

March 9, 2015
Franklin, Tennessee

The Franklin Special School District Board of Education met on Monday, March 9, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at Franklin Elementary School, 1501 Figuers Drive, Franklin, with the following members present:

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

Others present were: Director Dr. David Snowden, Associate Director for Teaching & Learning Dr. Catherine Stephens, Associate Director for Finance & Administration Mr. John McAdams, Dr. Kay Boan, Mark Anderson, and other staff, principals, teachers, parents, FSSDEA and community members.

There was a reception honoring FSSD Teachers of the Year prior to the meeting.

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chair Stillings called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Principal Dr. David Esslinger welcomed those in attendance and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. RECOGNITIONS

FSSD Teachers of the Year (on file) – Honored were: District Elementary Teacher of the Year Cassie Stephens (JES) and District Middle Grades Teacher of the Year Angie Tisdale (FIS), also FSSD Building-Level Teachers of the Year Jordan Cleveland (MES), Jennifer Hacker (FMS), Karen Hunter-Mennenga (PGES), Dawn James, Ed.D. (FES), Marti Jeffords (PGMS) and Travis King (LES). Cornerstone Financial Credit Union, represented by Dana Gillespie, was recognized for their support of our district in monetary awards to our teachers of the year. The 60th anniversary of Cornerstone was also noted.

Good News Awards (on file) - Highlighted were: Harrison Gentry (FSSD Student Artist of the Month, FES 1st grade); Riley Hacker (FIS 5th grade whose artwork will be featured in *Ply Magazine*); Randall Beard (FMS 8th grade tuba selected for the 2015 Mid-State Middle School Honor Band); Adriana Olivas (FMS 8th grade viola selected for the 2015 Mid-State Middle School Orchestra). Selected for the 2015 Williamson County Middle School Honor Band were Read Cox (PGMS, tuba) and from FMS Caroline Stone (7th

grade French horn) and 8th graders Laura Griffith (trumpet) Julian Watson (baritone sax), Taylor Beal (oboe), Emma Schenck (flute), Alexondra Morton-Chafin (clarinet) and Randall Beard (tuba). Selected for the 2015 Williamson County Festival Orchestra were FMS 8th graders Anna Markovich (violin), Shelby Meadows (violin), Adriana Olivas (viola), Jasime Rose (violin) and Zach Szymanski (violin). Poplar Grove Competition Cheerleaders were commended for their successful season: Caroline Calabrace (FMS), Payton Greve (FMS), Katelyn Denno, Alex Dunn, Piper Gamble, Lucy Garth, Alexa Gordon, Brooklyn Gordon, Jordan Harrah, Gracie Hlavati, Emma Jordan, Gianna Panaia, Kalee Plowman, Kirsten Root, Claudia Shelton, Audrey Spalding, Alli Terry, Elise Trent and Riley White under the direction of Coach Becky Brennan, assistant coaches Betsy Fuqua and Micah Smith. Lastly, MES P.E. teacher John Parks was recognized for receiving one of only thirteen national Jump Rope for Heart/Hoops for Heart grants given out and who will be honored at the national SHAPE conference.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

No one from the public chose to address the Board.

V. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION

1. **Executive PTO** - There was not a report given this month by the Executive PTO.
2. **Teaching and Learning Spotlight** - "*Online Student Registration*" 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

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

VII. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

1. Minutes of Board Meeting dated February 9, 2015;
2. Tax Anticipation Revolving Loan Agreement;
3. Overnight Field Trip Request: Moore Elementary School.

VIII. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

Consideration of:

1. **Director of Schools Performance - Total Composite Score** - Chair Stillings outlined the process for evaluation of the Director of Schools. Based on the submission to the Board of the Director of Schools Annual Report for 2013-2014 at the January Board

meeting, each Board member submitted individual scoring based on a pre-determined point value given to criteria in four areas: Improvement of Student Performance, Effective Management of District Resources, Transforming the Vision into Reality, and Highest Level of Internal and External Communication. The total composite score was then derived from removing the highest and lowest scores from each category and averaging the remaining scores by category, then adding the average scores to obtain the composite score. The total composite score awarded from the Board was **98.25**, which awarded Dr. Snowden the full bonus equal to 10% of his salary. To further this process for the next school year, Board member Kevin Townsel will be heading the Director of Schools Annual Performance Goals revision for 2015-2016, to be completed for the April Board meeting.

Kevin Townsel made a **motion to approve the Director of Schools Total Composite Score** (on file) **as presented** derived from the goals set forth by the Board for the 2013-2014 year. Robert Blair **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

Allena Bell made a **motion to approve the payment of 100% of the bonus pool as set forth in the DOS Performance Review Process** previously approved by the Board. Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

Dr. Snowden received a standing ovation from the Board and audience in appreciation of outstanding performance exhibited during the 2013-2014 school year. Dr. Snowden expressed his appreciation to the Board and shared the honor with his staff and schools. He declined to accept the bonus and would like to designate where the funds will be used within the district.

- 2. Policy Revision: Student Records (6.600) - 2nd Reading** - This policy was recently revised to include transfer of disciplinary records when a student transfers schools. This revision request has a wording change on Line 14 to reflect current practice within our district. Instead of sending "copies" of the records for transfers within our district or to Williamson County Schools, in practice we send the "original" cumulative file, which is a reciprocal agreement between the two school districts. Also in this revision is language regarding the transfer of special education files, which are separate to and handled differently from cumulative files, in which originals are sent regardless if the file is being sent within our district, within Williamson County, or outside of the county. Additional cross references have also been added. During discussion on the first reading, on the draft Page 1 Line 15 the word "student" was changed to "student's" for the second reading. The administration recommended approval of the second reading.

Robin Newman made a **motion to approve the policy revision for Student Records (6.600) - 2nd Reading as presented** (on file). Robert Blair **seconded** the motion. With no discussion, the motion **carried 6-0**.

- 3. Policy Revision: Homework (4.6011) - 1st Reading** - This revision addressed homework assignments made prior to holidays or school breaks with due dates

following those days off. The administration recommended approval of the first reading.

Allena Bell made a **motion to approve the policy revision for Homework (4.6011) - 1st Reading as presented** (on file). Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion. The motion to approve the first reading **carried 5-1 with Kevin Townsel voting against**.

IX. DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS REPORT

Dr. Snowden presented the following report to the Board:

- **Read Across America Week** - Officially March 2-8, 2015, there are activities throughout our district to promote the importance and enjoyment of reading during this week and the next. Through many tweets during the week, the celebrations related to reading were great and both students and adults participated in the fun!
- **NSBA Conference & NSBA Magna Award for the FSSD Story Bus Plus** - All Board members will be attending NSBA in Nashville, March 21-23. We are looking forward to this learning opportunity. In mid-December, we were notified by email of the selection of the FSSD Story Bus as a first place winner for one of five 2015 Magna Awards for the under 5,000 enrollment category. We were unable to release details until after March 5th. We are excited to be able to announce this award for the school district and a press release is scheduled for March 10th. The award will be presented at the NSBA "Best Practices for School Leaders Luncheon" on Saturday, March 21st. Two guests will be accompanying the Board at the luncheon on Saturday: Gina Looney and Joyce Smith, "The Story Bus Lady."
- **Budget Process for the 2015-2016 School Year** - We have included proposed dates for the budget work sessions. As in past years, Operations Budgets for both Finance and Administration and Teaching and Learning are combined in the first work session, Revenue and Personnel will be reviewed in the second, and then a discussion of the cumulative impact will take place on the third work session, facilitating the possible completion of the budget process. Please review these dates and let Carol know of any conflicts. The proposed dates are April 20, May 18 and June 22, beginning at 5:00 at the Teacher Center at Moore Elementary.
- **Young Scholars Institute** - The 2015 camp, for "independent and highly motivated students" who have completed 1st through 8th grade, has applications online and in print and is scheduled for the weeks of June 1-5 and June 8-12. Franklin Elementary is ready to host Junior Scholars for the first time, whereas Senior Scholars will still be at Poplar Grove. The Nutrition Department will be offering a hot lunch at both sites this year, or students can bring their traditional sack lunch. Plans are underway for another successful camp!
- **Gentry's STEM in SPORTS Camp** - This opportunity for students in Grades K-6 will be held July 6-10 at Johnson Elementary School. The daily schedule is from 8:00-3:00. Children will participate in two ninety-minute STEM in Sports Blocks and

three fifty-minute Enrichment/Choice classes each day.

- **Spring Break** - This year's Spring Break for students, teachers and school staff members is scheduled for March 16 -20. Our district will be closed during this week.
- **FSSD's Top Forty Volunteers** - At our April Board meeting, we will be honoring five volunteers from each of the eight different schools in the FSSD. We will host a reception for the "Top Forty" at 6:00 prior to the Board meeting, and then recognize them individually during the first part of the meeting. The April 13th meeting is scheduled to be held at Johnson Elementary.
- **District Retirement Reception** - This year's retirement reception will be held on Thursday, April 30th at 6:00 p.m. at Freedom Intermediate School. We hope that your schedule will allow you to attend.
- **Snow Days Update** - As you know, stock-piled days are built into the school calendar each year in case of inclement weather. We have used the seven stock-piled days and have been out of school for a total of eight days as of the time of the Board meeting. Due to the State of Emergency Level 2 issued by the Governor related to the significant snow and ice of a few weeks ago, we received notification from the Commissioner of Education on Friday, February 27 stating school districts would be eligible for a waiver for up to three days. Our administration will file a waiver for the additional instructional day lost. We are hopeful for nice, warm weather soon!

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 March Board Meeting;
- FSSD Demographics dated February 28, 2015.

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


- Personnel Change Report for February, 2015/March, 2015;
- Summary Revenue Reports and Summary Expenditure Reports for February 2015.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- John McAdams shared details of sales tax collection.
- Dr. Barker reported on her role as a TSBA SCOPE moderator. She enjoyed her role where high school students participated in a mock school board meeting with discussion and debates focusing on relevant issues facing public education.
- Allena Bell challenged the Board to move toward nomination of School Board of the Year.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Stillings adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.



Tim Stillings, Chair

4-13-15
Date

ATTEST: 

Alicia Barker, Secretary

4-13-15
Date