



By unanimous agreement, the Somerset County Board of Education met in a closed session at the J.M. Tawes Technology & Career Center, Tuesday, August 19, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss personnel and legal matters as permitted by the Maryland Open Meetings Act, S10-508(a)(9) of the State Government Article. Present were Chairman Scott, Vice Chairman Miles, Mr. Willing, Mr. Paul, Mr. Pruitt, Superintendent Dr. Karen-Lee Brofee, and Melissa Tilghman, recording secretary.

The regular Board meeting began at 7:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Scott, Vice Chairman Miles, Mr. Willing, Mr. Paul, Mr. Pruitt, Superintendent Karen-Lee Brofee, and Melissa Tilghman, recording secretary.

### **REGULAR SESSION AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Scott at 7:00 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

The roll was called by Melissa Tilghman indicating that all five Board members and the Superintendent were present.

Upon the conclusion of the roll call, Mr. Bloodsworth requested a moment of silence for Mr. Elmo "Buzz" Powell. Mr. Powell was a former Administrator in the Somerset County School System and a role model for the administration. Mr. Powell passed away on August 18, 2008.

**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 called for by Chairman Scott, moved by Mr. Willing and seconded by Mr. Pruitt to approve the June 17, 2008 Board meeting minutes. The motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

**6. Adoption of Agenda**

It was moved by Mr. Willing, seconded by Mr. Pruitt and passed to adopt the amended agenda.

## **7. Student Board Members' Report**

Mr. Elebash introduced the names of the new Student Board Members. Michelle Malinger is the Washington Academy and High School representative and Joshua Lundgren is the representative for Crisfield Academy and High School. The Student Board members were not required to be there as they had not officially been announced.

## **8. Public Participation**

Eugene Wilkins addressed the Board during public participation regarding his interest in donating several violins to the Somerset County Public Schools Fine Arts Program. Mr. Wilkins would like to see interested students be given the opportunity to learn how to play the violin. Dr. Brofee and the Board members thanked Mr. Wilkins for the violin donation.

## **9. Beauty of Ashes Traveling Mural Presentation**

Stephanie Gilbert addressed the Board regarding the meaning of the Beauty to Ashes Mural. A smoking-awareness campaign was launched through collaboration with the Center for Women's Ministries, the Garland Hayward Center, and UMES. The mural was created by Somerset County students. Maryland is placing emphasis on smoking prevention and through a study conducted on Somerset County, 33.9% of our youth are smoking. Ms. Gilbert requested that the principals circulate the Mural throughout the Somerset County Schools in an effort to promote smoking awareness and prevention.

## **10. Presentation of Diploma**

Jabri Wilson passed Summer School to receive his Diploma but did not attend the Board meeting to be recognized.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **11. A. Policies**

#### **Fire Drills, Policy #400-19**

It was moved by Mr. Willing, seconded by Vice Chairman Miles and passed to approve Mr. Daugherty's Fire Drills Policy #400-26. The vote was unanimous.

#### **Civility Policy #100-21**

It was moved by Mr. Pruitt, seconded by Vice Chairman Miles, and passed to approve Mr. Bloodsworth's Civility Policy, #100-21. The Board also requested the following additions to the policy: 1) an individual can be barred from future events; and 2) law enforcement will be called. The vote was unanimous.

### **B. Special Education Staffing Plan**

It was moved by Mr. Paul, seconded by Mr. Pruitt and passed to approve Mrs. Reich's Special Education Staffing Plan. The vote was unanimous.

## **12. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Finance Report**

#### **Category Transfers**

A motion was called for by Chairman Scott, moved by Mr. Paul, seconded by Mr. Willing and passed to approve Mrs. Miller's budget transfer request.

#### **Monthly Report**

Mrs. Miller provided the Board with the monthly food service report and was thanked by Chairman Scott.

#### **Monthly Food Service Report**

Mrs. Miller presented the Food Service Report. Due to the inventory adjustment, the net loss will increase. The Board members were pleased to learn that "Breakfast in the Classroom" had been expanded to Crisfield Academy and High School.

### **B. Facilities**

#### **Deal Island HVAC Renovation Contract Approval**

A motion was called for by Chairman Scott, moved by Mr. Paul and seconded by Vice Chairman Miles to approve the Deal Island HVAC Renovation Contract award to Wilfre, Inc.. The vote was unanimous.

#### **Change Order Request**

A motion was called for by Chairman Scott, moved by Mr. Paul, seconded by Mr. Willing and passed to approve Mr. Daugherty's change order request #101. The vote was unanimous.

#### **Crisfield Academy and High School Water Cooling Tower**

It was moved by Mr. Willing, seconded by Mr. Paul and passed to approve Towson Mechanical, Inc. as the contractor to install the new water cooling tower at Crisfield Academy and High School. The vote was unanimous.

#### **Approval of Pre-Construction Management Services for WHS**

The approval of the Pre-Construction Management Service Contract for Washington Academy and High School was tabled until the September Board meeting.

#### **Comprehensive Maintenance Plan Approval**

It was moved by Mr. Paul, seconded by Vice Chairman Miles and passed to approve Mr. Daugherty's Comprehensive Maintenance Plan. The vote was unanimous.

### **Introduction of the New Minority Business Enterprises Policy #400-19**

Mr. Daugherty requested that the Board review and study the Minority Business Enterprise Policy #400-19 for a vote at the September Board meeting.

### **Approval of Architect for Renovation of Washington Academy and High School**

A motion was called for by Chairman Scott, moved by Mr. Paul, seconded by Mr. Pruitt, and passed to approve Mr. Daugherty's request to award Hord, Coplan, and Macht the Contract for the design of the Washington Academy and High School Renovation.

### **C. Out of County Student Attendance**

It was moved by Mr. Pruitt, seconded by Vice Chairman Miles and passed to approve the Out of County Student Attendance Requests for the 2008-2009 School Year. The vote was unanimous.

### **D. Marion Sarah Peyton Update**

Mr. Purnell, Marion Sarah Peyton Dean of Students, and Mr. Turner, Workforce Development Supervisor presented a report on the activities at Marion Sarah Peyton.

Mr. Turner provided a breakdown of the GED enrollments in the Adult Education Program. Mr. Turner reported that technology is being integrated throughout the GED programs. There are also a large number of ESL students being served which is due to our collaboration with the Salisbury One-Stop.

Mr. Purnell provided an overview of the ALC program and other programs provided at the school. The "Why Try" program which targets potential behavior problem students is a program that provides character education to students. Upon completion of the program students are given the opportunity to go back to their home school. This decision is based on the student's progress and what's deemed best for the student. The "BASES" program is another program coordinated by Sharon Richards in which students are given work study skills. This program has been successful with an enrollment of 12 students.

Upon the completion of the Marion Sarah Peyton Report, Dr. Brofee thanked Mr. Turner and Mr. Purnell for the information and commented on the cleanliness of the building, especially the floor.

### **E. Curriculum Revision Annual Report**

Mr. Bloodsworth presented the Board with a report updating them on the revisions made to the curriculum. Scope and sequence has been completed at the elementary level, new Social Studies textbooks are available for grades K-5, and 2009 Reading textbooks are available for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students. New mid-term and final exams have been developed for English I & II. The Algebra I curriculum has been revised and 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade now have formative assessments. Teacher model lessons have been developed and a Benchmark Form B has been developed. Mr. Bloodsworth also reported that Maryland has been struggling to get students, parents, and the community to understand the importance of Technology Education designed into the curriculum.

## **F. Human Resources Report**

Mr. Lawson provided a brief report on the hiring of new teachers. There have been a total of 14 new teachers hired. He also stated salary and health benefits are not a factor in obtaining and keeping new teachers. Mr. Lawson informed the Board members that NCLB now requires that teachers pass all the PRAXIS.

### **New Hires, Retirees, and Resignations**

Mr. Lawson presented the following Human Resources report for the Board's approval;

**New Hires:** Eileen Smullen, Willie Giddens, William Bails, Chelsea Eckert, Stephanie O'Hara, Latoya Pearson, Heather Esham, Beth Whitelock, Dema Lankford, Chin (Mike) Sheh, Vickie Evans

**Rehire:** Caren French

**Resignations:** Julie Crimmins, Lloyd Tyler, Ileen Yearick, Cheryl Tull, Warren Harris, Victoria Harris, Thelma Douglas, and Patrick Nichols

**Changes:** Janet Cottman (CHS), Elizabeth Riggin (PAES), Dawn Evans (WES), Donald Whittington (JMT), Ernest Tilghman (CHS), George Handy (SIS), Cynthia Anderson (WHS), Jessica Massey (WES), Barbara Hicks (PAES)

**Retirees:** Zenora Dutton

It was moved by Mr. Paul, seconded by Mr. Pruitt, and passed to approve Mr. Lawson's Human Resource Report. The vote was unanimous.

### **Out of State Travel**

Mr. Lawson presented the Board with the Out of County Travel for the month.

## **13. Superintendent & Board Member comments**

Dr. Brofee read a letter from Dr. Grasmick. Maryland Schools have been named as third in the nation by Education Week for having an excellent education and ranked second for academic achievement. Dr. Grasmick also congratulated us on the improvement of our MSA scores. Dr. Brofee commended the staff for having the schools ready upon students' return. Mr. Daugherty will be providing an energy conservation report and an overview of the Summer Programs that were available this summer will be given by Mrs. Forbush at the September Board meeting. The Board members were pleased to hear that there was space for all needful Pre K students and none were put on a waiting list.

- 14. August 2008** – It was moved by Mr. Paul, seconded by Mr. Pruitt, and passed to approve September 16, 2008 as the next open regular session. The closed session will begin at 6:00 p.m. and the open regular session will begin at 7:00 p.m. at the J.M. Tawes Technology & Career Center. The vote was unanimous.

## **15. The Board meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.**

Karen-Lee Brofee, Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman/Secretary