

UNOFFICIAL - OPEN SESSION
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF WORCESTER COUNTY
6270 WORCESTER HIGHWAY
NEWARK, MARYLAND 21841

November 13, 2007

The Board of Education of Worcester County met in **closed session** pursuant to Section 10-508 of the Annotated Code of Maryland at 5:51 p.m. at the Worcester Educational Center on Tuesday, November 13, 2007, with the following persons present: Mr. Garry L. Mumford, President, Mr. Robert G. Hulburd, Vice-President, Mr. Jonathan C. Cook, Mr. Robert A. Rothermel, Jr., Mrs. Sara D. Thompson, Mr. Jim Almand, Board Attorney, Dr. Jon M. Andes, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Richard Walker, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, Mr. Ed Barber, Assistant Superintendent for Administration, and Mr. Vince Tolbert, Chief Financial Officer.

At this closed session, the Board discussed personnel and contract matters. Certain legal issues were also discussed.

The Board of Education of Worcester County met in **open session** in the Board of Education Meeting Room at the Worcester Educational Center on Tuesday, November 13, 2007 at 7:02 p.m. with the following persons present: Mr. Garry L. Mumford, President, Mr. Robert G. Hulburd, Vice-President, Mr. Jonathan C. Cook, Mr. Robert A. Rothermel, Jr., Mrs. Sara D. Thompson, Dr. Jon M. Andes, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Ed Barber, Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Richard Walker, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, and Mr. Chris Palmer, Substitute Board Attorney. Also present were: Ms. Brittany Cottman, Pocomoke High School Student Representative, Mr. Daniel Pilchard, Snow Hill High School Student Representative, and Ms. Emily Meadows, Stephen Decatur High School Student Representative.

These student representatives participated in the open session and voted on certain matters; however, all student comments and votes are unofficial and non-binding in accordance with Board policy.

The meeting was **called to order** by the President, Mr. Mumford, and a **quorum** was declared. Reverend Fred Zeller, Pastor of First Baptist Church, in Girdletree, Maryland, gave the **invocation** and was followed by the **pledge of allegiance**.

On the motion of Mr. Hulburd, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, the **agenda** was approved. Voting for the motion were: Mr. Cook, Mr. Hulburd, Mr. Rothermel, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

Student Representative Vote (Unofficial) - Voting for approval: Ms. Meadows, Ms. Cottman, and Mr. Pilchard.

On the motion of Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Hulburd, the **minutes** of the meeting held on October 16, 2007, were approved. Voting for the motion were: Mr. Cook, Mr. Hulburd, Mr. Rothermel, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

Student Representative Vote (Unofficial) - Voting for approval: Ms. Meadows, Ms. Cottman, and Mr. Pilchard.

The Student Board Representatives gave a brief **update on events at their schools.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Terry Springle, **WCTA Representative**, was introduced. Several school representatives were also introduced.

There was no **recognition** for students, staff or citizens this month.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATTERS

Ms. LaVerne Cray, Guidance Counselor, and Mr. David Gell, Assistant Principal, gave an overview on the **Active Parenting Now** sessions held at Snow Hill Elementary School. The six week program is offered to all parents of children at Snow Hill Elementary School. The interactive workshops are entertaining and informative using videos, activities, and discussion to offer a variety of strategies to assist parents in raising responsible and cooperative children.

Dr. Jane Pruitt, Supervisor of Career and Technology Education (CTE), reviewed the **2006 Amendment to the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998**. The federal government has included new requirements that increase the rigor of the core indicators of performance for career and technology education programs. The changes in the Perkins accountability measures, as interpreted by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) will have significant impact on LEA budgets for career and technology education programming. Dr. Pruitt reviewed changes in CTE performance measures and Worcester County's success rate in meeting the previous accountability measures.

Ms. Diane Stulz, ELL Coordinator, updated the Board on the **English Language Learner Initiatives**. Currently, Worcester County Public Schools has 211 English Language Learners (ELL) enrolled in grades pre-kindergarten through twelve. The ELL students speak 20 different languages and were born

in 19 different countries. The majority of our ELL students were born in the United States to parents who speak a language other than English in the home.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Mrs. Barb Witherow, Coordinator Special Programs, reviewed three **calendar proposals** for the 2008-2009 school year, which were developed by a committee composed of students, parents, teachers and administrators. These proposals differ in the length of vacations, dates for professional development, and marking period schedules. These proposals will be sent to all county schools to obtain additional input and reactions from students, staff, parents and the community. This information will be compiled and presented for action by the Board at the February 19, 2008 Board meeting.

Mr. Lou Taylor, Principal of Stephen Decatur High School, Mr. Dave Blazer, Parent, Mr. Don Howard, Athletic Director, and Mr. Tom Zimmer, Assistant Principal, presented a proposal to the Board to create a **Boys and Girls Swim Team** program. Based upon the results of a student survey held at the school, over eighty students have expressed an interest in participating in a swimming program. For the first year of the program, it was recommended that swimming be created as a club activity with three to five dual meets. At the conclusion of the first year of the swimming program, the status of the program would be assessed to determine the future of the program. On the motion of Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Cook, the Board approved the Boys and Girls Swim Team Program at Stephen Decatur High School as presented. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Cook, Mr. Hulburd, Mr. Rothermel, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

Mr. Lou Taylor also updated the Board on the status of the new **Athletic Building** at Stephen Decatur High School. The Town of Berlin recently notified Stephen Decatur High School that the review of permits has been postponed for 30 days. Construction will begin as soon as permission from the Town of Berlin is received. The Athletic Building is scheduled to open in the fall of 2008. The construction costs of the athletic building is being paid by private donations.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Hulburd, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, the following **personnel actions** were approved:

Leverne Gillon	Custodian, SDMS	Resignation Effective: November 15, 2007
Karen Eckert	Cafeteria Assistant, SDHS	Resignation Effective: November 16, 2007
Jovan Shockley	Custodian, SHMS	Termination Effective: July 12, 2007

Voting for this motion were: Mr. Cook, Mr. Hulburd, Mr. Rothermel, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Hulburd, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, **Mr. William Holden**, was approved for purchase of a new school bus for use in the Pocomoke area. The new bus will be required to meet the current Maryland and Worcester County Board of Education specifications and will be placed in service in September 2008. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Cook, Mr. Hulburd, Mr. Rothermel, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Cook, **Ms. Charlotte Smack**, was approved for purchase of a new school bus for use in the northern county area. The new bus will be required to meet the current Maryland and Worcester County Board of Education specifications and will be placed in service in September 2008. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Cook, Mr. Hulburd, Mr. Rothermel, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

Mr. Rothermel left the meeting.

There were no **legal matters** to report this month.

Mr. Joe Price, Facilities Planner, and Mr. Joe Duncan, SPN, gave an update on the Worcester Technical High School Construction Project. On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Hulburd, in the amount of \$1,575,306.28 was approved for payment for construction costs related to the **Worcester Technical High School Construction Project**. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Cook, Mr. Hulburd, Mr. Mumford and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on the motion of Mr. Hulburd, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, the **Treasurer's Report** was approved in the amount of \$2,559,292.48 (excluding salaries) for the month ending October 31, 2007. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Cook, Mr. Hulburd, Mr. Mumford and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

Mr. Rothermel joined the meeting.

Mr. Vince Tolbert, Chief Financial Officer, updated the Board on the **FY 08 Operating Budget**. A review of expenditures through October and projections through the end of this fiscal year indicate that expenditures may exceed budgeted appropriations in the categories of Special Education, Pupil Transportation, Operation of Plant and Maintenance of Plant. Under State law, when concerns are identified with categorical allocations, the County Commissioners must be notified. On the recommendation of the Superintendent

and on motion of Mr. Rothermel, seconded by Mr. Hulburd, the Superintendent was authorized to notify the County Commissioners of the possible over-expenditures in the Special Education, Pupil Transportation, Operation of Plant and Maintenance of Plant categories. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Cook, Mr. Hulburd, Mr. Rothermel, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. November 21 – 23, 2007 – Thanksgiving Holiday - Schools and Central Office Closed
- B. December 3, 2007 – Annual Legislative Dinner – Worcester Career and Technology Center – 6:00 p.m.
- C. December 4, 2007 – Budget Input Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- D. December 18, 2007 – Board of Education Meeting
 - 10:00 a.m. – Closed Session
 - 12:30 p.m. – Open Session
- E. December 24 – January 1 – Winter Holiday - Schools and Central Office Closed

The motion to meet in **closed session** on December 18, 2007 to discuss personnel and legal matters was made by Mr. Cook and seconded by Mr. Hulburd. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Cook, Mr. Hulburd, Mr. Rothermel, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

The motion to **adjourn** this meeting at 8:32 p.m. was made by Mr. Hulburd, and seconded by Mrs. Thompson. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Cook, Mr. Hulburd, Mr. Rothermel, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

Jon M. Andes, Secretary