

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

September 24, 2024

The Clarksville Montgomery County Board of Education convened Tuesday, September 24, 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: Board Chair Kent Griffy, Jimmie Garland, Herbert Nelson, Carol Berry, Chis Lanier 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, 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 and LaTonya Long, School Board Secretary who recorded minutes of the meeting Members present of the County Commission School Liaison Committee: Carmelle Chandler, Nathan Burkholder, Chris Rasnic, Autumn Simmons

Point of Pride Awards

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

2023-2024 TSSAA Coach of the Year; Clarksville High School-Coach Doug Badon - TSSAA Girls Wrestling Coach of the Year

National Merit Scholarship Program; Rossvie High School-Cade Deterding - National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalist

NFL Latino Youth Honors; West Creek High School-Leilyn Mercado - Tennessee Titans Nominee for Latino Excellence in Youth Football

Public Conversation

Mr. Robert Brenner addressed the board on issues related to school distribution and repair of computers and daily disruptions in school hallways and offered suggestions to address them.

Ms. Allison Corder addressed the board on the American Heart Association's partnership with CMCSS schools, AHA's heart health program and recognized Carlei, a CMCSS student heart survivor.

Director of Schools Contract Renewal/Extension

A motion was made by Mr. Jimmie Garland to extend the directors contact with all terms, provisions and conditions of the original contract executed June 7, 2022 be renewed one year with a termination date of June 30, 2028. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Carol Berry. (No Discussion) Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Consent Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Aron Maberry and seconded by Mr. Chris Lanier the Board approved the Consent Agenda 6-0. The Consent Agenda consisted of:

1. 08/20/2024 Regular Session Minutes
2. 2024-2025 Family Life Curriculum Update, 1st Read 09/10/2024
3. FY2025 ESSER 3.0 Application, 1st Read 09/10/2024
4. FY2025 September Budget Amendments, 1st Read 09/10/2024

Policy Monitoring

The policy monitoring report for **Executive Limitation 11–Capital Projects**: was interpreted by Dr. Luna-Vedder. The Clarksville-Montgomery County School System shall not fail to ensure 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. Projects are prioritized appropriately based on student and staff safety, educational needs, environmental impact, and aesthetics. Projects exceeding \$25,000 go to public bid. The lowest and best bids are accepted based on contractor's performance, quality, and work history.

A motion was made by Mrs. Berry to declare full compliance for this reporting period of EL-11. The motion was seconded by Mr. Garland. (No Discussion) Motion passed 6-0.

Board Discussion & Consideration

Board Election of Chair, Vice Chair and Depository Authorization: Pursuant to GP-11, Mr. Mark Nolan, School Board Attorney, opened the floor for nominations from the board to select a new School Board Chair, stating that all votes will be cast by a show of hands. Mr. Aron Maberry nominated Mr. Kent Griffy. Mrs. Carol Berry nominated Mr. Jimmie Garland, no further nominations. (Vote) Mr. Griffy received 4 votes and Mr. Garland received two votes. Mr. Nelson had

a question as he misunderstood the nature of the vote. Mr. Nolan clarified that the vote on the floor was for board chair. The vote was recast. Mr. Griffy received 3 votes and Mr. Garland received 3 votes. According to GP-11, The Board Attorney will call for a revote if neither nominee receives four or more votes. (Comments), Mrs. Berry commented that Mr. Griffy has served two years as chair, stating that change is good. (No further comments). Mr. Nolan called for the second vote. Mr. Griffy received 3 votes and Mr. Garland received 3 votes. Mr. Nolan called for a third vote and explained that pursuant to GP-11, in the event that a chair cannot be selected after the third vote the floor will be reopened for nominations. (Vote) Mr. Griffy received 3 votes and Mr. Garland received 3 votes. Mr. Nolan reopened the floor for nominations. Mr. Maberry nominated Mr. Griffy. Mrs. Berry nominated Mr. Garland, no further nominations. Mr. Griffy received 3 votes and Mr. Garland received 3 votes. As the vote was at a stalemate, Mr. Nolan suggested that the election be passed until the Oct. 22nd formal meeting in order to have all 7 members present for the election. A motion was made by Mr. Lanier to pass the elections until the Oct. 22nd formal meeting. Motion seconded by Mrs. Berry. (No discussion). Motion passed 6-0. The current chair and vice chair will remain in position until a new chair is elected. The depository authorization will also remain the same until a chair is elected.

Comments

Fort Campbell School Liaison Officer

No Comments

CMCEA/PET Representatives

Ms. Stefi Outlaw, President of CMCEA highlighted grandparents' day and national family day stating that family engagement in schools contribute to positive student outcomes including child and student achievement and decreased student disciplinary issues. It also improves parent-teacher and teacher-student relationships and improves school environment. On behalf of CMCEA Ms. Outlaw welcomed the newly elected board members stating that CMCEA is committed to strengthening the partnership between families and public schools and is committed to unlocking the power of partnership with the school board. CMCEA members are ready to be a resource for the board as they advocate for the resources, policies and practices students deserve.

Ms. Cathy Kolb, President of PET reported that PET members supported the 917 Society by celebrating constitution week and delivering pocket constitutions to 8th graders across the US. This year over 1 million constitutions have been delivered to students across the nation, their goal is to deliver 2 million constitutions in 2025. During constitution week reenactments and poems of the midnight ride of Sybil Ludington and Paul Revere were performed. Ms. Kolb urged the board to support the 917 society.

County Commissioners

No Comments

Board Members

Mr. Maberry thanked Ms. Corder from the AHA for her presentation, expressed condolences to Kacie Bryant during her bereavement and congratulated coach Badon for being selected as the 23-24 TSSAA coach of the year.

Mr. Garland offered encouragement to CMCSS students and commented on the many accomplishments of district students, stating that it is due to the great parents, educators and leaders in the community. Mr. Garland thanked the public school's strong group for attending the meeting, commenting that former public school participants have to make sure that public schools stay strong, vibrant and focused.

Mrs. Berry acknowledged the public school strong members in attendance, stating that it takes all of them working together to have strong public schools. Ms. Berry commented that the purpose of the board is to do what is best for public schools in this community so that all children have a right to an equal and fair public education. Mrs. Berry shared her passion for public schools. Mrs. Berry stated that she believes in public schools and will always fight for what is right. Mrs. Berry further stated that most elected officials serve terms and feels that the school board should not be an exception, commenting that Mr. Griffy has done a wonderful job as chair but also think that change and experience is good and everyone deserves an opportunity to have a fair chance to do what is right.

Director of Schools Report

Dr. Luna-Vedder reported that CMCSS received a very exciting announcement from the U.S Department of Education. A video was played that announced CMCSS's Spanish Immersion at Barksdale Elementary was officially designated as a 2024 National Blue-Ribbon School. Dr. Luna-Vedder reported that out of approximately 1,700 public schools in the state of Tennessee, only six schools were honored, four elementary schools, one K12 and one high school. Nationally 356 schools out of approximately 90,000 public schools were recognized (for both the state and nationally, that is

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approximately 4 thousandths of 1 % of schools). CMCSS is one of three districts in the entire state, along with Williamson County and Oakridge to have earned back-to-back national blue-ribbon awards in 2023 and 2024 with Middle College earning this distinction last year. Spanish Immersion at Barksdale Elementary and Middle College at Austin Peay were the first schools to receive this award in the history of Clarksville Montgomery County Schools. These schools are achieving academically at high levels, more importantly they are closing achievement gaps of sub-groups to ensure that all students are reaching their potential. Dr. Luna-Vedder commented that this award belongs to the students putting in the hard work, the dedicated teachers for working tirelessly and all current and former administrators who made this vision a reality. Dr. Luna-Vedder emphasized that this is not just a school system award it is truly a community award.

Items on the agenda having been completed, Board Chair Kent Griffy adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.



Kent Griffy
Board Chair



Dr. Jean Luna-Vedder
Director of Schools



LaTonya Long
School Board Secretary