## Minutes Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education

### **September 14, 2021**

The Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education convened Tuesday, September 14, 2021 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: District Chair Carol Berry, Josh Baggett, Margaret Pace, Charlie Patterson, Herb Nelson, Jimmie Garland and Kent Griffy. Also present were: Dr. Angela Huff, Interim Director of Schools; Mark Nolan, General Counsel; Jeanine Johnson, Chief Human Resources Officer; Dr. Sean Impeartrice, Chief Academic Officer; David Holman, Chief Technology Officer; Chris Reneau, Chief Financial Officer; Norm Brumblay, Chief Operations Officer; Anthony Johnson, Chief Communications Officer; Dr. Kimmie Sucharski; Director of Accountability, Carol Joiner, General Counsel, and LaTonya Long, School Board Secretary, who documented minutes of the meeting. Members present of the County Commission School Liaison Committee: Josh Beal, Loretta Bryant, Garland Johnson, Rickey Ray, and Lisa Prichard.

## **Public Conversation**

There were twenty five requests to address the Board. Aron Maberry, Michael Gray, Jon Lewis, Jessica McGovern, Chrissy Van Kirk, Callie Cook, Bryan Louzensky, Catherine Garrigan, Shawnee Bledsoe, Steve Stroman, Karen England, Tawni Cassidy, Tiffany Holland, Heather Scott, Dale Brown, Monica Meeks, Becky Zientek, Ross St. Louis, Stephanie Reeder, William Kangas, Amanda Zimmerman, Rebecca Michalski, Jazmine Ledbetter, and Brent Williamson addressed the Board as related to Approval of Consent Agenda Item #3 Review Public Participation at Board Meetings and Board Discussion & Consideration item #4 COVID-19 Safety Protocols.

## **Approval of Consent Agenda**

On a motion by Board Member Charlie Patterson and seconded by Board Member Josh Baggett the Board approved the Consent Agenda 7-0. The Consent Agenda consisted of:

- 1. 08/10/2021 Regular Session Minutes
- 2. Request for Transfer of Fund, 1<sup>st</sup> Read 09/07/2021
- 3. Review Public Participation at Board Meetings, 1st Read 09/07/2021

Mr. Baggett made a request to remove item #3 Review Public Participation at Board Meetings from the consent agenda. Board Chair Carol Berry removed item #3 from the Consent Agenda and added the item to Board Discussion and Consideration.

## **Policy Monitoring**

The policy monitoring report for <u>Executive Limitation 11– Capital Projects</u> was interpreted by Dr. Huff. The Clarksville-Montgomery County School System shall not fail to insure that District facilities are safe and adequate in order to accomplish the Board's policies and priorities. Accordingly, the Director of Schools shall not Build or renovate buildings and other facilities without well-documented needs and Board input.

A motion was made by Ms. Margaret Pace to declare full compliance for this reporting period of EL-11. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herbert Nelson. Motion passed 7-0.

### **Board Discussion and Consideration**

**Review Public Participation at Board Meetings:** Mr. Baggett made a recommendation to amend the public participation request form. Currently the form has to be submitted to the School Board Secretary 72 hours prior to the date of the first School Board Study Session of each month. The amendment would allow the form to be submitted 48 hours prior to the first School Board Study Session of each month. The recommendation was seconded by Mr. Griffy. No further discussion was made. A motion was made by Mr. Nelson to amend the public participation request form from 72 hours prior to the first School Board Study Session of each month to 48 hours. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pace. Motion passed 7-0.

**Board Election of Chair and Vice Chair and Depository Authorization:** Pursuant to GP-11, Mr. Nolan, General Counsel, opened the floor for nominations from the Board to select a new School Board Chair. Mr. Patterson nominated Mr. Baggett as Board Chair. Mr. Baggett declined the nomination. Mr. Baggett nominated Mr. Herb Nelson as School

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Board Chair. The nominations closed on Mr. Nelson. The vote passed unanimously 7-0 to elect Mr. Nelson as the new School Board Chair. Mr. Nelson will serve as School Board Chair October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

Mr. Nolan opened the floor for nominations for School Board Vice-Chair. Ms. Pace nominated Mr. Josh Baggett for Vice-Chair. Mr. Baggett declined the nomination. Mr. Baggett nominated Mr. Patterson as Vice Chair. The nominations closed on Mr. Patterson. The vote passed unanimously 7-0 to elect Mr. Patterson as School Board Vice-Chair. Mr. Patterson will serve as School Board Vice Chair October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022

Depository Authorization was read by Dr. Huff. The depository authorization authorizes the newly elected Board Chair to conduct financial business on behalf of the district.

**Selection of Committee for Funding Applications:** The Tennessee Department of Education is now requiring a new process for approving funding applications. The new requirement will include appointing a Committee of 3 Board members to review and approve new funding applications. Dr. Kimmie Sucharski; Director of Accountability and Dr. Phyllis Casebolt; Director of Federal Projects addressed the Board on the updated guidance from the TDOE. Dr. Casebolt works with the consolidated fund applications which includes the IDEA and Title funding. Dr. Sucharski works with relief funding and other grants. Dr. Sucharski updates the Board on grants and alternative funding as part of CMCSS strategic work during a regular Board Study Session. After the information is presented to the Board and any questions, comments or recommendations have been resolved the work is submitted to the State and agree to an assurance. The new requirement in assurance after the information is presented to the Board the process be recorded as part of official Board minutes voted on and approved by the School Board. To assist with the process the district staff is seeking 3 Board members to volunteer or be appointed to serve on the grant application review committee.

Mr. Baggett made a motion to create a committee of 3 Board members to review and approve funding applications as presented by district staff with committee meeting minutes being submitted to full Board for review and adoption on the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Garland. Motion passed 7-0. Ms. Berry, Board Chair appointed Mr. Baggett, Mr. Garland and Mr. Griffy to serve on the committee for funding applications.

**COVID-19 Safety Protocols:** COVID-19 protocols are on the agenda for discussion and consideration as a request by Mr. Patterson from the September 7, 2021 Board Study Session. Mr. Nolan explained the process for the Board to follow. First any motions will be made, followed by discussion and vote. After comments were made by Mr. Patterson as related to his forthcoming motion. Mr. Patterson made a motion to establish a temporary face mask requirement for all students inside of CMCSS buildings when social distancing cannot be maintained. This requirement will be effective Monday, September 20, 2021, through the first Formal Board meeting in January (January 11, 2022). The requirement will be revisited by the School Board at each monthly Formal School Board Meeting. The district will adhere to the Governors Executive Order allowing parent(s) to opt their child(ren) out of this requirement. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pace.

Mr. Griffy stated that the motion only included CMCSS buildings and students. Mr. Griffy asked if employees will have the option to opt out of the face mask requirement. Mr. Patterson stated that he would defer that decision to CMCSS staff. Mr. Griffy asked for the motion to be amended to include an employee opt out provision. Mr. Garland stated that if a requirement for masks is being voted on it should include everyone that enters into CMCSS buildings. Mr. Nelson suggested a multi-tier approach to mitigating COVID-19 be considered such as vaccinations, temperature checks, testing and masking to completely protect students and staff. Board members made comments on amending the motion to include visitors and transportation. No further amendments were made to the motion.

Mr. Patterson called for the question. Before the vote was taken and for clarity the motion was restated by Mr. Nolan. The motion states that CMCSS establish a temporary face mask requirement for all students inside of CMCSS buildings when social distancing cannot be maintained. This requirement will be effective Monday, September 20, 2021, through the first Formal Board meeting in January of 2022 (January 11, 2022) to be revisited by the School Board at each monthly Formal School Board Meeting. Parent(s)/guardian(s) may opt their child out of this requirement. Additionally, employees may opt out of this requirement. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pace. The motion passed 5-0.

#### <u>Comments</u> <u>Ft. Campbell School Liaison Officer</u> None

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## **County Commissioners**

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Mr. Josh Beal asked if the amended time for the public participation request is calendar hours as participants would have to put in their request on a Saturday or Sunday.

### **Board Members**

Mr. Baggett addressed Mr. Beal's question stating that the amendment to the public participation hours were with the intent to allow participants to submit their requests on Sunday's which allows participants to submit their requests online.

Mr. Nelson thanked everyone for their input through emails over the past several weeks and for their comments at tonight's Board meeting stating that no matter which side of the debate he took in all the information presented.

Mr. Griffy stated that he appreciated and is glad that the Board amended the protocol for public participation as the amendment allows for public comment at Study Sessions which allows time for the Board to consider the information presented and that public comment does not have to relate to an agenda item.

Mr. Garland thanked CMCSS staff and everyone that attended tonight's meeting. Mr. Garland stated that he trust the leadership of the district to do what is right for CMCSS students. The years have proven that anytime CMCSS students are in need of anything the Board, staff and leadership team has always risen to the tasks.

Ms. Berry stated that it has been her pleasure to serve as the Board Chair over the past year. She thanked the Board for their support as serving as Board Chair has not been an easy task. Ms. Berry thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Board Chair Carol Berry adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

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Herbert Nelson Board Chair

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Dr. Angela Huff Interim Director of Schools

LaTonya Long Board Secretary