

November 10, 2011

The Marshall County Board of Education met in regular session on Thursday, November 10, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Conference Room at Jones School.

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

Prayer/Pledge

Mr. Keny opened the meeting by welcoming Mr. Dukes back from sick leave.

Mr. Moses made a motion, with a second by Mr. Jones, to approve the agenda. The motion passed 8-0.

Ms. Kennedy made a motion to accept the \$10,000 technology grant presented to Marshall Elementary School by WasteManagement. Ms. Tears seconded the motion, and the motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Perryman made a motion, with a second by Ms. Kennedy, to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2011, regular session. The motion passed 8-0.

In the MCEA report, MCEA president Patty Hill announced the following week is National American Education Week; she invited board members to shadow a teacher or substitute in a class during the week. She went on to state that many teachers are experiencing increased stress levels due to the new evaluation requirements, so the ongoing discussion of bonuses would be greatly appreciated.

Ms. Kennedy made a motion, with a second by Mr. Jones, to approve the use of facility request (see attached) made by the American Red Cross. The motion passed 8-0.

Ms. Tears made a motion to approve policy 1.403 Agendas (see attached) on second reading. Ms. Gold seconded the motion, and the motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Perryman made a motion, with a second by Mr. Smith, to approve the Allgas Inc. of TN propane bid (see attached). Concern was again expressed that only one bid was submitted. The motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Smith made a motion, with a second by Mr. Perryman, to approve the Director's Evaluation Tool. An evaluation committee consisting of Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Perryman, and Ms. Tears was established to tally the scores. Board members will submit their completed evaluations at the December meeting; the results will be presented in the January meeting. The motion to approve the tool passed 8-0.

The financial statement, next on the agenda, was combined with the Budget Committee report. Mr. Moses stated the Budget Committee met on October 25 primarily as a quarterly review. The committee discussed possible uses of the Jobs Bill money. Mr. Dukes added that the money can be used for bonuses, or for academic coaches to assist students who are struggling in different areas; the money must be spent by September 2012. The committee discussed line items for departments that have exceeded the budgeted amount; this will be addressed in the December meeting.

In the Policy Committee report, Ms. Tears stated the committee met October 27 to hear presentations from John Christmas, Beverly Miller, Rick Robinson and Mary Carter regarding the standard dress attire policy. A policy committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m.

The Curriculum Committee met November 8 to hear presentations from two principals on the ICU program. Discussion was held on how to improve the information flow regarding placement/promotion of a child; Dr. Thomas, Ms. Gooch, Ms. Thomas and Mr. Dukes will draft a form that will provide the needed information. Ms. Judy Rickman spoke to the committee about a kindergarten readiness class; the committee asked Ms. Rickman to work with other elementary principals on a proposal for this type of class, as well as determine the budgetary impact such a class would have on the system. Ms. Kennedy stated that concern was expressed during the meeting about the lack of consistency in classes available at schools throughout the county; Mr. Dukes will look into the concerns.

There was no Calendar Committee report, but Ms. Kennedy informed the board the system's calendar committee (headed by Vylatte Gooch, Julie Thomas, and Dr. Patsey Thomas and comprised of teachers) will meet Wednesday, November 16 at 3:30 p.m. Ms. Kennedy urged board members to attend to hear the teachers'/administrators' input.

Under Old Business, Ms. Kennedy made a motion, with a second by Mr. Perryman, to approve the United Structural Systems bid (see attached) for repairs at Forrest School. The motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Perryman made a motion, with a second by Ms. Tears, to approve the final Siemens invoices (see attached). The board asked that an electricity usage comparison be available at the next board meeting. The motion passed 8-0.

Continuing Old Business, Ms. Kennedy made a motion, with a second by Mr. Smith, to change the job posting/job description (under qualifications) from "with preference for a doctorate degree" to "a minimum of a masters degree" in education. The motion passed 8-0. The position will be posted through January 4, 2012, and will be posted in the usual avenues of advertisements, plus TSBA and TOSS. A work session will be scheduled in early December to set criteria and time frame in appointing a director.

There was no New Business.

During Director's Report, Mr. Dukes presented several sample resolutions from TSBA and TOSS. Mr. Smith made a motion, with a second by Mr. Jones, to approve a resolution opposing legislation or other similar effort to create a voucher program in Tennessee that would divert money intended for public education to private schools. The motion passed 7-1, with Ms. Gold voting no. No action was taken on a TOSS-proposed resolution which reduces evaluations for all certified employees to two. Mr. Smith made a motion, with a second by Ms. Tears, to approve a resolution opposing any legislation or other similar effort to alter or impair a local board of education's ability to establish an academic calendar as it works best for its students, teachers, parents, and community. The motion passed 5-3, with Ms. Gold, Ms. Kennedy and Mr. Moses voting no. Ms. Kennedy made a motion, with a second by Ms. Gold, to approve a resolution rejecting any attempt to revert to superintendent

elections. The motion failed 3-3-2, with Mr. Keny, Mr. Perryman and Mr. Smith voting no; Mr. Jones and Ms. Tears abstained.

Continuing Director's Report, Mr. Moses made a motion, with a second by Mr. Perryman, to approve IDEA Part B Budget #12.01 Amendment #1 (see attached). During discussions, suggestion was made to budget all potential employees as taking family coverage benefits so when a situation occurs, such as an employee not previously on insurance accepting insurance, it will not impact the budget. The motion passed 7-0-1, with Ms. Gold abstaining.

Mr. Dukes told the board \$194,134 was cut from the Federal Programs department (Title I and Title II-A) budget. A question was asked how our allocations, which are connected with free and reduced lunch, could be cut when our free and reduced lunch numbers have increased substantially. Ms. Williams-Lee stated that while on a webinar concerning this issue the previous day, she was advised to contact her congressman.

Mr. Dukes thanked those who sent get well cards while he was out of the office.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Mike Keny, Chairman

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Roy Dukes, Director