For Immediate Release DATE: May 24, 2022 Queen Anne's County Education Association

Educators Endorse Shannon Bent and Kent Laing

Queen Anne's County Education Association (QACEA) announced their endorsement of Ms. Shannon Bent (District 1) and Mr. Ken Laing (At Large) in their bids to serve on the Queen Anne's County Public Schools Board of Education.

Shannon Bent is currently filling the District 1 seat. Governor Horgan appointed her when the seat was vacated by Ms. Michelle Morrisette. When learning of the endorsement Ms. Bent remarked, "I am very honored to receive this endorsement from the QACEA. This support shows our commitment to work together to create a strong network of support to empower all of our youth to achieve their educational and professional goals. It helps underscore the positive working relationship between the Board of Education and the Educators that work in Queen Anne's County. I am poised to continue the relationships I have developed over the years with educators in this county, those that taught my daughter as she grew up in this system and those that continue to provide the 5-star education that QACPS is known for. Thank you very much for this opportunity."

Ken Laing is running for the seat currently held by Tamera Harper who is stepping down at the end of her current term. In response to this endorsement, Mr. Laing said, "I am really excited about receiving this endorsement. Knowing that I have the backing of the QACEA and its membership is a humbling thing and I look forward to winning this election and helping to create a positive relationship for our educators, staff, students and the Board of Education."

Both candidates have strong connections and relationships in the community. They have children who attend, or have attended, Queen Anne's County Public Schools. They clearly expressed a deep commitment to excellence in public education coupled with a concern for students, families and employees. They both stressed their willingness to listen and learn.

In order to be considered for QACEA's endorsement, all Board of Education candidates were required to fill out a candidate questionnaire and participate in an interview with rank-and-file Queen Anne's County educators.