

OPEN REGULAR SESSION

TIME: 2:00 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, 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. Ms. Green-Gale entered the meeting during the closed meeting at 2:05 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

On the motion of Board Member Wells and a second by Vice Chairperson Nicholson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the adoption of the agenda as presented.

CLOSED 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 Wells and unanimously passed to enter into a Closed Session at 2:05 p.m. for the following reasons:

- Review and approve the minutes for March 11, 2016 and March 15, 2016
- 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
- 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. after attending the Adult Education social gathering that was held in the Board room at 5:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Teacher of the Year (TOY) Recognition

Representing the Office of Congressman Andy Harris, Mr. Bill Reddish attended the meeting to congratulate and present Mrs. Kolby Noble, Somerset County Public Schools' Teacher of the Year, a Certificate of Congressional Recognition.

Mr. Reddish also announced that on May 12, 2016, the Congressman's Office will host an Armed Forces Academy Forum at North Dorchester High School. Additional information can be found on Congressman Harris' Website or Facebook page.

GED Recognitions

Mr. Conal Turner, Workforce Development Supervisor, opened the presentation of awards by thanking the staff members for their support.

Dr. Gaddis made the diploma announcement followed by the Adult Education Teacher, Ms. Val Guetens' presentation of diplomas to the following individuals:

- Trevor Belcher (Also received Valedictorian Award)
- Bailee Jones
- Matthew Schoolcraft
- Brittany Stanley
- Paul Stevens

Mrs. Guetens thanked the Adult Education Staff Members; Mr. John Robertson, Ms. Debra Nichols, Ms. Sue Tull, Mr. Cliff Hightower, Ms. Heather Necessary and Mr. Conal Turner. She also thanked the Ladies Auxillary Club for their monetary donation which was used to purchase caps and gowns for the Adult Education Graduates.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES REPORTS

Crisfield Academy & High School's Student Board Member shared her report highlighting activities from the southern end of the county. Washington Academy & High School's representative was absent from the meeting and her report was presented by Ms. Jill Holland, Technology and Instructional Supervisor of Social Studies. Chairperson Sumpter thanked them for the information.

Open Regular Session Minutes

On the motion of Board Member Wells and a second by Board Member Green-Gale, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of March 11, 2016 and March 15, 2016.

Announcement of Closed Meeting:

Chairperson Sumpter announced that the Somerset County Board of Education met in an Executive Session on April 19, 2016 for the purpose 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.

Announcement of Closed Meeting:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Administrative Functions

Paid Spare Bus Purchase

The Paid Spare Bus Purchase Request remained tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Facilities Update

Ms. Daniele Haley, Facilities and Capital Planning Supervisor provided the Board with an update on facilities projects. Board Member Kuebler stated that Somerset County Public Schools could benefit significantly by partnering with local businesses and agencies in an effort to purchase discounted equipment, materials and supplies. Dr. Gaddis stated that SCPS is waiting on State and Local commitment letters in regards to funding of the new technical school. The total cost of the project is projected at \$43 million. Local funding will cover \$7.3 million of the cost and \$36 million will be covered by the State.

Board Member Kuebler requested an update on the Crisfield Academy & High School Stadium Field Lights. Ms. Haley reported that Aging Schools Funding has been fenced in by the Governor and she is seeking to apply for grants in the future to cover the costs of the stadium field lights.

B. Student Achievement

Somerset Promise Academy Overview

Mr. William Johnson, Principal of the Somerset Promise Academy, shared a presentation with the Board. He reported that the Marion Sarah Peyton Facility houses three programs; the Somerset County Public Schools Alternative School, the High Roads Program and the Adult Learning Center. His report focused on the Alternative Learning Division. Mr. Johnson stated the purpose of the alternative environment is to

provide instruction to students that have not been successful in their home school. He reported the ultimate goal of the program is for staff to get to know every child and help that child get to know themselves by teaching them how to deal with challenges in life appropriately. This is needed to transition back to their home school and become successful. Mr. Johnson said a data filing system, a student success plan and constant communication from staff from the student's home school are necessary tools that will make the program more effective and ensure those students are successful academically and socially.

History Day

Ms. Jill Holland and several students shared a presentation with the Board highlighting the success of the History Day Project. The History Day Project was part of the Maryland and National History Day events sponsored by the Maryland Humanities Council. Somerset County Public Schools Social Studies Teachers were asked to participate in the event. Ms. Holland informed the Board that the History Day Project was a research-based project where students were given the opportunity to select a topic of their interest that relates to a national theme. The theme for this year was "Exploration, Encounter, and Exchange in History. Students were given the option to perform, create a documentary, create a website or write a paper. Students researched their topics, developed a thesis and presented their findings. The research, writing and presentation skills students used in the History Day Projects closely aligned with the SCPS Instructional Standards. History Day was enjoyed by all as it was an instructional strategy for teachers and a learning experience for the students.

C. Administrative Functions

Sick Leave Policy #700-12

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

Three Lower Counties' School Health Center

Dr. Mathila Jegathesan, TLC Pediatrician and the Pediatrician at the Washington Academy & High School's School Based Health Center, provided an overview of the objectives of the SBHC. She stated that her objective is to increase awareness of the services school based health centers can provide to minimize students' absences and promote the health and well-being of adolescents using the health care center. Some of the services provided at the center include the following:

- Comprehensive health assessments and sports' physicals
- Vision and hearing assessments

- Blood pressure checks
- Fasting labs and other blood draws
- EKG capability with interpretation
- Nutritional counseling and anticipatory guidance

Board Member Kuebler questioned the absence of a health based facility at Crisfield Academy & High School. Chairperson Sumpter asked Dr. Gaddis to contact other area superintendents and gain their input on the SBHC benefits.

D. Curriculum & Instruction

Special Education Staffing Plan

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a seconded by Vice Chairperson Nicholson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the First Reader of the Special Education Staffing Plan.

E. Monthly Finance Reports

Ms. Linda Johnson, Chief Finance Officer, presented the monthly reports to the Board. She stated that work was ongoing for the SCPS 2016-2017 Annual Budget. Ms. Johnson reported that a one-time amount totaling \$59,000 was received from the State to be utilized in the budget for retirement associated costs. She stated that as of March 2016, the total budgetary expenditures are \$26,744,768.

Approval of \$2,879,562 Expenditures Report through March 31, 2016

On the motion of Board Member Kuebler and a second by Vice Chairperson Nicholson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the \$2,879,562 expenditures report for the month of March 2016.

Food Services Report

Ms. Johnson presented the Food Services Report to the Board. She informed the Board that the negative balance of \$108,940 is due to outstanding reimbursements not yet received from the State. She reported that there have been 25,628 more meals served than this time last year. Ms. Johnson informed the Board that Ms. Helen Riggins, Food Services Coordinator, has received an equipment grant which will provide enough funding to purchase four convection oven steamers that will be placed in four schools.

F. 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 Resignations:

Board of Education Central Office ➤ Patti West-Smith – Supervisor of Instructional Programs
Marion Sarah Peyton School ➤ Dr. Lynnette Johnson – Special Education Supervisor

Professional Extended Leave Requests:

Somerset Intermediate Schools ➤ Patricia Benner – Science Teacher
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SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

- Vice Chairperson Nicholson commended the teachers and students for the exceptional presentation they shared on their History Day Project and commended them for a job well done.
- Board Member Green-Gale and Board Member Wells extended their appreciation to the teachers for getting young students involved in the History Day Project and thanked the students for attending and being a part of the presentation.
- Chairperson Sumpter thanked everyone who presented and all who were in attendance.
- Dr. Gaddis announced that personnel issues will not be discussed during meetings, the student dress code will be enforced, the Teacher of the Year Banquet went well and thanked the students for their presentation. He also thanked Mr. Leo Lawson, Public Relations Supervisor, for organizing the TOY ceremonies.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Board will convene in an Open Regular Meeting on Tuesday, May 17, 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