



By unanimous agreement, the Somerset County Board of Education met in an open public hearing to discuss policies and facilities items at 5:00 p.m. and convened in a closed session 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 Miles, Vice Chairman Pruitt, Dr. Whittington, General Sumpter, Mr. Wells, Superintendent Dr. Karen-Lee Brofee, and Melissa Tilghman, recording secretary.

The regular Board meeting began at 7:00 p.m. Present were, Chairman Miles, Vice Chairman Pruitt, Dr. Whittington, General Sumpter, Mr. Wells, Superintendent Karen-Lee Brofee, and Melissa Tilghman, recording secretary. Student Board members were also present.

FACILITIES ITEMS AND POLICY REVIEW

Chairman Miles called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. Mr. Daugherty introduced Mr. Eric Butler, WAHS Contractor. Mr. Butler began the meeting informing the Board that due to a rewiring and connection mistake, the internet was shut down for four days. Teachers taking the web class were dismissed early. He also provided an explanation of the change order requests presented by Mr. Daugherty. Mr. Daugherty will seek approval at the open regular session.

REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Miles at 7:15 p.m.

2. Roll Call

The roll was called by Melissa Tilghman indicating that 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. Approval of Minutes

A motion was called for by Chairman Miles, moved by Dr. Whittington, seconded by General Sumpter and passed to approve the minutes of May 18, 2010. The motion was carried unanimously.

6. Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Vice Chairman Pruitt, seconded by General Sumpter and passed to adopt the agenda as presented. The vote was unanimous.

7. Introduction of Student Board Members

Mr. Elebash announced the names of the newly appointed Student Board Members.

8. Ewell School

Ms. Evans presented the Ewell School Report to the Board. There are 12 students and 6 staff members currently at Ewell. Of those 12 students 5 scored proficient on an Alternative MSA in the MSA's and 1 scored advanced. The one special education student also scored proficient. Ewell students had a trip to Washington, D.C. that went well. Students were given the opportunity to tour the Arlington Cemetery and visit the Capital. The Ewell students have been learning about Southern Korean countries and were later allowed to do even more research and create pastry dishes for a project. On this day students were also allowed to bring their Nintendo DS games. Ms. Evans provided educational games for the students and was given good feedback from the students and parents. Ms. Evans ended her presentation by thanking the Board for the opportunity to report about the school and keeping the school open.

9. Recognition of Art Award

Laura Perry, GES Art Teacher introduced the GES student who received state recognition for winning the Economic Art Award. The piece of art will be put into the State Art Book. The Board presented the student with a Book on the Environment to thank her for her outstanding achievement.

10. United Way Plaques

Mr. Bloodsworth introduced Mr. Reid, United Way Representative. Greenwood Elementary was the top contributor this year. The school system had a 7% participation increase. Mr. Reed thanked everyone for their contributions.

Crisfield Academy and High School received a Governor of Maryland's Operation Haiti Certificate for their contributions to Haiti. The Board commended Ms. Ward, staff and students of Crisfield Academy and High School.

11. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

12. A. Human Resources

Approval of Job Descriptions

It was moved by Dr. Whittington, seconded by Vice Chairman Pruitt and passed to approve the revision of the PC Technician, the Instructional Facilitator, and the Voyager Teacher's job descriptions. The vote was unanimous with all Board members in agreement.

B. Facilities

Change Order Requests

It was moved by General Sumpter, seconded by Dr. Whittington, and passed to approve the following Change Order Requests presented by Mr. Daugherty: 1) Furnish and install auditorium underdrain and install temporary sump to relieve the underground water pressure in the auditorium; 2) Furnish and install all material, equipment, labor as to perform the work as shown on the revised terrazzo pattern dated December 12, 2009; 3) Re-Install the sprinkler riser pipe for the gymnasium to the backside of the wall as originally installed, and 3) Furnish and install all revisions to door frames, hardwares, and doors. The vote was unanimous.

Educational Facilities Master Plan

A motion was called for by Chairman Miles, moved by Dr. Whittington, seconded by Vice Chairman Pruitt, and passed to approve Mr. Daugherty's Educational Facilities Master Plan. The vote was unanimous.

13. New Business

A. Finance

Monthly Finance Report

Ms. Miller presented the Monthly Finance report to Board. The Board members thanked her for the report. Dr. Whittington questioned the fixed charge deficit which Ms. Miller addressed.

Food Service Report

Ms. Miller presented the Food Service report to the Board and informed the Board that the deficit of the food service budget continues to increase.

Category Transfers

It was moved by Vice Chairman Pruitt, seconded by Dr. Whittington and passed to approve Ms. Miller's category transfer request. The vote was unanimous.

Policy #300-15, Record Retention – Financial Documents

Ms. Miller expressed her concern about the space issue and would like to create a policy outlining the length of time records should be kept at the Central Office. The Board agreed that a policy should be put into place. Dr. Whittington expressed concern of the lost school records of African American students in Crisfield.

B. Instruction

Summary Comments on 2009-2010

Mr. Bloodsworth reported that one senior did not graduate due to an incomplete credit, there were five dropouts. He reported that when students get to the 9th and 10th grades this is where some students begin to lose focus and dropout.

Summer Programs

The Adventurers Program and the Voyager Program are being offered this summer with lunch being open to all students. There are several professional development workshops being offered in Technology, Special Education, Migrant, and Principals Academy (Aspiring) Workshops. Mr. Bloodsworth provided a brief description of the STEM Program and the current STEM Project which includes following the effects of storm water runoff.

Dr. Whittington voiced concern that everyone interested in attending the Aspiring Administrative Workshop should be informed and given the opportunity to attend.

Out of County Field Trip Requests

It was moved by Vice Chairman Pruitt, seconded by Dr. Whittington, and passed to approve Mr. Bloodsworth's requests to allow the Crisfield High School AP English Class to attend a two day Book Festival in Baltimore. Students will study the writings of Edgar Allen Poe and engage in authentic learning of the quality of writing and reading standards. They will be given the opportunity to interact with regional and national writers. The vote was unanimous.

2010-2011 School Calendar Revisions

Mr. Bloodsworth presented the Board with revisions to the 2010-2011 school calendar.

Middle States Accreditation

Middle States accreditation is a non-governed, non profit organization. There are twelve standards for admission in which the Superintendent explained. Accreditation is very intense and time consuming for the visiting commission. The cost to be a member is \$2,000 annually. Several years ago Somerset recognized that Maryland's Master Plan process and Annual Update requirements and reviews were actually a much more rigorous self study and public report than the Middle States. Principals and staff simply could not do both in the year that Middle States would occur. Middle States mentorships was dropped. In a quick review of the categories of Middle States, it appears that all are covered and at a more specific and intense level than Middle States. The Superintendent requests the Board's direction on reassuming Middle State accreditation and informed the Board that she will research the stigma of non accreditation to see if it will have an impact on Somerset County Public Schools graduates. Dr. Whittington and General Sumpter suggested the accreditation status be checked on the surrounding counties. Dr. Whittington encouraged the staff, community, and parents to speak positive about SCPS when they had good experiences.

C. Out of County School Request

It was moved by Vice Chairman Pruitt, seconded by Dr. Whittington, and passed to grant the approval of the out of county student request. The vote was unanimous.

D. Facilities

Request to Train Substitute School Bus Driver

It was moved by Dr. Whittington, seconded by Mr. Wells, and passed to approve the training of Andre' Riley as a substitute school bus driver. The vote was unanimous.

Transportation Policy #200-18

Mr. Daugherty presented Policy #200-18, Transportation Policy for the Board's review and study. The Board will vote at the next Board meeting.

E. Human Resources

Review and Study of Revised Job Descriptions

Mr. Lawson presented the Maintenance Courier/Custodial Trainer's revised job description for the Board's review and study.

New Hire, Retires, and Resignations

A motion was called for by Chairman Miles, moved by Mr. Wells, seconded by General Sumpter and passed to approve Mr. Lawson's Human Resources report. The motion was carried unanimously.

Retirees: Virginia Bailey, Vivian Blakelock, Jane Field, Julie Kilpatrick, Chris Kneipp, Anne Knight, Cindy Lawson, Ella Mack, James Mumford, Phillip Rayfield, Lestor Rose, Susan Stuckey, Darlene Wilson, Dorothy Wise; **Resignations:** Andrew Todd, Rita Carton, George Holmes; **New Hires:** Hanna Breland

Mr. Lawson informed the Board that SCPS has retained 100% of elementary teachers.

Out of State Travel

There was no out of state travel to report.

F. Board Management Items

The Superintendent requested the Board's opinions on the reorganization of the meeting agenda, annual focus on school reports, and parent involvement at the Board meetings. The Board agreed to discuss these items in an open work session.

G. Board Summer Recess

It was moved by Vice Chairman Pruitt, seconded by Dr. Whittington and passed to approve the Board's summer recess of no meeting in July. The vote was unanimous. The Board was also reminded of the Eastern Shore Board Retreat on July 08, 2010.

14. Superintendent and Board Member Comments

The Superintendent and Board members thanked the staff of Somerset County Public Schools for a good year. Dr. Whittington expressed his concern for the lack of enforcement of the school dress code, particularly during graduation. He also stated that the uniform initiative should be more than just dressing and that staff should be role models and use the dress code as a way to positively impact students' character.

- 15. August 2010** – A motion was called for Dr. Whittington, seconded by General Sumpter, and passed approve August 17, 2010 as the next open regular session. An opened called session will be held at 5:00 p.m. to discuss change order requests, an executive session will be held at 6:00 p.m. followed by the open regular session at 7:00 p.m. at the J.M. Tawes Career & Technology Center. The vote was unanimous.

16. Adjournment

It was moved by Dr. Whittington, seconded by General Sumpter and passed adjourn to the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Karen-Lee N. Brofee, Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman/Secretary