

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

**February 11, 2020**

The Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education convened Tuesday, February 11, 2020 in the Boardroom central administration offices, 621 Gracey Avenue, Clarksville, TN. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Board members present were: Chair Margaret Pace, Anne Murtha, Josh Baggett, Carol Berry, Herb Nelson, Charlie Patterson, and Jimmie Garland. Also present were: Millard House, Director of Schools; Mark Nolan, General Counsel; Jim Sumrell, Chief Operations Officer; Jeanine Johnson, Chief Human Resources Officer; Elise Shelton, Chief Communications Officer; Marcia Demorest, Chief Financial Officer; David Holman, Chief Technology Officer; Dr. Angela Huff, Chief of Staff; Dr. Sean Impeartrice, Chief Academic Officer; Carol Joiner, General Counsel; and Deb Cummings, Secretary, who documented minutes of the meeting. Members present of the County Commission School Liaison Committee: Loretta Bryant, Carmelle Chandler, Garland Johnson, Josh Beal, and Rickey Ray.

**Point of Pride Awards**

All State Musical Performance awards for our high schools were presented by Dr. Mason Bellamy, Director of High Schools: Rossvie: **Jed Edmondson** and **Hunter Keeran**; Clarksville: **Kinsey Overdeer**; and Northwest: **Logan Stewart**.

Dr. Mary Gist, Director of Middle Schools, presented the Robotics awards to the following at to our middle schools: Tournament Grand Championship - Richview: **Ryan Bellamy, Katelyn Mann, Charlie Olita**; Rossvie: **Nate Smith, Gavin Weddington**; Sponsor/Coaches: **Will Smith, Greg Weddington, Ashton Weddington**

Rossvie Middle Hawkbotics: **Brooklyn Castleberry, Ayden Cline, Jia Do, Zachary Hewitt, James McNeil, Natalie Morgan, Selia Oliver, Elliott Stevens, Janey Stevens, Cassidy Wheeler, Luke Wilson**; Sponsor: **David Kennedy**

Northeast Middle SPARK: **Madison Potts, Nevaeh Schmeling, Jordan Bowser, Lauren Lee, Autumn Minix, Aidan Lancaster**; Sponsor: **Meaghan Sikes**

Mrs. Jessica Harris, Director of Elementary Schools, presented the following certificates to Moore Magnet Moorebots: **Ishan Chakrabarti, Isabella Clark, Brystolynn French, Connor Hatfield, Bryson Jones, Gavin O'Bryant, Polly Olita, River Story, Genevieve Ulysses, Trey Vallejos**; Coaches: **Michelle O'Bryant and William Bowers**

Ms. Elise Shelton, Chief Communications Officer, recognized the final Point of Pride recipient, **Kimberly Bellamy**, for her work in introducing the animal therapy program to classrooms in CMCSS. Mrs. Bellamy has visited CMCSS schools 140 times which amounts to over 200 hours. The majority of these visits focus on strengthening reading confidence using the student-animal bond.

**Public Conversation**

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

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

On a motion by Mr. Garland and seconded by Ms. Berry, the Board approved the Consent Agenda 7 - 0. Consent Agenda consisted of:

- January 14, 2020 regular session minutes
- Discretionary Day Request, 1<sup>st</sup> Read, 02/04/2020
- Resolution – 2019-2020 Budget Amendments, 1<sup>st</sup> Read, 02/04/2020
- Resolution – Convey Kirkwood Property back to County Ownership, 1<sup>st</sup> Read, 01/07/2020

### **Policy Monitoring**

The policy monitoring report for Executive Limitation 3 – Personnel Administration was interpreted by Mr. House. The Director of Schools shall assure the recruitment, employment, development, evaluation, and compensation of district employees, consultants, and contract workers in a manner necessary to enable the organization to achieve its End policies, and not jeopardize the fiscal integrity or the public image of the District. A motion was made by Mr. Nelson to declare full compliance for this reporting period of EL-3 and was seconded by Mr. Baggett. Motion passed 7 – 0.

### **Report**

**Goal # 2** – Strengthen early learning instruction and programming was presented by Emily Vaughn, Curriculum and Instruction Director. Ms. Vaughn reported that CMCSS was one of the first districts to jump in and embrace the Read to Be Ready program supported by Governor Lee. The Read To Be Ready goal is that 75% of all our students will be reading on grade level by 2025 at the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. The vision of proficient reading is to accurately, fluently, and independently read a wide range of complex texts, strategically employ comprehension strategies to analyze key information, and to construct interpretations and arguments through speaking and writing. In 2019, CMCSS student proficiency on TN Ready scored 49.1% while the State average scored 36.8% with a CMCSS growth trajectory of 2.7% in 2019.

To reach 75% by 2025, as a district, key components will be to create and implement high-quality instructional resources, support the implementation of research-based literacy practices, leverage the expertise of our talented teachers through the use of video and digital tools, increase access for pre-k aged students, and implement opportunity culture focused on early literacy.

Next steps will be to adopt and purchase ELA textbooks and resources, create an implementation team for new ELA resources, continue to build video libraries of high-quality lessons, expand Opportunity Culture to additional elementary schools, and create and launch a marketing plan to advertise the opportunities for students and families at our Learning Center. The entire presentation may be viewed here:

<http://www.cmcss.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Goal-2-Early-Learning-Board-Report-02112020-update.pptx>

### **Board Discussion & Consideration**

#### **Board Rescind of Approval on January 14, 2020 - Montgomery County Regional Planning Commission – Plat North Ridge and Reserve at North Ridge**

Mr. House explained to the Board this item was originally placed on the January 14, 2020 consent agenda for Board approval prematurely as additional discussion was needed and therefore the request is to rescind the January 14, 2020 approval. The Montgomery County Regional Planning Commission – Plat Approval North Ridge Landing, 1<sup>st</sup> Read, 1/7/2020, will be placed back on an upcoming agenda when all discussions have been completed between the Planning Commission and CMCSS. A motion was made by Ms. Murtha to rescind this item and was seconded by Mr. Patterson. Motion passed 7 – 0.

### **Comments**

#### **Board Members**

Mr. Garland gave a brief report of his travels to the NSBA 2020 Advocacy Institute in Washington, DC. In meeting with legislators during this time, Mr. Garland said topics of discussion centered on recruiting, retaining and securing great teachers, Individuals with Disabilities in Education (IDEA), creating safe schools climate and environment, bridging the digital divide in learning, and public education investment-developing 21<sup>st</sup> century life skills. Mr. Garland commented that they asked the legislators when addressing school of choice at the Federal level not to forget that public schools have a distinguished record of providing choice to our students. They were reminded that in most cases institutions sanctioned to serve our students outside of the public education umbrella are not held accountable to the standards and expectations that public schools must follow. The main difference between the systems is that they can choose which student they will engage with but public schools must educate every student that shows up at our doors. Mr. Garland thanked the district for allowing him the opportunity to represent CMCSS at these important and insightful meetings.

Director's Comments

Mr. House expressed his appreciation to Mr. Garland for his representation at the Advocacy Institute last week. The detailed report Mr. Garland provided to Mr. House will be included in the Friday Courier.

Mr. House mentioned the snow day last Friday and the miscommunication by the news channel. In reaching out to the TDOE to petition the day be forgiven as a result of this incident, Mr. House shared that the response from the Department of Education was that because we currently have stockpiled days in reserve they preferred to wait on making their decision. If the days we currently have are exhausted, they would revisit the request at that time.

Regarding legislation, Mr. House commented the legislators are in full swing and that there are currently 27 education bills in play. He will be providing updates concerning these bills to the Board and plans to be lobbying at the Legislative and Legal Institute early next week in Nashville to ensure our voices are heard at the local level as well. Additional information concerning the logistics of this convening will be shared in the Friday Courier. Mr. House shared that Rep. Jason Hodges is diligently working on a bill reference teacher licensing for out of state teachers and the re-certification protocol that is currently required.

The land acquisition process is continuing to move forward and there is a meeting scheduled on February 14 to speak with the owner in anticipation of positive next steps.

Mr. House mentioned that many of our surrounding counties are dealing with school closings because of flu and strep. CMCSS data is being carefully monitored and two-step disinfectant cleaning precautions have been implemented. There has not been a huge spike in Montgomery County attendance numbers and our plan is to continue with a watchful eye to make sure there is no outbreak especially in the areas of bus drivers, teachers, and students.

Mr. House reminded the Board that our Red Carpet Teacher of the Year ceremony will take place February 20 at 5:30 p.m. The three qualifiers were personally visited at their schools last week and informed they are finalists. Again, additional information will be placed in the Friday Courier. Next up will be the planning of the Classified Employee luncheon in May.

In closing, Mr. House introduced Ms. LaTonya Long and announced she will be replacing Deb Cummings who is retiring in mid-March. LaTonya and Deb will be working together over the next several weeks during the transition.

Items on the agenda having been completed, Chair Margaret Pace adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.



Margaret Pace  
Board Chair



Millard L. House II  
Director of Schools



Deb Cummings  
Board Secretary