

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Rockville, Maryland

January 18, 2008

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Jerry D. Weast, Superintendent

From: Nancy Navarro, President  
Shirley Brandman, Vice President

Subject: The FY 2009 Operating Budget Worksessions

We look forward to participating in the worksessions on the FY 2009 Operating Budget next week. You received several questions from Board members during the just-concluded public hearings on the budget, and we know that staff is preparing the responses to the questions in advance of the worksessions. To the extent possible, it would be useful for staff to make their presentations during the worksessions with the context of Board members' questions in mind. In that regard, as we discuss resources for the academic priority on strengthening family-school relationships and expanding civic, business, and community partnerships, we would like you to give thought as to options for realigning resources to enhance customer service to our constituents. This would be a logical follow-up to the September 2007 worksession on the role of Student Services and Parental Involvement staff.

We know that the Board's CIP budget has funds for relocating a portable to the Rocking Horse Road Center to provide opportunities for collocation of units that provide support and outreach to students and their families. We envision a one-stop shop of related units to minimize the anxieties that parents feel in trying to access services that are in various parts of the county (such as the ESOL Parent Center, Family and Community Partnerships, Enrollment and Attendance Compliance, the International Students Admissions Office, etc.) What are the options, if any, that you are currently considering for realigning and consolidating these services?

Similarly, as we discuss the work of the Department of Shared Accountability, it would be useful to hear your thoughts on options for increasing the department's capacity to conduct program evaluations in order to ensure that our investments are yielding the appropriate results.

Copy to:  
Members of the Board  
Mr. Bowers  
Dr. Lacey  
Mr. Ikheloa  
Mr. Edwards  
Dr. Spatz