

October 6, 2011

The Marshall County Board of Education met in regular session on Thursday, October 6, 2011, at 7:00 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. Board attorney Sam Jackson was also in attendance.

Prayer/Pledge

Brooks Lamb, a Forrest School senior, was recognized as TSBA's South Central Student Recognition Award winner.

Mr. Dukes and Mr. Keny honored school system employees who retired over the past school year with a plaque. At the conclusion of the plaque presentations, Mr. Dukes announced he would be retiring at the end of his contract, June 30, 2012.

The following addition was made to the agenda: In light of Mr. Dukes' announcement, Ms. Gold asked that Director's Search be added to the agenda. Ms. Kennedy made a motion, with a second by Mr. Jones, to approve the agenda with the addition. The motion passed 8-0.

Ms. Tears made a motion to accept the \$10,000 donation to Cornersville School by Rack Room Shoes. Mr. Perryman seconded the motion, and the motion passed 8-0.

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

In the MCEA report, MCEA president Patty Hill stated there are concerns about the stress on teachers with the evaluation process and the differences of the process from school to school; she urged the board to use Jobs Fund money for teacher bonuses; revealed the MCEA would once again sponsor the county-wide Spelling Bee.

Representatives of the Marshall County Youth Football Association were on hand to request the use of Preston Hopkins Football Field for November 12 to hold the 1<sup>st</sup> annual BND Bowl Game. After discussions, Ms. Kennedy made a motion, with a second by Mr. Keny, to stand behind the school administrator's decision and deny the request for use of facility. The motion passed 8-0.

Ms. Kennedy made a motion to approve the surplus book list and the quote for purchase of the books by Follett Educational Services (see attached). Ms. Tears seconded the motion, and the motion passed 8-0.

Ms. Gold made a motion, with a second by Mr. Perryman, to approve the IDEA-B 11.21 Carryover Budget (see attached). The motion passed 8-0.

Ms. Tears made a motion to approve the change on policy #1.403 Agendas (see attached). Mr. Moses seconded the motion, and the motion passed 8-0. This policy will be on the November agenda for second reading.

The summary financial statement was reviewed; no action was taken. A financial statement will be included in every month's board packet.

In discussing personnel issues, particularly email correspondence between board members and Central Office supervisors, Ms. Kennedy wanted it on record that her September 16 emailed request to Dr. Thomas read exactly: "Second request. Is there something about this request that should require more than a few minutes? If so, please let me know when I might expect them, or better yet when I can pick them up." To which Dr. Thomas' response stated Ms. Kennedy's request made her feel uncomfortable and disrespected and she was harassing and discriminating against her; and "You can expect the information during the month of October because I have more pressing tasks that need my immediate attention." After further discussions, Mr. Moses made a motion to place a written reprimand in Mr. Dukes' personnel file and that Ms. Gold and Ms. Kennedy include their initial requests, the responses and any other responses they may have made, as evidence of unprofessional and inappropriate conduct that has not been checked. Ms. Kennedy seconded the motion. Mr. Moses requested the language on the reprimand include failure to maintain professional standards. The motion passed 7-1, with Ms. Tears voting no.

In the Policy Committee report, Ms. Tears stated the committee met September 26 to discuss policy 1.403 Agendas (which was approved earlier in the meeting), 6.203 School Admissions, and 6.310 Standard School Attire. On 6.203, TCA was added at the bottom (see attached); TSBA's Mr. Moseley was consulted and he was in favor to add the code – no vote is needed. Work continues on the Standard School Attire policy. Mr. Dukes will invite school officials from other counties, as well as law enforcement, to the next policy committee meeting to address the pros and cons of implementing such a policy in their community. The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 27 at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Tears encouraged all board members and the community to attend this meeting.

The Calendar Committee met September 20 during which several board members and some community members began discussions of the 2012-2013 school calendar. Ms. Kennedy stated the calendar is far from complete and is a work in progress. She mentioned that the school system's calendar committee, headed by Supervisors of Instruction Vylatte Gooch, Julie Thomas and Attendance Supervisor Dr. Patsey Thomas, had scheduled a calendar committee meeting for Wednesday, October 19 at 3:30 in the Central Office.

Mr. Moses, in the Budget Committee report, stated he would like to set a meeting to discuss a Quarterly Review (July, August, September). The meeting would also be used to begin discussing potential uses for the Jobs Bill money. A Budget Committee meeting was scheduled for Monday, October 24 at 6:30 p.m.

In the Curriculum Committee report, Ms. Gold stated the committee members met September 12 during which Virtual School was discussed; more information is being gathered from the state on the subject. Ms. Gold and Ms. Tears have discussed the ICU program which has been implemented in several of the schools; they would like the board to have a presentation on the program. Ms. Gold would also like to revisit the placement policy. A Curriculum Committee meeting has been tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, November 8 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss ICU and the placement policy.

In order to accommodate board members, the Budget Committee meeting was changed to Tuesday, October 25 at 6:00 p.m.

Concerning the final Siemens payment, Ms. Kennedy made a motion, with a second by Mr. Moses, to defer approving the payment until Mr. Dukes and Mr. Davis are satisfied the work is complete. The motion passed 8-0.

Ms. Gold questioned when the board would receive a corrected 2010-2011 Budget/Revenues; Mr. Dukes said he would see that Ms. Cook-Jones gets the corrected copy to board members the following day.

Ms. Kennedy made a motion, with a second by Mr. Moses, to place repair of the Forrest structural damage on hold pending legal advice on the contract with United Structural Systems (who provided the only bid). The motion passed 8-0.

In finalizing committees, Ms. Gold, Ms. Kennedy and Mr. Perryman requested to be added to the Policy Committee.

Under New Business, Ms. Gold made a motion to accept Mr. Dukes' retirement from his position effective June 30, 2012, and immediately begin a search to have someone in place by June 30. Ms. Kennedy seconded the motion. Mr. Jackson informed the board that the selection must be made at least two months before the August election. He requested the board give suggestions/specific qualifications to him by October 21, and he will have a proposed job posting ready by the 25<sup>th</sup>. The motion passed 8-0.

During Director's Report, Mr. Dukes covered the 2011 District Profile which revealed performance levels.

Mr. Smith made a motion, with a second by Mr. Perryman, to allow Cornersville School to take part in the fundraiser "Drive One 4UR School" with Stan McNabb Ford. The motion passed 8-0.

Continuing Director's Report, Mr. Dukes told the board Siemens has requested permission to use photos from their projects in our system for future marketing and advertisement; distributed a fact sheet concerning Tennessee Virtual Academy.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Mike Keny, Chairman

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Roy Dukes, Director