The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at Richard Montgomery High School, Rockville, Maryland, on Wednesday, February 2, 1983, at 7:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Mr. Blair G. Ewing, President in the Chair

Dr. James E. Cronin* Dr. Marian L. Greenblatt

Mr. Kurt Hirsch

Mrs. Suzanne K. Peyser Mrs. Marilyn J. Praisner Mrs. Odessa M. Shannon Dr. Robert E. Shoenberg

Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Edward Andrews, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Harry Pitt, Deputy Superintendent

Dr. Robert S. Shaffner, Executive Assistant

Mr. Thomas S. Fess, Parliamentarian

Re: Discussion with Mr. Norman Christeller, Maryland National Capital Park and Planning

Commission

Mr. Ewing explained that the Board had thought it useful to talk informally with Mr. Christeller and his staff. Mr. Christeller introduced Mr. Drew Dedrick, who was the local source on census data. Mr. Dedrick said he had provided the Board and staff with charts and papers on excerpts from census data. He noted that while the county had increased in population by only 50,000, the up-county had grown by 80,000 while the down- county had lost almost 30,000 in population. Mr. Christeller noted that in the mature areas they had a larger percentage of nonfamily households while the single parent ratios were the same in both areas. The larger households were in the growing area. Mr. Dedrick pointed out the large potential for growth in the Germantown, Gaithersburg, Olney, and Potomac areas. He reviewed maps showing population changes, and Mr. Ewing suggested that it would be useful for the Board to have overlays of school areas on the MNCPPC maps. Mr. Dedrick replied that he had been working with Dr. Fisher on taking school system areas and putting them on the census tracts; however, this would require some clerical support from the school system.

* Dr. Cronin joined the meeting at a later time.

Mr. Dedrick pointed out that they had looked at young populations in the county and the Takoma Park and Germantown areas had the highest totals of pre-school children which had real implications in terms of future school populations. Dr. Pitt asked whether they had any data to show what the stability rate was, and Mr. Dedrick replied that they intended to do a census update in 1984 and 1987 which would get at this

question.

Mr. Christeller added that they were getting evidence that more and more people were committing themselves to Takoma Park as a place to make their home. Mr. Dedrick indicated that in 1984 they planned to sample a larger group in the Takoma Park area. Mr. Christeller explained that this was what they thought would have happened 10 years ago in the Silver Spring area, but the recycling did not occur at that time.

Mr. Dedrick called attention to the Fairland area where there were large parcels of land not yet developed and a potential for growth. He said that Germantown had a lot of adult population in the 25-34 year range which in Montgomery County was the range for child bearing. He explained that even if Germantown did not receive any more population there would be growth in the school-age population because of the age of the residents. He also pointed out that while demographers had disagreements about the fertility rates, based on a study of Montgomery County they had increased their fertility rate assumptions by 10 percent. They were projecting 8,000 births a year for the next five years, and their previous forecasts had been for 7,200 births. He said that high school enrollments would continue to decline throughout the 1980's, but sometime beyond 1985-86 elementary school enrollment would begin to increase.

Mr. Christeller reported that in terms of estimating school enrollment it was a lot easier to do this when you had a steady growth or decline. They were now in a bumpy period and would be in this period for sometime. Mr. Dedrick explained that when they got beyond five years in predictions the model they used became inaccurate. Mr. Christeller likened the next years to a roller coaster because population trends would go up and down. He cited the Fairland/White Oak area as a changing area because it was largely undeveloped and had been under the sewer moratorium. Mrs. Praisner inquired about the impact of moderate priced dwelling units. Mr. Christeller replied that every subdivision of more than 50 units had to have moderate priced dwelling units; however, the percentage had been reduced from 15 to 12.5 percent. In regard to assistance housing they did not have the resources and therefore the number of units would be smaller. Mr. Dedrick thought that Montgomery County had made real efforts as far as trying to meet the needs for affordable housing. He noted that Montgomery County's housing completions had been higher in past years and the county was now exceeding Fairfax County by building more townhouses. Mr. Christeller commented that housing production hadn't really dried up because in 1982 the rate was identical to 1980. Mr. Dedrick said that looking at the sewer authorizations, the demand, interest rates, and availability of labor there could be a lot of housing in the next several years.

Dr. Shoenberg stated that he was still at a loss on how to use all this data. He wondered whether there was a situation where all the indicators were all in one direction because it appeared that in almost every case there was a "yes-but" situation. For example, he

wondered if they could run through a process with the elementary schools in the Churchill area. Mr. Christeller thought that his staff could work with Dr. Fisher on this process. He said that Mr. Dedrick had been working on this for sometime, and when they received more insights they would share this information with the Board. Mr. Ewing thanked Mr. Christeller and Mr. Dedrick for the opportunity to talk with them. He suggested the Board meet with the Planning Board in the near future.

Re: Executive Session

Mr. Ewing announced that the Board would hold a brief executive session on personnel matters immediately following the business meeting.

Resolution No. 63-83 Re: ESOL Center Location

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Peyser seconded by Mrs. Praisner, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board take the following actions:

Amend the fourth bullet under Resolution 745-81 for Northwood High School to read:

Retain the ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Center in September, 1983.

Delete the last bullet under Resolution 768-81 for Walter Johnson High School as follows:

Relocate the ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Center at Northwood High School to Walter Johnson High School in September 1983.

Resolution No. 64-83 Re: Attendance Area Changes for Damascus and Gaithersburg High Schools, Gaithersburg Junior High School, and Baker

Intermediate School

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The Policy on Long-Range Educational Facilities Planning establishes goals, principals, and a process for addressing changing enrollment; and

WHEREAS, The primary goal of the policy is to provide those facilities and future school sites necessary to sustain high quality educational programs at reasonable cost; and

WHEREAS, Parents of students living in the Etchison area have

requested a boundary change affecting their students; and

WHEREAS, The community involvement process portion of the policy has been implemented; and

WHEREAS, Alternative proposals have been received from communities; and

WHEREAS, A public hearing was held on January 26, 1983, by the Board of Education on the Update; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Damascus High School attendance area on and after July 1, 1983, consists of the attendance areas served during the 1982-83 school year with the following modifications:

- o Receive from Gaithersburg High School students living on Hawkins Creamery Road and Court, Pocahontas Drive, Laytonsville Road (Route 108) from Hawkins Creamery Road north, and Damascus Road (Route 650) south to Griffith Road, beginning with Grade 10 students in September 1986
- o Receive from Gaithersburg Junior High Grade 9 students from the Etchison area defined above, beginning in September 1985

and be it further

Resolved, That the Gaithersburg High School attendance area on and after July 1, 1983, consists of the attendance areas served during the 1982-83 school year with the following modification:

o Send to Damascus High School students living on Hawkins Creamery Road and Court, Pocahontas Drive, Laytonsville Road (Route 108) from Hawkins Creamery Road north, and Damascus Road (Route 650) south to Griffith Road, beginning with Grade 10 students in September 1986

and be it further

Resolved, That the Gaithersburg Junior High School attendance area on and after July 1, 1983 consists of the attendance areas served during the 1982-83 school year with the following modifications:

- o Send to John T. Baker Intermediate School students living on Hawkins Creamery Road and Court, Pocahontas Drive, Laytonsville Road (Route 108) from Hawkins Creamery Road north, and Damascus Road (Route 650) south to Griffith Road; beginning with Grade 7 students in September 1983
- o Send to Damascus High School Grade 9 students from the Etchison area defined above, beginning in September 1985

and be it further

Resolved, That the Baker Intermediate School attendance area on and after July 1, 1983 consists of the attendance areas served during the 1982-83 school year with the following modification:

o Receive from Gaithersburg Junior High School students living on Hawkins Creamery Road and Court, Pocahontas Drive, Laytonsville Road (Route 108) from Hawkins Creamery Road north, and Damascus Road (Route 650) south to Griffith Road; beginning with Grade 7 students in September 1983.

Dr. Cronin joined the meeting at this point.

Re: Attendance Area Changes for Gaithersburg and Seneca Valley High Schools and Montgomery Village Junior High School

Mrs. Praisner moved the following which was seconded by Mrs. Peyser:

WHEREAS, The Policy on Long-range Educational Facilities Planning establishes goals, principles, and a process for addressing changing enrollment; and

WHEREAS, The primary goal of the policy is to provide those facilities and future school sites necessary to sustain high quality educational programs at reasonable cost; and

WHEREAS, If new data suggest the need to take an action not among those already approved, a proposal and rationale for it will be presented to the Board and affected communities; and

WHEREAS, The community involvement process portion of the policy has been implemented; and

WHEREAS, Alternative proposals have been received from communities; and

WHEREAS, A public hearing was held on January 26, 1983, by the Board of Education on the Update; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Gaithersburg and Seneca Valley High Schools and Montgomery Village Junior High School attendance area on and after July 1, 1983, consist of the attendance areas served during the 1982-83 school year with the following modification:

o Send all Montgomery Village Junior High School area students now in the Seneca Valley High School attendance area to Gaithersburg High School, beginning with Grade 10 students in September 1983.

Resolution No. 65-83

Re: An Amendment to the Proposed Resolution on Attendance Area Changes for Gaithersburg and Seneca Valley High Schools and Montgomery Village Junior High School On motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Mrs. Praisner abstaining (Mr. Hirsch voting in the affirmative):

Resolved, That the proposed resolution be amended by adding a second Resolved:

Resolved, That all feeder elementary schools currently assigned to Gaithersburg High School will continue to be assigned to that school and staff will make any adjustments necessary to accommodate those students.

Resolution No. 66-83 Re: Attendance Area Changes for Gaithersburg and Seneca Valley High Schools and Montgomery Village Junior High School

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The Policy on Long-range Educational Facilities Planning establishes goals, principles, and a process for addressing changing enrollment; and

WHEREAS, The primary goal of the policy is to provide those facilities and future school sites necessary to sustain high quality educational programs at reasonable cost; and

WHEREAS, If new data suggest the need to take an action not among those already approved, a proposal and rationale for it will be presented to the Board and affected communities; and

WHEREAS, The community involvement process portion of the policy has been implemented; and

WHEREAS, Alternative proposals have been received from communities; and

WHEREAS, A public hearing was held on January 26, 1983, by the Board of Education on the Update; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Gaithersburg and Seneca Valley High Schools and Montgomery Village Junior High School attendance area on and after July 1, 1983, consist of the attendance areas served during the 1982-83 school year with the following modification:

o Send all Montgomery Village Junior High School area students now in the Seneca Valley High School attendance area to

Gaithersburg High School, beginning with Grade 10 students in September 1983.

and be it further

Resolved, That all feeder elementary schools currently assigned to Gaithersburg High School will continue to be assigned to that school and staff will make any adjustments necessary to accommodate those students.

For the record, Mr. Ewing stated that portable classrooms would be an option for the adjustments needed to accommodate the students.

Resolution No. 67-82 Re: Attendance Area Changes for Candlewood and Whetstone Elementary Schools

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The Policy on Long-range Educational Facilities Planning establishes goals, principles, and a process for addressing changing enrollment; and

WHEREAS, The primary goal of the policy is to provide those facilities and future school sites necessary to sustain high quality educational programs at reasonable costs; and

WHEREAS, One principle of the policy indicates that the school system shall be divided into high school feeder attendance areas and that, except for special schools, each school shall be part of a high school group and the senior high school boundaries shall define the boundaries of the group; and

WHEREAS, The preferred pattern is that each subsidiary school should send all of its students to a single school at the next higher level; and

WHEREAS, The community involvement process portion of the policy has been implemented; and

WHEREAS, Alternative proposals have been received from communities; and

WHEREAS, A public hearing was held on January 26, 1983, by the Board of Education on the Update; now therefore be it Resolved, That the Candlewood and Whetstone elementary schools attendance areas on and after July 1, 1983, consist of the attendance areas served during the 1982-83 school year with the following modifications:

- o Candlewood Elementary School will send to Whetstone Elementary School students living in the Stewartown Townhouses starting in September 1983
- o Candlewood Elementary School will receive from Whetstone Elementary School students living in the Amity Gardens and Emory

Grove Village apartments beginning in September 1983

and be it further

Resolved, That the option for Grade 6 students living in the Candlewood Elementary School attendance area to either complete Grade 6 at Candlewood or attend Redland Middle School be discontinued and that Grade 6 students living the area be sent to Redland Middle School.

Resolution No. 68-83 Re: Ninth Grade at Rockville Senior High and Earle B. Wood Junior High Schools

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Peyser seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Board of Education actions on February 22, 1982, supported the recommendations of the Housing of the New Wheaton Consolidated Comprehensive High School Advisory Committee that Wood accommodate its full ninth grade beginning in 1983-84 and that Rockville High School should convert to a Grades 10-12 school; and

WHEREAS, Updated projections indicate that Wood Junior High, the Rockville feeder school, would be at 105 percent of capacity if all ninth grade students were housed there in 1983-84; and

WHEREAS, Continuing a partial ninth grade at each school would relieve Wood, and Rockville High would operate at under 100 percent of capacity; and

WHEREAS, The community involvement process portion of the policy has been implemented; and

WHEREAS, Alternative proposals have been received from communities; and

WHEREAS, A public hearing was held on January 26, 1983, by the Board of Education on the Update; now therefore be it

Resolved, That Rockville High School and Earle B. Wood Junior High School continue a partial ninth grade through the 1983-84 school year.

Resolution No. 69-83 Re: Grade Level Reorganization of White Oak
Intermediate School

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The Policy on Long-range Educational Facilities Planning establishes goals, principles, and a process of addressing changing enrollment; and

WHEREAS, The primary goal of the policy is to provide those facilities and future school sites necessary to sustain high quality educational programs at reasonable cost; and

WHEREAS, One principle of the policy indicates that the school system shall be divided into high school feeder attendance areas and that, except for special schools, each school shall be part of a high school group and the senior high school boundaries shall define the boundaries of the group; and

WHEREAS, The preferred pattern is that each subsidiary school should send all of its students to a single school at the next higher level; and

WHEREAS, One principle of the policy indicates that all or a great majority of schools will be structured according to the following grade organization pattern: Grades K-6 for elementary schools, Grades 7-8 for intermediate level schools, and Grades 9-12 for senior high schools; and

WHEREAS, The community involvement process portion of the policy has been implemented; and

WHEREAS, Alternative proposals have been received from communities; and

WHEREAS, A public hearing was held on January 26, 1983, by the Board of Education on the Update; now therefore be it

Resolved, That White Oak Intermediate School on and after July 1, 1984, shall serve Grades 7-8.

Re: Retention of Connecticut Park and Rocking Horse Road Buildings

Mrs. Peyser moved approval of the following which was seconded by Dr. Cronin:

WHEREAS, Board of Education actions on November 16, 1981, closed Connecticut Park and Rocking Horse Road elementary schools in June, 1983, and conveyed the buildings and sites to the County Government on July 1, 1983, or as soon thereafter as possible; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut Park is a preferred site for an adult education center and a possible location for other MCPS units; and

WHEREAS, Updated projections for Rocking Horse Road Elementary School are substantially higher than when the closure decision was made; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Connecticut Park and Rocking Horse Road buildings and sites be retained pending further action by the Board of Education.

Resolution No. 70-83

Re: A Substitute Motion by Dr. Greenblatt on Connecticut Park and Rocking Horse Road Buildings

On motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education retain the Rocking Horse Road building and site pending further action by the Board of Education; and be it further

Resolved, That the staff review again all buildings the Board is retaining to recommend how many should be turned over to the County Government.

Resolution No. 71-83 Re: Robert E. Peary High School

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education deal with Peary High School issues in conjunction with Blair/Einstein/Northwood; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education may request alternatives for Peary High School on February 8, 1983; and be it further

Resolved, That the public hearing for Blair/Einstein/Northwood will also govern the Peary High School situation.

Resolution No. 72-83 Re: Adjournment

On motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting at 9:20 p.m.

President

Secretary

EA:mlw