

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

**October 4, 2011**

The Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education met Tuesday, October 4, 2011, in the Board Room, central administration offices, 621 Gracey Avenue, Clarksville, Tennessee. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: George Giles, Chairman; Josh Baggett, Ernest Brockman, Eula Gardner Dowdy, Jimmie Garland, 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; 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: John Genis, Keith Politi, and Tommy Vallejos.

**Point of Pride**

Mr. Harris presented a Point of Pride Award to Chief Academic Officer B. J. Worthington who had recently been named the Tennessee State Department of Education Supervisor of the Year. Mr. Harris noted that Dr. Worthington has been the Chief Academic Officer for the district for ten years and previously served as principal at Rossvie High, Clarksville High, and Montgomery Central Middle School. Dr. Worthington has been a teacher and administrator in the district since 1986.

Bobby Kail, Northeast High School Lead Custodian, received a Point of Pride Award for remodeling and providing new wood lockers all on his own time. Mr. Kail did this work on his own time.

Middle College student Nat Borrero received a Point of Pride Award. Nat is a junior and competed in an essay review at APSU in which more than 1,000 essays were submitted about the book, *The Soloist*. Nat's essay was one of ten chosen which qualified him to take part in a dinner reception for the book's author. When the APSU faculty and staff reviewed the 1,000 papers, they were unaware that Nat was a high school junior.

**Public Conversation**

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

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

Ms. Smithson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Garland. This motion passed unanimously. Items on the Consent Agenda were:

- September 13, 2011 regular session minutes
- First quarter budget amendments, first reading September 27, 2011
- Depository authorizations (3), first reading September 27, 2011

**Policy Monitoring**

EL-4 – Financial Planning/Budgeting – Mr. Harris noted the success of performance based budgeting in setting priorities on how the district uses money. Mr. Murphy made a motion declaring full compliance with this executive limitation for this reporting period. The motion, seconded by Mrs. Dowdy, passed 7-0.

EL-10 – Learning Environment and Student Discipline/Safety – Mr. Harris commented on the electronic publishing of the Code of Conduct. Approximately 20% are still printed for those without internet access. In addition, Mr. Harris commented on the importance of and success in protecting those areas listed in item 10.6 of this executive limitation. Mrs. Dowdy made a motion to declare full compliance for this reporting period. Mr. Garland seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**Reports**

Goal 3 – Expand STEM integration to all schools at identified grades – Chief Academic Officer B. J. Worthington presented information on the STEM initiative and an update on the STEM Academy. Dr. Worthington reported that grade levels and teachers had been identified during the previous school year for STEM integration. Austin Peay State University has provided support to our STEM integration program through sharing professional development programs and some materials and supplies. In the pilot programs, teachers reported that student engagement was increased while discipline referrals were decreased. School attendance also improved for these students. The STEM Academy is in its second year. Several teachers representing the elementary, middle school, and high school levels commented on how STEM integration has affected teaching and learning, the challenges they are finding along the way, and the next steps for the initiative.

**Board Discussion and Consideration**

Student (A.T.) Discipline Appeal - Board Attorney Jill Ayers stated that Board members had received a copy of the record for this student’s disciplinary action. The student had received a 30-day remandment to the Alternative School which had been upheld by the Director of Schools. This is now being appealed to the Board based solely on the record. She reminded Board members they needed to vote to affirm or overturn the decision of the Director. Mr. Murphy made a motion to uphold the Director’s decision. Mr. Garland seconded the motion which carried 7-0.

Mr. Garland, outgoing Board Chairman, and Ms. Smithson, outgoing Board Vice Chair, were recognized for their service and leadership during the past year.

**Comments**

Ft. Campbell School Liaison Officer Pauline Hutchinson reported that two students would be participating in the Student-to-Student training in Huntsville, Alabama later in the month. She also thanked Mr. Harris for attending the Senior Leaders meeting held at Ft. Campbell.

School Liaison Committee members congratulated Dr. Worthington on receiving the Supervisor of the Year award.

**Board Member Comments**

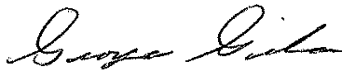
All Board members congratulated Dr. Worthington on his award.

**Director of Schools Report**

Mr. Harris thanked the Board members that had attended the Leadership CMCSS event earlier in the day. He commented that this program is an opportunity to take a group of citizens and allow them to study the school system in depth.

Mr. Harris commented on the new teacher evaluation system and the struggle it is for principals to meet the requirements of this system due to the amount of time that it takes. Mr. Harris stated that the Superintendent's Study Council would be discussing this issue at their upcoming meeting. Feedback will be provided to the State on the concerns about this system.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.



George Giles  
Board Chair



Michael T. Harris  
Director of Schools

Teresa A. Rawls  
Board Secretary