

**Minutes of Open Work Session
Westover, Maryland
March 13, 2014**

TIME: 10:36 a.m.

Location: J.M. Tawes Technology & Career Center

PRESENT: Board Members: Chairman William Miles, Vice Chairman Robert Wells, Mr. Dan Kuebler; Interim Superintendent Dr. John B. Gaddis; Interim Assistant Superintendent of Administration, Ms. Nancy Smoker, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction, Mr. Dave Elebash; and Recording Secretary Melissa Tilghman. Supervisors were also present. Mr. Warner Sumpter was absent from the meeting. Ms. Margo Green-Gale entered at 10:45 a.m.

Chairman Miles declared a quorum and called the meeting to order.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED 2015 BUDGET

Ms. Smoker reported that several bus contractors have contacted her stating that they are in support of the FY2015 budget requests submitted by the Bus Contractors' Association. The Board requested the equations used to determine PVA payments.

Ms. Smoker presented the proposed unrestricted revenue to the Board for review and discussion. She stated that the FY2015 will have a carryover fund balance of \$392,281. This carryover balance will be used for maintenance and emergency repair fees.

Ms. Smoker and Dr. Gaddis will be meeting with the County Commissioners on March 25, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. to present the 90% completed FY2015 budget. They will be requesting level funding and non-recurring funding.

Ms. Smoker reported that the budget was overspent in several categories.

Dr. Gaddis will write letter detailing the critical need for the State to provide additional funding to the Somerset County Public Schools System. A written statement will be sent to the Board members along with contact information for the Maryland Legislatures. The Board members will appeal to the Senate and Legislation to assist Somerset County Public Schools with their request for additional funding. Ms. Smoker stated that if additional funding is not received, the FY2015 budget will have to be recalculated and several added positions will be removed.

Dr. Gaddis reported that the County Commissioners are in support of the capital improvements at the JM Tawes Technology & Career Center. The State has requested that Somerset County Public Schools provide an explanation justifying the capital improvement upgrades to the JM Tawes Career & Technology Center.

The Board advised Ms. Smoker and Dr. Gaddis to add a position to the finance and technology departments. It was determined that these positions are needed to assist in the

enhancement of technology improvements and efficiency in both departments.

The Board recessed at 1:00 p.m. for lunch.

The open work session was called to order at 1:25 p.m.

The Board continued the discussion on capital improvements, transportation, dual enrollments, academic enrichment, early childhood summer school and technology upgrades.

Mr. Kuebler commented on the glossy appearance of the Board room floor.

The Board determined that the following requests were necessary to add to the budget:

- Accurate School Equipment Inventory
- Addition of a Finance Manager
- Dually qualified technology technician/strategic thinker

The Board members discussed their priorities and the information presented in regards to the FY2015 Proposed budget. It was determined that the presented budget addressed the class sizes, academic enrichment, technology infrastructure concerns, and capital improvements.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon the Motion of Ms. Green-Gale and a second by Mr. Kuebler, it was passed and approved to adjourn the meeting at **2:50 p.m.**; motioned carried unanimously.

Dr. John B. Gaddis, Interim Superintendent
Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman/Recording Secretary