

Princess Anne, Maryland  
February 17, 2004

By unanimous vote, the Somerset County Board of Education met in a closed session at the J. M. Tawes Technology & Career Center, Tuesday, February 17, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. Present were: Chairman Dick Scott, Vice Chairman James R. Byrd, Mr. Jack Paul, Mr. Jack Willing, Superintendent Karen-Lee Brofee and Mrs. Fisher. Mr. Ernest Satchell had requested to be excused. 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, February 17, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. Present were: Chairman Dick Scott, Vice Chairman James R. Byrd, Mr. Jack Paul, Mr. Jack Willing and Superintendent Karen-Lee Brofee. Student Board member, Lea Harrison was in attendance. Mr. Ernest Satchell and Kyle Ward has asked to be excused.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Scott at 7:13 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

The roll was called by Mrs. Fisher indicating that four Board members, the Superintendent and one student member 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 January 20, 2004 regular meeting as published.

### **AGENDA**

Motion - Mr. Byrd, second - Mr. Willing and passed, to adopt the agenda.

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## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No opinions were voiced during public participation.

## **SUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT**

Lea Harrison reported on activities in her area school district.

## **DEAL ISLAND SCHOOL REPORT**

Mr. Forbush, Principal of Deal Island Elementary School provided a report of the school's programs and extended an invitation to visit the school.

## **MOCK TRIAL EXPERIENCE**

Due to the weather, Dr. Brofee reported the students from J. M. Tawes and Washington High School would be presenting at the March meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **POLICY 700-13, WORK SCHEDULE AND LEAVE FOR EMPLOYEES OF SOMERSET COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Willing, seconded by Mr. Byrd and passed to approve Policy 700-13, Work Schedule and Leave for Employees of Somerset County Public Schools as submitted.

### **POLICY 700-53, SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was the consensus of the Board to continue the study of Policy 700-53, School Resource Officer Program.

### **POLICY 200-22, Volunteer Services**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Paul, seconded by Mr. Willing and passed to approve Policy 200-22, Volunteer Services as submitted.

## **SCHOOL CALENDAR**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Byrd, seconded by Mr. Willing and passed to approve the School Calendar.

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## **TRANSPORTATION**

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Upon recommendation of the Transportation Supervisor, it was the consensus of the board to disallow the early retirement of a bus for the purchase of a new bus.

### **REORGANIZATION PROJECT**

The Superintendent gave an update and was asked when a timeline of activities and schedule for the reorganization might be ready. Dr. Brofee will attempt to have it completed for the March Meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **PERSONNEL**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Willing, seconded by Mr. Paul and passed, to approve the following personnel actions : retirements: Barbara Anderson, Dianne Brooks, Michael Lokey, Margo Gale, Deborah Weinreich, Joyce Simpson, Louise Drayer; resignations: Valerie Guetens; new hires: Diane Conner, Stephanie Covington, Carrie Smoker, Jane Dougal, Sharron DuPree, Brian Whittington, Pamela Moore; changes: Cindy Taylor.

#### **ON-LINE COURSES**

Ms. Hopkins gave an update regarding the progress of On-Line Courses. The Board received the Guidelines and Procedures Manual for Online Courses for study and future discussion.

#### **FINANCE REPORT**

Mrs. Miller addressed the Budget Development Calendar and the impact of Thornton (or lack of) on Somerset County Public Schools' Budget.

#### **AUDIT OF STATE AID**

Mrs. Miller addressed the failure of Somerset County Public Schools to demonstrate valid residency of randomly selected students that led to a penalty. It was the consensus of the board to tighten our student registration procedures.

#### **MASTER PLAN REVISIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Superintendent informed the Board that the Master Plan Steering Team convened on January 29, 2004 and additions, deletions and revisions have been made and would be presented with the "05" Budget.

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#### **MAY BOARD MEETING DATE**

The Superintendent informed the Board the meeting date for May had been set to avoid a

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conflict with the Annual ASBO Conference. The conference has been moved back a week, therefore, the original meeting date of May 18<sup>th</sup> needed to be rescheduled. It was moved by Mr. Willing, seconded by Mr. Paul and passed to hold the Board Meeting on May 18, 2004.

### **GRADUATION DIPLOMA DISCUSSION**

The Superintendent informed the Board of the Maryland State Department of Education's proposal for a Tiered Diploma system. The Maryland Association of Boards of Education was asking for the local Boards' position. It was the consensus of the Board to not support the Tiered Diploma system.

### **ANNEXATION OF WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL TO PRINCESS ANNE**

It was the consensus of the Board to further study the Annexation of Washington High School into the Town of Princess Anne.

### **SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Dr. Brofee informed the Board of some very positive happenings that had taken place in the schools. She also thanked Mr. Lawson, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Donald Waters and Ms. Mary Handy for such an organized trip to Annapolis for the Rally.

### **MARCH BOARD MEETING**

Motion - Mr. Paul, second - Mr. Willing, and passed, to hold the March meeting on March 16, 2004, 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 8:15p.m.

Karen-Lee N. Brofee, Secretary/Superintendent  
Prepared by: Rebecca A. Fisher