

December 14, 2015
Franklin, Tennessee

The Franklin Special School District Board of Education met on Monday, December 14, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at Freedom Intermediate School, 840 Glass Lane, Franklin, Tennessee. The following members were present:

Tim Stillings, Chairman
Robert Blair
Robin Newman
Kevin Townsel
Alicia Barker
Allena Bell

Others present were: Dr. David Snowden, Dr. Catherine Stephens, John McAdams, Dr. Kay Boan, Beth Herren, Mark Anderson, Susannah Gentry, and other staff, principals, teachers, parents, FSSDEA and community members.

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Stillings called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Principal Mrs. Louise Larkin welcomed those in attendance and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. RECOGNITIONS

Good News Awards (on file) - Highlighted: FSSD Student Artist of the Month, Johnson Elementary 2nd grader Anraya Hayes; MTVA Honors Choirs students for Middle School Honor Choir: (from FMS) David Moore, Sydney Hoover, Natalie Peterson Lopes, Alexis Reed and Alex Wasson, and (from PGMS) Adria Veile, Anna Hope Zelnik and Steven Knight; for Elementary Honor Choir (from PGMS) Elly Colman, Bella Karlsson, Christiana Suddeath, Hannah Wimpy, Madison Thomas, Abby Webb and Walter Cox. These students will perform on January 26, 2016 at First United Methodist Church in Murfreesboro. Students have been under the direction of choral teachers Connie Marley (FMS) and Chris Strelecki (PGMS).

Congratulations to our Board for being named TSBA 2015 Board of the Year, to Allena Bell for being recognized as a TSBA 2015 Ambassador of the Year for Education, and to Chair Stillings for being named to the TSBA 2015 All Tennessee School Board and recipient of the TSBA 2015 Board Member of the Year/C. Hal Henard Distinguished Service Award. Also, thank you to Mr. Stillings for serving on the 2016 TSBA Board of Directors as Treasurer.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

No one from the public chose to address the Board.

V. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION

1. **Executive PTO** - Executive PTO President Jennifer Morrison gave a report of their second quarter meeting held on December 1st at Freedom Intermediate (on file). Dr. Snowden thanked the Executive PTO for volunteering with the Retiree Holiday Brunch recently held at Moore Elementary.
2. **Teaching and Learning Spotlight - "TNReady Practice Tools - MICA and MIST" - Information** presented is also highlighted in the Teaching and Learning report (on file). Dr. Stephens outlined the MICA, MIST and TNReady rollout timeline, as well as MICA use throughout this year to get students ready to take the formal assessments. Instructional Technology Specialist Lauren Fleming presented a sample MICA assessment to the Board and walked through how students are learning to be successful using this platform through classroom teacher modeling. She further outlined what tools are available for teachers based on student response. Principals Erickson, Burgin and Larkin gave thoughts on student experiences with learning to use this form of testing.
3. **State Board of Education Standards Feedback Session November 9 - Teacher and Parent Meeting Summaries** – The Parent Standards Review Feedback Session was attended by Allena Bell, Alicia Barker and Cindy Scarce. Mrs. Bell and Mrs. Barker outlined what was presented at the feedback session they attended, as well as takeaways from their session. In addition, Instructional Coaches Deidra Brock (Math, PGES), Miriam Hyman (Reading, FES) and Jennifer Parker (Math, FIS) gave reports to the Board about the Teacher Standards Feedback Session that they attended. Each district had the option to have three parent representatives and three teacher representatives: Mrs. Barker thanked Dr. Snowden for making sure that we had representation at the standards review. Any reviewer may go online to view and submit feedback.
4. **TSBA Conference - Leadership; Legal and Legislative Pre-Conference Sessions Reflections from attendees** – Mrs. Bell highlighted the topics of the key note speakers for the Leadership portion of the conference. Mrs. Barker outlined some of the upcoming legislation that will be presented in the 2016 session and the anticipated TSBA response.
5. **NABSE Conference - Reflections from attendees** – Mr. Townsel reflected on the 43rd annual conference in Washington, D.C., noting both outstanding participative sessions and key note speakers and that it was very worthwhile for our Board to attend.

VI. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA

Robert Blair made a **motion to approve the board agenda as presented**. Robin Newman **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

VII. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Alicia Barker made a **motion to approve the consent agenda as presented**. Robin Newman **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

Approved under Consent Agenda (on file) were:

1. Minutes of Board Meeting dated November 9, 2015;
2. Minutes of Special Called Meeting dated November 16, 2015.

VIII. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

Consideration of:

1. **Audit Reports for 2014-2015** (on file) - Copies of both the Annual Financial Report for the FSSD and the individual schools' Activity Fund Report were presented to the Board for their review prior to the meeting. Representatives from Matlock Clements, Andy Matlock and Jill Smith, presented an overview of the audits and were available to answer questions from the Board. An adjustment required by the State needed to be made at the beginning of the year to restate the beginning amount due to the pension liability. The firm had unqualified opinions in both audits, which had no findings and was in compliance with no material weaknesses or exceptions. Dr. Snowden commended Matlock Clements for their work, and also the outstanding work and diligence of John McAdams, central office accounting personnel, principals and the school bookkeepers. Mr. Matlock and Mrs. Smith congratulated the Board on behalf of Matlock Clements for their distinctions recently recognized by TSBA. The administration recommended approval of the 2014-2015 Audit Reports. Board Treasurer Mrs. Newman stated that she has reviewed the documents; the auditor's opinion is a reflection on the excellent job that is being done throughout the district in managing taxpayer money efficiently.

Robin Newman made a **motion to approve the Audit Reports for 2014-2015 as presented** (on file). Alicia Bell **seconded** the motion. With no discussion, the motion **carried 6-0**.

2. **Policy Revision: Nepotism (1.108) - 1st Reading** - The TSBA Director of Policy & Staff Attorney recommends this policy revision, which more accurately reflects the language of Tennessee Code Annotated 49-2-202(a)(3), removing the requirement to publicly disclose the hiring of a person who is related to a board member or district administrator (and also county commissioner, or appointed or elected county official,

for a county school district). The law only requires the director of schools to give notice to the board each time there is intent to hire a relative. The requirement for public disclosure has forced some directors to delay the hiring of teachers until the information could be presented publicly at a board meeting. Even though the policy update removes this language, the local board can choose to keep this requirement. Board members are strongly encouraged to complete a conflict of interest disclosure statement once they are made aware of the director's intent to hire. The administration recommended approval of the first reading.

Kevin Townsel made a **motion to approve Nepotism (1.108) - 1st Reading - as presented** (on file). Robert Blair **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

3. **Policy Revision: School Board Meetings (1.400) - 1st Reading** - The TSBA Director of Policy & Staff Attorney recommends this policy revision, which more accurately reflects the language of Tennessee Attorney General Opinion 95-126 which opines that a governing body may only regulate access to its public meetings in a manner that reasonably serves public safety and welfare, or its ability to conduct orderly and efficient proceedings. According to TSBA, many board policies currently require approval of the board prior to allowing recording equipment access. The revised policy allows boards to conduct orderly and efficient proceedings while ensuring access for the public. Language and legal references have also been updated. The administration recommended approval of the first reading.

Kevin Townsel made a **motion to approve School Board Meetings (1.400) - 1st Reading as presented** (on file). Robert Blair **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

4. **Policy Revision: Prevention and Treatment of Sudden Cardiac Arrest (6.414) - 1st Reading** - Per TSBA Director of Policy & Staff Attorney, the General Assembly enacted Public Chapter 325 during the recent Legislative Session which requires districts to have a policy in place to address sudden cardiac arrest prevention. The new policy addresses training, removal of students from athletics, and optional penalties that districts can implement for personnel who are in violation of the law. Informational notices and requirements of the coach/employee, parent/guardian and student athlete, of which a signature is required before participation, as well as a copy of the medical release form to return to participation have been provided for the Board's reference. The administration recommended approval of the first reading.

Alicia Barker made a **motion to approve Prevention and Treatment of Sudden Cardiac Arrest (6.414) - 1st Reading as presented** (on file). Allena Bell **seconded** the motion. During discussion, the Director recommended that penalties or consequences for not complying with Public Chapter 325, although optional, should be part of the policy. After discussion, the motion **carried 6-0**.

IX. DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS REPORT

Dr. Snowden reported on the following:

- **City of Franklin Christmas Parade** - The Freedom Middle School Band participated in the annual City of Franklin Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 5th.
- **Winter Break and Holiday MAC** - The district will be closed December 21st through January 1st. Holiday MAC will be provided at the Cannon Street MAC site with the exception of Christmas Eve and Day, as well as New Year's Eve and Day. Registration and activities are posted on the website. Professional learning days will be held January 4th (school-based) and January 5th (district-based), and there will be an administrative day on the 6th, with students returning on Thursday, January 7th.
- **Board Retreat** - January 16, 2016 is scheduled for the annual Board Retreat, this year to be held at the TSBA Headquarters at 525 Brick Church Pike, Nashville. This all-day retreat will begin at 8:30 with breakfast, following at 9:10 with welcome by our Board Chair and then a legislative update with guests Representatives Sargent, Durham and Casada, and Senator Johnson confirmed as our first agenda item. All of the FSSD Leadership Team are requested to be present that day.
- **TSBA Day on the Hill** - This annual legislative breakfast will be held on Tuesday, February 16th from 7:00 - 8:45. Following, TSBA encourages Board members to attend committee hearings and visit the offices of their senators and representatives. The Association of Independent and Municipal Schools (AIMS) then sponsors a luncheon, generally beginning at 11:30, back at the Doubletree Hotel. Registration for TSBA Day on the Hill is requested by February 2nd. Please let Carol know if you will be attending these events.

X. UPDATES

Teaching and Learning - Dr. Catherine Stephens, Associate Director for Teaching & Learning, provided the following (on file):

- FSSD Demographics dated 12/1/2015;
- Summary of Teaching and Learning Activity for the December Board Meeting.

Finance and Administration - John McAdams, Associate Director for Finance & Administration, provided the following (on file):

- Personnel Change Report for November, 2015/December, 2015;
- Investment Report dated October 31, 2015;
- Revenue and Expenditure Reports dated 11/2015.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

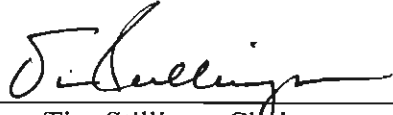
John McAdams provided a report on county tax collections: collections continue to be positive - not as good as prior months, but 2% better than the same time last year.

Board members are encouraged to submit agenda items for the Board retreat. Earlier notice is requested if preparation is required, or at the latest the week of January 4th.


Chairman Stillings wished Lauren Fleming good luck as she moves to Atlanta.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Stillings adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.



Tim Stillings, Chairman 1-17-16
Date

ATTEST: 

Alicia Barker, Secretary 1-11-2010
Date