



---

---

## Somerset County Board of Education

### Open Work Session

#### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sumpter at 1:10 p.m.

#### 2. Roll Call

The roll was called by Joy Hall (acting Board Secretary) indicating that four Board members and the Assistant Superintendent were present. Mr. Wells and Melissa Tilghman were absent from the meeting. Dr. Miles would arrive later due to a prior meeting.

#### 3. Declaration of Quorum

It was declared that a quorum was present.

#### 4. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Sumpter led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance

#### 5. Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Chairman Sumpter and seconded by Dr. Whittington to approve the agenda. All four Board members approved the agenda and the motion was carried unanimously.

#### 6. Purpose of the Meeting

Chairman Sumpter reviewed recommendations from last meeting.

#### Recommendations/Comments

- For item D (2) Mr. Daugherty stated that COMAR caps at 2 points current MVA driving record.
- Should be noted who can apply for contract.
- Bus contractors are not a Union
- Chairman Sumpter stated that we have an obligation to communicate to all contractors the same information.
- Vice Chairman Miles wanted to know how we go about doing this.

- Dr. Whittington said it is difficult to get things unified if we talk to each contractor individually.
- Chairman Sumpter stated it was the School Boards responsibility to work with each contractor individually. He said that there is no formalized relationship. If we want to use what was done previously that is fine but still make sure everything goes out to each individually. We have an obligation under contract to share everything with everyone. The contractor should first go to the Director of Transportation.
- Mr. Daugherty stated that from now on we will mail information or contact each contractor. Chairman Sumpter stated that previously information was communicated to the Association but not each contractor. Dr. Whittington stated that it was the supervisor's responsibility to get information out to each contractor not just to the head of the Association.
- Hank Ward asked if he could present information to the Board. Mr. Miles stated that Mr. Daugherty needed to know what is being presented first.
- Vice Chairman Miles stated that there was a conflict with the point system as far as seniority.
- Dr. Whittington stated that the Bullying policy should be included in this policy for bus drivers or they should have a separate policy.
- Dr. Whittington stated that we need to take a look at the job description of the Transportation Supervisor.
- For General Standards in item (A) Chairman Sumpter asked what does "any item" mean? Mr. Daugherty replied that it meant any school bus item.
- Item B pg. 5 does not say who is responsible for school bus evacuation drills. Mr. Daugherty stated the school principal or his designee is responsible. Vice Chairman Miles said he thinks Transportation Supervisor should be responsible and the Superintendent.
- Item C is okay.
- Item F pg. 5 – Should have insurance and charter licenses (leave in)
- Item G pg. 5 can be removed. Chairman Sumpter stated that they needed to discuss the PVA if it goes to 15 years.
- Item #10 (A) pg. 6 is in COMAR and a Federal Law. Owner of bus can do a Class A inspection.
- Item #12 (B) pg. 7 – With No Child Left Behind if a school is in need of improvement a parent can request to transfer their child to another school and we would have to pay for their transportation. Otherwise put in policy parents are responsible for their own transportation.
- Item #12 C (6) – Add in 10 Business Days.
- Vice Chairman Miles asked Mr. Daugherty to explain how spare buses were used. Mr. Daugherty said that there were 3 on each end of the county. Vice Chairman Miles stated that someone in the Central Office should be licensed to drive a bus in case of an emergency or break down.

- Item #14 – All bridges and railroad crossings are accessible.
- Chairman Sumpter stated that we need to look at PVA and discuss at MABE Summer Leadership Conference in June.

The Board will meet Tuesday, August 16, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.

It was moved by Chairman Sumpter and seconded by Ms. Green-Gale to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

Dr. Marjorie Miles, Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Joy Hall (Acting Board Secretary)