

February 8, 2016
Franklin, Tennessee

The Franklin Special School District Board of Education met on Monday, February 8, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at Poplar Grove Middle School, 2959 Del Rio Pike, Franklin, Tennessee. The following members were present:

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

Others present were: Dr. David Snowden, Dr. Catherine Stephens, John McAdams, Dr. Kay Boan, Beth Herren, Mark Anderson, Marilyn Ryan, Chip Sternenberg, Lee Kirkpatrick, Mary Decker, Amy Fisher, other staff, principals, teachers, parents, FSSDEA, community members.

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Stillings called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Principal Mrs. Tracie Gallon welcomed those in attendance and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. RECOGNITIONS

Good News Awards (on file) - Highlighted: FSSD Student Artist of the Month, MES 3rd grader Claire Summey; NFL Punt, Pass & Kick Competition participants and winners Eulashia Carter (FES), Jessica Belcher and Kani Johnson (JES), and Kofi Boggs and Morgan Thomas (MES); LES 2nd grade teacher Lorie Proffitt who received a grant from Explore Learning's Reflex Math Fact Fluency Program, which will help support 35 2nd graders; finally, Kylie Oliver (4th grader at MES), Brody Moore (4th grader at LES) and Ashley Hensley (8th grader at FMS), who achieved a perfect score on the State's TCAP Writing Assessment last spring.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

Brandi McCutchan, Hospitality Coordinator for the Executive PTO, presented baskets to the Board members in honor of Board Member Appreciation month and publicly thanked them for their service. Business donors contributing to the baskets were identified and thanked for their generosity.

V. **REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION**

1. **Executive PTO** - There was not a report this month.
2. **Teaching and Learning Spotlight - "FSSD Leadership Internship Program"** – Presented by Dr. Catherine Stephens, this program is highlighted in the Teaching & Learning report (on file). This program is a new venture that FSSD is beginning, related to building the leadership capacity for those who desire to fulfill school level leadership roles, with the belief that it is important to develop leadership potential and provide relevant experiences to help individuals explore leadership opportunities. Dr. Stephens outlined how this year-long internship program was created, and the time frame that was given for interested applicants to submit applications for selection to the program. All 5 qualified applicants were selected; the first part of the program will run from January to June, with the second part July to December.
3. **Director of Schools Performance Review Scoring** – The process for evaluation of the Director was outlined by Board member Kevin Townsel. At the January Board meeting, the State of the District report was released to the Board for review. Based on this report, individual Board members then score the Director, and individual score sheets are compiled for the final composite score. Composed of four sections to be scored, the highest and lowest from each category are removed and the four remaining are averaged. Categorical scores are then added together to achieve the total composite score, which equates to a percentage that is used on the Board approved bonus chart. Mr. Townsel has set the date of March 4 for the Board to finish reviewing the report given at the January meeting, ask Dr. Snowden any questions, to score and submit the score sheets to the Administrative Assistant, who will verify the composite score with Mr. McAdams, Associate Director for Finance & Administration. The final score will be presented at the March Board meeting. Mr. Townsel will be working with Dr. Snowden for recommendations on updates to the Director of Schools goals for 2016-2017. A work session was requested to be scheduled for the Board to review and discuss the recommendations. The new goals will be prepared to vote on at the April Board meeting, to be completed before the budget work sessions begin.

VI. **APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA**

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

VII. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Robert Blair 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 January 11, 2016
2. Minutes of Board Retreat and Work Session dated January 16, 2016
3. Budget Amendments

VIII. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

Consideration of:

1. **Approval of Five Year Strategic Plan Update** - Based on the review of our strategic plan at the Board Retreat in January, all updates were made and presented for the Board's approval.

Kevin Townsel made a **motion to approve the Five Year Strategic Plan as presented** (on file). Allena Bell **seconded** the motion. After discussion, the motion **carried 6-0**.

The Board Chair requested that since it is about four years since the original development of the strategic plan in place, the Board would begin working towards development of a new plan after the budgetary process and as school begins for 2016-2017.

2. **2016-2017 Calendar** - Two versions of our draft calendar were presented and discussed at the Board Retreat on January 16th. The administration recommended approval of Option A of the proposed 2016-2017 calendar. Dr. Stephens outlined the basic differences between the two calendars, which were November 8th (Election Day) and the ending date.

Kevin Townsel made a **motion to approve Option A of the 2016-2017 Calendar as presented** (on file). Allena Bell **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

3. **Declaration of Surplus Property, 221 Fairground Street, Franklin** - As discussed at the Board Retreat, the lot located at 221 Fairground Street adjacent to Franklin Elementary is not used by the district and there are no future plans to utilize it for use by the FSSD. The lot was described to the Board as a .42 acre rectangular shaped property on Fairground Street south adjoining the back of FES running track, which has been kept mowed and presentable for the surrounding neighborhood. The administration recommended the declaration of this property as surplus, and it was noted to the Board that if the property is declared surplus, a future decision will need to be made on what process to use for disposition; the consideration at this meeting only involves the declaration of surplus. A recommendation that protects the FSSD would be a sealed bid process with a minimum price that would be accepted: the appraisal as of September 2015 was \$121,000, 10% higher than an appraisal done in May 2014.

After an initial motion, the following amended motion was presented for vote:

Robin Newman made a **motion to declare the property at 221 Fairground Street, Franklin as surplus and to empower the Executive Committee (the Board Chair and Director of Schools) to devise a process for disposition for Board consideration in March.** Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0.**

Action items requested by the Board, as a result of the motion approved: An agenda item will be added under "Business Before the Board" recommending the process for disposition. It was agreed it is in the best interest of FSSD to have the property appraised for current market value. Research will be needed for the normal process of disposition used by other districts as well as what was done during the disposition of the land at the corner of Mack Hatcher/Franklin Road. Zoning needs to be researched on the property. Regarding restrictions on where the money would be used in selling a capital long term asset – Mr. McAdams recommended that it go into capital needs. The Executive Committee will come back to the March meeting with a recommendation for short term needs, such as playground updates across the district, to be given at the next meeting.

IX. DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS REPORT

Dr. Snowden reported on the following:

- **The Annual Black Tie Affair** presented by the African American Heritage Society was held on February 5th and gave special recognition to past and present FSSD African American Board members. In the program FSSD was also recognized for the TSBA Board of the Year, and Mr. Stillings as Board Member of the Year. As always it was well attended and it was nice to have our board members recognized both individually and collectively.
- **Online testing update** – The Dept. of Education Commissioner Candice McQueen has reported as of this afternoon because of the difficulties experienced in online testing on this first day of testing throughout the State, the Department of Education will not be moving forward with online testing this year, and will revert back to paper and pencil tests. At the TOSS meeting last week, the Commissioner spoke to all of the superintendents and indicated she felt very confident that there would not be online testing issues. As a district, FSSD felt very confident and prepared for our students technologically. However, with today being the first day of online testing, there were issues across the State (we had few issues within our district) and there was a serious malfunction with the testing corporation – these were not problems related to districts themselves. What does this mean for our district? We have not discussed all of the ramifications / implications - we will be given new testing windows, we will have additional time for instruction (the State will not be ready to test within the next days or weeks because at this point there are very few paper tests in the State's possession.) This is frustrating and disappointing because our

principals, teachers and students have worked so diligently in preparing for online testing and our district was ready from the technology standpoint. I know that our principals, teachers, parents and students will make the best of this. At this point we do not know what the schedule will be, but we will have Part 1 and Part 2 of the test as we move forward.

Chair Stillings noted that this is also frustrating from an economic standpoint because we made sure we prepared with expanded bandwidth. We need yearly updates on our technology instruments; however, the infrastructure in bandwidth could have waited had we known it would not have been online. Dr. Snowden announced to the Board that there will be a blackboard message to parents about the delayed testing window due to technical failures from the State. Already, the test will not be considered as part of the students' grades; a lower percentage based on TNReady is already part of this year's teacher evaluation scores, and further legislation on this issue is being proposed currently in the legislature. Note: TNReady Math testing for Algebra I is the end of course test.

- **Board Retreat Recap** - The January 16th Board Retreat was productive and there was great opportunity for discussion. It covered the following areas of discussion: update for the FSSD Strategic Plan, the 2016-2017 School Calendar, areas for the 2016-2017 budget discussion, social media guidelines, a report from the Foreign Language Committee, a discussion on the Fairground Street property, a timeline for the FES construction project, and mentoring for future district leadership. Beginning the morning was an update and discussion for upcoming legislation from our Representatives and Senator. Thanks for the attendance and participation of each Board member and the entire Leadership Team.
- **Voucher bill update** – This bill was rolled this afternoon; there was not a vote. Speculation was that there was not going to be enough votes to pass. It is sure to be brought up again when there is more likelihood of success.
- **School Board Appreciation Week** - Thanks to our Board members for taking time from your busy schedules to allow students and employees to express their thanks for your supportive work during this year's School Board Appreciation Week. I also want to say thanks to each school for the activities and programs planned to show appreciation and support for our Board members. Several Board members have communicated to me about how much they enjoyed their visits.
- **FSSD Art Show at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts** - FSSD students from each school recently participated in the FSSD Art Show at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts. The artwork from two students at each grade level from all of our schools is on display from January 30th through February 14th, 2016. On Saturday, January 30 a reception was held to recognize our student artists and our awesome art teachers. As in previous years of the exhibit, the student art work was tremendous! In addition, attendance was great - the auditorium was filled with our students, their parents, grandparents, friends, teachers, administrators and others. We appreciate this

partnership with The Frist Center for the Visual Arts in having this opportunity for our students to present their artwork.

- **Presidents Day** - Our district will be closed on Monday, February 15th in observance of Presidents Day.
- **TSBA Day on the Hill and AIMS Luncheon** - Both of these events are scheduled for February 16th at the Doubletree Nashville Downtown Hotel. The Day on the Hill breakfast begins at 7:00 a.m. - all Board members are registered for this event. Our legislative representatives were invited to join us for breakfast that morning. Following this, TSBA encourages Board members to attend committee hearings and visit the offices of their senators and representatives. At 11:30 that morning, there will be a School Board Member Appreciation Luncheon sponsored by Association of Independent and Municipal Schools (AIMS) to honor your work as a Board member. Most of our Board will be able to attend that as well. I know you all have busy schedules and we appreciate you taking the time to attend the many events scheduled throughout the year.
- **African-American History Month** - February is African-American History Month, and our schools will be recognizing the contributions of many outstanding African-American men and women at varying times during the month. The annual awards ceremony honoring recipients of the Monroe and Mary Booker Awards for Leadership and Service is scheduled for February 26th at 1:00 p.m. at Freedom Middle School's gymnasium. We hope your schedule will allow you to attend.
- **National Board Certified Teacher** - Our National Board Certified Teacher will be honored at a reception at the March Board meeting preceding the meeting. Congratulations are in order for our teacher who has completed the rigorous steps in this process!
- **Teachers of the Year** - Building Teachers of the Year as well as District-Level Teachers of the Year have been selected, and will be honored at the March Board meeting with a reception preceding the meeting. Congratulations to each of these teachers - they are great representatives of our profession and we are very proud of each one. The two district teachers of the year were surprised with balloon bouquets.

X. UPDATES

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

- FSSD Demographics dated 1/28/2016;
- Summary of Teaching and Learning Activity for the February Board Meeting.

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

- Personnel Change Report for January, 2016/February, 2016;
- Investment Report dated December 31, 2015;
- Revenue and Expenditure Reports dated 1/2016.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

John McAdams provided a report on county tax collections: October 2015 collections were 3.5% better than the previous year. November 2015 collections were 5% greater or approximately \$19,000.

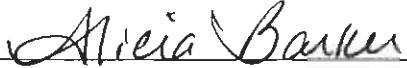
Vice Chair Blair thanked Dr. Snowden and Dr. Hill for attending the African American Heritage Society Black Tie Affair. He noted that Board member Bell served as Master of Ceremonies for the event. He also thanked PGES and PGMS for honoring him during Board Member Appreciation Week. All of the other Board members shared their thanks for the schools that honored them during this special week for Board members.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Stillings adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.



Tim Stillings, Chairman 3-14-2016
Date

ATTEST: 

Alicia Barker, Secretary 3-14-2016
Date