

**Montgomery County Board of Education
2009 Capital Improvements Program Testimony
John F. Kennedy Cluster
Frances Frost, MCCPTA - Kennedy Cluster Coordinator
November 11, 2009**

The Kennedy Cluster supports the Superintendent's FY 2011 Capital Budget and the FY 2011 - 2016 Capital Improvements Program.

Considering the modernization of our schools, we are pleased with the:

- The approved FY2010 appropriation for facility planning funding for the Bel Pre ES modernization.
- The recommended FY 2011 appropriation for facility planning funding for an addition at Georgian Forest.

Bel Pre is scheduled for a modernization to be completed in August 2014. The administration, teachers, and concerned parents have begun meeting regarding in initial plans for the construction and preparing to select the architect. We ask that the progress for this modernization stay on schedule.

Georgian Forest is scheduled for an addition. It is already in the CIP, and we ask that progress on our addition stay on schedule. The major components of the proposed addition are ten classrooms, a pre-kindergarten classroom, a head start classroom, a kindergarten classroom and office support spaces. The addition is necessary to eliminate the use of relocatable classrooms. Presently, the school capacity is 314 students and the student enrollment is 517 in pre-k through fifth grade. The future projected capacity will be 569 students.

Col. E. Brooke Lee Middle School was built in 1966; it has never been renovated and remains the oldest non-modernized middle school in the county. Though it is listed in the CIP, there is still no date for modernization and this remains a community concern.

We are concerned about the overall state of the facilities within the entire Down County Consortium (DCC). Northwood, Einstein, Wheaton, Blair and Kennedy are part of the DCC. In order for the DCC to meet its objective, each of the DCC schools needs to have adequate facilities to be successful.

The Kennedy Cluster stands ready to respond creatively to the challenges presented by our diverse community.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.