

Princess Anne, Maryland  
January 20, 2004

By unanimous vote, the Somerset County Board of Education met in a closed session at the J. M. Tawes Technology & Career Center, Tuesday, January 20, 2004 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, January 20, 2004, 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 member, Kyle Ward was in attendance.

### **BOARD REORGANIZATION**

Dr. Brofee, Secretary to the Board, acting as Chairman pro tem, opened the floor for nominations for Chairman of the Board. Motion - Mr. Paul, second - Mr. Willing and unanimously passed, to reappoint Mr. Richard Scott, Chairman and Mr. James Byrd, Vice Chairman of the Somerset County Board of Education for the 2004 calendar year.

Motion - Mr. Willing, second - Mr. Satchell and unanimously passed, to reappoint Mr. Fulton Jeffers to the position of Attorney-to-the-Board for the 2004 calendar year.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Scott at 7:05 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.

### **PRESENTATION OF COLORS PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Following a presentation of colors by the Crisfield High School JROTC, Chairman Scott led the Board in the pledge of allegiance.

### **MINUTES**

Motion - Mr. Satchell, second - Mr. Byrd and passed, to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2003 regular meeting as published.

**AGENDA**

Dr. Brofee requested to add 13-G, ESMEC Health Alliance. Motion - Mr. Willing, second - Mr. Paul and passed, to adopt the agenda as amended.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No opinions were voiced during public participation.

**STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT**

Kyle Ward reported on activities in his area school district.

**CRISFIELD HIGH SCHOOL REPORT**

Ms. Josenhans, Principal of Crisfield High School provided a report of the school's programs and extended an invitation to visit the school.

**GED GRADUATES**

Mr. Turner and Ms. Bradshaw recognized the following GED graduates for receiving their diploma and also receiving Governor Citations for the scores they received on their test: Christina Barry, Jeremiah Freeman, Sara Lee, and William Shea.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**SCHOOL REORGANIZATION**

Dr. Brofee announced that public hearings were held on January 8, 13 and 15 regarding proposed school closings for Whittington Primary, Westover Elementary and Marion Sarah Peyton Schools. It was noted that answers to all questions posed at these hearings are posted on the Web site.

Mr. Webster, Principal of Greenwood Middle School, talked about plans for the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students to be housed at the Vocational School. Mrs. Collins, Vice Principal of Washington High School, provided a plan for the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade academy.

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Willing, seconded by Mr. Satchell and passed, to approve the following school reorganization plan. Two high schools will be maintained by adding an 8-9 Grade Academy to each, reconfiguration of elementary schools to Pre-K - 5 alignments, and creates a 6-7 Grade Intermediate program as a full service addition to the Tawes Career and Technology Center. A roll call vote on the motion reflected an unanimous vote of the five member Board.

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

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Satchell and approved, that the Board having fully conducted a public hearing as required by and in accordance with COMAR Chapter 9 "School Closings" and school board policy 200-10 approve the closing of Whittington Primary School and Marion Sarah Peyton School as of September 2006 or such time as renovated facilities at Woodson are available and the closing of Westover Elementary School as of September 2006 or such time as it is no longer required as a facility for housing students. A roll call vote on the motion reflected an unanimous vote of the five member Board.

#### **POLICY NO. 200-18 PUPIL TRANSPORTATION**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Willing, seconded by Mr. Byrd and passed to approve Policy No. 200-18 Pupil Transportation as submitted.

#### **POLICY NO. 700-13 WORK SCHEDULE AND LEAVE FOR EMPLOYEES OF SOMERSET COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Motion - Mr. Byrd, second - Mr. Willing and passed, to table Policy No. 700-13 Work Schedule and Leave for Employees of Somerset County Public Schools until the February meeting.

#### **CHARTER SCHOOL GUIDELINES**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Paul, seconded by Mr. Willing and passed, to accept the Charter School Guidelines as presented.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **PERSONNEL**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Byrd, seconded by Mr. Willing and passed, to approve the following personnel actions : retirements: M. Hope Kirk-Thornton, Kathy Sterling, Fay Lawrence; resignation: Albert Sterling, Lt. Col. David Sanchez; new hires: Bridgette Devaney, Gail Anderson and Justin Giles.

##### **TRANSPORTATION**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Satchell, seconded by Mr. Paul and passed, to approve Chenita Harmon to train as a substitute bus driver.

#### **POLICY NO. 700-53, SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was consensus of the Board to receive Policy No. 700-53 School Resource Officer Program for study. Dr. Brofee expressed appreciation to Chief Bell and Chief Pecoraro for their input in this policy.

#### **THE ENERGY TRUST AGREEMENT**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Byrd, seconded by Mr. Willing and passed, to approve the Energy Trust Agreement as submitted by Mr. Daugherty.

### **GEAR UP ROCKETRY PROGRAM**

Ms. Dianne Johnson and students of Gear Up gave a detailed presentation on the Rocketry Program.

### **SCHOOL CALENDAR**

It was consensus of the Board to receive the proposed school calendar for FY-04-05 for study.

### **POLICY NO. 200-33 VOLUNTEER SERVICES**

It was the consensus of the Board to receive Policy No. 200-33 Volunteer Services for study.

### **ESMEC HEALTH ALLIANCE**

Mr. Daugherty informed the Board of the ESMEC Health Alliance recommendation to increase the co-pay of prescription drugs to \$25.00, with a \$5.00 co-pay for generic drugs. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Willing, seconded by Mr. Paul and passed, to accept the recommendation for an increase of prescription drugs co-pay to \$25.00.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

Mr. Daugherty informed the Board of a bus contractor's request to purchase a new bus early. It was consensus of the Board to table this issue until February. Board members expressed a desire to sell the existing bus within the county.

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

Dr. Brofee expressed appreciation to the Board for its vote of confidence in the school reorganization plan. Dr. Brofee reminded everyone of the upcoming funding rally in Annapolis scheduled for January 26.

### **FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING**

Motion - Mr. Paul, second - Mr. Willing, and passed, to hold the February meeting on February 17, 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**

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The Board meeting was adjourned at 8:20p.m.

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