

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

December 6, 2011

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 6, 2011, at 7:02 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. Donnie L. Shockley, Mrs. Sara D. Thompson, Dr. Jon M. Andes, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Ed Barber, Assistant Superintendent, and Dr. John Gaddis, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction. 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. Mr. Vincent Tolbert, Allen Memorial Baptist Church, gave the **invocation** and was followed by the **pledge of allegiance**.

On the motion of Mr. Shockley, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, the **agenda** was approved. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Brittingham, 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. Rothermel, the **minutes** of the meeting held on November 15, 2011, were approved. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Brittingham, Mr. Rothermel, Mr. Shockley, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

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

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

Mr. Bill Middleton, Lead Consultant with **MABE Superintendent Search Committee**, reviewed the process for conducting the Superintendent Search and presented a detailed timeline.

Dr. Andes reviewed the **yearly budget process** and the **FY 12 budget calendar**.

Dr. Memo Diriker, the founding director of BEACON (Business, Economic, and Community Outreach Network) presented information on the **economic impact that Worcester County Public Schools** has on Worcester. After extensive research, Dr. Diriker determined that the total yearly economic impact of the Worcester County Public School System on Worcester County is \$186 million. This total is two-and-a half times Worcester County's investment of \$71 million of the school system's FY 2011 operating budget. In addition, the county gets a top-performing school system that yields a variety of measurable benefits for its citizens. The economic impact study was completed for each Eastern Shore County and will be presented to the Eastern Shore Legislative Delegation in January.

PUBLIC BUDGET INPUT SESSION

Ms. Barbara Witherow, Public Relations Coordinator, reviewed the **results of the parent surveys**. In October, parent surveys were distributed to every parent. This year 4,506 survey forms were returned. The 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: maintain small class sizes; retain existing teachers and staff; restore past budget cuts and adequately fund education priorities in the future; provide competitive salaries to attract and maintain high quality teachers and staff; increase access to technology; continue to provide extracurricular activities – such as sports; continue to provide after school programs; purchase new textbooks and materials of instruction and renovate or rebuild aging buildings.

The following persons addressed the Board for the purpose of giving **input** for the FY 13 Operating Budget:

Buckingham Elementary School	Helen Trivits
Cedar Chapel Special School	Miriam Price
Ocean City Elementary School	Peg Ewancio
Pocomoke Elementary School	Juanita Holliman
Showell Elementary School	Melissa Powers
Snow Hill Elementary School	Charles Shelton
Berlin Intermediate School	Marilyn James
Pocomoke Middle School	Catherine Prigg
Snow Hill Middle School	Rebecca Jones
Stephen Decatur Middle School	David Izzett
Pocomoke High School	George King
Snow Hill High School	Cynthia Haynie
Stephen Decatur High School	Julie Redden
Worcester Technical High School	Jennifer Vogel

Mr. Vincent Tolbert, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the **FY 13 Operating Budget Challenges** including the change in county and state revenues, the estimated Maintenance of Effort Level, estimated increased business costs (utilities and insurance) and several scenarios for addressing these budgetary concerns.

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

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

The motion to **adjourn** this meeting at 9:02 p.m. was made by Mrs. Thompson, and seconded by Mr. Rothermel. Voting for this motion were: Mr. Brittingham, Mr. Rothermel, Mr. Shockley, and Mrs. Thompson. Opposed: None.

Jon M. Andes, Secretary