

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

Discussion: The following items were added to the agenda:

- Item 13-A2, Europe Trip
- Item 14-B4 PARCC Assessment Report Response
- Item 14-B2 DIS Easement Approval

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

CLOSED MEETING:

4:00 p.m. – Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, **General Provisions Act**, 3-305(b), On the motion of Vice Chairman Kuebler and a second by Board Member Green-Gale, the Board unanimously voted to enter into a Closed Session at 4:08 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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

Student Board Members Activities Reports

Student Board Representatives presented their schools' activities reports highlighting activities in their respective reporting areas. Chairman Sumpter thanked the students for the information.

Open Regular Session Minutes

On the motion of Vice Chairman Kuebler and a second by Board Wells the Board unanimously voted to table the minutes of October 20, 2015.

Announcement of Closed Meeting:

Chairman Sumpter announced that the Somerset County Board of Education met in a Closed Session on November 17, 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. Curriculum & Instruction

Graduation Waiver

Mr. Davis reported that there have been concerns that current juniors and seniors and those seniors taking CTE Completer courses may have trouble obtaining their required credits. He stated that the solution to this problem will be to request the Board's approval to waive the credits earned taking a 4th Science and Contemporary Issues class. Also there is a need to award 4 credits to current seniors taking a CTE Completer course.

The waiver process will include examination of transcripts by the school counselor & principal. The principal will submit the waiver request to the Deputy Superintendent and the Instructional Council. The council will review the request on a case by case basis and make a decision to approve. Vice Chairman Kuebler commended Mr. Davis and the SCPS Administration for being in the front and addressing and solving issues arising from the seven period a day scheduling change.

On the motion of Vice Chairman Kuebler and a second by Board Member Green-Gale, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Graduation Waiver.

Washington Academy & High School's Europe Trip

On the motion of Vice Chairman Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to remove the Washington Academy & High School's Europe Trip Request from being tabled.

Vice Chairman Kuebler expressed his concern of the positive and potential negative impact an out of country trip may have on the safety and well-being of Somerset County Public Schools' students.

On the motion of Vice Chairman Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to deny the Europe Trip request.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Student Achievement

Climate Shift – Crisfield Academy & High School

Ms. Chantal Russum, CAHS Principal and Mr. Jeff Hale, CAHS Vice-Principal shared a presentation with the Board reporting on the positive climate shift at the school. Ms. Russum stated that her goal, as principal, is to increase student achievement, improve overall attendance, decrease tardiness, create a positive learning community for both staff and students and to decrease negative student behaviors. Mr. Hale reported that compared to last year's data, The First Quarter Report indicates a decrease in behavior issues mainly due to that fact that students are aware that negative behavior will not be tolerated and most behavior issues are addressed within the classroom.

In an effort to increase student achievement, teachers have been inviting students to attend the high school's open study hall, athletes are mandated to attend an afterschool study hall, students grades are being monitored weekly, and Reverend Bagley operates a mentoring program. Mr. Hale reported on the Special Education Cohort. He stated that remediation is provided one period a day, 70% of IEP/504 Plan students have passed or reached a composite score on their HSA's and 90% of the Special Education students are on track to graduate with a high school diploma.

Ms. Russum reported that custodians were working hard and doing an exceptional job. Vice Chairman Kuebler stated that a major management shift was needed for the betterment of student achievement. He also stated that he was approached by the referee of the recent Pocomoke vs. Crisfield soccer game and received high accolades for the CAHS students' display of good sportsmanship.

Dr. Gaddis also commended students and parents that attended the Regional Soccer Game for their support of the CAHS Soccer Team and their display of good sportsmanship.

Chairman Sumpter stated that he was impressed with display of positive morale of students and staff during his recent visit to CAHS.

Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program

Ms. Cheryl O’Neal, Greenwood Elementary School’s Principal, shared a presentation with the Board highlighting the positive impact the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program has had on the eating habits of GES students. Classroom teachers are provided with a box of various fruits and vegetables twice a day, two to three times a week, to serve students while engaging them in a nutritional education lesson. Ms. O’Neal reported that Ms. Lisa Sheh, GES Food and Nutrition Services Manager, invited several students to assist in cleaning and removing stems from the kale. Ms. Sheh proceeded to add olive oil and sea salt, and baked them in the oven, making kale chips.

Ms. O’Neal stated that the program was obtained through a \$70,000 grant that was written by Ms. Helen Riggins, Food and Nutrition Services Supervisor. Board Members were provided with samples of blueberries, oranges, carrots and kale chips.

Mr. Davis extended the kale chip experience to the audience for sampling. Vice Chairman Kuebler suggested that Ms. O’Neal coordinate with Somerset County Health Department and the Eastern Shore Correctional Institute to expand the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program.

B. Curriculum and Instruction

PARCC Results

Mr. Davis reported that 2014-2015 PARCC Assessments results for PARCC Algebra I, Algebra II and 10th Grade English were sent home with students on Friday, November 13, 2015. He reported that Ms. Bartemy informed the Board that faculty and parents would be shown a presentation to help them understand how to read the PARCC Assessments Data Results on the following dates:

- November 16, 2015 – CAHS Faculty
- November 17, 2015 – WAHS Faculty
- November 18, 2015 – WAHS Parents/6:30 – 7:00
- November 19, 2015 – CAHS Parents/6:30 – 7:00

Mr. Davis reported that PARCC Assessments will replace the Algebra I and English 10 MSA and HSA Assessments. The 2014-2015 School Year will be used to set the new baseline for the new assessments. Students will be required to take PARCC, but the passing score will not be required to graduate. The 2015-2016 School Year will be a transition year for PARCC testing. By the 2016-2017 school year, baseline scores for the English 10 and Algebra I will be established as a requirement to graduate, in addition to the already required Biology and Government HSA’s. He stated that PARCC Assessments will assess critical thinking skills, problem-solving abilities,

interpreting passages read and writing skills. Dr. Gaddis stated that PARCC will determine the learning level of the students and is more rigorous than the HSAs. Those learning levels are as follows:

- Level 5 – Exceeded expectations (College & Career Read)
- Level 4 – Met expectations (College & Career Readiness)
- Level 3 – Approached expectations
- Level 2 – Partially met expectations
- Level 1 – Did not yet meet expectations

Mr. Davis reported that the first round of PARCC Assessments seem low, but as teachers acquire more knowledge of PARCC, they get a better understanding of the curriculum and content standards, instructional shifts, and testing items in order to create an intervention or remedial program to help the individual student achieve. Students will receive computer training on how to take the PARCC Test, but a student's attitude, attendance, study habits, behavior, testing taking skills and work ethics will determine their success.

Vice Chairman Kuebler expressed his disappointment with PARCC's alignment with Common Core and stated that reported data shows that the first PARCC Assessment was not successful.

Chairman Sumpter expressed concern that the State Board is trying to help legislators understand that PARCC does not provide teachers with what they need to prepare students for PARCC Testing.

Assessment Report Response

Chairman Sumpter informed the Board that according to House Bill 452/Ch. 421, the Board is required to review and consider the State's testing data survey and make comments and recommendations related to the results of the survey to the State Board. He stated that the State Board is trying to make legislators understand that PARCC doesn't provide teachers with that they need to prepare students for PARCC Testing.

On the motion of Vice Chairman Kuebler and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to affirm that the response to the PARCC Assessment Survey was truthful. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Facilities and Capital Planning

Capital Improvement Plan

Ms. Daniele Haley, Facilities and Capital Planning Supervisor presented the Capital Improvement Plan for the Board's consideration. She stated that County funds for the

CAHS/Head Start construction project are not expected to be used and that groundbreaking at CAHS is expected to be in June and should not interfere with the Opening Day of School in August. The Board continued to discuss school capacity issues and other related questions.

On the motion of Board Member Green-Gale and a second by Board Member Nicholson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the FY2017 Capital Improvement Plan.

Deal Island Elementary School Easement

On the motion of Vice Chairman Kuebler and a second by Board Member Green-Gale, the Board unanimously voted to approve the extension of the previously approved Right of Way Easement Request at Deal Island Elementary School.

D. Transportation and Operations

Student Transportation, #200-18

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

E. Monthly Finance Reports

Monthly Finance Report

Ms. Linda Johnson, Chief Finance Officer reported that she is starting the 2016-2017 budget process looking into using a different financial software program, as suggested by the auditor, to better monitor schools' activities funds.

Approval of \$3,638,146 Expenditures Report through October 31, 2015

On the motion of Board Member Green-Gale and a second by Vice Chairman Kuebler, the Board voted unanimously to approve the \$3,638,146 expenditures report for the month of September 2015.

Food Services Report

Ms. Johnson presented the Food Services Report to the Board. She reported that compared to this time last year, the lunches served are down. This is due to the lunches that were served during the storm this fall. She also reported that the food service deficit this time last year was \$71,695, to date the budget is in a positive amount of \$78,759.

F. HUMAN RESOURCES

Personnel Report

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

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

Professional Resignations (Certificated)

J.M. Tawes Technology & Career Center ➤ Donna Nordstrom – Health Occupations Teacher
Princess Anne Elementary School ➤ Donna Chalmers – Special Ed. Comprehensive Teacher ➤ Eileen Kinnamon – Special Ed. Comprehensive Teacher
Somerset Intermediate School ➤ Harold Holmes
Washington Academy & High School ➤ Michael Robins – Math Teacher

Professional Separations (Certificated)

Washington Academy & High School ➤ Angela Brinkley – Special Education Teacher

Professional Transfers:

Courtney Adkins	From SIS Math Teacher	To SIS Math Facilitator
Ashley Waters	From WES Vice Principal	To GES Vice Principal

Professional Promotions:

Kirstin Gibson	From WES Reading Coach	To WES Vice Principal
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2015-2016 Negotiations Teams

Ms. Whitelock presented the following 2015-2016 Negotiations Teams List for the Board’s approval:

- Chief Negotiator all Unites – Beth Whitelock – Supervisor of Human Resources
- Tom Davis – Deputy Superintendent
- Tracie Bartemy – Director of Schools
- Linda Johnson – Chief Financial Officer
- Unit I (Teachers) – Lilly Welch – WES Principal
- Unit II (A &S) – William Gray – Supervisor of Science/Teacher Mentor
- Unit III (Classified) – Daniele Haley – Supervisor of Facilities

On the motion of Board Member Wells and a second by Board Member Green-Gale, the Board voted unanimously to approve the presented 2015-2016 Negotiations Teams List.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chairman Sumpter requested a moment of silence in memory of Mrs. Angela Brinkley, former Special Education Teacher and Mrs. Verna Corbin, former Special Education Paraprofessional and extended his condolences to their families.

SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD MEMBERS’ COMMENTS

- Board Member Green-Gale thanked the CAHS and GES staff for the entertaining and informative schools activities reports. She commended Ms. O’Neal for the work she has done with the GES students and the Fruits and Vegetables Program.
- Board Member Wells commended staff on their informative presentations.
- Board Member Nicholson sent kudos to the CAHS Soccer Team for winning the Regional Championship and wished them luck in the 1A State Championship Game. She also thanked staff for their informative reports.
- Dr. Gaddis stated that there are a lot of good things going on within the Somerset County Public School System and wished everyone a “Happy Thanksgiving”.
- Chairman Sumpter thanked everyone for attending, encouraged parents and staff to visit the schools and wished the CAHS Soccer Team “Good Luck”.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Board will convene in an Open Regular Meeting on Tuesday, December 15, 2015 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 Nicholson and a second by Board Member Wells, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Dr. John B. Gaddis, Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman, Recording Secretary