

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

August 9, 2011

The Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education met Tuesday, August 9, 2011, in the Board Room of the central administration offices at 621 Gracey Avenue, Clarksville, Tennessee. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Jimmie Garland, Chairman; Josh Baggett, Ernest Brockman, Eula Gardner Dowdy, George Giles, Horace Murphy, Jr., and Carol Smithson. Also present were: Michael Harris, Director of Schools; Jill Ayers, 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, Dalton Harrison, Keith Politi, and Tommy Vallejos.

Special Presentation to the Board

Dr. Gracie Porter, Tennessee School Boards Association Mid-Cumberland District Director, presented the Tennessee School Boards Association Board of Distinction Award for 2011-2013 to the CMCSS School Board. Dr. Porter congratulated the Board on earning this recognition.

Point of Pride

Chief Financial Officer Danny Grant presented a Point of Pride Award to Child Nutrition Director Debbie Mobley. Mrs. Mobley was selected as Director of the Year for 2011 from 136 school districts in Tennessee. She received recognition at the national level for this accomplishment as well.

Mrs. Mobley presented Point of Pride Awards to Child Nutrition employee Judi Adkins. Mrs. Adkins received a \$4,000 scholarship from the Tennessee School Nutrition Association to further her education. Mrs. Mobley presented a Point of Pride Award to Patti Noonan from Sango Elementary Child Nutrition for being recognized as a USDA Best Practice for Customer Service. Child Nutrition Association was recognized for conducting a fundraiser on behalf of the tornado victims in Alabama this year. They were able to donate \$3,600. Donna Miles received the Thelma Flannigan Gold Award, the highest honor of distinction for a chapter to receive. Ms. Miles, along with three other CMCSS employees, graduated from the Tennessee Leadership Academy for School Nutrition.

CMCSS Activities Coordinator Brett Burchwell introduced Clarksville High School Trap Team members Jarrett McGaha, Ren Baggett, and Chance Wilson. The team won the state championship in the spring and qualified for the national tournament. They came in third in the national trap competition and second in the national skeet competition. The team was coached by Bruce McGaha.

Mr. Burchwell also introduced Chris Smith, a 2011 graduate from Clarksville High. Chris received a Point of Pride for his accomplishments on the CHS Track Team. He took first place in the state for the 110-meter high hurdles and third place in the triple jump in the Tennessee Class AAA Track and Field Championships.

Public Conversation

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

Approval of Consent Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Giles, seconded by Mr. Murphy, the Consent Agenda was approved 7-0. Items on the Consent Agenda were:

- July 12, 2011 regular session minutes
- Retiree insurance option for 2015 retirees, first reading August 2, 2011

Reports

Goal 5 – Implement the state teacher and administrator evaluation model Elementary Education Director Priscilla Story presented information about the new Tennessee Educator Accelerator Model (TEAM). Mrs. Story described the differences between the old model and the new evaluation model specific to teachers. Mrs. Story explained changes that have been made to the evaluation process since the First to the Top Act became effective. The new model requires more observations on the part of principals. There are many details that have not been provided by the State at this time. Mrs. Story described the trainings that have been conducted in the district to ensure teachers and administrators are prepared for the implementation of the new model.

Middle School Director Sean Impeartrice shared information on the new principal evaluation system, comparing the old system to what we know about the new system. Dr. Impeartrice stated that the district had been a part of a pilot program and had provided feedback to the State. The State has not at this time provided a finalized framework.

Goal 13 – Enhance stakeholder communication Chief Communications Officer Elise Shelton reported on this goal. Mrs. Shelton noted that the web is one application used for communication purposes. What is provided on the web is also available in paper form. Other forms of communication include face-to-face contact with communication groups, surveys, online Customer Feedback and Questions, and a CMCSS Facebook page. Communication groups generally meet once a month and include parent, classified staff, certified staff, and student groups. Mr. Harris shared information about how the Employee Anchor Team composition would change this year, but would still include representation by all employee groups.

Board Discussion and Consideration

Employee Appeal to the Board by Dennis Kolb Mrs. Ayers noted that this is an appeal to the Board of the three-day suspension without pay for Dennis Kolb, a tenured teacher at East Montgomery Elementary. The matter has been heard by a hearing officer and prescribed by law, and the Director's decision for suspension was upheld. Mrs. Ayers

stated that the Board had been previously provided with a packet including copies of the transcript, exhibits, post-hearing filings, and decision of the hearing officer. Mrs. Ayers stated that each attorney would have five minutes to make a statement. She further noted that the Board must make a decision on the matter within ten days. Mr. Perry Craft spoke on behalf of Mr. Kolb. Ms. Carol Joiner spoke on behalf of CMCSS. Following the attorneys' presentations, Mr. Baggett made a motion for the Board to decide on the matter at this meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Smithson and carried 7-0. Ms. Smithson then made a motion to uphold the hearing officer's decision. The motion was seconded by Mr. Murphy and carried 7-0.

Comments

Ft. Campbell School Liaison Officer Pauline Hutchinson commented about an upcoming training that would be provided free to district administrators and counselors on September 14 at the Family Readiness Center from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

County Commission School Liaison Committee – Mr. Politi congratulated the Board on receiving the Board of Distinction Award.

Board Member Comments

Mr. Giles thanked everyone for a great start to the new school year. Mr. Murphy commented on a program he had seen in Indianapolis that emphasized STEM. Mr. Garland thanked staff for their hard work and commitment.

Director of Schools Report

Mr. Harris commented that school opening had gone well with the best fill rate for employees we have ever had. He stated the enrollment figures were some below projected, but are expected to rise over the next two weeks and meet or exceed projections.

Items on the agenda having been concluded, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.



Jimmie M. Garland
Board Chair



Michael T. Harris
Director of Schools

Teresa A. Rawls
Board Secretary