

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, Ms. Green-Gale, Mr. Dan Kuebler, and Ms. Margo Green-Gale; 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 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 Wells and a second by Board Member Kuebler, the Board unanimously voted to approve the adoption of the agenda as presented.

EXECUTIVE MEETING:

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, **General Provisions Act**, 3-305(b) a motion was made by Vice Chairperson Nicholson, seconded by Board Member Green-Gale and unanimously passed to enter into an Executive Session at 4:03 p.m. for the following reasons:

- Reviewed and tabled the minutes of April 19, 2016
- Performed Administrative Functions - Section 3-103
- Discussed Personnel Matters - Section 3-305(b)(1)
- Discussed Matters Not Related to Public Business – Section 3-305 (b)(1)
- Consulted with Counsel to Obtain Legal Advice - Section 3-305(b)(7)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Gaddis announced that he had just received a message from Mr. Doug Taylor, County Administrator, that the Commissioners have signed the commitment letter if 7.3 million dollars to fund the new J.M. Tawes and Technology Center Project. The State has committed to fund \$36 million dollars for the project.

Chairman Sumpter thanked the staff and community for collaborating on behalf of the children of Somerset County Public Schools and putting the construction of a new technical building to the forefront.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Somerset Achievement Intervention Literacy (SAILS) and STEM Recognitions

Mr. Tony Bevilacqua, Washington Academy and High School Facilitator, thanked the local agencies for their assistance with the SAILS Afterschool Program. The SAILS Program serves students in Princess Anne Elementary School, Greenwood Elementary School, Woodson Elementary School and Somerset Intermediate. The goal of the program is to help students increase their confidence and acquire the necessary tools they need in order to become life-long learners with critical thinking and problem solving skills needed to be successful academically and socially. Dr. Gaddis presented the following individuals with Certificates of Appreciation.

UMES 4-H Outreach

Nicole Ramirez, Food Science

Somerset County Health Department

Viola Smith, Character Education/Second Step Program

NASA/Wallops Education Outreach Division

Sam Henry, Science, Technology, Engineering and Technology (STEM)

Ward Museum of Waterfowl Art

Mark Bushman, Environmental Literacy

Somerset County Art Show Recognitions

Dr. Gaddis acknowledged the accomplishments and successes of the Somerset County Public Schools Fine Arts Programs. Art teachers and several students were recognized for the outstanding pieces of artwork which were displayed during the Somerset County Visual Arts Expo held May 2, 2016 – May 13, 2016. During the Expo parents and students were invited to attend and each student was presented with a certificate of participation.

Dr. Gaddis presented certificates of special recognition to several students who created extraordinary artwork. Their art pieces were showcased throughout the meeting room. The following Art teachers were recognized for their dedication and passion to the art program and for encouraging students to expand their creative potential:

- Robin Daniels, Woodson Elementary School
- Jeremy Holland, Crisfield Academy & High School
- Sarah Perdue, Princess Anne Elementary School
- Laura Perry, Greenwood and Deal Island Elementary Schools
- David Simpson, Somerset Intermediate School

- Matthew Shockley and Scott Smith, Washington Academy and High School

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES REPORTS

Crisfield and Washington Academy & High Schools' Student Board Members shared their final reports highlighting activities from their respective reporting areas. Dr. Gaddis thanked the students for their service as the 2015-2016 Student Board Representatives and presented each with a service award.

Open Regular Session Minutes

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of April 19, 2016.

Announcement of Closed Meeting:

Chairperson Sumpter announced that the Somerset County Board of Education met in an Executive Session on May 17, 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.

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 of Schools, Mr. Tom Davis and Director of Schools, Ms. Tracie Bartemy; Board Attorney Mr. Fulton Jeffers and Miss Melissa Tilghman, Recording Secretary.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Administrative Functions

Sick Leave Policy #700-12

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Nicholson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the revised Sick Leave Policy #700-12.

Paid Spare Bus Purchase

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve the removal of Mr. DeWayne Terrell's Paid Spare Bus Purchase Request from the table.

Once the Paid Spare Bus Purchase Request was on the floor, a motion was made by Board Member Kuebler and a second by Vice Chairperson Nicholson to deny Mr. Terrell's bus purchase request. The vote was unanimous and the request was denied.

Curriculum and Instruction

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Green-Gale, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Second and Final Reader of the Special Education Staffing Plan as amended.

NEW BUSINESS

Facilities and Capital Planning Update

2016-2017 Educational Facilities Master Plan

Ms. Daniele Haley, Facilities and Capital Planning Supervisor, presented the Education Facilities Master Plan for approval. Chairman Sumpter and Board Member Kuebler extended their appreciation on the visual aspects of the Facilities' Plan. Both agreed that the graphics, organization and layout of the charts, made the document more comprehensible.

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Vice Chairperson Nicholson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Reader of the Educational Facilities Master Plan.

Washington Academy & High School Stadium Upgrade Contract Approval

Ms. Haley submitted a contract approval request for the Washington Academy & High School Stadium Upgrade. She informed the Board that three attempts had been made to bid the contract and that the presented company has submitted a bid that was within budget. The Scope of Work for the contract will include ADA parking, entry gate and fencing replacement, sidewalk extension, and drain water management. Funding for the project has already been allocated from previously allocated funds. Ms. Haley stated that Crisfield Academy & High Schools stadium upgrade completion has been delayed due to inclement weather.

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to award the contract for the Washington Academy & High School Stadium Upgrade to Reynolds Excavating Inc. in the amount of \$224,300.00.

Student Achievement

Moving to Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

Mrs. Traci Schneider, Elementary Math and Science Supervisor/STEM Coordinator and Mr. William Gray, Secondary Science Supervisor, shared a presentation with the Board highlighting SCPS's transition to NGSS. Mrs. Schneider reported that NGSS are not the same as Common Core, but a new set of K-12 science standards that were developed by states for states. The new standards are expected to provide a stronger academic education by equipping students with the critical thinking, problem solving and analyzing skills that will be needed, as more and more jobs are requiring skills in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). In order to ensure that students excel academically and become more engaged in the classroom, science lessons will be more hands-on, student centered and will include more student/teacher collaboration.

SCPS will be collaborating with NASA, Maryland Environmental Literacy Partnerships (MELP), and the Maryland Science Partnership with Salisbury University and surrounding counties to provide professional development to teachers. For more information on NGSS please visit www.nextgenscience.org, www.eie or the Somerset County Public School's Website.

Board Member Kuebler stated that Chemistry and Physics were important to NGSS. Mr. Gray informed Board Member Kuebler that Chemistry and Physics type courses are taught at the high school level. Board Member Kuebler commended Mr. Gray and Mrs. Schneider on their informative presentation. MSA Testing will no longer be required after the 2015-2016 School Year.

Extending Student Thinking Initiative

Mrs. Cheryl O'Neal, Greenwood Elementary School's Principal and Mrs. Stephanie Sproul, GES Teacher, shared a presentation on their school's Extending Student Thinking Initiative. She stated that new standards require younger students to become advanced critical thinking learners with higher level thinking capabilities. Science, Social Studies and Reading Teachers have collaborated to redesign the lesson plans at the elementary school to include problem solving, analyzing and critical thinking assignments. Older students are working with the younger students to discuss, compare, explain and analyze course content assignments. When students are not fully engaged in a project, their peers and student teachers assist in helping the student focus.

The Board commended Mrs. O'Neal and Mrs. Sproul on their Extending Thinking Initiative stating that it seems like a great initiative.

Administrative Functions

2015-2016 School Calendar Change

Due to the excessive amount of days schools were closed during the 2015-2016 School year due to inclement weather, Dr. Gaddis requested the Board's approval to extend the last day of school to June 15, 2016 for students and the last day for teachers to June 16, 2016. Students will have ½ days on June 14th and June 15th.

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve Dr. Gaddis' request to amend the 2015-2016 School Calendar.

Transportation Requests

Upon recommendations from Mr. Gregory Sutton, Supervisor of Transportation and Operations and the Superintendent, the Board voted on the following transportation requests;

Weldon Corbin (#39) – Nonrenewal of bus contract and permission to advertise for bus route ➤ On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and seconded by Board Member Wells the Board unanimously voted to approve the nonrenewal of Mr. Corbin's bus contract and permission to advertise for bus route #39.
Wordell Corbin (#40) – New Bus Purchase Request to replace Bus #40 ➤ On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve the new bus purchase request.
Emmitt Cottman (#29) – Nonrenewal of bus contract and permission to advertise for bus route ➤ On the motion of Board Green-Gale and a second by Board Member Nicholson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the nonrenewal of Mr. Cottman's contract and advertise for bus route #29.
Charles Fisher (#150S) – Used Unpaid Spare Bus Purchase Request to replace bus #150S ➤ On the motion of Board Member Green-Gale and a second by Board Member Kuebler, the Board unanimously voted to approve Mr. Fisher's unpaid spare bus purchase request.
Charles Fisher (#127S) – Used Unpaid Spare Bus Purchase Request to replace #127S ➤ On the motion of Vice Chairperson Nicholson and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve Mr. Fisher's unpaid spare bus purchase request.
Charles Fisher (#171S) – Used Paid Spare Bus Purchase Request to replace #171S ➤ On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve Mr. Fisher's paid spare bus purchase request.

<p>George Handy (#2) – New Bus Purchase Request to replace Bus #2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Green-Gale, the Board unanimously voted to approve Mr. Handy’s new bus purchase request.
<p>William Handy, Jr. (#45) - Paid Spare Bus Request</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Vice Chairperson Nicholson, the Board unanimously voted to deny Mr. Handy’s request to purchase a paid spare bus.
<p>(Bus #18) – Permission to Advertise for route #18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Vice Chairperson Nicholson, the Board unanimously approve Dr. Gaddis’ request to advertise for bus route #18.
<p>James Reese (Bus #55) – Non-Approval of a Full Size Special Needs Bus Purchase Request</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Green-Gale, the Board unanimously voted to deny Mr. Reese’s request to purchase a full size Special Needs bus.

Somerset County Public Schools Proposed FY2017 Budget

Dr. Gaddis presented the First Reader of SCPS FY2017 Superintendent’s Proposed Budget. He thanked all the staff involved in the development process of the budget, specifically Ms. Linda Johnson, Chief Finance Officer, who has done a phenomenal job. He also thanked the County Commissioners and acknowledged Mr. Charles Fisher who was in attendance. Dr. Gaddis reported that the total 2016-2017 proposed budget totals \$38,600,512. Of that amount, 75% of the funding is received from the State and the other 25% is received from the local government. Board Member Kuebler requested that Pre-Kindergarten be expanded to all of SCPS elementary schools.

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Vice Chairperson Nicholson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Reader of the Somerset County Public Schools FY2017 Budget.

Monthly Finance Reports

Ms. Linda Johnson, Chief Finance Officer, presented the monthly reports to the Board. She stated that she is currently preparing for the end of the year and to date, 83% of the FY2016 budget has been spent.

Dr. Gaddis informed the Board that there will be approximately \$250,000 carryover balance from the FY2016 budget.

Approval of \$3,391,894 Expenditures Report through April 30, 2016

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve the \$3,391,894 expenditures report for the month of April 2016.

Food Services Report

Ms. Johnson presented the Food Services Report to the Board. She informed the Board that the negative balance of \$107,815 is due to outstanding reimbursements, in the amount of \$134,000, not yet received from the State. She reported that there have been 31,641 more meals served than this time last year. Ms. Johnson informed the Board that the end of year balance is projected to be in the positive.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Personnel Report

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

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

Professional Separations:

Greenwood Elementary School ➤ Sara Herr – 4 th Grade Teacher
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Professional Retirement:

Washington Academy & High School ➤ Arlene Ginn – Science Teacher

SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

- Board Member Kuebler thanked Mr. Charles Fisher for his leadership and assistance with the approval of a new J.M. Tawes Technology & Career Center. He also thanked Matt and Gina Lankford for their efforts in bringing the initiative to the forefront.
- Vice Chairperson Nicholson commended the students for their amazing art talent and expressed her appreciation for the art teachers who supported the students and their creativity.

- Board Member Wells commended Ms. Haley on the outstanding work presented through the organization of the FY2017 Educational Facilities Master Plan. He also thanked the administrators for their informational presentations, the Commissioners for their support, the staff for attending and the Student Board Representatives for their outstanding presentations.
- Board Member Green-Gale thanked everyone for attending and encouraged the Student Board Members to continue to strive for excellence and excel in their endeavors.
- Dr. Gaddis thanked Mr. Fisher and the Commissioners for their support. He stated that Somerset County is a great place to be and stressed the importance of early childhood education. Dr. Gaddis reported that Somerset's (Kindergarten Readiness Assessment) KRA data scores were the highest on the Eastern Shore. The KRA's are observation tools used to assess the early learner's social, mathematics, language, literacy and motor development skills. The data results are used by teachers to develop the correct method of instruction for the student.

Dr. Gaddis informed the Board Members that plans were being made to implement a meals center to be housed at one of the school facilities in Princess Anne and Crisfield.

- Chairperson Sumpter thanked everyone who presented and all who were in attendance. He stated that Somerset is moving ahead "Fast" and "Furious" at the academic and career readiness level. Chairperson Sumpter stated that a lot of positive things are going on within the Somerset County Public Schools System and encouraged the media to spread the word.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Board will convene in an Open Regular Meeting on Tuesday, June 21, 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 Chairperson Nicholson and a second by Board Member Green-Gale, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Dr. John B. Gaddis, Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman, Recording Secretary