

**Minutes of Special Open Board Meeting  
Westover, Maryland  
September 06, 2012**

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**TIME: 1:15 p.m.**

**Location: J.M. Tawes Technology & Career Center**

**PRESENT:** Board Members: Chairman Sumpter, Vice Chairperson Green-Gale, and Mr. Miles; Superintendent Miles; and Board Secretary Tilghman. Also present were supervisors, public observers, and media representatives. Dr. Whittington was excused from the meeting.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Adoption of Agenda**

Motion – Mr. Miles and seconded by Vice Chairperson Green-Gale; unanimously carried to approve the amended agenda

**Public Comments**

Billy Jo Chandler addressed the Board with concerns about the Somerset County Public Schools' Logo change. She expressed that there was not a majority vote by the Board to change the logo and that a policy should be put in place to protect the county logos and mascots.

**Capital Improvement Project - Bleachers**

Dr. Miles stated that SCPS was working on putting bleachers at Washington and Crisfield High Schools. Mr. Miles asked that the Board be given a list of problems that are stated to be wrong with the bleachers for the Board's review. Mr. Jefferson explained to the Board that the MABE insurance representative examined the structure and stated that the current bleachers do not meet the new bleacher structure guidelines. Some of the problems are spacing and positioning of the seats, aluminum is rusting and they are not ADA compliance to name a few. Mr. Jefferson added that the wooden bleachers are separating and not contracting back together. SCPS is taking safety precautions and recommends taking structure down and putting down smaller bleachers.

Chairman Sumpter questioned previous inspection concerns, requested a detailed report and a breakdown of what the inspector suggested.

Mr. Jefferson stated that the bleachers have been considered unsafe. He informed the Board that provisions have been brought in temporarily from the town commissioners. The current bleachers are not being used and caution tape has been put around them.

Mr. Jefferson stated that the current bleachers at Washington High School would be moved to Crisfield High School and new ones would be built for Washington High. It will cost SCPS \$31,375 for the current temporary use of the bleachers. The press box is sturdy and does not need replacement which will save the Board \$87,000.

Chairman Sumpter requested a short recess at 1:55 p.m. to allow Mr. Jefferson time to get additional information on the bleachers.

The Board reconvened into the open special session at 2:07 p.m. The Board reviewed the outline and breakdown of the bleacher issues as well as pictures of the problems. Chairman Sumpter questioned the bidding process and asked for bids to be conducted for each scope of work of the project. He also asked that Mr. Jefferson check for holes on the football field.

Mr. Jefferson informed the Board that SCPS had three options; the use of temporary bleachers, to fix current bleachers, or to rebuild new bleachers. Chairman Sumpter informed Mr. Jefferson that the Board was not ready to make a decision on the bleachers at this time. He requested that Mr. Jefferson make sure the inspector was a licensed structural engineer.

Mr. Miles expressed concern about the use of condemned bleachers and stated that he was not trying to slow down the process, but wanted to make sure a process is followed to do things correctly.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion - Mr. Miles, seconded by Vice Chairperson Green-Gale and passed to adjourn the meeting at 2:33 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Dr. Marjorie E. Miles, Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman/Board Secretary