

APPROVED  
3-2012

Rockville, Maryland  
January 18, 2012

The Board of Education of Montgomery County held a hearing at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on January 18, 2012, beginning at 7:06 p.m.

Present: Ms. Shirley Brandman, President  
in the Chair  
Mr. Christopher Barclay  
Ms. Laura Berthiaume  
Dr. Judy Docca  
Mr. Philip Kauffman  
Mrs. Patricia O'Neill

Absent: Mr. Michael Durso  
Mr. Alan Xie  
Dr. Joshua Starr, Secretary/Treasurer

**Re: FY 2013 OPERATING BUDGET HEARING**

The following people testified before the Board of Education:

1. Jerry Klobukowski, Commissioner of Poolesville
2. Doug Prouty, Montgomery County Education Association
3. Deb Mugge, Montgomery County Association of Administrative Personnel
4. Merle Cuttitta, SEIU Local 500
5. Robert Monsheimer, Montgomery County Taxpayers League
6. Megan Yang, Commission on Children and Youth
7. Anthony Trinh, President, MCR
8. Sareana Kimia, MCJC
9. Elise Brown Hughes, Whitman Cluster
10. Lynn King, Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster
11. Jennifer Cope, Walter Johnson Cluster
12. Shebra Evans, Wheaton Cluster
13. Stephanie Helsing, Northwood Cluster
14. Jean Claude Zenklusen, Einstein Cluster
15. Susan Fleck, Blair Cluster
16. Richard Edelman, Wootton Cluster
17. Amy Hartley, Rockville Cluster
18. Cheryl Peirce, Richard Montgomery Cluster
19. Donna Lowell, Poolesville Cluster
20. Melanie Twomey, Churchill Cluster
21. Frances Frost, Kennedy Cluster
22. Antonio Cardoso Hernandez, ESOL Bilingual Advisory Committee

23. Jennifer Jones
24. Liz Roth, ARC of Montgomery County
25. Linda Krimm
26. Susan Mathis
27. Heather Borsum
28. Tom Jacobson, Montgomery Blair PTA

The Board of Education asked the following questions:

1. Dr. Docca asked for information about the Poolesville transfer policy.
2. Ms. Brandman referred to the student/counselor ratio goal. What would it cost to reach that goal?
3. Ms. Brandman asked for clarification on the applications program at Wheaton. What are the assumptions for staffing?
4. Mr. Barclay asked about the “dead” links on the web site for report cards in foreign languages (Ms. Fleck’s testimony). Please check to see what has happened.
5. Mr. Barclay asked for a definition of focus teachers and academic intervention teachers. What are their responsibilities? What are the staff allocations? How are the staffing decisions made for those positions?
6. Ms. Berthiaume asked about the cost of restoring the cuts to elementary instrumental music teachers that have been made over the past several years.
7. Ms. Berthiaume asked for an explanation about what happened with the Twinbrook ELO summer program. How was it lost in May and restored in September?
8. Ms. Berthiaume noted that for the last several years the first item frozen has been instructional material. Is there a way of checking the inventory to determine what the loss has been in terms of reading sets, books, and other shared material in the classroom?
9. Mr. Kauffman asked for a schedule for providing promethean boards to elementary schools.
10. Mrs. O’Neill wanted to make sure that the explanation of how Title I decisions are made are placed on the web.
11. Mr. Kauffman asked about staffing allocations for instrumental music teachers at the elementary level compared with neighboring jurisdictions. What is the trend over the past five years?
12. Ms. Berthiaume asked for the staffing of instrumental music at a per pupil ratio compared to 2001. Using that ratio, what would be the number of instructors budgeted for FY 2013?
13. Dr. Docca asked about the staffing allocations of Blair based on Mr. Jacobson’s testimony.
14. Ms. Brandman inquired about the class size for instrumental music classes in elementary schools.

The hearing ended at 9:22 p.m.

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

JPS:gr