

**Minutes
Clarksville-Montgomery County
Board of Education**

September 8, 2009

The Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education met Tuesday, September 8, 2009, in the Board Room. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: George Giles, Chairman; Ernest Brockman, Eula Gardner Dowdy, Jimmie Garland, Horace Murphy, Jr., James Mann, and Carol Smithson. Also present were: Michael Harris, Director of Schools; Jill Nolan, Board Attorney; B. J. Worthington, Chief Academic Officer; Danny Grant, Chief Financial Officer; Elise Shelton, Chief Communications Officer; Jim Sumrell, Chief Operations Officer; David Holman, Chief Technology Officer; and Teresa Rawls, Secretary, who kept the minutes of the meeting.

Director of Schools Evaluation

Mr. Giles commented that Board members had previously received a report indicating that the Director was in compliance with the Ends policies and Executive Limitations throughout the year. Mr. Giles noted that the Director had met or exceeded all expectations. Mr. Mann made a motion declaring that the Director had met or exceeded all areas of performance for this past year. The motion, seconded by Mrs. Dowdy, passed unanimously.

Consideration of Contract

Mr. Mann made a motion to renew the Director's existing contract and begin a process to identify and survey peer school districts to provide comparisons of their Directors' salaries and benefits packages to ensure our salary and benefits are commensurate with peer districts. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion.

Discussion followed, and Board Attorney Jill Nolan clarified several points. Mrs. Nolan stated the current contract expires in 2012, and while State law does not allow the Board to extend a contract, the Board may renew the contract. This means replacing the current contract with a new four-year contract which will expire July 31, 2013. She also noted that the initial contract calls for annual consideration at a specified time each year. In addition, the initial contract calls for a market analysis review in 2010, the fourth year of the initial contract. She stated that Mr. Mann's motion would allow the process of gathering information ahead of time for the discussions the Board is already bound to by contract. She further noted that the contract could be modified at any time if the Board voted to do so.

The motion carried with six votes in favor, and Ms. Smithson opposed.

Point of Pride

High School Director Rosalyn Evans presented a Point of Pride award to Clarksville High School sophomore Bashaara Graves. Ms. Graves is a member of the 2009 USA Women's U16 National Basketball Championship Team who won the gold medal in Mexico City in August. Her team played against teams from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Mexico and Puerto Rico. The 2009 FIBA Americas

U16 Championship was held in August for the first time ever. The inaugural event served as the qualifying tournament for next year's FIBA U17 World Championship. Ms. Graves also was locally named to the 2009 all-region and all-district teams. In addition, she plays for the AAU Lady Shox Clarksville team and for Clarksville High School.

Public Conversation

There were no requests to address the Board at this session.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Mr. Garland made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion carried with six votes in favor, none opposed, and Mr. Mann abstaining. Consent agenda items were:

- August 11, 2009 regular session minutes
- 2009-2010 Extended Contract Proposal, first reading September 1, 2009
- Northwest High School Architect Selection (feasibility study), first reading September 1, 2009
- Recommendation of Appointed Hearing Officer, first reading September 1, 2009

Policy Monitoring

Mr. Harris reported on highlights of the EL-11 Capital Projects monitoring report. Mr. Harris explained that the capital projects process has been incorporated with the annual budget process. He commented that the Joint Land Acquisition Committee would be meeting this year to look into purchasing land for another elementary school. The district has a twenty-year facilities plan that is prepared based on current information with Planning Commission assistance. All projects expected to exceed \$2 million are brought to the Board for the approval of the architect. Mr. Harris provided Board members with a copy of the Quarterly Construction Report. Ms. Smithson made a motion to declare full compliance with EL-11 for this reporting period. The motion was seconded by Mr. Garland and carried 7-0.

Reports

Executive Order – Mr. Harris reported that an Executive Order had been executed to approve the minutes from the August 18, 2009 Special Session. This was necessary to comply with application guidelines for Qualified School Construction Bonds. The application deadline did not allow time for Board approval of the minutes under the normal procedure. The Board had been made aware of this at the August 18, 2009 special session.

Strategic Goal #5 – Implement new State high school redesign was reported on by Dr. B. J. Worthington, Chief Academic Officer. Currently, there are two sets of high school graduation requirements. Entering ninth grade students in 2009 fall under the new graduation requirements. Requirements can be found in the academic catalog. Students know what the requirements are and the course sequences that they may choose. Eighth grade students and their parents have opportunities in the spring to obtain this information. Freshman orientation is provided just prior to the beginning of school that parents also may attend. Counselors provide information as requested by parents throughout the year. This year there is a new alternative special education performance assessment for high school students. Teachers are receiving training on this new assessment. There also is a new modified assessment available for use with some special education students. Future concerns for the district include standards

alignment with assessments, use of time as more credits are required for graduation, available intervention options, and changes to special education graduation requirements.

Board Discussion and Consideration

Board Election of Officers – Board Attorney Jill Nolan accepted nominations for Board Chair. The nominees for Board Chair were Mr. Giles and Mr. Mann. Mr. Giles received three votes and Mr. Mann received four votes. Mr. Mann will be the new Board Chair for October 2009 – September 2010. Mr. Giles was nominated for Vice Chair. Mr. Giles was elected Vice Chair with six votes for, and Mr. Giles abstaining.

Comments

CMCEA President – Mr. Gilcrest thanked the Director and staff for making it possible for students and teachers to watch President Obama’s televised message to students.

Board Member Comments

Ms. Smithson thanked Mr. Giles for his work this year as Board Chair and congratulated Mr. Mann on his election. She also thanked Dr. Worthington for his report. Mr. Murphy added his thanks to Mr. Giles and congratulations to Mr. Mann. Mr. Murphy commented on positive visits made to Ringgold Elementary and West Creek High School.

Mr. Mann thanked Board members for electing him as Chair for the upcoming year and commented on challenges the district faces. Mr. Giles thanked the Board for the support they have given him during the year. Mr. Giles stated he was certain Mr. Mann would provide great leadership during the upcoming year.

Director of Schools Report

Mr. Harris reported that as of the previous Friday, enrollment for the district was 29,198. This is up about 362 from last year. Mr. Harris reported on use of stimulus money to fill some very beneficial positions in the special education area. Mr. Harris told Board members that information had been shared in a webinar earlier in the day concerning the H1N1 virus. Statistics are showing that approximately 90% of flu cases being seen at this time are H1N1 and it lasts approximately 2-3 days. The usual preventative measures such as hand washing are recommended. We are monitoring attendance in individual schools daily. Mr. Harris stated that the district would follow any state-issued guidelines.

There being no further items to complete on the agenda, the meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

George Giles
Board Chair

Michael T. Harris
Director of Schools

Teresa A. Rawls
Board Secretary