



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Wednesday, February 11, 2015**

### **SMITH NAMED SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

**LEONARDTOWN, MD** – The Board of Education of St. Mary's County has selected Mr. James Scott Smith as the Superintendent of Schools. The announcement came during the Board's regularly scheduled meeting held today. Mr. Smith is currently serving as the Interim Superintendent of Schools and is responsible for all Divisions of the St. Mary's County Public Schools serving almost 18,000 students and employing over 2,000 staff members. As Superintendent, Mr. Smith will continue to lead St. Mary's County Public Schools, focusing on the impact great teachers and leaders have on the lives of children.

Mr. Smith has been with the St. Mary's County Public Schools for over 23 years, serving students and staff as an English teacher, assistant principal, principal, director, executive director, and assistant superintendent. He holds a Bachelor's degree in English Education, a Master's Degree in Human Resources, and is currently pursuing a Doctoral Degree from the University of Maryland at College Park. He is certified to teach English 7-12 and holds Administrator I and Administrator II and Maryland Superintendent Credentials.

Mrs. Karin M. Bailey, Chairman of the Board of Education of St. Mary's County said, "Over the last few months, we considered the available options regarding the selection of the new Superintendent. Throughout our numerous discussions, we came to the conclusion that Mr. Smith embodied the qualities that we had identified as integral for our next Superintendent. Therefore, we are pleased to appoint Mr. Smith as the Superintendent of Schools and look forward to continue building our relationship with him. We are confident that he will inspire the best for our students and ensure that St. Mary's County Public Schools are successful in educating the future citizens of our community."

“It is an unparalleled privilege to work on behalf of our students and staff,” stated Mr. James Scott Smith, Interim Superintendent of Schools. “In a school system where 93% of students graduate on time, we know we are doing things exceptionally well and will continue to do so. Our best work has been done when we fully see the child in front of us and devote ourselves to their success, without exception. This will not change. I look forward to being your Superintendent for the next four years.”

Mr. Smith’s appointment has been approved by State Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Lillian M. Lowery, and becomes effective July 1, 2015.

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