

**Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
Westover, Maryland
June 19, 2012**

TIME: 5:30 p.m. **Location: J.M. Tawes Technology & Career Center**

PRESENT: Board Members: Chairman Sumpter, Vice Chairperson Green-Gale, Mr. Wells, and Dr. Whittington; Superintendent Miles; Board Attorney 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

Reviewed and Approved Previous Closed Meeting' Minutes

May 15, 2012

Performed Administrative Functions – Section 10-503

Received information from Dr. Miles and discussed the appointment of a representative of Somerset County to serve on MABE's Legal Services Association.

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

Reviewed and discussed personnel matters

Discussed Matters Relative to Negotiations – Section 10-508 (a)(7)

Received and discussed updated information on unit negotiations.

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

Received advice from attorney relating to personnel matters

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

6. RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION: 7:08 p.m.

7. Pledge of Allegiance

8. Adoption of Agenda

Motion – Mr. Miles and seconded Mr. Wells; unanimously carried to approve amended agenda

- Item 13 E1 – Pole Building Construction
- Item 13 E2 – Transportation, Facilities and Food Services move to Marion Sarah Peyton

9. Approval of Minutes:

May 15, 2012 – Regular Meeting

Motion - Mr. Miles and seconded by Mr. Wells; unanimously carried.

10. Announcement of Closed Meeting

Chairman Sumpter announced that the Somerset County Board of Education met in Closed Session on June 19, 2012 pursuant to Section 10-508 of the Maryland Annotated Code for the reasons listed below:

- Approve minutes of May 15, 2012
- To discuss personnel matters – Section 10-508(a)(1)(i)(ii)
- To perform administrative functions – Section 10-503
- To discuss matters relative to negotiations – Section 10-508(a)(9)
- To consult with legal counsel to obtain legal advice – Section 10-508(a)(7)

10. Student Board Members' Activities Report

The Student Board members were presented with a certificate and gift for serving on the Board. Washington Academy and High School representative was not in attendance.

11. Public Participation

Heard Public Comments from:

- Pat Carson, former teacher, addressed the Board by reading the goals, visions, norms, and mission statement. She stated that the Board members did not attend Crisfield High School's activities or functions. She expressed that the Board did not show any support. Her comment to the Board members were to step down if they could not make conscientious decisions.
- Billy Jo Chandler, parent, addressed the Board with concerns about ROTC cuts and stated that parents are not being informed. She expressed her disapproval of the budget and stated that support staff is needed. Ms. Chandler stated that SCPS could cut back on electric to pay for the cost of putting the Army ROTC program back at Crisfield Academy & High School.
- Laurie Mansfield, a parent, expressed concern that parents were not informed when the uniform policy was expanded to the high schools. She expressed that uniforms will not

stop bullying and will be very costly. Ms. Mansfield asked the Board to reconsider the expansion of the uniform policy.

- Madison Schenck commented that bullying would be taken to another level and that children will go above and beyond to stand out.
- Dan Kuebler addressed the Board requesting that Vice Chairperson Green-Gale change the agenda. He stated that student achievement and discipline should be on the agenda. Mr. Kuebler requested a meet and greet with all the new hires and stated that he was tired of bus routes, policies, and human relations being discussed at all the Board meetings. He expressed that the Army ROTC had sentimental value in the Crisfield community.
- Laurie Troop Curtis commented that decisions were being made without parental involvement. She stated that parents are not being informed and that she could not support the decisions the Board members have been making. Ms. Troop-Curtis stated that lack of communication was the reason for the rumor mill.
- Bill Butthull commented that several Board members seemed unconcerned with what the community was saying.
- Gina Gammino addressed the Board on the uniform policy stating that it would take away from student's expression. She stated that the administration should enforce the policy already put into place.

12. OLD BUSINESS

Facilities and Transportation

Announcement of Approval MSP/Promise Academy Bathroom Renovation

Motion – Mr. Miles and seconded by Mr. Wells; unanimously carried

Human Resources

Job Description

Motion – Mr. Wells and seconded by Mr. Miles; unanimously carried to approve the revised HVAC Instructor's job description.

13. NEW BUSINESS

A. FINANCE REPORTS

Ms. Rounds presented the monthly Finance and Food Service reports to the Board.

B. SCPS 2012-2013 PROPOSED BUDGET

Dr. Miles presented the 2012-2013 Budget with a breakdown of restricted and unrestricted funding. The presentation included a breakdown of the areas where the budget was cut along with funding losses from grants and a decrease in staff positions. She stated that most of the budget goes to salary and wages as with every budget. Ms. Billy Jo Chandler suggested that the Board go to the commissioner's and ask for funding to cover the ROTC programs.

Dr. Miles went on to explain that the Master Plan drives student achievement and that student discipline and student data will be sent out and new elementary/secondary education act is being planned for the near future.

The Superintendent presented projects included in the RTTT grants and stated that Leadership Academies are being held and will focus on Leadership, Accountability and Support.

A breakdown of appropriated funding for 2013 was presented with a comparison of the 2012 budget. More spending is being made in the Special Education department with the implementation of the High Roads Academy. The Superintendent explained the E-finance system and the protocol that will be followed. Individuals will be able to check the budget accounts before spending to ensure that overspending will not occur. She explained that health insurance premiums continue to rise and the Board was trying to make the budget more transparent. Dan Kuebler questioned the increase of staffing at the Central Office Level and explained that dialogue is needed with the community and that the community should be kept informed. Mr. Wells also questioned the increase in school management and the decrease in support. Mr. Wells agreed with the community in that \$350,000 renovation project to replace Washington Academy & High School bleachers was not needed and asked that the commissioners reallocate that funding to the school budget.

C. Policies

Policy #200-18, Student Transportation

Motion – Mr. Miles and seconded by Dr. Whittington to table Policy #200-18; the motion was carried unanimously.

Policy #300-11, Vendor Relations

Revised Policy #300-11 was presented to the Board for their review and study. The Board will vote at the next open regular session.

Policy #500-27, Home Instruction

Mr. Turner presented the revised Home Instruction Policy #500-27 for the Board's review and study.

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

Ms. Carter presented revised Policy #600-42 for the Board's review and study.

D. HUMAN RESOURCES – NEW HIRE, RETIREES, RESIGNATIONS

Personnel Matters

The Human Resources Report and bus contracts were approved with a 3:1 vote; Mr. Miles, Mr. Wells, and Vice Chairman Green-Gale voted for and Dr. Whittington was opposed.

Separation

Steve Numbers and Jennifer Ward, Sarah Ward (RIF)

New Hires for Summer School 2012

Janet Keida, Darlene Garber, Phaedra Spencer, Georgia Justis, David Webster, Jennifer Brittain, Aimee Kaniper, Heather Travis

Transfers

Leo Lawson, Annett Waggoner, Julie Laird, Darlene Garber, Cynthia Anderson

Bus Contracts

Bernard Johnson – Bus Route #3
John Asanovich – Bus Route #58

E. Facilities and Transportation

Pole Building Construction at the JM Tawes Campus

Motion – Mr. Wells and seconded by Mr. Miles; unanimously approved.

Marion Sarah Peyton Transportation, Facilities and Food Services

Motion – Mr. Wells and seconded by Mr. Miles; unanimously approved to move the Transportation, Facilities and Food Service Departments to Marion Sarah Peyton

14. Early Student Admission Request

Motion – Mr. Miles and seconded by Mr. Wells to approve the Early Student Admission Request for Deal Island Elementary School. Dr. Whittington and Vice Chairperson Green-Gale were opposed to the motion.

The motion declined to pass with two against and two for. Chairman Sumpter was not available to break the tie vote.

15. 2012-2013 Board Meeting Calendar

The 2012-2013 Board meeting calendar was unanimously approved.

16. SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Wells thanked the community for attending and asked that they tone their mannerisms when addressing the Board.

Dr. Whittington stated that discussions of the budget should occur before it's presented to the commissioners. He also expressed concern that students at Crisfield Academy & High School did not know their Al Ma Mater. Dr. Whittington encouraged the superintendent to engage in community contacts and added that he would not be participating in telephone votes.

Mr. Miles addressed the Board stating that he did not take community concerns lightly. He addressed Mr. Kuebler's concerns informing him that some of the system changes have occurred to help increase student achievement and discipline. Mr. Miles stressed that the current changes made needed to be given a chance to work. Micromanaging system will be a problem if Superintendent is expected to complete the job. The implementation of changes will improve student achievement.

Vice Chairperson Green-Gale thanked the community for their attendance and asked that they give the changes a chance to work. She stated that she attends various community meetings and expressed interest in what the community has to say.

The next Board meeting will be held **August 21, 2012** at the **J.M. Tawes Career and Technology Center**.

18. ADJOURNMENT

Motion - Mr. Miles, seconded by Mr. Wells and passed to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Dr. Marjorie E. Miles, Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman/Board Secretary