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APPENDIX

FROM THE

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FOR  
HOWARD COUNTY**

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ACADEMIC YEAR 1990–1991  
THRU  
ACADEMIC YEAR 2000–2001

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**EXCERPTS RELATING TO**

**HIGH SCHOOL CAPACITY**

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Selected by

Allen R. Dyer  
13340 Hunt Ridge  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042  
410-531-3965

Board Member

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**Unsolicited Donation** Dr. Hickey presented an unsolicited donation from Stephen Hill valued at \$1,000 to be donated to Hammond Middle School. It is a Apple IIe computer with monochrome monitor, two disk drives, and computer software.

The motion was made by Dr. Campbell and seconded by Mrs. Hutchinson. The Board voted in favor of accepting the donation.

**Proposed  
Instructional  
Materials and Review  
Schedule**

Michael Savarese presented the annual report, according to policy, which contained the recommendation for materials to be used in September 1991. He reported that materials would be on display in the Professional Library from December 14, 1990 to January 12, 1991 for citizens review. Final action is scheduled for February 14, 1991.

Mr. Hanna questioned the inclusion of a book for English Language Arts with a 1966 publication date. Dr. Palmer explained that these are literary selections, and Chris Paulis added that the book was included for grade nine as a part of fictional and non-fictional modes.

Mr. Hanna also questioned the three sources which are proposed for the Media Blanket Approval List. Mr. Savarese responded that each of the materials had been evaluated and given favorable recommendations by various critics and are listed in various publications. Dr. Palmer added that the publications are journals which make recommendations about media materials.

Dr. Palmer noted that any requests for re-evaluation will be presented to the Board on January 24, 1991. Mrs. Kendig suggested that Board members review any materials by January 12, 1991 and that any questionable volumes can be reviewed by the Board between the January 24, 1991 date and the date for final approval.

**High School  
Educational  
Specifications**

Dan Jett presented the proposed High School Educational Specifications for 1990. He noted that the last time the specifications had been revised was in 1983 when they were used for the renovation of Atholton High and Glenelg High Schools. He stated that the committee recommended one or more work sessions with the members of the committee, supervisors, and the Office of Construction and Planning. Mr. Jett noted that most of the committee members plan to attend the public hearing, but recognized those members present. He acknowledged the work of Dr. Jack Dellastatious in the development of the document. Mr. Jett explained that the committee had attempted to identify characteristics and space - not design an actual building. He reported that there was an increase in the amount of square footage recommended due to the inclusion of additional space, i.e., choral room and gifted and talent resource room; increased student capacity to 1400 rather than 1000; and program changes that call for additional square footage.

Mr. Jett shared the committee's suggestion that planners needed to keep in mind the following:

- User Friendliness
- Age and Maturation Differences Among High School Students

- Flexibility
- Joint Use of Facilities
- Communications
- Technology
- Security.

In addition, Mr Jett identified specific pages in the report such as the Summary of Net Square Footage in 1983 and 1990 Educational Specifications and Changes in Classrooms or Other Spaces. He noted that special education specifications, a gifted and talented resource rooms, and a parent volunteer room are new to the 1990 specifications.

Mr. Jett acknowledged that the committee recognizes that there is a deal of interest and variables in the final design and stands willing to work with the Board.

Dr. Hickey reminded the Board that when comparing the 1983 and 1990 specifications that the school system was not building a new high school in 1983. He pointed out that the specifications had been developed for a set of assumptions. He stated that when planning an entire structure that different assumptions are made about programs and that in addition to enrollment and program changes there may be philosophical differences. Mrs. Kendig was in agreement and did not remember having a complete document in the past as for elementary and middle school specifications.

Mrs. Kendig suggested that the Board hold a work session due to the amount of information provided. She supported the recommendation for joint usage. She reported that during the summer of 1989 the Arts Council had completed an assessment of county facilities in order to use auditoriums and stages for community theater and that school system facilities did not provide the space needed. Mrs. Kendig thought that the community organizations should be involved in possible recommendations in order for facilities to be advantageous for their use.

Dr. Hickey reminded the Board that staff has been meeting with the Department of Recreation and Parks specifically to focus on joint use of facilities. He also noted some interest on the part of the Columbia Association and the Columbia Festival of the Arts regarding joint use. He stated that Recreation and Parks had asked to be informed when detailed discussions were going to be held. He suggested that the Board may want to extend an invitation to the Arts Council and community. Dr. Cousin added that once an architect is hired for the high school design staff would ask him to bring on a consultant to study shape, size, usage, etc. Dr. Hickey stated that it might be possible to have the Arts Council assist with a consultant as they are planning to look at theater space at Rockland as part of their renovation.

In response to Mrs. Kendig, Mr. Jett reported that the committee met with the students of Centennial High School who had designed a high school of the future. He noted that the students had also shared their models.

Dr. Hickey requested that the Board permit him to develop a schedule for the approval of the educational specifications. Dr. Campbell noted that there was no provision for a public hearing in the proposed schedule but believed one was needed. Dr. Hickey suggested that the schedule include a work session, public hearing, and another work session.

Jim Swab, President, HCEA, asked if high school teachers had been included on the committee. Mr. Jett responded in the affirmative.

Dr. Campbell asked when the revisions would be provided to the Board. Mr. Jett indicated that they would be ready by Monday, December 13 and would be distributed to public organizations. Dr. Campbell stressed the need to get them to the public for the hearing as soon as possible.

Mrs. Kendig expressed the Board's appreciation to Mr. Jett and the committee for their efforts in developing the proposed specifications.

**Approval of Minutes** The minutes of November 8, 1990 were approved following additions and corrections by the members of the Board. The motion was made by Dr. Campbell and seconded by Mr. Hanna.

Dr. Campbell made the motion which Mrs. Hutchinson seconded to approve the minutes of November 20, 1990. The amended minutes were approved unanimously by the members of the Board.

The motion to approve the minutes of December 6, 1990 was made by Dr. Campbell and seconded by Mr. Hanna. The minutes were approved by the Board.

**Executive Session** Dr. Campbell made the motion for the Board to meet in executive session in accordance with the State Government Volume of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 10.508 to discuss site acquisitions and contract negotiations. It was seconded by Mr. Hanna. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**Adjournment** The meeting was adjourned by the chairman at 9 p.m.

**Information Items** Status of School Construction Projects  
Hiring and Separations

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY

**Tuesday, January 15, 1991**

The Board of Education of Howard County held a special meeting on Tuesday, January 15, 1991, beginning at 4:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Department of Education located at 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, Maryland. A public work session and hearing on the proposed High School Educational Specifications was the purpose of the meeting. The following were present:

Deborah D. Kendig, Chairman  
Dana F. Hanna, Vice Chairman  
Karen B. Campbell  
Susan J. Cook  
Ruth Y. Hutchinson

Michael E. Hickey, Superintendent and Secretary/Treasurer  
James R. McGowan, Associate Superintendent  
Joan M. Palmer, Associate Superintendent  
Maurice F. Kalin, Associate Superintendent  
Daniel Jett, Instructional Director of High Schools  
Charles Scott, Student Associate  
Julene Crooks, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by the chairman.

**Executive Session**      The Board met in executive session on Thursday, January 10, to discuss a personnel issue in accordance with the State Government Volume of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 10:508.

**Work Session**            The Board held a public work session on the proposed High School Educational Specifications. Members of the committee and Central Office staff were present to respond to concerns and questions.

Dr. Cousin provided information on the cost of construction. At the current rate of \$100 per square foot with additional percentages for site development, a contingency fund, related contracts, architectural fees, and equipment, the estimated cost for a 1400 capacity high school would be approximately \$34,790,000. He noted that a multi-story building would be more economic.

The Board reviewed each area and asked questions regarding additional space to address the increased enrollment and proposed program changes.

Several questions which the Board members posed required further information. Mr. Jett agreed to supply the following:

- The number of lavatories adjacent to the auditorium
- The number of students in foreign language
- Definition of "water paving"
- Regular lighting for special education classrooms.

**Adjournment**            The meeting was adjourned by the chairman at 6:30 p.m. and reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

Approved - February 14, 1991

H.S. Capacity 000004

**Public Hearing**

Ellen Rennels, PTA Council, asked if there had been a change in philosophy from the smaller school to a larger 1400 capacity school which has more technology and whether or not the proposed high school would create equity problems in the future.

Ms. Rennels voiced concern that classroom size was too small based on numbers of students and the fact that no mention was made in the document regarding windows and types of walls. She suggested that windows needed to be at eye level and openable for ventilation in some areas. She questioned the number of paired classrooms with folding walls. Ms. Rennels also raised the issue of access to the Media Center due to projected high technology.

Ms. Rennels noted that the width of hallways and size and location of student lockers was not addressed in the report. In addition, she was surprised that specific information on lavatories was missing and suggested the need for a greater number of female facilities.

Ms. Rennels stated that the document needed to be user friendly and she found it to be inconsistent and repetitious in some areas. She suggested a standard list of equipment for classrooms and a glossary.

Ms. Rennels criticized the fact that there were no PTA representatives, parents, non-system people from the community, or students on the committee.

Dr. Campbell thanked Ms. Rennels for her comments, and Dr. Hickey indicated that staff would respond to her comments and concerns.

Charles Scott, Student Associate, suggested that an office be added for SGA and NHS to share. He asked if the program changes would be included in the renovations or additions to older schools.

Mrs. Kendig remarked that the Board had discussed the issue of retrofitting schools and noted that the document is basically a guide for new schools but will be used for renovations where possible. Dr. Campbell added that the document would be used as a guide but not necessarily as the specifications.

Mrs. Kendig added that the possibility of a multi-story building and hallway specifications had been discussed earlier. She pointed out that the amount of square footage provided is a net figure and that walls, utilities, and hallways are added as gross space and these help to define the efficiency of the building.

Dr. Cousin added that corridors and increased lavatory size would increase the efficiency of the building. He reported that the number of lavatory facilities always exceeds the number required by the code in order to accommodate the community use of the building.

Mrs. Kendig suggested that a disclaimer that the equipment list was meant as a guideline not for specific purchases should be added to the document.

Dr. Campbell, responding to Ms. Rennel's question regarding the size of the high school, stated that the Board had made the decision that future high schools would be larger and that the discussion had revolved around limiting the capacity to maintain the present atmosphere in the high schools. The Board reached a consensus that the capacity would be 1400. Dr. Cousin added that there is a 10% utilization figure built in and that the design capacity would be 1540.

Donald Hicken, Columbia Festival of the Arts, encouraged the Board to construct larger auditoriums for joint use with the community as performing arts facilities. He believed there was a potential for income as well. He noted that the facility would provide a flexible "classroom" for production students to work with lighting, sound equipment, and other equipment. Mr. Hicken also indicated that the facility would provide an opportunity for students to upgrade performances in the school. He suggested that the school system might also want to sponsor a performance series by simply making the lobbies separate from the rest of the school. He suggested that the auditorium be constructed with a center aisle and additional seating capacity.

Mrs. Kendig thanked Mr. Hicken for his comments.

### **Adjournment**

The chairman adjourned the meeting at 8 p.m.

**High School  
Educational  
Specifications**

Mrs. Hutchinson. The Board voted unanimously in favor of approval.

Dr. Dan Jett reminded the members of the Board that the proposed High School Educational Specifications had been presented in December of last year and contained recommendations for an ideal high school to meet future needs. He reported that staff had since looked at the specifications from other perspectives including other school systems, architectural standards, Maryland State Department of Education guidelines, net square footage, and the County Executive's recommendation that new schools be downsized by 10%. He pointed out reduced square footage would produce a significant difference in cost. Each curriculum office was asked to reduce the December recommendations for space, minimizing program impact, by 10%. At this point, non-instructional space was re-evaluated and the new revised specifications, in terms of square footage, were developed. Dr. Jett requested that the new figures for square footage be adopted by the Board in order for staff to revise the Educational Specifications document.

According to Dr. Jett, the adoption of the specifications would be the stepping off point for the planning committee, comprised of community members, staff, and students, to develop the next level of detail for the new high school. He pointed out that there were some personnel implications in the revised proposed square footages including three assistant principals, space for counseling, and additional teaching stations based on projected 1400 student enrollment. In addition, Dr. Jett pointed out that there are planned Technology Research Rooms for math, science, and social studies in place of Computer Technology Labs. Each department is planned to have 60 square feet of planning space per teacher. Dr. Jett noted that classroom size will be uniform at 800 net square feet in order to provide for multi-use of the space and to avoid any dedicated space that will be limiting in the future.

Dr. Jett shared specific data from the chart, High School Education Specifications Summary. He pointed out that the total net square footage was reduced from 187,000 square feet to 160,000 square feet with a 1,000 seat auditorium, which will be similar in size to Wilde Lake High School. The cafeteria, in the new specifications, has also been downsized from the original proposal.

With regard to the 62 proposed teaching stations, Dr. Cousin stated that the total capacity would accommodate 1311 regular students and 68 special education students or a total of 1379 which is slightly less than the projected 1400 student enrollment.

Dr. Jett also provided greater detail from the High School Educational Specifications by Program Area Chart.

In response to Mrs. Kendig's question regarding the language to be used regarding the place holders (technology resource room) for space, Dr. Cousin explained that it is important to remember when writing educational specifications not to be too prescriptive and thus discourage flexibility. He pointed out that different subject areas requested computer classrooms but that this might not be the best use of the space



in the future. He added that specifics of this nature would be too narrowing.

Mrs. Hutchinson, noting Dr. Jett's comment that supervisors had been asked to reduce the square footage in their areas, asked if teachers had also be asked to participate. Dr. Jett responded that this occurred to the extent that supervisors contacted teachers within their area of responsibility. Dr. Cousin added that the information to reach the 10% reduction goal was returned from the supervisors in many different forms. He acknowledged that the greatest reductions would be taken in those areas with the greatest amount of square footage, i.e., auditorium, cafeteria, and physical education.

Mr. Hanna questioned the size of the cafeteria; specifically, if it would be the size of Mt. Hebron's. Georgia Davis responded that the cafeteria would be much larger than the one at Mt. Hebron. She believed that it will be the size of the cafeteria at Atholton High School with its new addition. Dr. Cousin added that the size would be based on the amount of square footage required to accommodate one-third of the schools students plus 20%.

Mr. Hanna inquired whether projected enrollments had been taken into account within the curriculum areas of math and science in developing the square footage. Dr. Jett noted that the science area has been increased to 16,450 square feet which is the size of the new addition at Oakland Mills High School. It had been determined that the 10,910 square feet would be inadequate. Mr. Hanna indicated that he was somewhat perplexed with the projected square footage for mathematics and asked for clarification regarding enrollment. Dr. Jett responded that this curriculum area was being increased by two teaching stations. Dr. Hickey also noted that with the proposed changes in the math curriculum that math grouping classes will be more effective academically and in use of space.

Dr. Campbell asked if a fairly high percentage of students take math throughout their high school years. Dr. Cousin responded that a utilization factor of 100% is used. Flexibility of space will make it possible for a math, English, or social studies class to use the space as enrollment fluctuates.

Dr. Campbell voiced concern over the proposed reduction in square footage for the auditorium especially in light of the fact that the entire student body could not be seated at one time. Dr. Jett responded that concern had been expressed over allotting the large amount of square footage for a space that is used relatively little. Dr. Campbell pointed out that recent discussions regarding auditoriums included joint use by the community. She believed that it was important for the school system to decide what it wanted in its schools and what was best for its students. She stated that she had been in many other auditoriums in the county in which she felt more comfortable than the one at Wilde Lake High School. Dr. Campbell was concerned with limiting a school with a much larger population to an auditorium the size of Wilde Lake.

Dr. Hickey pointed out that a recent survey by the Howard County Arts Council indicated an auditorium capacity greater than 1,000 was not needed. He agreed with Dr. Campbell regarding the differences in the auditoriums but added that the space at Wilde Lake is better suited for arts utilization and arts instruction. He pointed out that the consultant for the survey also indicated a need for any joint-use facility to be centrally located.

Dr. Campbell asked if drama presentations and after school activities that occur in the auditorium had been considered. Dr. Jett explained that these activities were considered as instructional activities and related to curriculum and that the auditorium size would be adequate. Dr. Campbell stated that she was not addressing the extra or collateral space, but the auditorium itself. She added that young voices do not carry well in a large auditorium.

Dr. Jett noted that the gymnasium at 10,000 net square feet would be sized to seat 1400 students. Dr. Campbell agreed that this information impacted on her attitude considerably as she felt it was important for the student body to gather as a whole for such programs as drug prevention or drunken driving. She, therefore, agreed to downsizing the auditorium but did not want the school system merely to be directed by the County Executive's arbitrary downsizing recommendation of 10%.

Mrs. Cook stated that she had the same concern regarding the auditorium but was relieved to know that activities could be held in the gymnasium. She did, however, question the different amount of space of 800 net square feet for a classroom and 750 net square feet for child development in the home economics area. Dr. Jett noted that this had been done to provide a single classroom which could be used for two subjects and two labs. He explained that the same thing occurred in the business education area.

In response to Mrs. Kendig, Dr. McGowan explained that staff was requesting a consensus by the Board regarding the new proposed square footage figures in order to incorporate them in the document. This consensus was provided by the members of the Board.

Dr. Cousin pointed out that the final school will be constructed at gross square footage, and it will be the job of the architect to convert the amounts. This high school will contain 228,742 gross square feet, and outdoor facilities are not included in this figure.

**Policy 3711  
Child Abuse, Sexual  
Abuse, and Neglect**

Dr. Hickey requested approval of the policy even though a concern had been raised by the County Office of Law regarding language in the Memorandum of Understanding. He noted that any changes in this agreement would be presented at the next meeting of the Board.

Dr. McGowan presented proposed revisions as follows:

Regulations

Page 2 of 8, II.A.1.b., requires employee to report to the superintendent and principal a report of suspected neglect.

changed. It was important, according to Dr. McGowan, not to look at a fixed point and say that achievement cannot grow beyond that point.

Dr. Campbell did not believe one test should predict what is expected of a student. She thought it was important to remember that the determination of expected achievement is in part measured by another test. She pointed out that there is no way of determining what human beings can achieve and that this comparison is still part of a statistical game.

Dr. Kalin noted that there is a lot of good news in the data and probably the best year for some time. Achievement scores are above the norm and exceed the anticipated scores which means that a lot that is good is happening in the classroom. Functional testing scores remain high, and the school system ranks best in the state in the Maryland School Performance Program. He added, however, that the data also points to areas where there needs to be some concerns and this proves to be a valuable tool in determining what is needed in the future. Dr. Kalin noted that the school system is down in writing and language and that ethnic differences have been identified. Dr. Kalin pointed out that most of the surrounding counties had about 1% excluded from the tests; whereas, Howard County had approximately 1/10 of 1%.

Mrs. Kendig stated that she had requested a brief overview of the MSPP data because the Board members are the only group which has not had a presentation.

### **High School Educational Specifications**

Dr. Dan Jett noted that the proposed educational specifications have been further refined with a continuing square footage of 162,310. He added that the proposed Western High School, with its new organizational plan, is the first new school to be built by the proposed specifications.

Dr. Jett explained that a few changes had been made to meet the projected enrollment of 1400 students. They included additional space for a third assistant principal's office and auditorium for music and drama and community theater groups. The cafeteria has been sized for three lunch shifts where 1/3 of the student body plus 20% can eat during each shift. In addition, there is space in the guidance area for an additional counselor. The music education area, after considerable discussion, does not have risers in the instrumental room. The teacher planning and technology rooms are organized by curriculum area and place holders have been included for these needs.

In referring to the organizational plan for Western High School, Dr. Jett reiterated that the "architects and planners are to translate the educational specifications....into a facility with all of the components, spaces, and dimensions as indicated in the educational specifications; however, they are to be organized according to the....organizational plan."

Dr. Campbell questioned whether or not the science area would be sufficient if the graduation requirements were increased to three credits and more students would be in science classes. Dr. Jett responded that

the opportunity to deliver science differently may not require additional space. Also, if credit can be defined by other than clock hours there may be more students taking science. Dr. Campbell asked if there would be a scheduling problem or other problems if the new graduation requirements did not allow for flexibility. Dr. Jett responded that in that event three sections would have to be accommodated which could be a problem. The proposed square footage is based on 85% utilization.

Dr. Cousin pointed out that 85% capacity would accommodate 1120 students and 90%, 1260 students.

Dr. McGowan added that based on the fact that 82% of the students across the county are taking three credits 25% are enrolled in each grade level and that is over 75% of the students taking science each year. He projected eight sections would be needed for the entire student body to take science. Four sections would be required for 90%.

Dr. Hickey added that if flexible allowances are not included in the graduation requirement, much will depend on technology requirement which may be met in some areas other than in a science lab.

Mrs. Cook suggested that "stadium lighting" mentioned on page 138 be removed since the Board had previously requested it be deleted. Dr. Jett agreed and stated that it was an oversight.

Mr. Hanna stated that he was pleased to see that some of the specificity of the original documents had been removed and that a student activities area had been added. He still voiced concern about the insufficient number of women's lavatories in the auditorium area. Mrs. Hutchinson and Dr. Campbell suggested an increase in the number. Dr. Jett remarked that the number included was standard.

Dr. Jett reported, in responding to Mr. Hanna, that each curriculum office had multiple opportunities to study the specifications.

Dr. Hickey asked if the specifications are satisfactory to the Department of Recreation and Parks. Dr. Cousin responded that they were not entirely happy with the specifications as some of the things they had requested were too extravagant or involved too many outdoor facilities which are not befitting of an educational program. Dr. Hickey inquired as to whether or not there would be any value at this point in time in offering the county the opportunity to fund those special requests, i.e., cost of astro turf.

Mr. Hanna was in agreement with providing the county with said opportunity if they were willing to provide funding.

Mrs. Kendig voiced concern with overloading the site. She was unsure as to whether or not Recreation and Parks should be provided this additional opportunity.

Dr. Campbell stated that she was unwilling to take on the building of the "Taj Mahal" but was willing to take responsibility for the specifications. She voiced concern that expectations may be raised when there may not be a consensus by the Board.

Mrs. Cook did not believe that the school system was in the business of providing superior facilities for Recreation and Parks programs. Community use of the building is a by-product of the neighborhood facility built for education and is not the main thrust of construction.

Dr. Cousin noted that Recreation and Parks was asking for additional space in the physical education area in the auxiliary gym for a full basketball court. He pointed out that even though they will be paying the debt service their requests would increase the cost of the building. He noted that the agreement is for collaborative development of sites and buildings and Recreation and Parks has input but not final say about cost or inclusion of facilities on the site.

Dr. Hickey pointed out that Western High School will be the first high school built in 12 years and the only new facility sized for adult and athletic use. He acknowledged that due to the growing and aging population there is not sufficient space for male and female sports activities to meet the demand. He was in agreement not to build anything on the site which would intrude, but if Recreation and Parks is willing to provide financial assistance that it would provide an opportunity to build a larger gym.

Mrs. Kendig agreed that it made sense to contact the County Executive if the additions did not infringe on the site or over power the program. Mr. Hanna agreed that the county should be given the opportunity.

Jamie Kendrick asked if it would be possible to designate one field for baseball and softball season as the fields used for football and soccer are trampled. Dr. Cousin responded that the proposed number of fields are the minimum and noted that the school system can not afford the luxury of dedicated fields. He noted that the proposed design layout will have no overlapping fields and that the stadium field will be used for competition, not practice. This will include marching units. In response to Jamie, Dr. Cousin noted that the ideal placement of the fields would be so that the sun is not in the players' eyes. Dr. Jett added that the optimum would be a placement east of north.

Dr. McGowan expressed hope that the elimination of stadium lighting did not preclude outdoor lighting to allow for use of the track by adults later in the evening.

Mrs. Kendig suggested that mention of the Math Skills Lab needed to be removed.

In response to Mrs. Cook, Dr. Jett stated that there would be a total of 12 lockers for custodians.

Mr. Hanna made the motion that the general educational specifications be approved with two minor amendments that consideration be given to

increasing the number of women's lavatory facilities in the auditorium area and the removal of stadium lights. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hutchinson.

The Board voted in favor of the motion.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by the chairman at 9:30 p.m.

**Information Items**

Status of School Construction Projects  
School Zone Safety Study (Howard High School)  
Foreign Travel Study

- Supported continuing commitment to school construction to meet growth.

Margaret Zaiser, Howard County School Bus Contractors Association

- Stated that quality of schools and transportation department have been consistent
- Noted that bus contractors and drivers are reasonable for the safety of the children
- Stressed the importance of maintaining benefits for drivers; health plan
- Asked that consideration be given to a small increase.

Brian Jolles, Parent, Infants and Toddlers Program

- Noted that the program is a model for programs across the country
- Requested funding to provide a summer program.

Judy Sheldon, PTA, St. John's Lane Elementary School

- Requested an increase in the budget for teacher "pool" positions to address over enrollment
- Noted that classes were over crowded the first day of school and the fact that parents should be encouraged to pre-register kindergartners.

Mr. Hanna asked if staffing adjustments are made of schools with "historical surprises." Dr. McGowan responded the staffing adjustments are made on July 1, late August, and again after September 1 or approximately four or five days into the school year in order for enrollment to stabilize. He noted that there is a real hazard of assigning staff too early because teachers will have to be transferred after the beginning of school if enrollment does not develop. Dr. McGowan noted that a meeting has been planned with the PTA at St. John's Lane Elementary School in an attempt to address some of the issues.

Ellen Mugmon, Voices for Children

- Supported funding in Chapter 2 for child abuse program
- Supported funding in Chapter 2 for school-based teams
- Supported interdisciplinary coordination of services
- Supported increase in supplies and materials of instruction for health education at the elementary level
- Supported increased funding for additional psychological services.

Robert Kaufman, Parent

- Suggested that now is the time to discuss next year's operating budget
- Requested that funding be set aside to investigate alternatives, i.e., additional schools in high growth areas or making existing schools larger
- Requested consideration of additional positions for overenrolled schools
- Requested that the electronic media be investigated as a means of teaching large numbers of students
- Stated that redistricting should be avoided
- Voiced concern for years 1996 and 1999
- Stated that the system is breaking under the growth.

Mr. Hanna stated that the Board has previous entertained discussion about larger sized high schools but decided that capacity would not be greater than 1400. He pointed out that one of the problems with larger enrollments was there would be less opportunity for students to participate in singular items such as theater productions.

Ann Jones Koch, Parent, St. John's Lane Elementary School

- Stated that long term solutions for over crowding should be addressed in the capital budget
- Voiced concern with the lack of "pool" teachers
- Wanted numbers to be provided sooner in the school year in order to provide necessary teachers

Approved - February 11, 1993

**Approval of Architect  
Eastern High School**

Dr. Brown recommended that the Board approve the firm of Thomas Clark and Associates in the amount of \$1,250,000 to design a facility with a 1400 student capacity. The firm is currently the architect for Mount View Middle School and recently completed Pointers Run Elementary School.

The motion for approval was made by Mrs. Cook, seconded by Mrs. French, and approved by the members of the Board.

**Staff Personnel****Resignations**

Name	School	Grade or Subject	Reason	Years in Howard County	Effective Date
Bohn, Linda	WOES	Elem. Ed.	Relocation	2	6/30/93
Ridgeway, Wayne	HCST	Wk. Exp.	Relocation	24	6/30/93
Sommers, Kathy	RBES	Media	Relocation	2	6/30/93

The motion for acceptance was made by Mrs. Johnston, seconded by Mrs. Cook, and approved by the Board.

**Contracts**

Name	School	Grade or Subject	Place of Last Teaching Assignment	Grade / Step	Effective Date
Gladden-Hanks, Tracey	Unassign.	Elem. Ed.	A-1	8/23/93	
Greenleaf, Todd	Unassign.	SS	-	A-1	8/23/93
McLarty, Loraine	Unassign.	Health	-	A-1	8/23/93

The motion for approval was made by Mrs. Cook, seconded by Mrs. Kendig, and approved by the Board.

**Leaves of Absence**

Name	School	Grade or Subject	Reason	Years in Howard County	Effective Date
Eddy, Nanette	DRES	Music	Childbearing	5	6/18/93
Wilkes, Marygrace	BBES	G/T	Childrearing	2	8/23/93

The motion for approval was made by Mrs. Johnston, seconded by Mrs. Kendig, and approved by the Board.

**Retirements**

Name	School	Grade or Subject	Years in Howard County	Effective Date
Berry, John	OMMS	Music	25	7/1/93
Conklin, Carol	DMS	Sp.Ed.	19	7/1/93
Daudelin, Byron	PMS	Coun.	25	7/1/93
Gnizak, Eleanor	MHHS	Eng.	21	7/1/93
Kirkwood, Laura	DMS	Media	25	7/1/93
Shriver, Ronald	GHS	Math	31	7/1/93
Wilson, Barbara	OMHS	Eng.	25	7/1/93

Approved - June 10, 1993



MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY

**Thursday, June 10, 1993**

The Board of Education of Howard County held a regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, June 10, 1993, at 4 p.m., in the Board Room of the Department of Education located at 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, Maryland. The following were present:

Dana F. Hanna, Chairman  
Susan J. Cook, Vice Chairman  
Sandra H. French  
Linda L. Johnston

Michael E. Hickey, Superintendent, Secretary/Treasurer  
James R. McGowan, Associate Superintendent  
Joan M. Palmer, Associate Superintendent  
Maurice F. Kalin, Associate Superintendent  
Sydney L. Cousin, Associate Superintendent  
Doug Ulman, Student Associate to the Board  
Julene Crooks, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 4 p.m. by the Chairman.

**Listening Post**

Mr. Hanna stated that the Listening Post is an opportunity for the public to address issues that are not on the agenda.

Gwen Grace, President, Centennial High School PTSA stated the need for a fourth guidance counselor. She noted that there will be 1300 students enrolled in Centennial in the fall. She also requested an additional administrator.

Mr. Hanna responded that the new high schools will be built with a 1400 student capacity and the school system will need to come to grips with staffing needs.

Elizabeth Phillips requested four guidance counselors for Mt. Hebron High School due to growth and asked that the Board review the policy on the Transfer of Administrators.

Following the attempt of several individuals to speak regarding the transfer of administrators, Mr. Hanna closed the Listening Post after reiterating that comments on agenda items would not be allowed.

**Approval of Agenda**

The motion for approval was made by Mrs. French and seconded by Mrs. Cook. Dr. Hickey proposed the following additions:

- Item VI.D. - Appointment - Jim Swab, President, HCEA
- Item IV. G. - St. John's Lane Easement for Pathway - Action.

The amended agenda was approved.

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H.S. Capacity 000016

Mrs. Kendig questioned the amount of activity at Northfield Elementary and Dunloggin Middle Schools. Dr. Cousin reported 21 acts of vandalism at Dunloggin in addition to a number of thefts. He noted that in cases such as this it is almost always the same individual or group of individuals. He added that it happens from school to school over a period of year, citing Thunder Hill and Dasher Green/ Owen Brown. Dr. Cousin pointed out that it often stops once the individual or group has been caught or moves.

In response to Mrs. Johnston, Dr. Cousin reported that Dunloggin Middle School's lighting is no different than any other middle school.

Mrs. French questioned whether or not the graffiti is tracked as far as what is written, i.e., racial or ethnic slurs. Dr. Cousin responded that racial epithets are reported to Dr. Jacqueline Brown.

Mrs. Johnston asked if the vandals were students. Dr. Cousin responded that the only way of knowing that is to catch the individuals. Many times the individuals involved are not students at the school.

Dr. Cousin stated that the question of lighting comes up repeatedly as to whether or not it attracts or detracts vandalism. He reported that most data indicates that lighting is a nuisance to the school facility.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was recessed by the Chairman at 6:30 p.m.

### **Listening Post**

Seeing no one who wished to address the Board when it reconvened at 7:30 p.m., the Chairman requested that staff continue with the budget presentation.

### **Presentation - FY 95 Capital Budget and FY 96-2000 Capital Improvement Program**

Mr. Hanna announced that the Board would hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 7, at 7:30 p.m.; a public work session on Tuesday, October 12, at 7:30 p.m.; and approve the proposed Capital Budget and Capital Improvement Program on Thursday, October 14, at 2 p.m.

Dr. Hickey explained that he would provide an overview of the proposal, Dr. Kalin would report on specific planning aspects of the Capital Budget, and Dr. Cousin would share proposed changes in capital projects.

Dr. Hickey's presentation included the following information:

- Three components
  - FY 95 Capital Budget
  - FY 96-2000 Capital Improvement Program
  - FY 95-2004 Long Range Master Plan (first year)
- Enrollment Growth
  - 13,000 (increase of 39%) students over next 10 years
  - September 2004 enrollment

K	217	8%
1-5	2,980	21%
6-8	3,949	51%
9-12	5,571	65%

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- Elementary Schools (FY 95 Capital Budget/FY 96-2000 CIP)
  - K - increase 429 students (16%)
  - 1-5 - increase 3600 students (26%)
  - 26 of 31 schools over capacity
  - Under capacity schools located in Columbia
  - Enrollment will peak in 2001 and begin gradual decline
  - No school closings until 2010; permits space to be used educationally for the purpose for which it was designed
  - Addition of new school in Northern region
- Middle Schools
  - Increase of 2,607 students (34%)
  - 11 of 14 schools over capacity
  - Enrollment will peak in 2004 at 11, 975
  - Addition of new school for NE/SE regions
- High Schools
  - Increase of 3,587 students (40%)
  - 7 of 8 schools over capacity
  - Enrollment will peak in 2008 with 16,463 students (82% over current enrollment)
- Highlights
  - Long Range Master Plan contains 21 instructional facilities and 7 related projects
  - Renovation capacity of Wilde Lake High School has been increased from 1200 to 1400 students
  - Additions proposed to increase capacity to 1400 students
    - Hammond High School
    - Centennial High School
    - Mt. Hebron High School
    - Howard High School
  - Funds for systemic renovations increased to \$1 million per year to an average of \$8.5 million over 10 years
  - Project costs decreased by 8.5% when compared to current budget and Capital Improvement Program; fiscally and educationally unwise to reduce additional 10% as requested by County Executive
- Bottom line
  - Grand Total for 10 years - \$300,359,000
  - Average of \$21.5 million per year for the county; next several years carry a higher impact
  - State share estimated at \$5 million per year
  - Transfer tax estimated at \$3.5 million per year
  - All projections based on 1995 dollars.

Dr. Kalin reviewed the proposed document and noted the following:

- September 2 student count for kindergarten was 291 below projection; considered to be an anomaly; projection matched the state projection; only happened once in the last 18 years
- Centralized locations to eventual neighborhood(s) and (area)s including mixed use areas should be considered for school sites
- Page 4 - individuals have suggested that the first enrollment count be used as the basis for determining space needs; percentage of increase will be slightly lower
- Page 6 - tentative assignment of relocatables has been made; changes possible during the boundary line process
- Page 9 - conservative budget relies on redistricting of students in the northeast to Columbia East to eliminate the potential need for one school; may be needed if not successful
- Pages 9 - 21 - planning portion of the document; completed first; leads to planning of the

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Capital Budget; changes do not occur here; changes occur in the fiscal request based on many variables, i.e., funding availability

- Page 11 - recommendations have been replaced by considerations
- Page 14 - conservative budget in that relocatables may be used to deal with over capacity in the western region if population peaks and begins to decline in 2004
- Page 18 - high school population projected to peak in 2008; conservative approach used to accommodate over capacity with relocatables
- Page 25 - contains specific notes regarding enrollment statistics and projects
- Page 103 - APFO requests that projections be made to 2007; school system unable to support that request and is working on reprogramming software for this purpose by October 7.

Dr. Cousin, too, spoke of the conservative nature of the Capital Budget; however, he pointed out that all projects have been calculated with FY 95 dollars. Dr. Cousin reiterated that the state formula for school construction times the number of square feet per school determines the cost of a facility and then 1.5% of the cost is added as a contingency. He acknowledged that the cost of a facility built in 1994 will be different than a school built in 2000. The formula for determining planning costs for a school is 7% of the cost of the facility, and 5.5% of the cost is used for equipment. The factor calculated for a site is 12% of the total building cost. Dr. Cousin noted that the 8.5% reduction in construction costs, noted earlier by Dr. Hickey, represents reducing the contingency in many projects.

Dr. Cousin pointed out that pages 22 through 24 represent summaries of the FY 95 Capital Budget and FY 96-2000 Capital Improvement Program requests. He noted the following priority changes in the Capital Budget request:

- #5 - Addition of renovation of School of Technology, August 1996, as a lab facility for the Tech Ed program
- #6 - Addition for Hammond High School, August 1997, reflects demographics and, hopefully, to eliminate the need for a fourth high school
- #7 - Addition for Centennial High School, August 1997, to bring school to 1400 capacity
- #9 - Purchase six additional relocatables for a total of 50 or the equivalent of two elementary schools; 48 owned by the county, 2 by the state
- #15 - Additional funding for Systemic Renovations including boiler replacements, window replacements, and HVAC systems; many schools constructed in the late 1960s and early 1970; \$5 million will not solve the problems; matching funds will be requested from the state.

Dr. Cousin noted that the problem will be that the amount of state funds is going to be finite and funding for systemic renovations may come from funding for new schools. He predicted that many projects will have to go forward without state funding.

Dr. Cousin also clarified projects being added to the Capital Improvement Program (page 23) as follows:

- Additional elementary school in the Northern Region, August 1998
- Additional Northeastern Middle School #2, August 2001
- Systemic Renovations expenditures of \$5 million.

On page 24, the Long Range Master Plan, Dr. Cousin noted that the amount projected for Systemic Renovations includes \$10 million in FY 2001 and then increases to \$15 million. The 2001 date is significant because enrollment increases will have been addressed and begin to peak at the elementary level. He pointed out that the focus of the program will be changing as the need for new facilities diminishes.

The total program, according to Dr. Cousin, will amount to \$300+ million in FY 95 dollars; and the average local cost will be approximately \$21 million. He pointed out that all funds are shown in local dollars but that funds will be requested from the state.

For clarification, page 5, regarding state-rated capacity, Dr. Hickey noted that the state uses 30 for elementary schools while Howard County uses 25. The Governor's Commission on School Construction has recommended that the state's number be changed to 25, and planning is progressing in anticipation of that occurring. This change, according to Dr. Hickey, will eliminate a major source of misunderstanding and confusion. He added that the state formula calls for a 50% contribution to Howard County for construction but in reality turns out to be more than 30% because of this disparity in how the capacity is calculated.

Mrs. Johnson asked if the transfer tax is based on FY 95 dollars. Dr. Cousin responded in the affirmative and added that on the average it has amounted to approximately \$35 million and is dependent on housing market and economy. Mrs. Kendig pointed out that this market has been running very high. Dr. Hickey reported receiving a recent article ranking the first 25 up and coming counties and that Howard County is at the top of the list. This is not a school indicator but rather one of healthy growth expectations. He believed the article would serve as an attractor to those persons considering relocation and perhaps add to growth problems.

Mrs. Kendig asked if staff had prepared a list of projects for systemic renovations. Dr. Cousin noted that there are more than \$15 million in deferred projects. Those schools that are known to have specific problems, not only with specific systems but the facility, will be on the list as well. Dr. Cousin pointed out that \$5 million would not go very far in addressing the needs of existing facilities. Mrs. Kendig understood why staff was not project specific in the document and commented that it is unfair to hold a capital budget over a school's head. She asked if it would be necessary to be project specific if the state approved funding for systemic renovations. Dr. Cousin responded in the affirmative. Mrs. Kendig questioned whether the planning document would be used as a basis of dealing with priorities. Dr. Cousin responded that there are known priorities for systemic renovations, particularly HVAC systems. Schools in need are known by the maintenance people and have been included in engineering evaluations.

Mrs. Cook questioned whether or not the proposed high school additions (Centennial, Howard, Hammond, and Mt. Hebron) are due to program or overcrowding. According to Dr. Kalin, Centennial's addition is due to programming needs and the other three are needed for space. He pointed out that 300 additional seats will be needed to support the Technology Education Magnate. It was discussed during the most recent boundary lines process to provide those spaces at the 1996 high school west of Rt. 29 in order not to fragment the Tech Ed program. He added that there is capacity east of Rt. 29 in the short term for one school and long term in two schools. The program can not be housed over a ten year period in the east. Possible redistricting might provide 300 spaces in one school. Dr. Kalin pointed out that it will not be possible to redistrict the northeastern region as Howard High will be over capacity by approximately 700 and up to 1200 and that the 1996 school is needed to relieve that school. He noted that it may be possible to put the Tech Ed program in the high school planned for the southeastern region.

Mrs. Kendig believed that the original concept paper stated that the Tech Ed program would be in the new east and west high schools. Dr. Kalin stated that growth may preclude the original concept east of Rt. 29. He added that the proposed budget begins to look at peak populations and what can be done during the decline.

Mrs. French questioned what would happen if the Board decided that they did not want the Tech Ed program moved over an eight year period. Dr. Kalin responded that space would have to be provided or the Board would have to rely on redistricting.

Mrs. French asked if the additions were being placed at the proper schools. Dr. Kalin responded that staff attempted to balance not only the projected number of students but column totals as well. He added that other schools could be added but that cost factors would be increased in FY 96, 97, 98, and further. He pointed out that the Board has already backed projects out so that over capacity is in the 30% to 40% range. The question becomes one of adding program space or capacity space. Dr. Cousin added that it is essential to look at the balance between the years and the fact that there are immediate needs. In addition, it must be recognized that the county also has limits. He pointed out that the \$21 million is really an average over the next ten years whereas the emphasis is going to be on the next four years. He stressed the importance of planning for facilities now to accommodate the students who are coming and in many cases already in the system. The school system will always be building to the projected peak. Dr. Cousin acknowledged that the Long Range Master Plan out to the year 2008 is more sensible than the six year Capital Improvement Program and that projections will have to be updated every year.

In continuing the discussion regarding the Tech Ed program, Dr. Kalin stated that in 1996 the eastern high school will have approximately 600 spaces and the program could be housed there. The capacity would be reduced in 1997 to 430 spaces, in 1998 to 252 spaces, and in 1999 to 104 spaces. However, at this point in time the impact of the new school will be realized and the capacity will return to 400 spaces.

In response to Mrs. Cook's concern regarding the number of sites and buildings needed and dollars involved, Dr. Hickey noted that every school will be needed and that there will still be insufficient coverage for the full peak enrollment. Mrs. Cook asked if this would continue to be true if Howard County implemented year-round schools. Dr. Hickey responded that it would be dependent on the extent of the program. He reported that staff had looked at various scenarios to eliminate the need for an additional high school and possibly four elementary projects. The potential would exist for a \$60 million savings - facility costs alone. Dr. Hickey stressed the importance of looking at the two dimensions as there is mixed data on year-round schools. Clearly with multiple track scheduling there is a savings in space and related costs, but there would be increased operating costs. However, other studies indicate that there appears to be an operating cost savings only over a period of time. He cautioned that the Board had deferred as many projects as possible. He stressed that the proposal is staff's best estimate of minimum needs unless the community is willing to drive the over capacity to 50%.

Mrs. Cook did not want the community to be misled that with year-round schools the new schools would not be needed. This, she indicated, is just not the case as the facilities are needed to house students who are already in the system.

Dr. Kalin pointed out that with a five-track year-round program there would be a gain of 20% in capacity as long as no students are brought back during intercession. This would mean a gain of approximately 2600 seats or five schools or experiencing the program in its purest form. However, Dr. Kalin noted that it seldom works out this neatly as the school may be in the wrong area or students need to be brought back for intercession. With the addition of a traditional track the savings are less than 20%. Dr. Kalin added that there is no clear equation that there would be a savings of "x" amount of dollars.

Dr. Hickey stressed that the school system has not made a recommendation regarding year-round schools as it is being studied along with other issues. He reported that the Board would hold a forum on year-round schools on Saturday, October 23, 1993, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Centennial High School; and the public is invited. He stressed that the school system is not engaged in a process to come to a foregone conclusion but looking at all options. The decision has not been made to go ahead with the program next year and a possible timeline for decision

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making would probably mean that no recommendation would be made until sometime next spring, perhaps April.

Mrs. French, with regard to the proposed high school additions, asked if a feasibility study had been conducted to determine space availability and what would happen if the capacity was raised to 1500. Dr. Cousin noted that the current educational specifications call for 1400 seat capacity schools. As far as a feasibility study, he noted that one would be done to see if the high schools can support an addition, not only classroom space but the core facility, i.e., science labs, music, art, cafeteria, and gymnasium. He acknowledged that some schools are on water and septic and it will need to be determined if the systems can accept the additional capacity. Another question would be whether the additions would change code requirements for the remaining building. The dollars shown for planning will permit staff to look at some of the issues mentioned. Dr. Cousin, in responding to Mrs. French, stated that the additions could not be completed over the summer.

Dr. McGowan reminded the Board that a discussion had been held approximately two years ago regarding a rated capacity of 1400 or 1500 for high schools. He believed that it is important to maintain the size of a school so that there is a relationship between the principal and staff to most of the student body. Dr. McGowan suggested that 1500 would be pushing this possibility and that 1600 or 1700 would become too impersonal.

Mrs. Johnston noted that the sites for the proposed schools will need to be addressed very soon, and Dr. Hickey was in agreement. She asked if staff could foresee a problem with acquiring adequate sites. Dr. Cousin responded in the affirmative. Dr. Hickey added that staff is working on almost a daily basis and all possible accommodations. He indicated that there may be sites available adjacent to mixed-used zoning. He acknowledged that staff is also looking at sites to serve as multiple campuses. Mrs. Johnston asked by what year the sites would be needed. Dr. Cousin stated that they are needed now as it takes about 15 months of planning and then 15 months of construction for an elementary school, 15 for planning and 20 for construction of a middle school, and two years of each for a high school. Recently, the school system has not had this luxury as Rockburn Elementary was built in 13 months and Mount View Middle was built in 15 months. He predicted that the day would come when the construction schedule would not be met. Dr. Cousin stressed the need for procuring sites one year prior to the architect beginning the planning stage. He noted that sites are not available at this time for the bulk of the schools in the program and that land is the most scarce where growth is the greatest. He indicated that it would be better to have the sites now and to sell them at a later date if they are unused.

Mrs. Johnston clarified that 50 relocatable classrooms would equal two elementary schools. Dr. Cousin responded that they would provide the equivalent space. Mrs. Johnston asked if additional schools would be needed without the additional relocatables. Dr. Kalin answered her question by stating that the philosophy has been not to redistrict until capacity is available. The number of relocatables are being increased due to the pressing need at the secondary level and by taking them from the elementary schools. He predicted that the bulk of the relocatables will shortly be at the high school level.

Mr. Hanna reviewed the schedule for the approval. Mrs. Kendig requested that a discussion be held during the public work session about Wilde Lake High School. She did not believe that the issues of 1200 versus 1400 capacity had been dealt with by the Board. She also requested a discussion of the feasibility study and contingency budgeting as approval of the additions without the study would amount to this type of budgeting. Mrs. Kendig further requested that the public be specific in their written testimony for the public hearing as she would not be present for their oral testimony during the public hearing.

Jerry Kramer, Chairperson, Citizens' Advisory Committee

- Expressed systemwide concern that there is no provision for capital renewal equipment for older schools; new schools receive latest technology due to their capital budgets
- Expressed concern that inequity was being built into the system
- Stated that budget for systemic renovations reflects basic needs
- Recommended that projects be identified for the public for their input
- Suggested that increased capacity for high schools to 1400 should not be based solely on economics but also the societal effects on student bodies
- Urged the Board to scrutinize program capacity figures in the budget document.

Nick Starace, PTA President, Steven's Forest Elementary

- Stated the need to renovate older schools
- Agreed to work with the Board to keep the needs of the school system in front of the county budget committees
- Stated the need for a set of standards for older schools to provide the same opportunities as for students in newer schools.

Susan Poole, PTA President, Bollman Bridge Elementary

- Expressed appreciation for two additions and proposed assignment of two relocatables for the 1994-95 school year
- Supported the Southeastern Middle School scheduled for August 1997
- Expressed concern that Southeastern Elementary #3 has been deferred to 1998 and requested that it be on line to open in 1997
- Supported restoration of funds in the FY 94 Operating Budget.

Rita Alexander, PTA President, Bryant Woods Elementary

- Expressed appreciation for half-time kindergarten teacher
- Requested updated materials as it is increasingly difficult to maintain staff who want to provide students with the best
- Requested that class size ratio remain at 25:1
- Stated the need for manageable class sizes due to inclusion
- Stated the need for adequate funding for staffing for inclusion
- Stated the need for differential staffing.

Mary Tasch, Substitute Teachers

- Noted that substitute teachers have not received a raise since 1988
- Reported that Frederick and Montgomery Counties' pay for substitute teachers is significantly higher; disparity is less for full-time teachers
- Suggested the substitute teacher pay should equate with other counties.

Dirk Ebert, parent

- Stressed the need to increase the time for ESOL education
- Noted that many parents have the same difficulty and can be of little help
- Noted the need for additional foreign language teachers
- Requested that both types of teachers be increased at the elementary and middle school level.

Ryan Simmons, volunteer English tutor

- Suggested that additional ESOL teachers are needed
- Stated that ESOL students deserve the same opportunities as other students
- Suggested the use of clustering to bring students to a central location for their classes even though there may be an impact on transportation costs
- Stated the need for ESOL classrooms.

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Marge Gold, Vice President, Howard County Association for Retarded Citizens

- Requested that all new buildings and those being renovated have adequate teaching space for students requiring special education services
- Stated that without adequate space inclusion can not work
- Stated the need for quiet settings for students with special needs
- Requested adequate storage, play areas, and handicapped assisted restrooms
- Requested full funding of special education in the Operating Budget.

Jane Jeffries, parent, Centennial High

- Stated that the FY 95 Capital Budget is fiscally conservative and that additions and renovations will be pleasing to the taxpayer
- Noted that the Capital Budget provides space for special program, i.e., Tech Ed, and incorporates information introduced in the March 3, 1993 redistricting document, including construction of high school additions
- Stated that Centennial addition, scheduled for 1997, is driven both by program and capacity need
- Urged the Board to support the proposed Capital Budget.

Kathleen Maizel, parent, Centennial High

- Supported Centennial High addition in 1997 due to its favorable impact on the Technology Magnet program
- Noted that original proposed sites for the Tech Ed Program were the new Western and Eastern High Schools
- Stated that Centennial addition would permit students to remain at the school and permit the Tech Ed program to be placed at Western High
- Pointed out that the program does not drive the additions; only driven by capacity
- Stated that northern region needs additions, i.e., Centennial and Mt. Hebron High Schools, and that they provide cheap seats
- Urged the retention of the feeder school concept and provision of new technology
- Promised to support budget before County Council.

Alistair Leslie, parent, Centennial High

- Supported fiscally prudent budget
- Supported additions to current high schools as they cost less per seat than new construction
- Suggested that savings would amount to more than an additional high school
- Suggested that additions provide more flexibility, should be completed as soon as possible, and stabilize the community by promoting the feeder school concept.

Jo Lamp, parent, Centennial High

- Stated expectation that the school system should foster an environment that maximizes education
- Supported feeder school concept of Northfield Elementary, Dunloggin Middle, and Centennial High
- Supported Centennial High addition to increase capacity to 1400
- Stated expectation that the school system should be fiscally responsible and spread resources throughout the county
- Stated that Centennial addition is not program driven and provides best seat in FY 95 dollars
- Stated expectation that the school system will address the needs of all students as equity is achieved by providing needed programs for all students.

Ken Stevens

- Stated that taxpayers should not be required to subsidize transportation for parochial school children and suggested that the Office of Law opinion giving the school system the right to seek a legal opinion to determine the legality of the 1943 law should be sought

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the need to examine a new existing capacity at over enrolled schools, and maintenance of older schools even though new schools will be needed.

Sherri Wainger, PTA Council

- Requested adequate facilities for students and sufficient teachers
- Noted significant increase in capital budget needs and limited funds in the county due to bond affordability and other county capital needs
- Urged the Board to fight for capital projects to provide for the projected enrollment of 13,000 additional seats
- Requested a feasibility study prior to approving high school additions as core facilities may be inadequate
- Supported proposal to accommodate 1400 students in all new high schools
- Voiced concern that needed sites are scarce and more costly
- Supported actions to obtain land, i.e., condemnation
- Requested increased funding for systemic renovations; suggested the possibility of matching funds from the state
- Requested a commitment to addressing needs of older schools.

Lynn Benton, President, PTA Council

- Voiced concerns that Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) is dependent on adequate funding of the capital budget
- Commended the Board and staff for splitting the planning and construction of projects in order to fund and complete construction but noted that flexibility is not present in the proposed FY 95 budget
- Requested that cuts not be made in the Capital Budget at the County Executive's request; supported public input to the County Council
- Stated understanding of bond affordability limits and possible lowering of state funding for school construction
- Noted an essential need for public education of the capital budget.

Jan Chastant, PTA Council

- Opposed further cuts to the operating budget
- Supported increasing the teacher "pool" in the FY 95 Operating Budget
- Stated that textbook moratorium should be lifted
- Supported funding for textbooks and materials of instruction from contingency funding in the FY 94 Operating Budget
- Stated need for additional guidance personnel and increased funding for staff development and curriculum development
- Recognized that the county can not afford all the projected facilities
- Encouraged community to be open minded and attend the Year-Round Schools Forum.

Rosemary Mortimer, Chairperson, School Health Council

- Stated the Council's pleasure with the expanded half credit graduation requirement for health
- Requested sufficient personnel to supply inservice
- Requested funding for competently prepared teachers
- Urged the Board to explore ways for provide students with daily physical education
- Expressed concern regarding nutritional needs of students
- Stressed the importance of recognizing that the amount of free time for students is a problem for the entire community
- Expressed concern regarding recent drug and alcohol survey and suggested that it be addressed through the curriculum and by parents
- Voiced continuing concern about the increasing number of students with serious health problems and sustaining serious injuries

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- Suggested that the Centennial High students to be redistricted to Western High be sent to Wilde Lake High if the capacity is increased to 1400
- Stated that the addition to Centennial High should be scratched.

Ann Koch

- Spoke in support of the new Northern Elementary #3 to be built in 1998 due to over crowding at St. John's Lane Elementary
- Suggested FY 95 planning funding and FY 96 construction funding
- Stated that Northern Elementary School scheduled to open in 1994 will not provide relief for St. John's Lane Elementary
- Stated that APFO is not being interpreted by the current administration to provide relief to residents already impacted by growth but planning new schools for planned growth
- Stated that Stirn property is the optimum location for the new school
- Noted that St. John's Lane Elementary has highest program capacity with the exception of Elkridge which received a replacement school in 1992
- Noted that St. John's Lane Elementary's addition in 1988 included a semi-portable pod with no improvements to the core facilities
- Stated that all pods at St. John's Lane Elementary contain six classes versus five
- Stated that there is no relief scheduled through redistricting
- Stated that St. John's Lane Elementary deserves relief from overcrowding.

Connie Adamson, PTSA, Oakland Mills High

- Requested that the Board take the responsibility to assure that older schools receive facilities and resources they need for the 1990s, including media center, performing arts, and physical education
- Suggested moving older equipment to new schools in exchange for newer equipment for the older schools
- Suggested that because a building is new everything does not have to be new.

Patrick Driessen

- Stated that current situation at Wilde Lake High has not been addressed
- Stated that Centennial High appears to be a defacto magnet school while Wilde Lake High has become undersized
- Opposed recommendations in the Capital Budget
- Stated that construction of new Wilde Lake High facility is not enough incentive; need to consider magnet programs to attract students.

Carol Caiazzo, PTSA President, Mt. Hebron High

- Supported the recommendation to build all new high schools to 1400 specification
- Stressed the need to make all schools equal
- Stated that all older schools should be updated first, including Mt. Hebron High which is 25 years old
- Requested that Mt. Hebron High be given top priority for renovation and repairs.

John McDonough, parent

- Stated that his children have benefited from the educational program
- Voiced concern that by addressing growth the school system may be addressing needs in a piece-meal approach
- Stated that March redistricting decisions did not address the needs of the Tech Ed program
- Opposed the use of relocatables at Centennial High to address excess capacity rather than Burleigh Manor Middle
- Voiced concern that Wilde Lake High continues to be under enrolled and no plan appears to address this program

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- Voiced concern as to who will fill the seats at Centennial High and Wilde Lake High at the proposed capacity of 1400
- Stated that the school system should not be funding additions when capacity already exists
- Stressed the importance of assuring that educational opportunities at each school are equal.

Brad Maunz, St. Louis School

- Noted that funding for nonpublic school transportation was cut three years ago and that since that time the request has been for the Board to fund the program at a level which will provide safe and adequate transportation for students
- Noted that bus transportation service has improved using public school routes and bus tiering even though a few services had to be terminated
- Expressed appreciation to staff for their help.

Dean Sterling, PTSA President, Wilde Lake High

- Voiced concern that positions in teacher "pool" were cut and recommended an increase to 30 positions and the establishment of guidelines for their use
- Suggested the need for a greater number of multi-cultural workshops for teachers due to the diverse population within the school system
- Supported the proposed 1400 capacity at Wilde Lake High.

Julie Klein, parent, Wilde Lake High

- Supported proposed Capital Budget including rebuilding of Wilde Lake High
- Noted that HVAC is inadequate and the school is not handicapped accessible
- Supported proposal to building Wilde Lake High to the 1400 student capacity
- Stressed the importance of using the seats so that the school operates near or at its capacity
- Voiced concern that the new Western High may not be completed on time and delay the rebuilding of Wilde Lake High
- Requested funding to provide bus service for extra curricular activities while Wilde Lake is housed at the new Western High
- Stated that teacher "pool" is not adequate to fulfill many basic needs.

Carol Grove, parent, St. John's Lane Elementary

- Voiced concern over continuing overcapacity
- Expressed appreciation for five relocatables for current year and recognition of the need for classroom space
- Stated that school exceeds core capacity by 23%
- Stated that relocatables only provide a short term solution
- Stated that overcrowding in the northern region has occurred over the last few years
- Requested that a school be built on the Stirn property to be completed by the fall of 1998
- Requested redistricting of students from Waverly Elementary to Manor Woods Elementary to permit the redistricting of students from St. John's Lane to Waverly Elementary
- Stated that redistricting in 1994 is essential.

Clifford Bobo

- Stated that older schools are good schools and pointed out that open-space schools were an abject failure
- Pointed out that there has been a continuing line item, Partitions, to install walls in open-space schools to correct problems
- Stated that parents want help with older schools; items that do not require ground breaking.

Sue Watson, parent, Swansfield Elementary

- Stated that parents expect a good education for their children and for their tax money to be spent wisely

Approved - October 14, 1993

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORK SESSION OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY

**Tuesday, October 12, 1993**

The Board of Education of Howard County held a public work session on the FY 1995 Capital Budget, FY 1996-2000 Capital Improvement Program, and Long Range Master Plan for 1995-2004 on Tuesday, October 12, 1993, at 7:30 p.m., in the Board Room of the Department of Education, located at 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, Maryland. The following were present:

Dana F. Hanna, Chairman  
Susan J. Cook, Vice Chairman  
Sandra H. French  
Linda L. Johnston  
Deborah D. Kendig

Michael E. Hickey, Superintendent, Secretary/Treasurer  
James R. McGowan, Associate Superintendent  
Maurice F. Kalin, Associate Superintendent  
Sydney L. Cousin, Associate Superintendent  
Sandra J. Erickson, Associate Superintendent  
Julene Crooks, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by the Chairman.

**1995 Capital Budget**

Mrs. Kendig reported talking with persons who complained about the relationship of the proposed Capital Budget and the redistricting process. She quoted from the minutes of the meeting of January 29, 1985 and Dr. Murphy's comments "that it is the Board's intent that boundary lines adjustments have long term effect in balancing populations with capacity available at various school facilities. He further pointed out that the capital budget process contains the five year plan which anticipates construction to add capacity to certain facilities. It would be beneficial to link the relevant factors associated with capital projects with similar factors which need to be considered for boundary changes. These should be considered in a parallel process wherein school district lines are designated for a given year and perspective areas to be considered for redistricting will be designated for the subsequent four-year period resulting in a long range facilities utilization picture." She stated that the Board unanimously adopted a position that the boundary line adjustment process should be parallel to the capital budget process. She reported using information from both sources in her deliberations.

Northeastern Middle

Dr. Kalin stated that this school is needed in August 1995 to address 50% overcapacity at Ellicott Mills Middle. Dr. Cousin added that the school will be built using the Mayfield Woods Middle School design on the site with Elkridge Elementary School.

Eastern High

No discussion

Approved - October 28, 1993

H.S. Capacity 000028

Wilde Lake High Renovation & Addition

Mrs. Johnston questioned the status of the performing arts program.

Dr. Hickey responded that an enhanced performing arts program at was mentioned as one of several possible magnets.

Mrs. Kendig expressed concerned with discussing magnet programs at this point in time. It was her expectation that if capacities are increased to 1400 that seats will be filled with students. She originally suggested a performing arts program prior to the redistricting process of the last year as a means of attracting students to an under utilized high school but now believed that the attractiveness no longer exists due to continuing growth and the need for redistricting. With the information from the two feasibility studies, it became obvious to Mrs. Kendig that there may not be room within the facility to accommodate students if the theater design is geared toward community use.

Mrs. Johnston's favored providing for student enrollment in a performing arts program, with the proposed renovation, even though the program may not be implemented for several years. She was unwilling to forget the program based on present interest in the county.

In response to the Board's questions regarding the proposed 1400 capacity for Wilde Lake High, Dr. Kalin stated that staff's recommendation is to bring all high schools to this capacity wherever it is possible; to provide the 1000 seat capacity needed by 2004; and to provide additional capacity between 2004 and 2008 when there will be a deficit of 2700 seats for high school students. He was in agreement that seats should be filled by students but noted that it becomes a question of which students will fill the seats. The complicating factor is the Technology Education Program. Dr. Kalin pointed out that every seat will be needed, every project will be needed, and projects will have to be on line when needed.

Dr. Kalin noted that three issues became apparent in the public hearing regarding Wilde Lake High --- population, program, and image. He advised the Board to consider those three areas when thinking about the additional capacity

In response to Mrs. French's question as to planning the Tech Ed Program at Western High rather than Wilde Lake High when both will be at the 1400 capacity, Dr. Hickey stated that the advantage to placing the program in a new school would be the fact that the technology infrastructure would already be in place. He reminded the Board that the concept paper called for placing a magnet program at Western and Eastern High Schools. He noted that staff's planning has been based on that assumption. If Wilde Lake High capacity remains at the 1200 capacity level, it would not be possible to designate 300 spaces. With 1400 capacity, the magnet could be placed at either school. Due to continuing growth and for longevity purposes it may be that the solution is to put both programs on the same side of Rt. 29. Without sites, Dr. Hickey stated that it may be that 6 of the 11 high schools would be on the same side of Rt. 29. Based on future redistricting decisions and retaining the community of Dorsey Hall at Centennial High with an addition it would be possible to place the Tech Ed Program at Wilde Lake High in 1994.

Mrs. Cook requested additional information on the "school within a school concept" and the link between an education lab and the MASSI program.

Dr. Kalin responded that with the MASSI program and a lab at Wilde Lake High it would permit staff to review changes taking place. He added that it may be possible to develop a "school within a school" with deferential staffing to support the program, to change delivery method, and/or to provide a support system for students not doing well. As far as using seats, he

estimated that it would require a minimum of two to four classrooms. Mrs. Kendig noted that there is also space built into the specifications for special education.

Dr. Hickey stated that staff is aware that most of the high schools are at or near capacity and have little flexibility for program changes, all of which require space as well as personnel. He noted that even though enrollment will drop off in the future schools will not be closed because the space will be used as originally intended.

With respect to the ESOL program, Mrs. Johnston voiced concern that population growth does not address demographics. She stressed the importance of addressing the needs of those students. She questioned whether or not the dollar figure would be different if the Tech Ed Program was placed at Wilde Lake High or Western High. Dr. Kalin noted that a fiber option backbone will be included in both schools. Either school could support the program. Dr. Cousin responded that the cost would not change as it will not affect budget, program, or construction of the building.

Dr. Kalin suggested that further discussion of the program, population, and image of the schools might mean giving consideration to which strand will be placed at which school. He added that there will be more information available regarding the Tech Ed Program in November and that there may be an advantage to putting the professional strand in one school and the other strands in a second school. Dr. Cousin pointed out that regardless of the placement of the Tech Ed Program it would be necessary to renovate the School of Technology. Dr. Kalin agreed as it would be the lab facility for the program.

Mrs. Kendig voiced concern with having the discussion relative to the Tech Ed Program without knowing more about the program.

Mrs. French voiced concern that the School of Technology provides no seats and questioned the funding required for the project. Dr. Hickey responded that the cost involved is \$2,000,000 and that the renovation will be needed to bring the school into the next century. Mrs. French did not favor this action when new construction for schools was being pushed back for another year. Dr. Kalin noted that the projects which have been moved back are Centennial High, Southeastern Elementary, and Northeastern Elementary in order to flatten by year the early funding requests to the county. He noted that the cost of the School of Technology project has little part to play in the deferring of the projects.

Mrs. Johnston questioned whether or not a discussion had been held regarding greater cooperation with the community college. Sandra Erickson responded that there are tech prep courses (2+2) at the School of Technology and that efforts are being made to match programs as quickly as possible. Dr. Hickey stated that college use of facilities is limited. No discussion has been held about them using the School of Technology. Dr. Kalin added that the lab program at the School of Technology will be more high tech versus the trades.

Mrs. Kendig voiced concern over the variance of numbers for Wilde Lake in the boundary lines document and the proposed Capital Budget. Dr. Kalin responded that the projected population continues to decrease and that none of the tentative approved in 1993 redistricting changes have been included in the Capital Budget document. Even though numbers will decrease over the long term, Dr. Kalin stated that the planning assumptions are the same in the two documents. In response to Mrs. Kendig's question regarding seats for the Tech Ed Program at Wilde Lake High, Dr. Kalin stated that seats will be available. Mrs. Kendig pointed out that the original presentation for the Tech Ed Program stated that the program would be housed at the new Eastern and Western High Schools but that now those Eastern High School seats are only available at Wilde Lake. Dr. Kalin agreed.

With regard to the number of projected students for Wilde Lake High, Dr. Kalin stated that the number would be approximately 160 below the figure estimated last year for the out years. He acknowledged, however, that the September 30 enrollment figures were 35 students above the projected number.

#### Northeastern Elementary #2

Dr. Kalin, in response to Mrs. French, explained that the new school would be used to relieve Deep Run Elementary which will be 40% overcapacity. Dr. Cousin added that sites are being considered and should be presented to the Board within the next six weeks.

#### School of Technology

Mrs. Kendig pointed out that when renovations and additions have occurred in the past that state funding has been available. Dr. Cousin noted that the school system would be asking the state to participate in the cost of the project. He was unsure of their reaction due to the need for funding for new construction.

Dr. Hickey questioned whether Mrs. Kendig was speaking of vocational funds or state construction funding. He acknowledged that there has been and continues to be a great deal of funds available for equipment under vocational funding but it is unknown as to whether or not funding would be available for construction.

Dr. Cousin noted that the cost of the renovation/addition would be based on the state formula for school construction with only \$500,000 allocated for equipment. He noted that the latest renovation and additions to the facility occurred in 1985 and 1986.

Mrs. French voiced concern that the School of Technology would be empty when seats are needed through 2007. She believed that the school system was not addressing the real need of providing seats for students and yet this facility would be under utilized.

Dr. Hickey pointed out that the building will be used even though there will be no resident student population. The technology program will be using the facility and different kinds of space configurations will be required.

Dr. Kalin projected that the school system would need to begin looking sometime between 2004 and 2008 for ways to providing alternatives for accommodating students. One option is an additional high school at a cost of \$40-45 million. Another option is a satellite school for Howard High, perhaps Ellicott Mills Middle.

#### Hammond High Addition

Mrs. French asked if the feasibility study took into account the core facility and the need to enlarge it to accommodate additional students. Dr. Cousin responded that the increase at Hammond High, including expanding cafeteria, would accommodate 315 additional students. He noted that areas such as guidance, cafeteria, science labs, and the administrative area would all have to be reviewed. Construction is to include a 16 classroom addition. The cost factor was also reached through the state formula.

Mr. Hanna questioned whether or not the amounts in the budget included reconfiguring existing space. Dr. Cousin responded that the budget is just an estimate until planning is completed due to the code requirements for additions and programmatic issues which will have to be addressed.



Mrs. Kendig pointed out that the feasibility study was completed by Murray and Associates who renovated and put additions on Oakland Mills High. She was confident that the firm understood what has to be done.

Dr. Cousin explained that the additions for Hammond and Centennial High Schools are basically the same as they were constructed from the same plan with minor renovations. Each facility has been modified over time to reconfigure the modified open-space design and capacities have changed due to program.

Mrs. French favored new science classrooms over regular classrooms in order to provide the latest equipment and technology. She asked if this would increase the cost. Dr. Cousin responded in the affirmative as the budget was calculated on regular classrooms. He added that it would have to be determined what kinds of science classrooms would be included.

#### Centennial High Additions

Mrs. French stated that the feasibility study had satisfied her concerns about building the additions. She asked when the feasibility study would be completed for Mt. Hebron High. Dr. Cousin stated that it would be completed over the course of the next year, in FY 95, along with whether additions can be placed at other high schools.

Mr. Hanna pointed out that additions do not come without cost to the present facility, such as loss of paved areas. Dr. Cousin estimated that both schools will probably lose playing fields whether the addition is a one-story or two-story construction. Relocation of the fields would need to be reviewed during the design phase.

Dr. Kalin stated that staff believed it would be difficult to place an addition at Glenelg High. Dr. Cousin agreed as the school is on a well and septic system and adding capacity for 1400 would be difficult. He stated that the new Mount View Middle School has approximately 8 acres for septic and was built for approximately half the number of students.

Mrs. Kendig believed that planning assumptions over the last few years for the Centennial addition included providing relief for Mt. Hebron High through redistricting. Dr. Kalin disagreed and added that the intention over the short term was for the addition to provide support for the Tech Ed Program.

Mrs. French also voiced concern that the addition would provide no relief for Mt. Hebron High. It was her impression that the plan has been to move students from crowded regions to undercapacity Columbia schools.

Mr. Hanna pointed out that Mt. Hebron High is going to experience a population crunch which continues growing throughout the long range projections. Dr. Kalin agreed that it will be overcapacity in 1999 by 125. He pointed out that the timing of the addition is driven by the need for additional seats.

In response to Mrs. Johnston, Dr. Kalin stated that the new Eastern High would provide relief for Howard High and that students could then be redistricted from Mt. Hebron High to Howard High.

Mrs. Cook compared the enrollment of Mt. Hebron High and Hammond High in the out years and noted that an addition is being considered for Hammond High when the numbers are higher for Mt. Hebron. She did not believe that the addition for Mt. Hebron could wait until the year 2000. Dr. Kalin stated that it will be possible with the redistricting of approximately 500 students to Howard High and Centennial High. Mrs. Kendig questioned whether this would

mean redistricting students from Dorsey Hall to the new Western High, and Dr. Kalin was in agreement.

In response to Mr. Hanna, Dr. Kalin stated that the planning assumptions are based on tentative redistricting and that the addition would come on line in 1998 thus reducing the numbers to 261 undercapacity from 113 overcapacity in 1996. The Dorsey Hall community will be at the new Western High School.

Mr. Hanna questioned whether the number of students moving from Mt. Hebron High to Howard High were factored into the planning assumptions. Dr. Kalin responded that Howard High will be approximately 500 students overcapacity and will be redistricted into the new Eastern High. No Mt. Hebron students will be moved until that time. Dr. Kalin pointed out that once the new schools are on line that there will be a domino effect of moving students from high concentration areas.

Mrs. French pointed out that even with opening an addition at Hammond High in August 1997 it will remain overcapacity by 174 students. Dr. Kalin responded that completion of a third high school in 1999 would require additional redistricting.

Mrs. Kendig stated that Wilde Lake High will still have 500 available seats. Dr. Kalin stated that the population is projected to be 1,055 in 1997 with a capacity of 1332 so that in reality there will be 300 seats. Without the addition to Centennial High, he stated that it will be necessary for the Board to determine a placement for the Tech Ed Program.

With respect to relocatables and Mrs. Johnston's question, Dr. Kalin stated that staff has been working under the assumption that space can be found for 50 elementary seats, 75 middle seats, and 100 high school seats prior to placing a relocatable. As far as impact on program, Dr. Kalin responded that optimum utilization is 100% use of the facility.

William Grau responded to Mrs. French that current approved zoning projects including the recent rezoning of Waverly are included in the planning document.

Mrs. Kendig indicated that because of the major change in the concept for the Tech Ed Program and because of the lack of capacity east of Rt. 29 she was uncomfortable with discussing the program. Dr. McGowan stated that the Tech Ed Program planning is being expedited and felt that there is still room to move ahead with some discussion. Mrs. Kendig added that making the Capital Budget decisions is difficult without that piece of information.

#### Southeastern Middle

Mr. Hanna noted that public hearing testimony questioned delaying this project until overcapacity reaches 40% whereas Mount View Middle was constructed when the region was 14% overcapacity.

Dr. Kalin noted that the school system has recently constructed four middle schools: Patuxent Valley, Mayfield Woods, Burleigh Manor, and Mount View. At the time Patuxent Valley came on line, Hammond was 19% overcapacity; when Mayfield Woods came on line, Ellicott Mills was 38% overcapacity; when Burleigh Manor came on line, Dunloggin was 71% overcapacity; and when Mount View came on line, Patapsco was 31% overcapacity. This comparison of the sending schools showed the lowest to be Hammond with 19%. Dr. Kalin believed the testimony looked at regional data rather than specific school data. He did not recommend moving the construction up to 1995 due to the fact that a site has not been secured. Dr. Cousin also pointed out that planning approval was not included in the present budget.

Dr. Kalin, in response to Mrs. Cook, stated that the school will primarily relieve Hammond Middle at 68% overcapacity and secondly Patuxent Valley.

Dr. Kalin noted that Southeastern Elementary #3 was also brought up in testimony and the fact that it was moved to 1998. He indicated to the Board that if projections hold true the overcapacity can be accommodated with relocatables. Moving the project to 1996 would increase the budget by \$6 million to a proposed budget of \$48 million. Dr. Kalin voiced concern that the county would not be able to fund this amount. He indicated that the same funding concerns would hold true for moving Southeastern Middle to 1996. The increase would add approximately \$6 million for a total of \$54 million.

Dr. Kalin explained, in response to Mrs. French, that Northern Elementary #3 is in the schedule for the first time and the suggestion had been made to move it to 1997. In response to Mrs. Johnston, this school will provide relief for St. Johns Lane Elementary which will be overcapacity by 42%.

#### Relocatable Classrooms

Mrs. French questioned the number of relocatables proposed for West Friendship. Dr. Kalin projected that in the 1994-95 school year the school would be overcapacity by 98 students; and assuming that 50 spaces are found, two relocatables would be sufficient until 1998. As there are presently three assigned to school, Mr. Hanna asked if one would be removed. Dr. Kalin responded that one may be left as a "place holder." Mrs. French asked at what point the health of the students comes into play with having to go to the core facility for specials. She also questioned the impact of overcapacity on the core facility noting that there are no commons areas. Dr. Kalin stated that a determination will need to be made after redistricting as to whether additional relocatables will be needed. Mrs. French voiced concern with putting off Western Elementary for another year as Manor Woods is in the northern region and will provide little relief even though it is only several miles from West Friendship Elementary.

Mrs. French also raised concerns with the projected redistricting of St. John's Lane, Waverly, and West Friendship Elementary Schools every year for the next few years. She thought this would be very traumatic for the community. Dr. Kalin stated that he was attempting to show that it may be necessary to make these adjustments over a period of years.

Mrs. Johnston questioned the difference in leasing and owning relocatables. Dr. Cousin stated that it costs approximately \$12,000 to lease and \$25,000 to \$30,000 to purchase. He stated that it was better to purchase a unit if it will be kept over a period of years. He added, however, that most lease arrangements are lease/purchase arrangements. Of the present relocatables, Dr. Kalin noted that two are state-owned, one is leased, and the remaining are owned by the school system. Dr. Cousin explained that the original CMSI units were brick and mortar units and were not intended to be moved. The school system has since purchased lighter weight units. Mrs. Kendig added that the original units were chosen because of the memory of the past W.W.II Quonset huts.

Dr. Cousin noted that 50 relocatables represent the equivalent of two and one-half elementary schools or an approximate savings of \$15 million in construction. He expects the number to increase to help meet the projected enrollment and to defer building brick and mortar buildings. He emphasized that there is a rule that relocatables will only be used for a period of four years at any one facility.

#### Partitions

Mrs. Cook questioned whether funding was still required in this category.

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Dr. Cousin explained that schools continue to make requests, new and well as re-partitioning, that exceed the amount of money budgeted. He noted that problems develop for HVAC systems when partitions are placed in open schools to provide contained space.

Mrs. French reported seeing bookcase partitions, built by school system carpenters, serving two needs at West Friendship Elementary. Dr. Cousin noted that other types of partitions are also being used, i.e., chalkboards, coat storage units, and make-shift units.

#### Site/Construction Reserve

Funding will purchase five to seven sites.

In response to Mr. Hanna, Dr. Cousin noted that condemnation proceedings are being used to secure a strip of land needed for the new Western High School. However, it is a very long and drawn out process.

#### Roofing Projects

No discussion

#### Land for School Sites

No discussion

#### Barrier-Free Projects

Dr. Cousin pointed out that this category was at one time over \$1 million per year but that many of the problems have been addressed and that there is still a need to modify existing facilities. It required ten years to make facilities accessible.

#### Systemic Renovations

Mrs. Kendig suggested that Systemic Renovations be moved to a higher priority to indicate to the community the Board's concern about older schools. She pointed out that this is the only way problems within older schools can be addressed due to the continuing pressure from growth. Dr. Cousin agreed that this could be done.

In response to Mrs. Cook, Dr. Hickey explained that funding in this category has been an average of approximately \$8.5 million for a ten year period and will be less over the next few years due to large new construction figures. He noted that the amount of funding will increase in the Long Range Master Plan at 2001 to \$10 million and then \$15 million for the three remaining years of the plan.

With budget cuts in this category for the last three years, Mrs. Cook believed, along with the other members of the Board, that it would have to play catch-up. She did not think that the proposed \$6.5 million will handle the problems, even those that are the most severe. She voiced concern that the members of the County Council have been extremely upset about the lack of help for older schools and that she would have no trouble increasing the amount to \$8.5 million.

Dr. Hickey pointed out that the proposed \$5.5 million is a substantial increase. He agreed that there are needs but it becomes a case of looking at the bottom line and a concern with how much the county can afford to allocate for school construction.

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Mrs. Cook added that the county is not stopping construction and the school system is having difficulty catching up.

Dr. Kalin pointed out that the ten year average in bond money was approximately \$21.5 million. He noted that the school system has been staying within the recommended figures proposed by the County Executive.

Dr. Cousin added that this category is relatively new to the budget as it is only the third year that funding has been requested. There is a deferred list of projects amounting to approximately \$15,000,000. He pointed out that there isn't a great deal of difference between a school built in 1968 and one built in 1975. Equipment and construction was cheaper and needs to be replaced. However, he agreed that the school system must look at the bottom line and strike a balance between the need to provide seats and to respond to the needs of existing schools.

In defense of providing renovations, Mrs. Kendig noted that only six elementary schools have not been renovated or improved over the last ten years. She acknowledged that middle schools have not had that advantage.

Dr. Cousin pointed out that it had been possible to complete those additions/renovations to elementary schools because there was no new construction from 1976 to 1986 when Bollman Bridge Elementary was completed. The emphasis since that time has been on new construction to address the projected 13,000 new students. Even construction, according to Dr. Cousin, will not provide a seat for every student and that it will be necessary to look at redistricting, relocatables, and additions as well.

With respect to the list of projects which the Board received, Dr. Cousin indicated that it is a partial list based on construction date and date of last renovation or addition. These are the schools which will need to be addressed in the next several years.

Mr. Hanna pointed out that any funding problems with this proposed budget would produce bizarre problems as far as the projected numbers and redistricting. Dr. Kalin agreed that the school system has run out of alternatives for providing space. He mentioned Burleigh Manor Middle where there are 200 seats and there are schools in the vicinity that need space and may have to use those seats. Mr. Hanna agreed that the seats should be used for relief and that no facility should be partially empty. Dr. Kalin acknowledged that this discussion was held during the redistricting process and that the Board had looked at the possibly of high school students or kindergarten students using the space. Mr. Hanna stated that he wanted to use every space possible and not be accused of wasting space.

Mr. Hanna noted that during the public hearing it was mentioned that there is a 10% drop in the number of kindergarten students. Dr. Kalin believes this to be an anomaly as the state does not predict this drop. He added that if it is the beginning of a trend projects in the out years will have to be dropped.

#### General Comments/Questions

Dr. Kalin noted that the weakness in the Long Range Plan is the enrollment in the 1994 school. If Dorsey Hall is removed, the population drops from 869 to approximately 600 and the assumption is that the numbers will be replaced with Tech Ed students. He compared the situation to Hammond High. Mrs. Kendig pointed out that there will also be differential staffing costs affecting the Operating Budget.

Mrs. French commented that should the Capital Budget not be funded that it may be necessary to eliminate the Tech Ed Program or the school system would be forced to look at year-round schools, split shifts, or other options.

Dr. Kalin announced the Year-Round Schools Forum scheduled for October 23 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Centennial High School. He, too, agreed that it may be a case of having to do business differently but pointed out that the county has provided capacity in the past when needed. To which, Mrs. French remarked that the school system has also been willing to back out of projects thus pushing it even further. Dr. Kalin noted that having divided communities diminishes the chances of receiving funding. Mrs. Kendig, Mr. Hanna, and Mrs. Cook also noted the division in the community.

In response to Mrs. French, Dr. Kalin stated that the greatest strength of the plan is that it provides capacity needed through 2004 in a conservative manner but meets the needs. He noted that it looks beyond three schools to eleven high schools. He believed that the plan accommodates administration, curriculum, and provides capacity.

#### **1996-2000 Capital Improvement Program**

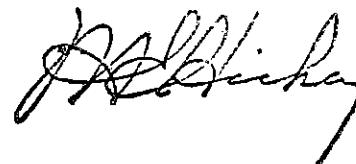
No discussion

#### **Long Range Master Plan 1995-2004**

No discussion

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 10:15 p.m.



continues to work very closely with the Health Department and serve on a variety of committees, including the County Executive's Council. Staff also participates on the Education Committee of the Governor's Commission. In addition, there is a program where parents volunteer that their homes will be free of alcohol during any gathering of youth. He stated that an attempt is being made to broaden efforts through the cluster program.

Dr. McBrien pointed out that the information received from the state is only one part of the assessment piece. He reported that data is also collected from Centennial and Oakland Mills High Schools. Dr. Phyllis Utterback, of Planning and Support Services, is also working to develop a survey to look at the way the Student Assistance Program is perceived by the faculty and students. Dr. McBrien believed that school personnel, faculty and administrators, are aware of SAP, and that the next step is to look at the impact of the program as it addresses student use.

Mrs. Johnston thanked staff for the report as she originally requested it and was impressed with what is being accomplished in conjunction with the community. She pointed out that it is not only a health issue but a means of addressing one of the national goals of "creating a drug-free environment." She asked if funding would be available to provide intervention training for the remaining middle schools. Dr. McBrien responded in the affirmative. Mrs. Johnston also asked if the video has been shown on the cable channel. Dr. McBrien responded in the affirmative. Dr. Kalin added that the Communications' staff is working with Ms. Perkins to continue the presentation.

Mrs. Johnston requested feedback from staff and students on the discount cards. Ms. Woodbury responded that she will be meeting with each coordinator and teachers to get some sense of how the program was received. Mrs. Kendig suggested that the only means of measuring its effectiveness would be through a survey. Dr. McBrien added that part of the criteria for judging its effectiveness would be to study the drug, alcohol, and tobacco behavior of students.

Mrs. Kendig stated the Board is beginning to hear criticisms of the DARE program and while students understand the substance information they often ignore it. She questioned whether or not it would be possible to assess the programs that others are doing. Ms. Woodbury responded that it is possible to assess awareness and knowledge including intervention but that it is more difficult to assess behavior.

Mrs. Johnston asked if statistics were available on the number of high school students involved in DWI cases. She suggested that this might be a small piece of the assessment. Ms. Woodbury responded that the information is available to the Substance Abuse Coordinator for Howard County.

### **Future Direction of the High School Program**

Dr. Hickey stated that the General Education Specifications for High Schools were approved November 14, 1991 and that the school system is now at the point of translating the specifications into operational concepts and programs that will be an important departure for the school system.

Dr. Jett reported that last summer while thinking about the coming school year he considered the challenges, changes, and opportunities available for high schools and also whether there were others who had the same or different information. He questioned whether or not teachers and staff considered what the approval of the educational specifications would mean operationally as much of the focus since that time has been at the elementary and middle school level. After collecting information from the high schools regarding what occurred in 1994 and making a comparison with the present, Dr. Jett explained that he projected what the high schools will look like in 1996 and beyond. He noted that two significant decisions were made in the approval of the specifications;

Approved - March 10, 1994  
Corrected - April 28, 1994

that students need to have an education that is viewed holistically and there are developmental differences between high school students. Schools are being designed to utilize these two philosophical beliefs.

Dr. Jett shared an audio-visual presentation consisting of four parts.

#### High Schools as They Exist in 1994

- Eight schools which range in size from 800+ to 1300+
- School of Technology
- Enroll 9,000 students in schools
- Organized by departments, i.e., English
- Use seat time credits for graduation
- Cross-curricular connections
- Fledging ninth grade teams (four high schools have teams)
- Mentor Program
- Completed several pilot years of the G/T Resource Program
- Moving from traditional assessment to performance assessment
- Five different scheduling models
- Begun a program of inclusion for all students
- Human Relations Program.

#### What Will Happen Over the Next Five Years

- Four thousand additional students
- Construct and open two new 1400 capacity high schools
- Hire over 400 teachers
- Increase in number of students effected by new graduation requirements
- Increase in performance assessments
- New paradigms for teaching and learning.

#### What Will Result

- Interdisciplinary organization
- Teachers as facilitators
- Community-based learning, expansion of Mentor Program
- Diplomas based on performance
- Successful ninth-grade teams
- Benchmarks, one being quality not just quantity
- Bricks and Mortar
  - Wilde Lake at River Hill High School in 1994
  - River Hill High School open in 1996
  - Eastern High School open in 1996
  - New Wilde Lake open in 1996
  - Technology Education Magnate open in 1996
  - Additional high school or additions in 1988 or 1989
- Education Program
  - Learning will be less departmentalized; will occur between and among disciplines
  - Important that subject matter be learned within disciplines and across disciplines
  - Move from departmental to interdisciplinary instruction
  - Advisor groups
  - Human Relation teams
  - Mentor Program (large scale)
  - Inclusion
- People
  - Relational staffing or differentiated staffing rather than by formula

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- Specialized retraining for current staff
- New staff that are specifically trained, i.e., student taught in ninth-grade teams
- High Schools of the Future
  - Student centered
  - Provide rigorous academic instruction
  - Expect improved academic outcomes
  - Scheduling alternative
  - G/T Research Program in all high schools
  - Stronger Human Relations Program
  - Extensive Mentor Program
  - Inclusion Program
  - Four clusters
    - Math, Science, and Technology
    - Physical Education and the Arts
    - Ninth Grade
    - Humanities
  - Two centers
    - Student Service Center
    - Information Center.
- Wilde Lake High School
  - Takes first steps toward the future with placement at River Hill High School
  - 1993-94
    - 845 students enrolled
    - Senior class - 190 students
    - Ninety staff members
    - Facility - 136,000 square feet
    - Departmental organization
    - College-style schedule
    - Advisor groups
    - Mastery learning
  - 1994...
    - Changes will begin to occur in 1994 and will be completed at the end of a four-year cycle
    - 1400 students enrolled
    - Senior class- 350 students
    - One hundred thirty staff members
    - Facility - 232,000 square feet
    - Interdisciplinary organization
    - College-style schedule
    - Mastery learning
    - Changes to grading system
      - Ninth graders
        - Fall 1994 will have standard grading system; A through E, quarters ending on regular school calendar
        - Opportunity for students to test and retest is maintained until the end of the quarter
        - Grades issued every nine weeks
      - Grades 10-12
        - Modified standard grading with grades at the end of the quarter
        - Students may request to extend quarter by up to two weeks to improve level of mastery

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- Students may test and retest throughout the quarter
- Incompletes will no longer exist
- Opportunity to improve mastery will continue
- Enhanced Pupil Services Program.

Dr. Jett, in looking to all the high schools of the future, stated that best practices will prevail. He noted that there will be opportunities for individual schools to be unique.

Mr. Hanna asked if the high schools would eventually achieve one common theme in scheduling. Dr. Jett responded in the affirmative. He stressed the importance of keeping the definition of a credit in mind. Mr. Hanna noted that 1996 becomes a lynch pin for a number of things, including the Tech Ed Program where students will attend for a full day which would free up schedules for creative differences.

Mrs. Johnston complimented Dr. Jett on his presentation. She noted her recent attendance at a National Adolescent Group meeting where the discussion centered around how to assist adolescents to become more intellectually, physically, and emotionally healthy. She stated that much of what was being focused on in the report was part of the discussion especially the fact that high schools should become more student centered. She added that she will be happy to be a part of this for the next few years.

Mrs. Kendig expressed her sorrow that she would not be on the Board through to the end. She believed that a student-oriented program would increase academic rigor and improve academic outcomes. The intent, according to Mrs. Kendig, has always been to raise the standards for all students. She thanked all those individuals who have contributed to this goal and to her own education.

Mrs. French stated that the future is very exciting as some of the pieces are coming back or being rediscovered, i.e., teacher support of the student. She asked when the definition of the credit would happen. Dr. Jett noted that the school system continues to operate under the Carnegie Unit. He pointed out, however, that the State Board of Education authorized each local school system to define a credit. He added that it will be necessary to work with a broad group of people to assure that the credit has the same value.

Mrs. Cook stated that she was impressed with the report and expressed her appreciation to all individuals involved in the effort. With regard to retesting at Wilde Lake High School, she asked if it would be possible for other high schools to also retest. Dr. Jett was not aware of any prohibition at the present time and agreed with her that many teachers already do permit retesting. He pointed out that the whole idea behind retesting is to seek mastery at the highest level.

Mrs. Cook foresaw the need for a great deal of retraining. She noted that she had received several calls from teachers regarding the ninth grade cluster and the fact that they saw it as an extension of middle school. She asked Dr. Jett how the idea will be accepted. Dr. Jett responded that the academic rigor that is expected of all students cuts across nine through twelve. Teachers will have the same expectations for ninth grade students. He believed that the teams could bring about some positive adult influence on habits of the mind and schooling including organization and home work. He added that the ninth grade cluster is intended to be sensitive to individual students but also looking for academic outcomes.

Mr. Hanna thanked the staff and principals for being present.

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that the process is a means of acquiring critical information and developing the best model for Howard County.

Mrs. Johnston understood the concerns raised but felt that the only one which could be addressed immediately was the scheduling of meetings. With regard to the concern regarding the consultants being advocates of year-round education, Mrs. Johnston noted the importance of having persons at the forum who have experience. She pointed out that the purpose of the forum was to gain accurate information not to look at the pros and cons.

Mr. Bialecki supported sending a clearer message to the public regarding the study and what the customized plan will yield. He did not believe the plan is intended to address academics and academic standards and suggested that the problem needed to be analyzed further and other options sought. Mr. Hanna responded that it is the intent of the Board to secure as much information as possible prior to making a decision.

Mr. Hanna asked if there has been a control on information. Dr. Kalin responded that information thus far is general in nature and is accessible to anyone. He added that planning committee and subcommittee meetings should be occurring in the late afternoon or evening. The process, according to Dr. Kalin, is public and open. He stated that the recent information in the newspapers has been incorrect in that year-round education is a fall back position in the event funding is not available for construction. He suggested that in order to spend more time on academics a single track of year-round education was being studied. The committees are trying to develop a customized plan that will improve teaching and learning and encourage better utilization of facilities.

Dr. Hickey emphasized that he has not, at this time, recommended year-round education for the school system as the jury is still out even though assumptions are being made. He explained that there are many public steps to be taken and that it is important to know how its going to work in Howard County; and, therefore, it is important to develop a model and conduct a simulation.

Mrs. French noted that a discussion was held at the last meeting and terms such as paper plan, mock, and simulation had been used. She stated that none of those terms appeared in the newspaper. She emphasized that it will be a mock plan and the final decision will be made by the five members of the Board following opportunities for community input. She made a plea for academic freedom to allow minds to search the unknown for see what can be accomplished. She thanked the PTA for asking questions that will make the plan the very best possible.

Mrs. Johnston reported attending the National Commission on Time and Learning where the effects on academic learning by changing the school day were discussed. She suggested that the PTA also look at some of that data. Dr. Kalin noted that every member of the planning committee and subcommittees will receive a copy of the report.

Mr. Hanna reported that a recent study of the mid-section of the country indicated that small school buildings are the best indicators of performance. He voiced concern that in light of community concern that Board actions enhance the educational performance of students there has been too much talk about big buildings as an answer to address capacity needs.

- Three high school additions
- Four elementary school additions
- One new elementary school along with the reduction of one elementary school
- FY 96 - \$48,735,000; number varies over the next five or six years and then begins to drop off in 2002 to \$15,000,000; average of \$20,000,000 over the next ten years
- School system and county will need to deal with very difficult questions in the years ahead
- Budget is conservative
- Additional relocatables proposed
- Shifting of projects as it is believed they can be brought on line at a later date.

He acknowledged that the school system will be working with the County Executive and County Council to get the financial package through in tact.

Dr. Kalin provided the following specifics:

- Elementary
  - Kindergarten enrollment will increase 172 students or 13%; enrollments in grades 1-5 will increase 4,370 students or 31%
  - Overcapacity will exist in 27 of 32 schools
  - Address density in Northeastern Region and availability of space in Southeastern Region by adding a school and two additions in the northeast and removing proposed new school in the southeast
  - Additions are more conservative answer to meet capacity
  - Capacity will be available in the Columbia East Region; continue to redistrict students into the region
- Middle
  - Enrollments in Grades 6-8 will increase 2,811 students or 36%
  - One additional school may be required
  - Additional projects may be needed to address the need for 1175 seats in 2005 (two schools)
  - Overcapacity will exist in 12 of 14 schools
  - Variety of techniques will be needed to meet the enrollment peak and declining population; some schools will be 45% overcapacity prior to capacity coming on line
  - Planning assumptions will change if population does not decline
- High
  - Enrollments projected to increase 3,874 students or 43%
  - Overcapacity will exist in seven of eight schools
  - 2207 seats will be needed in 2005
  - Additions reflected in Long-Range Plan will gain 800+ seats; additional seats will be needed
  - Variety of techniques may make it possible to move through the peak and decline without adding another high school
- Several Weaknesses
  - Three schools will need long term relocatables to address overcapacity (Elkridge, Bollman Bridge, and Northfield Elementary Schools); redistricting will be difficult; schools may remain at 25% overcapacity
  - Four projects changed in terms of years due to need and bottom line dollar amounts
    - Centennial High Addition - 1997 to 1998
    - Howard High Addition - 2001 to 1998; provide capacity at the 1996 high school, east of Rt. 29, for Tech Magnet Program
    - Eastern High #2 moved from 1999-2000
    - Ellicott Mills Middle replacement from 1999 to 2002

Approved - October 13, 1994

- New Projects
  - Four elementary school additions
    - Waterloo to 600 capacity
    - Worthington to 525 capacity
    - Guilford to 500 capacity
    - Hammond to 525 capacity
  - New Northeastern Elementary in 1999
  - Three high school additions to 1300 capacity
    - Atholton
    - Oakland Mills
    - Glenelg
  - Howard High addition to 1600 capacity
  - Purchase nine relocatables to address overcapacity; total from 50 to 59.

Mrs. Johnston questioned the ability of students to move in the hallways at Howard High with a capacity of 1600 students. Dr. Kalin responded that changes will also be required in the core facility and that a feasibility study will be needed. He pointed out that this particular solution will reduce the amount of redistricting needed. Dr. Kalin stressed the importance of deciding at this point in time the 1600 capacity school and noted that Howard High sits in a high growth district.

Dr. Cousin noted that a 1600 capacity school is most unusual but believed the new ninth grade cluster will help to acclimate students. He stressed the importance of addressing all areas of the school and to meet the needs of the increased number of students.

Dr. Hickey acknowledged that the enrollment at Howard High School is now at 1500 students. Mrs. Kendig, however, added that the principal has indicated that 1400 is optimum. Dr. Kalin indicated that other alternatives have been discussed such as using Ellicott Mills Middle as it currently exists as a ninth grade house.

Dr. Cousin stated that construction costs for new school projects are based on the state formula which increased by approximately 5%. The formula is the number of square feet times the state number with a 1.5% contingency built into the costs. The state rate is \$92.14 for the current year whereas it was \$89.13 for the past year. He noted that systemic renovations in future years have been reduced from \$15 million to \$10 million per year with a total reduction over the next ten years. The request will be for \$5 million over the next several years with an increase to \$10 million in 2001.

Mrs. Kendig requested that the information pertaining to Howard High's proposed capacity be corrected on page 22 from 1332 to 1600 along with the program capacity and projected enrollment for Centennial High on page 49. She questioned whether or not her assumption was correct that the elementary and middle school specifications scheduled for presentation were included in the budget proposal. Dr. Hickey responded that the new specifications would apply to every project as approved by the Board. Dr. Cousin added that the specs will make a significant difference in new schools but not for additions. Mrs. Kendig voiced her concern with approving the Capital Budget without updated project costs. Dr. Cousin stated that there will be an impact on those projects which have not received planning funds in the budget year. The impact will occur on the Capital Improvement Plan not the Capital Budget.

Mrs. Johnston questioned whether or not there was an earlier discussion regarding the capacity of high schools being at 1400. Dr. Cousin responded in the affirmative noting that the capacity which was decided on was 1332 plus special education. Mrs. Johnston

noted that there was no capacity adjustment for Oakland Mills High on page 20. Dr. Kalin pointed out that the white pages of the document do not include projects recommended in the proposed budget.

Mrs. Kendig asked if the capacity at Oakland Mills High was considered when looking for space rather than bringing Howard High to 1600 students. Dr. Kalin responded that the redistricting assumption from last year was that students will be taken to Oakland Mills from other schools. Mrs. Kendig asked if staff would consider additional space at Oakland Mills High to create space for the Tech Magnet program. Dr. Kalin responded that he would review the data.

Mrs. French asked if a 1500 capacity was a possibility for Oakland Mills High. Dr. Kalin explained that it would be difficult to make it work with natural boundary lines.

Mrs. French questioned staff's definition of long-term use of relocatables or how many years they would be needed. Dr. Kalin responded that it would be the ten years within the Long-Range Plan. The strategy is to wait until the decline and then redistrict within the decline to average the population. Dr. Hickey pointed out that the school system does not presently have a pre-kindergarten program and even though there may be a decline this is one of the areas where space is needed. He acknowledged that the program has had to be denied due to lack of space. The same applies to a full-day kindergarten program. Dr. Hickey noted that these are just two areas where space is going to be needed beyond the year 2001.

Mrs. Cook asked Dr. Kalin if he would be looking at the new eastern high school when making boundary line planning assumptions. Dr. Kalin noted that last year's plan included all high schools and that he will continue to look at that plan within the context of changes across the county. Staff, according to Dr. Kalin, want the additions approved and then move ahead with redistricting in 1996.

Mrs. Johnston questioned when a feasibility study will be conducted at Glenelg. Dr. Cousin responded that a preliminary study indicated that additional septic space will be required or the possibility of on-site treatment. Mrs. Johnston asked when the decision would be made. As the addition is scheduled to be in place by 1999, Dr. Cousin stated that there is time to study the various issues. Dr. Kalin commented that should the addition not become a reality that space would need to be found for approximately 400 students. He stressed that redistricting students to River Hill High would overload the school and that Mt. Hebron will already be overcapacity. Mrs. Johnston suggested that the decision needed to be made sooner since it will affect other schools. Dr. Kalin explained that there are already two alternatives; acquire more land for a larger septic field or on-site sewage treatment. Another possibility might be the use of relocatables. He recommended that the Board assume that the space will be there when needed.

Mrs. French was in agreement but also believed that River Hill High can handle more capacity and better than an older school. She stressed the importance of looking at all possible solutions and moving ahead.

Mr. Hanna stated that the Board would hold a public hearing on October 6, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. and a public work session on October 11, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. with Capital Budget approval taking place at 2 p.m. on October 13, 1994.

# MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY

**October 13, 1994**

The Board of Education of Howard County met on Thursday, October 13, 1994, at 2 p.m., in the Board Room of the Department of Education, located at 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, Maryland, to approve the proposed FY 96 Capital Budget, FY 97-2001 Capital Improvement Program, and FY 96-2005 Long-Range Plan. The following were present:

Dana F. Hanna, Chairman  
Susan J. Cook, Vice Chairman  
Sandra H. French  
Linda L. Johnston  
Deborah D. Kendig

Michael E. Hickey, Superintendent, Secretary/Treasurer  
Sydney L. Cousin, Associate Superintendent  
Sandra J. Erickson, Associate Superintendent  
James R. McGowan, Associate Superintendent  
Maurice F. Kalin, Associate Superintendent  
Jessica Brause, Student Associate  
Julene Crooks, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 2:05 p.m.

## **FY 96 Capital Budget and FY 97-2001 Capital Improvement Program**

The motion to approve the FY 96 Capital Budget and FY 97-2001 Capital Improvement Program was made by Mrs. Cook and seconded by Mrs. French.

### **Howard High School**

Mrs. Cook made the motion to retain the capacity for Howard High School at 1400 rather than 1600 as proposed in the budget. She stated that it is in the best interest of the school system to keep high schools at the 1400 capacity in order maintain a high level of safety and so that administrators will have a better opportunity to know their students and interact with them. The motion was seconded by Mrs. French.

In response to Mrs. Cook, Bill Grau, Site Planner, reported that the proposed budget would be revised to include \$206,000 for planning in FY 96 and \$2,055,000 for construction in FY 97.

Mrs. Johnston supported Mrs. Cook motion and agreed that as schools become larger safety becomes a greater issue. She was extremely concerned about injury to students and staff (intentional or unintentional). She pointed out that recent research indicates that students receive a better education in smaller schools.

Mrs. Kendig concurred with the motion and noted an extensive discussion on the issue during the public work session.

Dr. Cousin suggested that equipment costs will have to be added to the construction funding and that this would hold true for all proposed additions.

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H.S. Capacity 000046

Mrs. French also agreed with the motion and stated her concern that the core facility cannot be extended to meet the demands of further additions. She suggested choosing a school newer than one built in 1951.

Mrs. Cook recognized the fact that the school system will be faced with additional students and continued overcrowding in the future but preferred to deal with these issues through the use of relocatables and redistricting.

Mr. Hanna also concurred with the motion and voiced concern about the overall ambiance of schools as they drift toward larger and larger sizes. He noted that larger schools lessen the possibility for students to be involved when it is a singular opportunity, i.e., president of the SGA. He was not eager to go from a 1200 to 1400 capacity school at the time the decision was made. Mr. Hanna asked for proof of the educational benefit of larger schools other than the ability to save money.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### Ellicott Mills Middle School

The motion to keep the replacement of Ellicott Mills Middle School for occupancy in August 1999 was made by Mrs. Kendig and seconded by Mrs. Cook. Mrs. Kendig noted the importance of balancing new seats for new students with the renovation, replacement, and refurbishment of older facilities. She acknowledged that much of her early training was derived on behalf of seeking assistance for older schools.

Mr. Hanna added that there is a message to be communicated and even though the school system's priority is to make seats available for everyone it is equally important to provide an equitable education for everyone. He stressed the need to address outdated facilities and renovation of older buildings.

The members voted unanimously in favor of Mrs. Kendig's motion.

#### Southeastern Elementary #4

Mrs. French made the motion to place the Southeastern Elementary #4 back in the Capital Improvement Program as a place holder given the fact that sites are difficult to acquire and to allow time to gather additional enrollment data.

The motion was seconded by Mrs. Johnston.

Mr. Hanna agreed to support the motion with the caveat that the reinstatement of the school would be as a place holder in order to gain additional information in light of the fact that the proposed school is in the out years.

Dr. Cousin reported that funding required would be as follows:

- \$489,000 for planning in FY 97
- \$6,640,000 for construction in FY 98
- \$439,000 for equipment in FY 99.

Approved - October 27, 1994



Mr. Hanna requested a summary of the new totals. Bill Grau provided the following information:

- FY 96 \$49,954,000
- FY 97 \$42,168,000
- FY 98 \$53,297,000
- FY 99 \$43,183,000
- FY 2000 \$28,387,000
- FY 2001 \$19,835,000

Mr. Hanna noted that there continues to be a great deal of potential for growth in the southeastern region and that the reality may be the need for additional buildings. Dr. Kalin responded that in actuality staff believes there will be a falling off of the number of students in the out years but that it really would depend on the projects. He stated that it would be beneficial to have time for more accurate projections.

Mr. Hanna voiced concern that replacing the school may "open" the district to development, but Mrs. French pointed out that the district is already "open" with Southeastern #3. She noted that APFO only stops development for a period of four years. Dr. Kalin added that the southeastern district will continue to be "open" with or without the proposed school.

Mr. Hanna questioned whether or not the projections for the Southeastern Region, page 11 of the document, included Southeastern Elementary #4. Dr. Kalin responded in the affirmative as the school was approved during the FY 95 Capital Budget process.

In response to Mrs. Johnston's question, Dr. Hickey stated that those 308 seats were excess capacity. Dr. Kalin stated that the decision was based on trying to have additions offset new schools so that there would be no need for additional capacity in 2005. He advised the Board to put the project back in the Capital Improvement Program regardless of APFO as a place holder..

The Board voted in favor of reinstating Southeastern Elementary #4.

The Board unanimously approved the FY 96 Capital Budget and FY 97-2001 Capital Improvement Program as amended.

### **Effective High Schools**

Mrs. Kendig made an additional motion noting Dr. Kalin's earlier comment that the school system is in the business of teaching and learning. Her motion included a request to staff to provide the Board with information to hold a discussion on the issues surrounding larger high schools. Her request was based on her experience as a parent of a student in a Howard County high school of 1500; the reduction of civility and hence safety among students; the information on the Sizer project, "A Study of High Schools"; and on the literature surrounding the issues of school choice. . She pointed out that by reducing the capacity to 1400, Howard High would still produce a 20% overcapacity enrollment of 1600 students, without knowing the effects of inclusion. She stressed the importance of looking at the high schools in terms of what constitutes an effective school.

The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cook.

Mrs. French voiced concern with regard to staffing, including non-classroom teacher personnel. She noted that the school system has been financially unable to provide guidance counselors, assistant principals, school psychologists, and support staff. She

Approved - October 27, 1994

stressed the importance of addressing larger high schools through the means of a report and policy development rather than through the budget process.

Mrs. Kendig stressed that it is not just a matter of adding students. She noted that the only major change which has occurred recently is the development of the ninth grade cluster and that there has been little done to approach problems such as the lack of guidance counselors. She supported addressing all the issues before drifting into larger high schools.

Dr. Kalin noted that Hammond, Oakland Mills, and Howard High Schools are now operating at 1500 each and that the issue of overcrowding will need to be addressed through relocatables and redistricting. He pointed out that the immediate goal is still to create space in 1996 for the Tech Magnet Program. Both Mr. Hanna and Mrs. Kendig did not feel that the discussion would take away from the 300 seat commitment. Mr. Hanna pointed out that those anticipated 300 tech ed students had not yet been deducted from the other high school populations. Mrs. Kendig suggested that it would mean dealing with effective high schools as an educational issue rather than within the capital budget framework.

Mrs. Johnston stated that she would like to see the report tied into the recent report presented by Dr. Daniel Jett, Instructional Director of High Schools, regarding proposed changes in the high school infrastructure.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### **County Budget Hearing**

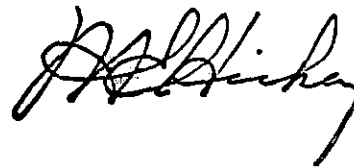
Mrs. Cook encouraged the public to participate in the County Council budget hearing the first Saturday in May to inform them that projects in the budget are needed for the children of Howard County. She stressed the importance of public support.

#### **FY 96 - 2005 Long Range Master Plan**

The motion for approval was made by Mrs. Cook, seconded by Mrs. Kendig, and approved by the members of the Board.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 2:50 p.m.



Mrs. Johnston mentioned the section of the report on the involvement of the business community and cited recent discussions about businesses not asking to see student transcripts. Dr. Jett remarked that the transcript would be part of the portfolio but was unsure as to why businesses do not request to see that information. Mrs. Johnston was hopeful that the school system could encourage employers to seek that piece of student information.

Mrs. Johnston, noting the section on health related careers, shared that addiction counseling is available at the community college. She added that programs of this nature, which provide assistance for drug-related problems, would be an avenue for students as many people in the program have had personal experiences. Dr. Weisenhoff explained that staff is in the process of developing curriculum for the health-related fields, and he was hopeful that individuals in the field will share what is available and needs to be addressed.

### **High School Size**

This agenda item was moved forward for discussion. Mr. Hanna commented that he received a letter recently from one of the council members regarding a 1600 capacity high school. He stressed the importance of sharing the concerns raised by the Board in making the decision to remain with a 1400 capacity. He added that it would be incumbent of the new Board to take a look at the issue and where it stands for the years to come. Mr. Hanna noted that the school system will be looking at one perhaps two new high schools and renovations and enlargements and suggested that it should be done philosophically as to what will benefit the education of students, not brick and mortar. Mrs. Kendig was in agreement.

With regard to school size being unrelated to achievement, Mrs. French stated that she would like to look at the issues of student assault, violence, suspension, participation in activities, and parent involvement. Also, if there is no research or true definition of what is considered a small or large high school, she thought that the Board might take a stab at a definition for a baseline. She suggested visiting Prince George's County to visit a large high school and take a walk through to see such things as its architectural arrangement. Mrs. French stated that the Board also needed to look at consistency between elementary, middle, and high schools with regard to proportions.

Mrs. Cook voiced concern about violence and supported Mrs. French's request. She pointed out that the Board decided to leave Howard High School at 1400 because of philosophical discussions.

Mrs. Johnston added that school climate also needs to be considered in school size.

The Board members agreed to have the report brought back at a later date as a regular agenda item.

### **Information**

High School Size

### **Approval of Minutes**

The motion to approve the minutes of October 27, 1994 was made by Mrs. Kendig and seconded by Mrs. Cook. Following amendments to the proposed minutes, they were approved by the members of the Board.

Approved - January 12, 1995

**Resolution for School Nurse Day**

Dr. Hickey read the following resolution and recommended approval:

*School Nurse Day*

*Whereas, School Nurse Day is celebrated nationally each year on the fourth Wednesday in January; and*

*Whereas, optimal health is an important precursor to effective learning; and*

*Whereas, all children have a right to school health services; and*

*Whereas, school nurses make significant contributions to the health and educational development of children; and*

*Whereas, school nurses assist children to develop lifelong habits that prepare them to actively participate in a diverse and changing world; and*

*Whereas, school nurses are professionally and ethically bound to advocate for the health of all children,*

*Be it therefore resolved, we recognize the fourth Wednesday in January each year as School Nurse Day.*

*/s/ Chairman of the Board*

*/s/ Superintendent*

The motion for approval was made by Mrs. Johnston, seconded by Dr. Campbell, and approved by the Board. Dr. Campbell commented that she has fond memories of serving as a health aide at West Friendship Elementary and that it is important to recognize the importance of nurses in the school system. She believed that it would be beneficial to the students if a way could be found to have nurses throughout the system.

**FY 96 Capital Improvement Program and 1995 Boundaries**

Dr. Kalin provided a detailed description of the chart regarding proposed high school redistricting for September 1996. Indicated in the chart is the projected overcapacity/undercapacity in each facility through 2005. He informed the Board that the planning assumption has been that the regular program capacity for each high school will be 1,332 plus special education, or a total of 1,400. Specifically, he noted that the overcapacity at Mt. Hebron can be dealt with by redistricting to Centennial High but that two problems which will continue in the future will be Glenelg and Howard High Schools. By increasing the capacity to 1,600 students, the problem can be eliminated for Glenelg and mediated at Howard High Schools. Dr. Kalin pointed out that in the year 2005, 1362 additional seats will be needed. By taking all the high schools to 1600, the overcapacity problem would be eliminated. He stressed the point that this solution would work as far as number are concerned but it becomes of question of policy.

Mrs. French pointed out that increasing the capacity may not mean that Glenelg can handle the number of projected students. She agreed that it will be necessary to look at policy and the facility.

Dr. Kalin noted that the report is an integration of boundary lines, projects, and the current capital budget and informs the administration and Board members what will happen if the schools are increased to the 1,600 capacity.

Mrs. Johnston questioned whether or not redistricting would still occur if the schools are taken to the 1,600 capacity. Dr. Kalin responded that it would be reduced but not eliminated as students would be moved with the opening of new schools. It would, however, reduce the number of students who would have to be moved in the out years.

Approved - February 7, 1995

H.S. Capacity 000051

Mr. Bounds asked if the high school population would peak in 2005. Dr. Kalin responded that this would occur in 2007. Mr. Bounds observed that the number would continue to increase for several years, and Dr. Kalin agreed the increase would be approximately 900 to 1,000 students. He added that a great deal will depend on the general and zoning plans.

Mrs. French stated that she saw Dr. Kalin's information as an argument to avoid building another high school. Dr. Kalin responded that it defines a problem but not necessarily a solution. He noted that the Board can also factor in the use of relocatables. He suggested that the Board may also want to consider taking only those schools in greatest need to 1,600 or use the old Ellicott Mills facility to accommodate overflow from Howard High School. He stressed the importance of planning for the year 2005 as the students are already in the system.

Mrs. Cook commented that the information is what the Board has needed as it provides real numbers and reality for future discussions.

Dr. Campbell requested that Dr. Kalin provide the rationale for splitting out the special education population as it would make it simpler for her to talk about 1,400 rather than 1,332 plus special education. She asked if it is based on staffing or to keep in mind that the school system has students with special needs. Dr. Kalin responded that special education has, along with kindergarten, its own capacity; and staff looks only at the regular population as the two capacities cannot be mixed.

In future budget discussions, Dr. Campbell stated that while the Board is talking about inclusion, staffing funding, materials of instruction, and textbooks it will need to come to a decision about staffing schools with multiple inclusion students. Dr. Kalin responded that the students can be counted, by means of the mainframe, however the Board wishes; but that he believed it made more sense to keep special students separate from regular students.

Dr. Campbell questioned the amount of capacity for special education at the high school level. Dr. Kalin noted that the capital budget provides a breakdown of program capacity for every school. A typical high school has three teaching stations for self-contained and one resource room. However, at Oakland Mills High School there are four self-contained rooms and two resource rooms. In response to Dr. Campbell's question as to whether these spaces are counted in the capacity for the general population, Dr. Kalin stated that they are kept separate as the regular population cannot use those classrooms.

Dr. Hickey pointed out that earlier in the Board's meeting it approved the architect for the addition to Hammond High School, and that staff will need to know as soon as possible any decisions by the Board that may impact on those plans. Dr. Cousin added that the addition was approved in the capital budget at a capacity of 1,400. He noted that the budget document will also have to be amended.

Dr. Campbell stated that it was her impression that the Board essentially arrived at the decision that 1,400 was the ideal size and that much of the impetus for reopening the discussion was due to fiscal concerns spurred primarily by suggestions made by the County Council. Dr. Hickey encouraged the Board to reaffirm that decision or look at other alternatives in light of the Hammond High project. Dr. Campbell commented that she brought the issue up in order for the Board and public to recognize where the dilemma is coming from and the need for possible reconsideration by the Board's decision.

Mr. Bounds did not think it was just the impetus of the Council because the Board members are also elected officials to the extent that they provide for the students and must be fiscally responsible. He stressed the importance of looking at all the ramifications. He believed the data will be very helpful to the Board in responding to the capacity and commended staff for developing the information.

Mrs. French stated that the Council, as a whole, has not asked the Board to increase the capacity of the schools. She preferred that they come to a consensus and then communicate with the Board.

Mrs. Cook acknowledged that the previous Board made the decision regarding the 1,400 capacity during the approval of the capital budget and stated that the members had requested specific information on how to handle the population explosion. The request, according to Mrs. Cook, came out of their frustration with having to make a quick decision on something they felt was very important. She noted that the sitting Board at the time felt very strongly about the decision to take Howard High to 1,400. She stressed the importance of determining what is in the best interest of the students.

Mrs. French noted that part of the earlier discussion was that if a high school were approved at 1,600 that it would actually, with overcapacity, reach 1,800. The Board felt that by capping the capacity at 1,400 it would ensure that no school would be above 1,600. She pointed out that building a new school with a larger capacity is greatly different from enlarging a school as the core facility must be taken into consideration.

Dr. Cousin suggested that the Board conduct a feasibility study of the high schools as there are site and core facilities issues as well as fiscal issues. He indicated that staff will, in the near future, present a recommendation for such a study.

Dr. Campbell asked how long it takes to complete a feasibility study. Dr. Cousin estimated that it would probably take approximately ten weeks, but could possibly be done quicker. He noted that feasibility studies exist for Hammond and Centennial High Schools but that they would need to be updated or revised.

Mrs. French suggested that updating science labs be considered as a part of the feasibility study.

Mrs. Cook agreed that it isn't just building additional classrooms but looking at core facilities, parking, the cafeteria, science labs, art rooms, music rooms, etc. - the entire facility. She stated that the core facility in some schools is unable to accommodate an addition.

### High School Size

Scott Pfeifer, Principal on Special Assignment, informed the Board that recent research, consultations with principals across the state, and consultations with consultants in school safety provided the basis for the report on High School Size. He provided the following data:

- Larger schools were in favor in the 60s and 70s; recent literature states that smaller is better
- School size appears unrelated to student achievement; no overpowering variable; schools are effective regardless of size
- Smaller schools provide greater opportunities for participation in school activities

- Students have more positive feelings about their school when it is smaller; students and staff get to know each other better
- Conversations indicate that size appears to be unrelated to parent involvement; percentage of parents will be larger in smaller schools
- School safety issues become easier to plan and manage as size decreases; more important than size, however, is that safety is the result of good planning
- Larger school buildings can be safe with greater planning and additional resources
- Optimal size is from 500-600 students to no larger than 1500 students
- Organizational arrangements provide the key for smallness within bigness, i.e., ninth grade cluster, or a school within a school; River Hill, Wilde Lake, and Eastern High Schools represent different variations.

Mrs. French asked if any of the research provided a school's average SAT score or data disaggregated by potential level. Mr. Pfeifer responded in the negative. Mrs. French added that it would be tempting but perhaps misleading to look at an overall school average. Mr. Pfeifer added that there were some studies that looked at advantages for certain populations but that none of the studies were replicated regularly; perhaps because it is unrelated.

Mrs. Johnston asked if there was a direct correlation between school climate and achievement. She questioned whether or not a less than positive climate would effect the drop out rate and indirectly impact achievement. Mr. Pfeifer responded that the drop out rate may be reflective of the climate but not necessarily achievement.

Mr. Bounds stated that high school size is obviously an area the Board is going to be discussing considerably. He wanted to look at other schools that are larger, incorporate a school within a school, and have an opportunity to talk with people in those situations. He thought it would be helpful for the Board. He also wanted an opportunity to talk with administrators within the Howard County schools and get their impressions as they are the one who have to work with the Board's decision.

Mr. Pfeifer acknowledged having met with the principals and that the consensus had been that smaller is better. Eugene Streagle, Principal, Howard High, stated that he has been with the school system for 27 years and that Howard High is the largest building he has been assigned to - 1,629 next year. He stated that the options are certainly viable but that it depends on what the community wants their principal to be. He indicated to the Board that he has prided himself on knowing the students in his building. He believed it was fortunate that the system has been committed to schools of 1,400 students because any amount over that number produces the potential for more time being spent in managing rather than in instruction. He noted that students remember how they were taught and how they were taught to deal with others. We have great students and teachers, according to Mr. Streagle. He stated that most principals would agree that having a larger number of students will produce greater losses.

Mrs. Cook thanked Mr. Streagle for his comments. She acknowledged that much of what he communicated she had learned by talking to principals prior to voting for 1,400 capacity schools. She agreed that it is not only important to have input from the community and students but from administrators and teachers.

Mrs. French noted that the research indicated that school security personnel were assigned 1:500. She asked if they were rent-a-cops and security guards. Mr. Pfeifer responded that the consultants recently completed standards for school safety and that the individuals assigned to the buildings would be permanent. Mrs. French stated that this

would be a major shift in philosophy and questioned whether or not the Board wanted uniformed personnel in the high schools.

Mrs. Johnston asked if schools would experience more violence if they are larger. Mr. Pfeifer explained that each high school currently has a liaison officer which is a general movement nationwide. Mrs. Johnston suggested that as schools become larger that there is an increased potential for violence and thus a greater need for additional administrative staff and guidance counselors to assure a positive school climate. She stated that there will also be additional administrative costs.

Mrs. Cook reported that she recently met with a group of Howard County police who are excited and anxious to bring programs into the schools which will have a positive impact on violence prior to it occurring. They want, according to Mrs. Cook, to be a positive force; and she was delighted that they want to be mentors at the Gateway School.

Mr. Bounds pointed out that the consultants indicated that the ratio of security personnel to students should be 1:500. With that in mind, he indicated that each school should now have two security people but did not feel that they are needed as there are demographics at play and one thing doesn't necessarily flow to the other. He stressed that this is just one issue that will need to be studied.

Mr. Pfeifer responded that each school would have to design a security plan to meet its needs.

Jessica Brause favored police in the schools even though it would make them more like a prison. She noted that even hall passes have a positive effect. With regard to cluster within the high schools, Jessica shared that students at Wilde Lake High School at River Hill have expressed concern that they never see the freshmen. Bonnie Daniel, Principal, believes it is premature to make a statement as to how the cluster is working. Ms. Brause asked how the clusters operate, and Ms. Daniel explained that the ninth graders have their own wing of the building and attend most classes in that area. However, they come out for PE, art, music, and upper level classes.

Mrs. French stated that there is a definite advantage to constructing a new facility and including a new concept. Forcing a cluster design into a traditional school structure would be more difficult.

Dr. McGowan informed the Board that staff has been doing some preliminary work on setting up several school visits. He suggested visiting a school with a cluster design and one that has a 1,600 capacity, i.e., Severna Park High School and Sherwood High School and, perhaps, North County in Anne Arundel County which was formerly a middle school converted to a high school. Dr. McGowan was willing to arrange visitations for the members of the Board.

Mrs. Johnston believed that there are other factors that affect the schools; neighborhood, family, peers, staff, etc. In addition to a visual picture of a school, she would like to know how the administration deals with any problems they may have. She suggested that it would be beneficial to have outside administrators come and present to the Board and describe the demographics and recent school renovations.

Dr. Hickey acknowledged that there is some degree of comparability between the counties but felt that it would be easier for the principals to show the Board how they are dealing with various issues in their own schools.



Mrs. Johnston wanted to be assured that there would be an opportunity for discussion as well as to tour the school. She also desired visiting a small school of approximately 1,000 for comparison.

There was a consensus by the Board to visit a larger high school. Mrs. Cook asked how soon a decision would have to be made on the capacity of high schools in order to give the architect sufficient notice.

Mrs. French believed that the Board needs to address the issue of building a new high school versus renovating an existing high school as they are two different things.

Dr. Cousin informed the Board that the architect has been given directions to design the facility for 1,400 students. He suggested asking the architect to also design an alternative for 1,600 students.

Mrs. Cook stated that she wanted sufficient time for this very important decision.

### Approval of Minutes

The motion was made by Mrs. French and seconded by Mrs. Johnston to approve the minutes of November 22, 1994. Following additions and/or corrections, the amended minutes were approved by the Board.

Mrs. French made the motion to approve the minutes of December 8, 1994. It was seconded by Mr. Bounds, and additions and corrections were made by the members of the Board. The minutes were approved as amended.

### Executive Session

The motion was made by Mrs. French for the Board to meet in Executive Session according to the *Annotated Code of Maryland*, Section 10-508, to discuss personnel and legal matters. It was seconded by Dr. Campbell and approved by the Board. Those in attendance were Mrs. Cook; Mrs. French; Mr. Bounds; Dr. Campbell; Mrs. Johnston; Dr. Hickey, Dr. Cousin; Ms. Erickson; Dr. Kalin; Dr. McGowan; and Robert Lazarewicz, Executive Director of Operations.

### Adjournment

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

### Information

Status of School Construction Projects



**Relocation of Portable Classrooms**

Mr. Pindell presented that following bid packages for approval:

Bid Package 6A - Carpentry - P. H. Walker Construction Co.	\$54,221.00
Bid Package 14A - Moving - EMH Environmental, Inc.	\$89,499.00
Bid Package 16A - Electrical - The Reedy Electrical Co.	\$159,122.00

The motion for approval was made by Mrs. Johnston, seconded by Dr. Campbell, and approved by the members of the Board.

**Approval of Construction Contracts - Northeastern Elementary #2**

Mr. Pindell requested Board approval for the following bids:

Bid Package 7A - Roofing to Orndorff & Spaid, Inc., for \$165,906. The motion was made by Dr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. French, and approved by the members of the Board.

Bid Package 11A - Athletic Equipment, Modern Door & Equipment Sales, Inc., for \$18,800. Mrs. French moved approval. It was seconded by Mr. Bounds and approved by the members of the Board.

Bid Package 5A - Steel - Strait Manufacturing and Welding, Inc., for \$477,800. Mr. Pindell informed the Board that a representative from Pico, Inc., wished to address the members. Mrs. Cook did not permit the individual to speak as Pico failed to submit the bid bond. The motion for approval was made by Dr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Bounds, and approved by the members of the Board.

**1995-96 School Calendar**

Mr. Lazarewicz recommended adoption of the calendar as approved on May 11, 1995.

Mrs. French noted that the high schools will close three and one-half hours early the final day of school. She asked if the elementary schools would dismiss at their usual time. Mr. Lazarewicz responded that elementary schools would also dismiss early.

Dr. Campbell moved approval of the modified calendar approved on May 11, 1995. It was seconded by Mrs. French and approved by the members of the Board.

Mrs. Cook expressed the Board's appreciation to Mr. Lazarewicz for his assistance in asking others involved in the public hearing for their input about HCEA's additional suggestions. She commented that the original public process had allowed time for everyone to be involved and was hopeful that next year all parties would review the proposed calendar within the proper process.

**Contingency Fund**

Dr. Cousin recommended that the contingency fund of \$100,000 in the FY 95 Operating Budget, Category 08, Program 7901, be used to expand the parking lot at Mt. Hebron High School. The motion for approval was made by Mrs. French and seconded by Mr. Bounds.

Approved - June 22, 1995

In response to Mrs. French, Dr. Cousin noted that the parking lot is to be enlarged in the front of the school by taking in part of the State Highway right-of-way. An additional 100 spaces will be provided.

Mrs. French questioned the present school capacity and its impact on the number of parking spaces. Dr. Kalin reported that as of December 31 there were 1,260 students attending Mt. Hebron which has a capacity of 1,015. Mrs. French commented that the County Executive and County Council have been advocating increasing the capacity of high schools to 1,600 students and pointed out that Mt. Hebron is almost at this point. Any additional space required for parking will mean the loss of playing fields. She favored the additional parking spaces but noted that this is the type of concern that surfaces when increasing the size of high schools. She noted that even if students ride buses parking will be needed for staff and parents.

Mrs. Johnston noted that the problem is not unique to Mt. Hebron High School as students are parking along roadways at other schools as well. It has become a safety issue.

Dr. Hickey stated that while busing students would reduce the parking problem many students drive because they are involved in after school activities or have jobs. He added that Mt. Hebron has one of the worse parking situations, and the new spaces will relieve the problem but not resolve it.

Mrs. Cook suggested that students and parents who will be affected by larger high school additions and potential parking problems should communicate their concerns to the members of the council and County Executive.

The Board voted approval.

### **Staff Personnel**

Dr. Hickey presented the following personnel items for action:

#### **Resignations**

Name	School	Grade or Subject	Reason	Years in Howard County	Effective Date
Hoyer, Kristen	CLES	Elem. Ed.	Personal	2	6/13/95
Linkin, Wendy	PRES	Music	Relocating	1	6/13/95
Ranen, Jennifer	MHHS	English	Dissatisfied	1	6/13/95

The motion for acceptance was made by Mrs. French, seconded by Dr. Campbell, and approved by the members of the Board.

#### **Retirements**

Name	School	Grade or Subject	Years in Howard County	Effective Date
Fields, Paul	AHS	Ind. Arts	24	6/30/95
Hill, Fredrika	SES	Principal	25	6/30/95
Johnson, Judith	THES	Elem. Ed.	21	9/01/95
Prince, Barbara	AES	Elem Ed.	28	6/30/95
Sailer, Joan	HAHS	English	22	6/30/95

Approved - June 22, 1995

**Video Equipment - Pierce Phelps**

**\$11,898.00**

The motion for approval was made by Mr. Bounds, seconded by Mrs. French, and approved by the members of the Board.

**Approval of Architect - Feasibility Study for High School Additions**

Dr. Cousin recommended the approval of Thomas Clark and Associates in the amount of \$247,000 and Dustin Enterprises, Inc., in the amount of \$20,475 for completion of the high school additions feasibility study. He pointed out that Glenelg High School had been removed due to concerns raised by the Health Department and land acquisition issues.

The motion for approval was made by Dr. Campbell and seconded by Mrs. French.

Mr. Bounds questioned whether or not the feasibility study would include looking at 1,400 and 1,600 capacity schools. Dr. Cousin responded in the affirmative.

The Board voted approval.

**Approval of Architect/Cost Estimate for the School of Technology Renovation Feasibility Study**

Dr. Cousin reported that the School of Technology is scheduled to be renovated as a applications lab for completion in August 1997. He recommended the firm of Dewberry and Davis.

Mrs. Johnston moved approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bounds who asked if staff is satisfied with their level of competence for high technology applications. Dr. Cousin responded in the affirmative.

The Board voted approval.

**Zoning Board Petition No. ZB 966M (Blue Stream Partnership)**

Dr. Cousin acknowledged that the Board had earlier concerns regarding this petition due to increased density which would result in overcrowded schools.

Mrs. French made the motion to deny the proposed rezoning petition. It was seconded by Dr. Campbell.

Mr. Bounds stated, due to his lack of comfort level with the former decision, that he could vote in support of the motion by adding "unless capital funding for needed schools is guaranteed." He did not want the Board to be micro-managing the Zoning Board just as he does not want the county to micro-manage the school system's budgets. He stated that the job of the Board and the school system is to ensure that every student has a place without overcrowding schools. He offered his suggestion as an amendment. Dr. Campbell seconded the motion.

Mrs. French voiced concern with the use of the word "unless" and pointed out that this is only a recommendation. She pointed out that the decision on funding would not be made when the Zoning Board takes action on this petition. She suggested the word "because" rather than "unless."

accomplished, as well as some refinements to the plan. The site plan has received all approvals required by county agencies. Mr. Clark pointed out the following:

- Required improvements to Route 216 which extend across most of the frontage of the site and from the driveway entrance into the overall site to the residential property at the east end of the site. The required improvements include extending the pavement up to 24 feet and restriping to provide turn lanes into the school site.
- The locations of sidewalks on site. Mr. Clark noted that all design decisions have considered both funding limitations and those things which are necessary. Some paving was requested by Fire and Rescue Services to provide emergency vehicle access on the site.
- Installation of two fire hydrants.
- Grading of a part of the stadium area of the future high school to provide fill material needed for the elementary school. This will eliminate the need and expense of bringing fill material from off site.
- Parking area includes 93 parking spaces, and the bus stacking area includes space for 13 school buses.

Dr. Cousin explained that the site plan was being presented to the Board for approval at this time so that bid documents can be prepared and a contract awarded to allow site construction to begin as soon as possible. He noted that the Board will have the opportunity to review and approve the design documents and construction documents for the prototype elementary school.

A motion to approve the site plan was made by Ms. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Bounds, and approved by the members of the Board.

### **Feasibility Study for Additions to Centennial, Glenelg, and Howard High Schools**

Mrs. Cook recognized Councilman Darrel Drown and invited him to ask questions and participate in the discussion of the feasibility study. Mr. Drown thanked the Board for inviting members of the County Council and brought regrets from Councilman Charles Feaga that he was unable to attend.

Mr. Tom Clark and Mr. Mike Lahowin of Thomas Clark Associates Architects presented the report. Mr. Clark acknowledged the contributions to the study made by David Abrams, mechanical engineer; Mike Peri, electrical engineer; and Dustin Enterprises, who prepared the cost estimates for the three schools.

Mr. Clark explained that the report is presented in a summary format containing a section for each high school and an appendix section. Each school section contains information on the existing school conditions, the proposals for increasing capacity to 1,400 and 1,600 students, and a cost summary for each scheme.

Mr. Clark stated the purpose of the study is to produce a general picture of the scope of work, the approximate cost, and any special problems that will be involved in raising the capacity of the schools to 1,400 and 1,600 students. The primary objectives of the scope of work are to increase the capacity of the school and to remedy any problems that currently exist in the school or which will be created by the expansion. Mr. Clark cautioned that the proposals do not represent an updating of every aspect of the schools to

meet requirements of the current high school educational specifications. He added that the proposals are not final or fully comprehensive, and they do not represent the only solutions to the expansion of the schools.

Mr. Clark continued that the expansion requirements for each school are based on the minimum number of teaching stations that will be required to meet the program capacity, including special education, based on 25 students per teaching station. The 1,400 capacity schemes are compared to realistic possibilities of meeting the requirements of the 1991 High School Educational Specifications. The 1,600 capacity schemes are based on the same criteria plus teaching stations for the additional 200 students. Supplemental requirements for a 1,600 capacity will also try to be met.

Mr. Clark reminded the Board of the very compact schedule by which the study needed to be completed, and he acknowledged the excellent cooperation the consultants received from the staff at each school and from the central office.

Mr. Clark stated that all of the drawings for the existing schools, including original construction and any renovation and addition projects, were gathered, and composite drawings were prepared to indicate existing conditions. The actual present uses of the spaces were identified, and existing electrical and mechanical conditions were verified. An owner's questionnaire was completed by the school staff, maintenance and operations staff, and the school construction staff to learn how the buildings are used. Each school was toured by the consultants with the school principal or assistant principal, and they discussed problems concerning the existing school and what concerns they would have if the school were expanded to accommodate 1,400 or 1,600 students.

Preliminary and revised schemes were discussed in depth with staff. After those discussions, a consensus was reached concerning the size and location of the additions and the scope of the renovations within the existing schools. Those decisions allowed the consultants to develop another set of revised schemes. The consultants then met with county agencies to determine what was going to be required to meet present codes before a building permit could be obtained for any of the schemes and which would impact on the development of the cost estimates.

The code meeting was followed by the preparation of the final architectural and engineering descriptions which were provided to Dustin Enterprises for the finalization of the cost estimates.

#### Centennial High School

Mr. Clark described existing conditions of the school and the site. There are 387 parking spaces assigned to the high school located within the main parking lot and the area which was once used for drivers education. The bus loop presently has stacking space for 19 buses, and the proposed expansion will accommodate 25 buses.

Mr. Clark described the proposed additions and necessary improvements shown in the feasibility study to achieve the 1,400 capacity scheme. He pointed out the proposed addition to the rear of the school, which will primarily house the ninth grade cluster, and a smaller addition on the south side of the building, which will improve circulation within the school and provide additional classroom space.

Repartitioning and renovation work in the interior of the building, where feasible, will address some of the existing problems, such as:

- Easing congestion in hallways and at hallway intersections.
- Providing additional physical education lockers.
- Reconfiguring space to make it more usable and to meet fire codes.

An addition is proposed to the front of the cafeteria to accommodate the additional students during three lunch periods.

The proposed additions will result in a building which is 198,000 square feet, and Mr. Clark reminded the Board that the new high schools are 234,000 square feet. The cost estimate for the 1,400 scheme is \$4,500,000.

For the 1,600 capacity scheme, Mr. Clark pointed out differences from the 1,400 capacity scheme. The additions to the rear of the school and the south side of the school will be larger. Most of an existing practice field will be used to accommodate the addition to the rear of the school. The rear addition will provide 23 additional teaching spaces for the ninth grade cluster, additional math and humanities classrooms, and improved circulation.

The addition to the south side of the building will provide additional business education classrooms, two science labs and preparation room, and improved circulation and direct access to corridors.

A new physical education activity room will be added.

The proposed repartitioning of space is the same as for the 1,400 capacity scheme, except that an office space will be created to accommodate an additional administrator.

The cafeteria addition will be larger and will encompass an existing teachers' lounge and conference room.

The proposed additions will result in a school that is 212,000 square feet. Cost estimate: \$5,700,000.

Mr. Clark pointed out that the cost estimates are summaries, but Dustin Enterprises feels that the figures are accurate based on the depth of investigations to date.

Mr. Bounds stated that he tried to determine the cost of each additional seat to be provided by each scheme. He noted that for the 1,400 capacity at Centennial, the figure was \$13,877 per additional student. For the 1,600 capacity, the figure was \$10,921 per additional student. He added that he appreciated the summary format of the report.

Mrs. French asked how many additional seats were being added to the cafeteria in the 1,400 plan, and Mr. Clark responded that there would be approximately 84 additional seats, depending upon the number of students who eat lunch in the cafeteria. If all students ate lunch in the cafeteria, four lunch periods would be required. The 1,600 scheme will provide approximately 156 additional seats. Mrs. French asked if there is a standard which defines how many square feet per person are required for dining. Mr. Clark responded that a table layout was used to determine the cafeteria capacity, using the least preferred arrangement--12 students per rectangular table.

Ms. Johnston noted that the proposed bus loop is designed for 25 buses, but there are 30 buses serving Centennial High School. Dr. Cousin responded that the bus loop can

only accommodate 25 spaces, and the additional buses will stack outside the bus loop. Mr. Clark added that there is no room for additional expansion.

In response to Ms. Johnston, Mr. Clark noted that there are 387 existing parking spaces, and the users emphatically requested additional parking. To provide additional parking, the tennis courts would need to be relocated and one softball field would be lost. After discussing the practicality of providing additional parking, the committee's consensus was not to include it as a part of this project.

Dr. Campbell asked what activities are conducted on the play field that will be replaced by the new addition. Dr. Cousin responded that it is an undersized multipurpose field. Mr. Clark added that another option would be to create a two-story addition, which would be much more expensive.

Mrs. Cook asked if a cost estimate was available for renovations to the HVAC system. Mr. Clark responded that the costs of extending the systems to the new additions and making corrections to obvious existing problems have been factored into the cost estimates. Dr. Cousin noted that the cost of repartitioning areas of the building includes renovations to the HVAC system as well as the partitions.

Mrs. Cook noted that when renovations to the existing school are made, existing code deficiencies must be corrected; however if only additions are constructed, those same deficiencies do not have to be corrected. She asked for clarification that the sprinkler system is an exception. Mr. Clark responded that the entire building must be sprinklered whether or not the building is renovated.

Ms. Francis asked for an explanation of the proposed ADA provisions. Mr. Clark responded that not all toilets need to conform to ADA standards, but those that are provided must be conveniently located. Ms. Francis pointed out that sidewalk ramps are not convenient to the main entrance.

Ms. Francis noted that Centennial High School is one of the few schools that allows all students to drive, and the problem could be handled internally.

Ms. Francis emphasized the congestion problem at the hallway intersection near the rear of the building and stated that additional students would exacerbate the problem.

She expressed concern that the schedule at Centennial High School already has students eating late in the school day, and four lunch periods would not be practical.

In response to Ms. Francis, Mr. Clark explained that the physical education activity room will have a multi-use design so that it can be used as an additional physical education activity room for both boys and girls. It is not meant to be an auxiliary gymnasium.

Councilman Drown asked if the addition to the cafeteria will provide space required to accommodate only the additional students or if the square footage has been increased to alleviate existing overcrowding as well. Mr. Clark compared it to a new high school which is significantly larger than the proposed Centennial High additions. Mr. Drown clarified his question by asking if the square feet per student would be about the same for the existing cafeteria as for the proposed enlarged cafeteria. Mr. Clark thought the 1,600 scheme would be more generous than the 1,400 scheme, and he agreed to provide those figures for Mr. Drown.



Mr. Drown stated that one of the problems brought to his attention is the inefficiency of the HVAC system, and he asked if new rooftop units will improve the system or just provide the additional capacity for the additions. Mr. Clark explained that the existing units are 18 years old, and mechanical equipment has become more efficient. New air quality requirements must also be addressed in all renovated areas and new additions, which will impact on cost. Dr. Cousin added that the objective of the feasibility study was to provide additional capacity, not to completely renovate the facility, which would greatly add to the cost of the project. Only the HVAC equipment located within renovated areas will be upgraded. Dr. Cousin pointed out that repartitioning work is relatively inexpensive compared to renovations to mechanical and electrical systems.

#### Howard High School

Mr. Clark described the existing site conditions at Howard High School. He noted that there are 287 parking spaces in the main parking lot, and additional parking spaces are located at the former drivers education area and a large area behind the cafeteria and auditorium which results in 471 existing parking spaces. He noted that the site also includes a maintenance shop and yard and a separate building which houses the school shop and the JROTC program.

Mr. Clark stated that the location of proposed additions is very limited by existing site conditions. A new bus loop configuration and 11 additional bus spaces will provide for a total of 25 buses.

Mr. Clark stated that Howard High School has had numerous addition and renovation projects which add to the complexity of the project.

Mr. Clark described the 1,400 capacity scheme, which will include a one-story addition, 18,000 square feet, and will provide 14 additional teaching stations for the ninth grade cluster.

The cafeteria will receive a small addition, because the school operates with a four-lunch-period schedule and already accommodates over 1,400 students. Improvements will be made to correct an extreme congestion problem at the cafeteria entrance by providing a wide staircase. A wheelchair lift is required, because it is an assembly space.

The administration area will be enlarged and the office area relocated near the main entrance.

A new auxiliary gymnasium is proposed as a line item.

Interior renovation work will improve circulation and provide direct access to corridors. Proposed renovation work will result in additional or improved spaces for guidance, special education, gifted and talented, student organizations, teacher planning, teachers' dining/lounge, and additional classrooms, and additional lockers for physical education. On the second floor, repartitioning will improve circulation in the science area and create a new science prep room.

The 1,400 scheme will result in a school consisting of 210,384 square feet. The cost estimate for this scheme is \$4,100,000.

Mr. Clark explained the differences proposed for the 1,600 capacity scheme. The main addition to the building will be two stories and will provide space for the ninth grade cluster, science and math classrooms, science labs, humanities classrooms, and lavatories. The proposed addition to the cafeteria will be larger and will provide 168 additional seats. A new auxiliary gymnasium is proposed as a line item.

All other improvements to the site and the interior of the building remain the same as described for the 1,400 scheme.

The proposed additions and renovations will result in a school which is 224,000 square feet. The cost estimate is \$5,300,000.

Dr. Campbell asked if the size of the proposed cafeteria for the 1,600 scheme could be used for the 1,400 scheme. Mr. Clark responded affirmatively, but it would impact cost.

Mrs. French stated that she understood the capacity of the cafeteria was not increased comparatively under the 1,400 scheme, because the school was already handling the number of students with a four-lunch-period schedule. She expressed a desire to have a uniform standard for the number of lunch shifts scheduled by high schools.

Mr. Bounds stated that he calculated the same cost per additional student for the Howard High School schemes. For the 1,400 scheme, the cost would be \$25,000 per additional student. That figure is double that of adding the space to Centennial or Glenelg. For the 1,600 scheme, the cost per additional student is \$14,000, which is more in line with the other proposals. By comparing the two figures, Mr. Bounds suggested that the 1,600 scheme was more economical for the number of additional seats it would provide. Mr. Clark agreed.

Dr. Hickey asked if the distance from the cafeteria to the proposed faculty dining room would create a problem for the teachers. Mr. Clark responded that when a scheme is chosen, the planning committee could decide if that space should be placed closer to the cafeteria and then trade it with another space.

Mrs. Cook asked why the courtyard space was not considered as an option for constructing new space. Mr. Clark explained that the architects were instructed that the schools must be kept open for students during construction, which affects the cost estimate as well as the project schedule. Disruptions by noise, vibration, dust, etc. must be kept to a minimum. Temporary egress must also be provided to meet fire codes. In addition, materials would have to be transported through the school to reach the courtyard.

#### Glenelg High School

Mr. Clark described the history of the school and existing conditions. He pointed out limitations of the site, including the close proximity of the building to Burnt Woods Road.

Mr. Clark explained that the significant obstacle to enlarging Glenelg High School is the limitation of the sewage disposal system. After a thorough investigation of the existing sewage disposal system, it was determined that it could not be expanded. A packaged sewage disposal system would be extremely costly. The only viable alternative would be to acquire additional land and install a new septic system. He cautioned that

proposals to enlarge Glenelg High School are based on the premise that the sewage disposal problem would be resolved.

Mr. Clark reviewed the existing site conditions and noted there are currently 356 parking spaces, and a new parking lot is proposed which will provide an additional 129 parking spaces. There are currently 24 bus parking spaces, and no additional bus spaces will be provided.

The proposed 1,400 scheme will include a partial two-story addition to the east end of the building. The first floor of the addition will house the ninth grade cluster, and additional classrooms and science labs will be provided on the second floor. A new stair will improve circulation. A small addition into the courtyard will provide a new home economics classroom. Additions to the front of the building will provide additional space for the administrative suite and the cafeteria. Limitations of the site preclude further expansion to the front of the school.

Interior renovations will provide additional lockers for physical education, additional or improved classrooms, and improved circulation and access to corridors. Existing special education classrooms will be renovated to provide a graphics communication program, and classrooms for special education will be located throughout the instructional clusters.

The 1,400 scheme results in a school which will be 186,500 square feet. The cost estimate is \$5,200,000. A major line item in the cost estimate is to address the sewage disposal system and does not include the cost of acquiring land which may be necessary to expand the system. Without this line item, the cost estimate is \$4,400,000.

Mr. Clark explained that the 1,600 scheme proposes a three-story addition. The ninth grade cluster will be housed on the main level, and additional classrooms for humanities will be located on the lower level. Additional science labs and math classrooms will be located on the third floor.

A new physical education activity room will be constructed.

Interior renovations and improvements will be the same as the 1,400 scheme.

The 1,600 scheme results in a school which will be 197,000 square feet. The cost estimate is \$6,000,000, including the cost of the septic system, and \$5,300,000 without the cost of the septic system.

In response to Dr. Campbell, Dr. Cousin stated that land for a septic system would cost the same as any other land, and approximately 25 additional acres would be needed to correct the septic system. Mrs. Cook asked about the possibility of acquiring additional land, and Dr. Cousin responded that it does not look favorable at this time. Dr. Cousin added the land must also pass perc tests.

Dr. Kalin asked if an answer to the septic system problem will be available by October 12 and noted that it will impact on the redistricting plan. Dr. Cousin responded no. Dr. Cousin added that the health department has implied that an on-site disposal system is not an option because of possible contamination to the stream system.

Mrs. French observed that the idea of making all high school facilities equitable in size is no longer possible and that perhaps some high schools will be larger than others. Dr. Kalin agreed.

Dr. Kalin stated that the decision concerning the high school capacities needs to be made by October 12 to allow time for the redistricting plan to be developed. He noted that the data suggests that using the 1,600 scheme, \$17,000,000 will provide 1,600 seats, and using the 1,400 scheme, \$21,500,00 will provide 1,332 seats. He acknowledged that philosophy will also need to be considered in making the determination. Another consideration is that state funding priorities prefer additions rather than new schools. Dr. Kalin suggested that it may be possible to meet space requirements in the year 2000 with five additions at 1,600 capacity instead of building a new school.

In response to Mrs. French, Dr. Kalin explained that the high school enrollment will peak in the year 2007; and by using relocatables in 2006, capacity will be available to accommodate the peak enrollment. This strategy would also preclude the possibility of closing schools in the out years.

Dr. Hickey acknowledged that the Board would like to make the decisions based on as much certainty as possible; however, answers to the problems at Glenelg are not going to be readily available. He asked if the Board would consider making a decision concerning Glenelg as soon as possible.

Mr. Bounds stated that studies have indicated that a larger school population does not have an adverse academic effect as long as it is appropriately staffed and provided with appropriate core facilities. In addition to the cost of constructing a new school, there would also be additional costs to equip and staff a new school.

Mr. Bounds stated that concern has been expressed that if the high school capacity is raised to 1,600, in reality the enrollment may increase even higher. He noted that Howard High School has been operating at 1,600+. He felt that available data on high school enrollment projections should alleviate the fear of enrollments exceeding the 1,600 capacity.

Mr. Bounds suggested that the Board make a decision concerning Glenelg at this meeting to allow Dr. Kalin as much time as possible to prepare the redistricting recommendations. Mrs. Cook agreed.

Mrs. French asked if additional capacity could be provided by interior renovations without constructing new additions. Dr. Brown explained that the health department has indicated that even relocatables would not be an option for increasing capacity. Dr. Cousin added that any construction that would require a building permit would need the health department's approval.

Dr. Kalin reminded the Board that enrollment projects are based on the current zoning and master plan. If changes to the plan encourage growth, then the projections will increase, and new schools will be needed in the long-range plan. Mrs. French asked if the proposal to make Route 32 a divided highway will be a factor to the growth in that part of the county. Dr. Kalin responded that the school system has been asked to control costs, but cooperation is needed from the county to stabilize the long-range plans.

Mr. Drown stated that improvements to Route 32 are needed; but to increase density in the area, water and sewer would need to be provided. At the present time, the county is encouraging manufacturing and business growth. He expressed his commitment to enforcing the APFO. He expressed an opinion that any changes to the master plan will be minor; and if other changes do occur, adherence to the APFO must be enforced.

Mr. Drown acknowledged that student seats will be needed, but the funds to build new schools will not be available.

Mr. Bounds moved that an addition to Glenelg High School not be constructed because of the limitations of the septic system. The motion was seconded by Mrs. French and approved by the members of the Board.

Dr. Cousin clarified for Mrs. French that as long as capacity is not increased at Glenelg, interior modifications could be accomplished.

### **Recess**

The meeting was recessed for several minutes and reconvened by the Chairman.

Mrs. Cook requested that organizations and the community submit to the Board their comments and preferences concerning the proposed high school capacities.

Mrs. French asked if after a decision is made concerning the capacity of high schools, projects which have already been approved would need to be revisited. Dr. Kalin did not think that the Board's decision will mandate that every high school will have the same capacity, and he cited Glenelg as an example. Instead, he felt that the Board's decision will give staff the flexibility to decide the capacity that will be needed at each school.

Mr. Bounds agreed that it is already known that all high schools will not be the same size, and he acknowledged that the additional students will not all be located in one place. He asked Dr. Kalin to make recommendations and suggestions based on the needs of each school.

Dr. Kalin thanked the Board for making a decision concerning Glenelg High School so that planning can move forward on the redistricting plan.

### **Feasibility Study - Technology Magnet Applications and Research Laboratory**

Dr. Brown stated that the firm of Dewberry and Davis was selected as the consultant for this project in part because of their extensive experience and knowledge in designing high technology learning centers. He introduced Mr. J. Paul Lewis and Mr. Larry Keller to present the report.

Mr. Lewis explained that they were charged with reviewing the existing conditions of the School of Technology and developing conceptual options for the implementation of the following programs: The Educational Specifications for the Technology Magnet Applications and Research Laboratory, May 1995; Needs Assessment for Television Services, March 1995; and the Joint Use ARL Specifications, Howard Community College.

Mr. Lewis noted that revisions were made to these programs which required verification of program needs. The consultants then investigated the architectural and engineering conditions of the existing building. Meetings were held with school system staff as well as staff of the community college to verify and clarify program needs.

Mr. Lewis described the existing conditions of the site and buildings. He noted that Building F was determined not to be usable for this program and will be available for other school system needs.

Dr. Campbell wanted assurance that HCEA was comfortable with the proposed program. Ms. Johnston asked for clarification that the proposal would be reviewed by legal counsel. Dr. McGowan responded that legal counsel will review the proposal. He added that the involvement of school staff, teachers, and HCEA is encouraged and will be continued.

Mrs. French asked if the evaluation will count for teachers in the pilot schools who volunteer to participate in the program. Dr. McGowan replied that a "no fault" condition is being considered as part of the pilot program and that teachers who are not required to be evaluated annually are good candidates for the program. Mrs. French asked if the program will be used for untenured teachers. Dr. McGowan replied no.

Ms. Johnston stated that she liked the interpersonal relationship between the teacher and the evaluator.

The motion to approve the pilot program was approved by the members of the Board.

### **High School Capacity**

Mrs. Cook asked for consensus from the Board members to change the agenda item from an action item to a discussion item, and the Board members agreed.

Mrs. Cook quoted Dr. Kalin in referring to the school system as "dynamic," constantly changing. She stated that since the last meeting, Board members have received a lot of statistics and the Superintendent's Proposed FY 97 Capital Budget. The proposed capital budget includes the elimination of some projects and revised statistics which the Board members had not expected. Mrs. Cook believed that the capacities of high schools are interwoven in the capital budget request and cannot be separated. She asked that the decision of the high school capacities be tied to the approval of the Board of Education's FY 97 Capital Budget Request and FY 98-2002 Capital Improvement Program. Delaying the decision on capacities will give the Board time to study the numbers and the options which may be available.

Mrs. Cook informed the public that a hearing is scheduled for October 5, 1995, concerning the Superintendent's Proposed FY 97 Capital Budget, and the Board will also accept testimony concerning high school capacities at that time. She urged parents, students, and all other interested parties to testify at the hearing.

A motion to tie the decision of increasing high school capacities into the approval of the Superintendent's Proposed FY 97 Capital Budget was made by Mrs. Cook and seconded by Dr. Campbell.

Ms. Johnston commented that she would be out of the country on October 12 and would not be here to vote on the decision, but she did support Mrs. Cook's comments.

Mr. Bounds agreed with the motion. He stated that the decisions will have long-term ramifications for the school system, and they need to be made as deliberately as possible. The issue of increasing high school capacities has been discussed by the Board in the past and is now a proposal. He thought it was important to give everyone the opportunity to express their concerns and suggestions and for the Board to receive input from a broad range of citizens in Howard County.

Dr. Campbell stated that a number of comments have been made that when the capacity of high schools was increased to 1,400, the process did not include a public

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hearing. She pointed out that a public hearing was held in 1991 as part of the Board's adoption of the high school educational specifications, and a lot of public input was received by the Board. The proposal to increase the capacity to 1,600 is a result of fiscal concerns. She pointed out that the population projections are changing, and more information is available. The Board may have to make decisions concerning individual schools rather than countywide. She acknowledged that delaying the decision on high school capacities will make it difficult for Dr. Kalin to develop a redistricting plan.

Mrs. French suggested that it may be necessary to delay the community meetings concerning proposed boundary lines, and she felt that the public would be understanding if that became necessary. She noted that the data is very different from what has been projected for the past few years. The community needs to be assured that there will be relief next year; however, she pointed out that the concern of a 1,400 or 1,600 high school capacity is really one that will affect students in the year 2000 and beyond. She supported the chairman's motion.

The motion was approved unanimously by the members of the Board.

Dr. Hickey explained that the report presented to the Board is the same report, in most respects, that was prepared by Mr. Pfeifer last year. Mr. Eugene Streagle, Director of High Schools, has updated the report to include the most current information.

Mrs. French commented that she was not opposed to larger high schools if they are designed for a larger student population, and sufficient land is purchased for ballfields, parking, and access. She was concerned with increasing the capacity of an existing school that already has idiosyncrasies formed into it over the years. She would not be opposed to considering additional capacity for individual schools if existing schools could be renovated to meet current educational specifications. She recognized, however, that fiscal constraints would not allow that scope of work. She was concerned with exacerbating problems that have already been identified.

Ms. Johnston stated that she was opposed to increasing the high school capacity to 1,600 without the ability to improve the core and support facilities. She was concerned that problems would develop with security, safety, and vandalism. She stressed the importance of providing students the ability to complete four years of high school and be successful.

Dr. Campbell noted that student achievement based on the size of the school cannot be predicted. Additional instructional, administrative, and support staff are necessary to serve a larger student enrollment, and the school system does not have that philosophical support of the county government to provide those resources. She did not want to buy into the county government's suggested solution to accommodate the increased high school enrollment without its support for additional required resources. She also expressed concern that the enrollment of a high school with a designated capacity of 1,600 would, in reality, result in a much higher enrollment.

Mr. Bounds commented that available studies indicate that school size does not affect achievement; however, smaller schools provide more opportunities for student involvement in activities. He suggested that anticipated problems are more management related, because a larger student population becomes more difficult to manage. Additional resources will be required in the operating budget to address those management and safety concerns. If the capacity is increased to 1,600, there may be a need to impose an enrollment cap to assure the public that the enrollment will not increase beyond that figure.

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Mr. Bounds acknowledged the constraints on capital budget resources and that the county government will not support the construction of new schools without first constructing additions to existing schools.

Mr. Bounds encouraged the public to provide input to the Board and asked that specific reasons be identified to oppose or support the increase in high school capacities. He stated that the Board needs time to consider all of the options to provide the best educational facilities and resources for the students who will be attending high school during the next ten years.

Mrs. Cook noted that a 1,400 student population is, in fact, a large school and not a small school. She also expressed concern about constructing additions on schools without increasing the circulation and core facilities. Howard County has been fortunate not to have experienced a violence problem in our schools and that the safety of the students has to be a consideration in making the decision concerning capacity. She cited an example of a school in a neighboring county where two students bumped into each other in the hallway, resulting in a serious fight.

Mrs. Cook remarked that the school system is not warehousing students; it has to provide an education for those students, and it cannot be done in an extremely large school. She stated that space and dollars are driving the educational program; however, it is the educational program which must drive the space. The Board cannot look at only dollars; it has to look at the program and how that program addresses the needs of the students. She stressed that the students are the school system's first priority, and the school system must provide an education for those students.

Mrs. French pointed out that Board Policy 1611, School Site Selection and Acquisition, states the desirable range of enrollment for Howard County Schools.

Mrs. Cook noted that there are options in the capital budget which had not been previously considered, such as the elimination of some projects.

Dr. Campbell noted that Howard High School will get relief next year with the opening of Long Reach High School. She was concerned that even if the additions are constructed on existing high schools, the new high school proposed in the Fulton area may still be needed.

Ms. Francis agreed with Mrs. Cook that schools are not warehouses, and there are certain things that cannot be overlooked. As a high school student, she experiences the congestion in the corridors everyday, and she urged the Board to require wider hallways if the capacity is increased.

Mrs. Cook asked that the public write letters to the County Council expressing their views and concerns about increased high school capacities, because they need to hear what the public values. She noted that a public hearing will be held on October 5 to accept testimony on the FY 97 Capital Budget and FY 98-2002 Capital Improvement Program. The Board will make its decision, along with the approval of the capital budget request, on October 12, 1995.

## Adjournment

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The meeting was recessed by the Chairman at 6:30 p.m. and reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

### **Listening Post**

Mrs. Frances Lee addressed the Board concerning her son's involvement and sustained injuries in a school bus accident in 1983. Mrs. Cook responded that the school system was found not to be a party to the subsequent lawsuit, and there was nothing further the Board could do for Mrs. Lee.

### **Recognition of Organization Representatives**

Mrs. Cook recognized the following organizations that had representatives attending the Board meeting: PTA Council, Citizens' Advisory Committee, and the Howard County Education Association. Mrs. Cook welcomed the representatives.

### **Student Representatives**

Ms. Francis introduced Mr. Josh Tobin, representing Centennial High School.

Mr. Tobin expressed the concern of the community about the proposed renovation to Centennial High School and asked that their ideas and concerns be considered during the planning process.

### **Presentation of the Superintendent's FY 97 Capital Budget Request, FY 98-2002 Capital Improvement Program, and FY 97-2006 Long-Range Master Plan**

Dr. Hickey presented the capital budget request to the Board. He pointed out that a number of changes have been made from last year's approved capital improvement program.

Preliminary enrollment counts are about 500 students below projections, mostly at the elementary level, which has a significant impact on the capital budget request and capital improvement program.

Dr. Hickey pointed out the following cost reductions which have been incorporated into the budget request:

- Decreased the growth in enrollment.  
Previous enrollments projections have indicated that an additional 14,000 students could be expected; however those projections have been reduced to an additional 10,500 students. A trend in a decrease in growth has been acknowledged.
- Downsized specifications for elementary and middle schools.  
Specifications have been revised to reduce the size of elementary schools by 11.1%, and middle school specifications have reduced by 12.4%.
- Eliminated in the FY 97 budget from last year two new elementary schools, one elementary addition, and changed one middle school replacement to a renovation/addition.  
Southeastern Elementary School #4, Western Elementary School #4, and an addition to Guilford Elementary School have been eliminated. The Ellicott Mills Middle School Replacement has been changed to a major renovation/addition project.
- Eliminated two high school additions.  
Additions to Atholton High School and Glenelg High School have been eliminated.

- Proposed increased capacity for two high schools to 1,600 students.
- Proposed the utilization of relocatable classrooms as a long-term, low-cost solution for two elementary and two middle schools as opposed to permanent additions.

Dr. Hickey explained that the relocatables will be placed side-by-side to form an addition to the building. Roof and corridors will be extended to join the relocatables to the main building.

- Deferred projects throughout the ten-year master plan to better distribute capital costs.

The FY 96 ten-year average was \$27.3 million per year. By deferring some capital projects, the ten-year average can be reduced to \$16.8 million per year.

Dr. Hickey noted that the focus of the capital budget will be on high schools, but he asked that consideration be given to what has been done to reduce capital expenditures during the next ten years. He acknowledged that some of the savings can be attributed to the reduction in growth; however, some difficult decisions also have been made to result in savings.

Dr. Hickey pointed out that pages 24-25 of the budget document summarize the capital budget request, capital improvement program, and ten-year long-range master plan.

Dr. Cousin explained that development of the capital budget request assumed approval of approximately \$5 million in state funds and \$3.5 million in transfer tax. State funding is dependent upon the scope of the projects and the availability of state funds. Transfer tax is dependent upon the sale and resale of residential homes in the county. The school system receives 25% of the transfer tax received by the county, and the funds are used to support capital projects.

Dr. Cousin noted that in FY 96, funds were requested for the School of Technology as a space holder, because educational specifications and the feasibility study were not completed for the renovation project. The FY 97 funding request of \$5.2 million is for construction and equipment of the Applications and Research Laboratory for the Technology Magnet Program.

Dr. Cousin pointed out that the cost of all of the projects are shown in FY 97 dollars, and no inflation factor has been used for future years. The dollar cost used for calculating the cost of new projects, additions, and renovations is provided by the state and is unchanged from last year; that is, \$92.14/square foot for construction and site development. The figure is derived from a statewide average of school construction costs, and Dr. Cousin noted that the cost of all recent Howard County projects has been below the statewide average. He expected to see an increase in the cost per square foot in FY 98 and beyond, because the cost of recently bid projects has been increasing.

Dr. Cousin further explained the proposal to use relocatables for long-term capacity. The relocatables will be substantially built and are not intended to be moved as often as the light construction units which are moved frequently. Once the relocatables are added to the existing buildings, they will be indistinguishable from the rest of the building. Lighted corridors, toilet rooms, and individual HVAC units will be provided. The cost of using the relocatables is approximately 50% of the cost of permanent construction. The cost of constructing a four-classroom pod onto an existing building is approximately \$1 million. The use of relocatables to form the addition can be accomplished for

approximately \$500,000. Part of that savings assumes the use of existing relocatables within the school system.

In response to Dr. Campbell, Mr. William Grau, Site Planner, stated that the school system owns 27 CMSI relocatable units.

Dr. Cousin explained for Mrs. Cook that the relocatable additions will look like a classroom addition with brick walls and windows. He noted that Montgomery County has used this procedure, and it has worked very well.

Referring to the elimination of some new school projects, Dr. Cousin pointed out that additional savings will be realized by not having to purchase land, and operating expenses will not be needed.

Dr. Cousin explained that the \$5 million request for systemic renovations is for improvements to heating and air-conditioning systems at schools. It also includes repartitioning and other work to improve the overall climate of existing buildings. The budget request also includes \$1 million for technology equalization for the last year of the three-year phase-in project.

Dr. Cousin responded to Mrs. French that a site had not been identified for Western Elementary School #4, although the site adjacent to Mount View Middle School could have been a possibility.

Mr. Bounds noted that the FY 97 Capital Budget Request includes \$900,000 for relocatables. Dr. Cousin responded that approximately \$500,000 is included for the relocatable additions to Mayfield Woods Middle and Patuxent Valley Middle Schools. Dr. Kalin added that the remaining funds will be used for moving existing units and not to purchase additional units. Dr. Cousin explained that it costs an average of \$15,000-\$20,000 to move and re-establish a relocatable unit. Dr. Kalin stated that the units will be relocated during this summer, and Mr. Grau added that construction of the long-term additions is scheduled for Patuxent Valley Middle School in 1996 and for Mayfield Woods Middle School in 1998. Dr. Cousin noted that the proposal to add relocatable additions to two elementary schools needs further study to determine if it is possible and when the additions will be needed.

Mr. Bounds pointed out that it was his understanding that once the new high schools were open, there would be many relocatables available for other schools. Dr. Kalin agreed that was true, but there will never be enough units to address the requests of all schools.

Dr. Kalin explained that a reduction in the projected enrollment occurred two consecutive years, thus supporting the revisions to enrollment projections in the FY 97 Capital Budget Request document. When the reduction in anticipated growth is extended to the year 2000, it has a dramatic effect on the countywide numbers and results in the equivalent of a new high school. He cautioned that even though the rate of growth has decreased, the school system is still growing at a rapid pace, and there will continue to be a need for construction of new schools and additions to schools. As the projections change, the capital budget requests and redistricting plans must be changed.

Dr. Kalin continued that for the first time, first grade enrollments were lower than had been projected, and the cohorts in each grade level, K-12, were down about 1%. Because these two things have happened for the first time, they were not a consideration

in the revision of enrollment projections. The lower kindergarten enrollment was the single-most effect on the revision of enrollment projections.

Dr. Kalin discussed the rationale for the recommendation to eliminate projects in terms of available capacity and projected enrollment for regions of the county. He pointed out that the bulk of available capacity is in Columbia East, where the community is maturing and enrollments have been dropping. However, because capacity will be deficient to meet the projected needs of the region, a new western middle school has been proposed.

Dr. Kalin distributed a chart to illustrate the effects of redistricting and capital projects on available high school capacity. The high school population is expected to increase by 400 students each year for 12 years, resulting in the enrollment equivalency of a new high school every three years. The opening of two new high schools in 1996 will provide additional capacity to provide for students through the year 2000. At that time, three high school additions are recommended to be completed to meet the enrollment needs and to provide 362 surplus seats to accommodate growth for the next year. A new high school is then recommended for the Fulton area which, together with the addition to Howard High School, will provide adequate high school capacity for students through the year 2006.

Dr. Kalin stated that the Board is being asked to consider constructing additions to two high schools--Howard High and Mt. Hebron High Schools--to increase the capacity of each school to 1,600. He pointed out that the illustrated plan meets the needs of the student population but does not provide a seat for everyone at the peak of high school enrollment in 2007. The strategy is to provide fewer seats than needed at the peak to prevent having to close schools when the high school enrollment begins to decline.

Mrs. French expressed concern that the students will move and the need for capacity in a specific area may change. Dr. Kalin responded that the planning assumptions are as concrete as possible, and the projected needs are expected to approximate actual future needs. He added that changes in zoning and the General Plan are factors that could influence future needs.

Mrs. Cook asked if the enrollment peak was expected in the year 2007, and Dr. Kalin responded affirmatively.

Using a color-coded map, Dr. Kalin illustrated the problems and possible solutions to accommodate projected high school enrollment. He stated that the development of a redistricting plan will attempt to provide stability to geographic areas in general, although several areas may need to be redistricted more frequently.

Mrs. French asked for clarification of providing stability to geographic areas. Dr. Kalin responded that the concepts of stability and community identity have been public priorities for many years. Addressing those concerns has not always been possible in the past, but every attempt will be made to incorporate those concepts in the high school redistricting plan.

Mrs. French asked that a map be provided to Board members which illustrates tentative boundary lines for 1996. Dr. Kalin explained that when he developed the redistricting illustration, he assumed the high school additions would increase capacity to 1,600. He added that until the Board makes that decision, he cannot develop a redistricting plan recommendation. Mrs. French asked what the plans had been for the

northeast area after the approval of the FY 96 Capital Budget. Dr. Kalin responded that because the data has changed since that time, a new plan needs to be developed.

Mr. Bounds asked what influence the feeder system will have on the redistricting plan and if the feeder system could be illustrated on the same map. Dr. Kalin responded that an informal feeder system does exist which is perceived as stability for communities and families, but it is not an exact and concrete system. Dr. Hickey suggested that overlays may be more appropriate to illustrate the feeder system. Dr. Kalin provided several examples of the effects of redistricting on the feeder system.

In response to Ms. Johnston, Dr. Kalin clarified that the Technology Magnet Program is not reflected in the numbers on the chart he provided to the Board, which indicates that in three years, capacity will not be available at Long Reach High School to accommodate the students in that program. However, capacity will be available at River Hill High School to guarantee a home for the Technology Magnet Program for at least ten years.

Dr. Campbell asked what will happen to the Technology Magnet Program at Long Reach High School if no changes are made. Dr. Kalin responded that the program could not be housed at Long Reach High School for more than two to three years. After that time, the program will need to be relocated, or the number of students assigned to Long Reach High School will need to be reduced.

Dr. Hickey commented that it is preferred to have a location for the Technology Magnet Program on both sides of Route 29. It is the assumption that just as many students east of Route 29 will elect to participate in the program as those students west of Route 29. Dr. Hickey stated that it is critical for the program to have a home at least for the first few years. He anticipated that the program will grow rapidly and, therefore, a third site may be necessary.

Dr. Campbell pointed out that the students in the Technology Magnet Program are already included in the countywide enrollment projections. She stated that she is strongly opposed to increasing capacity at Howard High School and would be less opposed to increasing capacity at a new school which has wider corridors and larger support spaces.

Dr. Kalin stated that he will continue to study the options and consider suggestions from staff and the community .

Mrs. French noted that in the year 2006, Wilde Lake High School will be overcapacity by 100 students and asked if it could be used to relieve Howard High School. Dr. Kalin responded affirmatively, but added that the feeder system would be affected. Mrs. French asked if it would be helpful to accelerate the construction of the Fulton area high school. Dr. Kalin replied that it could be moved up one or two years, but the capacity actually will not be needed until FY 2003.

In response to Dr. Campbell, Dr. Cousin stated that the feasibility studies for constructing additions to Mt. Hebron and Oakland Mills High Schools are expected to be completed by mid-January 1996. Dr. Cousin explained for Ms. Johnston that additions can be made to the two schools, but the feasibility studies will identify the improvements to the core facilities which will be needed to accommodate the additional students.

Mr. Bounds commented that he had received a suggestion that the new high schools could be reengineered to provide additional space. Dr. Cousin explained that the new schools do have wider corridors, additional spaces required by the high school educational specifications, and larger spaces that are more flexible and could be

redesigned to provide additional spaces. He cited home economics, industrial arts, and dedicated special education classrooms as possibilities. He added that reengineering a new school could be achieved, not without difficulty, but with less difficulty than doing the same thing to an older school.

Dr. Kalin agreed that the capacity in the new schools could be increased, but it is not known by how much. He stated that if the option of increasing capacity in the new high schools is pursued, the Board would be asked to approve an increase in the capacity of those schools, and the new approved figures would then be used for planning purposes.

Mr. Bounds asked if an estimate of the additional capacity which might be available in those schools could be determined. Dr. Cousin replied that a determination would need to be made concerning the impact on the educational program if those changes were to be made. An architect would then need to determine the feasibility of making those changes.

Mrs. French inquired if it is possible to construct an addition to Long Reach High School to add capacity and protect the Technology Magnet Program. She noted that long-range plans include additions to Mt. Hebron and Centennial High Schools. Dr. Kalin stated that the additions are needed to provide seats for the additional students. The projects cannot be replaced by other projects which do not provide those seats. Dr. Campbell suggested that the use of relocatables might be a solution.

In response to Mrs. French, Dr. Kalin explained that in the year 2006 the middle school capacity will be deficient by 430 seats. He suggested that Western Middle School #3 may not be needed after the decline in middle school enrollment begins. However, if changes are made in the General Plan and development in the western part of the county increases, the school will be in the long-range master plan to accommodate the additional students.

Dr. Hickey stated that substantial cost reductions have been included in the capital budget to provide capacity at the high school level; however, additional reductions at the elementary and/or middle school levels could jeopardize the ability of those schools to accommodate enrollment.

Ms. Johnston asked, given budgetary constraints and enrollment data, if staff feels the Superintendent's proposal is the best solution, and Dr. Kalin replied affirmatively. Dr. Kalin noted that the enrollment at Howard High School is 1,665 which has given the school system experience with a student population of that size. He added that in order to support the Technology Magnet Program and provide seats for additional students, capacity will be needed in that region. He felt that redistricting beyond what has been indicated would increase transportation costs and disrupt the feeder school system.

Dr. Hickey stated that the recommendations are staff's best effort to respond to the school system's needs, the technical factors, the political factors, and the human factors.

Mrs. French asked staff to determine what would be needed to increase Howard High School's capacity to 1,600, allow the school the choice to have three lunch shifts, and provide reasonable elements of the current educational specifications. Dr. Cousin responded that the feasibility study addressed more than providing additional seats, for example, renovating the humanities area, expanding the cafeteria, reconfiguring the administrative area, adding an auxiliary gymnasium, and making changes to the HVAC system. He estimated that the cost of completely renovating Howard High School would be 60-70% of the cost to construct a new building.

Dr. Campbell suggested that the problems in the northeastern area are caused by location and the inability to control population and not so much with funding. She noted that the acquisition of schools sites has been controlled by the location of available property and not necessarily the lack of funds to purchase those sites.

Mrs. Cook noted that her comments had been made earlier during the discussion concerning the capacity of high schools.

Mrs. Cook announced that a public hearing concerning the capital budget will be held on October 5 at 7:30 p.m. Testimony will also be accepted concerning the capacity of high schools, and the decision concerning capacity will be determined simultaneously with the approval of the capital budget request. A public work session will be held on October 10 at 7:30 p.m., and the Board will approve its capital budget request at 2:00 p.m. on October 12, 1995.

#### **Educational Specifications for the Technology Magnet Program Applications and Research Laboratory (ARL)**

Dr. McGowan stated that Dr. Dan Jett presented the initial educational specifications to the Board last spring, and they have since been modified and refined.

Mr. Streagle reported that Mr. Richard Weisenhoff, Mr. Don Lewis, Ms. Cathleen Young, and Dr. William Brown worked with him to refine the educational specifications and provide additional narration and details. Furthermore, the cluster committees continued to meet to further develop the program and to assist in the revision of the document.

Dr. Carol Copenhaver and Mr. Jim Ball of Howard Community College met with the architects to explain the concepts and plans for a joint-use facility. Dr. McGowan is currently working with Dr. Copenhaver to develop a final joint-use agreement.

Countywide programs and services, such as central printing services, TV studio, and teen parenting will remain at the facility, and space has been included to accommodate those programs.

Mr. Streagle pointed out that a feasibility study to renovate the building was completed by the architect, and Option I was approved by the Board.

Refinements to the educational specifications include the following:

- Addition of the Technology Magnet Program learning goals to facilitate the architect's understanding of the programs.
- Addition of belief statements developed by the teachers who helped to develop the program.
- Reorganization of required space requirements.
- Division of each cluster into seven sections for consistency throughout the document to define requirements.
- Addition of narration to describe the planned activities for each space.
- Removed building code requirements which will be incorporated in the construction documents.

# MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY

October 5, 1995

The Board of Education of Howard County held a public hearing on Thursday, October 5, 1995, at 7:30 p.m., in the Board Room of the Department of Education, located at 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, Maryland, to receive public testimony concerning the Superintendent's Proposed FY 97 Capital Budget Request, FY 98-2002 Capital Improvement Program, FY 97-2006 Long-Range Master Plan, and the proposed FY 97 Operating Budget. The following were present:

Susan J. Cook, Chairman  
Sandra H. French, Vice Chairman  
Stephen C. Bounds  
Linda L. Johnston

Michael E. Hickey, Superintendent, Secretary/Treasurer  
Sydney L. Cousin, Associate Superintendent  
Sandra J. Erickson, Associate Superintendent  
Maurice F. Kalin, Associate Superintendent  
James R. McGowan, Associate Superintendent  
Susan A. Shown, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by the Chairman.

Mrs. Cook invited public testimony concerning the Superintendent's Proposed FY 97 Capital Budget Request, FY 98-2002 Capital Improvement Program, FY 97-2006 Long-Range Master Plan, and the proposed FY 97 Operating Budget.

Mr. Bill Stara, Member of the Science Advisory Board, Centennial High School

- Stated that his comments were in support of those to be given by Mr. Ed Rohde, and he relinquished his time to Mr. Rohde.

Mr. Ed Rohde, Chairman, Science Department, Centennial High School

- Requested that the planetarium presently located at Wilde Lake Middle School be re-established at Centennial High School.
- Presented data to support the use of a planetarium in the science curriculum.

Mr. Russ Poch, Member of the Science Advisory Board, Centennial High School

- Supported the relocation of the planetarium presently located at Wilde Lake Middle School to Centennial High School.
- Requested the approval of a full-time planetarium director.

Ms. Ellen Rennels, Parent

- Expressed concern with the limited opportunity for public discussion and input concerning the capacity of high schools.
- Requested that the Board consider the effects of the capital budget on other things, i.e. elimination of play fields to accommodate additions to buildings, increased and congested traffic in proximity to high schools.

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- Urged the Board to ensure that if high school capacity at older schools is increased, the entire facility is renovated and equipment is provided to accommodate the additional students.
- Requested that the school system continue to pursue the expansion of Glenelg High School.
- Requested that equity among high schools be addressed.

Ms. Jan Chastant, PTA Council

- Supported projects which allow students to attend schools close to where they live.
- Supported additions to schools only when they have core facilities adequate to maintain the additions.
- Supported equity among schools throughout Howard County.
- Supported cost-effective methods to address issues of overcrowding within the school system as long as the methods do not negatively affect the education of children.
- Supported the elimination of Southeastern Elementary School #4 and Western Elementary School #4.
- Supported the renovation project for Ellicott Mills Middle School rather than the construction of a replacement school.
- Urged caution in assuming the slow down in growth is a trend.

Ms. Susan Tucker, PTA Council

- Opposed constructing additions to existing high schools to raise the capacity to 1,600 if adequate core facilities are not improved to accommodate the additional students.
- Expressed concern with overcrowding and corridor congestion found currently at Howard High and Mt. Hebron High Schools.
- Urged the Board to carefully consider all options before making a decision to increase capacity to 1,600 at Howard High and Mt. Hebron High Schools.
- Suggested that additions be constructed on newer schools which have wider corridors and larger core facilities instead of on older schools.
- Urged the Board to reexamine the possibility of enlarging Glenelg High School.
- Supported the utilization of relocatable classrooms to provide additional capacity.
- Supported the funding request for systemic renovations.

Ms. Virginia Charles, PTA Council

- Pointed out that when adjusted for inflation, the per-pupil spending has decreased for the last five years.
- Reviewed the items in the FY 96 budget that were reduced in response to the \$4.3 million cut made by the County Council.
- Urged the Board to approve a sufficient staffing pool to meet unanticipated staffing needs.
- Urged the Board to approve sufficient staffing to provide relief to the high schools experiencing larger class size as a result of the seven-period day.
- Stressed the need for additional staff and staff development to meet the needs of inclusion.
- Stressed the need for additional school psychologists, pupil personnel workers, and guidance counselors to address the needs of at-risk students.

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- Asked that additional funds be approved to replenish the reductions in instructional supplies and materials, textbooks, supplies, equipment, copying, and curriculum development.

Mr. Tom Fahey, Resurrection/St. Paul Home and School Association

- Thanked the Board for the existing funding of nonpublic school transportation.
- Noted that Resurrection/St. Paul has extended its school day and adjusted opening times to allow the same buses to serve up to four public and nonpublic schools.
- Requested that the Board approve funds to provide transportation services to nonpublic schools at an equitable level.

Ms. Carey Wright, President, Howard County Assoc. of Elementary School Admin.

- Urged that the class size ratio of 25:1 be maintained for staffing at the elementary level and that an adequate staffing pool be approved to continue that ratio throughout the entire school year.
- Supported the inclusion program and requested that adequate staffing be provided to meet the needs of the students.
- Requested that a staffing pool for nurses, special education teachers, and assistants be approved to meet inclusion needs throughout the school year.
- Requested approval of a full-time guidance counselor and half-time psychologist in each elementary school.
- Requested funding for textbooks and materials of instructions.
- Supported the technology equalization plan and requested that it be continued and expanded to ensure that all schools have the necessary technology to access information needed for the instructional program.

Mr. Al DeRemigis, President, West Friendship Elementary School PTA

- Pointed out the need for equity among schools.
- Requested that the gymnasium ventilation system be upgraded.
- Requested funding to purchase textbooks.
- Requested approval of a full-time guidance counselor in each elementary school and the availability of a psychologist more than one day a week.
- Supported increasing the teacher pool to maintain class size.
- Requested approval of a full-time nurse in each Howard County school.
- Asked that funds earmarked for Western Elementary School #4 be redirected to fund physical improvements at West Friendship Elementary School.
- Requested that a new permanent pod addition be constructed to replace the need for relocatable classrooms.

Ms. Rosemary Mortimer, Howard County Citizen and former member of the Adequate Public Facilities Commission

- Applauded the Board's decision to delay a decision on increasing high school capacity to allow public testimony.
- Expressed the following concerns regarding increased high school capacity:
  - Reduced opportunities for students to participate in school activities.

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- Less opportunity for interaction and development of relationships between students and school staff.
- Continued enrollment growth without a "top stop."
- Inadequate core facilities and corridors to accommodate the additional students.
- Safety of students.
- Suggested that the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance should be tested at the middle and high school level.
- Suggested that the school system acquire land, through condemnation, where it is needed and not to purchase land just because it is available in other areas.
- Questioned the reduction in enrollment projections for the next ten years.
- Urged the Board to fund the renovation and addition to Wilde Lake Middle School.

Mr. Brad Maunz, St. Louis School

- Noted the progress that has been made to improve transportation service to nonpublic students.
- Requested that an additional bus route be funded to provide transportation service to students who are not currently served.
- Expressed appreciation for the Board's efforts to achieve balance and equity in the budget process.

Ms. Barbara Strong-Goss, President, Clarksville Elementary School PTA

- Requested that the Board carefully examine the time lines and priorities included in the capital budget.
- Urged that the schedule for the construction of the Western Middle School #3 be accelerated and that the project be assigned a higher priority to prevent overcrowding in existing middle schools in western Howard County.

Ms. Debra Colgan, Vice President, Clarksville Elementary School PTA

- Requested that if budget reductions are necessary, that the same items are not reduced again.
- Requested funding for improvements to media collections in older schools.
- Requested that priorities for capital projects be reexamined to provide relief to the overcrowding at Clarksville Middle School.
- Opposed increasing high school capacities to 1,600, suggesting that it will have a negative impact on students.
- Urged the Board to continue dialogue with the public and to remain open to public suggestions and requests. Expressed the community's willingness to help improve education.

Ms. Karen Dunlop, President, Howard County Education Association

- Requested funding to maintain class size.
- Requested funding for additional staff to meet the needs of inclusion.
- Requested fair salary increases for teachers and support personnel.

Mr. Dan Lennon, President, Mt. Hebron High School PTA

- Supported the capital budget request.

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- Urged the Board to work diligently to obtain approval of full funding from the county government.
- Expressed concern with increasing capacity of high schools without increasing the infrastructure, support services, and academic and extracurricular opportunities.
- Supported increasing the capacity of Mt. Hebron High School to 1,400 with careful consideration given to all educational components.

Ann Koch, Parent, Manor Woods Elementary School

- Supported increasing capacity to 1,600 at new high schools.
- Opposed increasing capacity at older schools without adequate support and core facilities.
- Urged the Board to ensure equity among high schools when decisions are made concerning capacities.
- Urged caution in accepting the reduction in projected enrollments as a trend.

Mr. Arthur Gold, Governmental Affairs Committee, The ARC of Howard County

- Urged full funding for implementation of recommendations 12, 13, 14, and 15 of "Implications of the Technology Magnet Program Report," dated July 27, 1995.
- Stressed that the School-to-Career Education/Transition Services program must be funded in full, and each recommendation builds on the last.

Ms. Carol Grove, President, St. John's Lane Elementary School PTA

- Urged the Board to consider the impact of increased high school capacity on extracurricular activities, climate, and security.
- Supported increasing capacity at the new high schools. If a decision is made to increase capacity at the older schools, renovations must include improvements to corridors, support areas, and core facilities.
- Requested that consideration be given to other schools, in addition to Mt. Hebron and River Hill High Schools, to provide relief for Glenelg High School.

Ms. Jessica Kemper, President, Bollman Bridge Elementary School PTA

- Supported the proposed capital budget request.
- Supported the proposal to use relocatable classrooms to accommodate the projected enrollment at Bollman Bridge Elementary School.

Ms. Grace Lee, President, Howard High School PTA

- Opposed increasing capacity at Howard High School to 1,600 and recommended that 1,400 be the maximum capacity for the school.
- Opposed increasing capacity at older schools without adequate support and core facilities.
- Suggested that additions be constructed on newer schools which have wider corridors and larger core facilities instead of on older schools.
- Urged the Board to make decisions that would provide equity among the county's high schools.

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Ms. Ann Augustin, President, Centennial High School PTA

- Urged the Board to make decisions that would provide equity among the county's high schools.
- Recommended that as schools receive additions, renovations must result in a facility that has all of the spaces and equipment equal to that of other schools in the county.
- Urged the Board to request funding to provide equal and quality educational environments throughout the county.

Ms. Margaret Foster, President, Patapsco Middle School PTA

- Opposed constructing an addition to Mt. Hebron High School to raise the capacity to 1,600 if adequate core facilities and support services are not improved to accommodate the additional students.
- Expressed concern with overcrowding and corridor congestion currently at Mt. Hebron High School.
- Urged the Board to carefully consider all options before making a decision to increase capacity to 1,600 at Mt. Hebron High School.

Ms. Kathleen Jeschke, Parent, Mount View Middle and Mt. Hebron High Schools

- Stressed that the size of a school must be compatible with the ability of the school to handle the number of students.
- Pointed out that the enrollment of Mt. Hebron High School is 26.4% overcapacity and cited examples of overcapacity based on increased capacity.
- Encouraged the Board to consider the ability of the core facilities to accommodate additional students.
- Stated that if the high school capacities are increased, the older schools need major renovations and not just additional seating space.

Mr. Dana Hanna, Parent, Centennial High School

- Urged the Board to make decisions that would provide equity among the county's high schools.
- Opposed increasing capacity at older schools without adequate support and core facilities.
- Urged the Board to consider the inadequacies of older schools to accommodate additional students.
- Recognized that county government decisions are driven by dollars.
- Urged the Board to advocate for the students' interests.
- Requested that if a renovation is delayed, phasing in improvements to older high schools should be considered.

Mr. Cliff Bobo, Contractor

- Suggested construction alternatives to provide access to relocatable classrooms which would result in a cost-savings of \$100/unit.
- Urged the Board not to use extravagant means to construct the proposed relocatable additions and to connect them to existing buildings.

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Ms. Chris Dumler, Northfield Elementary School PTA

- Asked for assurance from the Board that its decision concerning the capacity of high schools will not create problems that will prevent students from being able to complete four years in a safe, sound, neighborhood high school.
- Asked that the Board honor its commitment to smaller high schools.
- Suggested that larger high schools will promote problems with the following: discipline, safety, lack of sufficient resources, and fewer opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities.
- Suggested that capping a school enrollment at 1,400 could result in overcapacity in some school enrollment areas and not in others, requiring students to be bused out of their home school areas.
- Suggested if capacity is increased to 1,600, funds must be made available to provide improvements to core facilities and support resources to accommodate the additional students.
- Suggested if capacity is approved at 1,400, an enrollment cap must be approved without forcing students to be bused out of their home school area.

Ms. Barbara Russell, Parent, Wilde Lake High School and Harpers Choice Middle School

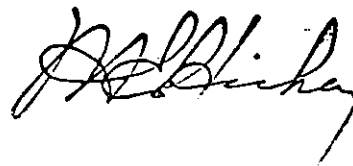
- Requested that the Board consider increasing the capacities of Long Reach High and River Hill High Schools to 1,600, citing the wider hallways and overall additional space to accommodate additional students.
- Suggested that being a smaller county offers opportunities to make adjustments in boundary lines without having to transport students long distances.

Ms. Debra Blomme, President, Pointers Run Elementary School PTA

- Supported the proposed capital budget.
- Suggested that the enrollment projections are too conservative for the rate of growth the community is experiencing and requested that consideration be given to allocating additional relocatable classrooms to Pointers Run Elementary School to accommodate additional students.

There being no additional testimony to be presented, the Chairman closed the public hearing at 9:30 p.m.

Mrs. Cook announced that the Board will conduct a public work session on October 10, 1995, at 7:30 p.m., and approval of the proposed budget will be made on October 12, 1995, at 2:00 p.m.



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# MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY

October 10, 1995

The Board of Education of Howard County held a public work session on Tuesday, October 10, 1995, at 7:30 p.m., in the Board Room of the Department of Education, located at 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, Maryland, concerning the Superintendent's Proposed FY 97 Capital Budget Request, FY 98-2002 Capital Improvement Program, and FY 97-2006 Long-Range Master Plan. The following were present:

Susan J. Cook, Chairman  
Sandra H. French, Vice Chairman  
Stephen C. Bounds  
Karen B. Campbell

Michael E. Hickey, Superintendent, Secretary/Treasurer  
Sydney L. Cousin, Associate Superintendent  
Sandra J. Erickson, Associate Superintendent  
Maurice F. Kalin, Associate Superintendent  
James R. McGowan, Associate Superintendent  
Susan A. Shown, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by the Chairman. Ms. Johnston was out of the country and unable to attend the meeting.

Mrs. Cook announced that the work session concerns the Superintendent's Proposed FY 97 Capital Budget Request, FY 98-2002 Capital Improvement Program, and FY 97-2006 Long-Range Master Plan.

Dr. Kalin explained the definition of capacity as it is used throughout the capital budget document:

1,332	Regular population only
1,400	Regular population plus special education
1,600	Regular population only

High school capacity is calculated at 90% utilization—10% of the teaching stations are not being used at any point in time. If the utilization factor were 100%, 131 spaces would be added to the capacity. It is possible to use all stations, and some schools are already using the other 10%. However, capacities in the budget document are calculated using the 90% factor.

Mrs. French was surprised to learn that the 1,600 capacity did not include special education students. She asked how many special education students would have to be added to the 1,600 capacity. Mr. Grau responded that it would be the same as is included in the 1,400 capacity, approximately 75 special education students. Dr. Hickey further explained that the 1,600 capacity would be increasing the regular student enrollment only, and special education enrollment would remain the same. Dr. Kalin stated that the special education teaching stations are generous in size.

Dr. Kalin described the planning assumptions that were used to develop the capital budget request:

1. To create environments that support instruction.

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- Reducing the scope of redistricting.
  - Supporting the feeder school concept generally.
  - Sizing the capacity to the population in the geographic area.
2. To keep as much space for the Technology Magnet Program as possible at River Hill and Long Reach High Schools.
  3. That no addition would be constructed at Glenelg High School.

Dr. Kalin pointed out that if the planning assumptions change, then obviously the plan will change.

Dr. Hickey commented that the Board made a commitment about the Technology Magnet Program, and planning has moved ahead for the program. Students have been recruited, and parents have committed to having their students participate in the program. He suggested that whatever action is necessary should be taken to maintain the program at both Long Reach and River Hill High Schools. He felt that it would be a mistake to locate both programs in facilities west of Route 29. He suggested that all alternatives should be considered in order to keep the programs at both schools and to reassure students who have shown interest in the program.

Dr. Kalin explained the "wave-like" action of available capacity and overcapacity—the peaks and valleys in terms of student enrollment and available capacity. He cited an example that two new schools will open in 1996, and there will be about 900 seats available countywide at the high school level. By the year 2000, even with additions, there will be about 400 seats available.

Dr. Kalin noted that a plan needs to be approved which will link the projects to the need for capacity. He added, however, that there may be some flexibility in the out years to move from constructing additions to building a new school, or from building a new school to constructing additions. He noted that staff needs additional direction in order to develop a redistricting plan which gives communities continuity and stability.

Dr. Kalin pointed out the critical decisions that must be made now concerning the following:

1. Space for the Technology Magnet Program.
2. Scheduling of projects.

Mrs. French asked if the decision between a high school capacity of 1,400 and 1,600 means the regular student population. Dr. Kalin clarified that 1,332 is the regular student population—1,400 includes special education students.

Mrs. Cook stated her understanding of the projects that have been eliminated from the capital improvement program: Guilford Elementary School addition (1997); new 1999 elementary school; new 2001 elementary school. Dr. Kalin agreed.

Mr. Bounds noted that Northfield and Bollman Bridge Elementary Schools are proposed to receive relocatable additions if the capacity is needed. Dr. Kalin clarified that if additional capacity is needed at Bollman Bridge Elementary School, it will be provided by the use of relocatables, because the location of the new school will not impact on Bollman Bridge Elementary School. He noted that the large kindergarten enrollment suggests that there may be a need for additional capacity in the future. Mr. Bounds pointed out that

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constructing the additions by the use of relocatable classrooms was presented as a cost-saving initiative.

Dr. Hickey noted that the anticipated savings of using that kind of construction is \$500,000 for each of the two elementary schools. The anticipated savings for the same type of construction at two middle schools is \$2.7 million. Dr. Kalin added that the probability of the need for the relocatable additions at two middle schools is 99%.

Mr. Bounds asked if the same situation applies to Northfield Elementary School. Dr. Kalin answered that when the need for long-term relief occurs, it should be provided with relocatable additions to the buildings. Mr. Bounds pointed out that Swansfield Elementary School probably would need relief and asked if the same type of construction would be used there. Dr. Kalin replied that there are other options available for Swansfield that are not available at Northfield and Bollman Bridge Elementary Schools, such as redistricting Columbia West.

Mrs. Cook asked for the location of the proposed new schools, and Dr. Cousin provided the following information:

New Northern Elementary School #3 (1997)	Stirn property
New Western Elementary School #2 (1997)	Fulton
New Western Elementary School #3 (1998)	Unknown

Dr. Kalin explained that he determines the general area where a school site is needed, and staff begins to explore available property in that area. It is not appropriate to discuss the available properties, because it could influence the acquisition. Mrs. Cook requested that if the school system has an acquired site for a proposed school, that it be identified in the budget document. Dr. Kalin agreed and stated that it would also help the general public understand the location of the proposed projects.

Mrs. Cook asked for clarification of the location of the proposed middle school projects.

New Northeastern Middle School (2001)	Ilchester
New Southeastern Middle School (1997)	Gorman Road
New Western Middle School (1999)	Fulton

Mrs. Cook asked for verification that the Wilde Lake Middle School systemic renovation project will be accomplished, and Dr. Cousin replied that the project will be bid next month.

Mrs. Cook stated that public testimony had presented concern with the projected overcapacity at Clarksville Middle and Mount View Middle Schools. With relief being needed for those two schools, she asked why the New Western Middle School was assigned priority #10. Dr. Kalin agreed that relief will be needed, but there are other strategies which can be used to provide that relief, such as redistricting or constructing a relocatable addition to the existing buildings.

Dr. Cousin explained that the New Western Middle School has been assigned the highest priority which can be given to it as a planning project. The planning projects which were approved in FY 96 must be given higher priorities to request construction and equipment funding for those projects. The New Western Middle School actually has the highest priority for planning funding for a new facility. A year will be required to design the facility, and it will be on an accelerated and fast track schedule for completion in 1999.

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Dr. Kalin added that if redistricting of McGills Common out of Clarksville Middle School is necessary, the earliest it will occur is in 1997. The projected overcapacity at Clarksville Middle School will be manageable during 1996 and 1997.

Dr. Cousin stated that Oakland Mills Middle School is scheduled for systemic renovations, which will be phased over three years with the major part of the project being completed during FY 97.

Mr. Bounds asked for the location of the following projects:

New Northeastern Elementary School #2 (1996)	Ilchester
New Northeastern Elementary School #3 (1999)	Unknown
New Southeastern Elementary School #3 (1998)	Gorman
New Southeastern Elementary School #4 (1999)	Eliminated

### Elementary Schools

Dr. Kalin stated that the main issue at the elementary school level is the possibility of overbuilding, building for the peak. Mrs. Cook noted that some projects have been eliminated from the program. Dr. Kalin pointed out that the plan encourages the movement of populations and programs into Columbia East to take advantage of available capacity in that region. The option of closing a school in that area in the future would be counterproductive given the fact that space will be needed in other areas.

Mr. Bounds stated that he was encouraged that the plan was not building to the peak, although overcrowding will occur from time to time.

Dr. Hickey responded that a greater amount of overcrowding could occur in one area. He noted that Dr. Kalin's recommendation of staged decision-making could be necessary, and some planning assumptions may need to be reevaluated to determine their importance as they relate to redistricting. He cited an example that to get the maximum use out of the 11% overcapacity, it may become necessary to disrupt the feeder school system or extend transportation distance and increase transportation costs.

Dr. Hickey pointed out that while the elementary enrollment will begin a gradual decline, there are other programs which can be initiated when the space is available, such as prekindergarten and full-day kindergarten programs. He noted that most school systems in the state of Maryland already offer those programs, but Howard County has not had the space to house them. The programs are important and are needed in this county. He felt that the school system would not need to consider closing an elementary school for at least the next 20 years.

Mrs. French stated that if the school system were truly committed to life-long learning, there would never be a school closing, because new programs would be continually added. She believed that the Maryland State Board of Education will eventually mandate a full-day kindergarten program.

Dr. Kalin suggested that the Board be aware of the degree of freedom in the budget proposal as it begins funding deliberations with county and state officials. He indicated that closing a school is not an option, since there are existing programs that could be moved into the available space or new programs which could be initiated. He referred to New Western Elementary School #3, which will impact on West Friendship, Lisbon, and Bushy Park Elementary Schools. The projected enrollment indicates the probability that a new

school will be needed, but the possibility exists that the overcapacity could be addressed with the construction of relocatable additions to all or some of the three existing schools.

Mrs. French noted that New Southeastern Elementary School #4 was a place holder in the capital improvement program last year, and it has been eliminated in this proposal. Dr. Kalin responded that the project was deferred one year to allow more time to gather additional information and to make a decision. Mrs. French pointed out that the proposal for the New Western Elementary School #3 will allow the same kind of decision-making, and Dr. Kalin stated that the decision for that project will be made next year.

Dr. Cousin clarified that the FY 97 request is for construction funding and that funding for planning has already been appropriated. Deferral of the project will mean the deferral of construction, not planning, and will impact on future funding requests. Dr. Kalin noted that the opening date will also be deferred.

Dr. Hickey stated that based on the best information at this time, the New Western Elementary School #3 will be needed, and a commitment to the project will need to be decided. Dr. Cousin recalled that planning approval for this project was subject to concurrence from the state that it met all of its requirements, and that approval has recently been received. The next step is to ask the County Council to release the funds for expenditure.

In response to Mrs. French, Dr. Cousin stated that a site for the new school has not been determined. Mrs. French asked if the site adjacent to Mount View Middle School was a possibility. Mr. Bill Grau, Site Planner, responded that it could be considered in the western region, but staff has been actively pursuing a site for the school in a location that will provide relief to the overcapacity at the three existing elementary schools.

#### Middle Schools

Mrs. Cook pointed out that the Ellicott Mills Middle School project has been changed from a replacement school to a renovation project. Mrs. French asked Dr. Cousin to elaborate on the proposed project. Dr. Cousin explained that the middle school educational specifications would be fitted into the existing facility, which will require extensive renovations. The renovated building would be indistinguishable from a newly constructed middle school. Savings would be accrued from the reuse of existing walls, underground structures, and other systems that would not need to be replaced and which are not reflected in the educational program. Dr. Hickey added that it will be built to meet the new middle school educational specifications. Some of the existing architecture may be retained, but the interior of the building will be the same as recently built middle schools.

Dr. Cousin stated that the architect will study the feasibility of saving the facade of the building, which is an attractive architecture feature.

Mrs. Cook inquired if an addition will be constructed on the existing building, and Dr. Cousin responded affirmatively. Mr. Grau stated that approximately 22,000 square feet will be added. Mrs. Cook noted that the renovation and addition will result in the same size as other new middle schools.

Mr. Bounds asked for clarification of the size of the long-term relocatable additions proposed for Mayfield Woods and Patuxent Valley Middle Schools. Dr. Cousin replied that the additions will consist of six relocatables at each location. The relocatables will be CMSI units, which are more sturdily built. Dr. Cousin stated that this type of construction has been used in Montgomery County, and the additions are indistinguishable from regular

brick and mortar construction. The units have self-contained HVAC systems and will be connected to the existing building with lighted corridors and an extension of the roof.

Mr. Bounds stated his understanding that placing the units for long-term use at one location will extend the life of the units, and Dr. Cousin agreed.

Mr. Bounds asked if overcapacity is expected at both of the schools proposed to receive the relocatable additions. Dr. Kalin answered that Patuxent Valley Middle School will be redistricted in 1997, but overcapacity of 218 is expected in the year 2001. The relocatable addition will be needed for at least four years. Mayfield Woods Middle School will need the relocatable addition for a minimum of three years and probably for a longer time. He noted that new capacity is not proposed for those areas. The new middle school proposed for the year 2003 is a place holder and may not be needed.

Mr. Bounds commented that although he did not agree with other government officials that relocatables should be used to calculate capacity, he felt that the more permanent relocatable additions should be included in the capacity and noted that it was not reflected in the budget document. Dr. Kalin responded that the Board must approve changes in the capacity of a building. Staff will need to discuss the issue and make recommendations to the Board. He pointed out that there could be political ramifications if the capacities are adjusted.

Dr. Cousin commented that factory-built modular components have been used as integral parts of the construction of several new facilities, but that practice has been abandoned. The theory was that the capacity would be available when needed, and the modular parts of the building could be moved when they were no longer needed. However, this type of construction resulted in higher costs than standard construction. There are also serious doubts that the components could be moved and reused at another location. He stated that the proposed relocatable additions can be disassembled, and the units can be moved when necessary.

Dr. Campbell asked if water will be provided in the relocatable additions. Dr. Cousin responded that lavatories could be provided if needed, but water lines will not be extended into the classrooms. Dr. Campbell referred to correspondence sent to the Board from a member of the Science Advisory Committee which expressed concern about the appropriateness of conducting science instruction in a classroom which was not served by water. Dr. Cousin noted that same thing is true of stand-alone relocatables. Dr. Campbell stated that a stand-alone relocatable could be more easily used for another program; whereas, a complete pod would probably house a whole class or grade where science instruction would be required.

Dr. Kalin added that the capacity of the addition will be 150 students and would not be large enough to house a complete middle school grade. Dr. Campbell noted that she was particularly concerned with the elementary school level where students are not instructed in a dedicated science classroom. Dr. Hickey pointed out that the addition is basically a classroom wing and is not the equivalent of a pod.

Mrs. French commented that the School Improvement Teams should work with the school administration to decide what programs will be housed in the additions.

Referring to public testimony presented to the Board concerning cost-saving initiatives when using relocatables, Mrs. French asked if the corridors in the relocatable additions will be the same width as those in the existing building with the proper lighting and other necessary equipment, and Dr. Cousin answered affirmatively. Mrs. French noted that the

speaker had suggested not heating the hallways, and Dr. Cousin stated that some hallways in existing schools are heated.

Dr. Hickey stated that all health and safety codes and education requirements will be addressed; however, the provision of some amenities will be decided by available funding.

Dr. Cousin commented that plans could be presented to the Board depicting the additions, and Mrs. Cook agreed that it would be helpful to the Board and the public to understand the proposed projects.

Mr. Bounds asked if the cost of the relocatable additions is reflected in the long-range master plan, and Dr. Cousin replied that the cost is included in the relocatable projects.

Mr. Bounds stated that calculating the available capacity, including new schools, the overcapacity is about 9% at the enrollment peak. However, if the capacity of the relocatable additions and the proposed new middle school in the year 2003 is included, then the capacity will equal the enrollment peak. He acknowledged that the 2003 new middle school is a place holder, but he was concerned that the proposal may be building to the peak. Dr. Kalin responded that the 2003 new middle school has been included to address anticipated overcapacity in the western region in the year 2006. He pointed out that the capacity needs are determined by a regional analysis and not a countywide analysis. The proposal illustrates the possible need for a new school in the region, knowing that there is a lot of time to make further recommendations to retain or eliminate the project.

Mr. Bounds acknowledged that available capacity is not always where it is needed. However, there has been a community and county government concern that the school system not build to the peak.

Dr. Kalin noted that, based on the revised enrollment figures, the plan has been revised and projects have been eliminated. Mr. Bounds agreed that has occurred at the elementary school level, but he wanted to point out the possible perception by the community and others that the school system was building to the middle school enrollment peak. Dr. Kalin commented that there is the possibility of changes in zoning and in the general plan, and some development is expected to open up in the western region of the county.

Dr. Cousin noted that Mr. Bounds' capacity figures include the relocatable additions, but at some point, that capacity will be lost.

Mrs. French stated that the Board needs to determine how long it is willing to address overcapacity at a single school using relocatables.

Mr. Bounds commented that the problem is a balancing act, and it may be necessary to draw the boundary lines to take advantage of available capacity. He suggested that some schools would feel relieved by being only 9-11% overcapacity. Mrs. French agreed, but replied that the boundary lines cannot be redrawn every year or two. Mr. Bounds noted that capital funding is limited, and students must be accommodated in space that is available.

Mrs. French stated that she felt comfortable including the project as a place holder and would rather eliminate the project next year if that becomes an option. Dr. Kalin added that it also gives a better estimate of capital funding needs.

High Schools

Dr. Kalin distributed a spread sheet illustrating capacity needs with high school capacity set at 1,332 in the year 2006. He noted the following:

Atholton High School - Projected to have an adjusted capacity of 1,767, and a new school or addition will address the overcapacity (was not reflected on the spread sheet).

Centennial High School - Projected to be 147 overcapacity. Enrollment will be approximately 1,500 during the years 2001-2006. It will receive students out of the Howard High and Mt. Hebron High School service areas.

Glenelg High School - Capacity is 931, which is a planning assumption. Even with redistricting, in the year 2006, the school will be 390 overcapacity. If high school capacities are maintained at 1,332, there will be no available space to accommodate the overcapacity at Glenelg.

Hammond High School - Will be relieved by a new school.

Howard High School - Enrollment is shown at 1,462 enabled by a redistribution of growth and redistricting from the Howard service area to Centennial High School.

Mt. Hebron High School - Enrollment is shown at 1,400 due to redistricting from the service area to Centennial High School.

Oakland Mills High School - Enrollment is shown at 1,357, close to its capacity.

Wilde Lake High School - Enrollment is shown at 1,442.

River Hill High School - Enrollment is shown at 1,282, close to its capacity, and does not include students in the Technology Magnet Program.

Long Reach High School - Enrollment is shown at 1,847.

Dr. Kalin summarized that Long Reach High School will be overcapacity with no relief available at other high schools, and there will be no available space for the Technology Magnet Program. Even with major redistricting, capacity will not be available to accommodate the projected enrollment in the area. Dr. Kalin explained redistricting options that have been considered. He pointed out the consequence of using a 1,400 capacity is a reduction in available space for the Technology Magnet Program at Long Reach and River Hill High Schools. If the capacity of Howard High School were increased to 1,600, there would be more space available at Long Reach High School to support the Technology Magnet Program at least through the years 1996-2000.

Dr. Kalin stated that it is preferred to have a site on both sides of Route 29 for the Technology Magnet Program.

Dr. Campbell commented that the chart assumes that all high schools in the next few years will have a capacity of 1,332, except for Glenelg High School. She asked that information be provided using a 1,600 capacity for River Hill, Long Reach, and Wilde Lake High Schools. She felt that additional capacity could be more easily accommodated at the new high schools, which have wider corridors and larger core facilities, and still house the Technology Magnet Program. The inequities that result from trying to "fix up" older

schools to accommodate additional capacity outweigh some of the other redistricting considerations, such as stability, length of transportation, and the feeder school system.

Dr. Kalin pointed out that the new high schools are already under construction and will have a capacity of 1,332. If the Board decides to increase the capacity to 1,600, it will need to determine how that will be accomplished. Dr. Campbell asked why relocatables could not be used to provide additional capacity such as is being done at Howard High School. Dr. Kalin explained that relocatables are not used to calculate capacity.

Mr. Bounds stated that discussions have pointed out several reasons why the new high schools could accommodate additional students easier than older schools:

- The corridors and core facilities are substantially larger in the new high schools.
- The possibility of "reengineering" the space in the building.
- The utilization factor could be taken to 100%.
- Much more flexibility is provided in the space and many more things are built in.

Mr. Bounds favored putting the additional capacity at the new schools.

Dr. Kalin responded that by taking the capacity to 1,600 at the three new high schools, there will be 168 available seats at Wilde Lake High School, 300 available seats at River Hill High School, and Long Reach High School will be 247 overcapacity. The facilities would have to be taken to 100% utilization, and six additional teaching stations would have to be identified. Dr. Cousin added that raising the capacity of a school designed for 1,332 to 1,600 is almost 20% above the program capacity. Dr. Kalin noted that if the additional teaching stations cannot be found in the school, relocatables could provide the space.

Mrs. Cook asked how to accomplish putting the additional students into the newer schools rather than overloading the corridors in the older schools. She added that it didn't matter whether it is finding additional teaching stations, using relocatables, or reconfiguring the interior spaces, but the Board needs to know how it could be done.

Dr. Kalin made the assumption that it could be done either by finding the teaching stations or using relocatable classrooms. He noted, however, using the redistricting example as a base and increasing the capacity to 1,600, Long Reach High School will still be 247 overcapacity, and the students in the Technology Magnet Program have not yet been included.

Dr. Campbell stated that she needed that kind of information to help understand why she should accept staff's recommendation to increase the capacity of Mt. Hebron and Howard High Schools. Dr. Kalin responded that Mt. Hebron could be relieved by redistricting into Centennial High School. However, Howard High School will still need to be at 1,600 to relieve the overcapacity at Long Reach High School, and space for the Technology Magnet Program could be provided by the use of relocatables.

Mrs. Cook pointed out that the map does not reflect moving additional students into Wilde Lake High School and suggested that capacity could be increased at that school. Dr. Kalin indicated possible areas that could be redistricted. Dr. Hickey asked if some of the planning assumptions for redistricting were not addressed, could the Howard and Long Reach areas be relieved directly into Wilde Lake. Mrs. Cook suggested that some areas east of Route 29 could be redistricted into schools west of Route 29.

Mrs. French expressed concern about not abiding by the Board's policy on school size. She stated that the policy recommends a maximum of 1,500 for high school. She thought it was important to address the policy and equity among all high schools. She recognized that the plans were being driven by cost, but she thought another new high school was inevitable. She suggested that the Fulton area may not be the best location for a new high school and asked if there was an ideal location to provide the greatest relief.

Dr. Kalin responded that exceptions to the policy may be approved on an individual basis. He pointed out on the map the best location for a new high school site but added that the availability of land in the area is limited. He explained that in legal proceedings concerning school attendance areas, importance has been placed on the school system's good faith in trying to address all of the planning factors in developing a redistricting plan.

Dr. Hickey noted that by the same provisions that the Board can make exceptions to the policy on school size, if changes are made to the planning assumptions, the Board must articulate the reasons for making those changes.

Dr. Campbell could not recall any redistricting decisions being overruled in a legal proceeding. She did not remember the Board's ever having to justify its decisions in anticipation of legal proceedings. She noted that the ten planning assumptions are factors that are weighed and taken into consideration when making boundary line decisions. Dr. Kalin replied that it has been his experience in testifying and listening to the reaction of the hearing examiner in such cases, the Board's articulation made the difference in winning or losing the case.

Mrs. Cook stated that during a work session, all ideas and options must be discussed, and the discussion must flow freely so that the Board has the understanding needed to make its decisions concerning the capital budget. It provides an opportunity for ideas to be presented and to receive feedback and information to determine if they are valid.

Mrs. French felt it was necessary to address school size before consideration is given to the ten planning factors used for the redistricting process. She could not justify increasing high school capacity to 1,600. She did agree, however, to a capacity of 1,400 because of cost constraints. The educational welfare of the individual student and the kind of education the parents want for their children must be considered. The high school experience must provide for participation in activities and the opportunity for the student to excel. She suggested that another new high school will be needed which will allow a permanent home for the Technology Magnet Program, provide relief for Howard and Long Reach High Schools, and provide equity of program and opportunities among all of the high schools. She wondered if the Fulton site would be the best location for a new high school and if funding requests should be accelerated.

Mrs. French asked if an addition could be constructed onto Long Reach High School to permanently accommodate the Technology Magnet Program. Dr. Cousin responded affirmatively and indicated that some parking and hard surface play areas would be lost.

Dr. Hickey added that the concerns about educational welfare and opportunities for participation are speculative. He pointed out that the current enrollment of Howard High School is 1,600 and student performance is good. He acknowledged the preference of high school principals to keep capacity at 1,400. The school system's long-term responsibility of not building for the enrollment peak must also be considered, at the same time determining a reasonable capacity that will still provide educational soundness.



Dr. Hickey stated that staff will provide the information the Board has requested, but he asked that planning assumptions be identified. He suggested that one assumption should be that the Technology Magnet Program will be located at Long Reach and River Hill High Schools. Would the Board agree to comprehensive redistricting if it is required to achieve that assumption? To what extent should relocatables be used? He pointed out that one of the key considerations in developing a redistricting plan is increasing the capacity of Howard High School to 1,600.

Mr. Bounds challenged the assumption that the capacity of Glenelg High School could not be increased. He noted that he received informal information from builders, county officials, and other experts that suggested the septic system issue could be resolved. He asked that staff explore the possibilities of increasing the capacity of the septic system to enable the construction of an addition onto the school. He acknowledged that correcting the septic system could be very expensive; however, the feasibility study indicated that the additional seats provided by the proposed addition would be the least expensive compared to additions at other high schools.

Mr. Bounds stated that capacity should be provided where it is needed, and it is needed at Glenelg to accommodate the students in the area. If an addition can be constructed at Glenelg, then space will be available at adjacent high schools to help address other overcapacity concerns. He asked that staff specifically address what possibilities are available to deal with the septic system issue.

Dr. Cousin responded that the state health department's restrictions on storm water and waste water management precluded the expansion of the existing septic system on the school site. He added that alternatives included:

- On-site sewage treatment plant. The residual fluid would have to go into the ground or into adjacent streams.
- Acquisition of adjacent land for additional septic fields. Approximately 25 additional acres would be required to accommodate 400 additional students. Consideration must be given to whether additional land is available and, more importantly, if it will perc. The land adjacent to the Glenelg site is wooded, which will require the removal of trees to conduct percolation tests.
- Construct a sanitary pipe line to a nearby property to be used as a septic field.
- Hauling the sewage off site.

Dr. Cousin pointed out that each alternative will have a substantial cost associated with it and will require the approval of the health department. The health department has already indicated that the existing septic system will fail if an addition is constructed. The easiest solution would be to purchase adjacent land, but it is unlikely that the property owner will permit access to conduct percolation tests. The possibility of increasing the septic fields on the existing school site would require taking all of the athletic and play fields out of use for at least six months to conduct perc tests.

Mr. Grau stated that a packaged on-site sewage treatment plant was identified by staff. However, the health department has indicated that it would not be approved, because the stream at the rear of the school property flows into the Triadelphia Reservoir which provides a water supply for Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.

Mr. Grau further explained that increasing the septic fields on the existing school site would require the monitoring of ground water for one year and then conducting percolation

tests in the spring. The disturbed play fields could not be used during the spring season and, hopefully, would be available for use in the fall.

Dr. Cousin stated that staff will pursue all options that have been recommended. He added that based on the completion date for the proposed addition approved in the FY 96 capital budget, sufficient time was not available to investigate all of the options. However, since the project has been deferred in the FY 97 Superintendent's Proposed Capital Budget, the options can be given further consideration.

Mrs. Cook observed that if the Board directs staff to consider Glenelg as a viable project scheduled to be completed in four years, the planning assumptions for redistricting will change. If the septic system issue is not resolved and the capacity cannot be increased, then redistricting will be necessary again. Dr. Cousin commented that this issue is completely different than just increasing capacity. If redistricting is based on the planning assumption that capacity at Glenelg High School will be increased and later it is determined that the addition cannot be constructed, then the redistricting plan will be based on capacity that cannot be achieved.

In response to Dr. Campbell, Dr. Kalin stated that the actual redistricting of students from Glenelg will not occur until the year 2000; however, the plan should indicate how each school will be affected.

Mrs. French asked if an addition could be constructed at River Hill High School. Dr. Hickey responded that any of the new high schools could receive an addition or relocatables. He noted that relocatables have not been considered in calculating capacity of a school. However, the County Executive has indicated that from his standpoint, relocatable classrooms should be used to determine the capacity of a school.

Dr. Cousin explained that currently Howard High School is 400 students overcapacity, and 11 relocatable classrooms are used to accommodate the extra students. The proposed plan will provide permanent space for the students. He cautioned that the concern of overbuilding will arise as new facilities are requested.

Dr. Cousin agreed that new high schools have wider corridors and larger core facilities than the older high schools. He suggested that corridor congestion can be alleviated by administrative action, such as alternative scheduling or bell systems, to avoid all 1,600 students being in the corridors at the same time. Dr. Hickey added that the four-period day requires the students to be in the hallways only four times a day compared to the traditional six-period day, and the principals have indicated that the alternative scheduling helps.

Dr. Campbell noted that, although the corridors in the older schools will still be narrow, there will be more lineal feet of corridors through which the students will move.

Dr. Cousin stated, in addition to core facilities, the feasibility studies addressed other ancillary and support spaces that are essential for the school to properly operate. At the present time, Howard and Mt. Hebron High Schools do not have those spaces. He suggested that since the students are already at those schools, it would be better for the schools to have those types of spaces available.

Dr. Campbell stated that a comparison should be made between Howard High School at 1,600 this year to Howard High School next year when the school has had some relief. Dr. Cousin pointed out that Howard, Mt. Hebron, and Long Reach High Schools that will be impacted most severely by overenrollment, and all of the students cannot all be accommodated in the three new high schools.

Mrs. Cook stated that the bottom line is what is educationally sound. She added that a 1,400 capacity school is not a small school; it is large. She felt that a 1,600 capacity is not educationally sound. She acknowledged that, at the urging of County Council members to reduce the burden on capital expenditures, the Board is considering a 1,600 high school capacity, and projects have been eliminated from the capital improvement program. She stated, however, that the time comes when the Board must say what is in the best interest of the students of Howard County and what will benefit them educationally.

Mrs. Cook pointed out that even with the cost-saving initiatives that are included in the capital budget request and capital improvement program, a new high school may still be needed. The site for a new high school should be located where it will provide the most relief to existing high schools. She stated that she could not philosophically agree to increase high school capacity to 1,600, and she felt that the Board may have to take a stand and request a new high school.

Mrs. Cook asked Dr. Cousin and Mr. Grau if there is land available for a high school site in the area that will provide the greatest relief. Dr. Cousin responded that staff is always looking for school sites that will be needed in the future. There are land parcels available; however, other factors must be considered such as: cost, suitability for a school site, and location. Staff is aware of the location of those sites and the approximate cost.

Dr. Cousin also pointed out that if the owner is not willing to sell the property, condemnation proceedings would be necessary for the school system to acquire the property. In response to Mrs. Cook, Dr. Cousin stated that condemnation proceedings require a minimum of 18 months to complete and can be very expensive. A judge and jury would decide the value of the land.

Dr. Hickey clarified that the reductions and cost savings reflected in the capital budget request and capital improvement program were not mandated by county government; however, they are in response to fiscal concerns expressed by the County Council and County Executive. He acknowledged that the concerns are valid, but the degree of concern may be the variable. The reductions and cost savings are initiatives of the school system and the Board to help ease the fiscal burden of the county government.

Mrs. Cook understood that the changes were made to accommodate the needs of the school system. She noted, however, that the county government asked the school system to reduce the size of the schools and, at the same time, increase enrollment in those schools. She agreed that the decisions will be those of the Board, but the requests by the county government do play a part in those decisions.

Mrs. Cook stated that the Board must consider educational value and factors as well as cost, but the county government is looking only at dollars. Dr. Hickey agreed that the Board's decisions will need to consider the same economic factors that the county looks at, but the Board must also consider the needs of the school system, its students, and the educational program.

Mrs. French commented that the figures indicate that in the year 2006, high school capacity will be 438 seats short, even with a new high school. She felt that a new high school will be necessary, and the school system will not be building to the peak if 438 seats will still be needed and the Technology Magnet Program has not yet been protected. She suggested that the request for a new high school should be accelerated to have the school open in the year 2000. She stated that the school is needed and would provide additional redistricting options.

Dr. Campbell asked what determined the timeline for the Fulton school in the capital improvement program. Dr. Kalin responded that the additional capacity is not needed until the year 2002, and he cited examples of available capacity in adjacent high schools.

Mrs. French pointed out possible redistricting options if the new high school were built on the Fulton site and acknowledged that some crossing of school districts may become necessary. She noted, however, that the Board has been criticized for having students pass one school to attend another.

Mr. Bounds commented that a suggestion was made to phase the completion of work at the schools proposed to receive an addition and interior improvements. For example, it might be possible to complete planned improvements to the cafeteria before the actual construction of an addition is scheduled.

Mr. Bounds listed the planning assumptions he would prefer to use in the approval of the capital budget request:

- That the capacity of Glenelg High School be increased to 1,400, which will require a resolution to the septic system issue.
- That the capacity of all other older high schools be 1,400.
- That the capacity of new high schools be increased to 1,600.

He noted that if those planning assumptions are used, and the new high school is eliminated, there would be 10% overcapacity countywide at the enrollment peak in the year 2008. Mr. Bounds felt that political realities must be recognized, and the county officials have made their feelings clear concerning the new high school and increased capacity at existing high schools. The Board may have to make some decisions it doesn't want to make, but making those decisions now will allow the redistricting process to provide real long-term stability throughout the county. If one or more of the planning assumptions fail, then the alternative would be to construct the new high school at Fulton or some other site.

Dr. Campbell agreed that the capacity of new high schools could be increased to 1,600; however, she felt that the new high school may be needed and should remain in the capital improvement plan. She expressed concern about the inequity of keeping Glenelg High School as such a small school and agreed with Mr. Bounds that the septic system issue must be resolved.

Mrs. French stated that she preferred to have the capacity of Glenelg High School at 1,400. She believed that the new high school will be needed.

Mr. Bounds explained that he was not suggesting to remove the new high school project from the long-range plan, because there was enough time to make decisions concerning that school.

Mrs. Cook also believed that a solution can be found to the septic system issue at Glenelg to allow the capacity to be increased to 1,400. She agreed that the new schools could accommodate the additional students better than the older schools. She stressed the need for the Board and staff to ensure that all problems are addressed when plans for the addition/renovation projects at the older high schools are presented to the Board for approval.

Mrs. Cook asked Dr. Kalin to clarify when Atholton High School would be scheduled to receive an addition. Dr. Kalin responded that if the new high school is constructed in

Fulton, the enrollment projections would not justify an addition to Atholton High School. Mrs. Cook asked for confirmation that if the new high school is not constructed and Atholton receives an addition, it wouldn't be needed until the year 2002, and Dr. Kalin responded affirmatively.

It was agreed that Dr. Kalin would provide information to the Board concerning the increase of capacity at the new high schools to 1,600, and the increase of capacity at the existing schools to 1,400, including Glenelg High School.

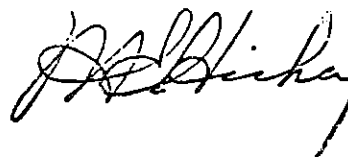
Mrs. French asked if the educational program at Wilde Lake High School will be changed or eliminated if the capacity is increased. Dr. Hickey responded that Wilde Lake High School has become less distinct from other high schools with the exception of scheduling.

Mrs. French expressed concern about increasing the capacity at the new high schools without additional teaching stations. Mr. Bounds explained that the planning assumption would increase the capacity to 1,600, and staff would need to make recommendations to accommodate those students. Dr. Hickey added that the 100% utilization factor will have a cost associated with it. Every teaching station and space is used during every period of the day. It requires more teachers to float from classroom to classroom.

Dr. Cousin explained that increasing capacity to 1,600 would require 100% utilization of teaching spaces plus the addition of six teaching stations.

Dr. Kalin asked if the Board wanted him to work out a redistricting plan to respond to the planning assumptions. Mr. Bounds responded that it would be helpful if major problems could be identified. He also asked for information concerning the possibility of housing the Technology Magnet Program at Long Reach High School under these circumstances. Mrs. French added that keeping the program at Long Reach High School should be one of the planning assumptions.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 p.m.



# MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY

October 12, 1995

The Board of Education of Howard County held a public meeting on Thursday, October 12, 1995, at 2:00 p.m., in the Board Room of the Department of Education, located at 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, Maryland, to approve the Board of Education's FY 97 Capital Budget Request, FY 98-2002 Capital Improvement Program, and FY 97-2006 Long-Range Master Plan. The following were present:

Sandra H. French, Vice Chairman  
Stephen C. Bounds  
Karen B. Campbell

Michael E. Hickey, Superintendent, Secretary/Treasurer  
Sydney L. Cousin, Associate Superintendent  
Sandra J. Erickson, Associate Superintendent  
Maurice F. Kalin, Associate Superintendent  
James R. McGowan, Associate Superintendent  
Susan A. Shown, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by the Vice Chairman.

Mrs. French announced that Mrs. Cook had been hospitalized and was unable to attend the meeting. Mrs. Johnston was out of the country and also unable to attend the meeting.

Dr. Hickey stated that at the work session on October 10, the Board discussed at great length the parameters for developing the capital budget request and capital improvement program. Dr. Kalin and other staff have revised the capital improvement program and long-range master plan to implement those parameters.

Dr. Kalin summarized the planning assumptions mandated by the Board during the work session:

- Retain the Fulton high school project in the plan.
- Construct an addition to each older high school.
- Place up to 1,600 students in each of the new schools.

Dr. Kalin explained that a first-level iteration of redistricting was conducted to determine the possibilities given the planning assumptions. A spread sheet indicating capacity needs was distributed. The distribution of students and the capacities of schools resulted in the following observations:

- An addition to Atholton High School may not be needed in 2001.
- An addition to Oakland Mills High School may not be needed in 2001.

Dr. Kalin noted there is some degree of freedom in determining the need for those two projects. He suggested that it may be advisable to retain the projects due to the uncertainty of the future. The possibility of increasing capacity at Glenelg High School has not been determined, and there is some uncertainty concerning the rate of development in the western region of the county.

The decision concerning a new high school versus the construction of additions will also need to be considered in the future.

Approved-November 9, 1995

Dr. Kalin explained that after the redistricting took place, the 20% rule determined the years that the additions would be constructed: Centennial High School (2000); Glenelg High School (2000); Hammond High School (1997); Howard High School (2003). The 20% rule indicated that an addition to Howard High School would not be needed until the year 2005, but it was accelerated to 2003 to allow the Technology Magnet Program to be housed at Long Reach High School.

Dr. Kalin stated that the Board instructed staff to accommodate 1,600 students at the three new high schools. It was agreed that the utilization factor would be 100% for the new schools, and six additional teaching stations would need to be identified. It is also recommended that when relocatables are assigned, the schools have already used found space to accommodate students. Relocatable classrooms would not be assigned until the schools have reached 1,600 enrollment.

Dr. Kalin cautioned that growth will continue through the year 2008, and redistricting may be needed again in the year 2004. At that time, some of the same geographical areas may be subject to redistricting.

Dr. Kalin noted that Mt. Hebron High School will be 20-30% overcapacity through the years 1996, 1997, and 1998, because the movement of students out of Mt. Hebron will be staged instead of moving them all in 1996. Dr. Kalin pointed out that the plan is a first draft of redistricting after considering the high school additions. He illustrated on a map examples of geographical areas and communities that may be affected by the staged redistricting.

Dr. Kalin stated that the Technology Magnet Program has received a lot of positive publicity, and the public should be assured that the program will be accommodated with available capacity. He explained that River Hill High School will have between 550-600 available seats through the year 2006. If the preferred plan cannot be implemented to house the program at both River Hill and Long Reach High Schools, the total program can be accommodated at River Hill High School for at least ten years. The program can be housed at Long Reach High School through 1998, but a redistricting plan has not been completed at the level of detail necessary to confirm that proposal.

The proposed redistricting plan indicates that Howard High School could accommodate 250 more students, which would enable fewer students to be redistricted from Howard High School into Long Reach High School. This would result in Long Reach High School being able to house the Technology Magnet Program through 2001 or 2002. If the new high school is constructed, redistricting will allow the program to remain at Long Reach High School. Summarizing, Dr. Kalin stated that the preferred plan has a good probability of occurring, and the secondary plan has an excellent probability of occurring. Dr. Kalin used the spread sheet to illustrate the distribution of students who have shown interest in participating in the Technology Magnet Program.

Dr. Kalin pointed out that one weakness in the redistricting plan is that the enrollment at River Hill High School will be 632 students in three grade levels. If the 218 students who have shown interest in the Technology Magnet Program are added to the resident enrollment, the minimum enrollment for a high school will be met. Capacity at River Hill High School will also be needed to relieve Glenelg High School if an addition cannot be constructed at that school.

Dr. Kalin pointed out the peak enrollment illustrated on the spread sheet in the year 2008. At that time there will be 149 available seats countywide above the student enrollment.

Dr. Kalin explained that if the new high school is constructed, an east/west strategy for redistricting will be used, which will provide some fallback positions and promote stability for the students.

Mr. Bounds asked if the decision is made to construct additions at all of the older schools in lieu of building the new high school, will the elimination of additions to Oakland Mills and Atholton High School have to be reconsidered. Dr. Kalin responded yes; however, the uncertainty of development in the western region of the county and in the Fulton area, it is impossible to make that decision at this time.

Mr. Bounds observed that the Fulton area would be adjacent to River Hill and Atholton High Schools where capacity would be available. Dr. Kalin agreed and added that an addition to Oakland Mills High School would also provide capacity. He felt that it was too soon to indicate whether a new school or additions to existing high schools would be needed to provide capacity.

Mr. Bounds thought that the Board is posturing to have the ability to go either way. Dr. Kalin agreed and advised the Board to retain as much flexibility in the plan as possible and to explain to the public and county government that the uncertainty of the future makes the Board's position necessary.

Mrs. French referred to the staging of redistricting for Mt. Hebron High School. Dr. Kalin indicated on the map the communities and schools that would be affected. Dr. Kalin stated that the redistricting problem of one school should not be addressed by transferring that same problem to another school. In response to Mrs. French, Dr. Kalin explained that the proposals are for geographical areas, not grade levels. At this point, he expected the redistricting recommendation to include three grade levels—9, 10, and 11—and allow seniors to graduate from their present school. He thought it would be necessary to include three grade levels to ensure a balanced educational program for the sending school, the receiving school, and the students in transition.

Dr. Kalin reminded the Board that the enrollment at River Hill High School, with three grade levels, will be 652. If one grade level is removed, it will not be possible to provide the educational program. He pointed out that the minimum high school enrollment of 850 will be met if the number of students in the Technology Magnet Program materializes. Mrs. French asked if the increase in enrollment for 1997 shown on the spread sheet included the Technology Magnet Program or if it is the result of the additional class. Dr. Kalin replied that the increase in enrollment is due to natural growth and the addition of the fourth class. The Technology Magnet Program is not included in the numbers on the spread sheet.

Mr. Bounds pointed out that the Board is not making decisions concerning boundary lines at this time. The map indicates only a first draft of redistricting recommendations based on the Board's revised planning assumptions. Dr. Kalin agreed and noted that the boundary line process and the capital budget approval process have grown closer together to promote stability for the students and communities. Once the capital budget request has been approved, the redistricting process can begin and greater detail will be accomplished.

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Dr. Hickey summarized the changes that were made in the Superintendent's Proposed FY 97 Capital Budget Request, FY 98-2002 Capital Improvement Program, and FY 97-2006 Long-Range Master Plan:

- FY 97 Capital Budget Request
  - Add Mt. Hebron High School addition project - request for planning funds.
  - Increase total Bonds to \$34,981,000.
  - Increase Total FY 97 Funding Request to \$38,081,000.
- FY 98-2002 Capital Improvement Program
  - Change FY 98 total to \$42,727,000.
  - Change FY 99 total to \$22,344,000.
  - Change FY 2000 total to \$25,270,000.
  - Change FY 2002 total to \$29,397,000.
  - Change Capital Improvement Program total to \$156,938,000.
- FY 97-2006 Long-Range Master Plan
  - Include Mt. Hebron High School addition.
  - Include Glenelg High School addition.
  - Include Oakland Mills High School addition.
  - Include Atholton High School addition.

Dr. Campbell referred to a newspaper article that generated public concern that the Board had approved increasing capacity at high schools. She explained that the Board's intention is to accommodate the overcapacity in the new high schools which have wider corridors and larger core facilities to serve the additional students. The Board was concerned about approving a capacity where a school would not be considered overcrowded until the enrollment was 20% over that capacity. As a result, the approved capacity number would not be changed. Student enrollment will be accommodated by using a 100% utilization factor and identifying additional teaching stations.

It was Dr. Campbell's belief that the Board does not have to change its philosophy on education in order to accommodate the additional projected students. If a capacity is approved at 1,600, it is possible that the enrollment could increase to 1,800 or 1,900 students. She thought that the public's main concern was that the capacity would be approved at 1,600 and, in reality, the enrollment would increase considerably above that.

Dr. Kalin stated that if the Board does not approve a 1,600 capacity, the figures cannot be changed on any chart. Dr. Campbell noted that by using the approved capacity numbers, the charts will reflect an accurate picture of the overenrollment at each school.

Dr. Hickey explained that essentially the Board is capping the enrollment at 1,600 and not changing the approved capacity.

Mrs. French commented that she had misunderstood some of the discussion during the work session and had been concerned that the enrollment may not be capped. After the work session, she compared the square footage and capacity of the new schools and individual spaces to that of the older schools. She concluded that if the planning assumption that new high schools could better accommodate 1,600 students is used for redistricting, then there will be greater equity among all of the high schools after the additions are constructed to increase capacity to 1,400 at the older high schools. She agreed that enrollment must be capped at the new high schools.

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Dr. Kalin pointed out that all changes are presented to the Board, and there will be opportunity for the Board to consider recommended exceptions.

Mr. Bounds concurred with the explanation given by Dr. Campbell.

Mr. Bounds noted that Western Elementary School #3 is scheduled for completion in 1998 and that a site has not been identified. When the school is opened in 1998, the regional enrollment will be 507 undercapacity. Dr. Kalin agreed that there would be 507 more seats than are required in the region, attributable to the opening of the new school. Mr. Bounds recognized the limitations in capital funding and the need to balance the funding requests over the 10 years. He noted that if the Western Elementary School #3 was still not opened in 1999, the overcapacity in the western region at that time would be 160, distributed among six schools.

Dr. Kalin explained that Western Elementary School #2, to be opened in 1997, will provide relief to Pointers Run and Clarksville Elementary Schools. The Western Elementary School #3, to be opened in 1998, will provide relief to Bushy Park, Lisbon, and West Friendship Elementary Schools. He added that transportation time and travel distance will be significantly increased if the Western Elementary School #2 in Fulton is used to provide relief to those western schools. He suggested that Western Elementary School #3 may be deferred for a short time, but it will be needed to provide capacity in the west. Additions to existing schools or the use of relocatable classrooms could also be options to provide additional seats in the western region of the county.

Mr. Bounds recognized that the need for capacity is a regional issue. He felt that the enrollment could be handled through the year 2000 with some use of relocatable classrooms and some redistricting. Looking at the long-range master plan and having the Western Elementary School #3 open in 2000, most of the construction funding would be required in FY 1999, the lowest funding year until 2003. He asked staff if it was feasible to delay the construction of the school, because he was concerned with opening a new school which will result in undercapacity in the western region.

Dr. Kalin responded that in 1999, five relocatables would be required at Bushy Park Elementary School and five relocatables at West Friendship Elementary School to provide needed capacity. It was noted that two relocatables are currently at West Friendship, and Mr. Grau stated that the site could accommodate four relocatables, but it was questionable if five units could be placed on the site. Dr. Kalin commented that the enrollment could be accommodated by the relocatables without making revisions to the boundary lines.

Dr. Campbell noted that if geographical areas were made comparable, the western region would be divided into the "west" western region and the "east" western region, and overcapacity would be less dramatic in each of those two regions after the new schools are opened. She felt that the Pointers Run area and the Lisbon area were not comparable as defined in the western region, because the western region is so large. She felt that the relocatables could be a fallback position, but she did not want to eliminate the Western Elementary School #3 project.

Mr. Bounds explained that he was not suggesting that the project be eliminated, just deferred. Mrs. French asked if deferring the project by one year would help. Dr. Hickey replied that it would really need to be deferred two years to affect the bottom line funding requests. Dr. Cousin stated that construction would need to be deferred to 1999 and the opening would be deferred to the year 2000. Dr. Kalin pointed out that the overcapacity

could be accommodated by using four relocatables at each site in 1999. If relocatables are available, they could be placed in 1998.

Mrs. French pointed out that West Friendship Elementary School has a unique configuration, does not have project rooms, and has only three teaching stations in some of the pods. Additional relocatables could exacerbate the school's problem of not having the proper facilities to provide programs for the students.

Mr. Bounds agreed. He felt the ideal strategy would be to defer the Western Elementary School #3 for one year, but it would increase an already high funding request FY 99. He asked if Northeastern Middle School #2 (Ilchester site) could be deferred from FY 99 to FY 2000. He pointed out that both projects would need to be deferred by one year to balance the total funding request. Dr. Cousin reminded the Board that the new middle school is needed to house the student body during the renovation of Ellicott Mills Middle School in 1999. If the Northeastern Middle School #2 is deferred, then the Ellicott Mills Middle School project must also be deferred.

Mrs. French stated that she could not agree to either proposal. She felt that deferring the Western Elementary School #3 would not solve anything and would increase the funding request for FY 98. Mr. Bounds acknowledged that the projects would have to be deferred in tandem in order for it to work. Dr. Kalin stated that if the project were deferred two years, four relocatables would be required at each site. Dr. Cousin added that the four relocatables would be needed for one year.

#### FY 97 Capital Budget Request

Mr. Bounds made the motion to include a project for an addition to Mt. Hebron High School in the proposed FY 97 Capital Budget Request. The motion was seconded by Dr. Campbell.

Mrs. French clarified that the occupancy date would be 1999, and Mr. Bounds pointed out the addition would increase capacity to 1,400. The motion was approved by the members of the Board.

Dr. Campbell moved to approve the FY 97 Capital Budget Request as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bounds and approved by the members of the Board.

#### FY 1998-2002 Capital Improvement Program

Dr. Campbell moved to approve the FY 98-2002 Capital Improvement Program as revised, and Mr. Bounds seconded the motion.

Dr. Cousin summarized the changes in the capital improvement program to add projects for additions to increase capacity to 1,400 at Mt. Hebron High School, Glenelg High School, Oakland Mills High School, and Atholton High School. He noted that the funding request for Glenelg High School includes the cost of resolving the limitations of the septic system.

Mr. Bounds noted that the capital improvement program request includes projects for additions to Atholton and Oakland Mills High Schools as well as a new high school. It is probable that all three projects will not be needed, and that decision will be made sometime in the future when more concrete information is available. He pointed out that the Board is looking for ways to economize and to reduce capital funding requests, and the flexibility in the plan will allow those decisions to be made in the future.

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Mrs. French pointed out that the septic system issue at Glenelg High School is a variable in the plan, as well as the health of the economy as it impacts on development and growth.

The motion to approve the FY 1998-2002 Capital Improvement Program was approved by the members of the Board.

FY 1997-2006 Long-Range Master Plan

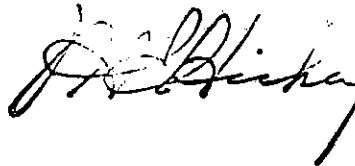
A motion to approve the long-range master plan as presented was made by Mr. Bounds. The motion was seconded by Dr. Campbell and approved by the members of the Board.

Dr. Kalin stated that the information contained in the capital budget document concerning the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance will be forwarded to the Office of Planning and Zoning.

Mrs. French announced that the Board's Approved FY 97 Capital Budget Request, FY 1998-2002 Capital Improvement Program, and the FY 1997-2006 Long-Range Master Plan will be submitted to the Interagency Committee for Public School Construction on October 16. The Board of Education will adopt its FY 97 Capital Budget Request on February 27, 1996. The budget request will be submitted to the County Executive and County Council for approval by March 15, 1996.

Mr. Bounds stated that Mrs. Cook asked him to convey to the public that she was of the same consensus that was reached at the work session on October 10, and she fully supported what the Board had anticipated would be approved.

The meeting was adjourned by the Vice Chairman at 3:45 p.m.



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## Work Session

The Board held a public work session on the Superintendent's Proposed FY 99 Capital Budget and FY 2000-2004 Capital Improvement Program. The following information was requested:

### Elementary Schools

- Talbott Springs, on pp. 23 and 24, should be modified to indicate that it is a renovation/addition.

### High Schools

- Include Howard High project on page 52 for planning for systemic renovations of the HVAC system (unit ventilators).

### Discussion:

- Dr. Cousin described the renovation project for Jeffers Hill ES, including improvements to the HVAC system. There are many HVAC projects that need to be accomplished and, even if funding were immediately available for all of the projects, there would not be sufficient time or supervision to complete them. Each HVAC renovation project must be completed within the 10-week summer break, and there is a tremendous amount of work to get done within that timeframe.
- Phelps Luck ES project will consist of an addition to the building and renovations to the HVAC system. Phelps Luck ES was renovated in 1989 when it received interior partitions, new lighting, new ceilings, new carpet, and new paint. This project will not include a new gymnasium or cafeteria.
- APFO Committee is recommending that the plan be supported as designed.
  - When units are moved from one planning area to another, the funds to support that growth move with the units.
  - Northwest area will remain closed because of overcapacity at Ilchester ES and Rockburn ES.
- Mrs. French recalled discussion about increasing the capacity of elementary schools to 500. Dr. Kalin reminded the Board that the county will face a decline in elementary school enrollment in the out years. Capacity can be increased if needed.
- Dr. Campbell expressed concern about the support facilities in the smaller schools if classrooms additions are constructed to increase capacity.
- Overcapacity in the northeast; available capacity in Columbia East to provide relief.
- Expect growth to be pushed to the west.
- New high school in the Fulton area - alternative solutions to accommodate high school enrollment if the new high school is not funded.
  - Additions to five high schools plus Mt. Hebron HS: Howard HS, Oakland Mills HS, Centennial HS, Atholton HS, and Glenelg HS.
  - If capacity were increased to 1,500 for schools receiving new additions, and capacity of three new schools were decreased to 1,500—result: 628 students overcapacity countywide.
  - Glenelg HS addition - need to resolve septic/sewer capacity.
  - Significant additional operating costs for new high school.
  - Dr. Campbell: Supported 1,400 (1,332 plus special education) capacity for high schools. 100-200 overcapacity at new schools should be a minimal expectation at

the peak for high school enrollment. Should present to the county a plan which is in the best interest of the students and is the most reasonable and functional solution.

- Ms. Johnston: Supported 1,400 capacity for high schools. Unwilling to compromise opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular activities or to jeopardize academic performance by increasing capacity.
- Mr. Bounds: Supported construction of new high school in the Fulton area but was not optimistic that the project would be funded. Alternatives to provide student seats will have to be addressed. Pointed out that decisions concerning the high school capacities will need to be made before the additions are planned.
- Mrs. French: Supported 1,400 capacity so that each student will have the opportunity to participate in activities and be a real participant in the school. Larger schools increase the anonymity of the student. Supported the current plan to build a new high school.
- Possibility of county surplus funds being available as pay/go money for some projects.
- Consider worst case scenario to prepare for a long-range plan, i.e. mixed-use zoning.
- Other alternatives: larger additions, relocatables, double shifting.
- Dr. Schuchardt: Supported the need for a new high school. Agreed that alternative plans need to be made in the event the new school is not funded.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Mr. Bounds stated that the Board's discussion is not intended to be a criticism of the work product; however, the facility is a completely new concept and the Board needs to raise questions.

### **Glenelg HS - Approval of Schematic Design**

*Presenter:* Dr. William Brown, Director of School Planning and Construction, and Mr. Gary Blanton, SHW Group, Inc./Architect.

#### *Highlights:*

- Base Project
  - ◊ To increase the capacity of the school to accommodate 1,400 students by constructing a new addition to the school and a small amount of support space.
  - ◊ Additions to the administrative area, cafeteria, and related arts areas to accommodate the increased student capacity.
  - ◊ Inclusion of a ninth-grade cluster.
  - ◊ Improve circulation patterns within the school.
  - ◊ Site improvements.
  - ◊ Provide unisex and handicapped access to the weight room and auditorium.
- Members of the planning committee felt very strongly that other enhancements should be considered as a part of this project, even though funds have not been allocated for the additional work.
  - ◊ Improvements to music area. Two plans have been developed, with one having the support of the full planning committee.
  - ◊ Improvements to the physical education spaces.
  - ◊ Addition for home economics.
  - ◊ Consideration of a separate access to Sharp Road.
  - ◊ Conversion of classroom into dark room.
  - ◊ Addition to guidance counselor's office.

#### *Discussion:*

In response to Mrs. French, Mr. Blanton explained that the courtyard will not be disturbed except for a small area needed to enlarge the foods laboratory in the home economics area.

Mrs. French expressed her support for enlarging and providing improvements to the music area if funds are available.

Mrs. French pointed out that the classrooms are planned for 720 sq.ft. and that the educational specifications require 800 sq.ft. She stated her preference for larger classrooms between 750-800 sq.ft. Mr. Blanton responded that there had been a 10% reduction in the educational specifications, and he believed that the reduction was necessary in order for the project to be within the construction budget. Dr. Cousin stated that all of the recent additions to high schools have included classrooms below 800 sq.ft. Dr. Brown commented that the classrooms at Long Reach and River Hill high schools are 720 sq.ft., and staff has not received any complaints. Mrs. French stated that she had received many complaints from teachers concerning the small classrooms. It was her understanding that the reduction in the size of the classrooms was necessitated by the reduction in funding that

was provided for those recent projects. In response to Dr. Campbell, Mr. Blanton added the new classrooms will be similar to existing classrooms. Mrs. French reiterated her concern that the classrooms should be larger.

Mr. Bounds stated his support for the plan and the way the needs of the school are proposed to be accommodated. He asked if any of the enhancements proposed by the planning committee could be accomplished as a systemic renovation project. Dr. Cousin stated that new space should not be constructed as a systemic renovation project. He suggested that the bid documents include add alternates for each of the requested improvements. Mr. Bounds explained his intention to determine what kind of projects could be completed later so that as many of the items as possible could be completed under this project.

Drs. Campbell and Schuchardt expressed their support for the plan.

*Action:* A motion to approve the schematic design was made by Mr. Bounds, seconded by Dr. Schuchardt, and approved by the members of the Board.

### **Assignment of Relocatable Classrooms**

*Presenter:* Dr. Kalin.

#### *Highlights:*

- No school wants to give up relocatables currently assigned to the school.
- It is anticipated that 10 new relocatable units will need to be purchased for each of the next two years.
- Clarksville MS - Suggested moving three of the existing units; additional units will need to be assigned in the year 2002.
- Dasher Green ES - Classroom reduction initiative reduced capacity by 84 seats. Redistricting or a capital project will be needed for the school in the out years.

#### *Discussion:*

Mr. Bounds stated that it is very expensive to move and relocate the units for just one or two years. He suggested that the additional \$1 million provided by the state could be used to purchase additional units this year. Dr. Kalin felt that it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to obtain new units and have them in place for the opening of school. Dr. Cousin stated that the units would have to be manufactured after they are ordered. Dr. Kalin explained that the enrollment at Lisbon ES could be accommodated by partitioning and relocatable units could be placed at Lisbon ES and Mayfield Woods MS when they are available later in the year.

Dr. Kalin stated that the class size reduction initiative has resulted in a need for additional capacity, even though the enrollment is expected to decline in the out years. Dr. Cousin pointed out that some of the relocatable units are aging and should not be moved, and those units will need to be replaced in the near future.

Dr. Campbell asked for a recommendation for providing an additional relocatable unit to Guilford ES. Mrs. French stated that the growth issue may be neglected by deferring the placement of a relocatable unit at Mayfield Woods MS. Dr. Kalin explained that the suggestion is to defer it only until new units are manufactured and are available later in the year.



from the County Council could be longer than a delay caused by opposition from the WSSC.

Mrs. French noted that the Board also received correspondence which suggested that condemnation be used to obtain the land needed for a septic system. It was also suggested that more money be offered to the landowner to purchase the property. She pointed out that the Board must obtain two appraisals of the land, and the Board is constrained by those appraisals in making an offer to purchase the land.

Mrs. Waters liked Dr. Nasser's suggestion that the wastewater treatment plant be constructed at Glenelg HS and have two options for the discharge of the effluent.

In response to Mrs. French, Dr. Nasser stated that the treatment plant would utilize approximately one acre of the Glenelg HS site. He added the plant would be operated by the Howard County Bureau of Utilities, and county staff were involved in the development of plans for the plant. Dr. Brown stated that part of one playfield would be lost; however, the options for locating the plant are limited because the effluent must be discharged into the stream. Dr. Cousin pointed out that final details, such as constructing the plant below ground or above ground, still need to be developed; however, the goal is to have the least impact as possible on the school site.

Dr. Schuchardt cited an example of a wastewater treatment plant in Frederick County that was constructed on a farm which was developed for houses several years, and another housing development is now being constructed which will surround the plant. If there were safety concerns regarding the wastewater treatment plant and its effluent, she did not believe the new houses would have been approved for construction.

Dr. Cousin stated that staff intends to work very closely with WSSC to address their concerns. The biggest issue is whether or not building the wastewater treatment plant will set a precedent to allow other plants to be constructed and discharge into the WSSC watershed. If the question were to expand the existing septic system at Glenelg HS, it would not be an issue with WSSC. Dr. Cousin pointed out the importance of following the building permit process correctly and thoroughly to prevent any further delays in the Glenelg HS project.

Mr. Bounds believed that a precedent for constructing new wastewater treatment plants within the watershed can be avoided by defining their use only to replace failing septic systems of existing facilities.

*Action:* Mr. Bounds moved that the wastewater treatment plant be constructed on the Glenelg HS site with the discharge on the Glenelg HS site. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Waters and unanimously approved by the members of the Board.

### **Centennial HS Addition - Approval of Schematic Design**

*Presenter:* Dr. Brown introduced Mr. Louis Fry, Fry and Welch Associates, Architects and Planners, to present the project.

#### *Highlights:*

- Additions will increase the school's capacity from 1,085 to 1,400 in accordance with the 1995 Educational Specifications for Howard County High Schools.

- Project will include a ninth-grade cluster/classroom addition to be constructed to the rear of the building, and additional space will be added to the cafeteria in the front of the building. Some interior renovations of existing space will also be completed.

*Discussion:*

Mr. Bounds asked if the experience from the addition/renovation project at Hammond HS was considered during the planning process for the Centennial HS project. Dr. Cousin stated that the planning committee visited Hammond HS to observe the spaces at that school and to talk to school staff. He cautioned, however, that sacrifices had to be made at Hammond HS, and the committee did not want to repeat those same things at Centennial HS. Ms. Cathy Young, staff architect, noted that the construction manager used at Hammond HS will also be used at Centennial HS. Mr. Bounds wanted assurance that the two projects would be similar when Centennial HS is completed, and Dr. Cousin responded that the same issues are being addressed at both schools and the solutions will be very similar.

Mrs. French noted that the Board received a request from parents that the seating in the auditorium be replaced as part of this project. Dr. Cousin stated that between \$80,000 - \$100,000 additional funds would be needed to replace the seats in the auditorium with seats comparable to those installed in the Rouse Theater at Wilde Lake HS. The existing seats are similar to others throughout the county; and although they are uncomfortable, they are not in disrepair.

*Action:* A motion to approve the schematic design for the Centennial HS addition project was made by Dr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Bounds, and approved by the members of the Board.

### **Unsolicited Donations**

*Presenter:* Mrs. Erickson recommended acceptance of the following unsolicited donations:

Bruce B. Ridgely U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Comm. Rockville, MD	Technology equipment	\$10,150.00
Dr. Harold L. Williams Mediation and Conflict Center Ellicott City, MD	Technology equipment	\$1,000.00
Ms. Jackie Edens Ellicott City, MD	Technology equipment to Burleigh Manor MS	\$500.00
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Rodriguez Mt. Airy, MD	Technology equipment to Lisbon ES	\$175.00
Acuson, Mid-Atlantic Region Columbia, MD	Technology equipment	\$500.00

*Action:* A motion to accept the donations was made by Mr. Bounds, seconded by Mrs. Waters, and approved by the members of the Board.

**Resolution to Condemn Property for School Purposes - Glenelg HS**

*Presenters:* Dr. Cousin and Dr. William Brown, Director of School Planning and Construction.

*Highlights:*

Dr. Cousin informed the Board that staff was prepared to introduce a resolution to condemn property for the expansion of the septic field and other uses for Glenelg HS. He explained that the reason for changing this topic from an action item to a discussion item was due to new information and opportunities that have come forward. He stated that he would discuss that information after reading the original resolution. Dr. Cousin read the following:

**RESOLUTION TO CONDEMN PROPERTY FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES  
GLENELG HIGH SCHOOL AND FOR FUTURE SCHOOL PURPOSES  
(PURSUANT TO EDUCATION ARTICLE, SECTION 4-119,  
OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND)**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Howard County (hereinafter referred to as the Board) has determined by previous action that each Howard County high school, including Glenelg High School, must be capable of accommodating a student population of approximately 1,400;

WHEREAS, the existing school building at Glenelg High School (hereinafter Glenelg) in its present condition cannot accommodate 1,400 students;

WHEREAS, Glenelg's existing on-site field septic system has failed, is no longer functioning, and requires extensive repair and replacement to accommodate the existing Glenelg student population and additional projected student population;

WHEREAS, there is a public school need to expand the existing physical structure at Glenelg to accommodate 1,400 students;

WHEREAS, there is an immediate public school need and purpose to repair, replace, and supplement the existing failed septic facilities;

WHEREAS, the Board's existing parcel of land, consisting of Forty Point Nine Four (40.94) acres, more or less, is incapable of supporting a student capacity of 1,400 students;

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that additional land is needed adjacent to Glenelg High School for future school purposes to accommodate the educational needs of a growing school population in western Howard County;

WHEREAS, the Board, through the Superintendent and his staff, has identified a parcel of land consisting of Seventy Point Three Seven Eight (70.378) acres, more or less, titled in the name of Maple Springs Farm Limited Partnership, which property is more fully described in a Deed, dated November 25, 1994, from Mae Brann Musgrove to Maple Springs Farm Limited Partnership, a Maryland limited partnership, and recorded among the Land Records of Howard County, Maryland, at Liber 3497, Folio 208, which property is adjacent to the existing Glenelg site and would meet the Board's needs for school purposes in the area as referenced above for many years to come. The said property is now subject to a Contract of Sale, dated October 7, 2001, between Maple Springs Farm Limited

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Partnership and J. Thomas Scrivener, Inc., both of whom shall hereinafter be referred to as the Owner;

WHEREAS, the Board, through the Superintendent and his attorney, has attempted to contract with the Owner for the purchase of the said land for what the Board considers to be a fair valuation for the above-referenced 70.378 acres, and such attempts to contract for the purchase of the said land have been unsuccessful to date;

WHEREAS, the Superintendent and his staff have recommended to the Board that the above-referenced 70.378 acres of land owned by the Owner are required for school purposes as outlined above and otherwise for future school purposes;

NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE AFOREMENTIONED PREMISES, WHICH ARE HEREBY INCORPORATED FULLY BY REFERENCE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2001, AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the 70.378 acres of land, more or less, titled in the name of Maple Springs Farm Limited Partnership and described more fully in a Deed from Mae Brann Musgrove to Maple Springs Farm Limited Partnership, dated November 25, 1994, and recorded among the Land Records of Howard County at Liber 3497, Folio 208, and subject to a Contract of Sale with J. Thomas Scrivener, Inc., dated October 7, 2001, are needed and required for school purposes-- all as more fully set forth above and fully incorporated herein by reference;

2. That the Board of Education has been unable to contract with the Owner for the purchase of the said property for what the Board considers to be a fair valuation;

3. That the Superintendent be and is hereby authorized and directed by the Board to institute in the name of and on behalf of the Board as soon as possible appropriate legal proceedings to condemn the above-mentioned property for school purposes pursuant to Education Article, Section 4-119, of The Annotated Code of Maryland, to employ legal counsel, real estate appraisers, and such other agents he deems necessary to assist in condemning the said property, and to take such other measures, and expend such funds of the Board as he may deem necessary and proper to acquire the said property for school purposes as expeditiously as possible.

\_\_\_\_\_  
ATTEST  
JOHN O'ROURKE  
Secretary-Treasurer and  
Superintendent of Schools

\_\_\_\_\_(SEAL)  
JANE SCHUCHARDT  
Chairman, Board of Education of  
Howard County

Dr. Cousin explained why the resolution was not being requested for action. He informed the Board that staff has been in correspondence with the owners of the property and that the property is under contract to a developer, J. Thomas Scrivener, Inc. Dr. Cousin stated that staff has received correspondence from the Scrivener organization suggesting that the HCPSS can solve the septic problem at Glenelg HS by cooperating with the developer. Dr. Cousin read some of the points outlined in the letter from J. Thomas Scrivener, Inc.:

- The Board of Education would be provided the land for a septic system on the property.
- The provision would be a long-term easement at no cost to the Board of Education.

Approved-November 8, 2001

H.S. Capacity 000115

- The Board would save the cost and time associated with the land and the legal cost of condemnation.
- The septic system would be designed to accommodate both the needs of Glenelg HS and approximately 35 single-family buildings on the property.
- The Board of Education would pay for the expenses related to percolation, testing, design, and construction of the septic system and for accommodating the development as well.
- The parties would work in concert with the Howard County Government, the Howard County Health Department, and the Maryland Department of the Environment to obtain approval of the most cost effective, environmentally sensitive, and innovative subsurface system possible to serve both the school and the development.
- It is the intent of the parties to have the Howard County Government accept the maintenance responsibility for the shared system.
- The Board of Education would be allowed to proceed with the testing on the property immediately. Dr. Cousin explained that the testing would be subject to the Howard County Health Department's scheduling and that wet season testing would have to be conducted in the spring.

Dr. Cousin explained that this information was received within the past two days and that staff would like the opportunity to explore and to work with the developer and the county to determine if this is a feasible, workable plan. On the surface it appears to be a win/win situation for the parties involved, but there are some technicalities that have to be worked out. Public and privately shared use of septic fields would be a completely new concept in the county.

*Discussion:*

Ms. Gordon inquired whether or not staff had an idea of the cost to construct the shared septic system. Dr. Cousin explained that staff did not have a definite cost at this time and introduced Dr. Brown to address the question.

Dr. Brown explained that nothing is known about the property. Staff and engineers have performed a preliminary review of the property and, based strictly on soil types shown on the Howard County soil map, those soil types typically perk. However, the only way to be sure is to actually perk the property.

Mrs. French inquired whether or not staff had a minimum/maximum cost range for the septic system. Dr. Brown explained that staff has been estimating cost at approximately \$800,000. This would include all work at the site, a full-scale septic system and engineering, the pumping station, filtration system, and denitrification system.

Dr. Cousin stated that \$2,000,000 was placed in the budget for the wastewater treatment facility for Glenelg HS, which did not include the cost of land acquisition.

Mrs. French asked whether or not the savings associated with this proposal was public information, and Dr. Cousin stated that it was not.

Mrs. French expressed concern regarding the length of time this project would take to complete and that the project may be deferred indefinitely. Dr. Cousin stated that this proposal was not an indefinite deferral, and the timeframe in question was weeks, rather than months. Because this is a new approach to providing this type of facility and because of the joint-use agreement, staff will look into resolving preliminary obstacles to determine

if this is a practical solution and whether or not it meets the requirements of the county, the Health Department, and the Maryland Department of the Environment.

Ms. Gordon asked if it is anticipated that the process will move along expeditiously. Dr. Cousin stated that staff will move as quickly as possible; however, many players are involved other than the HCPSS and the Board, such as the Department of Public Works, the county's law office, etc. Dr. Cousin commented that if everything works well, this will be an opportunity to expedite the process and to possibly avoid condemnation.

Mr. O'Rourke agreed with Dr. Cousin's comments, and stated that it is not being suggested that it be an endless look at alternatives. He emphasized that first and foremost are the educational needs and the requirements to expand the physical facility and property at Glenelg HS. Whether it takes place according to the resolution or through some accommodation that may be worked out over the next couple of weeks, staff recognizes the significant educational need that must be met.

Mrs. French asked whether or not it would be a detriment not to purchase the property, because of additional educational needs Glenelg HS may have in the future. She expressed concern that this proposal confines Glenelg HS to the existing 40 acres. She questioned whether or not there has been any discussion related to her concern. Dr. Cousin stated that this topic has not been discussed. He explained that the original request to the landowners was for HCPSS to be able to enter the land to do percolation tests, and permission was not granted. In terms of the proposal from the developer, it would be an opportunity for HCPSS to enter the property for the first time. He stated that staff does not want to limit the future, but there is an immediate concern regarding the septic system that must be dealt with and other concerns, i.e., additional play fields, etc., may be an issue in the future.

Mrs. Charles asked how much larger the septic system would need to be to accommodate the projected 34 homes. Dr. Cousin stated that the size of the system is not known at this time. He pointed out that there are advantages to a shared system from a technical standpoint. A septic field must be kept active, and the homes would provide activity at night and in the summer when schools are not in use.

Mrs. Charles asked if the playing fields and parking lots would be affected by the addition at Glenelg HS. Dr. Brown stated that there would be a slight loss of student parking spaces where the addition is to be constructed, but a small parking lot will be added on the auditorium side of the building. The addition will not encroach on any play fields but will affect the area on the side of the auditorium that is currently used by the band. The septic field would provide auxiliary space for athletics or other activities.

Mrs. French noted that condemnation is a very serious issue, and she expressed hope that the school system could pursue reasonable discussions with the developer. She also noted that the needs at Glenelg HS must be addressed as quickly as possible. Dr. Schuchardt stated her agreement. Mr. O'Rourke indicated that the intent is to resolve the issue, and staff would report back to the Board at their next meeting.

#### **Policy 4113 - Bloodborne Pathogens**

*Presenters:* Ms. Martha Johnson, Special Assistant to the Superintendent; and Mr. Ron Miller, Specialist - Safety, Environment, and Risk Management.

and Reservoir HS, is less disruptive to Atholton HS, and positions the school system for the opening of the New Northern HS without redistricting the same communities.

- Urged the Board to relocate the Technology Magnet Program into schools with available capacity.

Mr. Michael R. Ratcliffe, Kingswood Community, North Laurel

- Reconfiguration of boundaries must be done objectively and rationally to avoid the appearance of favoritism and gerrymandering to achieve a preferred and predetermined outcome. When defining geographic areas, it is important to strive for compactness and contiguity.
- Supported the Red and Orange Plans which offer districts that are as compact and centered on Reservoir HS as possible, keep communities intact, and avoid carving out neighborhoods.
- The Red Plan best defines a district centered on Reservoir HS and serving as a focal point for most of the communities in the southeastern portion of the county.
- Opposed the Black Plan which splits the southeastern area and leaves North Laurel as a discontinuous outlier to the main part of the district.

Ms. Alice Wywialowski, Pointers Run Neighborhood, Village of River Hill

- Urged the Board to maintain an elementary to middle to high school feeder plan, stressing the need for continuity and sense of community for all children.
- Supported the "Feeder Plan" developed by a Howard County parent.

Ms. Lorraine Seelaus, Village of River Hill

- Recommended that the Board continue to target 1,400 as the capacity for high schools.
- Cited the following points made by high school administrators in support of smaller schools:
  - ◊ Smaller schools provide greater opportunities for participation in school activities.
  - ◊ Students have more positive feelings about their school when it is smaller; students and staff get to know each other better.
  - ◊ School safety issues become easier to plan and manage as size decreases.
- Overcrowding continues to increase the stress on teachers.
- Urged the Board to remove the Technology Magnet Program from River Hill HS.

Mr. Jeff Troll, Ashleigh Knolls, Village of River Hill

- Testified in support of the Gray Plan; stating that the issues directly affecting Atholton HS would be avoided, since under the Gray Plan there is no junior issue.
- The Gray Plan offers flexible options to improve the basic plan, including addressing rising sophomoes, Glenmont walkers, and maintaining feeder schools.
- Also supported the Gray Plan with Feeder Fix, because it strengthens the Gray Plan by keeping intact more of the existing feeders.

Ms. Pat Flynn, North Laurel

- Testified in support of the Red Plan and urged the Board to implement the Red Plan.
- Strongly opposed the Gray Plan; stated the Gray Plan claims to be community developed and driven; however, her community had no knowledge of the plan nor contributed any input into the plan.

Approved - February 7, 2002