

**TALBOT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
ST. MICHAELS MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL
JANUARY 18, 2012**

**CLOSED SESSION – 4:30 PM – CONFERENCE ROOM
REGULAR SESSION – 7:00 PM - CAFETERIA**

Call to Order and Declaration of a Quorum – 4:30 PM

Mrs. Monica Heinsohn called the meeting to order and declared a quorum present at 4:30 p.m.

Closed Session

Pursuant to Section 1—503 (a) (I) (I) and Section 10-508 (a) (1), (3), (6) and (7) of the State Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and upon a motion by Ms. Juanita Hopkins, seconded by Mrs. Donna Matthews, it was unanimous to enter into Closed Session at 4:35 p.m. Present were President Monica Heinsohn, Vice President Ms. Juanita Hopkins, Board Members Ms. Gloria Farrare, Mrs. Sandra Kleppinger, Ms. Andrea Poe, Mrs. Donna Matthews and Mr. Robert Burris. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Karen Salmon, Assistant Superintendent Mrs. Kelly Griffith, Executive Assistant Gayle Secrist, and Board Attorney Mrs. Rochelle Eisenberg.

Approval of Closed Session Minutes

Mr. Burris moved and Mrs. Matthews seconded, and it was unanimous to approve Closed Session Minutes for December 14, 2012.

Personnel Report

Mrs. Griffith distributed a revised Personnel Report as follows:

Leave of Absence: Bethany Haas, Easton Middle School; Anne McCauley, Talbot County Education Center.

Legal Report

Mrs. Griffith and Mrs. Eisenberg presented the following report:

Workers Compensation Claim
Student Appeals of Suspension
4-205 Appeals
TCEA Negotiation Update

Teacher Appeals

The Board discussed two teacher appeals. A vote was taken on one of the appeals. A written decision from the Board Attorney will be sent to appropriate parties. Additional information was requested on the second appeal, and will be provided for the next meeting.

Adjournment

Mr. Burris moved, Ms. Farrare seconded, and it was unanimous to adjourn the Closed Session meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Matthews moved, Mrs. Heinsohn seconded, and it was unanimous to approve the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Matthews moved, Mrs. Heinsohn seconded, and it was unanimous to approve the December 14, 2011 minutes.

Election of Officers

As presiding officer of the meeting, Dr. Salmon asked for nominations for President from the nominating committee. Mrs. Matthews reported that Mrs. Sandra Kleppinger was nominated by the committee for President. Dr. Salmon asked for nominations from the floor. No nominations were made from the floor and nominations were closed. Dr. Salmon asked those in favor to say aye, and it was unanimous to elect Mrs. Kleppinger President.

Mrs. Kleppinger then presided over the elections for Vice President. Mrs. Kleppinger asked for nominations for Vice President from the nominating committee. Mrs. Matthews reported that Ms. Gloria Farrare was nominated by the committee for Vice President. Mrs. Kleppinger asked for nominations from the floor. No nominations were made from the floor and nominations were closed. Mrs. Kleppinger asked those in favor to say aye, and it was unanimous to elect Ms. Farrare Vice President.

Recognition of the Public

Tilghman School Volunteers

Dr. Salmon and Joyce Crow recognized Eleanor Buck, Jan Johnson and Everett Landon, community members who volunteer at Tilghman Elementary School.

EHS Cheerleaders/Coach/Parent

Michelle Martin, coach of Easton High School Cheerleaders – as well as several students from the team and a parent, spoke regarding their concerns about limitations imposed on cheerleading stunts, which were implemented in order to minimize concussions.

New Business

Policy 11.6 Distribution or Solicitation of Information in Schools

Mrs. Griffith introduced changes to Policy 11.6 – first reader. She also reviewed the Administrative regulations for Policy 11.6.

TCPS/YMCA Summer Program

Mr. Robbie Gill and Dr. Sherry Sutton discussed a proposed summer program for students. A video was used to demonstrate the gap between low-income students and middle-income students in learning that is impacted by summer programs. The goal of the program is to impact this cumulative summer learning loss through enrichment and intervention in a joint partnership of the Y of the Chesapeake and TCPS.

The six-week program would be available for approximately 125 students, 5 to 12 years old from Easton Elementary and Easton Middle Schools. It would target Free and Reduced Meal, African American, Special Education and Hispanic sub groups. A four-week program would be available for Tilghman Elementary and White Marsh Elementary students receiving Title I Targeted Assistance. The four-week program would also include students from Tilghman Elementary, White Marsh, St. Michaels and Chapel District targeted subgroups.

Funding would come from a combination of Title I, Talbot County Public Schools, donations and the Y of the Chesapeake.

Head Start Bid Recommendations

Mrs. Griffith presented a bid recommendation for the Head Start construction project. She noted that Shore Up provides all funding. Mrs. Matthews moved to proceed with the bid recommendation, Ms. Poe seconded, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.

Forest Conservation Easement Approval

Mrs. Griffith requested approval of the Forest Conservation Easement document. Mr. Burris moved that the Forest Conservation Easement be approved, Mrs. Matthews seconded, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.

Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for Stormwater Management Approval

Mrs. Griffith requested approval of the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for Stormwater Management document. Mrs. Matthews moved to approve the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for Stormwater Management document, Mr. Burris seconded, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.

Unfinished Business

Race to the Top Monthly Update

Dr. Salmon updated the Board on the Year 1 Maryland Race to the Top Report. The US Department of Education released a Year 1 report for each of the states that has received Race to the Top money. The Department used the information gathered during

the review process (monthly phone calls with MSDE, on-site review, and Annual Performance Reports) to draft a state-specific report. The State-specific summary report serves as an assessment of Maryland's Year 1 Race to the Top implementation, highlighting successes and accomplishments, identifying challenges, and providing lessons learned from implementation to date.

Dr. Salmon was selected as one of three superintendents for the state of Maryland to attend a Race To the Top Conference in Washington D.C. for two days last week. The team is charged with developing integration and a timeline of all the requirements. On Friday, they met with Arnie Duncan, Secretary of Education for an hour. He indicated that the status quo is no longer acceptable and states must reform by 2014-2015. Dr. Salmon noted that the requirements for the Race to the Top grant are part of Maryland state law, therefore the federal grant title should be dropped and these initiatives should be described as Maryland's Educational Reform.

Parent Survey Results

Dr. Salmon presented results from the 2011 - 2012 TCPS Parent Survey.

Milestone Communications

Mr. Connolly and Mr. Forkes, President of Milestone Communications, presented information regarding public safety towers/wireless carriers that may provide for revenue generation.

2012 – 2013 School Calendar

Dr. Salmon presented a draft of the 2012 – 2013 school calendar. It moved to third reader with no comments.

FY13 Draft Budget

Dr. Salmon presented a draft 2012 – 2013 budget on second reader. She noted that TCPS is legally obligated to submit a budget that meets the FY11 maintenance of effort. She recommended utilizing the first draft, which includes raise plus step, summer school, three teachers for Pre-Kindergarten, and the increase in health benefit costs. Mrs. Matthews indicated that she supports staff increases. Ms. Poe said that the contract should be honored, and that summer school and Pre-K are critical items. Mrs. Matthews moved to use the original first draft budget to go to third reader, Ms. Poe seconded, and it was unanimous to approve the motion.

Personnel Report

Mrs. Griffith recommended approval of the Personnel Report. Mrs. Matthews moved, Mr. Burris seconded, and it was unanimous to approve the Personnel Report.

Monthly Budget Update

Mr. Connolly reported on December financials, noting the budget is tracking as expected. He also mentioned that legislative auditors are expected to arrive next week and will likely stay for approximately 6 months.

Superintendent's Report

Letter to Governor O'Malley from PSSAM

Dr. Salmon reviewed a letter sent to Governor O'Malley on behalf of the Public School Superintendent's Association of Maryland detailing the group's legislative priorities.

Letter to Dr. Sadusky from Corey Pack/County Council of Talbot County

Dr. Salmon shared a letter related to the Talbot County Council response to Dr. Sadusky regarding non-compliance with the Maintenance of Effort requirement for FY2012.

Potential Budget Presentation Date to Talbot County Council

Dr. Salmon apprised the Board that based on the published meeting schedule of the Talbot County Council – Tuesday, March 6th may be the date that the TCPS Budget Presentation will take place. In addition, a public hearing on the County Budget is scheduled for Tuesday, May 1st.

Complimentary Letters

Dr. Salmon shared congratulatory letters from ARAMARK Education, a community member and ING.

School Board District Chart

Dr. Salmon noted a chart developed that summarizes election years and current member status to run related to the recent Board of Education redistricting.

Letter from Easton Elementary Student

Dr. Salmon shared a letter received from an Easton Elementary student, requesting laptops for the elementary school.

December Attendance

Dr. Salmon reviewed attendance statistics for the month of December.

Update to Policy KGC-AR

Dr. Salmon apprised the Board of added language to include electronic smoking devices to Policy KGC-AR.

Letter from Talbot County Department of Social Services

Dr. Salmon shared a letter of thanks from the Department of Social Services.

ACE Mentor News

Dr. Salmon noted articles in the ACE Mentor News about a recent trip to Shore Health System. ACE Mentor received the prestigious 2010 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM).

Taxpayer Return on District article

Dr. Salmon shared an article from Education Week that relates the economic value to the community compared to every dollar spent in the Virginia Beach school district. This article mirrors the results of our Eastern Shore Public Education Economic Impact Study.

Education Cuts Aren't Smart article

Dr. Salmon shared an article recently published in the Star Democrat, written by the founder and president of the Children's Defense Fund, Marian Wright Edelman.

Letter from MSDE

Dr. Salmon apprised the Board that a letter has been received from Dr. Sadusky indicating approval of the Master Plan Annual Update.

Board Members' Reports/Remarks

Michaela Beggins congratulated the Tilghman Elementary School volunteers. She also complimented the Easton High School cheerleaders for their initiative and courage in speaking at the meeting tonight.

Ms. Andrea Poe complimented the Easton High School cheerleaders for speaking tonight.

Ms. Juanita Hopkins complimented Mr. Robbie Gill and Dr. Sherry Sutton on their presentation. It was excellent and “out of the box” thinking. She also commented that there is good potential for the Milestone towers. She noted that the ACE Scholarship Breakfast will take place on March 7th, and thanked the Star Democrat for showcasing the talent in Talbot County Public Schools.

Mrs. Donna Matthews congratulated the Boards new officers. She also stated that she believes the Milestone towers would be good for the community, as well as for TCPS. She commented on the progress on the Y at St. Michaels, she is pleased that plans are proceeding. Mrs. Matthews stated that she is in 100% support of summer school and that increases for staff are critical.

Ms. Gloria Farrare thanked all who came to the meeting. She congratulated the Tilghman volunteers, who step up on behalf of our children. She thanked Mr. Robbie Gill and Dr. Sherry Sutton for their creative approach to continue the level of support students deserve. She stated that we cannot accept the status quo.

Mrs. Sandra Kleppinger noted that she is excited about the program described by Mr. Robbie Gill and Dr. Sherry Sutton for a summer school program. She also congratulated the administration for looking “outside the box” to explore the wireless towers and

grants.

Adjournment

Mrs. Matthews moved, Ms. Hopkins seconded, and it was unanimous to adjourn at 8:53 p.m.