

April 11, 2011

The Marshall County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, April 11, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Conference Room at Jones School.

Members present were Curt Denton, Kristen Gold, Barbara Kennedy, Mike Keny, Donnie Moses, Randy Perryman, Sam Smith, and Ann Tears. Harvey Jones was absent.

Prayer/Pledge

The following additions were made to the agenda: Mr. Moses – eMeetings/paperless meetings; Mr. Denton – pest control bids; Ms. Kennedy – update on HR complaints/grievances and personnel matters; Mr. Keny – appoint a board member to serve on the negotiating team. Mr. Perryman made a motion to approve the agenda with the additions. Mr. Moses seconded the motion, and the motion passed 8-0.

The board recognized the Valedictorian and Salutatorian from each of the county's high schools: David Cole and Nathan Taylor from Cornersville High School; Christina Curtner and Anna Curtner from Forrest High School; Carlye Owen and Margaret Ellen LaFlamme from Marshall County High School. Former board member Dee Dee Owens was also recognized for her service on the board. Mr. Perryman presented to the board, on behalf of the Forrest Rocket Band of Blue, a Certificate of Appreciation of Support.

Mr. Smith made a motion, with a second by Ms. Kennedy, to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2011, regular session and the March 22, 2011, special called meeting of the board. Mr. Denton asked that the March 14 minutes reflect that he emphasized, during the mowing bids, that the lowest bid is not always the best bid to accept. The motion to approve the minutes, with the addition, passed 8-0.

In the MCEA report, MCEA president Patty Hill stated the organization wishes to return to the table for negotiations; requested the Jobs Fund Bill money be used as teacher bonuses before the end of the school year.

Ms. Kennedy made a motion to approve the Textbook Adoption list (see attached). Ms. Gold seconded the motion, and the motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Denton made a motion to increase the van fuel charge to 40 cents per mile, the bus fuel charge to 50 cents per mile, and continue the practice of not charging for fuel on in-county trips. After discussions, Mr. Denton withdrew his motion and asked that the topic be revisited in the budgeting process.

Mr. Perryman made a motion, with a second by Mr. Moses, to approve the agreement between the School Board and Marshall County Sheriff's Office for an SRO (see attached) with the amendment. The motion passed 8-0.

Ms. Kennedy made a motion to approve the low bid of Palos Sports (see attached) for three Traverse Climbing Walls. Mr. Denton seconded the motion, and the motion passed 8-0.

Concerning the pest control bids (see attached), Mr. Dukes explained he had spoken with the maintenance director in Franklin County, who indicated he was not satisfied with the service of the lowest bidder. Mr. Denton made a motion, with a second by Mr. Smith, to accept the bid of Marshall County Pest Control, the second lowest bidder. The motion passed 7-0-1, with Ms. Tears abstaining.

In discussing preliminary budgets, Mr. Dukes had placed at each member's seat a sheet detailing the number/types of teachers requested by principals, estimated cuts from the Federal budget, and major changes to the 2011-12 budget. Board members requested that in future estimations on salaries (for budget purposes), to also include family insurance coverage.

In the Budget Committee report, Mr. Moses stated the committee realizes there will be a cut in funds this year; therefore, the board will prioritize to cover the greatest needs. The committee, during its April 4 meeting, covered facilities issues, including roof repairs at various schools; the reduction of Federal funds; and standardized wages for entry-level classified personnel. A meeting has been scheduled for Monday, April 25 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the month's new budget issues, look at preliminary budgets, preliminary org chart, and BEP analysis. Mr. Moses went on to explain that in an ongoing commitment to reduce (paper) waste generated from meetings, the committee recommends adopting TSBA's eMeeting system, using the least expense option for computers, and include in next year's budget. Ms. Kennedy made a motion to include in the 2011-2012 budget the cost of the first year eMeeting system (\$1,500) and the cost of 11 laptops, with the understanding we are in it for one year and if the board decides to cancel eMeeting, the laptops return to the school system. Mr. Smith seconded the motion, and the motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Perryman announced a Maintenance Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 19 at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Kennedy requested Kirk Whittington of Siemens provide an update, either in a report or in person, on the energy efficiency program.

In the Curriculum Committee report, Ms. Gold stated the committee had not met, but she had been contacted by a teacher who was concerned students are being promoted to the next grade level before meeting the curriculum requirements for that grade. Ms. Gold has spoken with secondary curriculum supervisor Julie Thomas, who is working with Mr. Dukes on the issue.

In the Policy Committee report, Ms. Tears stated the committee reviewed 4.600 Grading System; Mr. Dukes provided information on how surrounding counties weigh TCAP and EOC on final grades, as well as what our schools prefer. This information was reviewed with the supervisors of instruction and the proposed policy was submitted to Mr. Mosley for review. A concerned parent addressed the committee on policy 6.314 Corporal Punishment; Mr. Dukes will notify school administrators to ensure they follow this policy. Principals were on hand to review 6.316 Suspension/Expulsion/Remand with the committee; suggestion was given to have ICU to help students. The committee briefly discussed the issue of tardiness in the schools; suggestion was made to have time for time. Tardiness will be discussed at the next Policy Committee meeting Thursday, April 28 at 6:00 p.m.

On the topic of Director's Evaluation, Ms. Kennedy requested a work session be scheduled to set specific goals and objectives based on the evaluation. She added it would be helpful if everyone

arrived to the meeting prepared with ideas to move the process along. A work session was set for Thursday, April 21 at 6:30 p.m.

Under Assistant Director/HR functions, Ms. Kennedy asked Dr. Miller, Interim Assistant Director, if he was on target submitting forms for licensure/experience/tenure and if assistance was needed in this area; Dr. Miller stated everything is covered. She asked if he would begin the process of updating job descriptions to match actual positions/organizational chart; he will work with Mr. Dukes on getting these updated, as well as creating salary schedules for classified employees.

Ms. Kennedy asked that eliminating work session minutes appear on next month's board agenda.

In reference to policy 5.501 Complaints and Grievances, Ms. Kennedy asked who is serving as the EIA Director and Director of Personnel, and therefore are the complaint managers for Marshall County School System. Mr. Dukes stated, according to the policy, Dr. Patsey Thomas and Dr. Larry Miller are serving in this capacity; he added if a complaint is brought against either of these, someone else will be appointed. Mr. Dukes stated that he and Dr. Miller are investigating the most recent complaints filed, and attorney Sam Jackson should provide results of other investigations next week. After further discussions, the board asked that Mr. Jackson provide an update on the complaints/grievances, either through an email, a conference call or in a meeting. Mr. Perryman asked for Mr. Jackson to provide each member an itemized bill, to give members an idea of what the board's being charged for.

Mr. Keny nominated Mr. Smith to replace Delinda Owens on the negotiating team. Ms. Kennedy seconded the nomination. The vote was 8-0 in favor.

In the Director's Report, Mr. Dukes announced TCAPs begin tomorrow; the Education Consumers Foundation will honor CVHS principal Bob Edens on May 9 for being 2nd in the state on TVAAS gains for K-8; Dr. Miller, who was named a Highly Effective Principal, will gather with principals from across the state to discuss what makes an exceptional school; Laura Ledford, CVS teacher, will make her second trip as a Highly Effective Teacher to talk with teachers from across the state about teaching methods; Siemens representatives will go into the schools next week to, hopefully, begin the energy efficient process.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Keny, Chairman

Roy Dukes, Director