
OPEN REGULAR SESSION

TIME: 3:00 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 Fulton Jeffers; and Board Secretary Ms. Melissa Tilghman. Supervisors, Media and Community members were also present.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion – Ms. Green-Gale, seconded by Vice Chairman Wells and passed to approve amended agenda; motion carried unanimously

CLOSED MEETING:

3:09 p.m. – Pursuant to Section 10-508 of the **Annotated Code of Maryland**
Voting for this motion were: Vice Chairman Wells, Ms. Green-Gale, and Mr. Sumpter
Abstained: Mr. Kuebler

Approval of minutes

The approval of amended minutes: May 22, 2013, June 5, 2013, June 10, 2013 and July 18, 2013.

Performed Administrative Functions – Section 10-503

Received and discussed administrative items
Reviewed and amended Minutes of May 1, 2013

Discussed Personnel Matters (New Hires, Retires, Resignations)–Section 10-508(a) (1)

Received, reviewed and discussed personnel matters

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

Received advice from the Board Attorney

PRESENT: 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; and Board Secretary Ms. Melissa Tilghman. Ms. Nancy Smoker, Assistant Superintendent of Administration was present for a portion of the meeting.

The Board reconvened in an Open Regular Meeting at - 6:00 p.m.

Public Comments

The Board accepted public comments from Beatrice Wright, Phyllis Gaines, Zelma Hayward, and Garland Hayward regarding their concern with the Board's refusal to meet with the group, their dissatisfaction with the conduct of several Board members, and the decision to transfer Mr. William Johnson to the Promise Academy.

The Board Attorney, Fulton Jeffers, stated that the Board is not able to discuss specific personnel information with the public and advised Ms. Gaines that if she wanted to read a letter regarding an individual, that person would have to be present to approve the reading of the personnel information.

Mr. Garland Hayward welcomed Dr. Gaddis and stated that the children of Somerset County deserve the best education and that his goal is to remove the stigma that Somerset County Public Schools is a bad school system.

Open Regular Session Minutes

Motion – Mr. Kuebler and seconded by Vice Chairman Wells; Motion carried unanimously to approve the following minutes:
May 14, 2013, May 22, 2013, May 29, 2013, June 5, 2013, June 10, 2013 and June 18, 2013

Announcement of Closed Meetings:

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

- June 10, 2013
- June 18, 2013
- July 2, 2013

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Policies

Policy #500-32, Promotion & Retention

Approved revisions to Policy #500-32, Promotion & Retention
Motion: Mr. Kuebler/Mr. Sumpster; unanimously carried

Human Resources

Approved the amended Instructional Technology Coordinator's job description
Motion: Mr. Kuebler/Mr. Sumpster; unanimously carried

Facilities & Transportation

Mr. Jefferson presented the revised Education Facilities Master Plan. He stated that a letter will be sent to the State advising them that the plan is a working document and will be updated continually.

Approved the Educational Facilities Master Plan
Motion: Mr. Kuebler/Vice Chairman Wells; unanimously carried

NEW BUSINESS

Curriculum & Instruction

Mr. Elebash informed the Board that Professional Development will be provided to all staff and submitted a staffing professional development calendar.

Summer Camps Update

Ms. Holland and Mr. Elebash provided an update regarding the status of the elementary and secondary Summer Camp programs. Ms. Holland thanked Mr. Jefferson for his efforts in scheduling bus transportation for the students to attend the summer camps. Ms. Holland stated that twenty-four elementary slots remain unfilled, but recruitment continues. Mr. Elebash presented the secondary summer camp schedule. Additional information can be found on the Somerset County Public Schools' website.

Dr. Gaddis stated that funding for summer camp programs will be included in next year's school budget.

Dual Enrollment Summer Courses at UMES have been offered to rising seniors. Courses being offered are English 101, History 201, Psychology, Sociology, and Criminal Justice and will run from July 8, 2013 to August 9, 2013.

Grading Committee Update

Mr. Elebash provided an update from the Grading Task Force. There are twenty-three members on the Committee. The goal of the grading task force was to develop a grading policy that will best serve the students of Somerset County. Dr. Gaddis requested that staff input and community feedback be considered during the revision of the grading system.

Monthly Financial Updates

Monthly Food & Finance Reports

Ms. Smoker reported that projected revenue was around \$90,000 more than what was expected. This increase was due to reimbursements from FEMA and the High Roads Academy. Ms. Smoker reported that the current Food Service deficit is \$15,196.00 and that according to the TGM Audit, this deficit is significantly less than last year's deficit.

FACILITIES & TRANSPORTATION

Facilities Update Schedule

Mr. Jefferson reported on the following facility improvements:

- Replacement of two kitchen doors at Greenwood Elementary School
- Replacement of unit ventilators at Ewell and Greenwood Elementary Schools
- Greenwood Elementary School Steamer will be purchased and installed by August 9, 2013
- Electrical switch repair at GES
- Pole Building completion date of July 12, 2013

He also reported that Princess Anne Elementary Schools' flooring will be upgraded, the JM Tawes Technology & Career will receive minor renovations, and the School Security Update will be presented at the July 16, 2013 Board meeting.

Transportation

Mr. Jefferson reported on the Transfinder Route Building program. This program will be used to help in the elimination of, or assist in reducing, overcrowding and shuttling of students to Somerset Intermediate. He stated the SCPS bandwidth is not conducive to the program and has caused a delay in training of the software. Mr. Jefferson reported that school buses are equipped with a passive GPS system that can be downloaded to a computer to allow the tracking of bus routing times and mileage. He stated that drivers will be informed of their routes by August 5,

2013 and student pick up routes will be posted by August 9, 2013. Mr. Kuebler announced that he was working with Ms. Smoker with the implementation of fiber optic use to help with our SCPS bandwidth issues.

Human Resources Report

New Hires, Retirees, Resignations

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Kuebler, seconded by Mr. Sumpter, and passed to approve the revised Human Resources Report: motion carried unanimously.

Transfers	From	To
Brandy Brady	Deal Island Elementary School Principal	Somerset Intermediate School Principal
Jennifer Follensbee	Somerset Intermediate School Math Intervention	Somerset Intermediate School Secondary ESOL
Patti Monk	5 th Grade Woodson Elementary School Teacher	Greenwood Elementary School Reading Coach

Promotions	From	To
Tracey Cottman	Washington Academy & High School Learning Support Specialist	Secondary Student Services Supervisor
Ted Gibson	Carter G. Woodson Elementary School Vice Principal	Deal Island Elementary School Principal
Ashley Walters	Carter G. Woodson Elementary School Reading Coach	Carter G. Woodson Elementary School Vice Principal

Separations:
Louise Windsor

Parental Leave of Absence:
Sarah Heeter

Interim Assistants Superintendent’s Appointment

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Sumpter, seconded by Vice Chairman Wells and passed to approve the appointment of Dave Elebash as the Interim Assistant Superintendent of Instruction and Nancy Smoker as the Interim Assistant Superintendent of Administration, effective July 01, 2013; motion carried unanimously

Interim Superintendent's Contract

The Interim Superintendent's contract was presented before the Board for approval.

Motion: Mr. Kuebler/Vice Chairman Wells; carried unanimously

SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

The Board thanked the community and commissioners for attending, thanked the staff for all their hard work, and welcomed Dr. Gaddis as the Interim Superintendent. Mr. Sumpter stated that he is looking forward to the presentation of the school security report and apologized for being absent from the last Board meeting. Mr. Kuebler requested that the audience encourage student attendance at the Summer Camps being held for Somerset County Public Schools students.

Dr. Gaddis expressed to the community that his door is always open and thanked everyone for attending. He stated that he would like to see recognition of community organizations, the promotion of positivity throughout the County and the celebration of staff and student successes throughout the system.

Chairman Miles requested that procedures must be followed and that any concerns be directed to the Superintendent before contacting the Board. He also stated that the Board will revert back to having one Board meeting per month.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Miles announced that the Board will convene in a meeting at the J.M. Tawes Career & Technology Center on Tuesday, July 16, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. Additional information can be found on the Somerset County Public Schools website.

Motion: Ms. Green-Gale/Mr. Sumpter; unanimously carried to adjourn at 7:25 p.m.

Dr. John Gaddis, Interim Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman/Board Secretary