

OPEN REGULAR SESSION

TIME: 4:00 p.m.

Location: J.M. Tawes Technology & Career Center

PRESENT: Board Members: Vice Chairman Robert Wells, Mr. Warner Sumpter, and Mr. Dan Kuebler; Interim Superintendent Dr. John Gaddis; Board Attorney Mr. Fulton Jeffers; Interim Assistant Superintendent of Administration, Ms. Nancy Smoker, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, Mr. Dave Elebash and Recording Secretary Ms. Melissa Tilghman. Chairman William Miles and Ms. Margo Green-Gale were excused from the meeting. Supervisors, Staff, Media and Community members were present for the Open Regular meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Vice Chairman Wells declared a quorum and called the meeting to order.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

On the motion of Mr. Sumpter and a second by Mr. Kuebler, the agenda was unanimously approved as amended. The following amendments were approved:

- Item 14, A3 – Addition of Ratification of Negotiated Agreements
- Item 14, E – Tabling of the Board’s Self Evaluation

CLOSED MEETING:

4:07 p.m. – Pursuant to Section 10-508 of the **Annotated Code of Maryland**

On the motion of Mr. Sumpter and a second by Mr. Kuebler, the Board voted unanimously to enter into a Closed Session at 4:07 p.m.

Approval of Closed Session Minutes

Performed Administrative Functions –Section 10-503

To approve the Closed Session Minutes of March 5, 2014 and March 18, 2014

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

Received, reviewed and discussed the Human Resources Report and other personnel matters

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

Reviewed, discussed and received legal advice from Board Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Kathleen Momme, Executive Director of United Way, commended the schools and the Central Office for their participation in United Way. She was accompanied by Vice President of the United Way Board of Directors, Mr. Rick Nelson. Awards were presented to the principals of the schools and to Dr. Gaddis. Ms. Momme thanked Mr. Lawson, United Way Coordinator for his assistance with United Way. Somerset County Public Schools donated over \$11,000 and was less than \$1,000 away from making the list for the top 25 donating organizations.

Crisfield Academy & High School Basketball Team

The Crisfield Academy & High School Basketball Team, managers and coaches were presented with awards and proclamations by the Somerset County Board of Education and the County Commissioners for winning the Regional Championship and making it to the State Semi Finals at the Comcast Center. Coach Turpin commended his staff and the team for all their hard work and dedication throughout the school year.

Teacher of the Year – Anna Breland, Crisfield Academy & High School Spanish Teacher

Ms. Anna Breland, CAHS Spanish Teacher, was presented with a proclamation from the County Commissioners for being named Somerset County's 2014 Teacher of the Year. The Commissioners commended Ms. Breland for sharing her enthusiasm of the foreign language culture and providing students with the experience and foreign language skills to communicate with individuals worldwide.

Student Board Members' Reports

Student Board Members reported on the highlights and activities in the schools. The Board thanked the students for the information.

Open Regular Session Minutes

On the motion of Mr. Kuebler and a second by Mr. Sumpter, the following Board minutes were unanimously approved as corrected.

- March 13, 2014 - Open Work Session Minutes
- March 18, 2014 - Open Regular Session Minutes
- March 28, 2014 - Open Work Session

Announcement of Closed Meeting:

Vice Chairman Wells announced that the Somerset County Board of Education met in Closed Session on April 15, 2014 pursuant to Section 10-508(a) and Section 10-503 of the **Maryland Annotated Code:**

- To review and approve the minutes of March 5, 2014 and March 18, 2014
- To discuss personnel matters - Section 10-508(a)(1)
- To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice Section - 10-508(a)(7)
- To performed administrative functions - Section 10-503

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Curriculum & Instruction

2013-2014 School Calendar

On the motion of Mr. Kuebler and a second by Mr. Sumpter the Board unanimously approved Dr. Gaddis' request to designate June 13, 2014 as the last school day of school for students.

On the motion of Mr. Kuebler and a second by Mr. Sumpter, the Board unanimously approved Dr. Gaddis request to designate June 16, 2014 as the teachers last work day. If teachers have met all requirements set by the principal, the last day will be June 13, 2014.

NEW BUSINESS

Curriculum and Instruction

Maryland Model School Readiness (MMSR) Results

Ms. Bartemy reported that data shows that 90% of Pre-kindergarten students are fully ready to enter Kindergarten. Elementary schools are achieving higher goals and narrowing the achievement gap. She stated that once the Judy Center is up and running, significant changes will help increase elementary student achievement. Dr. Gaddis expressed that the State of Maryland should help pay for all day Pre-Kindergarten Initiative and thanked the Commissioners for their support and funding of Pre-Kindergarten.

Disciplinary Committee

Mr. Elebash reported that a discipline committee is being developed to review policies and ensure that they are being followed and enforced without discrimination. The committee will consist of supervisors, principals, teachers, parents, and community members. Changes are being made to the COMAR discipline regulations and the goal is to have zero tolerance policies with focus on getting students to graduate and be successful. Somerset County Public Schools will have to adjust the current policies and procedures to meet the new State Code of Conduct Regulations. Guidelines will be established for every leadership team at the schools and strategies will be adopted so students and parents will have a clear understanding of what will be expected under the new policies and procedures. Professional Development will be provided to teachers on the new regulations. Mr. Kuebler requested that more community/parent input be considered in the development of the discipline committee.

Negotiated Agreements

Mr. Ed Barber and Ms. Vestina Davis presented final Negotiations to the Board. The agreement includes a 1% salary and step increase. On the motion of Mr. Kuebler and a second by Mr. Sumpter, the ratification and signing of the Unit I, Unit II and Unit III Negotiated Agreements were approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Transportation

Student Transportation Policy, #200-18

Ms. Smoker and Dr. Gaddis reported that meetings will be held to gain input from the contractors and the community on the revisions to the policy. Administrative procedures will be presented at a later date.

On the motion of Mr. Kuebler and a second by Mr. Sumpter, Policy #200-18, Student Transportation, was accepted for the First Reading. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Table of Rates

On the motion of Mr. Sumpter and a second by Mr. Kuebler, the Board voted unanimously to approve tabling the Proposed Table of Rates.

Spare Bus Purchase Request

On the motion of Mr. Kuebler and a second by Mr. Sumpter, the Board voted unanimously to approve tabling the Spare Bus Purchase Requests presented by Ms. Smoker.

Monthly Finance Report

March 2014 Budget Expenditures

Ms. Smoker presented the FY2014 March expenditures report. Dr. Gaddis reported that several categories were over expended due to adjustments made to the salary scales per last year's negotiations. Ms. Smoker reported that aging schools funding will be used to make building repairs that are critical at this time.

On the motion of Mr. Kuebler and a second by Mr. Sumpter, the March FY2014 Expenditures' Report of \$3,309,102.00 was unanimously approved.

Food Service Report

Ms. Wendy Harrison, Chief Finance Officer, reported that the Food Service budget will have a projected deficit of \$74,264.00. The Board thanked Ms. Harrison for her report.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Sumpter and seconded by Mr. Kuebler to approve the Human Resources report. The motion carried unanimously.

Certificated

Dave Elebash – from Interim Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction to Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction

Nancy Smoker – from Interim Assistant Superintendent of Administration to Assistant Superintendent of Administration

Separations:

Sarah Heeter – Somerset 6/7 Intermediate Math Teacher

BOARD SELF EVALUATION RESULTS

Chairman Miles was not available to present the Board Self Evaluation Results. On the motion of Mr. Sumpter and a second by Mr. Kuebler the Board voted unanimously to table the Board's Self Evaluation.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Vice Chairman Wells announced that the Board will convene in an Open Regular Meeting on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at the J.M. Tawes Career & Technology Center at 4:00 p.m. to immediately consider voting to convene in a closed meeting pursuant to Section 10-508(a) of the Maryland Annotated Code. The Board will reconvene in the Open Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Additional information will be posted to the Somerset County Public schools website. He also stated that an open work session on transportation procedures and table of rates will be held. The date and time of the open work session will be posted to the SCPS website.

On the motion of Mr. Sumpter and a second by Mr. Kuebler, the Board unanimously voted to convene in a closed session on April 23, 2013 pursuant to Section 10-508 (a)(1) of the Maryland Annotated Code.

SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

The Board Members and Dr. Gaddis thanked the community for attending, commended SCPS staff for all their hard work and thanked them for the presentation of the detailed informational reports.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr. Kuebler and a second by Mr. Sumpter the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

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