

May 9, 2016  
Franklin, Tennessee

The Franklin Special School District Board of Education met on Monday, May 9, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at Freedom Middle School, 750 Highway 96 West, Franklin, with the following members present:

Tim Stillings, Chair  
Robert Blair  
Alicia Barker  
Kevin Townsel  
Allena Bell

Not present: Robin Newman

Others present were: Dr. David Snowden, Dr. Catherine Stephens, John McAdams, Jesse Horne, Chip Sternenbergl, Dr. Kay Boan, Dr. Roberta Hill, Mark Anderson and other staff, principals, teachers, parents, FSSDEA and community members.

*A reception honoring "Classified Employees of the Year" was held prior to the meeting.*

**I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

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

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Principal Dr. Kristi Jefferson welcomed those in attendance and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. RECOGNITIONS**

**Good News Awards** (on file) - Highlighted were: FSSD Student Artist of the Month PGES student Landon Jefferson; FMS student Amanda Knecht, who was selected to participate in the Engineering VOLunteers for Ninth Graders (eVOL9); FMS World Language teacher and Director of the Drama Department's Leslie Milstead, who has been nominated for the Excellence in Theatre Education Award presented by The Tony Awards and Carnegie Mellon University; FIS teachers Dinah Wade, Jennifer Henderson and Pax Wiemers achieving Google certification. Dinah has achieved Level 2 Google certification as well as Raspberry Pi Certification. Lastly, FSSD Coordinated School Health Coordinator Lisa Chatman was recognized for being selected as a recipient of the Excellence in Partnership Award from the Mid- Cumberland Region of the TN Health Department.

**“Classified Employees of the Year”** (on file) - Honored with a reception and recognition from the Board were employees chosen from each school, combined Central Office/Annex, and Transportation/Maintenance. **Franklin Elementary:** Julie Urban, Paraprofessional; **Johnson Elementary:** Kay Johnson, Paraprofessional/Computer Lab; **Liberty Elementary:** Paige Mathias, Paraprofessional; **Poplar Grove Elementary:** Vicky Gish, R.N., School Nurse; **Freedom Intermediate:** Marne’ Price, Attendance Secretary; **Freedom Middle:** Jasmine Jackson, Cafeteria Team/Assistant Track Coach; **Poplar Grove Middle:** Nancy Konopka, Attendance Secretary; **Central Office Annex:** Drew Bingham, Database Manager. Recognized as **District Classified Employee of the Year** was **Moore Elementary’s Kay Erwin**, Bookkeeper. Winners received, from First Tennessee Bank, \$100 at the school level and \$500 for the district winner. The Board thanked First Tennessee Bank for their community partnership with our district.

#### IV. PUBLIC INPUT

Jay King, of 709 Meeting Street and a Boy Scout from Pack 235, Troop 130, is working on his Citizenship Merit Badge. He is a 5th grader at FIS.

#### V. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION

1. **Executive PTO** - There was not a report from the Executive PTO.
2. **Teaching and Learning Spotlight** - **“Integrated Leadership Course”** was presented by Dr. Stephens, who led the course for our district leaders, expounded on its merits being in our district training our leaders. Lisa Coons from the TN Dept. of Education found high value in training within the district versus having leaders come from different areas to meet in one location. This information is further highlighted in the Teaching & Learning report for this month (on file).

#### 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 with Item 1. Minutes of Board Meeting dated April 18, 2016 moved to Business Before the Board**. Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

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

1. Item has been moved to Business Before the Board
2. Minutes of Work Session dated April 25, 2016
3. Budget Amendments

## VIII. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

1. **Minutes of Board Meeting dated April 18, 2016** – moved from the Consent Agenda.

Kevin Townsel made a **motion to approve the Minutes of Board Meeting dated April 18, 2016 as presented**. Allena Bell **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

## IX. DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS REPORT

**Dr. Snowden presented the following report to the Board:**

- **Classified Employees of the Year** – We have so many outstanding employees, and we are especially grateful for all of our classified employee and congratulate each of the outstanding employees recognized this evening.
- **District Volunteer of the Year** - The volunteer chosen to represent our district through the TSBA School Volunteer of the Year process is Jennifer Morrison from Poplar Grove Elementary. We are extremely proud of her as well as each of our many top-notch volunteers throughout our district!
- **2016-2017 Registration Update** - Registration continues for next year. Dr. Stephens reported that this has been an exciting April where registration is concerned. Before the month began, a *goal* of 75% was set, and as of May 9<sup>th</sup>, 78% or 2,498 verified and 54 are waiting for verification. An in-district goal of 95% of our currently enrolled students to re-register by the close of the school year is a target.
- **District Retirement Celebration** - This year's retirement celebration was a real positive for our district! With 28 honorees in all, 15 took part in our celebration at Freedom Intermediate. We had a full house at the reception after our celebration, with many friends and family, as well as our FSSD family, attending the event. It has become a very special evening for our retirees; we understand that schedules cannot always allow attendance.
- **TCAP Testing** - As you already know, Commissioner McQueen recently suspended the TCAP/TNReady testing for Grades 3-8 for the 15-16 school year and the testing vendor, Measurement Inc., was fired. We continued with the assessments for Algebra I and Geometry since they are high school end of course tests as they were not suspended by the Commissioner. In addition, we are cautiously optimistic regarding the state assessments for next year since no new testing vendor has been selected to date.
- **Budget Process for the 2016-2017 School Year** - April 25th was the first of three scheduled budget meetings, when we reviewed the Operations Budgets for both Finance & Administration and Teaching & Learning. Dates for the next budget work

sessions are May 16 (Revenue and Personnel), followed by June 20 (cumulative discussions).

- **Young Scholars Institute** - We are excited to house the Junior and Senior Scholars together in one location this year at Poplar Grove School. We know the parents will like having one drop off and pick up point for their children. At this point Senior Scholars has approximately 420 students enrolled, with 37 on scholarship. Junior Scholars has about 550 registered, with 56 students receiving scholarships. We still have some great classes open and we will probably register another 50 students prior to June. Thank you for your continued support of the Young Scholars Institute and we ask that you try to stop by one of the days: you will be excited about all of the different courses that students are participating in.
- Last week Commissioner McQueen visited Poplar Grove Elementary; we had three Board members that were able to be present during the visit. Dr. Barker and Mrs. Bell stayed the entire time while classrooms were visited. I think that all of us continue to be impressed with the leadership that our Commissioner provides to our school districts across the state. She is very keyed-in to our students and our teachers and values her classroom visits. To my knowledge, in the 15 years that I have been with the district we have not had a Commissioner of Education visit our schools: once a Commissioner visited our Central Office, so that also says a lot of what is important to our Commissioner. Later that afternoon Commissioner McQueen attended the kick-off for the Mid-Cumberland Reading Foundation. Gina Looney is the Reading Foundation Board member that represents FSSD; she and the rest of their advisory board have done a phenomenal job in getting the Reading Foundation off the ground. It is key for (early) literacy, especially from birth to age 5 to get children prepared to start reading when they get to Kindergarten. We are optimistic that the Reading Foundation will help provide some support for what parents and others need in this effort.
- We have been having technical issues with our server. Technology's Mark Anderson and an outside agency are working to rebuild the server. We are making significant progress and hope to have email back online by mid-week.

## X. UPDATES

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

- Summary of Teaching and Learning Activity for the May Board Meeting;
- FSSD Demographics dated May 1, 2016.

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

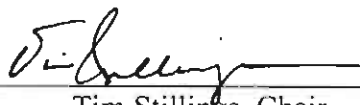
- Personnel Change Report March/April 2016;
- Revenue and Expenditure Reports dated 4/2016.

**XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- February 2016 tax collections were up 9.4% over the previous February. Regarding the bond issue, timing could not have been much better. The district will save over \$800,000 by refunding these bonds. We continue to have a AA1A rating with Moody's. The bond pre-closing is scheduled for Tuesday May 17.
- Allena Bell thanked Dr. Snowden for playing an integral role in the Reading Foundation. She felt proud as he introduced Commissioner McQueen to the Foundation while she was visiting Franklin on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Stillings adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Stillings, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

ATTEST:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Alicia Barker, Secretary

10-13-2010

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date