

TIME: 1:00 p.m.

Location: J.M. Tawes Technology & Career Center

PRESENT: Board Members: Chairman Warner Sumpter, Vice Chairman Dan Kuebler, Mr. Robert Wells, and Ms. Margo Green-Gale; Superintendent Dr. John B. Gaddis; Ms. Nancy Smoker, Assistant Superintendent of Administration and Mr. Tom Davis, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction; and Recording Secretary Melissa Tilghman. Ms. Penny Nicholson was excused from the meeting.

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

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED FY2016 BUDGET

Dr. Gaddis reported that the Senate and House approved the State Governor's budget which includes the restoration of educational funding. The FY2016 SCPS budget will be developed based on the current budget figures.

Ms. Smoker distributed copies of the Proposed FY2016 Budget. She reported that after including budget requests made by principals, the budget is well over \$184,000 over spent.

The Board thoroughly reviewed and discussed each line item of the Proposed Budget.

Dr. Gaddis reported that:

- AESOP has reduced substitute costs and the software program has been very advantageous in holding employees accountable for their attendance.
- Due to budget constraints, several summer programs may not be held, including Summer School.
- Due to the construction planned for Greenwood and Princess Anne Elementary Schools this summer, the migrant program will be held at Somerset Intermediate School and the Special Education Program will be held at Marion Sarah Peyton.
- The State does not provide enough funding to cover the implementation of PARCC
- The Community Eligibility Program (CEP) has been successful and revenue from State reimbursements should increase the budget revenue totals for food service.
- He will be seeking the Board's approval to add a school day at the end of the year and

send a letter to Dr. Lowry, State Superintendent, requesting a waiver of the other four days students missed due to inclement weather.

Mr. Davis stated that he, along with staff have been meeting to discuss several summer school options as they continue to review the budget. He reported that there are some funds from FY2015 that he would like to use for summer enrichment programs.

Ms. Smoker reported that:

- Washington Academy & High School's technology infrastructure needs upgrading and network access points need to be replaced.
- Deal Island Elementary and Ewell School's networking hardware needs to be upgraded and DIS did not have enough bandwidth for PARCC Testing
- Somerset Intermediate School's wireless network needs to be upgraded
- There are no funds in the budget to purchase additional KUNOS, but staff will continue to look for grants that support telecommunications to make up for the shortfall.
- A portion of the ESMEC Reserve fund will be used to offset SCPS and the employees' share of the 6% increase in health insurance for the 2015-2016 school year.
- The Somerset County Commissioners' share of the Pension Costs is \$609,000, SCPS share is \$285,000.
- Technology support contracted costs increase whenever technology is upgraded or redesigned
- Will be seeking the Board's approval to adopt the Bus Contractors' Table of Rates

Chairman Sumpter stated that due to the complexity of common core and PARCC testing, teachers have been working hard, are expected to do more, and as such, deserve a raise.

Vice Chairman Kuebler stated that water towers would allow broadband expansion and that the Somerset County Public School System should collaborate with county and city members to find grants to cover the costs for broadband expansion. He also commended Mr. Davis for his knowledge of curriculum and instruction and his efforts to increase student achievement.

Vice Chairman requested that the Board members review the budget and develop a list of priorities. He stated that the following items were his priorities:

- KUNOS continuation
- All day Pre-K
- Reduction in class sizes/positions

- Building of water towers to allow for the expansion of broadband
- Professional development for Administrators
- Building maintenance

Chairman Sumpter stated that technology should be added to the list of priorities.

The Board continued to discuss and review the presented budget.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Vice Chairman Kuebler and second by Board Member Green-Gale, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at **3:06 p.m.**

Dr. John B. Gaddis, Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman/Board Secretary