

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2005
CAPITAL BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Tuesday, September 10, 2003
Greenwood

President Mr. James R. Sasiadek called the hearing to order at 7:09 p.m. In addition to President Sasiadek, the following Board members were present: Francesca Cirincione, Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, and Mr. James E. Walker. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools; staff members; as well as the media.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

1. Mr. Joseph Freed, Principal at Carver Center – Request funding for a new performing and exhibition hall for Carver including a large instrumental room. This building would allow Carver to complete the magnet program. Mr. Freed requested \$8.5M for new performance hall. His second request is for soundproofing and air conditioning for the dance theatre.
2. Ms. Donna Dordia, Vice President PTA for Timonium Elementary - School was part of the phase I renovations; however, new doors and windows were not. She stated new windows and doors are needed to make efficient the use of new boilers they received during the phase I renovations. Systems don't work without new windows. Ms. Dordia noted that windows are unsafe and will not open. Appearance is important to the citizens who live in those communities, and creates a sense of pride in the families who attend their neighborhood school.
3. Mr. David Marks, President Perry Hall Improvement Association and PTSA Association – Problem of overcrowding of Perry Hall High School. He noted that area growth would have a big impact especially with the construction of Route 43. Erecting new trailers is not the answer. New Town High School is a good step. Mr. Marks stated the Northeast area needs the same type of long-range vision, which should be a high school in White Marsh.
4. Ms. Jody Wallace, PTA Council and Southwest Council/Parent - Goal to focus on education environment of students and part of that is indoor quality. She stated air conditioning is needed at Carver Center. She suggests consider looking at feasibility for all schools to be air conditioned for increased indoor air quality, safety and learning. Ms. Wallace noted the need to consider allergies and asthma students. Also, Carver Center does not present well and needs to be improved. Ms. Wallace supports Mr. Freed's comments regarding funding renovations at Carver Center.
5. Ms. Janet Banlaki, PTA Vice President and Lansdowne Elementary Parent – School is 40 years old and showing signs of decay. Need new windows and blinds. She stated that windows are bolted shut and look deployable. Blinds are 40 years old and are the

same from when she was a student. Windows and blinds are needed for appearance and safety. Ms. Wallace noted she doesn't understand the decision-making process on which schools get items.

6. Ms. Melissa Malecki, Lansdowne Elementary Parent – Parking lot needs to be expanded. Parking is an issue with staff increasing. Handicapped parking is needed, as the situation is unsafe access to the building. She stated the ramp is 65 yards away with one handicap space at the back of the school. Parents sometimes double parking, which is unsafe for students.
7. Ms. Jeannette Keys, Parent, New Town High – Athletic program at New Town High needs a football stadium. She stated the school needs lights, scoreboards and bleachers. Ms. Keys noted it could also be used for cultural and academic purposes. Since the school was under-budget, use monies towards a new stadium.
8. Ms. Lisa Orens, Chair, Southwest Area Advisory Council – Most common issue people are asking for is air conditioning (especially Catonsville Elementary). Health concerns arise when it is hot and difficult for kids to learn. She stated that Arbutus Middle School needs an elevator, an auditorium, and outside needs to be upgraded. Ms. Orens noted that Catonsville High auditorium needs a face-lift and new chairs. Also, Woodbridge Elementary is currently an open school and they need walls built in the school. She expressed concern over security if Woodbridge Elementary had a lock down.
9. Mr. Paul Samuels – PTA President, Randallstown High - School is too cold. He stated it feels like 58 degrees even though it's set at 68 degrees. Mr. Samuels noted that science labs are to be renovated and that is good; however, portables are not the answer since the area is looking at projected growth. Students have to carry coats back and forth. Overcrowding is an issue. He noted that the area needs a new school or an addition built to current school.
10. Ms. Kelli Nelson – Northwest Advisory Council, Past Chair Capital Budget, Parent – Expressed concern about overcrowding. She wants back the deferred funding from Northwest. She requests that someone take a look at the numbers. Ms. Nelson noted that the area needs an Owings Mill Middle School so the Rosewood property should be purchased. Cedarmere Elementary is the second most overcrowded school. She commented that there were too many portables already and action must be taken now. Looking into forming an overcrowding committee. Ms. Nelson noted that Woodholme Elementary must be funded. She expressed concerns with the number of group homes in the Randallstown area.

Dr. Hairston commented that Woodholme Elementary is a priority.

11. Mr. Murray Piper, PTSA President, Milford Mill – Would like to see the cafeteria improvement planning followed up with the construction funds to complete the project. It is a serious situation. School has four lunch periods starting with a 10:30 am shift.

Also needs air conditioning for the auditorium as a first priority. He noted it was extremely hot during back-to-school night.

12. Ms. Janet Banlaki, PTA Vice President and Lansdowne Elementary Parent (spoke again)
– Need air conditioning for auditorium at Sudbrook Middle School.

The hearing was concluded at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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