

March 2009

MCCPTA Capital Improvement Program Committee Report

Chair: Steve Augustino

1. Budget update. On February 10, Kay Romero, on behalf of MCCPTA, and many clusters provided testimony to the County Council on the Board of Education's proposed FY 2010 CIP budget and amendments to the six-year CIP. Thanks to all clusters who were able to testify on such short notice.

Also in February, Kay Romero testified before the House Appropriations Committee in Annapolis in support of Governor O'Malley's proposed \$260.3 million budget for school construction aid. Kay testified that these funds are necessary to ensure that counties are able to proceed with critical addition, modernization and facility improvement projects to benefit our students. MCCPTA continues to work with legislators to obtain at least the \$40 million in school construction funding for Montgomery County that is assumed in the FY 2010 CIP budget.

2. CIP Resolution. The CIP Resolution was adopted by the Delegates Assembly in February.

3. Restroom Assessments. In January, Kay Romero and I met with Joe Lavorgna and his staff to discuss the process for conducting the next round of restroom renovations. In the next full CIP (FY 2011-16), MCPS plans to assess 102 schools and propose a schedule for completing renovations at these schools. We have proposed a process to MCPS whereby each cluster would provide written comments on the condition of restrooms at the 102 schools. These written comments would be provided to inspectors prior to their evaluation of the schools in question. MCPS has responded favorably to this suggestion, and we are working with Joe Lavorgna to ensure that comments may be provided in a timely manner.

4. Looking Ahead. The County Council Education Committee is reviewing the proposed CIP budget, including MCPS expenditures on the purchase of Promethian brand electronic whiteboards for schools. We are monitoring the Ed Committee's deliberations and intend to provide input to assist the Committee's analysis.