

APPROVED
21-2001

Rockville, Maryland
July 2, 2001

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Monday, July 2, 2001, at 7:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Mrs. Nancy J. King, President
 in the Chair
 Mr. Stephen Abrams
 Mr. Kermit V. Burnett
 Ms. Sharon Cox
 Mr. Reginald M. Felton
 Mr. Walter Lange
 Mr. Christopher Lloyd, Student Board Member
 Mr. Dustin Jeter, Student Board Member-Elect
 Dr. Jerry Weast, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent: Mrs. Patricia B. O'Neill

or () indicates student vote does not count. Four votes needed for adoption.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. King at 7:35 p.m.

Re: SWEARING IN

Ms. Molly Ruhl, clerk of the court, administered the oath of office to Mr. Jeter.

Re: STATEMENT BY MR. LLOYD

"Well, Ms. King, I know we have a packed agenda tonight and that it is already getting pretty late, but unfortunately I won't be keeping my comments brief tonight. Writing out what I wanted to say tonight was probably one of the most difficult things that I ever had to do. I kept putting it off and putting it off because deep down I didn't want this to come to an end.

I guess to truly understand what I'm feeling I have to rewind 361 days ago when I was sworn in last July 6th. I sat where Dustin is and listened to Laura Sampedro hold back tears as she said her goodbyes. And as I sat there I thought, "Man, that girl is dramatic." I couldn't imagine how one year on the Board of Education could leave someone crying. It never crossed my mind that the next year of my life would be such a life-changing experience.

Thinking back on all that I have done this year, one defining moment sticks out in my mind. It was in October at the Hyatt Baltimore during the MABE convention. I had just brought my luggage up to my room. I came in the room, opened the curtains, and sat down on the bed and took a hard look around. I thought to myself: *"This is real. I did it! I get to be part of an awesome decision-making body of the largest county in Maryland. I have the opportunity*

to collaborate with both state and national education leaders on things that millions of students and I care about. I have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of more than 135,000 students who live in Montgomery County.” That is an incredible feeling.

And, of course, along the road this year there were challenges, new experiences, and adventures that I had to face. The pressure of being the first junior and youngest person to serve on this Board, witnessing a very heated election first hand, running for the state Board of Education, meeting student Board members from around the country in San Diego, creating and lobbying for a double A exemption proposal, making a student Board member website, and so much more. There were so many apprehensions I had coming in. But with the support of friends, school, community, God, and family members I somehow made it through. There are, of course, those that work behind the scenes here that made life a whole lot easier for me who I have to thank.

First, I'd like to thank Roz Phillips. If I asked for a phone number, needed clarification on something, or even in one case needed newspaper articles for a school project, you always were there to help me out with a smile.

George: You'd always come to the rescue when I'd manage to forget something that I really needed for a Board meeting. You also were a great help with any new ideas or business items that I had. And even though you did not hesitate to explain that the Board staff members weren't just sitting around twittling their fingers, you always came through.

Roland: I guess when I first met you I thought you were pretty weird, but you turned out to be a really funny guy. Thanks for adding a sense of humor to many conversations this year and helping me out with various things this year.

And even though I cannot mention everyone, I would like to thank Lori, Glenda, Gail, Dr. Williams, Dr. Lacey, and all of the other staff that really made my time on this Board easier. And, of course, my fellow Board members:

Mr. Lange: Since you came you have been my closed- and open-session seat mate. One of the things I've been trying to figure out since you came is *what do you write on those pages and pages of notes you write during every meeting?* I look forward to seeing your continual growth as a strong asset to this Board and community.

Mr. Abrams: One of the things I like about you is that you are not afraid to tell it like it is. You never seemed to be phased by a crowd of angry parents during public comments or if all of us disagree with you on any given situation. You asked questions that matter, you are incredibly smart, and you are not afraid to do what I think many of us want to do a lot of the time: sit back and go to sleep.

Mrs. O'Neill: Although she could not be here tonight, I have had a great time working with her as a Board member. She is extremely articulate, down to earth, and I feel she is a great asset to this Board.

Mr. Burnett: Probably one of the most helpful things you did when I first came on the Board was to take me out to dinner and give me the low down on many of the key players around here. Over the past year I have truly respected your opinion, your guidance, and support. Whatever I would do or say that you may or may not have agreed with, you always were first to give me honest and useful feedback. And next year it will definitely be a proud moment to walk across stage at graduation and shake your hand.

Mrs. King: When I came a year ago you quickly became one of my favorites. You always have a smile, and you definitely always showed your motherly instincts when I was away from home. I guess if I were to offer advice for the future it would be to have Mr. Burnett, Mr. Felton, and Dustin all wear name tags since we all get mixed up so easily. It's been a pleasure serving with you.

Dr. Weast: You are someone who really impresses me. Over the past year through numerous conversations we have had, I definitely have confidence in your ability to lead our county into Our Call to Action. I really appreciate how during closed-session meetings you would always be the one to ask what I thought on a certain subject and always greeted me with a smile and handshake wherever we were. You never overlooked me, and I really felt you had a lot of confidence in me. I remember first meeting you at the Kennedy rededication and running up to you saying, "Hi, I'm Chris Lloyd, and I'm running for the student Board seat!" I don't think you really knew what to say, but I am very glad I had the opportunity to get to know you.

Mr. Felton: Over the past year you have made great contributions in so many of our discussions. Thank you for being a great role model and for helping the Board further explore my Pilot Incentive Program. I have had a great time this year serving with you.

Ms. Cox: I, of course, have saved the best for last. I remember calling you when you were running for the Board, and I asked you what you thought about a pilot program that would exempt certain students from final exams if they received an A in both quarters. When you said you didn't like that idea, I immediately thought that all would be doomed if you got elected. To my pleasant surprise, I was 100% wrong. You have become a role model, a friend, my college agent, and the woman who introduces me to everyone at social events. I think that you are incredibly knowledgeable, articulate, and savvy about the way you approach so many things. I am sometimes so impressed by sitting back and watching you ask these really dynamic questions. We have the same sense of humor and always laugh about the same things. I definitely think when we went to San Diego we bonded, and I will definitely miss you being my colleague on the Board.

I guess to summarize, I will miss this and all of you so much. I feel like for me this is the beginning for even greater challenges. And although I didn't succeed at everything I tried this year, I do not have any regrets. To Dustin, I know you will be an incredible asset to this Board because I have seen you in action, so good luck. In December, when Mr. Lange was sworn in he quoted someone by saying, "It's not enough to be busy, it's what you're busy about." This Board of Education is busy about improving the lives of every single student in this county. And I am so thankful I had the opportunity to take place in that. Thank you."

Re: **PRESENTATION TO MR. LLOYD**

On behalf of the members of the Board, Mrs. King presented Mr. Lloyd with memorabilia of his stay on the Board of Education.

Re: **STATEMENT BY MR. JETER**

"I am not one for writing great speeches so, here it is. I would like to start by giving honor to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Without him, I would certainly not be here today.

I just returned yesterday from the National Association of Student Councils Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina. I brought back a number of things from the conference: a living room full of trading items from all 50 states, Canada, Australia, and Honduras; various fund-raising ideas for next year's budget cycle, a number of mosquito bites, and some words of wisdom. One of the speakers at the conference shared with us that when we are finished with our lives, we will look back and see one of two things. We will either see our footprints in the sand or we will see our butt prints in the sand. He explained to us that we can either sit on our butts and wait for things to happen or we can get up and make them happen ourselves. I am here today because so many people decided to leave their footprints in the sand, and I want to thank them for all that they do.

I want to thank my Mom for all that she does for me. At one time or another, she has filled in as my chauffeur, my secretary, and my campaign helper, and she still has time to be my mother. She is willing to support me in everything that I do. She has always been there for me. Thank you for all that you do.

I have to thank Chris and all of my other predecessors who have served in this position. Your ideas have given me a framework that I can use. Your hard work and dedication has given me a measuring stick, so I can follow in your footsteps and strive to raise the expectations of this position. I am extremely lucky to follow after the only junior to serve as a student Board member, so I know that you'll be around if I need any help. Your work on the Board is truly appreciated. I enjoyed working with you as MCR president, and I look forward to hearing from you over the next year.

I'd also like to thank my friends for all of your support. Whether you are keeping me in check,

or listening to my ideas, whether I know you from church, school, MCR, or MLW, I appreciate what you do for me. Thank you for passing the word around the county to vote for Dustin, for saving every copy of every newspaper that ever mentioned my name, for the simple congratulations that you gave to me. It means a great deal to me to know that you care.

Dr. Weast, members of the Board, I look forward to working with you over the next year. I have enjoyed the time that I have spent with you thus far. Mr. Abrams, I have followed your advice. You told me that the time between my election and my installment was to give me a chance to size all of you up. I have been doing just that, and I like what I see so far.

I truly look forward to this year with great excitement. I am excited because this is something that I have wanted to do for some time now. As I had the chance to look back, I see that I have always tried to achieve what some said that I could never do. Throughout this next year I hope to accomplish things that have never been done before. There is a saying that if you reach for the stars, you might just land on the moon. I look forward to the challenges as well as the rewards over my term, as I am sure that my fellow Board members are. President Theodore Roosevelt said that 'far and away the best prize that life offers is the chance to work hard at work worth doing.' Truly the work that this Board does is worth doing, and I look forward to being a part of it."

**Re: COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS AND THE
SUPERINTENDENT**

Board members welcomed Mr. Jeter and thanked Mr. Lloyd for his work on the Board of Education and wished him well in all his future endeavors.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. A reception followed in the auditorium.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

JDW:gr