

January 18, 2011

The Marshall County Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, January 18, 2011, 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, Randy Perryman, and Ann Tears. Delinda Owens had resigned her seat. School Board attorney Sam Jackson was also in attendance.

Prayer/Pledge

The following addition was made to the agenda: Mr. Denton – Discuss committee meetings. Ms. Tears made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition. Mr. Moses seconded the motion, and the motion passed 6-0 (Ms. Gold and Ms. Kennedy were not present for the vote).

The board recognized Divi Ferris, a CHES fifth grader who scored 100% on TCAP math.

Citizens Dr. Larry Thomas, Arnold Quarles, and Eugene “Spook” Clark addressed the board.

Ms. Kennedy and Ms. Gold arrived at this point.

Mr. Perryman made a motion, with a second by Mr. Jones, to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2010, regular session of the board. Ms. Tears asked that the backup information concerning the findings on the state audit/response be filed with the minutes. The motion passed 8-0.

In the MCEA report, MCEA president Patty Hill invited the board to the MCEA Spelling Bee on February 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the LMS auditorium; reminded board members that teachers would like them to consider a teacher bonus with the Jobs Bill funds; stated she has not yet seen an annual survey concerning in-service, which is addressed in Article 6 of the negotiated contract.

Mr. Denton made a motion, with a second by Ms. Gold, to approve Amendment #1 for Preschool 11.01 (see attached). The motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Denton made a motion, with a second by Ms. Tears, to approve the resolution to transfer funds (see attached). The motion passed 5-3, with Ms. Gold, Ms. Kennedy and Mr. Moses voting no.

Before scheduling committee meetings, Mr. Keny announced that Mr. Moses would replace Ms. Owens as chairman of the Budget Committee. The following meetings were set: Monday January 24 – Policy at 6:00 p.m., Teacher Recruitment immediately following; Thursday, January 27 – Curriculum at 6:00 p.m., Calendar immediately following; Monday, February 14 – Budget at 5:30 p.m.

Under new business, Mr. Denton requested that if a school committee (such as calendar) meets, that the board’s committee meet in conjunction in order to work together and make

better decisions for the students. During the discussion, the board determined an updated Annual Agenda needs to be created; the topic will be on the agenda for the February meeting. Mr. Jones requested that during textbook adoptions, the system's Textbook Committee provide to the board information on how and why they made their final decisions on what textbooks to recommend.

In old business, Mr. Jackson stated that the person recommended as volunteer assistant basketball coach discussed in the December meeting is a certified employee and is not on an hourly basis; therefore, there would be no problem with him serving as a volunteer coach. He added that he and Mr. Dukes would look at the negotiated contract to make sure there would be no violation.

Mr. Dukes told the board an application for a \$115,509 energy efficient grant was faxed to Ron Graham today (1/18/11). In discussing a loan of up to \$3.1 million for energy projects, Mr. Dukes explained the Siemens proposal is in, Ameresco's proposal is not. Ms. Kennedy made a motion, with a second by Mr. Perryman, that the board requests loan approval up to \$3.1 million from the county commission to fund the system's energy conservation project. The motion passed 8-0. Once the commission approves the loan, Mr. Jackson will review the contract submitted by Siemens or Ameresco, whichever the board accepts. Frank Banks, Ameresco representative, was present at the meeting. Mr. Perryman made a motion, with a second by Ms. Tears, to allow Mr. Banks to address the board; the motion failed 4-4, with Mr. Denton, Ms. Gold, Ms. Kennedy, and Mr. Moses voting no.

In discussing paperless meetings, Mr. Jackson stated he had spoken with TSBA's Randall Bennett who gives presentations on eMeeting software to boards during regular or work sessions. Mr. Denton stated he felt the documents could be put on a CD, mailed to board members, and then access the documents by notebook during the meetings. Mr. Jackson said he would get dates of future board meetings from board secretary Ms. Poole for Mr. Bennett to make his presentation in a work session prior to the meeting. Ms. Gold requested the system's technology supervisor, Suzanne Ingram, be available for the meeting to answer questions and give cost estimates.

Mr. Perryman made a motion, with a second by Mr. Jones to allow Tom Wiggington to speak to the board concerning property he has for sale that connects to Forrest School. During discussions, the board determined the subject be directed back to the building and acquisitions committee before bringing it to the board. The motion failed 3-5, with Mr. Denton, Ms. Gold, Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Moses, and Ms. Tears voting no. Ms. Gold suggested the building and acquisitions committee assess the potential needs for future building needs throughout the county.

In referring back to approving the volunteer assistant basketball coach, Mr. Jackson said the board does not need to take action on a non-salary position; all volunteer positions do not have to come before the board.

Mr. Jackson indicated the packets he had placed at each board member's seat. The packet contained a compilation of comments, scores and the original Director of Schools evaluation board members submitted. After Mr. Jackson explained how the scores were tabulated, Mr. Keny made a motion, with a second by Ms. Tears, to give Mr. Dukes until the March meeting to respond to the evaluation. The motion passed 8-0. Mr. Jackson clarified that Mr. Dukes is not obligated to respond.

Under Director's Report, Mr. Dukes announced the system has four snow days remaining; he received a letter from Commissioner of Education Bruce Opie announcing a waiver for closure of CVES on October 26, 2010, due to a power outage; discussed report cards for the system; invited board members to hear Dr. Bill Daggett on February 18 at LMS; stated the transmission is going out on the maintenance supervisor's truck, so consideration needs to be given about purchasing another truck (Transportation Committee will take up issue); Assistant Director Ken Lee is in Iraq, and Mr. Dukes would like to post an Interim Assistant Director position until Mr. Lee returns; distributed a cost centered salaries/benefits sheet (on two schools) which indicates what is spent each month to give the board an idea on how to spend the Jobs Bill funds; the commission's education committee will meet next month to talk about purchasing the requested buses and vans.

Mr. Jackson clarified that Mr. Dukes does not require the approval of the board to post a position.

Mr. Denton recognized Billy Lamb of the Marshall County Sheriff's Department.

Ms. Kennedy asked the status of an SRO at LMS. Mr. Dukes stated that Jobs Bill funds cannot be used to directly pay for an SRO, but once the funds are received, fund balance money can be used. The budget committee will take up the issue in their next meeting.

Mr. Jackson announced an EEOC mediation scheduled for February 8. He requested one board member with working knowledge of the budget to attend. An Attorney/Client meeting was scheduled for Monday, January 31 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss this issue; Mr. Dukes and budget director Shelia Cook-Jones will be allowed to attend as management personnel.

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Keny, Chairman

Roy Dukes, Director