



By unanimous agreement, the Somerset County Board of Education convened in a closed session at 6:10 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 Sumpter, Vice Chairman Miles, Mr. Wells, Ms. Green-Gale, Superintendent Dr. Karen-Lee Brofee, and Melissa Tilghman, recording secretary.

The regular Board meeting began at 7:26 p.m. Present were Chairman Sumpter, Vice Chairman Miles, Ms. Green-Gale, Superintendent Karen-Lee Brofee, and Melissa Tilghman, recording secretary. Dr. Whittington was excused from the meeting due to illness.

REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sumpter at 7:26 p.m.

2. Roll Call

The roll was called by Melissa Tilghman indicating that four Board members and the Superintendent were present. Crisfield Academy and High School's student representative was excused from the meeting. Dr. Whittington was excused from the meeting due to illness.

3. Declaration of Quorum

It was declared that a quorum was present.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Sumpter led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Wells, seconded by Vice Chairman Miles and passed to approve the Minutes of April 19, 2011 and April 26, 2011. The vote was unanimous.

6. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was called to approve the amended agenda. All four Board members approved the amended agenda and the motion was carried unanimously.

7. Student Board Member Activities Report and Recognition

Dr. Brofee presented Miss Sturgis' school activities report and gave Ms. Sturgis' regrets for not being present.

8. United Way Campaign

Mr. Bloodsworth introduced Amy Lupens, *United Way* representative, to the Board. Ms. Lupens informed the Board that *United Way* had a great year and that Somerset County Public Schools had reached the top 25 Businesses in donations over \$12,000.00. United Way was able to provide over \$100,000 to Somerset County Residents. All schools were awarded plaques for the participation in the fund raising campaign.

9. Public Participation

Mr. Bernard Johnson, bus contractor, expressed his opinion and concern that not all bus driver were given a fair opportunity for bus route #3 contract since substitutes are given an advantage over current contractors. Mr. Johnson requested that the Board revisit the Contract #3 approval. He stated that current bus contractors will not be able to compete with substitutes when applying for routes.

10. Old Business

A. Facilities and Transportation

Change Orders

Since there were no Change Orders, the item was removed from the agenda.

Route #3 Contract Approval

It was moved by Ms. Green-Gale, seconded by Vice Chairman Miles and passed to table the Route #3 Contract Approval. The vote was unanimous. Dr. Whittington and Mr. Daugherty were not present.

B. Human Resources

Job Descriptions

It was moved by Vice Chairman Miles, seconded by Mr. Wells and passed to approve Mr. Lawson's revised Human Resources Associate and the Secondary Technology Instructional Facilitator's job descriptions. The vote was unanimous.

Policy #700-09, Professional Duties and Responsibilities

Vice Chairman Miles requested more time to study this policy. It was moved by Mr. Wells, seconded by Ms. Green-Gale and passed to oppose voting on Policy #700-09, Professional Duties and Responsibilities and table it until the next Board meeting. The vote was unanimous.

Retiree Health Insurance

A unanimous decision was made to table the vote on the Retiree Health Insurance Program until the next Board meeting.

C. Student Services

Uniform Initiative for the High Schools

Ms. McLaughlin provided the Board with an update on the Uniform Initiative for high schools. The Board was informed that research is continuing and a recommendation will be brought to them in January, 2012. Chairman Sumpter stated that the current dress code for students and staff must be enforced for 2011-2012.

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. Finance

Approval of the Superintendent's 2012 Budget

It was moved by Chairman Miles, seconded by Ms. Green-Gale and passed to approve the Superintendent's 2012 Budget. Deal Island Elementary will be losing an Administrative Position, but will gain a "Teacher Charge Position". The 2012 Budget includes 12.5 position cuts.

Monthly Finance Report

Ms. Miller presented the Monthly Finance report to Board.

Food Service Report

Ms. Miller informed the Board that future projections of the Food Service Budget are not as significant as the prior years' deficit. It was suggested that lunch survey's from the high schools be considered as to why lunch sales are decreasing.

B. Policies

Policy #600-42, Use of Video Cameras for Security

Ms. Carter presented Policy #600-42, *Use of Video Cameras for Security* for the Board's review and study. Revisions include who can review the video, storage time, and staff training. Chairman Sumpter stated that the policy should also include an additional statement regarding nonfunctional cameras with a log stating the time of dysfunction and remedy taken. Ms. Carter agreed and will make the addition. The Board will vote on the policy at the next meeting at the next Board meeting.

Policy #600-43, Gang Policy

Ms. McLaughlin presented Policy #600-43, for the Board's review and study. She noted that Local Enforcement agencies will be reviewing the policy and providing input. Mr. Wells requested that a specific description of lost privileges be included and aligned with the Drug and Alcohol Policy and the Fighting Policy. Vice Chairman Miles agreed with Mr. Wells and added that consequences be conclusive and concrete.

Policy #600-19, Student Assignment and Policy #600-21, Enrollment/Student Assignment

Dr. Brofee explained that students of staff of SCPS or UMES who transfer from other counties to Somerset County Public Schools may be given permission to attend. Their attendance is tuition free because SCPS includes them in their enrollment and therefore receives state funding. MSDE has confirmed that this is appropriate.

C. Facilities and Transportation

Educational Facilities Master Plan

The present Board members agreed that a telephone poll would be taken to get the vote of the Education Facilities Master Plan if it was due to MSDE prior to the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting. Ms. Green-Gale requested that a teleconference be done so that all Board Members could communicate simultaneously.

Bus Contractors PVA

The bus contractor PVA was tabled until the next Board meeting.

D. Out of County School Requests

There were several requests for out of county attendance of students whose parents work for SPCS and have been approved to attend in the past. Vice Chairman Miles questioned why Worcester and Wicomico charge tuition but Somerset does not. Dr. Brofee explained that the difference might be understood if one realizes that the vast majority of Worcester's revenue comes from locals not from the state. State reimbursement would not be adequate for Worcester to cover the basics costs of education for the pupil.

E. Human Resources

Job Descriptions

It was moved by Mr. Wells, seconded by Ms. Green-Gale to approve the following job description revisions: Secondary Mathematics Teacher, Secondary English/Reading Intervention Teacher, Elementary Education Teacher, Secondary Visual Arts Teacher, and IEP Clerk.

New Hires, Retirees, and Resignations

It was moved by Mr. Wells, and seconded by Ms. Green-Gale and passed to approve Mr. Lawson's Human Resources Report.

Retirees: Jolene Tyler, Susan Heath

New Hires: Kelly McLaughlin

Resignations: Korey Cunningham

National Board Certification

It was moved by Mr. Wells, seconded by Ms. Green-Gale and passed to approve the National Board Certification registration for teachers Keisha Evans, Phaedra Spencer, and Sharon Richards. The registration for the program is covered 2/3rds by the state and 1/3 by the locals. This certification is more extensive than a graduate level course. If the teacher does not successfully complete the course, they will be required to reimburse the county for the expenses paid.

F. Board Meeting Calendar

It was moved by Mr. Wells, seconded by Vice Chairman Miles and passed to approve the Board meeting calendar for 2011-2012. The vote was unanimous with all Board members in agreement.

G. Washington Academy and High School Spain Trip Approval

Ms. Jagers addressed the Board requesting their permission to sponsor a trip to Spain for her Spanish classes on June 19 – June 29, 2012 to Madrid and Barcelona. Ms. Lois Collins added that the cost of the trip is \$3,262.00 with payments divided into 10 months. Students will pay directly to the travel company and hotel rooms will be separated by gender. Ms. Collins informed the Board that several local school districts have used the company that they are working with. Ms. Green-Gale requested an expansion of the trip to include Crisfield High School students. Ms. Collins agreed that a meeting will be held with the parents, students and the principals. Chairman Sumpter stated that the Board had no information previous to the meeting and needed more information before being in a position to vote. The Board will vote at the June 14, 2011 Board meeting.

12. Superintendent Search Update

General Sumpter provided an update on the Superintendent search. He stated that all finalists will be presented to the State Board for approval. Trainings will be held with various interview groups to provide skill on what questions should be asked. Periodic updates on the search will be provided. There have been four candidates interviewed so far.

13. Superintendent and Board Member Comments

Dr. Brofee announced that the *Beyond Diversity* Workshop went well and did the State of Schools Luncheon. Antonio Depree was recognized by the State for Outstanding Volunteerism. A prayer was extended to Dr. Whittington for his return to good health as he recovers from surgery.

Vice Chairman Miles thanked everyone who worked on the budget. Chairman Sumpter also thanked the administration and staff for all the hard work and efforts in completing the budget. Teachers, administrators, and classified staff were thanked for all their budget input, as well as bus contractors.

- 14. June 14, 2011** – A motion was called for by General Sumpter, moved by Vice Chairman Miles, seconded by Mr. Wells and passed to convene in an open work session at 5:00 p.m. to discuss facilities items, a closed at 6:00 p.m., and in an open regular session meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the J.M. Tawes Technology & Career Center on Tuesday, June 14, 2011. This is one week before the regularly scheduled meeting. There will also be a special called meeting on June 30th.

17. Adjournment

It was moved by Vice Chairman Miles, seconded by Ms. Green-Gale and passed to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Karen-Lee N. Brofee, Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman/Secretary