

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

**Special Session
And
Special Voting Session**

January 3, 2017

The Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education met in Special Session on Tuesday, January 3, 2017, in the Board Room, central administration offices, 621 Gracey Avenue, Clarksville, TN. The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. immediately after the regularly scheduled Study Session. Members present were: Anne Murtha, Board Chair; George Giles, Josh Baggett, Jimmie Garland, Willie Freeman, Margaret Pace, and Charlie Patterson. Also present were: Dr. B. J. Worthington, Director of Schools; Katie Olita, 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; Dr. Bryan Johnson, Chief Academic Officer, and Deb Cummings, Secretary, who kept the minutes of the meeting.

Board Discussion and Consideration

New Director Search Firm Determination (first reading, January 3, 2017)

Vice Chair Jimmy Garland called the Special Session meeting to order. Board Attorney Katie Olita explained that pursuant to GP-14 when a vacancy occurs in the Director's office the Board shall begin the process of filling that vacancy. The Board shall comply with the qualifications and requirements for a Director as well as the timeframe for appointing a Director as set forth in Tennessee law. Under #1, the Board shall decide on what type of search to conduct at a work Study Session which is this evening, January 3, 2017. The Board shall determine whether to engage in a search firm or other agency to assist with the search or to handle the search internally.

Ms. Olita stated this evening the Board would be receiving information regarding search firm options and would begin with a presentation from TSBA Deputy Executive Director General Counsel Randy Bennett. After the TSBA presentation, Ms. Olita stated there was one additional firm to address the Board this evening via conference call, Mr. Jim Huge, Atlantic Research Partners.

After both presentations, the Study Session adjourned and reconvened for a Special Voting Session which was called to order by Board Chair, Anne Murtha.

Mr. Patterson made a motion to accept the TSBA proposal and was seconded by Mr. Giles. Ms. Olita asked for any discussion on the motion. Ms. Murtha inquired as to the process of obtaining candidates by each firm. Mr. Giles replied that on the previous search in 2012 there was a search firm involved and the cost was much higher than TSBA. Mr. Giles also commented that in 2012 three options were considered: TSBA, an outside firm, and an internal search. He stated that in the previous search he felt the caliber and qualifications of the candidates appeared much stronger brought forth by TSBA than the search firm. Mr. Giles suggested if the Board accepts the proposal of TSBA that Plan II be selected over Plan I because of the importance of Board's input during the individual interview process. Mr. Garland commented he felt TSBA has done an outstanding job in past searches and agreed with the motion. He also stated he would like for anyone locally interested in the Director's search to apply. Mr. Baggett commented he had asked Katie to bring forth a couple of options for consideration this evening because he felt it was important to take a look at what TSBA has offered in the past and what other organizations offer today for cost comparison and services. Mr. Baggett agreed with Mr. Giles in that if TSBA is selected Plan II would also be his suggestion because of the one-on-one meetings with each Board member and the candidates. Mr. Baggett stated the cost of considering Atlantic Research Partners would not be something that would be affordable to the district. Mr. Patterson added that Mr. Giles, Mr. Garland, and Mr. Baggett expressed their thoughts and concerns very well and that he would be willing to accept the motion as amended to TSBA Plan II.

Board Chair Murtha called for a vote for all those in favor of the motion as amended to use the TSBA Plan II. The Board unanimously approved the motion 7 – 0.

Ms. Olita informed the Board that she would reach out to Mr. Bennett and make him aware of the Board's decision.

The Special Voting Session was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.



Anne Murtha
Board Chair



B. J. Worthington
Director of Schools



Deb Cummings
Board Secretary