

November 10, 2014
Franklin, TN

The Franklin Special School District Board of Education met on Monday, November 10, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at Freedom Middle School, 75 Highway 96 West, Franklin, Tennessee, with the following members present:

Tim Stillings
Robert Blair
Alicia Barker
Allena Bell
Kevin Townsel
Robin Newman was not present

Others present were: Director Dr. David Snowden, Associate Director for Finance & Administration Mr. John McAdams, Associate Director for Teaching & Learning Dr. Catherine Stephens, Mark Anderson, Amy Fisher, Mary Decker, Gina Looney, Dr. Kay Boan, Dr. Roberta Hill, Amanda Parks, and other staff, principals, teachers, parents, FSSDEA and community members.

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Tim 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 in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. RECOGNITIONS

Good News Awards were presented (on file). Highlighted were: November Student Artist of the Month FMS 7th grader Becca Evangelista; MTVA Honors Choir members from PGMS Christiana Suddeath, Anna Hope Zelnik, Adria Veile, Jessica Finny, Steven Knight, Erin McAfee, Kirsten Root, Ashlee Melz, Meredith Owen, Alanna Eveland, and Taylor Rosin, and from FMS Ben Gallagher, Jesse Williams, Jacob Spears, Juan Emiliano Garcia, Emily Maier, Grace McGaha, Kaia Hicks, and Alex Wasson, with choral teachers Chris Strelecki (PGMS) and Connie Marley (FMS); FES math instructional coach April Carrigan, selected to participate in a multi-year research project conducted by the TDOE and the Institute of Learning at the University of Pittsburgh; 2014 TN Elementary Art Teacher of the Year Cassie Stephens (JES); and 2014 TN Science Teachers of the Year - 5-8 grade division Barbara Orr (FIS) and K-4 grade division Lorri Graves (MES).

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

No one from the public chose to address the Board.

V. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION

1. **Executive PTO** – There was no report this month.
2. **Teaching and Learning Spotlight** - *“Tennessee Educational LEADership Conference (LEAD 2014)”* was presented by Dr. Stephens. This information is further highlighted in the Teaching & Learning report for this month (on file).

VI. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA

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

VII. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Alicia Barker made a **motion to approve the consent agenda moving Item 2. Minutes of Work Session dated November 3, 2014 to the first item under Business Before the Board**. Allena Bell **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

The items approved under Consent Agenda (on file) were:

1. Minutes of Board Meeting dated October 20, 2014;
3. Overnight Field Trip Request for Freedom Intermediate 6th Grade to travel to Nature’s Classroom May 18-20, 2015.

VIII. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

Consideration of:

Item 2 from Consent Agenda: Minutes of Work Session dated November 3, 2014 -

Chair Stillings recapped this work session. TSBA Executive Director Dr. Tammy Grissom met with the Board to facilitate discussion of results of their self-evaluation. Categories in the self-evaluation had a number of statements attached to them, and were rated by each board member on a scale of 1 (low importance) to 6 (high importance) of 1) how each Board member felt the Board was carrying out each statement now; and 2) how important each member deemed the statement to be for the functioning of Board.

Averages of self-assessed statements in each of the categories had final scores rated by our Board as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Performance of Board Now</u>	<u>Importance Placed on Category</u>
Board meetings	5.58	5.89
Team building	5.63	5.90
Board/Superintendent/Staff Relations	5.67	5.85
Vision Planning	5.64	5.73
Board Policy	5.46	5.83
Student Achievement	5.70	5.83
Board Community Relations	5.67	5.81
Advocacy	4.70	5.27
Budget/Finance	5.88	6.00
Total Average	5.55	5.79

Allena Bell was recognized by Chair Stillings for her work as steward as the Board progressed toward being a Board of Distinction.

Robert Blair made a **motion to adopt the Minutes of Work Session dated November 3, 2014**. Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion. The motion **carried 6-0**.

1. **"Be Nice Day" Proclamation** - The "Be Nice" committee has been working diligently to develop ideas related to the FSSD's participation. Each school has selected six "Be Nice" ambassadors. One of their first opportunities to represent their school will be as participants in the Veterans Day Parade on November 11th. November 13th is "World Kindness Day" and the Kick-Off for the FSSD's "Be Nice" campaign; each school will hold an activity or event to commemorate the district kick-off. Each school has received "Be Nice" signs with their school name and logo to use for photo opportunities and other activities. An official proclamation, read to the audience by Alicia Barker, provided the Board an opportunity to name November 13, 2014 as "Be Nice Day" in the FSSD. Communications Specialist Susannah Gentry was recognized by our Director for her hard work in organizing this district campaign.

Allena Bell made a **motion for Board approval of the "Be Nice Day" Proclamation**. Robert Blair **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

2. **Policy Revision: Family and Medical Leave (5.305) - 2nd Reading** - Changes made to this policy reflect clarification and wording changes reflected in the Family and Medical Leave Act. The administration recommended approval of the 2nd Reading.

Kevin Townsel made a **motion to approve Family and Medical Leave (5.305) - 2nd Reading as presented** (on file). Allena Bell **seconded** the motion. With no discussion, the motion **carried 6-0**.

3. **Rescinding of Policy: Utilization of Career Level Educators (5.111) - 1st Reading to Rescind** - The General Assembly recently repealed all state laws pertaining to the career ladder program. TSBA suggests that if a board has adopted TSBA's model policy 5.111, TSBA would recommend rescinding it as soon as practical. As background for this policy, previously districts were to offer career ladder teachers extended contracts before teachers that had not earned career ladder designation. Currently, with the repeal of state laws and as part of the differentiated pay changes, outlined performance criteria is taken into account as well for pay purposes. Please note that state law still requires each Board to pay supplements to eligible educators. Dr. Snowden reported that 82 teachers receive Career Ladder I supplements, 4 receive supplements based on Career Ladder II, and 7 based on Career Ladder III. The administration recommended approval of 1st Reading to rescind this policy.

Alicia Barker made a **motion to rescind Utilization of Career Level Educators (5.111) - 1st Reading** (on file). Allena Bell **seconded** the motion. After discussion, the motion **carried 6-0**.

4. **Policy Revision: Extended Contracts (5.112) - 1st Reading** - Also related to the repeal of all state laws pertaining to the career ladder program, TSBA recommends

that if a board has adopted TSBA's model policy 5.112, it is recommending the modification of this policy by removing any and all references to the career ladder program. The administration recommended approval of the 1st Reading.

Alicia Barker made a **motion to approve Extended Contracts (5.112) - 1st Reading as presented** (on file). Kevin Townsel **seconded** the motion. With no discussion, the motion **carried 6-0**.

- 5. Board Member Nomination for Textbook Committee** - During this school year, the FSSD will be making a textbook selection for math for the 2015-2021 school years. As this committee is being formed, the administration would like for a FSSD board member to serve in an "ex officio" capacity to participate in the textbook committee process, discussion and review of materials, and who would have a voice in expressing thoughts and ideas related to the various textbook options. Although currently unscheduled, the first meeting will occur during December after the school day, and will be introductory in nature to set the tone for how this process will unfold. Meetings will then proceed in January. Dr. Snowden noted that there will also be parent representatives serving on the committee this year.

After discussion, Kevin Townsel volunteered to be Board representative. Allena Bell made a **motion to nominate Kevin Townsel** to serve on the textbook committee in an "ex officio" capacity. Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion. The motion **carried 6-0**.

IX. DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS REPORT

Dr. Snowden presented the following report to the Board:

- **Amanda Muniz** was introduced as a new assistant principal at FMS.
- **State Report Card for the 2013-2014 School Year** - The 2014 State Report Card was officially released on October 30th. We are very proud of the district results with all A's in achievement and three A's and one C (Reading) in the growth scores (Value-Added). The NCE scores increased from the 2013 school year in Math, Science and Social Studies, and remained the same in Reading. The Value-Added scores also remained consistent with the 2013 scores. District and individual school scores are available for review at the Tennessee Department of Education website.
- **City of Franklin Veterans Day Parade** - The FSSD looks forward to participating in the City of Franklin's annual Veterans Day Parade on Tuesday, November 11th. The fourth graders from our elementary schools, FIS Bulldog Council, and FMS band will also participate, and this year six "Be Nice student ambassadors" from each school will also march or ride along. Our Story Bus Plus will follow our groups. All Board members were encouraged to participate.
- **Eighth Grade Career Exploration Day** - An annual event, this will be held on Thursday, November 13th, at the Williamson County Agricultural Exposition Park. All FSSD 8th graders will attend the event, joined by WCS 8th graders, as well as private schools and homeschool. This event's purpose is to allow students to explore their interests and career options, create electronic portfolios, and make plans for

education to better prepare for the world of work. We are certainly appreciative of the generosity of the many community members willing to participate in this important program. Mr. Lee Kirkpatrick reported today that over 100 vendors and booths will be on hand. As in past years, 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 24th through November 28th.
- **American Education Week** - November 17-21, 2014 - As quoted from the AEW website, the tagline of "*Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility*," "reflects NEA's vision of calling upon all Americans to do their part in making public schools great for every child so that they can grow and achieve in the 21st century."
- **TSBA Annual Convention and Leadership Conference** - This conference will be held November 15-17 at the Nashville Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Convention Center. We appreciate the time that each Board member has devoted to attending this learning opportunity.
- **NABSE Conference** – Robert Blair, Allena Bell and Kevin Townsel will be representing the FSSD Board at the NABSE Conference to be held this year November 19-23 in Kansas City. This takes a lot of effort and coordination following the TSBA Conference so closely and we appreciate their willingness to attend.
- **NSBA Conference** - The open registration date has begun for the NSBA Conference scheduled for March 21-23, 2015 in Nashville.
- **Board of Distinction** - At the work session on Monday, November 3, 2014, the Board completed the Self-Evaluation Process and has now completed all of the items needed to obtain the TSBA Board of Distinction designation. The Board will be recognized for this honor during the TSBA Conference later this month. TSBA's Dr. Grissom, the Board's facilitator, was very complimentary of our Board and the work that they do, and it speaks volumes - without a supportive Board it is difficult to accomplish all that we do as a district. The self-evaluation was a worthy ordeal and has validated what we all knew about our school Board. Congratulations on this achievement!

X. UPDATES

1. **Teaching and Learning** - Dr. Catherine Stephens, Associate Director for Teaching & Learning, provided the following (on file):
 - Summary of Teaching and Learning Activity for the November Board Meeting;
 - FSSD Demographics dated 10/29/2014.
2. **Finance and Administration** - John McAdams, Associate Director for Finance & Administration, provided the following (on file):
 - Personnel Change Report for October, 2014/November, 2014;
 - Investment reports as of September 30, 2014;

- Summary Revenue Reports and Summary Expenditure Reports for October 2014.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS


Mr. McAdams reported that August 2014 sales tax collections were 5% better than August 2013, and overall for the year there has been a 4.7% improvement.

Mr. Stillings asked for a consensus among the Board on topic ideas for future Board Notes: the Board agreed that the Board of Distinction process; the Be Nice Proclamation; and professional development for Board members and administrators were important topics.

Mrs. Bell announced the LES Veteran's Day celebration at on November 11th at 8:30.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Tim Stillings adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.



Tim Stillings, Chair

12/0/14
Date

ATTEST:



Alicia Barker, Secretary

12-8-14
Date