

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

August 11, 2020

The Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education convened Tuesday, August 11, 2020, electronically via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Board members present were: District Chair Margaret Pace, Josh Baggett, Carol Berry, Herbert Nelson, Charlie Patterson, Anne Murtha and Jimmie Garland. Also present were: Millard House, Director of Schools; Mark Nolan, General Counsel; Dr. Angela Huff, Chief of Staff; Jim Sumrell, Chief Operations Officer; Jeanine Johnson, Chief Human Resources Officer; Anthony Johnson, Chief Communications Officer; Marcia Demorest, Chief Financial Officer; Dr. Sean Impeartrice, Chief Academic Officer; Carol Joiner, General Counsel; Dr. Mary Gist, Level Director Middle Schools; Jessica Harris, Level Director Elementary Schools; David Holman, Chief Technology Officer; Emily Vaughan, Director of Teaching, Learning and Innovation; Dr. Kimi Sucharski, Director of Accountability; Elizabeth Vincent, Director of Continuous Improvement and LaTonya Long, Board Secretary, who documented minutes of the meeting. Members present of the County Commission School Liaison Committee: Josh Beal, Carmelle Chandler, Loretta Bryant, and Garland Johnson

Public Conversation

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

Approval of Consent Agenda

On a motion by Board Member Ms. Anne Murtha and seconded by Board Member Charlie Patterson the Board approved the Consent Agenda 7-0. The vote was carried verbally with a yes designated by each board members district.

The Consent Agenda consisted of:

1. 07/14/2020 Regular Session Minutes
2. Surplus Property-Transportation, 1st Read 07/28/2020
3. Retiree Insurance 2021 Update, 1st Read 08/04/2020
4. Collaborative Conferencing Management Team, 1st Read 08/04/2020
5. Resolution 2020-2021 Budget Amendments, 1st Read 08/04/2020
6. Resolution 20-21 School Board Authorizing Sale of Surplus Computers, 1st Read 08/04/2020

Reports

Goal #1 Implement resources and supports to meet students social and emotional needs was presented by Dr. Mary Gist, Level Director Middle Schools. Dr. Gist's presentation covered the goals of Social Emotional Learning which includes Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Responsible Decision Making, Relationship Skills and Social Awareness. The report detailed CMCSS Strategic Work in the area of social and emotional learning from 2018-2020 and future work to be implemented for the 2020-2021 school year. The entire presentation can be viewed at the following link: <http://www.cmcoss.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/August-11-2020-Implement-resources-and-supports-to-meet-students-social-and-emotional-needs.pptx>

Comments

County Commissioners

None

Fort Campbell School Liaison

None

Board Members

Margaret Pace expressed her gratitude in regards to the sensitive nature the districts leadership has taken in considering the concerns of CMCSS students and parents while developing the districts reopening plan. Anne Murtha stated that the Social and Emotional Learning presentation was outstanding and believes it will make a difference daily in breaking the cycle. Josh Baggett also shared that the presentation included valuable information and applauded the leadership team for the work put into the presentation. Jimmie Garland congratulated the board members that where elected/re-elected to the school board.

Director of Schools Report

Mr. House reported, The Tennessee Department of Health released new quarantine guidance on suspected and confirmed cases of COVID-19. “Last week, the Tennessee Department of Health (TDOH) released new guidance to school districts stating “Any student or staff member who has been in close contact (within 6 feet for 10 minutes or more) of a person with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 must quarantine at home for a period of 14 days from their last exposure to that individual. This is not optional.” Based on this mandate to quarantine those based on suspected cases, the CDT anticipates a significant increase in the number of rolling closures and student/employee quarantines when school is back in session. Mr. House’s report continued as follows: “Over the past month, the CMCSS Safety and Health Department in conjunction with the Montgomery County Health Department has investigated over 35 suspected cases involving athletics and over 60 suspected cases involving employees. Last Friday was the largest CMCSS-related quarantine directed by the Montgomery County Health Department with over 60 student-athletes given a 14-day quarantine.”

Mr. House reviewed a resolution document provided by CMCEA, calling for the school system to start the 2020-2021 school year remotely “until the number of COVID-19 cases is < 10 new cases per 100,000 persons per day for at least 14 days in a row with an infection rate of 0.5 or below as recommended by health professionals.” Around 40% of CMCSS’ teachers are members of CMCEA.”

Mr. House shared the results of an employee survey sent out by the district. The survey went to all 5,000+ employees regarding comfortability with returning to an in-person setting. “With a 60% response rate, 30.6% of employees are comfortable, 21.1% feel neutral, and 48.3% are uncomfortable with returning to a traditional, in-person setting on Aug. 31 for the 60% of students whose families chose that model.” Mr. House stated “CMCSS cannot reopen schools without our teachers, staff, and administrators, so leaders will continue reviewing feedback and identifying opportunities to improve our safety and health protocols. Regarding the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) for CMCSS employees, since July 1, 22 employees have returned from FFCRA Leave and 20 employees are currently on FFCRA Leave. As of today, 5 requests have been submitted and are pending medical documentation and 3 Employees are in the processing of completing FFCRA paperwork.”

Mr. House also stated “Faculty, staff, and administrators are continuing to prepare school buildings for a traditional, in-person return for those who chose that option for their children, and district leaders are continuing to navigate all of the challenges I mentioned above. Although CMCSS Senior Leadership and I are committed to making decisions in as timely a manner as possible so parents/guardians have time to prepare, these are unprecedented times. One thing we have all learned over the past five months is that we will continue to have peaks and valleys during the pandemic. As a father of two CMCSS students who has had to work with my family to make contingency plans, I cannot reiterate enough that families choosing traditional for their child(ren) should make preparations throughout the year in the event that individuals are quarantined and/or school buildings are closed and remote learning must take place.”

Mr. House conclude with, “Together, we will continue educating and empowering the children of Clarksville-Montgomery County to reach their potential. Together, we will get through this pandemic.”

Items on the agenda having been completed, Chair Margaret Pace adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m.



Margaret Pace
Board Chair



Millard L. House II
Director of Schools



LaTonya Long
Board Secretary