

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

December 20, 2011

The Board of Education of Worcester County met in **closed session** pursuant to Section 10-508 of the Annotated Code of Maryland at 10:56 a.m. at the Worcester County Board of Education Office on Tuesday, December 20, 2011, with the following persons present: Mr. Robert G. Hulburd, President, Mr. Robert A. Rothermel, Jr., Vice-President, Mr. Barry Q. Brittingham, Sr., Mr. Jonathan C. Cook, Mr. J. Douglas Dryden, Mr. Donnie L. Shockley, Mrs. Sara D. Thompson, Ms. Heather Stansbury, Substitute Board Attorney, Dr. Jon M. Andes, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. John Gaddis, 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 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, December 20, 2011, at 12:32 p.m. with the following persons present: Mr. Robert G. Hulburd, President, Mr. Robert A. Rothermel, Jr., Vice-President, Mr. Barry Q. Brittingham, Sr., Mr. J. Douglas Dryden, Mr. Donnie L. Shockley, Mrs. Sara D. Thompson, Dr. Jon M. Andes, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Ed Barber, Assistant Superintendent, Dr. John Gaddis, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, and Ms. Heather Stansbury, Substitute Board Attorney. Also present were: Ms. Kiana Smith, Pocomoke High School Student Representative, Mr. Daniel Gordy, Snow Hill High School Student Representative, and Ms. Maura Smith, 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. Hulburd, and a **quorum** was declared. Reverend Jonathan Whitney, Mt. Zion United Methodist Charge in Pocomoke City gave the **invocation** and was followed by the **pledge of allegiance**.

On the motion of Mr. Brittingham, seconded by Mr. Shockley, the **agenda** was approved. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Brittingham, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Rothermel, Mr. Shockley, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

Student Representative Vote (Unofficial) - Voting for approval: Ms. Smith, Mr. Gordy, and Ms. Smith.

On the motion of Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Brittingham, the **minutes** of the meeting held on December 6, 2011, were approved. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Brittingham, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Rothermel, Mr. Shockley, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

Student Representative Vote (Unofficial) - Voting for approval: Ms. Smith, Mr. Gordy, and Ms. Smith.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Helen Schoffstall, **WCTA Representative**, was introduced.

The Board recognized the following students for creating a winning design for the cover of the **2011 Worcester County Public Schools Holiday Cards**:

Katie Blosveren	Stephen Decatur High School
Shekinah Walker	Pocomoke Elementary School
Jerry Qian	Stephen Decatur Middle School
Richard Phillips	Snow Hill High School

Sarai Nwagbaraocha was recognized for being selected as Worcester County Student Page to the Maryland State Legislature for the 2012 session.

Robert Dawson, William Hammond and Richard Stephens were recognized for winning the 2011 Technology & Engineering Educators Association of Maryland High School Program Excellence Award for the Pre-Engineering Program at Worcester Technical High School.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATTERS

Mr. Tom Davis, Principal of Snow Hill High School, Ms. Paula Brown, Assistant Principal, and Ms. Rose Zollinger, School Counselor, reviewed the numerous incentives offered to students who demonstrate good behavior at Snow Hill High School. These incentives are offered through a **Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS)** program, a research-based, “decision making framework that guides selection, integration, and implementation of the best evidence-based academic and behavioral practices for improving a student’s academic and behavioral outcome.”

Dr. Jane Pruitt, Supervisor of Career and Technology Education and STEM Coordinator, and Mrs. Jessica Eisemann, School Counselor, shared information about the **STEM Academies** offered to students at the Worcester Technical High School (WTHS). In 2007, Worcester County Public Schools utilized over \$250,000 of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) funding available from combined state and national sources to implement an academy model for instructing pre-engineering at WTHS. In 2008, a grant was awarded by the Career and College Readiness Division of MSDE to implement the PLTW biomedical science curriculum. The STEM Steering Committee approved the addition of interactive media production as the third program to the STEM Academy. The STEM Steering Committee has recommended the addition of the business management and finance MSDE approved program of study to the STEM Academy at WTHS in 2012. The addition of this fourth area of study with existing staff will provide opportunity for 320 students to prepare for STEM related careers by the year 2016, almost half of the current enrollment of 630 students at WTHS.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

After discussion and review, on the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Rothermel, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, the following **budget goals** were adopted:

- Maintain small class sizes
- Recruit, hire and retain highly qualified teachers and staff
- Provide and maintain educational services to support students and staff
- Provide and maintain student access to the latest technology
- Provide and maintain safe, efficient, and clean school buildings, adequate playgrounds and athletic fields
- Provide and maintain the materials, textbooks, and equipment to support strong instructional programs
- Provide and maintain employees with ongoing training to improve teaching and learning.

The goals will be used to guide the Board members and staff in developing the 2012-2013 school operating budget. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Brittingham, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Rothermel, Mr. Shockley, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

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

Edward Barber	Assistant Superintendent, Central Office	Retirement Effective: July 1, 2012
Jane W. Pruitt	Principal, Worcester Technical High School	Retirement Effective: January 1, 2012
Shaneka N. Nichols	Educational Assistant, BIS	Resignation Effective: January 1, 2012
Beverly A. Wright	Teacher, SHMS	Resignation Effective: January 3, 2012
Frank L. Merrill	Custodian I, PMS	Termination Effective: September 7, 2011

Voting for this motion were: Mr. Brittingham, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Rothermel, Mr. Shockley, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

The Board reviewed the proposed changes in **inspection procedures for extended life buses**. On the motion of Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Brittingham, effective January 1, 2012, the practice of requiring an additional Type B inspection of Extended Use Buses for every 2,500 miles traveled was eliminated and replaced with a mid-year inspection. The mid-year inspection is to be conducted annually in January or February in accordance with the revised Maryland Regulations. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Brittingham, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Rothermel, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None. Abstained: Mr. Shockley.

On the motion of Mr. Dryden, seconded by Mr. Brittingham, a request from **Mr. Russell Barbely** to purchase a new or used replacement bus that meets the current Maryland and Worcester County Board of Education specifications was approved. This bus will be placed in service prior to August 27, 2012. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Brittingham, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Rothermel, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None. Abstained: Mr. Shockley.

The Board also reviewed a request from **Mr. William Shockley** to purchase a used replacement bus which will be required to meet the current Maryland and Worcester County Board of Education specifications and be placed in service prior to August 27, 2012. On the motion of Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Shockley, the request was approved. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Brittingham, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Rothermel, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None. Abstained: Mr. Shockley.

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

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Dryden, seconded by Mr. Shockley, the bid to replace the **rooftop HVAC unit** serving the gymnasium at Snow Hill Middle School was awarded to Wilfre Company, Inc. in the amount of \$23,274.00. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Brittingham, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Rothermel, Mr. Shockley, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

Mr. Vincent Tolbert, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the **federal program audit** conducted by the accounting firm of TGM Group, LLC which indicated a clean audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011. On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Dryden, seconded by Mr. Rothermel, the federal audit was approved as presented. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Dryden, Mr. Mumford, Mr. Rothermel, Mr. Shockley and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

Mr. Joe Price, Facilities Planner, reported on the status of the Pocomoke High School Renovation & Addition Project. On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Shockley, requisition #46 in the amount of \$270,002.95 was approved for payment of the renovation/construction costs related to the **Pocomoke High School Renovation & Construction Project**. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Brittingham, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Rothermel, Mr. Shockley, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on the motion of Mr. Rothermel, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, the **Treasurer's Report** was approved in the amount of \$2,854,257.93 (excluding salaries) for the month ending November 30, 2011. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Brittingham, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Rothermel, Mr. Shockley, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. December 22 – January 2 – Christmas/New Year's Holidays - Schools Closed
- B. December 23, 26, 30 and January 2 – Schools and Central Office Closed
- C. January 16 – Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Schools and Central Office Closed
- D. January 16 – 6:30 p.m. – Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Annual Banquet – Wicomico Youth and Civic Center

The motion to meet in **closed session** on January 17, 2012 to discuss personnel and legal matters was made by Mr. Shockley and seconded by Mrs. Thompson. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Brittingham, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Rothermel, Mr. Shockley, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

The motion to **adjourn** this meeting at 2:04 p.m. was made by Mr. Dryden, and seconded by Mrs. Thompson. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Brittingham, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Rothermel, Mr. Shockley, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

Jon M. Andes, Secretary