



OPEN REGULAR SESSION

TIME: 4:00 p.m.

Location: J.M. Tawes Career & Technology Center

PRESENT: Board Members: Chairperson Warner Sumpter, Vice Chairperson Penny Nicholson, Ms. Margo Green-Gale, Mr. Robert Wells, and Mr. Dan Kuebler; Superintendent of Schools, Dr. John B. Gaddis, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Tom Davis and Director of Schools, Mrs. Tracie Bartemy; Board Attorney Mr. Fulton Jeffers and Ms. Melissa Tilghman, Recording Secretary.

Chairperson Sumpter declared a quorum and called the meeting to order.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Green-Gale, the Board unanimously voted to approve the agenda as presented.

EXECUTIVE MEETING:

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, **General Provisions Act**, 3-305(b), a motion was made by Board Member Kuebler, seconded by Vice Chairperson Penny Nicholson and passed to enter into an Executive Session at 4:07 p.m. for the following reasons:

- To Review and Approve the closed minutes of November 15, 2016 and December 9, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes.
- To Perform Administrative Functions - Section 3-103
- To Discuss Personnel Matters - Section 3-305(b)(1)
- To Discuss Matters Not Related to Public Business - Section 3-305 (b)(2)
- To consult with Counsel to Obtain Legal Advice - Section 3-305(b)(7)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

Student/Staff/Citizen Recognition

School Champion Award

Veteran social worker and Somerset County Public Schools Supervisor of Student Services Tracey Cottman, was recognized by the Board for being selected by the Eastern Shore Mental Health Coalition as the School Champion Award Winner. Mrs. Cottman has served

on various committees throughout Somerset and Worcester Counties, and is a well-known and respected advocate for students.

Skills USA Competition Award

Mr. Buth Azbell, HVAC Teacher and Mr. James Ward, Auto Mechanics Teacher, presented several students who received the Skills USA State Sportsmanship Awards and distributed their committee pins to them. Those students were chosen for exhibiting strong leadership skills and their dignified poise in the representation of the Somerset County Public Schools System.

Student Athletic Awards

Washington Academy & High School's Fall All Conference and Honorable Mention Field Hockey students were presented certificates of achievement for their accomplishments. The Board Members congratulated the students on a job well done.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS ACTIVITIES REPORTS

The Student Board Representative from Washington Academy & High School and Crisfield Academy & High School shared highlights of school activities held within their respective reporting areas. Chairman Sumpter thanked the student representatives for the information.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Vice Chairperson Nicholson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Regular Open Session Minutes of November 15, 2016 and the Open Special Session Minutes of December 9, 2016 as amended.

Announcement of Closed Meeting:

Chairperson Sumpter announced that the Somerset County Board of Education met in an Executive Session on December 20, 2016 for the sole purposes of discussion on Personnel Matters, Student Matters and Legal Matters as pursuant to Section 3-305 (b)(1), (2), and (7) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and to perform Administrative Functions. The Board met to review and approve the minutes of November 15, 2016 and December 9, 2016 as amended.

PRESENT: Board Members: Chairperson Warner Sumpter, Vice Chairperson Penny Nicholson, Mr. Robert Wells, Mr. Dan Kuebler and Ms. Margo Green-Gale; Superintendent, Dr. John B. Gaddis, Deputy Superintendent, and Mr. Tom Davis, Director of Schools, Mrs. Tracie Bartemy; Board Attorney Mr. Fulton Jeffers and Ms. Melissa Tilghman, Recording Secretary. Mrs. Beth Whitelock, Human Resources Supervisor, was present for a portion of the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS

2017-2018 Academic School Calendar

Dr. Gaddis requested that the Board delay the vote on the presented Draft #1 of the 2017-2018 Academic School Calendar. He reported that Somerset County Public Schools will not be eligible for an inclement weather waiver next year. He stated that if Somerset uses all five inclement weather days that has been added to the 2017-2018 academic calendar, holiday vacations and teacher professional days will be reduced in order to meet Governor Hogan's requirement to end the school year by June 15. Dr. Gaddis encouraged the community to view the online draft calendars.

NEW BUSINESS

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Departmentalized Scheduling

Mrs. Cortney Monar, Principal of Princess Anne Elementary, shared a presentation with the Board highlighting the pros and cons of the 1st – 5th grades' departmentalized classroom scheduling system. Departmentalized scheduling is a type of team teaching in which teachers act as specialists or experts in one or more content areas, much like the middle and high schools. Teachers provide instruction to the same group of students every day, while mastering the subject content they are teaching.

Mrs. Monar stated that a survey taken, suggested that most teachers are very satisfied with the elementary departmentalized approach. Teacher morale has improved and students are developing interpersonal skills needed to prepare them for the transition to the middle and high schools. Mrs. Monar informed the Board that PARCC Testing Data results indicated that Princess Anne Elementary Students ranked higher than the State average.

2015-2016 Lemonade War

Mr. Ted Gibson, Principal of Deal Island Elementary School and Mrs. Kolby Noble, teacher, shared a presentation with the Board highlighting the Lemonade War concepts.

During the 2015-2016 school year, SCPS Teacher of the Year Mrs. Kolby Noble integrated the novel *The Great Lemonade War* by Jacqueline Davies into her math lessons. The book was introduced to the students as a way to encourage students to get engaged and enjoy reading and math. Students were also demonstrating compassion towards other people. The novel focused on a young boy and sister challenging each other to a lemonade war. The Deal Island Elementary School students soon began competing with each other, boys verses the girls, to see who could raise the most money. DIS begin participating in the Nation-wide Lemonade War, donating all raised funds to Alex's Lemonade Stand, fighting childhood cancer. DIS raised \$4,000 and won the war which included a visit by Mr. Jay Scott, co-executive director of Alex's Lemonade Stand and author Mrs. Jacqueline Davies. Board Member Kuebler congratulated Mr. Gibson and his students on a job well done. So far this year, DIS students have raised approximately \$1,800.

ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS

Policy #800-11, Title I Parent Involvement

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Vice Chairperson Nicholson, the Board unanimously voted to accept the First Reader of Policy #800-11, Title I Parent Involvement.

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Vice Chairperson Nicholson, the Board unanimously voted to amend the previous vote to accept Policy #800-11, Title I Parent Involvement as the First Reader and voted to accept the adoption of the policy for the First and Final Reading.

MONTHLY FINANCE REPORTS

November 2016 Budget Expenditures Report

Mrs. Linda Johnson, Chief Finance Officer, presented the Monthly Expenditures report to the Board. She reported that 42% of the current budget has been expended. Mrs. Johnson reported that budget meetings are scheduled for the first week of January and preliminary final budgetary figures from the State are expected to be in mid to late January 2017. Parent representatives from each school will present their top three budget requests at the February 17, 2017 Board Meeting.

Approval of November 2016 Expenditures Report

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board voted unanimously to approve the \$2,563,151 expenditures report for November 2016.

Food Services Report

Mrs. Johnson presented the Food and Nutrition Services report. To date, 237,995 meals have been served to date. She reported that the meal count is lower than this time last year due to the days students missed for inclement weather. Mrs. Johnson reported that the current deficit is \$84,315, which will be reduced once State reimbursements have been received which will reduce the deficit by approximately \$123,000.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Personnel Report

Mrs. Beth Whitelock, Supervisor of Human Resources, presented the personnel report to the Board.

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Vice Chairperson Nicholson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following Certificated Staffing Report:

Professional Temporary Transfers:

Corey Ballard	From Assistant Principal at Somerset Promise Academy/Somerset Transition Services	To Assistant Principal at Washington Academy & High School
William Gray	From Supervisor of Special Programs at the Board of Education	To Acting Principal at Washington Academy & High School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Sumpter made the following announcement:

The Somerset County Board of Education will convene in an Open Regular meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 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 3-305(b) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. 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.

Chairman Sumpter invited the attendees to remain after the meeting to celebrate, commend and recognize Board Member Kuebler for his service to the Board and his commitment to student achievement for the last four years.

SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- Ms. Green-Gale and Vice Chairperson Nicholson thanked the staff for their informative reports and commended Mrs. Monar on the success of her departmentalized scheduling. They also wished all the attendees a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
- Board Member Wells commended Mr. Gibson on the cleanliness of the school. He stated that the Maryland Comptroller visited DIS to present the “Silver Hammer Award” and was impressed with Ms. Nobles efforts engaging the Comptroller’s participation in the students’ presentation. Board Member Wells commended the staff for an exceptional first semester.
- Board Member Kuebler shared a few words on his experience as a Board Member and listed the following accomplishments of the Somerset County Public Schools System during the four years he has served as a Board Member:
 - The creation of a discipline matrix and staff enforcement of the policies and procedures.
 - The promotion of Mrs. Lily Welch and Mrs. Cheryl O’Neal and wished them much success
 - The establishment of the SELAC committee and the implementation of an Early Learning Program at Carter G. Woodson Elementary School and Princess Anne Elementary School.
 - Board Member Kuebler thanked Mrs. Tracy Bartemy and Ms. Karen Karten, Early Learning Coordinator, for the efforts in the establishment of the Judy Center. He stated that the implementation of an early learning program has been a great accomplishment and that he is looking forward to seeing those early learners’ graduation statistics.
 - The improvement of SCPS technology and expanded high speed internet
 - The success of the Somerset Achievement Intervention Language and STEM (SAILS) Program and stated that he is looking forward to a similar SAILS Program implemented at the high school level.
 - The success of the Community Eligibility Program and its impact on student achievement.
 - The Board’s and the Facilities Management Team’s improvement on school security and extended a thank you to Mr. Teagle, former public participation speaker who encouraged the Board and the Facilities Management to review and improve security measures within Somerset County Public Schools facilities.
 - The increase in preventive maintenance
 - The addition of the Crisfield Head Start Program at Crisfield Academy & High School.
 - The improvement of the high schools’ sports complex
 - SAT Preparation paid for by the Board

- The construction of a new technology school
- No Cost Dual Enrollment for all high school students
- Superintendent doing a great job and needs continued support

Board Member Kuebler requested that the Board continue their “Success Nothing Less” motto and continue to help improve student achievement. He encouraged everyone to always think of the achievements of the Somerset County Public Schools System and stated he is looking forward to seeing SCPS rank in the top five percent of schools in Maryland.

Board Member Kuebler finalized his comments by commending the monumental progress of the Board. He stated that the Superintendent is doing a great job and asked that the Board, staff and community continue to support Dr. Gaddis and his quest to improving student achievement.

- Board Attorney, Mr. Fulton Jeffers, wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and encouraged everyone to spend time with and enjoy their loved ones.
- Dr. Gaddis made the following announcements:
 - SCPS raised over \$53,000 during the United Way Campaign and received the “On Fire Award” last year for raising over \$48,000.
 - PSAT’s are being paid for by the Board
 - Mr. Greg Bozman received the Jefferson Award. Dr. Gaddis stated that Mr. Bozman has showed a tremendous amount of support and the students and staff exhibit a great deal of appreciation and support for Mr. Bozman.
 - Thank you to the Board for voting for the extended Holiday vacation.
 - Dr. Gaddis thanked Board Member Kuebler for holding him to a high level of performance and commended him for his passion and determination to improve student achievement.
 - Dr. Gaddis thanked everyone for attending and wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
- Chairman Sumpter reported that:
 - On January 10, 2017 the State Department of Education will be at the Dorchester County Career and Technology Center to discuss the purpose and process of the Every Student Succeeds Act (EESA). He encouraged parents to attend.
 - The Crisfield Academy and High School Band, the drama department and the chorus department had an amazing performance of which he was in attendance. He stated that was the best program that he had ever attended.
 - The Legislative Auditors have approved the waiver request submitted by the Board to exempt Somerset County Public Schools from the Legislative

Audit. This waiver will save the State and the County a lot of money. Chairperson Sumpter wished everyone a wonderful holiday and stated that he was looking forward to Board Member Kuebler's continued involvement in the educational success of Somerset County students.

- Somerset County Commissioner, Mr. Charles Fisher, thanked Board Member Kuebler for his four years of dedicated service to the Board and the education of the students of Somerset County Public Schools.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Board Member Green-Gale and a second by Chairperson Nicholson, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Dr. John B. Gaddis, Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman, Recording Secretary