 16 years that Ms. Rizkallah worked for Montgomery County Public Schools, she was very dependable and reliable; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rizkallah possessed strong work habits and would make herself available to help all staff members whenever necessary; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education and the superintendent of schools express their sorrow at the death of Naimeh Rizkallah and extend deepest sympathy to her family; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be made a part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy be forwarded to Ms. Rizkallah's family.

Re: MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Bowers reported that this financial report reflects the actual financial condition of the MCPS as of January 31, 2006, and projections through June 30, 2006, based on program requirements and estimates made by primary and secondary account managers. At this time, revenues have a projected surplus of \$504,927, while expenses have a projected surplus of \$300,000. Staff will continue to closely monitor both revenues and expenditures.

**Mr. Romero temporarily left the meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 142-06

Re: TRANSFER OF THE ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM TO MONTGOMERY COLLEGE AND THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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

WHEREAS, In FY 1992, the Board of Education established an enterprise fund that currently includes adult education programs; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has collaborated with Montgomery College (MC) and Montgomery County Recreation Department (MCRD) to transfer the adult education program to these agencies that serve adults; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Adult Education Enterprise Fund be discontinued effective July 1, 2006; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to transfer the adult education programs to MC and MCRD effective July 1, 2006.

RESOLUTION NO. 143-06

Re: **FEES FOR SUMMER SCHOOL AND EVENING HIGH SCHOOL**

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

WHEREAS, The Board of Education approves tuition fees each year for summer school and evening high school programs; and

WHEREAS, Summer school and evening high school program costs continue to rise; and

WHEREAS, An extension in the length of the instructional program for the summer school middle school Focus on Mathematics course requires a fee increase; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the summer school revenue-based program full fees be increased by \$15 (from \$285 to \$300 for elementary courses and from \$250 and \$260 to \$265 and \$275 for high school core and non-core courses, respectively); and be it further

Resolved, That the on-line SAT preparation course fee be increased by \$20 (from \$345 to \$365); and be it further

Resolved, That the summer school minimal fee-based program course fee for middle school Focus on Mathematics be increased by \$25 (from \$50 to \$75) and all other minimal fee-based program fees be increased by \$5 (from \$135, \$90, and \$60 to \$140, \$95, and \$65 for ESOL and special education, middle school intervention, and high school essentials of algebra, respectively); and be it further

Resolved, That Evening High School tuition fees be increased by \$5 (from \$40 to \$45 for the full fee, from \$30 and \$20 to \$35 and \$25 for the reduced fees, and from \$105, \$80, \$65, and \$60 to \$110, \$85, \$70, and \$65 for those 21 years of age and over for the first through fourth courses, respectively).

** Mr. Romero rejoined the meeting.

Re: **FINAL ACTION ON POLICY JEB – EARLY ENTRANCE INTO PRE-KINDERGARTEN, KINDERGARTEN, AND FIRST GRADE**

On motion of the Policy Committee, the following resolution was placed on the table:

WHEREAS, On October 24, 2005, the Board of Education took tentative action to adopt Policy JEB, *Early Entrance to Prekindergarten, Kindergarten, and First Grade*, and sent it out for public comment; and

WHEREAS, On January 10, 2006, the Board decided that the tentatively adopted draft Policy JEB, *Early Entrance to Prekindergarten, Kindergarten, and First Grade*, be revised for consistency with the guidance provided by MSDE and that further public comment be sought; and

WHEREAS, The Policy Committee received and considered additional public comment; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt Policy JEB, *Early Entrance to Prekindergarten, Kindergarten, and First Grade* as revised, to become effective March 31, 2006.

Early Entrance to Prekindergarten, Kindergarten, and First Grade

A. PURPOSE

To ensure that the early years of a student's education provide the solid foundation critical to ongoing academic success. Since the first years are so essential to a successful long-term educational experience, every effort is made to ensure that students entering pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade are ready to learn and be successful. Balancing current understanding of the long-term effects of early education with the unique needs of each student requires careful consideration. The Board of Education, in accordance with state regulation, holds that generally students are best served when they enter school at the ages research indicates is most conducive to long-term success. However, this policy and state regulation have prescribed the consideration of the individual needs of students for early entrance.

B. ISSUES

The decision regarding early entrance to prekindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade requires careful consideration of all factors. The academic, social, and emotional readiness, as well as the student's physical development and well-being, must be weighed and institutional factors may also be considered. Sound decision making in the area of early entrance to prekindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade is dependent upon reliable information regarding a student's readiness and a thoughtful balancing of the myriad of factors implicated by the decision.

C. POSITION

It is the presumption of the Board of Education that students will enter prekindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade at the ages prescribed by state regulation. The Board of Education understands that students whose birth dates

closely miss the cut-off date for school attendance may have educational needs or demonstrated capabilities that warrant early admission to prekindergarten, kindergarten, or first grade.

1. Students from income-eligible families seeking early entrance into prekindergarten must demonstrate a need for early education, as identified by their readiness levels in developmental areas, warranting admission.
2. Students seeking early entrance to kindergarten must demonstrate capabilities warranting early admission.
3. Students seeking early entrance to first grade must demonstrate capabilities warranting early admission.
4. Decisions regarding early entrance must include consideration of the above regardless of race, color, gender, religion, ancestry, national origin, marital status, age, disability, or sexual orientation of children and/or their families. Institutional factors, such as capacity, may also be considered.

D. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

1. The superintendent will develop regulations for implementing this policy that will include a screening process for students whose birth dates occur within a six-week period beyond the state's prescribed admission date, as well as procedures for appealing decisions arising out of such screening.
2. All regulations developed in support of Board of Education adopted policies shall be sent to the Board as items of information.

E. REVIEW AND REPORTING

This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the Board of Education policy review process.

RESOLUTION NO. 144-06

Re: **AN AMENDMENT TO THE FINAL ACTION ON
POLICY JEB – EARLY ENTRANCE INTO PRE-
KINDERGARTEN, KINDERGARTEN, AND FIRST
GRADE**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education amend Policy JEB at C.1. to read:

~~Students from income eligible families seeking early entrance into Prekindergarten is available to income-eligible families as defined by state regulation. Those seeking early entrance into~~ prekindergarten must demonstrate a need for early education, as identified by their readiness levels in developmental areas, warranting admission.

RESOLUTION NO. 145-06 Re: **FINAL ACTION ON POLICY JEB – EARLY ENTRANCE INTO PRE-KINDERGARTEN, KINDERGARTEN, AND FIRST GRADE**

On motion of the Policy Committee, the following amended resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, On October 24, 2005, the Board of Education took tentative action to adopt Policy JEB, *Early Entrance to Prekindergarten, Kindergarten, and First Grade*, and sent it out for public comment; and

WHEREAS, On January 10, 2006, the Board decided that the tentatively adopted draft Policy JEB, *Early Entrance to Prekindergarten, Kindergarten, and First Grade*, be revised for consistency with the guidance provided by MSDE and that further public comment be sought; and

WHEREAS, The Policy Committee received and considered additional public comment; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt Policy JEB, *Early Entrance to Prekindergarten, Kindergarten, and First Grade* as revised, to become effective March 31, 2006.

Early Entrance to Prekindergarten, Kindergarten, and First Grade

A. PURPOSE

To ensure that the early years of a student's education provide the solid foundation critical to ongoing academic success. Since the first years are so essential to a successful long-term educational experience, every effort is made to ensure that students entering pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade are ready to learn and be successful. Balancing current understanding of the long-term effects of early education with the unique needs of each student requires careful consideration. The Board of Education, in accordance with state regulation, holds that generally students are best served when they enter school at the ages research indicates is most conducive to long-term success. However, this policy and state regulation have prescribed the consideration of the individual needs of students for early entrance.

B. ISSUES

The decision regarding early entrance to prekindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade requires careful consideration of all factors. The academic, social, and emotional readiness, as well as the student's physical development and well-being, must be weighed and institutional factors may also be considered. Sound decision making in the area of early entrance to prekindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade is dependent upon reliable information regarding a student's readiness and a thoughtful balancing of the myriad of factors implicated by the decision.

C. POSITION

It is the presumption of the Board of Education that students will enter prekindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade at the ages prescribed by state regulation. The Board of Education understands that students whose birth dates closely miss the cut-off date for school attendance may have educational needs or demonstrated capabilities that warrant early admission to prekindergarten, kindergarten, or first grade.

1. Prekindergarten is available to income-eligible families as defined by state regulation. Those seeking early entrance into prekindergarten must demonstrate a need for early education, as identified by their readiness levels in developmental areas, warranting admission.
2. Students seeking early entrance to kindergarten must demonstrate capabilities warranting early admission.

3. Students seeking early entrance to first grade must demonstrate capabilities warranting early admission.
4. Decisions regarding early entrance must include consideration of the above regardless of race, color, gender, religion, ancestry, national origin, marital status, age, disability, or sexual orientation of children and/or their families. Institutional factors, such as capacity, may also be considered.

D. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

1. The superintendent will develop regulations for implementing this policy that will include a screening process for students whose birth dates occur within a six-week period beyond the state's prescribed admission date, as well as procedures for appealing decisions arising out of such screening.
2. All regulations developed in support of Board of Education adopted policies shall be sent to the Board as items of information.

E. REVIEW AND REPORTING

This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the Board of Education policy review process.

** Mr. Romero temporarily left the meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 146-06

Re: **NAMING OF CLARKSBURG/DAMASCUS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #7**

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

WHEREAS, The School Naming Advisory Committee has submitted a report, dated February 22, 2006, ranking the following names for the Clarksburg/Damascus Elementary School #7, in order of preference: Little Bennett Elementary School; John G. Clark Elementary School; Kingsley Elementary School; Sandra Day O'Connor Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, The School Naming Committee reached consensus on the recommendation to name the facility Little Bennett Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Regulation FFA-RA, *Naming Schools*, the final responsibility for officially naming a school building rests with the Board of Education; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education name the school building heretofore known as Clarksburg/Damascus Elementary School #7 as Little Bennett Elementary School.

RESOLUTION NO. 147-06 Re: **NAMING OF NORTHWEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #7**

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

WHEREAS, the School Naming Advisory Committee has submitted a report, dated March 3, 2006, ranking the following names for the Northwest Elementary School #7, in order of preference: Great Seneca Creek Elementary School; Lillian B. Brown Elementary School; Liberty Mill Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, The School Naming Advisory Committee reached consensus on the recommendation to name the facility Great Seneca Creek Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Regulation FFA-RA, *Naming Schools*, the final responsibility for officially naming a school building rests with the Board of Education; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education name the school building heretofore known as Northwest Elementary School #7 as Great Seneca Creek Elementary School.

** Mr. Romero rejoined the meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 148-06 Re: **CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION**

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

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 closed session on Monday, March 27, 2006, in Room 120 of the Carver Educational Services Center to meet from 6:00 to 6:30 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*; review and adjudicate appeals in its quasi-judicial capacity; and 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.

RESOLUTION NO. 149-06 Re: **REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education accept the following report of closed session:

On February 27, 2006, by unanimous vote of members present, the Board of Education voted to conduct a closed session 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 session on February 27, 2006, from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. in Room 120 of the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, and

1. Reviewed and considered the following appeals with a subsequent vote in open session in its quasi-judicial capacity outside the purview of the Open Meetings Act (Section 10-503(a) of the *State Government Article*): 2005-28, 2005-55, 2006-1, 2006-2, 2006-3, and 2006-7.
2. Received legal advice as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(7) of the *State Government Article*.
3. 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 sessions were: Steve Abrams, Larry Bowers, Sharon Cox, Valerie Ervin, Charles Haughey, Roland Ikheloa, Sebastian Johnson, Don Kress, Frieda Lacey, George Margolies, Nancy Navarro, Patricia O'Neill, John Q. Porter, Lori Rogovin, Gabe Romero, Glenda Rose, and Jerry Weast.

Re: **STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS**

On motion of Ms. Ervin and seconded by Mrs. Navarro, the following resolution was placed on the table:

Resolved, That the Board of Education direct the Superintendent to conduct a boundary review process in March/April 2006 to explore the assignment of the Hampshire Greens community to William H. Farquhar Middle School and James Hubert Blake High School, and hence possibly eliminate that community's triple island assignment; and be it further

Resolved, That the Superintendent would forward his recommendation to the Board of Education in April/May 2006, with any approved boundary changes to take effect at the beginning of the 2006-07 school year.

Re: **DISCUSSION**

Ms. Ervin said there is a lot of conversation about taking Blake out of the resolution, and that the superintendent's recommendation should be moved it to the fall. There was testimony that the closed middle school was Briggs Chaney Middle School. The purpose of the motion was to open a discussion.

Mr. Johnson commented that he was on the fence because he had been considering all sides of the situation, and he wanted to be consistent with Board policy. However, the testimony of the student encouraged him to look at the students and the impact on them.

Mr. Abrams stated that students have a great capacity to participate in school activities. The burden is not always on the student, but on the parents making transportation connections. Lengthy bus rides in the county are not only experienced by this community. Finally, he observed the antagonism of the parties when there is a piecemeal boundary adjustment. There is a lot of history with all boundary changes. He was sympathetic to the issue but not the solution suggested. He dreamed of the day when the county's inventory of seats could be matched to enrollment with a time certain during which there would be no changes, such as 10 years.

Mrs. O'Neill remarked about the motion that was introduced by then-Board member Mr. Reginald Felton. The consortium did not want to go through a boundary change. Finally the motion was taken off the table with a trigger when a middle school was over- or under-utilized. The Hampshire Greens community keeps asking for Farquhar rather than Briggs Chaney which is closer. Furthermore, there are activity buses for those who want to participate in school activities. She did not think this was the right approach or time.

Mrs. Navarro noted that this community has been advocating to resolve a situation with which they have had difficulties. In this area there are difficult and negative perceptions by students through the choice process. She would not support the motion if Blake is included. However, there are broader issues to be discussed by the Board on the Northeast Consortium.

Mr. Romero noted this is a more complex issue than just moving 24 students. In the Clarksburg boundary realignment, one community with no residents was included in a boundary for a particular school. The Hampshire Greens community wants to treat this as a special exception. There is rationale in the policy to create balance in the schools.

Mr. Johnson commented that this is not a policy issue, as it concerns 24 students. This does not need to be a boundary study.

Ms. Ervin commented that she has learned more about the circumstance. The Board members are not interested in parochial politics. If there is something the Board can do for these 24 students, that was her interest. Furthermore, the Board needs to discuss the Northeast Consortium to create diversity. Why did the Board create the consortium? What will be done to fix it?

Dr. Haughey thought that a long-term discussion is appropriate, and he referred it to the Research and Evaluation Committee to frame recommendations.

Mr. Abrams thought it would be better to look at students in the aggregate and reform the system to optimize learning at middle and high schools. What the Board can change is opportunity and the allocation of resources.

Re: AN AMENDMENT TO STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS

On motion of Ms. Ervin and seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following resolution was amended and failed with Ms. Ervin, Dr. Haughey, Mr. Johnson, and Mrs. Navarro voting in the affirmative; Mr. Abrams, Ms. Cox, Mrs. O'Neill, and Mr. Romero voting in the negative:#

Resolved, That the Board of Education direct the Superintendent to conduct a boundary review process in March/April 2006 to explore the assignment of the Hampshire Greens community to the appropriate middle school ~~William H. Farquhar Middle School and James Hubert Blake High School~~, and hence possibly eliminate that community's triple island assignment; and be it further

Resolved, That the Superintendent would forward his recommendation to the Board of Education in ~~April/May~~ Fall of 2006, with any approved boundary changes to take effect at the beginning of the ~~2006-07~~ school year.

Re: STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS

On motion of Ms. Ervin and seconded by Mrs. Navarro, the following resolution failed with Ms. Ervin and Mr. Johnson voting in the affirmative; Mr. Abrams, Ms. Cox, Dr. Haughey, Mrs. Navarro, Mrs. O'Neill, and Mr. Romero voting in the negative:#

Resolved, That the Board of Education direct the Superintendent to conduct a boundary review process in March/April 2006 to explore the assignment of the Hampshire Greens community to William H. Farquhar Middle School and James Hubert Blake High School, and hence possibly eliminate that community's triple island assignment; and be it further

Resolved, That the Superintendent would forward his recommendation to the Board of Education in April/May 2006, with any approved boundary changes to take effect at the beginning of the 2006-07 school year.

RESOLUTION NO. 150-06 Re: **DIGITIZED RECORDS**

On motion of Mr. Abrams and seconded by Ms. Cox, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education instruct the staff of Montgomery County Public Schools to keep digitized records of all Board meetings and hearings and as feasible retroactive.

Re: **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

RESOLUTION NO. 151-06 Re: **RECESS**

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Cox seconded by Mrs. Navarro, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education will recess from 3:35 to 4:30 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 152-06 Re: **RECOGNITION OF TEACHERS WHO EARNED
CERTIFICATION FROM THE NATIONAL BOARD
FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS**

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

WHEREAS, The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards has established a national awards program to recognize outstanding teacher competency; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland State Department of Education and the Montgomery County Public Schools have participated in programs of financial aid to encourage teachers to engage in the rigorous process of becoming a National Board Certified Teacher; and

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Public Schools provides a variety of supports to assist candidates as they work through the process of National Board Certification; and

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Public Schools has identified the skills, competencies, and rigor of the National Board's Core Goals as the foundation for the new Teacher Evaluation System; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Public Schools support increasing the number of National Board Certified Teachers; and be it further

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Public Schools recognize and appreciate the leadership skills and abilities of National Board Certified Teachers that benefit our students, staff, and communities; and be it further

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Public Schools hereby recognize the teachers listed below for having completed the National Board Certification process and received the certificate in November 2005.

Mary Allred, Grade 5 teacher, Jones Lane Elementary School
Heather Anderson, Grade 5 teacher, Broad Acres Elementary School
Mary Argauer, Grade 1 teacher, Flower Hill Elementary School
Emily Asofsky, English teacher, Northwest High School
Nicole Ayeni, Grade 2 teacher, Gaithersburg Elementary School
Amy Bambrick, Focus teacher, Broad Acres Elementary School
Natalie Barna, Grade 3 teacher, Carderock Springs Elementary School
Christopher Beers-Arthur, ESOL teacher, Gaithersburg High School
Heather Borsum, instrumental music teacher, Cold Spring Elementary School
Mary Ellen Broderick, science resource teacher, Tilden Middle School
Alice Byrne, Grade 4 teacher, Gaithersburg Elementary School
Loraine Carlson, special education teacher, DuFief Elementary School
Antonio Carrillo, science resource teacher, John T. Baker Middle School
Mandy Carver, general science teacher, John T. Baker Middle School
Alexia Couch, staff development teacher, Newport Middle School
Mary Catherine Cross, science teacher, Sherwood High School
Mary Cush, biology teacher, John F. Kennedy High School
Ella Davani, Grade 2 teacher, DuFief Elementary School
Scott DeGasperis, middle school magnet coordinator, Takoma Park Middle School
Glenn Del Favero, special education teacher, Richard Montgomery High School
Frederick Delello, social studies teacher, Walter Johnson High School
Elena Dennis, special education resource teacher, John T. Baker Middle School
Christopher Forney, social studies teacher, John T. Baker Middle School
Ellen Gagnon, mathematics resource teacher, Robert Frost Middle School
Lesli Gillman, English teacher, Walt Whitman High School
Sommer Givens, Grade 5 teacher, Waters Landing Elementary School
Julie Grant, special education teacher, Broad Acres Elementary School
Jeffrey Hanson, technology education resource teacher, Damascus High School
Lenore Hoover, art teacher, Thomas S. Wootton High School
Yu-Ying Huang, ESOL teacher, Thomas S. Wootton High School
Erin Janney, French teacher, James Hubert Blake High School
Jennifer Jarosinski, science teacher, Forest Oak Middle School
Lallitha John, social studies teacher, Winston Churchill High School

Karen Jones, social studies teacher, Quince Orchard High School
Philip Scott Kinhart, physical education teacher, Takoma Park Middle School
Stacie Kinhart, special education teacher, Burnt Mills Elementary School
Meghna Lipcon, Grade 3 teacher, Broad Acres Elementary School
Mary Mac Nemar, English teacher, Northwest High School
David McCutcheon, social studies resource teacher, Cabin John Middle School
Kathleen McInnis, Grade 2 teacher, Sequoyah Elementary School
Ericson Perez, special education teacher, Watkins Mill High School
Peter Petrossian, science teacher, Thomas W. Pyle Middle School
Carolyn Plosky, English teacher, Northwest High School
Sabita Raman, special education resource teacher, Rachel Carson Elementary

School

Clara Register, reading teacher, Rock Creek Forest Elementary School
Rose Ann Schwartz, staff development teacher, Kensington Parkwood Elementary

School

Rachel Sears, chemistry teacher, Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School
Michelle Smetanick, science teacher, John T. Baker Middle School
Jill Steinberg, special education science teacher, Damascus High School
Jennifer Strachan, teacher, Division of Early Childhood Programs and Services
Aaron Tark, instructional specialist, Division of Academic Support, Federal/State

Programs

Madeleine Thompson, special education teacher, DuFief Elementary School
Rita Trentadue, reading recovery teacher, Gaithersburg Elementary School
Lisa Vardi, social studies teacher, Sherwood High School
Nancy Warshal, Grade 4 teacher, Carderock Springs Elementary School
David West, social studies teacher, Montgomery Blair High School
Michelle Young, social studies teacher, Sherwood High School

and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education and the superintendent urge all Montgomery County residents to join in recognizing these teachers and express their appreciation for these teachers and the skills they bring to the Montgomery County Public Schools in building workforce excellence.

Re: **ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

The following items were available:

1. Legal Fees Report
2. Construction Progress Report

RESOLUTION NO. 153-06 Re: **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting of, March 14, 2006, at 6:15 p.m.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

JDW:gr

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SUMMARY SHEET**

March 14, 2006

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