

Minutes
Clarksville-Montgomery County
Board of Education
March 17, 2015

The Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education met Tuesday, March 17, 2015, in the Board Room, central administration offices, 621 Gracey Avenue, Clarksville, TN. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Members present were: Jimmie Garland, Chairman; Josh Baggett, Eula Gardner Dowdy, George Giles, and Anne Murtha. Also present were: Dr. B. J. Worthington, Director of Schools; Jill Ayers, Board Attorney; Danny Grant, Chief Financial Officer; Elise Shelton, Chief Communications Officer; Jim Sumrell, Chief Operations Officer; Jeanine Johnson, 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, John Gannon, Robert Gibbs, Ron Sokol, and Tommy Vallejos.

Special Presentation

A special presentation was made to Nicole Castile, Norman Smith Elementary instructor, by Dr. Johnny Crow, Director of Teacher Leadership for the State Department of Education. Dr. Crow recognized Ms. Castile for receiving the Milken Educator Award. Dr. Crow said the award originated in California in 1987. The award carries a \$25,000 unrestricted prize.

Point of Pride

Point of Pride Awards were given to representatives of each school in the district along with Operations staff for going “above and beyond” in getting their buildings ready to open following the recent snow and ice weather events. Dr. Worthington noted that on one particular day, CMCSS was the only district open in the surrounding area.

Chief Academic Officer Bryan Johnson recognized Christopher Lancaster, a Kenwood High School student, with a Point of Pride Award for his selection as the Montgomery County 2014 winner of the Governor’s Volunteer Stars Award. Christopher received the award for his work locally on behalf of a Wounded Warriors project.

Dr. Johnson also recognized three Montgomery County students for receiving a perfect score on their 2014 Writing Assessment. The students receiving Point of Pride Awards are Emery Edington and James Jarboe from Rossview High School and Arizona Hurn from Montgomery Central High School.

Dr. Mary Gist, Middle School Director, recognized three robotics teams from Northeast Middle School. The teams competed at the Tennessee State Vex Robotics Championships in Nashville and came away with awards. Two of the three teams qualified for the Vex World Championships to be held in Louisville in April. Teams and their members receiving Points of Pride were: The Electric Eagles Engineering Sync team - members Conner Fulford, Mason Knapp, Will Kotel, Mason McKain, Cole Meyers, Donavan Powers, Caleb Shannon; the E3 Shock team – members Savannah Peifer, Talan Powers, Isaac Tilden, Jace Sebring; the E3 Soar team – Ariana Collazo, Nathan Maynard, Matthew Riley, and Gabriel Quintero.

Dr. Gist presented a Point of Pride Award to Northeast Middle School instructor and sponsor of the robotics teams, Polly Kopp. Mrs. Kopp was selected as the State Robotics Teacher of the Year. The Tennessee Technology Student Association also selected her as the Middle School Student Advisor of the Year.

Kenwood Middle School U.S. History Team members were awarded a Point of Pride for receiving top honors during the Western Kentucky History Competition at Murray State University. The team earned the 2015 1st place team award and the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place individual awards. Team participants are Javen Calhoun, Hannah Logue, Joshua Rivers, Alyssa Young, Emma Balsinger, Chance Coffman, Amara Tovar, Domanick Layne, Raymin Vanover, Jatias Elliot, Dustin Adkins, Manuel Martinez, and Sean Meier. Coordinating teachers are James Ferebee and Eric Miller.

Human Resources Director Jeanine Johnson presented a Point of Pride Award to Jessica Salinas Martinez, Coordinated School Health Supervisor. CMCSS Central Office was awarded the American Heart Association 2015 Fit, Friendly Workplace Gold Award highlighting the district's participation in maintaining a healthy workplace for all employees.

Public Conversation

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

Approval of Consent Agenda

Mr. Giles made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. His motion received a second from Mr. Baggett and was approved 5-0. Items on the Consent Agenda were:

- February 10, 2015 regular session minutes
- Esquire Wire Utility Easement at Operations Complex, first reading March 3, 2015
- Surplus and Disposal of Property, Northeast High School Band Instruments, first reading March 3, 2015
- Authorized Student Expenditures for 2015-2016, first reading March 3, 2015
- Resolution for Budget Amendments, first reading March 3, 2015
- April 1, 2015 Continuation Budget Request, first reading March 3, 2015

Policy Monitoring

Dr. Worthington commented on the monitoring report for Executive Limitation 5 – Financial Administration. He noted that this EL is monitored multiple times during the year and there were no significant changes since the last report. A motion declaring compliance for this reporting period was made by Mrs. Dowdy. Mr. Giles seconded the motion which carried 5-0.

The monitoring report for Executive Limitation 12 – Rezoning was presented by Dr. Worthington. Dr. Worthington commented that the recent zoning proposal had followed the limitations as established. He noted the steps followed to comply with EL-12. Ms. Murtha made a motion declaring full compliance with this executive limitation for this reporting period.

Upon receiving a second from Mrs. Dowdy, the motion passed 5-0.

Reports

Tommy Butler, CMCSS Risk Manager, reported on Goal 6 – Implement employee wellness initiatives. Mr. Butler commented that improving an individual's health usually improves their attendance at work and their ability to influence student achievement positively. In addition, healthier employees represent a cost savings to the insurance trust. Mr. Butler said the Onsite clinics operate in six locations, six days a week. The Onsite program has been operated through the district since last August as opposed to a third party managing the program. The transition has gone very well, and the quality of service has improved. Feedback has been very positive and cost savings have been realized. The Insurance Trust has just begun looking into the possibility of using a tiered health plan in the future.

Kristen Butler, Onsite Clinic Manager, reported on programs implemented in the past year. The Strive to Thrive Wellness Program focuses on healthy eating, physical activity, stress management, changing behaviors and habits, healthy lifestyle, and individual accountability for health and fitness. The program

has a registered dietician and nurse practitioner. The Strive to Thrive Program encompasses several programs within it including classes for smoking cessation, diabetes, healthy holiday eating, and the Fit and Trim Program. A wellness roadshow allows outreach for wellness education and programs at different locations. Challenges have been communicating with employees and keeping people focused and engaged in fitness programs. Other programs that have been offered this year included a 10,000 Steps Challenge, Hold the Stuffing Challenge for the holiday season, and the Personal Health Assessment Challenge. The Onsite website lists discounts for services and partner programs in the area.

Board Discussion and Consideration

Inclement weather makeup plan for current school year

Dr. Worthington noted that due to the inclement weather arriving so late in the school year, the district does not have enough days available to make up all of the missed days. The Commissioner of Education has offered a waiver to forgive days missed. Dr. Worthington stated the recommendation to the Board is to make the early release day scheduled for April 10 a full school day and ask for a waiver to forgive one additional instructional day. Mr. Giles made a motion to waive first reading, seconded by Mrs. Dowdy. The motion carried 5-0. Mrs. Dowdy made a motion to approve the recommendation for the makeup of days missed for inclement weather. Her motion was seconded by Ms. Murtha and passed unanimously.

Comments

Mr. Garland commented that the Point of Pride awards tonight reflected the district's continuous efforts to educate our students under all circumstances.

Director of Schools Report

Dr. Worthington noted that a video on the CMCSS website explained all of what goes in to making the decision to close schools or not due to weather and how that gets communicated to parents, employees, and students. Dr. Worthington complimented staff for the work they do to get or keep schools open as much as possible while putting safety first.

Dr. Worthington also commented on the Board's Honorable Mention Award to be received during the NSBA Convention. The Honorable Mention was for the Oasis Café project.

Items on the agenda having been completed, the meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.



Jimmie M. Garland
Board Chair



B. J. Worthington
Director of Schools

Teresa A. Rawls
Board Secretary