

Princess Anne, Maryland
April 15, 2003

By unanimous vote, the Somerset County Board of Education met in a closed session at the J. M. Tawes Technology & Career Center, Tuesday, April 15, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. Present were: Chairman Dick Scott, Vice Chairman James R. Byrd, Mr. Jack Paul, Mr. Ernest Satchell, Mr. Jack Willing, Superintendent Karen-Lee Brofee and Ms. Chisholm. The meeting was closed to discuss personnel matters under authority of S10-508(a) of the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

The Somerset County Board of Education met in a regular session at the J. M. Tawes Technology & Career Center, Tuesday, April 15, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. Present were: Chairman Dick Scott, Vice Chairman James R. Byrd, Mr. Jack Paul, Mr. Ernest Satchell, Mr. Jack Willing and Superintendent Karen-Lee Brofee. Student Board members, Katie Ford and Sara Grosky, were also in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Scott at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Ms. Chisholm indicating that all Board members were present.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Chairman Scott declared a quorum to be present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Scott led the Board in the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES

Motion - Mr. Willing, second - Mr. Byrd and passed, to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2003 regular meeting, as published.

Motion - Mr. Willing, second - Mr. Byrd and passed, to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2003 special meeting, as published.

AGENDA

Motion - Mr. Paul, second - Mr. Byrd and passed, to adopt the agenda as presented.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Oliver Hearn, on behalf of the bus contractors, expressed some budgetary concerns.

The following people voiced concern regarding too many suspensions in the schools: Phillip Hut, Kevin Sturgis, Julius Thompson, Angela Brinkley, Schwan Reddick, Detrich Smith and Lowindon Turner.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Katie Ford and Sara Grosky reported on activities in their area school districts.

WOODSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mr. Ed Dean, Principal, Woodson Middle School, provided a status report of the school's programs, awards and accomplishments. Woodson School student Robbie Sterling gave a power point presentation of Maryland's Tomorrow Program.

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Washington High School students gave a presentation providing the rationale and planning for an outdoor graduation ceremony at Washington High School.

OLD BUSINESS

POLICY - USE OF DRUG-DETECTING DOGS

It was consensus of the Board to receive Policy 600-28, Use of Drug Detecting Dogs, for study.

POLICY 600-17 - STANDARDS OF SOCIAL BEHAVIOR

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Satchell, seconded by Mr. Paul and passed, to approve Policy 600-17, Standards of Social Behavior as corrected.

FY 03-04 BUDGET

Motion - Mr. Willing, second - Mr. Paul and passed, to approve the FY-04 Budget for submission to the County Commissioners.

FY 03-04 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Paul, seconded by

Board Meeting - April 15, 2003

Page

Mr. Satchell and passed, to approve the FY-04 Capital Improvement Budget for submission to the County Commissioners. All capital improvement projects are pending consolidation decisions.

NEW BUSINESS

PERSONNEL

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Willing, seconded by Mr. Byrd and passed, to approve the following personnel actions: new hires: Demond Selby, Maj. Roger Gauert; retires: Ruther Fountain, James Lake, Linda Sterling, Barbara Widdowson; resignation: Carol Moody.

DECLARATION OF CERTIFICATED A&S, CLASSIFIED UNIT COMPOSITION

Motion - Mr. Willing, second - Mr. Paul and passed, to accept one unit for non-certificated employees for the purpose of collective bargaining as pursuant to Section 6-505 and 6-506 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. All non-certificated employees who work 20 hours a week or more and receive health care coverage constitutes full-time. The Board declared three units for employee organization: certified teachers, certified administrators and supervisors and classified employees.

TRANSPORTATION - REQUEST TO CONDUCT SUBSTITUTE DRIVER TRAINING

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Satchell, seconded by Mr. Byrd and passed, to approve Gardner Tull for substitute school bus training.

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Byrd, seconded by Mr. Paul and passed, to extend the life of a twelve year bus by three additional years, next year to extend by two years and the following year to extend by one year. The motion included the necessity of having all buses having the appropriate updated equipment.

POLICY 200-18 PUPIL TRANSPORTATION

Consensus of the Board was to receive Policy 200-28 Pupil Transportation for study.

SREB VISIT

Ms. Lisa Hopkins reported on the SREB site visit held April 22-23. The purpose of the visit was to examine the data and to review and determine progress made in implementing the recommendations from the MSW Technical Assistance Visit of October 2000.

STUDENT SERVICES REVIEW

For information, Mrs. McLaughlin provided an overview of the State Department's periodic review of the Pupil Services Program.

POLICY 100-19 TAPING OF BOARD MEETINGS

It was consensus of the Board to receive Policy 100-19 Taping of Board Meetings for study.

SALUTE TO SCHOOL & NUTRITION SERVICE PERSONNEL DAY

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Paul, seconded by Mr. Willing and passed, to adopt a resolution "Salute to School Food and Nutrition Service Personnel Day", May 14, 2003.

REQUEST FOR PERMANENT APPROVAL FOR PARTICIPATION IN AMERICAN LEGION AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Willing, seconded by Mr. Satchell and passed, to permanently approve, grades 3 - 8, participation in the annual Americanism Essay Contest sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary.

SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Dr. Brofee shared some of the highlights from the school district during the previous month, including stating importance of Thornton funds to our School System Budget, announcing Deal Island School recognized as Distinguished Title I School and noting Charter Schools legislation passed.

MAY BOARD MEETING

Motion - Mr. Willing, second - Mr. Paul and passed, to hold the May meeting on May 27, 2003, closed session at 6:00 p.m., and open session at 7:00 p.m. at the J. M. Tawes Technology & Career Center.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Karen-Lee N. Brofee, Secretary/Superintendent
Prepared by: Sarah T. Chisholm