

APPROVED
27-2010

Rockville, Maryland
September 27, 2010

The Board of Education of Montgomery County held a business meeting at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on September 27, 2010, at 6:40 p.m.

Present: Mrs. Patricia O'Neill, President
in the Chair
Mr. Christopher Barclay
Ms. Laura Berthiaume
Ms. Shirley Brandman
Dr. Judy Docca
Mr. Philip Kauffman
Mr. Alan Xie
Dr. Jerry Weast, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: Mr. Michael Durso

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

RESOLUTION NO. 469-10Re: **RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION**

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Kauffman seconded by Dr. Docca, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Montgomery County is authorized by the *State Government Article* of the *Annotated Code of Maryland* to conduct certain meetings or portions of its meetings in closed session; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County conduct a closed session on September 27, 2010, in Room 120 from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m.; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County dedicate part of the closed session on September 27, 2010, to acquit its administrative functions and receive legal advice as it adjudicates and reviews appeals, which is a quasi-judicial function outside the purview of the Open Meetings Act under Section 10-508(a) of the *State Government Article*; and be it further

Resolved, That this closed session continue until the completion of business.

Re: **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

RESOLUTION NO. 470-10Re: APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Ms. Brandman seconded by Mr. Barclay, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for September 27, 2010.

RESOLUTION NO. 471-10Re: WALK TO SCHOOL DAY

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Ms. Brandman seconded by Mr. Barclay, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present

WHEREAS, The promotion of bicycling and walking to school provides an opportunity to address bicycle and pedestrian safety; and

WHEREAS, Walking to school results in less traffic and cleaner air, reducing the intake of air pollutants that can be especially harmful to children; and

WHEREAS, Walking improves the health and well-being of children and adults; and

WHEREAS, Obesity rates are skyrocketing and only one-quarter of Americans exercise thirty minutes daily as recommended by the U.S. Surgeon General; and

WHEREAS, Children, families, and community leaders again are joining together nationally and internationally to walk children to school or to the bus stop to promote traffic pollution awareness, health and physical fitness, and pedestrian safety in their community; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education and the superintendent of schools proclaim October 6, 2010, as "Walk to School Day"; and be it further

Resolved, That the school system notify the public and school community of "Walk to School Day," publicize this resolution and the school system's participation through internal and external media, and encourage everyone to consider the safety of pedestrians and, in particular, student walkers—every day.

RESOLUTION NO. 472-10Re: NATIONAL DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Ms. Brandman seconded by Mr. Barclay, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, October is *National Disability Awareness Month* in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools is committed to ensuring that every child, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, language proficiency, or

disability, learns and succeeds; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools is welcoming to our diverse student and parent communities and is committed to providing a climate of respect for engaging parents as partners in the education of their children; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools promotes the improved academic achievement of students with disabilities by providing professional development opportunities to all staff in an effort to provide students with disabilities access to the general education environment; and

WHEREAS, The educators and families of Montgomery County Public Schools deserve to celebrate their accomplishments in promoting disability awareness, including taking part in the disability mentoring day planned locally for Wednesday, October 27, 2010, in partnership with Capital One Bank; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools, as part of *National Disability Awareness Month*, recognizes the importance of embracing global attitudes, practices, and policies that promote successful educational and employment outcomes for students with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools celebrates the signing of the *Americans with Disabilities Act* twenty years ago, showing America's commitment to ensuring full participation for people with disabilities in all environments; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education and the superintendent of schools declare the month of October as *National Disability Awareness Month* in Montgomery County Public Schools and encourage staff in schools to sponsor activities in honor of its recognition.

RESOLUTION NO. 473-10Re: **MARYLAND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT MONTH**

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Ms. Brandman seconded by Mr. Barclay, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, Our children are our most valuable resources and are the key to our future economic and social well-being; and

WHEREAS, Parents are their children's first and most influential teachers and have high hopes and dreams for their children's future; and

WHEREAS, Research shows when parents are involved in their children's education, students have better attendance rates, increased motivation, higher grades, and a greater chance of attending college; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools encourages parent and family involvement in the school community to support children's education, healthy development, and well-being; and

WHEREAS, All school system staff members are available to assist families with information and support to ensure parents, guardians, and caregivers may engage fully in their children's education; and

WHEREAS, When parents and schools supported by the community in shared partnership work together, our children benefit and become lifelong learners and contribute positively to our society; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools provides opportunities for parents to engage with school system staff by attending Back-to-School Nights, the Open House for K-12, parent-teacher conferences, and other activities scheduled throughout the school year; and

WHEREAS, Parents may find answers to their questions by using the new Parent Guide, which is available on the Montgomery County Public Schools website; attending the ASK MCPS Drop-In Coffees; participating in a Board of Education Community Roundtable Discussion; or calling the ASK MCPS call center; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools also connects with parents and students through Montgomery County Public Schools *QuickNotes* e-mail newsletters, Montgomery County Public Schools Television Channel 34, and Twitter; and

WHEREAS, The importance of parent involvement in education requires not only recognition, but a firm commitment in our policies and actions; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education and the superintendent of schools hereby declare the month of October 2010 to be Maryland Family Engagement Month, and encourage families, staff, and community members to recognize the importance of parent involvement in improving student achievement and school performance.

Re: **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following people commented to the Board of Education:

<u>Person</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1. Cheryl Moss Herman	Cooperation/MCPS and the City of Rockville
2. Jennifer Pories	Cooperation/Growth Policy in Wootton Cluster

Mr. Kauffman asked whether boundary changes would satisfy the capacity issues in the Wootton Cluster. Ms. Berthiaume noted that there was an effort for MCPS and the City of Rockville to work together to achieve options.

Re: **BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS**

Mr. Xie stated that he was looking forward to getting back to work with the Board following his recent illness.

Dr. Weast commented on the 25th season of Homework Hotline Live!. Also, he stated that the Parent Academies were off to a great start this year.

RESOLUTION NO. 474-10Re: **UTILIZATION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2011
PROVISIONS FOR FUTURE SUPPORTED
PROJECTS FUNDS**

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Barclay seconded by Ms. Brandman, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:#

WHEREAS, The above-noted grants qualify for a transfer of appropriation from the Provision for Future Supported Projects, pursuant to the provisions of County Council Resolution No. 16-1374, approved May 27, 2010; and

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

WHEREAS, Sufficient appropriation is available, within the Fiscal Year 2011 Provision for Future Supported Projects, to permit the above-noted transfers within state categories; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized by the Montgomery County Board of Education to receive and expend \$44,000 within the Fiscal Year 2011 Provision for Future Supported Projects, as specified below:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount</u>
National Institute of Standards and Technology Project	\$ 14,000
National Defense Education Program	<u>30,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 44,000</u>

and be it further

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

Re: **ELEMENTARY INTEGRATED CURRICULUM
FRAMEWORK**

Dr. Weast invited the following people to the table: Mr. Erick J. Lang, associate superintendent, Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs; Mr. Martin M. Creel, director, Department of Enriched and Innovative Programs; Ms. Theresa A. Cepaitis, director, Elementary Integrated Curriculum Team; Mrs. Niki T. Hazel, supervisor, Elementary Integrated Curriculum Team; Ms. Laura Evans, supervisor, Elementary Integrated Curriculum Team; and Mr. A. Raymond Myrtle, supervisor, Elementary Integrated Curriculum Team.

This item was presented to the Board for preliminary approval of the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Elementary Integrated Curriculum Framework. Curriculum frameworks are submitted to the Board of Education as required by Board of Education Policy IFA, *Curriculum*, and in support of Goal 1 and Goal 2 of *Our Call to Action: Pursuit of Excellence*, the MCPS strategic plan. The framework establishes the organization and sequence of what students should know and be able to do at the end of each subject, grade level, or course. The standards and objectives included in this framework are from content frameworks previously approved by the Board of Education in all areas, except for information literacy, thinking and academic success skills, reading/language arts, and mathematics. The standards and objectives for reading/language arts and mathematics in this framework are based on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The Maryland State Board of Education adopted the CCSS in English/language arts and mathematics on June 22, 2010. All curriculum and assessments in Maryland within these two critical areas will be based on the CCSS. The Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs will submit a recommended secondary framework in English and mathematics based on the CCSS for approval later this school year. The Thinking and Academic Success Skills were developed by MCPS as part of the Elementary Integrated Curriculum and are submitted pending further collection of feedback and approval at a later Board meeting. This framework includes new information literacy standards developed by the Maryland State Department of Education.

Re: **DISCUSSION**

Ms. Berthiaume noted that the rollout of the kindergarten and first grade curricula is in place, but there are no assessments. Mr. Kauffman remarked about the assessments in the past for reading levels for kindergarteners; how did the pilot schools perform on standardized reading assessments? Staff replied that the data will be gathered to assess the improvements, and there was a small study using the MCPS AP-PR (hand-held assessment) for reading levels. Ms. Berthiaume asked that the data be made available to the Board.

Mrs. O'Neill wanted to know more about differentiation, especially for highly able students. Staff explained that the integrated curriculum shows the teacher that there is not a lock-step approach to instruction, and students need to be held to a set of standards. How that happens is through collaborative team planning and differentiated resources. Finally,

professional development needs to be specific to what teachers need for differentiation. Mrs. O'Neill noted that the common core standards are mandatory from the state. Will the assessments be state-generated? Staff stated that the assessments from the state may change the MSA and/or HSA tests.

Mrs. O'Neill asked about group projects. Staff replied that there will be collaborative projects with individual scoring.

Mr. Barclay wanted to know who is using the web-based tool, and how are they trained. Staff replied that school staff is using the site, and there is the ability to gather data on users. Furthermore, the site is constructed to be "point and click" for ease of use.

Mr. Barclay noted that in success/skill indicators there is metacognition, which is an area to develop in young people. Staff explained that metacognition is reflecting on how an individual learns.

Ms. Berthiaume remarked that differentiation is a good therapy, but a teacher with a classroom of students has to deal with strategies to keep all students learning and progressing at different levels. She asked about a group of students that is moving slowly and taking two weeks to accomplish one week of instruction. Staff replied that professional development provides the teacher with the skills to differentiate for all students. Furthermore, the site has hyperlinks to resources, which makes it easy for teachers to retrieve material and observe teaching techniques. Also, when a group is moving slowly, teachers are expected to use formative assessments and use the data for planning to meet the needs of the students.

Ms. Berthiaume noted the planned day on the website, and she asked if there was autonomy for the individual classroom teacher. Staff explained that the material on the site illustrates an integrated model, but it is not required. Furthermore, the model is accompanied with content and resources.

Mr. Barclay wanted to know how to address the issue of creativity in teaching with rigid assessments. The resources available to teachers using technology are a "click" away. Technology is working in our favor, but is there data demonstrating that instruction is better? He wanted to know if it improves instruction and if there are gaps. When the budget comes before the Board, the Board needs to know that this is money well spent. Finally, professional development is an expensive piece of instruction. Staff replied that this project is funded with a federal grant. The Seven Keys lead a student to college, and this will be used to square the instructional focus. There are more resources available instantly. Finally, the key is a quality teacher aided by staff development teachers in the evolution of a learning community within MCPS.

Dr. Docca agreed with the focus of getting teachers to work together rather than in isolation. The materials are extremely rich and helpful for the teachers. Finally, it is important to check for student understanding of the material at small intervals. Mrs. O'Neill was concerned about the assessments for the common core standards. It is suggested that

there are three assessments prior to a final assessment. Staff explained that there are a lot of measurements to inform instruction, and they were concerned about high stakes testing on a statewide basis. The state has sent people to look at the curriculum and, hopefully, there will be alignment with the assessments.

Ms. Berthiaume asked about gifted instruction and building a curriculum framework for the top 5 percent. Would it look different? Staff stated that the standards are the Maryland standards, but there is exceptional depth in how it plays out.

Ms. Brandman inquired about integrated curriculum and how other subjects are brought into the instruction. Staff replied that integration is through the critical thinking academic success skills. Unifying questions focus integration or the thread that permeates each of the content areas. Staff tries to provide a sequence that maximizes the natural connections among content.

Ms. Brandman referred to standards-based instruction and the new report card. How does the framework fit into standards-based instruction? Staff replied that the framework has a page with an overview of the desired outcomes that students should know and be able to do by the end of the grade level. It is for those items that are measured and related to the standards.

Ms. Berthiaume commented that it is essential in the 21st century for students to know social studies and geographic knowledge.

**RESOLUTION NO. 475-10Re: ELEMENTARY INTEGRATED CURRICULUM
FRAMEWORK**

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Barclay seconded by Mr. Kauffman, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, On February 13, 2001, the Montgomery County Board of Education approved a curriculum policy that guides the development, implementation, and monitoring of curricula throughout the school system; and

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Board of Education approved the curriculum frameworks in English/language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies on July 2, 2001, and approved frameworks in visual arts, general music, health education, and physical education on April 20, 2006; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland State Board of Education adopted the Common Core State Standards in English/language arts and mathematics on June 22, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools has created the research-based Thinking and Academic Success Skills Framework; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools has woven the Thinking and Academic

Success Skills into the existing curriculum frameworks along with the Common Core State Standards to form the innovative Elementary Integrated Curriculum; and

WHEREAS, Feedback and input from stakeholders will be used to develop and refine the Elementary Integrated Curriculum and Thinking and Academic Success Skills framework; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education grant preliminary approval of the MCPS Elementary Integrated Curriculum Framework, which combines existing elementary curriculum, Common Core State Standards, and Thinking and Academic Success Skills as the foundation for the development of the Elementary Integrated Curriculum.

RESOLUTION NO. 476-10Re: **CLOSED SESSIONS RESOLUTION**

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Barclay seconded by Ms. Brandman, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Montgomery County is authorized by the *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 Tuesday, October 12, 2010, in Room 120 of the Carver Educational Services Center to meet from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. and 12:30 to 1:30 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; discuss collective bargaining agreements, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(9) of the *State Government Article*; and discuss matters of an administrative function outside the purview of the *Open Meetings Act* (Section 10-508(a) of the *State Government Article*); and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education shall continue in closed sessions until the completion of business.

RESOLUTION NO. 477-10Re: **REPORT OF CLOSED SESSIONS**

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Barclay seconded by Ms. Brandman, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

On September 16, 2010, by unanimous vote of members present, the Board of Education voted to conduct closed sessions as permitted under the *State Government Article* §10-508(a), *et seq.*, of the *Annotated Code of Maryland*.

The Montgomery County Board of Education met in closed sessions on September 16, 2010, from 9:05 to 9:50 a.m. and 12:00 to 12:30 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 10-508(a) of the *State Government Article*): T-2010-29, DCC-2010-30, 2010-26, 2010-29, 2010-30, 2010-31, 2010-32, and 2010-34.
2. Reviewed and approved the Decisions and Orders for Appeals T-2010-19, T-2010-21, T-2010-23, T-2010-24, T-2010-25, T-2010-27, T-2010-28, 2010-18, 2010-19, 2010-20, 2010-21, 2010-23, and 2010-25.
3. Discussed the Human Resources Monthly Report and Appointment with a subsequent vote in open session, as permitted under Section 10-508(a)(1) of the *State Government Article*.
4. Discussed matters of an administrative function (MABE Committee Assignments, strategies for the new legislative budget session and how to improve the working relationships with municipalities) outside the purview of the *Open Meetings Act* (Section 10-508(a) of the *State Government Article*).

In attendance at the closed session for appeals were Laura Berthiaume, Shirley Brandman, Judy Docca, Michael Durso, Phil Kauffman, Patricia O'Neill, Roland Ikheloa, Suzann King, Glenda Rose, Laura Steinberg, and Kristen Koger. At 9:20 a.m., after the discussion of the appeals and Decisions and Orders, Kristen Koger left the meeting, and Larry Bowers, Frieda Lacey, Jody Leleck, Chris Richardson, Bronda Mills, Carole Goodman, Erick Lang, and Brian Edwards joined the Board of Education to discuss the monthly report and appointment. At 12:00 p.m., James Song joined the Board members to discuss how to improve working relationships with municipalities.

RESOLUTION NO. 478-10Re: **APPEALS**

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Barclay seconded by Ms. Brandman, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education has met in closed session and deliberated on appeals brought before its members acting in its quasi-judicial capacity under Section 10-508(a) of the *State Government Article* of the *Annotated Code of Maryland*; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education hereby decides the following appeals reflective of the Board members' votes in closed session, the disposition of which will be recorded in the minutes of today's meeting:

<u>Appeal Number</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
NEC-2010-31	Student Assignment	Affirmed
T-2010-33	Student Transfer	Reversed
T-2010-34	Student Transfer	Affirmed
2010-35	Early Entrance to Kindergarten	Affirmed
2010-36	Student Suspension Record	Affirmed

2010-37

Early Entrance to Kindergarten

Affirmed

Re: **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

RESOLUTION NO. 479-10Re: **ADJOURNMENT**

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Ms. Brandman seconded by Mr. Barclay, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by members present:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting of September 27, 2010, at 8:45 p.m.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

JDW:gr

Resolution	Barclay	Berthiaume	Brandman	Docca	Durso	Kauffman	O'Neill	Xie
Curriculum Framework	A	A	A	A	O	A	A	A

A = affirmative; N = negative; O = absent; AB = abstain

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
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