

July 17, 2017
Franklin, Tennessee

The Franklin Special School District Board of Education met on Monday, July 17, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at Poplar Grove Middle School, 2959 New Highway 96 West, Franklin, Tennessee. The following members were present:

Tim Stillings, Chair
Robert Blair, Vice-Chair
Robin Newman, Treasurer
Alicia Barker, Secretary
Allena Bell
Kevin Townsel

Others present were: Dr. David Snowden, Mark Anderson, Beth Farrar, Dr. Roberta Hill, Susannah Gentry, Robbin Cross, Amanda Parks, principals, teachers, parents, FSSDEA and community members.

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chair Stillings called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Principal Mr. Chris Treadway welcomed those in attendance and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. RECOGNITIONS

Good News Awards (on file) - Highlighted was: PGES teacher Renessa Genoble, for outstanding achievement as a member of the Tennessee Pre-K and Kindergarten Portfolio Revision Committee.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

- PGS Parent Christy Pauley, 809 Callahan Place, spoke in opposition of an earlier arrival and dismissal time schedule for Poplar Grove.

V. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION

- 1. Teaching and Learning Spotlight - "Middle School Course Offerings Booklet"**- Mrs. Mary Decker gave an update to the Board, as well as providing Board members with this publication. **"2017 Young Scholars Enrollment Information"** was presented prior to the meeting with results on where the YSI attendees attend school during the year. A complete Teaching & Learning report was also provided prior to the meeting updating current department events (all on file).

2. **Construction Report** – Information on current construction was provided prior to the meeting for the Board (on file). Mr. McAdams was on hand to answer questions from the Board.

VI. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA

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

VII. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Robin Newman made a **motion to approve the consent agenda with #6 Budget Amendments moved to Business Before the Board**. Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

Approved under Consent Agenda (on file) were:

1. Minutes of Board Meeting dated June 12, 2017
2. Minutes of Budget Work Session dated June 19, 2017
3. Board of Education Meeting Schedule 2017-2018
4. Annual Agenda 2017-2018
5. Bids: JES Kitchen Equipment
6. Budget Amendments – moved to VII.

VIII. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

Consideration of:

Budget Amendments – this was the last presentation of amendments to the FY 2016-17 budget. Tim Stillings made a **motion to accept the budget amendments as presented**. Allena Bell **seconded** the motion. After discussion, the motion **carried 6-0**.

1. **Approval of FY 2017-2018 Budget** – The final general purpose budget and debt service documents, including the budget summary and complete revenues and expenditures, were presented to the Board prior to the meeting (on file). During the budget work sessions, much was accomplished through great questions and discussions by the Board. The administration is appreciative of the diligent work by the Board over the past few months. Dr. Snowden also recognized the work done by Mr. McAdams and his department, as well as that of our administrators and supervisors during this budgetary process. Mr. McAdams noted the General Purpose Fund and Fund Balance changes provided as final updates. In the General Purpose budget, there was significant discussion related to the proposal that would change the amount paid to retirees for unused sick leave from \$30.00 to \$50.00 (one of the items included in the FSSDEA proposal). Additional information has been provided related to what other districts provide, if anything, related to this benefit (on file). One area discussed was the fact that personnel hired from other TN school districts, by law, can bring unused sick leave with them to the FSSD. Those sick days, just like the ones they earn as an FSSD employee, are used in the same manner when a

person is out ill. When a substitute is hired for the employee, the minimum cost for that sub, including benefits, will be approximately \$86.00. Therefore, every sick day not used by an employee and accumulated for a retirement benefit at a \$50.00 cost would result in a savings of approximately 72%. The projected amount of the sick leave retirement adjustment was not included in the budget this year but was absorbed in the difference of pay of a retiring and new employee. Also as a reminder to the Board, this budget does include a cost of living increase of 2% for all FSSD employees plus a step increase for all eligible employees. The administration recommended the approval of the complete FY 17-18 budget as presented in the final documents.

Prior to a vote on the budget, Kevin Townsel and Tim Stillings noted that they have spouses employed by the district, therefore a conflict of interest, and would vote their conscience for the benefit of all employees and will not vote based on personal gain.

Tim Stillings made a motion to approve the **FY 2017-18 General Purpose Budget without the inclusion of a consideration for a sick leave retirement adjustment**. Allena Bell **seconded** the motion. After discussion, **by roll call vote: 6 ayes and 0 nays** and the **motion carried**.

Allena Bell made a **motion to approve an adjustment to the sick leave payout rate at retirement from \$30 per day to \$50 per day**. Robert Blair **seconded** the motion. Tim Stillings recused himself from this item. Kevin Townsel publicly stated that his vote will be guided by conscience only and for the benefit of the district. After discussion, **by roll call vote: 4 ayes and 1 naye with Alicia Barker voting against**. The **motion carried**.

- 2. FSSD Tax Rate** – Based on approval of the FY 2017-2018 budget, the tax rate to fund the proposed budgets is .5564 cents for the General Purpose and .2726 cents for the Debt Service. These are the same rates as are currently used. The administration recommended approval.

Robin Newman made a **motion to approve the FSSD Tax Rate as presented**. Tim Stillings **seconded the motion**. **By roll call vote: 6 ayes and 0 nays, the motion passed unanimously 6-0**.

- 3. Proposed Change for Poplar Grove Arrival and Dismissal Times** – The Poplar Grove administration requested a 10-minute change in the school schedule beginning in the 2017-2018 school year. The proposed change would be to move to a 7:30 – 2:30 schedule, which results in school beginning and ending 10 minutes earlier. The request is based upon the continued urgency for buses to depart PGS by 2:35 to allow sufficient time for the buses to complete the routes and arrive at the other elementary schools in time for dismissal. The traffic congestion only continues to increase, making it more and more difficult for buses to complete their routes and arrive for the late dismissals in a timely manner. The dependence on the buses departing PGS at that certain time impedes an efficient and effective end of what is otherwise a smooth

and productive instructional day. Instructional time would be maximized with students not having to pack up early, and the change would also allow for a few extra minutes for students to ask end of the day questions of the teacher. This proposed change, according to Mr. Horne, would also have no impact on the majority of morning bus routes. There would be no impact on after-school activities and sports teams. Currently, Freedom Intermediate operates on a 7:20 – 2:20 schedule and FMS operates on a 7:30 – 2:30 schedule. In early June, a survey was sent (through Survey Monkey) to PGS parents asking for input regarding the proposed schedule change. There were 212 responses (48% car riders, 19% bus riders and 33% both). 62% were in favor of the proposed change and 38% were opposed to the proposed change. Mrs. Erickson and Mr. Treadway were in attendance to present the information and answer questions. The administration recommended approval.

Allena Bell made a **motion to approve the proposed change for Poplar Grove arrival and dismissal times as presented**. Robert Blair **seconded the motion**. During discussion it was noted that the PGS buses would not pick up earlier and that doors to the school would open for students at the same time each morning: 7:00 a.m., but that early morning activities would also begin at 7:00 and be 10 minutes shorter. Morning bells and Pride Time would begin 10 minutes earlier than previously. A later start time was explored as well; however, it would have an even more adverse effect on the rest of the district; the earlier arrival and dismissal time was considered the best option. After discussion the **motion carried 5-1**, with Robin Newman voting against.

4. **Policy Revision: Fundraising Activities (2.601) – 2nd Reading** – This policy was re-titled (from “Student Solicitations/Fundraising Activities”) and renumbered from 6.701 and placed in the Financial Management section, per TSBA’s recommendation. Provisions regarding online fundraising have been added to address any concerns with sites like Go Fund Me. This policy allows for the use of online fundraising sites under certain circumstances. There were no changes requested from the Board upon 1st Reading. The administration recommended approval of the second reading.

Tim Stillings made a **motion to approve the second reading of Fundraising Activities (2.601) as presented** (on file). Robin Newman **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

5. **Policy Revision: Food Service Management (3.500) – 2nd Reading** - This policy revision incorporates several new items: among these, a meal charging provision that complies with new information released by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture; TSBA-suggested language for a provision regarding the option for students with disabilities to request meal modifications; and parent/guardian notification requirements. There were no changes requested from the Board upon 1st Reading. The administration recommended approval of the second reading.

Allena Bell made a **motion to approve the second reading of Food Service Management (3.500) as presented** (on file). Robert Blair **seconded** the motion,

which carried 6-0.

6. **New Policy: Student Equal Access (Limited Public Forum) (4.802) – 2nd Reading** – This policy request has been written by TSBA, and is being presented for the second reading to comply with Tennessee Code. There were no changes requested from the Board upon 1st Reading. The administration recommended approval of the second reading.

Tim Stillings made a **motion to approve the second reading of Student Equal Access (Limited Public Forum) (4.802) as presented** (on file). Robin Newman **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

7. **Policy Revision: Emergency Preparedness Plan (3.202) – 1st Reading** - This policy has been updated by TSBA to include a new requirement, per Public Chapter 313, that each school safety team conduct at least one armed intruder drill per year in coordination with local law enforcement. In addition, this updated policy reflects Public Chapter 451's requirement that all schools conduct full evacuation fire drills at least one time every 30 school days, with two fire drills occurring during the first 30 full days of the school year. Each school will also be required to perform four fire safety educational announcements during the school year. LEAs have complete discretion over every aspect of the fire safety educational announcements - the distribution and content of these announcements is at the discretion of the LEA. The administration recommended approval of the first reading.

Kevin Townsel made a **motion to approve the first reading and waive the second reading of Emergency Preparedness Plan (3.202) as presented** (on file). Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

8. **Policy Revisions for: Special Education (4.202), Special Education Class Size and Placement (4.2021) and Students with Disabilities – Special Education Services (6.500) – 1st Readings** – These policies were approved on second reading at the June 12th meeting. Upon review by TSBA, it is now our recommendation that the age range previously appearing in these policies (ages 3-16) should be replaced with only the earliest beginning age instead of listing an age span for our K-8 district. Please note that the federal and state law defines a child with disabilities for educational purposes as being between the ages of 3 and 21, which pertains to grades through grade 12. As an elementary/middle school district, placement of students in age appropriate classrooms and settings is a procedure that is followed throughout our district. Since these are not substantive changes, the administration recommended approval of the first reading, and to waive the second reading.

Tim Stillings made a **motion to approve the first readings and waive the second readings of Special Education (4.202), Special Education Class Size and Placement (4.2021) and Students with Disabilities – Special Education Services (6.500) as presented** (on file). Allena Bell **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

IX. DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS REPORT

Dr. Snowden reported on the following:

- **Opening School Program** – On August 3rd we will have our official *Opening of Schools Program*. Beginning at 7:00 a.m., a benefits fair in the lobby of PGES will be provided for employees to attend if they wish. At 8:00 a.m., all employees will attend the opening in the PGS gymnasium, with the remainder of the day being utilized for professional learning sessions. The Board was invited to help welcome back faculty and staff that morning for the new school year.
- **BANTIP** – The new teacher induction program will be conducted July 26-28. This will be held earlier than in the past to give the new teachers more time before the district and school administrative days occur. We look forward to working with our new teachers and administrators as the new school year begins. At this time there are 34 new teachers.
- **“The Great American Solar Eclipse”** – This historical event will occur on August 21st; we are in the process of developing a viewing opportunity for our students and personnel to experience this once in a lifetime event. Our T&L Department has ordered eclipse-safe viewing glasses for students and employees, we are also reviewing and determining safety precautions. In addition, parents will have to provide written consent in order for their children to participate in the viewing. Mrs. Decker has been researching lessons for all grades to take part and learn. During the Executive PTO meeting, Dr. Snowden had questions regarding if parents can come view with their children – while not enough glasses have been ordered for parents to have as well, we are trying to accommodate additional viewers.
- **TSBA Fall District Meeting** – This meeting will be held on September 28th this year, in the Houston County School District. Board members are currently being registered.
- **NSBA CUBE Conference registration** – Dr. Barker has been registered for the CUBE Conference in September. Attendance for the conference was extended to other Board members.

X. UPDATES

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

- FSSD Demographics dated 6/1/2017.

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

- Personnel Change Report for June, 2017/July, 2017;

- Revenue and Expenditure Reports dated 6/2017;
- Comparison of Sales Tax Revenue FY 2015-16 to FY 2016-17

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Stillings adjourned the meeting at 7:53p.m.

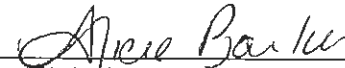


Tim Stillings, Chair

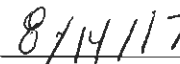


Date

ATTEST:



Alicia Barker, Secretary



Date