



PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2011 BUDGET

By unanimous agreement the Somerset County Board of Education met at the J.M. Tawes Technology & Career Center, Tuesday, June 1, 2010 to hold the Public Hearing on the FY2011 Budget. Present were Chairman Miles, Vice Chairman Pruitt, Dr. Whittington, General Sumpter, Mr. Wells, Superintendent Dr. Karen-Lee Brofee, the Student Board Members and Melissa Tilghman, recording secretary.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Miles at 6:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call

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

3. Declaration of Quorum

It was declared that a quorum was present.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Miles led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Appreciation of Student Board Members

The Board thanked the two Student Board Members for providing the schools' reports during the year. Each student was given a gift, commended for their achievements and wished good luck and success for their future. The Student Board Members thanked everyone for the experience.

6. Approval of FY2011 Budget

Dr. Brofee began the meeting with a revenue breakdown of the 2011 Budget. Over \$500,000 will be carried over from the 2010 Budget which will be used to offset the decrease in the 2011 Budget. It is a concern that we will not have this carryover balance for 2012. In order to continue quality education with the approved budget the following positions and cuts were made: Dean of Students (CHS), Test Assessment Coordinator (CO), CES Instructional Consultant (CHS), and an Intervention Teacher (PAES), Special Education Aide, Special Education Teacher, and Clerical Support for Human Resources. Publishing Advertising Funds were cut, as well as the extended Day Program. Professional Development has been reduced by over 60%, the Teacher Recruiting Incentive Program will no longer be funded and

the Video Camera Upgrade Schedule has been placed on hold.

Though several cuts have been made, SCPS was able to save the positions of all current staff members, continued funding for Library/Media Materials, Materials of Instruction and Textbooks, Technology Management Programs, Consultants, Technology Support Contracts, and the Administrative Fee for Bus Contractors. Additions made to the FY2011 were the hiring of a technology technician, a technology instructional facilitator, a first grade classroom teacher, two 6th grade core teachers, eighth and ninth grade students will have one to one computers, application tracking and hiring computer software, and a time clock FLSA system.

Several staffing positions and programs have been temporarily saved due to the stimulus, but grants totaling over \$5 million are at risk. This is the current proposal to change formula grants to competitive grants which will impact our Title I grant which brings in over \$1million in funding. Current competitive grants are Gear Up/Gear Up II, Twenty-First Century, Reading First, and the STEM Grant.

The Board was informed that over \$320,000 was spent paying teacher substitutes. Washington High School will have a site based health program that will be operated by TLC.

General Sumpter suggested that the savings we have from energy conservation be used to purchase and upgrade video cameras and equipment. He also requested to see the teachers' salaries and their contract scale. Dr. Whittington's suggestion was that the Board have a chance to review the budget earlier in during future budgets. He also voiced concern about employees whose positions are cut when the program they are hired under loses funding, he does not believe this is a good practice.

It was moved by Vice Chairman Pruitt, seconded by Mr. Wells, and passed to approve Somerset County Public Schools FY2011 Budget.

7. Public Participation/Comments

Laurie Troop Curtis addressed the Board and thanked them for maintaining the Band in Crisfield High School. She has requested that the Board continue future consideration in music and band classes in the schools and at Deal Island. Crisfield Band Director, Heather McHenry is interested in creating a jazz band. Mrs. Troop Curtis thanked the Board for the update and increase in Technology Education and the One to One Initiative.

Dr. Whittington thanked the attending parent for speaking and encouraged her to encourage other parents to engage in student learning. He also stated that Fine Arts should have to follow the same academic guidelines for sports.

8. Adjournment

It was moved by Vice Chairman Pruitt, seconded by General Sumpter and passed to approve the adjournment of the June 01, 2010 Budget Approval Meeting at 7:00 p.m. The vote was unanimous.