

**Minutes of Open Regular Session Meeting
J.M. Tawes Technology & Career Center
January 28, 2014**

OPEN REGULAR SESSION

TIME: 3:02 p.m.

Location: J.M. Tawes Technology & Career Center

PRESENT: Board Members: Chairman William Miles, Vice Chairman Robert Wells, Mr. Warner Sumpter, Ms. Margo Green-Gale, and Mr. Dan Kuebler; Interim Superintendent Dr. John Gaddis; Board Attorney Mr. Fulton Jeffers; Interim Assistant Superintendent of Administration, Ms. Nancy Smoker, and Recording Secretary Ms. Melissa Tilghman. Supervisors, Staff, Media and Community members were also present. Interim Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction, Mr. Dave Elebash, arrived during the closed meeting at 3:09 p.m.

Dr. Gaddis declared a quorum and called the meeting to order.

Reorganization of the Board

On the motion of Ms. Green-Gale and seconded by Mr. Sumpter, the Board unanimously approved the re-election of Mr. William Miles as Chairman of the Board. Mr. Miles accepted the nomination of Board Chairman.

On the motion of Mr. Sumpter and seconded by Ms. Green-Gale, the Board unanimously approved the re-election of Mr. Robert Wells as Vice Chairman of the Board. Mr. Wells accepted the nomination of the Board Vice Chairman.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

On the motion of Mr. Kuebler and a second by Mr. Sumpter the agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

CLOSED MEETING:

3:07 p.m. – Pursuant to Section 10-508 of the **Annotated Code of Maryland**

On the motion of Mr. Kuebler and a second by Ms. Green-Gale, the Board voted unanimously to enter into a Closed Session at 3:07 p.m.

PRESENT FOR THE CLOSED MEETING: Board Members: Chairman William Miles, Vice Chairman Robert Wells, Ms. Margo Green-Gale, Mr. Warner Sumpter, Mr. Dan Kuebler, and Board Attorney Fulton Jeffers; Interim Superintendent Dr. John Gaddis;

Interim Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction, Mr. Dave Elebash, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Administration, Ms. Nancy Smoker, and Recording Secretary Ms. Melissa Tilghman.

Approval of Closed Session Minutes

It was the consensus of opinion of the Board to approve the Closed Session Minutes for November 19, 2013 and December 17, 2013 as amended.

Performed Administrative Functions –Section 10-503

Discussed Personnel Matters – Section 10-508(a)(1)

Received, reviewed and discussed personnel matters

Consulted with Attorney to Obtain Legal Advice – Section 10-508(a)(7)

Reviewed, discussed and received legal advice from Board Attorney

To Conduct Collective Bargaining Negotiations – Section 10-508(a)(9)

Received Unit Negotiations Update

The Board adjourned the closed meeting at 4:55 p.m. and reconvened in an Open Regular Meeting at 5:02 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Charles Bagley addressed the Board with his concern of reports of bullying and harassment on the school bus. He requested that the Board address this issue in a more concerned and expeditious manner and implement policies to prevent school bus bullying and harassment.

Public Recognition

Several individuals were recognized for outstanding achievement and their efforts of going above and beyond for the students of the Somerset County Public School system.

The following awards were presented:

Bus Contractor of the Year Recognition

Carter G. Woodson Elementary School – Mr. John Asanovich
Greenwood Elementary School – Mr. George Handy
Somerset Promise Academy – Mr. Bernard Johnson
Washington Academy & High School – Mr. Wordell Corbin

Extraordinary Awards

Mr. Jefferson presented the following individuals awards for their exhibition of professionalism, the use of immediate safety precautions, and dedication to the students of Somerset County Public Schools.

Bus Contractor - William Handy, Jr.

Bus Contractor and Driver Trainer - Bernard Johnson

Maryland State Police (Princess Anne Police Barrack) – Trooper First Class Scott Zink

Washington High School's Fall Sports Most Valuable Players Recognition

Ms. Ennis – Field Hockey

Mr. Horner – Soccer

Mr. Jones - Football

Mr. Oliver – Cross Country

Mr. Benton – Golf

Student Board Members' Reports

The Student Board Representatives Ms. Waller (WAHS) and Mr. Long (CAHS) provided detailed reports on the events and activities at their schools.

Open Regular Session Minutes

On the motion of Ms. Green-Gale and a second by Mr. Sumpter, the November 19, 2013 and December 17, 2013 minutes were unanimously approved as corrected.

Announcement of Closed Meeting:

Chairman Miles announced that the Somerset County Board of Education met in Closed Session on the following date pursuant to Section 10-508(a) and Section 10-503 of the **Maryland Annotated Code:**

➤ January 28, 2014

- To review and approve minutes of November 19, 2013 and December 17, 2013
- To discuss personnel matters - Section 10-508(a)(1)
- To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice Section - 10-508(a)(7)
- To perform administrative functions - Section 10-503
- To conduct collective bargaining – Section 10-508(a)(9)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

On the motion of Mr. Sumpter and a second by Ms. Green-Gale, the revised Policy 800 -11, Title I, Parent Involvement was unanimously approved. The following revisions were made to the policy:

Policy 2. B. 3) providing resources for parents to learn about child development and child rearing issues that are designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their children and provide referrals to other agencies as appropriate.

2. B. 10) providing overall school discipline data and share strategies used as part of the PBIS program.

Personnel Report

Parent & Family Support Network Coordinator's Job Description

Motion: Mr. Kuebler; Second: Mr. Sumpter

Discussion: Mr. Kuebler expressed concern that a formal education should be required to be eligible to be considered for the Parent and Family Support Network Coordinator's position. Dr. Gaddis reported that the Coordinator will work under the Supervisor of Special Education and Vicky Ford, Coordinator of Infants and Toddlers Program. This coordinator will also serve as the Chair of the Special Education Citizen's Advisory Council. Ms. Smoker and Dr. Gaddis explained that the State established the Special Education Citizen's Advisory Council (SECAC). This group is led by parents of Special Education students. The State only requires that the Parent & Family Support Network Coordinator be a parent of a Special Education student. Board Attorney Jeffers added additional clarity to the qualification requirements within the presented job description. He noted that the position lists that the individual must be able to perform each duty satisfactorily.

Result: The Board unanimously approved the Parent & Family Support Network Coordinator's job description.

Grants Manager

On the motion of Mr. Kuebler and a second by Mr. Sumpter, the Grants Manager's job description was unanimously approved with minor corrections.

NEW BUSINESS

Curriculum & Instructional Matters

Superintendent's 90 Entry Plan Results

Dr. Gaddis reported on his initial 90 day Entry Plan results. Over one hundred meetings were held with various groups throughout Somerset County. The goal of those meetings was to gain input to develop strategies to increase student achievement, to establish a positive student-centered cultured district where decisions are based on teaching, learning, and what is best for SCPS students, organization alignment, technology improvements, and the establishment of trust and transparent collaboration between the Superintendent, Board and stakeholders. Dr. Gaddis emphasized the importance of celebrating student successes. He stated that Somerset County Public Schools staff and community must work collaboratively together to move the system forward.

Common Core Update

Mr. Elebash presented an Instructional Update on Common Core and other instructional programs. He reported that new regulations were coming which includes COMAR changes, new MSDE Policy changes, and RTTT changes. PARCC Assessments are being developed by twenty-six states.

An eleventh grade PARCC Assessment will be required to determine if students are Career & College Ready by the eleventh grade. Those students that show lack of readiness will be placed in an intervention Career & College Ready course.

Mr. Elebash reported the following:

- Maryland has become the PARCC Leader Partnership for the Assessment for Readiness of College and Careers
- Guidelines for teachers and principal evaluations will include 50% professional development and 50% student growth
- Maryland legislation has been introduced to stop testing on MSA this year
- PARCC pilot groups will be held this Spring
- A Career Fair will be held on May 8th for 5th graders at UMES
- Secondary School Counselors have received Naviance Training
- New State Disciplinary Regulations are being developed
- Changes in Compulsory Attendance
- New State Kindergarten Assessment to be implemented this Fall
- The development of a Judy Center in Somerset County
- Common Core Assessments and PARCC continue to be revised for Elementary Reading
- Implementation of Reading is Fundamental and Raising a Reader Program. These programs will provide books and backpacks to all 2nd and 3rd grade readers.

- Implementation of College, Career, Civics Ready (C3) Curriculum for Elementary Social Studies
- Transition to Next Generation Science Standards
- 10th grade English PARCC Assessment will be required for graduation
- Students must take a Math course every year
- Secondary English will consist of diagnostics and summative performance tasks for grades 6-12
- Changes in the Secondary Math Curriculum – 9th grade Algebra PARCC assessment will replace the HSA Algebra/Data Analyst
- Changes in the Secondary Science Curriculum
- Secondary Social Studies transitioning towards College, Career & Civics Ready (C3)
- Discussions of new CTE programs
- Dual Enrollment Update
- Wor Wic courses will be taught at the high schools
- Increased technology education professional development
- Special Education Updates

Monthly Financial Updates

Treasurer's Report

Approval of the December FY2014 Expenditures' Report of \$3,546,204.00

On the motion of Mr. Kuebler and a second by Mr. Sumpter, the Board unanimously approved the December FY2014 Budget Expenditures report.

Retirement Report

Ms. Wendy Harrison, Chief Finance Officer, reported that TGM auditing firm had completed their audit of the State Retirement Pension System and indicated that SCPS had overpaid \$26,698 into the Maryland Retirement System. This amount will be added to the FY2014 budget.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

2015 Budget Survey Results

Dr. Gaddis reported on the results from the FY2015 Budget Survey. Input received concluded that small class size promotes student achievement, the system is satisfied with law enforcement patrolling the schools, and that Somerset County Public Schools has overall good things going on within the system. Dr. Gaddis expressed emphasis that the Somerset County Board has not requested the presence of School Resource Officers in the schools, but has merely discussed the topic. The request to prioritize concerns consisted of securing school entry, a visitor identification system, and a bullying prevention program.

The most important items of priority were technology, extracurricular activities, capital improvements, class size and electives. Dr. Gaddis announced that two budget work sessions will be held, one at WAHS and CAHS.

Vice Chairman Wells read a 1984 newspaper article from Somerset County seeking computers for all administrators and emphasis on the importance of technology education. He stated that Baltimore County received 107,000 computers for students and requested that the Board develop a plan that will ensure all students in Somerset County have one to one laptops. He stated that action must be taken on technology. Dr. Gaddis expressed that at one time Somerset County was #1 in technology, but due to funding, the technology initiative was stopped. Mr. Sumpter noted that the commissioners should be made aware of the importance of technology and its effect on student achievement.

Mr. Kuebler expressed concern of the need for increased technology and cosmetology courses to be added to the JM Tawes Curriculum.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Vice Chairman Wells and seconded by Mr. Kuebler to approve the resignation of the following certificated employee:

Resignation: Mr. Paul Jefferson

Job Description – Early Childhood Coordinator

The Board agreed to accept the submission of the job description for the Early Childhood Coordinator for the first reading.

Personnel Matters (Certificated)

Ms. Smoker presented the Human Resources report to the Board for informational purposes only.

Transfers:

	From	To
Julie Gellman	Somerset Intermediate School 7 th Grade Science	Greenwood Elementary Intervention Teacher

Personnel Matters (Classified)

New Hires:

Sebastian Cartwright	Job Coach (JM Tawes)
Taylor Collignon	Intervention Teacher (WES)
Josh Davis	Special Education Paraprofessional (PAES)
Eileen Kinnamon	Intervention Teacher (PAES)
Amie Palenchar	Special Education Paraprofessional (WES)
Dana Paternester	Long Term Substitute Art Teacher (PAES, DIS)

SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

The Board members thanked the community for their patience, attendance and rapport. Vice Chairman Wells announced that Ms. Beth Whitelock, Human Resources Supervisor, had been awarded the Governor William Donald Schaefer Award for her volunteerism in the Lioness Club. Mr. Sumpter commended Ms. Smoker, Mr. Elebash, and SCPS staff for all the good things being done within the school system. Mr. Kuebler expressed his enthusiasm as a Somerset County Board member stated that the SCPS system is on their way to the top.

Dr. Gaddis stated that there are a lot of good things going on in the schools and the quality of presentations from staff is exceptional.

Chairman Miles expressed his concern of the changes being brought on with the implementation of Common Core. He also asked to be excused from the February 18, 2013 Board meeting. Vice Chairman Wells will be presiding over the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mr. Kuebler/Ms. Green-Gale; motion carried unanimously to adjourn at 7:20 p.m.

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