# Minutes Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education

#### June 9, 2015

The Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education met Tuesday, June 9, 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, Willie Freeman, George Giles, Stephanie Lobdell, 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; Dr. Bryan Johnson, Chief Academic Officer, and Deb Cummings, 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.

### **Point of Pride**

Dr. Bryan Johnson, Chief Academic Officer, recognized three recent graduates with 13 years of perfect attendance. Students receiving this award were: Avery Bates, Clarksville High; Ester Lee, Rossview High; and Rebecca Davie, Northwest High.

Also recognized by Dr. Bryan Johnson was Jordan Kilts, Kenwood High STEM Academy for receiving a grant from the Tennessee Junior Academy of Science to conduct research. He was one of the 25 students selected from across the state to present his research in Nashville at the TJAS annual meeting

School Support Coordinator, Brett Burchwell presented Point of Pride recognitions to three athletes. Donny Everett, Clarksville High, was chosen Mr. Baseball and the Gatorade Player of the Year for the State of Tennessee. Two track stars, who took second place finishes in the state Track tournament included Chris Jackson, Kenwood High senior, who set the school record in the 110m hurdles with a 14.34, placing first at the West Creek Ribbon Race in March and at Great 8 placed second in both 110 and 300m hurdles. Congratulations also to Zeandre Floyd, West Creek High, who took a second place finish.

#### **Public Conversation**

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

# **Approval of Consent Agenda**

On a motion by Ms. Dowdy seconded by Mr. Baggett, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda. Board members Mr. Giles and Ms. Lobdell each made a declaration required by TCA 49-2-202 that while they have a relative employed by the school system, the vote they cast will be in the best interests of the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System. Items on the Consent Agenda were:

- May 12, 2015 regular session minutes
- 2015 2016 Changes to Student Code of Conduct, first reading June 2, 2015
- FY16 Consolidated Application Entitlement Grant, first reading June 2, 2015
- 2015 2016 MOU Between CMCEA, PET and CMCSS, first reading June 2, 2015
- Resolution Authorizing Purchase Oakland Elementary, first reading June 2, 2015

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# **Policy Monitoring**

Executive Limitation 8 -Commitment to Accomplishment, Accountability, Accreditation, Report to the Public, Dr. Worthington stated the Director of Schools should not fail to ensure that the school district maintains an accountability program. He noted the evidence of compliance is we do have a comprehensive strategic planning process which includes Level 1 data, student achievement data, and Level 2 data which is department performance. Level 1 data is the districts in the schools and those Annual Measureable Objectives that are designed specifically from the baseline entry score. These AMO's are Level 1 data. In addition, we get our state report card the middle of fall and this further identifies areas of improvement in need. Our Level 2 data involves our Senior Leadership Team who designs annual strategic work based on changes the State (nationally as well as the district level) indicates be implemented or improved. Monthly reports on these are received along with mid-year and annual reviews for progress monitoring and next steps. This information is always made available to the public on our website for our stakeholders. In general, we maintain district accreditation with advanced education. In 2002, the district received its final 5 year accreditation. In June 2015, the district received ISO9001 certification. Currently, we continue to be the only school district in the State that holds that certification and accreditation in both these organizations. CMCSS is 1 of 9 that have achieved ISO nationally. A motion was made declaring compliance with Executive Limitation 8 for this reporting period by Ms. Murtha and seconded by Mr. Giles and passed unanimously.

#### Reports

# Goal 14 – Improve student safety and security

Risk Management Safety Coordinator, Tommy Butler and Jim Sumrell, Chief Operations Officer, presented the report for Goal 14. Mr. Butler provided an overview of the assessment and improvements with regard to safety and security at all facilities. Those security and safety enhancements include audits conducted in each school, visibility of exterior entrances, exterior and interior locked doors, visitor signage, proper visitor identification, tabletop sessions, district stakeholder meetings (Montgomery County Sheriff's department and Clarksville Police), camera and radio upgrades, mechanical policy development, and a complete traffic flow study of school campuses. A video was shared in coordination with the presentation which was created by a Kenwood High graduate emphasizing student safety and security within our schools.

#### Goal 19 – Expand parent engagement opportunities

Parent Engagement Specialist, Esperanza Soriano-McCrary, stated that this is the second year of a Department of Defense Education Activity four-year grant, jointly awarded to CMCSS and Christian County, KY schools in September 2013. The grant allows CMCSS to place focus on parent engagement, across the two districts, but with a particular emphasis on military-connected families. Ms. Soriano-McCrary commented further on the Parent Ambassadors that will assist parents in becoming more involved and better informed regarding school activities. Information Coordinators will help to improve school-level communications with parents and Volunteer Coordinators will enhance the involvement in schools. In addition, expanded opportunities for on-line pre-enrollment to students transferring between schools and/or students returning to the District has been communicated. Summer staff will be made available to assist with this effort. The Communications Department has also developed Engage TV to replace Connect U! workshops to expand learning prospects for parents online, providing videos answering many of parents' frequently asked questions and to provide parents with anytime, anywhere learning structured to help parents support student success. Furthermore, texting was

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introduced which provides the ability to send text messages to parents and allows them to choose how they wish to receive important information regarding their child.

#### **Comments**

# **County Commission Comments**

Commissioner Vallejos asked if our schools have conflict resolution specialists; for example, personnel trained in gangs. Commissioner Vallejos further commented it would appear with all the advanced safety improvements taken into consideration there would be no need for SRO's in the schools. Dr. Worthington commented the schools have counselors.

Commissioner Sokol asked if all the same security measures and enhancements were incorporated into the new Oakland school or would additional add-ons be required. Dr. Worthington stated all schools are standardized. Mr. Sumrell concluded that the newer schools are far more secure because they all have the appropriate front entrances.

# **Director of Schools Report**

Dr. Worthington made reference to the newly published 2015 – 2016 school calendar which each Board member received. He also commented that tonight was going to be Teresa Rawls' final Board meeting. Dr. Worthington and the entire Board thanked Teresa for her years of service, her dedication and late hours and wished her well in her retirement.

Items on the agenda having been completed, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Jimmie M. Garland

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**Board Chair** 

**Board Secretary** 

B.J. Worthington

By Worthington

Director of Schools