

UNOFFICIAL  
OPEN SESSION – PUBLIC BUDGET INPUT MEETING  
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF WORCESTER COUNTY  
6270 WORCESTER HIGHWAY  
NEWARK, MARYLAND 21841

December 4, 2007

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, December 4, 2007 at 7:01 p.m. with the following persons present: Mr. Garry L. Mumford, President, Mr. Jonathan C. Cook, Mr. J. Douglas Dryden, Mr. Robert A. Rothermel, Jr., Mrs. Sara D. Thompson, Dr. Jon M. Andes, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Ed Barber, Assistant Superintendent, and Dr. Richard Walker, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction. 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. Mr. Vincent Tolbert, Allen Memorial Baptist Church, Salisbury, Maryland gave the invocation and was followed by the **pledge of allegiance**.

On the motion of Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Rothermel, the **agenda** was approved. Voting for this motion: Mr. Cook, Mr. Dryden, 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 Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Dryden, the **minutes** of the meeting held on November 13, 2007, were approved. Voting for this motion: Mr. Cook, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Rothermel, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

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

Mr. Mumford, President, **welcomed** all representatives to the annual budget input session.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The Board reviewed the construction bids for the force main **sewer line and pump house for the Worcester Technical High School**. On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Dryden, the bid was awarded to Precision Grading Services, LLC in the amount of \$1,019,900. Voting for this motion: Mr. Cook, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Rothermel, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

#### BUDGET INPUT SESSION

Dr. Andes explained the **Accreditation for Growth** process and the **Bridge to Excellence Master Plan**; highlighted student **test results** from 2006-2007; identified the **challenges** the school system is facing; and reviewed **Student Successes and Accomplishments**.

Mr. Hulburd joined the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Mr. Vincent Tolbert, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the **yearly budget process** and the **FY 08 budget calendar**. Mr. Tolbert also reviewed the **current year budget, sources of funding, how funding is used, state aid and wealth per pupil**.

Ms. Barbara Witherow, Public Relations Coordinator, reviewed the **results of the parent surveys**. In October, parent surveys were distributed to every parent. More than 3,700 survey forms were returned. The primary goals of the survey are to solicit parent input on the quality of educational programs and services, provide parent input for the school improvement process, and seek parent input for developing budget priorities. The results indicated generally high levels of satisfaction with instructional methods, instructional programs, services and availability of programs. Survey results indicated as budget priorities: providing textbooks and instructional materials; recruiting, hiring and maintaining staff; providing computers and technical equipment; renovating older buildings, and reducing class sizes.

The following persons addressed the Board for the purpose of giving **input** for the FY 09 Operating Budget:

Buckingham Elementary School	Thomas Tyndall
Cedar Chapel Special School	Jo Ellen West
Ocean City Elementary School	Roxanne Pitcher
Pocomoke Elementary School	Juanita Holliman
Showell Elementary School	Paul Suplee

Snow Hill Elementary School	Terri Batze
Berlin Intermediate School	Sabrina Lampieri
Pocomoke Middle School	Stacey LeMay
Snow Hill Middle School	April Payne
Stephen Decatur Middle School	Bertha Ortiz
Pocomoke High School	Tyrone Mills
Snow Hill High School	Kathy Wool
Stephen Decatur High School	Jennie Knapp
Worcester Career and Technology Center	Ginger Gillis

**Mr. Eddie Lee**, NAACP President, addressed the Board to offer budgetary requests which included two family school connections positions for Snow Hill and Pocomoke. Mr. Lee also requested funding for a Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentoring Program.

Members of the Board of Education made various **comments** of appreciation to those present this evening.

Mr. Mumford **thanked** the audience for the input provided and indicated that all budget recommendations would be considered.

On the motion of Mr. Hulburd, seconded by Mr. Dryden, the meeting was **adjourned** at 8:27 p.m. Voting for this motion: Mr. Cook, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Hulburd, Mr. Rothermel, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

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Jon M. Andes, Secretary