

November 9, 2015  
Franklin, Tennessee

The Franklin Special School District Board of Education met on Monday, November 9, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at Liberty Elementary School, 600 Liberty Pike, Franklin, Tennessee. The following members were present, which represented a quorum of the Board:

Tim Stillings, Chairman  
Robert Blair  
Kevin Townsel  
Robin Newman

Absent: Alicia Barker and Allena Bell, attending a State Board of Education regional Math and ELA Standards feedback session on behalf of the district.

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

**I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

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

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Principal Dr. Cheryl Robey welcomed those in attendance. Boy Scout Pack #188 members Brody Moore, Roman Comer, Aiden Brown, Adam St. Amant, Ryan St. Amant and Wyatt Hartley under the direction of Pack #188 Secretary Melanie St. Amant presented the colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. RECOGNITIONS**

**Good News Awards** (on file) - Highlighted: FSSD Student Artist of the Month, Freedom Middle 8th grader Johnny Crouch was recognized for his artwork that will be featured on the front of the FSSD employee birthday cards during the month of November. The Freedom Middle School football team, comprised of players from FMS, PGMS and FIS, were recognized for their undefeated season, winning the Williamson County championship and being the first football team in FMS history to win all 8 regular season games. Coaches were Bernard Jones, Frank Burnette, Troy Roan, Jacob Preston, Wade Thornton and Mike Tabscott. The team received a banner for the school from the Board. Barbara Orr with members of the Freedom Intermediate Green Team and Kaci Holz with members of the Poplar Grove Middle Green Team were recognized for being two of ten winning schools for their environmental stewardship and recycling leadership in Tennessee through *Good Sports Always Recycle*. FES Math Coach April Carrigan was recognized for serving on a panel of academic coaches at the TDOE's LEAD Conference. FMS teachers Diane Barber-Miller, Jessica Chervenak, Darrell Vanzant, Meg Morel and district psychologist Hanni Watson were recognized for presenting a session at the 2015 TDOE Partners in Education Conference.

#### IV. PUBLIC INPUT

No one from the public chose to address the Board.

#### V. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION

1. **Proclamation: "Be Nice Week"** – Board member Kevin Townsel presented the Proclamation (on file) declaring November 9-13, 2015 Be Nice Week in FSSD.
2. **One Gen Away**, presented by Chris Whitley, Pastor and Founder/Director – this non-profit entity prepares emergency food boxes to feed those in need and has community and area food distributions where the need is the most. This is the sixth year that they will be providing Thanksgiving baskets to needy families, partially through the recommendation of teachers and counselors. One Gen Away is also beneficiary of a Christmas toy drive at four area high schools and have helped Gentry students by providing a time to "shop" for toys. This organization also has regular food pickups from Costco and Whole Foods for the benefit of the community.
3. **Executive PTO** – There was not a report from the Executive PTO.
4. **Teaching and Learning Spotlight - "*Leadership Team Book Study, Inspired People Produce Results*"**, presented by Dr. Catherine Stephens. This presentation is also highlighted in the Teaching and Learning report (on file).

#### VI. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA

Robin Newman made a **motion to approve the board agenda as presented**. Kevin Townsel **seconded** the motion, which **carried unanimously 4-0**.

#### VII. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Robin Newman made a **motion to approve the consent agenda as presented**. Robert Blair **seconded** the motion, which **carried unanimously 4-0**.

**Approved under Consent Agenda** (on file) were:

1. Minutes of Board Meeting dated October 19, 2015

#### VIII. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

**Consideration of:**

1. **Policy Revision: Grading System (4.600) - 2nd Reading** - This policy revision is to bring wording of Academic Progress up to date with the current FSSD Standards Rating Key, which is located on the Standards Based Report Card Parent Guide. This key pinpoints areas of strength and needs on progress reporting as well as report cards and gives parents specific feedback on a child's mastery of state standards. Also updated is the name of Williamson County Board of Education's Policy 4.600, referred to in this policy, which has changed to "Report Cards and Grading Systems", along with removing outdated verbiage in the last paragraph. There were no changes

requested by the board upon first reading. The administration recommended approval of the second reading.

Robert Blair made a **motion to approve Grading System (4.600) - 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading as presented** (on file). Kevin Townsel **seconded** the motion, which **carried unanimously 4-0**.

## **IX. DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS REPORT**

**Dr. Snowden reported on the following:**

- **State Report Card for the 2014-2015 School Year** - The 2015 State Report Card was officially released on October 22nd. We are very proud of the district results with all A's in achievement. The district value-added (growth) scores included an A in math, B in science and C in reading/language arts. As a whole, FSSD students' scores were some of the highest in the state, with 74.6 percent proficient or advanced in math and 69 percent at proficient or advanced in reading/language arts. A continued focus for the district relates to achievement gap closure and all schools are vigorously providing intensive intervention through tiered instruction to address this goal. As usual, appreciation goes out to the teachers, administrators, parents and the Board for the diligence taken in educating our students.
- **City of Franklin Veterans Day Parade** - The FSSD will participate in the City of Franklin's annual Veterans Day Parade on Tuesday, November 10th. Fourth graders from our elementary schools, FIS Bulldog Council, and FMS and Poplar Grove joint band will march, as well as six "Be Nice student ambassadors" from each school. Our Story Bus Plus will follow our groups. Thanks to the Board members who will be able to participate as well, whether you choose to walk with the students or ride Story Bus Plus - we look forward to the day.
- **Eighth Grade Career Exploration Day** - This annual event will be held on Thursday, November 19th at the Williamson County Agricultural Exposition Park. All 8th graders will attend the event, joined by 8th graders from WCS, private schools and homeschool. The event's purpose is to allow students to explore their interests and career options, and make plans for education to better prepare for the world of work. More than 100 exhibitors and sponsors are expected this year, and we are so appreciative of the generosity of the many community members willing to participate in this important program. As in past years, Mr. Lee Kirkpatrick, as well as administrators, counselors and teachers at PGMS and FMS work tirelessly to make this event a success.
- **Thanksgiving Holidays** - The district will be closed November 23rd through November 27th.
- **American Education Week** - Recognized November 16th through 20th this year, it is an extra reminder that all Americans have the opportunity and the right to a quality public education, and we honor all individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every child receives that quality education.

- **TSBA Annual Convention and Leadership Conference** - This conference will be held at the Nashville Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Convention Center on November 13-16. Our Board has full participation in this conference, and we are certainly thankful to you and appreciate the time that each of you has devoted to attending this learning opportunity. There are exciting honors that the board and individuals will be receiving at the conference.
- **NABSE Conference** – Board members Blair, Bell and Townsel will be representing the FSSD Board at the NABSE Conference to be held this year, November 18-22 in Washington, DC. We appreciate your willingness to represent our district at this conference.
- **NSBA Conference** - Each of our Board is registered to attend this event, being held April 9-11 in Boston. Thank you for scheduling this time for the benefit of our district.

**X. UPDATES**

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

- FSSD Demographics dated 10/30/2015;
- Summary of Teaching and Learning Activity for the November Board Meeting.

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

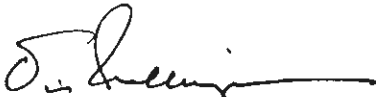
- Personnel Change Report for October, 2015/November, 2015;
- Investment Report dated September 30, 2015;
- Revenue and Expenditure Reports dated 10/2015.

**XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

John McAdams provided a report on county tax collections: collections continue to be positive - 4.5% better in August 2015 than in August 2014; 34.1% of budget has been collected one-third of the year's tax.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Stillings adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 12/14/15  
 Tim Stillings, Chairman Date

ATTEST:   
 \_\_\_\_\_ 12/14/15  
 Alicia Barker, Secretary Date