

APPROVED  
42-1986

Rockville, Maryland  
October 27, 1986

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in regular session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Monday, October 27, 1986, at 8:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Dr. James E. Cronin, President  
in the Chair  
Mrs. Sharon DiFonzo  
Mr. Blair G. Ewing  
Dr. Jeremiah Floyd  
Dr. Robert E. Shoenberg  
Mrs. Mary Margaret Slye  
Mr. Eric Steinberg

Absent: Mrs. Marilyn J. Praisner

Others Present: Dr. Wilmer S. Cody, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Harry Pitt, Deputy Superintendent  
Mr. Thomas S. Fess, Parliamentarian

Re: ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Cronin read the following into the record:

"Mrs. Praisner has asked me to announce that she is at a two-day session of the Commission on School-based Administration. The Commission, of which she is a member, is finalizing its recommendations to State Superintendent Hornbeck on the preparation, certification, selection, evaluation and professional development of principals. Mrs. Praisner is especially sorry to miss the discussion scheduled for this evening, asks that her apologies be conveyed to the committees and promises to listen to the tape."

Dr. Cronin added that he knew that Mrs. Praisner was especially sorry to miss the counseling and guidance report because this was one of her strong interests.

RESOLUTION NO. 574-86 Re: BOARD AGENDA - OCTOBER 27, 1986

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

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for October 27, 1986.

RESOLUTION NO. 575-86 Re: PROCLAMATION ON DRUG ABUSE

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

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery County Board of Education join the Mayor and Council of Rockville in a commitment to provide a drug-free environment for residents and students; and

WHEREAS, Peer pressure is a major cause of drug abuse among students; and

WHEREAS, Helping students say "NO" to drugs through drug education is a worthwhile effort to heighten their awareness of the perils of drugs; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the Montgomery County Board of Education, join the City of Rockville and Montgomery County Government in proclaiming October 27-31, 1986 as "ROCKVILLE SAYS NO TO DRUGS" Week.

RESOLUTION NO. 576-86 Re: PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS OVER \$25,000

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

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

RESOLVED, That having been duly advertised, the contracts be awarded to the low bidders meeting specifications as shown for the bids as follows:

	NAME OF VENDOR(S)	DOLLAR VALUE OF CONTRACTS
27-87	Canned Fruits, Vegetables, Soups, and Juices	
	Carroll County Foods	\$ 43,220
	Continental Smelkinson	34,914
	Frederick Produce Company, Inc.	54,293
	Mazo Lerch Company, Inc.	38,243
	Stanley Foods and Equip. Co., Inc.	10,960
		-----
	TOTAL	\$181,630
28-87	Carpeting	
	Designer Carpet Co.	\$ 27,160
46-87	Compaq Computers and Monitors Equipment	
	Bohdan Associates, Inc.	\$ 29,645
		-----
	GRAND TOTAL	\$238,435

RESOLUTION NO. 577-86 Re: TRANSFER FROM THE RESERVE FOR STATE CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT TO THE LOCAL UNLIQUIDATED SURPLUS ACCOUNT 997-01

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

WHEREAS, In the mid-seventies local appropriation authority was reserved for items previously funded by the state and subsequently disallowed in the audit process after capitalization; and

WHEREAS, That due to staff expertise, positive working relationships with State personnel, and procedural safeguards, this local appropriation authority is still available; and

WHEREAS, State policy has been modified so that future chargebacks would be dealt with in the budget process only; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the present balance of \$154,507.63 be transferred from the Reserve for State Contingency Account (969-01) to the Local Unliquidated Surplus Account (997-01); and be it further

RESOLVED, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of this transfer of funds to the County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 578-86 Re: ACCEPTANCE OF DONATED SITE - WATERS  
LANDING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SITE (AREA 3)

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

WHEREAS, Land use planning studies have shown the need for a future elementary school to serve part of the north Germantown area west of I-270; and

WHEREAS, The developer of the subdivision has presented a deed making an elementary school site available to the Board of Education under the town sector provisions of the zoning ordinance; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education authorize acceptance from the Germantown Development Corporation of a parcel of land in its subdivision containing 9.9995 acres, said land to be conveyed at no cost to the Board of Education for use as the site for a future Waters Landing Elementary; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education agrees to hold the donor harmless for an amount not to exceed one-half of the abutting street improvement costs; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the superintendent be authorized to express the appreciation of the Board of Education to the developer for the conveyance of this parcel of land.

RESOLUTION NO. 579-86 Re: TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM QUINCE ORCHARD  
HIGH SCHOOL TO LOCAL UNLIQUIDATED

SURPLUS ACCOUNT (AREA 3) 125-01

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

WHEREAS, A contract was awarded to The Driggs Corporation for rough grading and sediment control for Quince Orchard High School on July 25, 1986; and

WHEREAS, This contract is nearing completion and is ready to be turned over to the general contractor, Glen Construction Company of Virginia, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Unit prices were received for rock removal, no adverse conditions were encountered, and residual funds within the project may be identified; and

WHEREAS, The general contract was awarded on September 16, 1986, and an uncommitted contingency of 3.7 percent was identified which is slightly higher than the normal recommendation of 2.5 percent; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That residual funds in the amount of \$232,000 be transferred from the Quince Orchard High School (125-01) to the Local Unliquidated Surplus Account (997-01); and be it further

RESOLVED, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of this transfer of funds to the County Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 580-86 Re: WATKINS MILL HIGH SCHOOL - SITE  
GRADING (AREA 3)

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

WHEREAS, Sealed bids were received on October 2, 1986, for the site grading at Watkins Mill High School as indicated below:

BIDDER	BASE BID
1. Pleasant Excavating Co., Inc.	\$871,600
2. F. O. Day Co., Inc.	939,980
3. The Driggs Corporation	947,300
4. Cherry Hill Construction, Inc.	974,000

and

WHEREAS, This represents excellent bid activity and is within the architect's cost estimates; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That a contract in the amount of \$871,600 be awarded to Pleasant Excavating Co. Inc., for the site grading at Watkins Mill High School in accordance with the plans and specifications prepared

by Duane, Elliott, Cahill, Mullineaux & Mullineaux, architects; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the present architectural/engineering contract with Duane, Elliott, Cahill, Mullineaux & Mullineaux be increased by \$38,000 for extra services for preconstruction grading at Watkins Mill High School.

RESOLUTION NO. 581-86 Re: CHANGE ORDER TO CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT  
KITCHEN EQUIPMENT TWINBROOK ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL (AREA 2) 206-09

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

WHEREAS, Kitchen equipment for Twinbrook Elementary School was included as an information price when the bids were received for the school; and

WHEREAS, Sufficient funds did not reside in the project contingency to include these items in the initial award; and

WHEREAS, MCPS has beneficial occupancy as of September 2, 1986, the retainage has been reduced by Board action as of August 25, 1986, punch list items are being completed and funds can now be identified from the project contingency and the F & E allocation funded in the FY 1987 Capital Budget for kitchen equipment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That a change order be issued to Hess Construction Co., Inc., in the amount of \$36,918.00 to fund service equipment per original specifications for Twinbrook Elementary School.

RESOLUTION NO. 582-86 Re: CHANGE ORDER TO REMOVE ROCK - GUNNERS  
LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (AREA 3) 110-01

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

WHEREAS, Sealed bids were received on March 19, 1986, for the site grading at Gunners Lake Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Unit prices for rock, dirt, etc., were required in the specifications and submitted by all bidders; and

WHEREAS, Pleasant Excavating Company, Inc., has submitted extras to MCPS through the project architect, Thomas Clark Associates, in the amount of \$360,000, which is consistent with the unit price data previously submitted; and

WHEREAS, School Facilities staff and the project architect have reviewed these extra costs, negotiated with Pleasant Excavating Company, Inc., and have tentatively agreed to a revised proposal of

\$265,000, for the removal of rock at the Gunners Lake Elementary School; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board approve a change order to Pleasant Excavating Company, Inc., not to exceed \$265,000, for the removal of rock at the Gunners Lake Elementary School; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a transfer of \$265,000 be processed from the Local Unliquidated Surplus Account (997-01) to the Gunners Lake Elementary School (110-01); and be it further

RESOLVED, That third party participation with Park and Planning Commission be reviewed as appropriate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of this transfer of funds to the County Council.

Re: BOARD/PRESS/VISITOR CONFERENCE

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

1. Kathryn Haines, Gaithersburg High School Student
2. Cathy Mondell, Gaithersburg High School Student
3. Peter Ghali, Gaithersburg High School Student
4. Chris Eng, Gaithersburg High School Student
5. Andrew Inches, Gaithersburg High School Student
6. Robert Hopkins

RESOLUTION NO. 583-86 Re: PERSONNEL APPOINTMENT

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Shoenberg seconded by Mr. Ewing, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Dr. Floyd, Dr. Shoenberg, and Mrs. Slye voting in the affirmative; Mrs. DiFonzo abstaining; (Mr. Steinberg being temporarily absent):

RESOLVED, That the following personnel appointment be approved:

APPOINTMENT	PRESENT POSITION	AS
J. Edward Frantz	Staffing Assistant Div. of Staffing	Staffing Specialist Div. of Staffing Dept. of Personnel Svs. Grade H Effective: 10-28-86

Re: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE; STAFF RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE

Ms. Susan Goldstein, chair of the committee, introduced committee members and Ms. Diane Graham, the new chair of the committee. Ms. Goldstein inquired about the new process of receiving the staff

response to their annual report at the same time the committee's report was presented to the Board. Dr. Cronin replied that in the past the Board received committee reports and discussed the reports with the staff responses coming a month to two months later. By receiving the staff response at the same time as the committee report, they could have one discussion and get to work on the recommendations supported by the staff.

Ms. Goldstein stated that their first recommendation was to increase the pace of placement of elementary school counselors which had been their first recommendation for the past four years. She cited a recent report from the College Boards which stated that counseling should begin in kindergarten. They felt there should be more clerical support in the secondary schools. The third recommendation was to provide EYE days in connection with comprehensive guidance and counseling programs for developing materials and support units. The fourth was to expand the pilot comprehensive guidance and counseling program to other schools at a reasonable pace. The fifth was to redefine counselor/student ratios in those schools housing special needs programs in a manner consistent with the weightings assigned to classroom teachers in such circumstances. She believed there was some notion that teachers could take over the counseling because of the smaller student/teacher ratio. She emphasized that teachers were not counselors and that counselors did provide special services. Ms. Graham stated that in regard to the staff response on this issue the feedback they received was that counselors in schools having special programs felt they were overburdened by the presence of those special programs. Parents did not feel needs were being met. She pointed out that counseling was a separate discipline from teaching, and they were concerned about the concept that "counseling is something that anybody can do." Ms. Goldstein wondered whether someone could check into whether special students did require more counseling services.

Ms. Goldstein said that another recommendation was to direct the Medical Advisory Committee to review the mental health referral policy to permit counselors and pupil personnel workers to make such referrals. The seventh was to commission a study to evaluate the effectiveness of service coordination with the possible establishment of a Department of Pupil Services. The eighth was to complete the implementation of the reorganization of the Guidance Unit by adding two counselor specialists. The ninth was to provide an annual budget for continuing review and revision of the comprehensive guidance and PROGRAM OF STUDIES. The tenth was to increase the budget for the guidance unit at the central office, and eleven was to earmark a minimum amount of money in each school's budget for guidance materials. The twelfth was to increase funding for counselors' participation in college and professional conferences, and thirteen was to provide funds to continue and increase guidance services and educational/vocational planning for special needs students. Fourteen was to provide a staff development program to train counselors to work with special needs students. Fifteen was to standardize student caseloads for resource counselors so that they were consistent with the caseloads of resource teachers. The final recommendation was to

provide funding for implementation of the peer counseling program. Dr. Cody commented that a number of recommendations were budget related and would be coming through in Dr. Martin's budget. He remarked that the basic plan was a sound one, and he thought the recommendations were constructive.

Dr. Lois Martin, associate superintendent, reported that with the exception of the recommendation relating to the mental health policy all of the recommendations were budget related. She said that the staff response showed that the Board had been very responsive to this advisory committee.

Mr. John Goodloe, supervisor of guidance, reported that he had just returned from the New York Conference of the College Board. The final report of the Commission on Precollege Guidance and Counseling had been issued, and the first four recommendations of the eight spoke directly to what MCPS was already doing. The last of the four was to provide a program of guidance and counseling during the early and middle years of schooling especially for students who traditionally had not been well served by the schools. Their third recommendation was to mount programs to inform and involve parents in choices, decisions, and learning activities of the student. The second recommendation was to develop a program under the leadership of each school principal that emphasized the importance of the guidance counselor as a monitor and promoter of student potential as well as a coordinator of the school's guidance plan. The first recommendation was to establish a broad-based process in each local school district for determining the particular guidance and counseling needs of the students within each school.

Mr. Goodloe reported that MCPS was in line with what was going on nationally. They did have the job of maintaining the quality of what was happening now. He thought that the pilot was moving along very well.

Dr. Cronin asked about the study in the seventh recommendation because the staff response was slightly different. Ms. Graham replied that they had been recommending for some time that the Board reestablish the Division of Pupil Services. In the past several years the Board of Education had not agreed with that recommendation. They wanted the subject addressed so that they could have services delivered in Montgomery County in the most effective way. Dr. Cody explained that he already had two proposals on how to organize for better service delivery. The issue of whether such coordination was desirable was no longer a question in his mind. He thought it was quite likely that there would be something in the budget, and he did not need another study to convince him this was necessary.

Dr. Shoenberg did not think that it was a question of the Board's not having been receptive. It was an organizational issue which was left to the superintendent and his staff. He thought the Board was prepared to act on a recommendation from the superintendent.



In regard to mental health referrals, Dr. Shoenberg suggested they be provided with some argument one way or the another and not refer this to the Medical Advisory Committee. This should indicate how staff thought this ought to be handled. He remarked that one of the reasons why they had been making progress on these matters was that the committee's recommendations were so good. He said that moving on all of these might be beyond their fiscal means in any given year. The fifth recommendation was likely to be a fairly expensive proposition.

Dr. Shoenberg said he was interested in the way in which some of these recommendations urged them to do something system-wide in every school. A couple of the responses talked about local option on some of these issues. He thought this was a problem they were going to face increasingly. People came before the Board, spoke to special interests and wanted certain kinds of minimum standards countywide. On the other hand, school-based people said they should make the decisions as to where the emphases should be put. The Board would have to make up its mind about the degree to which they were going to move toward more local option and minimum standards countywide. Mr. Ewing remarked that the issue was sometimes cast in terms of a total dichotomy. One either had local option or one had central direction. It was his view that it was important to have guidelines that assured that every school was treated equally and that every student had access to the same kinds of services. He said this required some setting of parameters of a kind that would make some school people uncomfortable. On the other hand, it was up to the people at the school level to continue to be creative in coming up with variations within those parameters. He said that this should always be in balance.

Mr. Ewing said that the fourth recommendation was to expand the pilot comprehensive guidance and counseling program in order to maintain gains. He assumed that the committee was satisfied and that, indeed, the staff was satisfied that the pilot program not only had been successful in its initial piloting but that it continued to be successful as it was expanded. He asked about the nature of those successes and whether there had been any drawbacks. He asked about a reasonable pace for the future. He would be interested in the committee's response to that.

Mr. Ewing said their recommendations were good, but they did not speak directly to what they said they were going to talk about starting this year. This was the matter of minority issues in counseling and guidance. He was a little surprised not to see anything in their report this year and wondered what they were planning to do this year.

Mr. Goodloe reported that the Guidance Unit was making plans for a progress paper to come to the Board concerning the pilot program. They had been having periodic meetings of the pilot schools by level or cluster. Because of their slow start the first year, they were seeing some negative responses. As the year progressed and the schools developed their own units, they began to get more positive

statements. These included: "the guidance program is a ticket into the classroom," "the guidance program as being a measure of accountability," and "the guidance program as a means of explaining what I did as a counselor." This summer they saw a great deal of enthusiasm when the pilot school came together. At their first meeting this year on October 14 they saw an exchange of ideas that were fruitful and an integration of guidance into the instructional program. Dr. Martin added that this was a developmental pilot, and they were making adjustments as they went along.

Ms. Graham stated that they did not address a specific topic called "minority issues." Last year they spent quite a lot of time discussing the issue of apathetic and underachieving students which were concerns affecting minority students. They did address a lot of what concerned minority parents in Montgomery County and a lot of what was affecting minority students in the MCPS. In the coming year they wanted to look at the perceptions of minority students and parents about the services being delivered to minority students. They wanted to see whether parents believed that minority students were being shunted aside at the benefit of other students who had more vocal and visible parents.

Dr. Cronin said they were looking at whether the placements of minority students in special education were proper. If these were not seen as appropriate placements and the children were brought back into the school system, there might be counseling services that needed to be done within the school itself rather than special education. Ms. Graham said that the important word was "proper" placement because she had concerns about students being brought back into the mainstream when the appropriate placement was special education.

Mrs. DiFonzo stated that the secondary principals had come out with a national statement that their number one priority was the number of youngsters dropping out of school. Recently she had attended a meeting of the National Federation of Urban-suburban School Districts with Mr. Goodloe and others, and one of the concerns articulated was the drop out rate and the impact on society a few years down the road when those youngsters did not have a high school diploma. She said that the frontal line of defense in the schools for keeping the youngsters in school was the support and the help they received from counselors. She was very wary about the response that some of the classroom teachers pick up on the counseling chores. She personally had a great deal of difficulty with that because teachers had told her they were not trained counselors. She noted that in their report there was a list of all schools with full-time, half-time, and split-time counselors, but there was no listing of those schools without counseling services. She would appreciate receiving that list.

Dr. Cronin thanked the committee for the quality of their report, the cooperation they had provided, and the leadership of Sue Goldstein. On behalf of the committee, Ms. Graham complimented Ms. Goldstein on her efforts to insure a successful guidance program. Ms. Goldstein

thanked them and complimented the Board of Education on being responsive to guidance issues.

Re: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE FOR SCHOOL YEAR 1985-86 AND  
STAFF RESPONSE

Dr. Cronin noted that the Board had also received the report of the mental health subcommittee.

Dr. Marinda Schwartz asked if the Board wanted clarification of projects they had covered this year. Dr. Cronin asked if the committee had come up with any serious issues regarding the AIDS policy. Mr. Michael Glascoe replied that during the time of the deliberations on the AIDS policy, the Medical Advisory Committee had stated that the school system was developing the policy in a very deliberate and organized manner. They were pleased with the process. In regard to the Suicide Task Force, Dr. Schwartz commented that this was an excellent idea, and they looked forward to seeing that report. She pointed out that the Mental Health Subcommittee had provided their views. In regard to contact lens and respirator regulations, she said that MCPS regulations were adequate.

Dr. Cronin stated that health and wellness programs were preventive aspects, and in some cases they were finding it was a good economic benefit for the school system. Dr. Schwartz said that it was important for employees to be role models for the students. Dr. Floyd suggested that any advice the committee could give them on an antismoking campaign would be very helpful. He reported that the National School Boards Association had joined with the American Lung Association, the American Heart Association, and the American Cancer Society in sponsoring a major national conference aimed at reducing smoking, and the NSBA was trying to find out what was going on in school districts in terms of policies and rules. Dr. Schwartz replied that the Medical Society was working with MCPS and sending volunteers into the classrooms to lecture on the danger of smoking. Dr. Schwartz stated that the chair of the Mental Health Subcommittee was out of town. The subcommittee was stressing that a supervisor for the mental health needs of students would be important for planning for prevention and programs. Dr. Cronin said that the superintendent had indicated that he would be looking at various proposals for the upcoming budget. He said that another issue was Mark Twain and some suggestions for improvement. Dr. Schwartz replied that there had been many changes at Mark Twain since this discussion had been held; therefore, these suggestions were not appropriate at this time. The subcommittee would be working with the new principal and making suggestions. Dr. Cronin hoped that the report of the suicide task force would be given to the subcommittee for their review.

Dr. Cronin asked if the art teachers had been made aware of problems regarding solvents, contact lenses, etc. Mr. Glascoe replied that safety regulations had been updated, posters had been developed for classes, and teachers had been provided with specific directions.

Dr. Pitt added that they had eliminated some questionable chemicals that were used in the classroom and had spent some time working on this issue. Dr. Cronin thought that suggestions about the Department of Employee Assistance would be addressed through the budget. Mrs. DiFonzo called attention to the subcommittee report which stated that there was no one to coordinate sexual abuse and suicide prevention efforts within MCPS. She asked why they focused on sexual abuse as opposed to just generalized abuse. Dr. Cronin asked that the subcommittee respond to this.

Dr. Floyd called attention to item four which spoke to issues coming to the Board without the review of the subcommittee. He asked if it were inherent in that suggestion that they ought to raise that question when they had these issues before the Board. Dr. Schwartz replied that the subcommittee had been meeting without any issues being brought to them. Dr. Floyd recalled that the Board had received a letter from one member who raised an issue with the Board that was well taken. Dr. Cronin asked Mr. Glascoe to provide the subcommittee with copies of items that might be of interest to them. Dr. Cody suggested that it might be helpful to retrieve information on the role of the committee and refresh everyone's mind. Mr. Ewing recalled that last year the Board had taken a couple of actions but neglected to consult with the subcommittee. It seemed to him it was incumbent on them to make use of the subcommittee where possible. One of the issues coming up at budget time was the rising incidence of students with increasingly serious mental health and emotional problems. It seemed to him this was an issue for the subcommittee. They could look at what was occurring and the source and dimension of the problem. He remarked that they had a group of extraordinarily talented people who were eager to make a contribution. He noted that the counseling and guidance committee had raised the question on who referred students for assistance. While he was not eager to go through that whole issue again, he would like a clear resolution if one were available.

Dr. Pitt recalled that a few years ago there was quite a debate on this issue. The school system was more in line with what the counselors saw as their role, and the Mental Health Committee looked to the health professional. The Board of Education came down on the side of the Mental Health Subcommittee at that point. Mr. Edward Masood added that the subcommittee had the policy on mental health referrals, and they had been looking at referrals given the change in times from when the policy was originally adopted. Dr. Cronin hoped that someone would be in contact with Einstein High School because in the last week they had had a student and a teacher death. Dr. Pitt replied that the area superintendent had already assigned a psychologist to work with the staff and follow up on any recommendations. They would provide any additional help required. Mrs. Slye asked if the committee had looked at use of chewing tobacco. Mrs. Takahashi said the committee had not discussed it. She said it was on the increase and was much more addicting; however, it was not over the county as a whole at this point. They did have a fourth grade unit objective on this, and they were reviewing

materials. Mrs. Slye suggested that the committee might want to look at this because usage was increasing.

Mrs. Slye recalled that there was a proposal that they discontinue the practice of eighth grade physicals prior to participation in athletics if seventh grade physicals were on file. Mr. Masood replied that they were correcting the forms; however, they had said the eighth grade students did not need the physical exam to try out for sports. This was made clear through the athletic coordinators at the J/I/M schools. Mrs. Slye suggested they go back again with a reminder, and Dr. Pitt agreed that another reminder would be sent out before the start of winter sports.

Mrs. DiFonzo asked that a discussion of chewing tobacco include snuff, and Mrs. Takahashi replied that it was included. Mr. Ewing assumed that their recommendations on the Employee Assistance Program were in the paragraph in the report, and Dr. Schwartz agreed. Dr. Cronin thanked the committee and staff for the reports.

Re: BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

1. Dr. Cronin stated that prior to the POST editorial there had been a concern about Hispanic student success on the varieties of functional tests. With Board concurrence, he asked that an agenda item be scheduled to address the particular needs of Hispanic students and how they were prepared for the Maryland functional tests. Dr. Cody said he would add to this a plan to expand vocational offerings for ESOL students, particularly at the Edison Career Center.

2. Mr. Ewing reported that last Saturday he had attended a session called "Celebrate the Language Arts" which was sponsored by the Montgomery County Council of the International Reading Association and the MCPS Department of Academic Skills. He was struck by the willingness of so many teachers to give up a day to share good ideas. He was impressed by the immense skill with which many teachers in the county approached problems of how to overcome difficulties and their willingness to spend time communicating those things with other teachers. He was particularly impressed with the session on "meta cognitions" which related to what they were doing on higher order intellectual skills. He was also impressed by the great emphasis that reading teachers placed on reading aloud. He reported that Lynn Ferrell at Damascus Elementary had such a program, and he invited Board members to visit her and be a guest reader in her program. He worried that they did not capture this kind of thing well enough and make sure that it got recorded and disseminated. On another occasion, he would provide some suggestions.

3. Mr. Ewing commented that he was not yet convinced that the way in which they were dealing with the Rosendorf case was sensible. It seemed to him they ought to be taking much more vigorous action to try to resolve that. He did not understand why they had been so unwilling to be a part of the solution. He realized there were legal matters at stake here, but he thought that with creativity they would

help solve that problem.

4. Mr. Ewing said he remained unconvinced that they had a set of clear strategies for addressing the needs of minority students. When the POST spoke to minority student achievement it spoke to the Fairfax County school system as a whole, to Prince George's County school system as a whole, and to Takoma Park Junior High School, one school in Montgomery County. If a reporter were to ask him for a set of strategies employed system-wide with measurable success, he was not sure what he would say. This was not to say they did not have successes, but he did not see an organized, systematic, and comprehensive program with identifiable strategies which were measurable. At some point, he would have proposals on this issue.

5. Mrs. DiFonzo stated that she would be providing Board members with memoranda on the NSBA Large District Forum and her visit to the residential special education schools.

6. Mrs. DiFonzo said it had been brought to her attention that they provided the educational component for the Noyes Program. The program had a capacity of about 30 youngsters, and they currently had about 56 youngsters. The Board of Education was not responsible for the size of that enrollment, but she thought they needed to communicate their concern to the judges and to the Juvenile Services Administration who were responsible for the placement of youngsters into that facility. She would be submitting a memo on this issue.

7. Dr. Cronin reported that he had been hearing that registrars in schools with large graduating classes were becoming overwhelmed with paperwork. He asked staff to give him some idea of what efforts had been made to give them some relief.

8. Dr. Cronin said they were going to have to take up the issue of how much paperwork was being done by so many people. He asked if they could begin to reduce some of the administrative paperwork.

9. Dr. Pitt reported that they had limited resources to provide relief. In the case of the registrars they had put additional support in the budget to provide relief to the six largest schools, but that was cut. If they provided relief at this time, it would have to come from funds from some other source. This was not impossible to do, and they would do everything they could to help.

RESOLUTION NO. 584-86 Re: EXECUTIVE SESSION - NOVEMBER 11, 1986

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

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Montgomery County is authorized by Section 10-508, State Government Article of the ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND to conduct certain of its meetings in executive closed session; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County hereby conduct its meeting in executive closed session beginning on November 11, 1986, at 9 a.m. to discuss, consider, deliberate, and/or otherwise decide the employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, compensation, discipline, removal, or resignation of employees, appointees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction, or any other personnel matter affecting one or more particular individuals and to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter as permitted under the State Government Article, Section 10-508; and that such meeting shall continue in executive closed session until the completion of business; and be it further

RESOLVED, That such meeting continue in executive closed session at noon to discuss the matters listed above as permitted under Article 76A, Section 11(a) and that such meeting shall continue in executive closed session until the completion of business.

RESOLUTION NO. 585-86 Re: MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 10, 1986

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

RESOLVED, That the minutes of September 10, 1986, be approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 586-86 Re: MINUTES OF OCTOBER 6, 1986

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

RESOLVED, That the minutes of October 6, 1986, be approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 587-86 Re: RETESTING OF FORMER MONTGOMERY VILLAGE STUDENTS

On motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mrs. DiFonzo, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education go on record as favoring and requesting of the state Department of Education that the date for the retesting of Montgomery Village students be postponed to a more appropriate time not just prior to final examinations.

Re: ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Board members received the following items of information:

1. Monthly Financial Report
2. Property Loss Report

Re: ADJOURNMENT

The president adjourned the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

-----  
PRESIDENT

-----  
SECRETARY

WSC:mlw