

Minutes
Clarksville-Montgomery County
Board of Education

June 10, 2014

The Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education met Tuesday, June 10, 2014, in the Board Room. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Jimmie Garland, acting as Chair in Mr. Giles absence; Josh Baggett, Eula Gardner Dowdy, Stephanie Lobdell, Horace Murphy, Jr., and Anne Murtha. Also present were: B. J. Worthington, Director of Schools; Jill Ayers, Board Attorney; 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: Joe Creek, Robert Gibbs, John Gannon, Ron Sokol, and Tommy Vallejos.

Point of Pride

High School Director Rosalyn Evans introduced New Providence Middle School student Naysia Pratt to receive a Point of Pride Award. Naysia is the winner of the Scholastic Scope “Barbara Johns” essay contest. The essay contest theme was “reach for the moon”.

The Rossvie Middle School Hawkbotics World Team received a Point of Pride Award for participating in the World Festival in St. Louis, Missouri, in April. The team was one of 80 teams out of 18,000 worldwide that competed. This team is the first to represent the West Region of Tennessee. Team members include: Ashley Rands, Strati Young, Alex Brundage, Ben Zirkle, Devon Richey, Divya Sriram, Jacob Patton, Jacob Connett, Sathya Burle, and Briana McMurchie. Coaches are Bridget Harding, Jason Piersbacher, and Teri Summers.

Kenwood High School student David Zhang received a Point of Pride Award for his composite score of 36 on the ACT test. This is the highest score possible. On average, less than one-tenth of one percent of students taking the test receives the perfect score.

West Creek High School student Kistler Fletcher received a Point of Pride award for winning the 400 meter run in the state track tournament.

Brian Rush received a Point of Pride award for being named the TSSAA Coach of the Year. He is the girls’ basketball and girls’ softball coach at Clarksville High School.

Members of the Northeast High School Girls Track Team were recognized for defending their title and winning the Class AAA state championship in May. Team members are: Brittany Kelly, Sonja White, Erika Dunlop, Danielle Craft, Dominique Cooper, Daisia Frank, Erecha Partis, and Teana Anderson. A video about the team was also shown.

Public Conversation

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

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Approval of Consent Agenda

Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Baggett, which passed 6-0. Items on the Consent Agenda were:

- May 13, 2014 regular session minutes
- FY15 Consolidated Entitlement Grant Application, first reading June 3, 2014
- Revisions to 2014-2015 Student Code of Conduct, first reading June 3, 2014

Policy Monitoring

Dr. Worthington presented the monitoring report for EL-8 – Commitment to Accomplishment, Accountability, Accreditation, and Reporting to the Public. Mr. Baggett made a motion declaring full compliance with this executive limitation for this monitoring period. Mrs. Dowdy seconded the motion which carried 6-0.

Reports

Goal 12 – Assess and improve safety and security at all facilities

Tommy Butler, CMCSS Risk Manager/Safety Coordinator, reported that many security measures have been put in place in the district including:

- Security audits are now conducted in schools four times per year on an unannounced basis to ensure security protocols are being followed. This provides insight into improvements that need to be made at individual locations.
- An Emergency Communications procedure has been developed that provides for more options on communicating during an emergency.
- An “After Action” report is compiled following potential emergency situations. This provides a way to identify what worked well and where improvement is needed.
- School and district-level “tabletop” sessions are held in which a mock emergency scenario is presented. Administrators have the opportunity to follow policy and procedures in the mock situation to better prepare for an actual event.
- District security stakeholder meetings are held at intervals during the year. The meetings include the Sheriff, Chief of Police, SRO administration, and CMCSS administration. Emergency plans are discussed and concerns identified between the stakeholders.

Chief Operations Officer Jim Sumrell added information about operational improvements in support of this goal. Mr. Sumrell stated that the analog radio system is moving to a digital system. This will enhance communications between schools, buses, and district locations. The use of proximity cards for entrances to specific locations at schools is being increased which will enhance security. Key Control procedures are being studied and put in place for better accountability and security. Facilities have been improved by securing front entrances to schools. There are several buildings that will receive security enhancements as funds become available. NIMS (National Incident Management System) provided a security audit and recommended changes to improve security.

Goal 14 – Improve parent and community connection to schools

Esperanza McCrary, CMCSS Parent Engagement Coordinator, provided the report for this goal. The parent engagement initiative has been named Family School Connection. The model for

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the program includes: 37 volunteer coordinators, 38 information coordinators, a volunteer portal, community outreach, 38 ambassadors, 3 summer pre-registration days, Connect “U” University, and a parent engagement web page where parents can find resources. Mrs. McCrary also reported on visits she is making to local companies during their second and third shift hours. These visits allow her to connect with parents that may not have an opportunity to participate in their children’s schools due to working hours. These visits bring the school system to the parents. Parent Ambassadors are being trained on all things CMCSS and how to navigate the system. They will then provide information to parents at school and in the community and show parents how they can become involved. Summer online pre-registration for new students has been put into place through the CMCSS website. In addition, three days have been designated where parents may go to the schools and pre-register new students during the summer. Mrs. McCrary shared that the theme of the 2014-2015 CMCSS parent calendar is “parent engagement”. Each month is represented by a family that is highly involved in schools. Mrs. McCrary showed the volunteer portal and the pre-registration page on the website. A parent survey will be completed that will show what type of technology access families have. This will help determine how to best communicate with parents.

Board Member Comments

Mr. Murphy commented on the possibility of getting area pastors involved in learning about the parent engagement opportunities as they would have the opportunity to share information with their congregations. Mrs. Lobdell said she thought it would be a good idea if the volunteer portal could be linked to each school website. Mr. Garland thanked Mr. Butler and Mr. Sumrell for their report.

Director of Schools Report

Dr. Worthington thanked the Ft. Campbell School Liaison Officers for attending all of our high school graduations in support of our students. Dr. Worthington told Board members about the TN Achieves meeting that had been held with community members to share information about the program and recruit mentors. Dr. Worthington thanked Rosalyn Evans and Priscilla Story for their years of service to the district as they are retiring.

Items on the agenda having been completed, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Jimmie Garland
Board Vice Chair

B. J. Worthington
Director of Schools

Teresa A. Rawls
Board Secretary