

Committee Report, December 2006

Operating Budget Committee: Steve Crowley, Chair, stevecrowley@att.net

The Superintendent of Schools introduced his proposed FY 2008 Operating Budget on December 15, 2006. The proposed budget contains an increase of \$132 Million over the current FY 2007 budget, a 7.1% increase. The proposed budget is now just shy of \$2 Billion. The increase includes negotiated salary increases to all three unions, salary increments to non-union staff, and increases in the cost of employee benefits. Only \$9.6 Million of new initiatives have been requested.

It is anticipated by MCPS that \$56 Million of the increase will be funded by Montgomery County with \$74 Million from state, federal and other sources.

MCCPTA will host a forum where the views of members of the Board of Education and the County Council will be solicited over a range of topics relevant to the Operating Budget. It will be held on Monday, January 8th from 7:30-9:00 PM at the Carver auditorium. All PTA members are invited. Questions for the panelists will be collected in advance by the Operating Budget Committee. Please forward your questions to Steve Crowley at SteveCrowley@ATT.net. If time permits, additional questions may be submitted from the floor.

Operating Budget testimony is coming up soon. While the cluster schedule has not yet been released, testimony will take place on Wednesday January 10th and Thursday January 11th. An Operating Budget Testimony workshop is being planned for Saturday, January 6th. The location of the workshop has yet to be determined. Please watch for additional information on the MCCPTA list serves.