

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

August 20, 2024

The Clarksville Montgomery County Board of Education convened Tuesday, August 20, 2024 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 Kent Griffy, Jimmie Garland, Herbert Nelson, Margaret Pace, Carol Berry, Charlie Patterson and Aron Maberry. Also present were: Dr. Jean Luna-Vedder, Director of Schools; Mark Nolan, School Board Attorney; Norm Brumblay, Chief Operations Officer; Jeff Taylor, Chief Financial Officer; David Holman, Chief Technology Officer; Dr. Chris Causey, Chief of Staff; Melissa Izatt, Chief Human Resources Officer; Dr. Schanda Doughty, Chief Academic Officer; Anthony Johnson, Chief Communications Officer, who documented minutes of the meeting, Jessica Harris, Director of Elementary Schools; Amanda Nicks, Director of Elementary Schools; Matthew Slight, Director of Middle Schools; Bryan Feldman, Director of High Schools; Carol Joiner, General Counsel. Members present of the County Commission School Liaison Committee: Carmelle Chandler, David Harper, Nathan Burkholder, Chris Rasnic

Points of Pride Awards

Anthony Johnson Chief Communications Officer announced the following point of pride awards:

2024 TSSAA Baseball State Championship, Clarksville High School Baseball Team – Class 4A Finalist

2024 TSSAA Soccer State Championship, Rossview High School Boys Soccer Team – Class AAA Finalist

2024 TSSAA Track and Field State Championship, Rossview High School Kristen DeSantis - Class AAA Pole Vault Champion. **CMA Foundation Music Teacher of Excellence**, Montgomery Central High School Vanessa Cobb

NAMM Foundation Best Community for Music Education. National FCCLA Competition, Montgomery Central High School, Victoria Gillard - Silver in Interior Design Level 2 Kaylee Spivey – Silver in Interior Design Level 2 Brooke Mangrum – Silver in Public Policy Advocate Level 3 Sadie Miles – Silver in Entrepreneurship Level 2 Austin Mason – Gold in Job Interview Level 3

National History Day Teacher of the Year, Kirkwood Middle School Whitney Joyner

National Junior Classical League Championship, Rossview High School Adde Underwood – 1st Place Scrapbook

Jia Do – 1st Place Acrylics Josiah Cunningham – Champion for Intermediate Certamen Isabella Ochoa – Selected Parliamentarian of National Junior Classical League

7th Brigade Senior Army Instructor of the Year, Montgomery Central High School CSM (Ret) James Manning

Mrs. Margaret Pace, School Board Member for District 2 serving 8 years on the school board. **Mr. Charlie Patterson**, School Board Member for District 7 serving 12 years on the school board.

Public Conversation

Ms. Brittani Mays addressed the board on an initiative to donate 1,000 new books to CMCSS' Title 1 elementary schools. Flyers with additional information were made available.

Ms. Caitlin Martinez addressed the board on issues related to school bus transportation.

Mr. Chris Reneau thanked the board members and Dr. Luna-Vedder for their effort and support in advocating for students and made comments on the effort, passion and love CMCSS' senior leadership team has for students.

Approval of Consent Agenda

On a motion by Mrs. Margaret Pace and seconded by Mr. Charlie Patterson the Board approved the Consent Agenda 7-0. The Consent Agenda consisted of:

1. 07/16/2024 Regular Session Minutes
2. July Federal Budget Amendments, 1st Read 07/02/2024
3. Surplus Property Technology, 1st Read 08/08/2024
4. Recommendation and Approval of Hearing Officer, 1st Read 08/08/2024
5. Retiree Insurance 2024 Update, 1st Read 08/08/2024
6. FY2025 Budget Amendments, 1st Read 08/08/2024

Comments

Fort Campbell School Liaison Officer

Ms. Karen Watkins-Diouf reported that the start of the school year has been great. Liaison members have visited the open house events on Ft. Campbell, CMCSS and surrounding school counties. Visits with school administrators and Military Life Consultants will begin in September. Ms. Watkins-Diouf reported that Ms. Garrett is galvanizing the partners in education unit to being stronger than ever this school year. School representatives are scheduling the military units for speakers, static displays of military vehicles, volunteers for luncheons and other events such as STEM night and music for the upcoming holiday. On behalf of Ft. Campbell, Ms. Watkins-Diouf, thanked the board for allowing them to be of service to CMCSS schools.

CMCEA/PET Representatives

Ms. Stefi Outlaw, President of CMCEA thanked Mrs. Pace and Mr. Patterson for all of their support, stating that she really enjoyed working with them and getting to know them and will certainly miss them. Ms. Outlaw commented that the school year has started off great with a sense of positivity.

Ms. Cathy Kolb, President of PET shared a story about Dr. Causey visiting Moore Magnet and thanked Mr. Patterson and Mrs. Pace for their years of service on the board. Ms. Kolb stated that the school year is off to a great start and she is looking forward to a great school year.

County Commissioners

No Comments

Board Members

Mr. Nelson thanked Mr. Patterson and Mrs. Pace for their service on the board. Mr. Nelson also thanked Mrs. Pace for always having a kind word, stating that every decision she has made has not been without thought and thanked Mr. Patterson for his mentorship. Mr. Nelson shared that he attended the back-to-school bash at Kenwood and that it was joyous to see the student's bright faces as they prepare to go back to school. Mr. Nelson thanked Dr. Luna- Vedder for helping out with a variety of issues related to the opening of school.

Mr. Garland echoed Mr. Nelson's comments concerning Mr. Patterson and Mrs. Pace, stating that they will be missed not only by the board but also by teachers and staff. Mr. Garland shared that Mrs. Pace and Mr. Patterson were always focused on the education of CMCSS students, stating that he will continue in their stead as they have set the stage for other board members.

Mr. Maberry echoed the sentiments of Mr. Nelson and Mr. Garland, stating that Mrs. Pace has been lovely towards him and thanked her for the guidance she has provided. Mr. Maberry stated that it has been a joy sitting next to Mr. Patterson and he appreciated his guidance and mentorship.

Mrs. Pace commented that saying goodbye has always been difficult for her and especially tough saying goodbye to the school system. She has had the privilege of spending thirty-eight years with CMCSS as an employee and eight years as a board member. Mrs. Pace shared the various positions she's held within the district over the years as well as spending 16 years on APSU's faculty, stating that she has spent 57 years in the Montgomery County educational field and has loved every minute of it.

Mrs. Berry shared that she and Mrs. Pace go a long way back, stating that Mrs. Pace has always been pleasant and supportive and she has learned a lot from all of Mrs. Pace's experiences and that she is going to miss her friend. Mrs. Berry also stated that Mrs. Pace and Mr. Patterson are public servants and have made decisions that were in the best interest of CMCSS students and thanked them for always advocating for public schools.

Mr. Patterson thanked Mrs. Berry for her gift and made comments related to his family, tenure on the board and future plans.

Mr. Griffy stated that he has worked with Mr. Patterson for many years and his demeanor has never changed nor has his sense of humor changed, stating that he has never raised his voice, or talked negative about anyone or any issues and has always voted with his heart, stood for what he believed in, always there when he needed to be and that he appreciates his service over the years. Mr. Griffy shared that Mrs. Pace is like a second mother to him and is that first-class lady in every situation that you always wanted to meet and that he will miss her.

Director of Schools Report

Dr. Luna-Vedder reported that this week marks the second full week of school for the 2024-2025 school year. As anticipated the district is continuing to see historic numbers of students enrolling in CMCSS across the district. As of today, enrollment is approximately 40,100 students which is an increase of about 700 students compared to this date last year, sharing that the district is continuing to have some growing pains and district leadership is working to alleviate them.

Dr. Luna-Vedder thanked Mrs. Pace and Mr. Patterson for their years of service as school board members for CMCSS. Dr. Luna-Vedder stated that after working with both of them closely "what you see is what you get", they really are the most endearing people you have ever met, they always voted with the best interest of students and educators at heart

despite whatever else was going on. Dr. Luna-Vedder thanked Mrs. Pace and Mr. Patterson for their continued support, stating that they will both be missed.



Kent Griffy
Board Chair



Dr. Jean Luna-Vedder
Director of Schools



LaTonya Long
School Board Secretary