RESOLUTION NO. 675

RESOLUTION TO FILL VACANCIES ON THE DORCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

WHEREAS, §3-5A-O1, Membership, of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland states: "(f) Vacancies. —(1) The County Council shall appoint a new member to fill any vacancy on the County Board [of Education] for the remainder of that term and until a successor is elected and qualifies; (2) A resident of the district in which a vacancy exists may apply for appointment by the County Council to fill the vacancy; and (3) The County Council shall adopt rules governing the procedure through which an individual may apply to fill a vacancy on the County Board"; and

WHEREAS, a vacancy occurs when a member of the Board of Education dies, resigns, fails to fill his or her duties, or moves out of the Councilmanic district in which that member resides; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 440, dated June 5, 2007, the County Council established procedures for filling vacancies on the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Board of Education member Dr. Susan V. Morgan resigned on June 14, 2024, leaving a vacancy on the Board of Education in District 3 until the 2024 General Election.

WHEREAS, Board of Education member Michael D. Diaz, Sr. resigned on June 28, 2024, leaving a vacancy on the Board of Education in District 1 until the 2024 General Election; and

WHEREAS, the General Election is scheduled for November 5, 2024, and the filing deadline for candidacy for the Board of Education is past; and

WHEREAS, Brandy Dawson Cumberland is the unopposed candidate for the Board of Education from District 1 and Christine LaMonica is the unopposed candidate for the Board of Education from District 3.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in light of the two Board of Education member resignations in the month of June, and in consideration of the Board of Education being able to convene, deliberate and take action with a full board, and in consideration of the 2024 election schedule and the unopposed candidates for District 1 and District 3, the County Council is expediting the appointment process by deviating from certain procedures established per Resolution No. 440, as strict adherence under the current circumstances could be detrimental to the functioning of the Board of Education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, the County Council hereby appoints Brandy Dawson Cumberland to fill the District 1 vacancy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, the County Council hereby appoints Christine LaMonica to fill the District 3 vacancy.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dorchester County Council hereby adopts this resolution with the appointments to the Board of Education effective on July 5, 2024.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 16th day of July, 2024.

ATTEST:

Jerry Jones

County Manager

COUNTY COUNCIL OF

DORCHESTER COUNTY

George L. Pfeffer, Jr. President

Mike Detpier, Vice President

Rob Kramer, Jr.

William V. Nichols

Ricky C. Travers