

IN THE MATTER
OF AVA TASKER-
MITCHELL,
SUPERINTENDENT OF
SCHOOLS

ORDER OF THE
STATE
SUPERINTENDENT
OF SCHOOLS

Order No. 25-01

ORDER

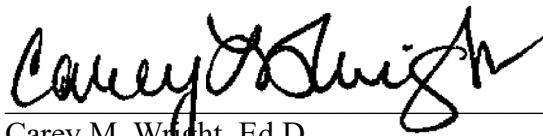
On June 5, 2025, Dr. Ava Tasker-Mitchell, Superintendent of Schools for Somerset County Public Schools, informed Mr. Matthew Lankford, Chairman of the Somerset County Board of Education (“local board”), that she has requested a hearing under Education Article §4-201(e)(4) of her June 4, 2025, termination by the local board.

The State Superintendent exercises her authority to issue a stay of the local board’s decision to terminate Dr. Tasker-Mitchell to preserve the status quo during the ongoing local board hearing process and any subsequent legal proceedings. Accordingly, pursuant to the authority granted under COMAR 13A.01.02.01B, it is:

ORDERED, that the action of the Somerset County Board of Education terminating Ava Tasker-Mitchell’s employment is hereby STAYED, effective immediately; and it is further

ORDERED, that this stay shall remain in effect for sixty (60) calendar days from the date of this Order, or until such time as the Maryland State Board of Education lifts this stay by further order.

Issued this 6 day of June, 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carey M. Wright", is written over a horizontal line.

Carey M. Wright, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Schools
Maryland State Department of Education