

APPROVED
3-2007

Rockville, Maryland
January 11, 2007

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Thursday, January 11, 2007, at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mrs. Nancy Navarro, President
 in the Chair
 Mr. Steve Abrams
 Mr. Christopher Barclay
 Ms. Shirley Brandman
 Ms. Sharon Cox
 Dr. Judy Docca
 Mrs. Patricia O'Neill
 Dr. Jerry Weast, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: Ms. Sarah Horvitz

Re: FY 2008 OPERATING BUDGET HEARING

The following people testified before the Board of Education:

1. Jerry Klobukowski, Commissioner of Poolesville
2. Candra Hardy, MCPS Pre-K /Head Start Program
3. Bonnie Cullison, Montgomery County Education
4. Rebecca Newman, Montgomery County Association of Administrative
5. Mark Adelman, Montgomery County Civic Federation
6. Bob Monsheimer, Montgomery County Taxpayers League
7. Bob Weishaar, Jr., Northwest Cluster
8. Roger Hayden, Poolesville Cluster
9. Paul Morrison, Quince Orchard Cluster
10. Juan Johnson, Seneca Valley Cluster
11. Pete Lafen, Blair Cluster
12. Alies Muskin, Einstein Cluster
13. Ricky Ford, Kennedy Cluster
14. Patrick Herendeen, Northwood Cluster
15. Karen Smith, Wheaton Cluster
16. Deborah Missal, Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster
17. Pam Moomau, Walter Johnson Cluster
18. Deborah Demille-Wagman, Whitman Cluster
19. Richard Edelman, Wootton Cluster
20. Dr. Haydee DePaula, The Arc of M.C. Education Committee
21. Liz Roth, Autism Society of America
22. Anne Marie Ritzell

23. Ellen Jennings
24. Janet Price
25. Kim Khan
26. Joan Sabaka
27. Julia Langer
28. Fred Evans, MCPS Retirees Association
29. Rosemary Dove
30. Robert Ladden
31. Susan Huber
32. Judith Amick, School Psychologists Association
33. Karen Craney, Pupil Personnel Workers Association
34. Beth Isen
35. Ellen Abromson
36. Joan Karasik, Transition Work Group
37. Jerry Heupel
38. Dale Boyd
39. Lynn Langer
40. Ermon Vandy, Speech Language FACC
41. Jay Larson, Special Ed Voters.org
42. Lydia Kleiner
43. League of Women Voters
44. Leslie Brents, Special Education Advisory Committee
45. Staci Daddona
46. Piper Phillips Caswell
47. Tom Jones
48. Barbara Ott
49. Kyra Kreinbrook, School Library Media Specialists
50. Corinna Shen, Chinese Culture and Community Service Center
51. Mary Jo LaFrance
52. Sandra Mercer

The Board of Education asked the following questions:

1. Ms. Cox asked for the number of slots for 3-year olds, how they are identified, and what the enrollment forecasts are.
2. Mr. Abrams requested information on the COLAs for both public and private sectors in the Washington metropolitan area. Also, he requested information on salary and benefits packages for a total compensation calculation.
3. Mr. Abrams asked for information on whether or not the Northwest High School football field was constructed per standards. If not, is there any warrantee on the work? If it was, how long will it take to get those standards filled to meet requirements?
4. Mrs. Brandman inquired about the criteria and funding per school for the Junior

- Great Books Program. Also, what are the criteria for allocating seats at schools and calculation of costs for Read 180?
5. Mr. Barclay asked about correction of the bathroom smells at Darnestown Elementary School. Are there work orders?
 6. Mr. Barclay inquired about staffing for Math A instructors. What are the criteria for getting a certified Math A instructor, and what is the cost?
 7. Ms. Cox asked about the equality of staffing of the Roberto Clemente and Eastern middle school magnets.
 8. Ms. Cox asked about the pre-AP preparation at Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School, and why it was discontinued.
 9. Mr. Barclay requested a definition of smaller learning communities. Is it different for elementary, middle, and high schools?
 10. Mr. Barclay inquired about the middle school magnet grant. What is the timeframe for the grant? How will the magnet be funded after the grant expires?
 11. Mr. Barclay noted the concern of the Northwood Cluster about AP classes and long-term substitute teachers. What happens when students are in a class with a potentially less qualified instructor and the final AP exam?
 12. Mrs. O'Neill asked for the current staff (ratio) of guidance counselors for each middle and high school. What is the projected impact of added counselors systemwide?
 13. Mrs. Brandman asked if there was data on Grade 9 academies, algebra lead teachers, and literacy coaches. What is the impact of the positions on student performance?
 14. Mrs. Brandman asked for the performance data on students in the Walter Johnson Learning Center.
 15. Mrs. Brandman asked for data on the high school plus programs mentioned in the Kennedy Cluster's testimony.
 16. Mrs. Brandman requested information on any schools that currently provide summer academic support for students who will be taking their first AP. If so, how many and what is the cost?
 17. Mrs. Brandman asked for an update on lead remediation mentioned in Walter Johnson Cluster's testimony.
 18. Mrs. Brandman asked what changes would be required in the Operating Budget in the way to keep an accurate head count in the elementary school inclusion classes. Are budgets separate for special and general education?
 19. Mrs. Brandman asked about the resource guidance counselor allocation. What impact does that have on schools? What is the ratio for this year?
 20. Mr. Barclay noted that parents with special needs students testified about bullying and intimidation in schools. Is there any money in the budget or plans for working with the students in general education?
 21. Dr. Docca referred to Ms. Jennings's testimony and the legal requirement for 80-percent inclusion rate and asked for the information that states this requirement.
 22. Dr. Docca requested verification of the reduction in ESY to four days a week based on transportation.
 23. Mrs. Brandman asked about CAP and the number of psychologists that are

- available. How much staff is available for this program?
24. Mrs. Brandman noted the statement that new schools were opened without an increase in psychologist and PPW positions. What does that mean to caseloads for these positions? What normally triggers an increase in staffing? What has been done in the past?
 25. Ms. Cox referred to Mr. Ladden's testimony, and she asked how the Department of Special Education will monitor the change in placements with the elimination of the Learning Centers. Will identification be monitored for identification into other self-contained programs?
 26. Ms. Cox asked about a continuum of placement options in Mr. Heupel's testimony and asked for a description of the continuum of placement options and who would have been placed in secondary learning centers.
 27. Mrs. Navarro was interested in alternative placements and programs. What is the rationale for the closure of Kingsley and Mark Twain? What are the plans for those students?
 28. Ms. Cox asked about the caseload standards in Ms. Vandy's testimony. Is that criteria efficacious and what potential does it have for use in assessing caseload standards for MCPS based on student needs? Mrs. Brandman asked for the rationale for the decrease in positions.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

JDW:gr