

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

October 20, 2009

The Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education met Tuesday, October 20, 2009, in the Board Room, 621 Gracey Avenue, Clarksville, Tennessee. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: George Giles, Ernest Brockman, Jimmie Garland, Horace Murphy, Jr., 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; Bruce Jobe, Chief Human Resources Officer; David Holman, Chief Technology Officer; and Teresa Rawls, Secretary, who kept the minutes of the meeting. The following members of the County Commission School Liaison Committee were present: Jerry Allbert, Dwain Eterling, and Keith Politi.

Special Presentation to the Board

Mr. Wayne Blair from the Tennessee School Boards Association presented an Excellence in Education award to the Clarksville-Montgomery County School Board for the "100% Graduation is Clarksville's Business" initiative. Criteria for winning programs include uniqueness, adaptability, involvement of the community, and evidence of success. The 100% Graduation initiative was launched in June 2008.

Point of Pride

Chief Academic Officer B. J. Worthington presented a Point of Pride Award to CMCSS Student Wellness Coordinator Mesina Bullock. Ms. Bullock has been selected to receive the Connie Hall Givens Coordinated School Health Award by the Tennessee Association for Health, PE, and Recreation and Dance (TAHPERD). The award recognizes and honors the outstanding school health coordinator at the state level.

Elementary Education Director Ann Griffin presented a Point of Pride Award to Jordan Casner, a student at Burt Elementary. Jordan, a fifth grader, has been chosen to co-host several episodes of the Oprah Winfrey Show.

Child Nutrition Director Debbie Mobley recognized Patty Noonan, formerly from Burt Elementary cafeteria. Burt Elementary cafeteria was recognized as a State Best Practice winner as well as a Southeast Regional winner from over 13,000 schools. Ms. Mobley also recognized Principal Irene Gudgeon for the support she provided to the program.

Child Nutrition Assistant Director John Dickl presented a Point of Pride award to the Northwest High School "breakfast crew". The breakfast crew received a USDA Best Practice award for the State of Tennessee for promoting the national school breakfast program. During the 2007-2008 school year NWHS saw an increase of 300% participation in the breakfast program.

Student Activities Coordinator Richard McWhirter presented members of the Clarksville High School Girls Golf Team with Point of Pride awards. The team is comprised of

senior Alex Jasper, and freshmen Samantha Gotcher and Whitney Robertson. This year the team was 15-0 for the regular season, placed first in the district and region, and placed third in the TSSAA state tournament. The team is coached by Vicki Moncrief.

Clarksville High School chemistry instructor Bonnie Principe was awarded a Point of Pride by High School Director Rosalyn Evans. Ms. Principe is the recipient of the Tennessee Science Teachers Association Educator of the Year.

Public Conversation

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

Approval of Consent Agenda

Mr. Giles stated that due to some late changes, the resolution for first quarter budget amendments was being pulled from the consent agenda and would be discussed by the Board following approval of the consent agenda. On a motion by Ms. Smithson, seconded by Mr. Murphy, the consent agenda was approved 5-0. Items approved on the consent agenda were:

- September 8, 2009 regular session minutes
- Resolutions (3) for Depository Authorization, first reading September 22, 2009
- Surplus Property – Technology, first reading October 6, 2009
- Surplus Property – Vehicles, first reading October 6, 2009
- Report of School System Compliance, first reading October 6, 2009

Board Discussion and Consideration

Chief Financial Officer Danny Grant went over adjustments to the Resolution for First Quarter Budget Amendments that had been made since the Board first saw the item for first reading on October 6, 2009. The adjustments reflect the most current financial information. Mr. Brockman made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Garland. The motion carried unanimously.

Policy Monitoring

Mr. Harris commented on the EL-4 Financial Planning/Budgeting monitoring report. He stated that the budget process for the previous year communicated well to the community what the district's needs were based on goals and strategic work. Performance-based budgeting aligns needs and data. Key Performance Indicators also play a role in successful budgeting. The district now has data available to support whether programs and items in the budget are performing as desired. He stated that the tiered approach to the budget worked well the past year. A budget timeline would be brought to Board members at the next work session. Mr. Murphy made a motion to declare compliance with this executive limitation for this reporting period. The motion, seconded by Ms. Smithson, carried unanimously.

Mr. Harris commented on EL-10 Learning Environment and Student Discipline/Safety monitoring report citing improvements the district has made in several of the areas noted in the executive limitation. Mr. Garland made a motion to declare compliance with this executive limitation for this reporting period. The motion was seconded by Mr. Murphy and carried unanimously.

Reports

Strategic Goal #3 – Meet or Exceed Federal Adequate Yearly Progress Targets

Mr. Harris stated that the Board had received AYP information at an earlier Board session. This report is to let Board members know what is taking place now as a result of the AYP data received earlier. Chief Academic Officer B. J. Worthington reminded Board members that the district has three targeted schools. Members of the Instruction Department presented information on different areas of intervention and improvement that are taking place including positions funded by stimulus moneies; intervention programs; training for instructors and administrators; specialized materials; assessments, and ensuring proper placement of students.

Comments

CMCEA President Ted Gilcrest noted that he would be meeting with the Director regarding the legislative agenda that CMCEA will be putting forward at their state meeting.

Board Member Comments

Ms. Smithson commented on the positive interaction between the School Board and the County Commission, especially in light of what other districts experience. She also commented on the positive impact of Power School on parents and students.

Mr. Murphy thanked the Leaf Chronicle for biographical articles on our schools in recent issues. Mr. Giles commented on the amount of talent shown in the district in students and employees.

Director of Schools Report

Mr. Harris reminded the Board of upcoming topics for the next work session as well as upcoming events including a public engagement session with students at the Great Escape Theater on October 29 and a 100% Graduation Celebration at the Civic Hall on November 5. Mr. Harris also provided the Board with information on the new baselines that the State would be using this year for student achievement results. The state has raised the academic achievement levels and, therefore, the test norms must be raised as well.

Items on the agenda having been completed, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

George Giles
Board Vice-Chair

Michael T. Harris
Director of Schools

Teresa Rawls
Board Secretary