

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, Mr. Robert Wells, Mr. Dan Kuebler, and Ms. Margo Green-Gale; Superintendent of Schools, Dr. John B. Gaddis, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Tom Davis and Director of Schools, Ms. Tracie Bartemy; Board Attorney Mr. Fulton Jeffers and Ms. Melissa Tilghman, Recording Secretary.

Chairman 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 Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve the adoption of the agenda.

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 Board Member Green-Gale and unanimously passed to enter into an Executive Session at 4:07 p.m. for the following reasons:

- To Review and Approve the closed minutes of July 19, 2016, July 28, 2016 and August 16, 2016 as amended
- 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)

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

On the motion of Board Member Wells and a second by Board Member Kuebler, the Board unanimously voted to bring the agenda back to the floor and approve the addition of the following Board Meeting Agenda Item:

- Amendment: Added 13-A3, Request to Add Two New Teaching Positions

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

The new Student Board Representative from Washington Academy & High School and the Student Board Alternate Representative from Crisfield Academy & High School shared highlights of school activities held within their respective reporting areas.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Regular Open Session Minutes of August 16, 2016.

Announcement of Closed Meeting:

Chairperson Sumpter announced that the Somerset County Board of Education met in an Executive Session on September 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, to perform Administrative Functions. The Board also met to review and approve the Closed Session Minutes of July 19, 2016, July 28, 2016 and August 16, 2016.

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, Ms. Tracie Bartemy; Board Attorney Mr. Fulton Jeffers and Ms. Melissa Tilghman, Recording Secretary. Ms. Beth Whitelock, Human Resources Supervisor, was present for a portion of the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Administrative Functions

Legislative Audit Exemption Waiver

Chapter 261 establishes a voluntary exemption process from the general requirement that the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA), at least once every six years, conduct an audit of

each local school system. The next audit cycle for the local school systems will begin in fiscal year 2017. Dr. Gaddis informed the Board that the Legislative Audit is a 6 to 7 month voluntary process and that Somerset County Public Schools already has strong leadership teams and several audit controls currently in place. Board Member Kuebler stated that he was confident that in house SCPS Leadership could operate their designated department. Chairperson Sumpter added that if the Joint Committee deemed it necessary, it could go forward with the audit no matter if the local school system received a waiver or not.

On the recommendation of Dr. Gaddis, it was moved by Board Member Kuebler and seconded by Board Member Wells to approve the Superintendent's request to submit an OLA voluntary exemption waiver request letter. The motion carried unanimously.

Student Dress Code, Policy #600-12

Dr. Gaddis and the Board held a discussion on the Dress Code Policy, #600-12. Dr. Gaddis stated that policies were approved by the Board, and overall, the Board is a strong advocate in support of the current dress code policy. Board Member Kuebler stated hoodies and cargo style pants will not be allowed and policies must be enforced by the school administration. Chairperson Sumpter thanked the principals and staff for enforcing the policy and asked that all students be treated fairly when making alternative dressing decisions. Board Member Wells stated that students should be allowed to wear uniform shirts embossed with the Somerset County Public Schools' logo.

Request for Additional Teaching Positions

Dr. Gaddis informed the Board that due to the increase of Somerset County's overall student population, classrooms were becoming overcrowded and additional staffing was needed to accommodate this increase. He stated the due to the surplus of anticipated funds in the personnel category he would be requesting to hire two additional teaching positions. Board Member Kuebler requested that the Board approve the addition of up to four additional teaching positions to accommodate the student enrollment increase.

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve Dr. Gaddis' request to add up to four additional teaching positions to accommodate the student increase in Somerset County Public Schools.

Student Achievement

2016 Summer Programs

Ms. Lilly Welch (Supervisor of ELA, EL and World Languages), Ms. Traci Schneider (Supervisor of Elementary Math/Science, STEM and Gifted and Talented Initiatives), Ms.

Karen Karten (Early Childhood/Judy Center Coordinator), and Ms. Deborah Josenhans (Teachers' Academy/Migrant Coordinator) shared a presentation with the Board highlighting the 2016 Summer Programs. There were a total of 169 students that were served in the summer programs. This included students in the Migrant Program and the General Education Program. Incentives were provided to those students who attended the summer programs at least 15 days and those students that did not receive any office or bus referrals. Students in grades 1-11 were awarded with a trip to Jolly Roger's Splash Mountain and those students in grades Pre K – K were awarded a trip to the Virginia Aquarium.

Overall, the 2016 Summer Programs were very successful. A local daycare center and other community partnerships help strengthen the effectiveness of the programs and the various resources helped provide the maximum benefit for all students involved. Pre and Post Test were given to each student, which showed percentage point growth in various categories. The Food and Nutrition Services Program was also a huge success, with over 5,000 free meals served. Dr. Gaddis stated that it costs \$250,000 to run the summer programs and SCPS will have to look at the budgetary restraints for the FY2018 School Year.

Facilities and Capital Planning

Mrs. Haley, Supervisor of Facilities and Capital Planning, requested planning approval for the FY2018 Capital Improvement Plan. The plan includes the planning and design stage of the new J.M. Tawes Career and Technology Center Project.

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve Mrs. Haley's request to proceed with the FY2018 Capital Improvement Plan.

Monthly Finance Reports

Ms. Linda Johnson, Chief Finance Officer, presented the monthly reports to the Board. She reported that the FY2017 budget will include a fund carryover balance of approximately \$275,000 to \$300,000. This was made possible due to the savings in salaries and fixed charges.

Approval of Expenditures Report through August 31, 2016

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve the \$1,256,970 expenditures report for the month of August 2016.

Food Services Report

Due to the summer break, Ms. Linda Johnson reported that there was not much activity within the Food Service Budget to report.

Food Services FY2017 Budget Approval

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve Ms. Johnson's FY2017 Food Services Budget in the amount of \$2,016,150.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Personnel Report

Ms. 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 New Hires:

J.M. Tawes Technology & Career Center ➤ Floyd Azbell - HVAC Instructor

Professional Separations:

Washington Academy & High School ➤ Tanya Butler – English/Language Arts
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Professional Retirees:

Somerset Intermediate School ➤ Gregory Ross Cullen – Technology Education Teacher
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Professional Leave Requests:

Crisfield Academy & High School ➤ Amanda Thomas
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Professional Transfers:

Fern Griffith	From SIS Special Education Teacher	To Somerset Promise Academy's Special Education Teacher
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Classified New Hires:

Carter G. Woodson Elementary School ➤ Teresa Marshall – Food and Nutrition Services Worker
Deal Island Elementary School ➤ Christine Cropper – Food and Nutrition Services Worker ➤ Marilyn White – Food and Nutrition Services Worker
Princess Anne Elementary School ➤ Myra Hankerson – School Nurse I/One on One
Somerset Promise Academy ➤ Joyce Corbin – Paraprofessional - Special Education
Somerset Transition Program ➤ Timothy Palmer – Paraprofessional – Elementary

SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

- Vice Chairperson Nicholson and Board Member Green-Gale thanked the staff and the Student Board Members for their informative reports.
- Board Member Wells thanked everyone for attending and expressed his excitement in hearing more good news about the Somerset County Public Schools System.
- Dr. Gaddis thanked everyone for attending and reported that:
 - The opening of schools has been incredible and encouraged the staff and community to visit the schools and observe the positive things going on within the schools.
 - He was excited to visit Ewell School and enjoyed meeting with the students and staff.
 - Somerset County Public Schools' student enrollment has increased significantly.
 - He has been working with a great group of dedicated leaders, staff and students, and the SCPS system is going in the right direction.
- Chairperson Sumpter recognized Ms. Jill Holland for being involved in community activities and thanked the staff for being dedicated to the SCPS System.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Chairperson Sumpter provided the following announcement:

- The Board will convene in an Open Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 18, 2016 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 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.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Board Member Green-Gale and a second by Vice Chairperson Nicholson, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Dr. John B. Gaddis, Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman, Recording Secretary