

By unanimous agreement, the Somerset County Board of Education met in a closed session at the J. M. Tawes Technology & Career Center, Tuesday, April 19, 2005.

The Somerset County Board of Education met in regular session at the J. M. Tawes Technology & Career Center, Tuesday, April 19, at 7:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Dick Scott, Mr. Jack Willing, Mr. Jamie Byrd, Mr. William Miles and Superintendent Karen-Lee Brofee. Mr. Jack Paul was absent. Student Board members, Jalissa Worthy and Jenna Nelson were present.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dick Scott.

2. ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Melissa Tilghman indicating that four Board members, the Superintendent and two student board members were present.

3. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Chairman Scott declared a quorum to be present.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Scott led the Board in the pledge of allegiance.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Willing and seconded by Mr. Byrd to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2005 regular meeting as published. The vote was unanimous.

- **ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION**

A closed session of the Board was held from 6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. to discuss personnel and negotiations. All but one member were present.

6. AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. Willing and seconded by Mr. Byrd and passed, to adopt the agenda as presented. The vote was unanimous.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

Board Minutes – April 19, 2005

8. VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Christy Scott reported how well the Character Education Program was going.

To show how the school system appreciates the time and effort of our volunteers, Dr. Brofee and Board members held an appreciation reception ceremony. Each volunteer was presented with an award.

9. STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Miss Jenna Nelson and Miss Jalissa Worthy gave their student board report. Chairman Scott thanked them for their reports.

It was also noted that on April 21st Greenwood Elementary School would be having a 1950's Dinner Theater.

10. SCHOOL REPORT: SOMERSET INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Mr. Webster reported that combining the two middle schools into one school has gone better than anticipated. Students are getting along very well. Instruction is moving right along. Several dances have been given at the Intermediate school and were very successful.

Mr. Webster reported that their target was for students to be on the buses to go home in ten minutes or less. That goal has been obtained! Mr. Webster reported that they were having a Spring Concert on May 18, 2005 at Washington High School. Somerset Intermediate's band participated in competition and ranked #3 with Superior ratings. They will be playing at the Shorebird Stadium on June 09, 2005.

Mrs. Donna Sterling, Media Specialist at Somerset Intermediate School, along with two of her students demonstrated the various uses of the Palm One Hand Held Computers used in the classrooms.

11. OLD BUSINESS

FACILITIES UPDATE

Mr. Daugherty informed the Board that Whiting-Turner Contractor was ready to begin the Woodson renovation.

BUDGET APPROVAL

Dr. Brofee asked for the Board's permission to present the Operating Budget to the county commissioners. It was moved by Mr. Willing and seconded by Mr. Miles. All board members unanimously agreed.

Board Minutes – April 19, 2005

SAFETY TASKFORCE REPORT AND RESPONSE

Dr. Brofee gave a presentation on responses to the Safety Taskforce Report and addressed them.

Mrs. McLaughlin gave a presentation on discipline. Dr. Brofee stated that in order to understand the students, you must first be familiar with their past history.

Mr. Bloodsworth stated the Board that the only way to make ALC work is to have teachers support and understanding.

12. NEW BUSINESS

The motion was made by Mr. Willing and seconded by Mr. Miles to amend and approve the hiring of the new Food Service Supervisor, Odtis Collins, and to advertise for a new Assistant Superintendent.

Ms. Miller gave the Board an update of the financial report. She also gave the status of the food service budget.

POLICIES

Policy 600-18

Ms. Cheek presented the Board with updates and revisions to Policy 600-18 in accordance with changes to COMAR. The Board will review the policy for June's approval.

Policy 500-10 Removal

The motion was made by Mr. Willing, seconded by Mr. Byrd, and presented by Chairman Scott to approve the removal of policy #500-10.

Mr. Daugherty submitted a request to increase stipends for bus drivers to \$.05/mi. This would be an increase of \$37,550.00 a year. A final discussion will be made in June.

13. Superintendent & Board Member Comments

Doug Bloodsworth, JM Tawes – Rocketry Program made top 100 in the nation and will compete again next month.

14. May Board Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Willing and seconded by Mr. Byrd and carried unanimously to meet on May 17, 2005, closed session at 6:00 p.m. and open session at 7:00 p.m. at the J. M. Tawes Technology and Career Center in the Board Room.

15. Adjournment

The Board meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Karen-Lee N. Brofee, Superintendent
Recorded and Prepared by Melissa Tilghman/Secretary