

November 8, 2010

The Marshall County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, November 8, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Conference Room at Jones School.

Members present were Curt Denton, Kristen Gold, Harvey Jones, Barbara Kennedy, Mike Keny, Donnie Moses, Delinda Owens, Randy Perryman, and Ann Tears. No members were absent.

Prayer/Pledge

The following additions were made to the agenda: Mr. Denton – making board packets eco-friendly; Ms. Gold – update on requests for information; Mr. Moses – use of calculators/electronic devices in elementary schools for testing purposes; Ms. Owens – set a date for a budget committee meeting; Mr. Perryman – set a date for a maintenance committee meeting. Ms. Gold made a motion to approve the agenda with the additions. Mr. Denton seconded the motion, and the motion passed 9-0.

Teachers Carolyn Keysaer and Nicky Randolph addressed the board concerning restrictions on out-of-state professional development conferences. The board concluded that these conferences should be considered on an individual basis, and not treated as a “blanket” decision. The board also asked that when teachers attend such conferences that they make a presentation to the board afterwards.

Mr. Perryman made a motion, with a second by Mr. Jones, to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2010, regular session of the board. The motion passed 9-0.

In the MCEA report, MCEA president Patty Hill announced November 14-20 as American Education Week; reminded the board that MCEA is requesting to adopt TCAP achievement scores as 25% of the students’ final grade; expressed concerns about LMS not having an SRO; informed the board of “No Name Calling Week” January 24-28, 2011, and the website www.nonamecallingweek.org.

Ms. Kennedy made a motion to accept The Mind-Body Connection grant (see attached). Mr. Denton seconded the motion, and the motion passed 9-0.

Mr. Perryman made the motion, with a second by Ms. Owens, to approve the propane bid submitted by AllGas Inc. of TN (see attached). A request was made that the appropriate department supervisors be available at future meetings to answer questions. The motion passed 8-1, with Ms. Kennedy voting no.

To ensure compliance with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), Ms. Tears made a motion to appoint budget director Shelia Cook-Jones as the senior accountable official for all Recovery Act activities. Ms. Owens seconded the motion, and the motion passed 9-0.

Mr. Perryman made a motion to approve Marty Hunt as a volunteer assistant bowling coach at Marshall County High School. Mr. Moses seconded the motion, and the motion passed 9-0.

Ms. Kennedy made a motion, with a second by Mr. Jones, to approve MCEA "Due Process" proposal (see attached). The motion passed 9-0.

In the policy committee report, Ms. Tears made a motion, with a second by Mr. Denton, to approve policy 6.500 Special Education Students (see attached). The motion passed 9-0. Ms. Tears made a motion to approve policy 6.406 Student Psychological Services (see attached). Mr. Jones seconded the motion, and the motion passed 9-0. Ms. Tears made a motion, with a second by Mr. Denton, to approve policy 5.117 Procedure for Granting Tenure. The vote was 8-1, with Ms. Kennedy voting no; the policy will come back to the board for a second reading. Mr. Denton made a motion, with a second by Mr. Moses, to approve policy 5.200 Separation Practices for Tenured Teachers. The vote was 8-1, with Ms. Kennedy voting no; the policy will come back to the board for a second reading. On policy 2.806 Bids and Quotations, the policy committee took no action but recommended that the director post quotes on the website, in the newspaper and email, and develop/provide a vendor list of who was sent an invitation to bid.

Concerning the Administrative Procedure on cheating (Supplement to Discipline Policy 6.300), the policy committee recommended that the director change the procedure to read that if caught cheating, the student receive a zero and a conference is held with the parent(s) on all offenses. Ms. Kennedy made a motion, with a second by Mr. Denton, that starting Tuesday, November 9, 2010, a student caught cheating will be subject to the administrative procedure set forth as a supplement to discipline policy 6.300 (see attached). After discussions, Ms. Kennedy revised her motion to reflect the procedure to begin on November 15, 2010. Mr. Denton recommended that Mr. Dukes check all administrative procedures set forth by the previous director; Mr. Keny added to check each school's handbook. The motion passed 9-0.

Continuing the policy committee report, Ms. Tears said there was no change on policy 1.600 Policy Development and Adoption. Ms. Tears made a motion to approve policy 5.201 Separation Practices for Non-Tenured Teachers (see attached). Mr. Moses seconded the motion, and the motion passed 9-0. Ms. Tears made a motion to approve policy 6.3071 Alcohol and Illegal/Controlled Substances (see attached). Mr. Jones seconded the motion, and the motion passed 9-0. Ms. Tears made a motion, with a second by Ms. Owens, to approve policy

1.808 Registered Sex Offenders. The vote was 8-1, with Ms. Kennedy voting no; this policy will come back to the board for a second reading.

Ms. Tears scheduled a policy committee meeting for Monday, November 29 at 5:30 p.m.

In the transportation committee report, Mr. Denton made a motion to approve the list of surplus items (see attached). Mr. Perryman seconded the motion. For the record, Ms. Kennedy stated the vehicles on the surplus list were well used and the board wasn't looking to get rid of them just to purchase new ones. The motion passed 9-0. Mr. Denton made a motion, with a second by Ms. Kennedy, to submit a request to the County Commission to purchase four new buses to be in place for the 2011-2012 school year. The motion passed 9-0. Mr. Denton made a motion, with a second by Ms. Kennedy, to submit a request to the County Commission about purchasing four new vans at the state contract amount. In order to keep mileage low on the vans, the board requested the new vehicles be used only by groups of students or teachers; the board requested that if principals/supervisors/teachers (anything less than a group of five) are travelling to out-of-town conferences that they use their personal vehicles and be reimbursed for the mileage. The old vans will be used for making deliveries/travel to the schools. Recommendation was made that the transportation committee work with the education committee of the commission to purchase the vehicles. The motion passed 9-0.

In new business, a work session was scheduled for Monday, November 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Denton expressed concern about the amount of paper being used to make board packets each month. He made a motion, with a second by Ms. Kennedy, to explore making board meetings paperless. Ms. Gold, chairman of the Technology Committee, will work with technology supervisor Suzanne Ingram on an initial cost estimate and ongoing expenditures. The motion passed 9-0.

Ms. Gold expressed concern over not receiving information from an earlier request regarding financial information. Mr. Dukes stated she and the board would receive an updated financial statement and aging on invoices (through September) by Friday, November 12. An updated financial statement will be included in each month's board packet.

Mr. Moses had received calls concerning students using calculators for testing purposes in the elementary schools; parents are concerned that by using calculators their children are not learning the fundamentals. Ms. Kennedy made a motion, with a second by Mr. Moses, to ask Elementary Supervisor of Instruction Vylatte Gooch to address the issue and inform the board at the December meeting the plans for the remainder of the school year and moving forward relative to state law. The motion passed 9-0.

In scheduling a budget committee meeting, it was determined the committee would incorporate their meeting with the work session on November 22. The work session time was moved to 6:00 p.m.

A maintenance committee meeting was scheduled for Monday, November 15 at 5:30 p.m.

In the director's report, Mr. Dukes drew attention to the proposed Math Textbook Selection Committee sheet. Mr. Perryman made a motion, with a second by Ms. Tears, to approve the Math Textbook Selection Committee. The motion passed 9-0.

Mr. Dukes informed the board he had been contacted by Siemens and Ameresco concerning available grant funds.

Ms. Kennedy made a motion to approve the low bid for toner cartridges (see attached) submitted by Coast to Coast. Ms. Tears seconded the motion and the motion passed 9-0.

Mr. Dukes explained the categories on the director's evaluation tool. A special called meeting was scheduled for Monday, November 22 immediately following the work session, during which the evaluation tool will be discussed.

Mr. Keny congratulated Mr. Dukes on being named to the Morris College Hall of Fame.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Keny, Chairman

Roy Dukes, Director