

**Minutes of Regular Board Meeting  
Westover, Maryland  
August 21, 2012**

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**TIME: 5:00 p.m.**                      **Location: J.M. Tawes Technology & Career Center**

**PRESENT:** Board Members: Chairman Sumpter, Vice Chairperson Green-Gale, and Dr. Whittington; Superintendent Miles; Board Attorney Fulton Jeffers; and Board Secretary Tilghman. Also present were supervisors, public observers, and media representatives. Mr. Miles arrived at 5:48 during the Closed Meeting.

**CLOSED MEETINGS:**

5:33 p.m. – Pursuant to Section 10-508 of the Annotated Code of Maryland  
Motion: Mr. Wells and seconded by Dr. Whittington; unanimously carried

**The approval of minutes was removed from the agenda for further review**

June 19, 2012  
June 26, 2012  
June 28, 2012  
July 17, 2012  
July 31, 2012  
August 8, 2012  
August 16, 2012

**Performed Administrative Functions – Section 10-503**

Received information from Dr. Miles and Marvin Blye

**Discussed Personnel Matters – Section 10-508 (a)(1)(i)(ii)**

Received information from Beth Whitelock and Dr. Miles

**Consulted with Attorney – Section 10-508 (a) (9)**

Received advice on student tuition waiver appeal  
Received advice on personnel matters

Present for this portion of the closed meeting: Board Members: Chairman Sumpter, Vice Chairperson Green-Gale, Mr. Miles, and Dr. Whittington; Superintendent Miles; Board Secretary Tilghman; Attorney Jeffers; Blye and Whitelock

**6. RECONVENED TO OPEN WORK SESSION: 6:42p.m.**

**Policies**

Mr. Lawson presented revisions to Policy #200-21, Guidelines for Releasing School System & Individual School Information to the Board for review. Chairman Sumpter requested that parents be made aware they do not have to sign the guidelines for releasing information forms. He also stated that if schools do not get the forms back from parents, SCPS should consider it a refusal.

Mr. Lawson presented revised Policy #800-09, Public Information and Communication to the Board for review and discussion.

Dr. Miles presented revised Policy #300-11, Vendor Relations, for the Board's approval during the regular meeting. This is a new policy that includes debarment procedures as requested by the Maryland State Department of Education.

Mr. Turner presented revisions to Policy #500-27, Home Instruction.

Ms. Carter presented revisions to Policy #600-42, Use of Video Cameras for Security. Mr. Miles suggested that a clause be added to the policy that sets a time frame that if the camera is not working, SCPS give a time the inoperable cameras will be repaired.

**7. Reconvene in Open Regular Session – 7:00 p.m.**

**8. Pledge of Allegiance**

**9. Adoption of Agenda**

**10. Approval of Minutes:**

June 19, 2012  
June 26, 2012  
June 28, 2012  
July 17, 2012  
July 31, 201  
August 8, 2012  
August 16, 2012  
August 21, 2012

Motion – Mr. Miles and seconded Vice Chairperson; unanimously carried to table the minutes for further review.

## **Announcement of Closed Meetings**

Chairman Sumpter announced that the Somerset County Board of Education met in Closed Session on August 21, 2012 from 5:43 p.m. to 6:40 p.m. pursuant to Section 10-508 of the Maryland Annotated Code for the reasons listed below:

- To discuss personnel matters – Section 10-508(a)(1)(i)(ii)
- To perform administrative functions – Section 10-503
- To consult with legal counsel to obtain legal advice – Section 10-508(a)(7)

## **11. Public Participation**

Heard Public Comments from:

Mr. Kirkland Hall, an advocate for children, addressed the recent issue in the newspaper “ECI is a Blessing”. He stated that a “Black Star Project” is being proposed to as an offensive reaction to the article. The project encourages African American Males to take their children to school on the first day and get involved in their children’s education.

### **United Way**

Ms. Pamela Gregory presented plaques to the principals’ of the schools. United Way has a partnerships with the Dolly Parton’s Youth Program. This program offers Somerset County children ages 0-5 the opportunity to receive a book a month.

### **Student Board Introduction**

The student Board members were introduced. Mr. Cavins from Washington Academy & High School and Mr. Mason of Crisfield Academy & High School. Both students presented informative reports and were thanked and welcomed by the Board.

## **12. OLD BUSINESS**

### **Policies**

#### **#200-18, Student Transportation**

It was the consensus of opinion of the Board to table Policy #200-18, Student Transportation for further discussion.

#### **#300-11, Vendor Relations**

The Board will vote on Policy #300-11, Vendor Relations at the September 18, 2012 Board meeting.

### **#500-27, Home Instruction**

The Board will vote on Policy #500-27 at the September 18, 2012 Board meeting.

### **#600-42, Use of Video Cameras for Security**

The Board will vote on Policy #600-42, Use of Video Cameras for Security at the September 18, 2012 Board meeting. The revision will include requested corrections.

## **13. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Finance Reports**

Mr. Blye will present the monthly finance and food service reports to the Board at the September 18, 2012 Board meeting.

### **B. Curriculum & Instruction**

#### **State Assessment Data Presentation**

Ms. Hopkins showed a presentation on students' Annual Measurable Progress. There have been changes made by the State. Every school will be different based on the school's AMO scores. So far, all schools met targets and set by MSDE. The high schools broke a 80% proficient score. Ms. Hopkins stated that the curriculum will be changed and aligned with the State test.

Mr. Elebash presented the Board with a summary of Professional Development held for staff during the summer.

### **C. New Copier Lease Agreement**

Moved – Mr. Miles and seconded by Dr. Whittington to approve the new copier lease agreement with Canon Business Systems.

### **D. Policies**

#### **Policy #200-21, Guidelines for Releasing School System & Individual School Information**

Mr. Lawson presented revised Policy #200-21 for the Board's review and study. The Board will vote at the September Board meeting.

#### **Policy #800-09, Public Information and Communications**

Mr. Lawson presented revised Policy #800-09 for the Board's review and study.

## **E. HUMAN RESOURCES – NEW HIRE, RETIREES, RESIGNATIONS**

Ms. Whitelock informed the Board that seventeen new teachers were hired and all teaching positions were filled by August 20, 2012.

### Separation/Resignation

William Laird, Pamela Lauer, Christina McQuaid, Elizabeth Miller, Jenna Ryerson, April Todd

### New Hires – Professional Staff

Thomas Bonniwell, Timothy Dukes, Taylor Estes, Christina South, Amanda Thomas, Shannon Thomas

### Transfers

David Edwards, Jessica Hickman, Julie Laird, Kolby Noble, Ann Saecker, Shannon Thomas, Donald Rush, Annette Waggoner

### **Job Descriptions**

Ms. Whitelock presented revised job descriptions for the Public Relations Specialist, the Supervisor of Public Relations, and the School Counselor for the Board's review. The Board will vote at the September 18, 2012 Board meeting.

## **14. SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Miles thanked the teachers for attending the professional development meetings and workshops during the summer.

Dr. Whittington welcomed all the new Student Board Members. He stated that he would like to hear more input from the Student Representatives. Dr. Whittington expressed that while he was pleased with the teacher turnout at SCPS Opening Day, he expected teachers to dress more professionally.

Ms. Green-Gale welcomed everyone to a new school year and welcomed the Student Board members.

Dr. Miles stated that she was excited about the professional development that was held during the summer and that the workshops were preparing SCPS staff for future student achievement. Teachers' professional responsibility is being addressed. Dr. Miles welcomed the new and returning Student Board representatives.

Chairman Sumpter thanked the community for their attendance. He also stated that teachers could contact the Board members with any questions or input in upcoming regulations.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion - Mr. Miles, seconded by Dr. Whittington and passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Sumpter announced that the September 18, 2012 meeting would be held at Woodson Elementary School and Ewell School. He asked the community to continue checking the SCPS website for the times.

Dr. Marjorie E. Miles, Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman/Board Secretary