



The Somerset County Board of Education met at the J. M. Tawes Technology & Career Center, Tuesday February 19, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. to review the SIS Tawes Construction Project. Upon completion of the SIS Tawes Construction Update the Board met in a closed session meeting at 6:00 p.m.

By unanimous agreement, the Somerset County Board of Education met in a closed session at the J.M. Tawes Technology & Career Center, Tuesday, February 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, 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, Superintendent Karen-Lee Brofee, and Melissa Tilghman, recording secretary. Student Board member Alexander Cavins was also in attendance. Mr. Pruitt was excused due to illness.

OPEN WORK SESSION

SIS Construction

The Somerset County Board of Education met in an open work session at 5:35 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Scott, moved by Vice Chairman Miles and seconded by Mr. Paul. Present were Chairman Scott, Mr. Paul, Mr. Pruitt, Superintendent Karen-Lee Brofee, and recording secretary, Melissa Tilghman. Mr. Daugherty and Mr. Catanzaro were also present at the meeting. Mr. Willing arrived five minutes into the meeting. Mr. Pruitt was out due to illness. Mr. Daugherty presented change order requests #72-#79.

Mr. Daugherty provided the Board members with the Holding Tanks Contract. The Board was informed that bids had been distributed and the estimated cost would be around \$58,000.00. It was determined the only way funds would be recouped were if the tanks were sold after they are no longer needed. The Board was also informed that Somerset Intermediate signs were being put up.

Mr. Daugherty also informed the Board that he had just received a bus training application that he will be asking approval for.

Dr. Brofee and the Board members decided to hold a Somerset Intermediate dedication on Sunday May 04, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. Upon the close of the meeting the Superintendent presented "Thank You" awards to John Catanzaro and Mike Calloway. John will give Mike his award as he was unable to attend.

REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Brofee at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

The roll was called by Melissa Tilghman indicating that four Board members and the Superintendent were present. Mr. Pruitt was out due to illness. Student Board Members Alexander Cavins was also present. Chatriece Lawson was unable to attend due to an afterschool activity.

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 Vice Chairman Miles to approve the minutes of January 15, 2008. The vote was unanimous.

6. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was called for by Chairman Scott, moved by Mr. Willing, seconded by Vice Chairman Miles and passed to adopt the agenda as presented. The vote was unanimous.

7. Recognition of a Job Well Done – SPN Construction Management

Dr. Brofee presented Mr. Catanzaro and Mr. Calloway an award thanking them for all their hard work and to show our appreciation for a job well done. This was done in the Open Work Session.

8. Woodson Elementary Food Services Recognition

Dr. Brofee recognized MariJean Crocket, Gertrude Johanning, Laurie Sterling, Peggy Ward, Pat Ward, and Darlene Wilson for showing their dedication to Woodson Elementary School by having a perfect attendance record since the beginning of school. All were presented with a small attendance pin and a group certificate. The Board members thanked each person for their dedication to the Somerset County Public School System.

9. Student Board Members' Reports

Student Board member Alexander Cavins provided the Board with an enlightening informational report. The Gear Up program was a success, 138 attended the Family Math Night, and the Parent Advisory Committee continues to meet. Mr. Cavins also announced that he had just finished working in the Page Program at the White House and that he has been accepted to West Point Military School for the class of 2012.

10. Eastern Shore Association of Student Council Technology Level III Recognition

Mr. Elebash shared with the Board that Tierra Collins, a Washington High student and Ms. Vestina Davis had attended the Eastern Shore Association of Student Council two day conference where Tierra was awarded for being chosen as the public speaker at the conference. Tierra was unable to attend as she was involved in a school activity at Washington High School. The Board asked Mr. Elebash to send Tierra their congratulations.

11. Greenwood Elementary School Report

Mrs. O'neal presented the Board member with an update on the progress of Greenwood Elementary School. The Board was informed that the IEP students were making great progress with DiBels testing and scores were increasing. With the split 90 minute reading block teachers are able to work with fewer students at a time which has proven to be very beneficial to the students. GES held a "Girls Night Out" that was very successful. A "Gentleman's Club" has also been created at the school where young males are shown how to be respectful, achieve, and become good role models and the first Family Reading Night was successful with a great turnout. There is a multicultural night activity planned for Friday, February 29, 2008 at GES in which everyone is invited to attend. The Board members thanked Mrs. O'Neal for her report.

12. United Way

Mr. Bloodsworth presented the United Way contributions report for year 2007. Last year contributions totaled \$6,244.00, but have nearly doubled for 2007 with a contribution total of over \$12,015.00. Greenwood Elementary School was the highest donating school and Deal Island Elementary had the greatest number of participants. Mr. Bloodsworth thanked Vicki Nelson for her help. Somerset Intermediate School won the United Way dessert party for having the most improved contribution participation. Mr. Bloodsworth introduced Ms. Lynn Houston, United Way representative. Ms. Houston thanked SCPS for its contribution and made SCPS aware that our donations provide help for local families. Thank you plaques were provided to each participating school.

13. DAR Essay Contest Winner

Mr. Bloodsworth introduced Barbara Bloodsworth, DAR Essay Coordinator. Mrs. Bloodsworth provided an explanation of what the essay was about and how the winner was chosen. This year's winner was Devin Marshall, an 8th grader at CAHS. The essay topic was Spying in the American Revolution, "I Spy Espionage". Devin read his essay to the Board members. The Board members thanked Devin and Mrs. Bloodsworth for a job well done.

14. Public Participation

First on the agenda for public participation was Annette Kenney. Ms. Kenney addressed the Board with concerns and issues of her daughter, Timara Kenney at Crisfield High School. Chairman Scott, with all Board members agreeing, that Ms. Kenney wait to speak on the issues with her daughter, Timara, at her appeal. Ms. Kenney thanked the Board members with the understanding her concerns would be addressed at the appeal meeting.

Alexander Cavins and Billy Ward spoke to the Board asking for approval to plan the 2008 senior trip to Myrtle Beach on 03/18/08 – 03/21/08 or 05/29/08 – 06/01/08. The students were advised that trip approvals are made by the coordinating teacher and are approved by Mr. Bloodsworth. The students thanked the Board members for the information.

Crisfield High School's Parent Advisory Council addressed the Board. Laurie Trooper-Curtis spoke to the Board with concerns regarding ongoing issues at Crisfield Academy and High School and concerns relating to the Crisfield High School dance that was held. Mrs. Trooper Curtis feels that SCPS students have the opportunity to learn more. PAC would like to see more afterschool activities held. Bus issues and the concern of the 8th grade students walking around with 12th grade students have been addressed by the school administrators. Parents are still concerned with disruptive classroom behavior and feels that students should be removed from class. Chairman Scott commended PAC for being active in student learning.

As a response for increased afterschool activities, Dr. Brofee informed the PAC group that schools are given stipends for these programs. Mrs. Trooper-Curtis informed the Board that the goal of the PAC is to provide ongoing productive learning for all students.

OLD BUSINESS

15. FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION

A motion was called for by Chairman Scott, moved by Mr. Willing, and seconded by Vice Chairman Miles to approve the change order requests presented by Mr. Daugherty.

It was moved by Mr. Willing, seconded by Mr. Paul and passed to approve the contract with P&A, LLC for the installation of sewage holding tanks at Somerset Intermediate School.

Instructional Report

Mr. Bloodsworth presented the 2008-2009 school calendar for approval. It was a split decision amongst the Board members. It was moved by Vice Chairman Miles and seconded by Mr. Pruitt to approve Calendar A. It was moved by Mr. Paul and seconded by Mr. Willing to approve Calendar C. Dr. Brofee will take a phone poll during the following week for Board's final decision.

Policies

It was moved by Vice Chairman Miles, seconded by Mr. Paul, and passed to approve the tabling of Policy #700-03 (Conflict of Interest) and Policy #100-3 (Ethics Regulations). There will be more revisions made to these policies.

NEW BUSINESS

16. Finance

Mrs. Miller presented audit bid requests. The board decided they will take a week to generate any questions they have before making a final decision.

Finance Report

Monthly Finance and Food Service Reports

Mrs. Miller provided the Board with the monthly finance and food service reports. The Food service report had a shortage due to staff illness and increase cost in substitutes. Chairman Scott thanked her for her reports.

Superintendent's Budget

Dr. Brofee presented the proposed FY2009 School Budget showing its alignment with the Master Plan. The presentation listed the Master Plan strategies and areas. The presentation included student progress and areas in need of improvement. The board was informed that funds are being used wisely. Some highlights to the presentation were that Family and Community partnerships have increased, we will maintain HSA development, summer and after school programs will be maintained.

Human Resources Report

New Hires, Retirees, and Resignations

A motion was called for by Chairman Scott, moved by Vice Chairman Miles, seconded by Mr. Willing to approve Mr. Lawson's Human Resources report. 1) Retirements: Jean Adams, Billie Dayton, Steve Phillips; 2) New Hires: Barnabas Togom, James Lane 3) Reassignments: Michael Tremper. The vote was unanimous.

Out of State Travel

Mr. Lawson provided the employee Out of State Travel to the Board for informational purposes only.

Request for Out of County School Attendance

It was moved by Vice Chairman Miles, seconded by Mr. Willing, and passed to approve the request of Stephanie Sproul and Nicole Andrews to allow their children to attend Somerset County Public Schools. The vote was unanimous.

Facilities and Transportation

It was moved by Mr. Willing and seconded by Mr. Miles to approve Mr. Daugherty's request to train Robley Bradshaw and Mike Greco as new substitute bus drivers. The vote was unanimous.

A motion was called for by Chairman Scott, moved by Mr. Willing, seconded by Vice Chairman Miles and passed to approve Mr. Daugherty's requests to allow Charles Fisher to take Mr. King's bus #12 route. Mr. King will be retiring from driving. The vote was unanimous.

Policies

Energy Conservation Policy #400-03

Mr. Daugherty presented the Energy Conservation Policy #400-33 for the Board members to review and study for a possible vote at the March Board meeting.

17. Superintendent & Board Member Comments

There were no comments made.

- 18. March 2008**— It was moved by Mr. Willing and seconded by Vice Chairman Miles and passed to approve March 18, 2008 as the next open regular session. The open work session will begin at 5:30 p.m., closed session will begin at 6:30 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.

19. The Board meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Karen-Lee Brofee, Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman/Secretary