

**OPEN REGULAR SESSION**

**TIME: 4:00 p.m.**

**Location: J.M. Tawes Career & Technology Center**

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

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

On the motion of Vice Chairman Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to amend the agenda to add ‘A Moment of Silence’ for Mr. Tony Francis, former Washington Academy & High School Coach.

**CLOSED MEETING:**

4:00 p.m. – Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, **General Provisions Act**, 3-305(b), On the motion of Board Member Wells and a second by Board Member Green-Gale, the Board unanimously voted to enter into a Closed Session at 4:05 p.m. for the following reasons:

- To Perform Administrative Functions - Section 3-103
- To Discuss Personnel Matters - Section 3-305(b)(1)
- To Consult with counsel to obtain legal advice - Section 3-305(b)(7)

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Discussion:** The following items were added to the agenda:

- Item 14-B2, School System Calendar Change
- Item 14-D1, Removal of Unpaid Spare Bus Purchase Request

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Chairman Sumpter requested a moment of silence for Mr. Tony Francis, former WAHS Tennis Coach. Mr. Francis was also a dedicated mentor at CAHS and WAHS who helped many students. Vice Chairman Kuebler stated that Mr. Francis was a wonderful person to know and that he would be greatly missed.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

## **STUDENT/STAFF/CITIZENS RECOGNITION**

### **Sherwin Williams Outreach Committee**

Chairman Sumpter and Dr. Gaddis recognized the Sherwin Williams Outreach Committee. On behalf of the committee, Ms. Jamie Fontaine and Ms. Debbie Maddox accepted the proclamation. The Sherwin Williams Outreach Committee has donated an abundance of school supplies and equipment to the students of the Somerset County Public School System throughout the years.

### **Teakletonia Summer Camp Recognition**

Chairman Sumpter and Dr. Gaddis recognized the Teakletonia Summer Camp Organizers and presented each with an award of appreciation. The Teakletonia Summer Camp was held this past summer and provided sixteen Somerset County Public Schools' students the opportunity to experience the way of life in the 1820's. Children participated in authentic living experiences for one week, cooking, creating crafts and other small projects while learning life and cultural skills from the 1820's.

Ms. Sallie Ridgway, a member of the Somerset County Historical Society, stated that she appreciated Somerset County Public Schools for giving SCPS students the opportunity to participate in the Teakletonia Summer Camp experience. She stated that the experience also gave volunteers a sense of community pride and belonging to the community.

### **Crisfield Academy & High School's Soccer Team Recognition**

Dr. Gaddis and Chairman Sumpter presented recognition awards to the Coach, Assistant Coaches, and Team Managers of the Crisfield Academy & High School's Soccer Team for their dedication and support of the Crisfield Crabbers throughout their journey to become the Regional Soccer Champions and placing second Place in the State Soccer Tournament.

Mr. Harold Frock, the CAHS Soccer Team's Coach, was presented with a proclamation for his dedication, support and determination in pushing the CAHS Crabbers to fulfil their dream in becoming the Regional Champions. Each team member was also presented with an achievement award.

Dr. Gaddis stated that he was proud of the abundance of supporters that followed the CAHS Soccer Team. He also thanked the Princess Anne Community for their support of the team's accomplishment.

### **Student Board Members Activities Reports**

The CAHS Student Board Representative presented her schools' activities reports highlighting activities in her respective reporting areas. WAHS Student Board representative was excused from the meeting and her report was presented by Ms. Jill Holland, Instructional Technology Supervisor.

### **Open Regular Session Minutes**

On the motion of Board Member Green-Gale and a second by Vice Chairman Kuebler the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of October 20, 2015 as amended.

On the motion of Vice Chairman Kuebler and a second by Board Member Nicholson the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of November 17, 2015.

### **Announcement of Closed Meeting:**

Chairman Sumpter announced that the Somerset County Board of Education met in a Closed Session on December 15, 2015 pursuant to the General Provisions Act Section 3-305 (b) and Section 3-103 for the following reasons:

- To perform administrative functions - Section 3-103
- To discuss personnel matters - Section 3-305(b)(1)
- To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice Section 3-305(b)(7)

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Administrative Functions**

#### **Student Transportation, Policy #200-18**

On the motion of Vice Chairman Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Second and Final Reader of Policy #200-18, Student Transportation.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Student Achievement**

#### **Physical Education's Water Safety Program**

Mr. Conal Turner, Workforce Investment Supervisor and Mr. John Nelson, WES Physical Education Teacher, shared a presentation on the Whale Tales Swimming Program. This program is offered to all Somerset County Public Schools' 4<sup>th</sup> grade students and was held at the YMCA in Pocomoke, MD. The Whales Tales Program is a four day program where students are taught how to swim as well as boat safety tips, safety precautions, the importance of wearing portable inflation devices, canoeing, and various swimming and lifesaving techniques. Dr. Gaddis stated that the Whale Tales Program was a good program and should be expanded. He also announced that he is a member of the Somers Cove Worcester County Swim Organization and that the group has a "Swim Fund" that will cover the costs of anyone looking to take swimming lessons. The organization is looking to offer free swimming lessons at the Somers Cove Marina but has been unable to find an instructor. He also encouraged anyone planning to go near the water should wear a portable inflation device. Vice Chairman Kuebler stated that the Whales Tales Program was a fabulous program and Wellington Beach would be a good location for swimming lessons in the Crisfield area.

The Whales Tales Program is a locally funded \$10,000 grant maintained by the Somerset County Health Department. Ms. Matty Barker, Director of Mental Health at the department stated that it is critically important that Somerset County Students be involved in swimming exercises for safety and health reasons.

#### **Princess Anne Elementary School's Taste Testing and Title I Nights**

Ms. Cortney Monar, Princess Anne Elementary School's Principal, shared a presentation with the Board highlighting the positive effects of PAES's Taste Testing and Title I Nights. She stated that parents and students are invited to view a presentation and are given samples of different food items that are being considered as school breakfast and lunch items. Samples of these items were distributed to the Board Members. Parents were also provided with information about Title I Programs, their rights as parents of students in SCPS Title I schools and various education resources to ensure their child's academic success. Ms. Monar stated that Title I makes stakeholders responsible for the success of each student.

Parents are invited for Taste Testing and Title I Nights through Connect Ed. phone calls.

## **B. Curriculum and Instruction**

### **Policy #800-11, Parent Involvement**

On the motion of Vice Chairman Kuebler and a second by Board Member Green-Gale, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Reader of Policy #800-11, Parent Involvement.

### **Somerset County Public School System Calendar Change**

Dr. Gaddis requested the Board's approval to close all SCPS facilities on December 28, 2015 and December 29, 2015 in hopes of reducing energy costs over Christmas Break.

On the motion of Board Member Wells and a second by Board Member Green-Gale, the Board unanimously voted to approve closing all SCPS facilities.

## **C. Facilities and Capital Planning**

### **State-Owned Portable Classroom Demolition Bid Approval**

On the motion of Vice Chairman Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve awarding the Portable Classroom Demolition Contract to Reynold's Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$11,700.

### **Facilities Update**

Ms. Danielle Haley, Supervisor of Facilities and Capital Planning provided an update on facilities. She reported the following:

- The Greenwood Elementary School's HVAC replacement is complete
- Princess Anne Elementary School's roof replacement is complete. The contractor and the inspector are expected to do the final walk through on December 16, 2015 and the Skylights are expected to be delivered by the end of January 2016. There is no additional cost for the skylights.
- The Crisfield Academy & High School's Athletic Stadium's Field Renovation is complete with the exception of the paving.
- The design plans are underway for the CAHS/Headstart/It Takes A Village renovation with construction expected to begin in early Spring of 2016. The Board of Public Works will be providing additional funding for the project.
- Access Card Readers have been installed at all school facilities except Marion Sarah Peyton.
- The Washington Academy & High School's Stadium upgrades will continue and over budget issues are being addressed.

## **Transportation and Operations**

### **Unpaid Spare Bus Purchase Request**

This item was deleted from the agenda.

## **D. Monthly Finance Reports**

### **Monthly Finance Report**

Ms. Linda Johnson, Chief Finance Officer reported that as of November 30, 2015, SCPS expenditures are on target with 34.6% of the budget spent.

### **Approval of \$3,329,739 Expenditures Report through November 30, 2015**

On the motion of Vice Chairman Kuebler and a second by Board member Nicholson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the \$3,329,739 expenditures report for the month of November 30, 2015.

### **Food Services Report**

Ms. Johnson presented the Food Services Report to the Board. She reported that compared to this time last year, 2,000 more lunches have been served. Ms. Johnson informed the Board that the negative balance of \$312,000 is due to outstanding reimbursements not yet received from the State for the months of October and November.

### **Budget Category Transfers**

On the motion of Vice Chairman Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve Ms. Johnson's budget category transfer request.

## **E. HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **Personnel Report**

Ms. Whitelock, Supervisor of Human Resources shared the personnel report with the Board.

On the motion of Board Member Green-Gale and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Certificated Staffing Report.

**Professional New Hires**

Princess Anne Elementary School ➤ Ashley Daniels – Comprehensive Special Education Teacher
Somerset Intermediate School ➤ Denise Johnson – 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math Teacher
Washington Academy & High School ➤ James Samiec – Mathematics Teacher

**Professional Extended Leave Request:**

Amanda Ault	WAHS English Teacher
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**Professional Transfers:**

Katie Klein	GES Comprehensive Special Education Teacher	To PAES Inclusion Special Education Teacher
Karey Pusey	From DIS 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading/Social Studies Teacher	To WES Reading Coach

**SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD MEMBERS’ COMMENTS**

- Board Member Nicholson expressed her appreciation of the community’s support, commended the efforts of the CAHS Soccer Team, and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
- Vice Chairman Kuebler expressed his condolences to the family of Mr. Tony Francis. He stated that he was a fantastic spectacular individual that will be truly missed.
- Board Member Wells stated that he has had a great year and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
- Board Member Green-Gale wished everyone Happy Holidays.
- Chairman Sumpter thanked everyone for attending.
- Dr. Gaddis asked the staff and community to complete the online budget survey. He stated that WAHS and CAHS drug searches were held and the outcome was positive and reported Mr. Albrecht, a former WAHS student, has contacted him to report that is enjoying his career as a photographer and is travelling the world. Dr. Gaddis wished the staff and community a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Board will convene in an Open Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 19, 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 Vice Chairman Kuebler and a second by Board Member Green-Gale, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

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Dr. John B. Gaddis, Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman, Recording Secretary