Central Area Education Advisory Council Operating Pre-Budget Minutes October 14, 2010 Cromwell Valley Magnet School

There were approximately 27 attendees including George Sarris, Patsy Holmes and Meg O'Hare from BCPS and the Board of Ed.

Eight speakers of which five spoke about the Hampton addition. The remaining speakers testified about technology, physical activity for students and GT education.

Began meeting with introductions and update on future CAEAC meetings.

Speakers for Hampton addition:

<u>Elliot Azzam</u>- Hampton cannot wait as long as it took to get West Towson built. The need is there right now for the addition to be done as quickly as possible. <u>Nancy Rasmussen</u>- Hampton was promised this addition; keep this promise to our children.

Amy Johnson- Please do not make my kindergartner wait any longer.

Maureen Zingo- Hampton PTA President. There are currently 505 students in a school meant for 307. Children are not even allowed to play outside when the fifth graders are in session so as not to disturb their classes. The whole fourth and fifth grades are in trailers. Please fully fund this addition now.

Yara Cheikh- There are reliefs that need to be addressed now. A full-time technology person is of utmost importance, especially in light of the number of students needing to utilize it. Yara actually asked for more temporary trailers to relieve the growth. Currently there are eight trailers, which completely house the 4th and 5th grades, but the student population is expected to grow and the current building cannot sustain it.

<u>Debbie Glinowiecki</u>- Principal at Jacksonville Elementary spoke about how they have provided teachers with technology development and integrated technology into the curriculum by adjusting the technology teacher from .5 to .8 hours. This should be a position that all schools have full-time, not just a partial position. She also spoke about the need for hardware to support the technology such as Elmo's.

<u>Maria Brown</u>- parent at Stoneleigh and an attending physician at JHU supports a call to action to increase physical activity and recess at all schools. Many times recess is taken away as a punishment tool or to complete missed work. BCPS is not consistent with the Maryland Wellness Program. They are 100 minutes short of National Guidelines. Physical activity has been directly linked to improved cognition and academics.

<u>Greg Paranzino</u>- Represented the Citizens Advisory Council for GT. On behalf of the council, please take consistency and accountability into consideration when curriculum changes occur. There is a push towards AP, but the need for GT must be retained.