

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

February 9, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. with the following people Christopher Barclay, Shirley Brandman, Jeanne Taylor, Jerry Heupel, Tom Jones, and Glenda Rose (recorder).

The purpose of the meeting was to have a discussion about the superintendent's revised recommendation to close the Learning Centers within six years.

Mr. Heupel presented several talking points that are included in the attachment. Those talking points included, lack of parental involvement; no mandatory 80 percent LRE requirement; LAD classes versus learning centers; number of students to be moved; test scores; and favor of giving parents a choice.

The group agreed with the superintendent's revised closure plan. Those are allowing all learning center students can remain through graduation; improving quality of instruction on Learning Centers; giving principals and staff additional training, and improving the quality of instruction in Learning Centers.

However, they disagreed with closing the Learning Centers to new students. They urged staff to explore options with parents and report to the Board.

In summary, the discussion centered on the conditions for closing the Learning Centers, such as critical mass to home school; lynchpin issue on differences of definition on inclusion is "options"; and create a long-standing dialogue between the staff, parents, and the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Attachment