# Minutes Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education

#### June 12, 2012

The Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education met Tuesday, June 12, 2012, in the Board Room at the central administration offices, 621 Gracey Avenue, Clarksville, TN. 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, and Horace Murphy, Jr. 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; Jeanine Chester, 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: Jeremy Bowles, Joe Creek, John Genis, John Gannon, and Tommy Vallejos.

#### **Special Presentation**

State Representatives Joe Pitts and Curtis Johnson and State Senator Tim Barnes made a special presentation to Director of Schools Michael Harris. Senator Barnes commented that the district had benefitted from Mr. Harris' guidance and progressive ideas at a time when they were needed. Representative Pitts read House Joint Resolution 1042 honoring Mr. Harris on the occasion of his retirement for his many contributions to CMCSS and public education. Representative Johnson added his wishes for much success to Mr. Harris in his future endeavors.

## **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 items on the Consent Agenda. The motion, seconded by Mr. Baggett, carried 6-0. Items on the Consent Agenda were:

- May 8, 2012 regular session minutes
- FY13 Consolidated Entitlement Grant Application, first reading June 5, 2012
- 2012-2013 Revisions to the Student Code of Conduct, first reading June 5, 2012
- Director of Schools Contract for Dr. B. J. Worthington, first reading June 5, 2012

### **Policy Monitoring**

Mr. Harris noted highlights of the policy monitoring report for <u>EL-8 Commitment to Accomplishment</u>, Accountability, Accreditation, Reporting to the Public. He noted that district accreditation review had been completed in April for the quality assurance review through AdvancEd, the world's largest accrediting agency for education. Also, the ISO external certification review was completed in May. This review will result in recertification for ISO 9001:2008 through Orion Registrar accrediting agency. Mr. Harris included in his report a recent *Missouri News Horizon* article, "TN School Districts Flunk Transparency Review". The

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article went on to say that, "Clarksville-Montgomery County School System earned an A-, the highest grade among Tennessee school districts reviewed, for making readily available current and archived meeting agendas, budget and tax information and graduation rates". Mr. Murphy made a motion declaring full compliance with this executive limitation for this reporting period. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Dowdy and passed 6-0.

## **Reports**

Chief Communications Officer Elise Shelton presented the report for Goal 14 – Develop CMCSS Community Leadership Program. Mrs. Shelton reported that Candy Johnson worked on developing the program and took the idea to the Clarksville-Montgomery County Education Foundation Board. The board not only looked at the program as a sponsorship opportunity, they asked to be the pilot class to go through the program. In addition to the Education Foundation Board members, County Commissioner Mark Riggins also asked to take part. The program followed a similar format as Leadership Clarksville with sessions focusing on different areas of CMCSS. Applications were accepted for next year's class, and twenty-three individuals have been selected to participate. Mrs. Shelton added that due to the positive feedback from the program, she and her staff will submit a proposal to present on the program at the National School Boards Association conference next year. Mrs. Shelton commented that Board members are always welcome to attend the classes.

## **Board Discussion and Consideration**

Employee Charge Certification – Mrs. Ayers commented that Board members had received a copy of Charges for Dismissal for teacher Brenda Gray. She stated that the Board would be considering that, if the charges as presented are true, they are of a nature to warrant the dismissal of the teacher. If the Board votes affirmatively, the teacher has the opportunity to request a hearing on those charges. Mr. Murphy made a motion that the Board support the Director's decision as written. Mr. Garland seconded the motion which carried 6-0.

## **Comments**

Commissioner Gannon asked for more information on the "hacking" incident. Mr. Giles stated that Mr. Harris would comment during his Director of Schools report. Questions could be addressed with Mr. Harris following the meeting.

#### **Board Member Comments**

Mr. Baggett thanked the Director and staff for their work in dealing with the incident so far. Mr. Garland added that even in the midst of controversy, he is proud of the district.

Mr. Murphy added appreciation for the way the situation is being handled and how the Board is being kept informed. He added his comments about the Pisgah Elementary groundbreaking that had been held on June 9. He noted many Pisgah alumni attended the groundbreaking, and thanked the Operations staff for all they had done for the groundbreaking. Mr. Giles also commented on the positive groundbreaking. He thanked staff members who have been working many hours trying to resolve the problems created by the hacking incident.

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#### **Director of Schools Report**

Mr. Harris noted that Board members had received the Quarterly Construction Report. MCHS renovation is complete and within budget. Carmel Elementary is 75% complete at this time. Mr. Harris stated that agents from TBI and FBI met with staff on Monday, June 11. The Cyber Crimes Task Force is in control of the investigation and we do not want to say or do anything to deter their progress. They have asked the district to compile information and we are complying with their request which will take several days. The database and e-mail are down at this time. There have been disruptions to the phone system which now are corrected. The taskforce is knowledgeable about the hackers involved although we have not been made aware of any specifics. The district is in the process of selecting an outside consultant firm that deals with serious matters of this nature on a national level and can assist us with restoring information and services. Payroll systems are okay for the classified payroll coming up on Thursday. MUNIS is running and security is in force in the buildings. Human Resources department are not able to process applications or new employees, although interviews continue and manual work is being done. We are communicating accurate information to employees. A third School Messenger message went out today advising employees of security precautions that should be taken and places to contact for assistance. It is best for individuals to work with their financial institutions to make decisions. Employees are being told not to worry about being "on a list", but instead consider that all employees and students, past and present, may have compromised social security numbers and birthdates. It is best for individuals to take precautions by contacting their financial institutions and credit bureaus to have fraud alerts placed on their accounts. We will continue to provide information as it becomes available. Students are being given the same communications. Mr. Harris thanked the Leaf Chronicle for assisting in getting information out to those who are outside our calling system. Middle School summer school is still continuing. High School is continuing in different ways. There have been issues with the A+ program. At this time we do not know when the system will be restored safely. We do not know any details of the FBI investigation, and we have given employees and students all of the information we can. All past and present employees and students should take initial steps for protection. Mr. Harris stated that the blame clearly goes to those who would use their talents and abilities to steal information and jeopardize honest citizens.

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

George Sila

George Giles Board Chair Michael T. Harris
Director of Schools

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Teresa A. Rawls Board Secretary