Testimony of Jerome J. Klobukowski
Commissioner of the Town of Poolesville
Before the Montgomery County Board Of Education
On The FY 2010 Montgomery County Public School System
Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget
November 11, 2010

Before I begin, let me wish all of the MCPS personnel who have served in the Armed Forces a Happy Veteran's Day; and for those who are serving in harm's way my God hold them in the palm of his hands.

Good evening, I am Jerry Klobukowski, Poolesville Town Commissioner representing Poolesville's Commissioners, Poolesville's citizens and the citizens of Western Montgomery County whose children attend the Poolesville Cluster Schools.

The commissioners endorse the Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) requests submitted by Mrs. Sarah Defnet, Poolesville Cluster Coordinator, as well as support the cluster's position to keep Monocacy Elementary School open.

The Poolesville Cluster's requests (see Attachment 1) for Poolesville High School, John Poole Middle School, Poolesville Elementary School and Monocacy Elementary School are not new and reflect the age of some of our schools. The requests relate to the Whole School Magnet Program implementation; facility maintenance; improved classroom environment and utilization; and student, staff and facility safety and security. Many could be accomplished through well-managed, focused work packages. Some of these upgrades would <u>save money</u> by reducing energy consumption and deterring vandalism and associated repair work.

The commissioners thank Dr. Weast for his recommendation to retain a valuable MCPS resource by keeping Monocacy Elementary School open "for the foreseeable future". Monocacy Elementary School's potential to serve Montgomery County students would be unlocked, and its value significantly increased during these fiscally troubling times, by allowing out of cluster open enrollments.

We would like to point out that Poolesville does not consider itself an island in the Agricultural Reserve, but part of it. It would analogous to saying even though Hawaii is one of the United States, it is not in the Pacific Ocean. For this reason, request the Board of Education and MCPS adopt <u>Option 0 – Adopt a policy for schools in the Agricultural Reserve that recognizes their special status and accepts lower enrollment levels at these schools than in other clusters</u>, which received overwhelming support from Roundtable members, <u>and allowing a liberal transfer policy</u> into these schools from students in neighboring clusters.

We would also like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all of the Roundtable participants, from in-cluster and adjacent clusters, who sacrificed their time, including valuable family time, to participate in the meetings, and who presented their thoughts, developed/fleshed out the various options and helped the process come to a successful conclusion.

Poolesville High School's Modernization needs to be made a top MCPS priority. The 1999 Facility Assessment with Criteria Testing (FACT) score must be updated to reflect the addition of the Whole School Magnet Program, the attendant student population increase, and technological advancements in education since the school's opening in 1953. The 1978 partial renovation did very little to the original 56 year old building and the current "TBD" needs to be replaced with a date that will see <u>PHS's modernization completed within the next five to six years</u>.

We eagerly await the long overdue FACT evaluation of the 1960 built Poolesville Elementary School in the coming year. As it was only partially modernized in 1978, it too must be modernized.

Our cluster schools' administrators, teachers, staff and parents have worked and continue to work very hard to provide a challenging academic environment. The facilities must support and match their efforts to successfully conduct all courses and activities. The continued achievement of our students and schools and the accolades that they have received prove we effectively use the resources provided to us.

Poolesville Cluster's requests contain no frills, and the Poolesville Commissioners and Western Montgomery County community strongly endorse their inclusion in the FY 2012 CIP budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to raise these issues and let me wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Hanukah and Merry Christmas.

1. Poolesville High School
    a. <u>Construct A Brand New Poolesville High School</u>

    b. Existing Facility Upgrades
        (1) Reconfigure existing Science Classrooms as necessary to support increased enrollment.
            (a) Rooms 1& 26 Completed September 2009
            (b) Rooms 4, 6 and 9 - Permanent Lab Stations have yet to be removed.

    c. Modernization Issues
        (1) Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Replacement – Correct extremely poor
            indoor air quality and climate control. Three phase program:
            (a) Phase 1 Part A – Completed 06, Part B – Completed 2007
            (b) Phase 2 Part A – Completed 08, Part B – Scheduled Summer 2009 – Not Completed
            (c) Phase 3 – Summer 2009 – Not Completed

        (2) Planned Life Cycle Asset Replacement (PLAR)
            (a) Replace all school windows with energy efficient ones to reduce energy costs. – Funded
                50% County/50% State, State funding delayed, also relates to b.1.
                (1) Phase 1 – Front side (Front doors/slide light &35 windows) – Completed 2008
                (2) Phase 2 – Projected 2011
                (3) Phase 3 – Projected 2015.

            (b) Security
                <u>1</u> Inside building – install four additional cameras.
                <u>2</u> Outside building
                    <u>a</u> install cameras around building, at the stadium, athletic fields and greenhouse.
                    <u>b</u> install motion sensor lights around the building.

            (c) Reconfigure and consolidate General, Administrative, and Business Offices to include
                Registrar and Career Center Offices in one centralized area at the front of the school.

            (d) Require additional Team Room Lockers to avoid locker sharing among team members.

            (e) Upgrade TV studio to support Humanities Program and intra-school communications. –
                Completed September 2009

            (f) Auditorium:
                <u>1</u> Lighting requires replacement – Entire system antiquated, failure would prevent stage
                    productions
            (g) Outside portions (e.g. doors, etc.) of school require painting.

2. John Poole Middle School
   a. Second fully equipped Computer Laboratory to support instruction and testing requirements.

   b. Entrance Canopy Ceiling requires repair.

   c. Floor Tiles in various areas require replacement – Corrected September 2010.

3. Monocacy Elementary School
   a. Pedestrian Safety – Improved Access to School
      (1) Increase Parking Lot size to reduce/eliminate parking on Barnesville Road during school events.
      (2) Create separate car and bus entrances to reduce congestion and the possibility of an accident.

   b. Improved Classroom Air Quality – Improve air circulation by removing portions of countertops in classrooms.

   c. Security – Require installation of an Entrance Security System (ESS) to permit identification and control of people desiring to enter the school.

   d. Promethean Boards – provide one Promethean Board and associated equipment per classroom.

4. Poolesville Elementary School Modernization
   a. Fire Safety Code Upgrades
      (1) Public Address System – Cannot be heard in hallways and bathrooms

   b. PLAR
      (1) Painting
          (a) Interior painting – Completed
          (b) Outside portions of school still require painting.

   c. Security – Require installation of an ESS to permit identification and control of people desiring to enter the school.

   d. Entrances/Parking Lot reconfigured to separate car/bus traffic – Install barriers to require students to exit cars on the school side of the Kiss N'Ride driveway to prevent an accident.

   e. Promethean Boards – provide one Promethean Board and associated equipment per classroom.

   f. Computer Lab Refresh - Replace existing desktop computers with the latest hardware and software.