



By unanimous agreement, the Somerset County Board of Education met in a closed session at the J.M. Tawes Career & Technology Center, Tuesday, January 20, 2009 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 Willing, Vice Chairman Miles, Mr. Pruitt, Dr. Whittington, General Sumpter, Superintendent Dr. Karen-Lee Brofee, and Melissa Tilghman, recording secretary.

The regular Board meeting began at 7:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Willing, Vice Chairman Miles, Mr. Pruitt, Dr. Whittington, General Sumpter, Superintendent Karen-Lee Brofee, and Melissa Tilghman, recording secretary. Crisfield Academy & High School's student representative was excused from the meeting. Washington Academy & High School's student representative was present at the meeting.

SWEARING IN OF BOARD MEMBERS

The Somerset County Board of Education gathered with the public for a small reception and the swearing in of Dr. Whittington and General Sumpter. Mr. Ted Phoebus and Patrick Daring were present to swear the Board members in.

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 all five Board members and the Superintendent were present. Student Board representative from Washington High School was also present. Crisfield student Board representative was excused from the meeting.

3. Declaration of Quorum

Dr. Brofee declared a quorum to be present.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Brofee led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Reorganization of the Board

It was moved by Mr. Miles, seconded by Mr. Pruitt, and passed to approve the nomination and election of a new Board Chairman. Mr. Miles nominated Mr. Willing who accepted the nomination. It was moved by Mr. Pruitt, seconded by Mr. Miles, and passed to approve the election of Mr. Willing to hold the role of Board Chairman. The vote was unanimous.

A separate vote was held for the role of Vice Chairman with a nomination being made for Mr. Miles to be re-elected as the Vice Chairman of the Board. Mr. Miles accepted the nomination. It was moved by Mr. Pruitt, seconded by General Sumpter and passed for Mr. Miles to continue his role as Vice Chairman of the Board of Education. The vote was unanimous. Dr. Brofee turned the meeting over to Chairman Willing.

6. Approval of Minutes

A motion was called for by Chairman Willing, moved by Mr. Pruitt, seconded Vice Chairman Miles and passed to approve the December 16, 2008 Board meeting minutes. The motion was carried unanimously.

7. Adoption of Agenda

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

8. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

9. Student Board Members' Report

Student Board members provided their reports and were thanked by the Board members.

10. AP Statistics Class

Mr. Ballard's AP Statistics class did a presentation to the Board members on the various learning aspects of the class and was thanked by the Board members.

11. 2009 System Update

Mr. Bloodsworth, Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Lawson, Mrs. Miller, & Mrs. Smoker presented the 2009 System Update informing the Board members on the status of SCPS funding. Chairman Willing thanked them for the information.

12. Old Business

A. Policies

Approval of the 300 Series Policies, Financial Management

A motion was called for by Chairman Willing, moved by Vice Chairman Miles, seconded by Mr. Pruitt and passed to approve the 300 series policies. Dr. Whittington did not vote.

Approval of Policy 500-14, Acceptable Use Policy

A motion was called for by Chairman Willing, moved by Vice Chairman Miles, seconded by Mr. Pruitt, and passed to approve policy 500-14. Dr. Whittington and General Sumpter did not vote.

500 series policies, Policies of Instruction

Mr. Bloodsworth presented the revised 500 series policies for the Board's review and study.

13. A. Monthly Finance Report

Monthly Finance Report

It was moved by Mr. Pruitt, seconded by Dr. Whittington, and passed to approve Mrs. Miller's monthly finance report. The vote was unanimous.

It was move by Dr. Whittington, seconded by Mr. Pruitt and passed to approve Mrs. Miller's monthly food service report. The vote was unanimous.

2010 Budget Considerations

A motion was called for by Chairman Willing, moved by Mr. Pruitt and seconded by Dr. Whittington to approve the February 12, 2009 Budget Input meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Tawes Technology & Career Center's Board Meeting room. The vote was unanimous.

B. Policies

#600 Series, Student Services

Ms. Carter presented the list of 600 series policies to the Board members. Due to the number of policies in the series, the policies will be presented in order of importance.

C. Instructional Report

2009-2010 Calendar Choices

Mr. Bloodsworth presented the 2009-2010 calendar choices to the Board. It was the consensus of the Board to get complete input from the schools regarding their choices. The information will be presented at the February Board meeting.

D. New Bus Contractor Approval

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Vice Chairman Miles, seconded by Dr. Whittington, and passed to approve Mr. Daugherty's request to allow William Handy to replace Alexander Whittington on route #45. The vote was unanimous.

E. Human Resources Progress Report

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mr. Pruitt, seconded Vice Chairman Miles passed to approve the following personnel actions: New Hires: Ruth Ann Laird Smith; Retirees: Dorothy Thomas, and Marylin Zweig

Out of State Travel

Mr. Lawson presented the Out of State Travel to the Board members.

Job Description Revisions

Mr. Lawson submitted a revised copy of the custodial job descriptions for the Board's review and study for a vote at the next Board meeting.

14. Superintendent & Board Member comments

Chairman Willing welcomed the new Board members. Dr. Brofee also welcomed the new Board members and congratulated Mr. Willing for accepting the Chairman role. Dr. Brofee also announced that May 27 – May 28, 2009 an academic achievement ceremony will be held at Washington High School. Dr. Brofee announced that she will be traveling to Annapolis with seven other Eastern Shore Superintendents to rally against unfunded mandates.

Dr. Whittington thanked everyone for welcoming him on the Board and informed the audience that his focus was on children's education and ensuring that equality is given to all employees.

15. February 2009 – It was moved by Mr. Pruitt, seconded by Dr. Whittington and passed to approve

February 17, 2009 as the next open regular session. The closed session will begin at 6:00 p.m., the open regular session will begin at 7:00 p.m. at the J.M. Tawes Career & Technology Center. The vote was unanimous.

16. Adjournment

The Board meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Karen-Lee N. Brofee, Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman/Secretary