

MINUTES

MURFREESBORO CITY SCHOOL BOARD

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

6:30 p.m.—Council Chambers

ATTENDANCE

Board: Chair Mary Wade, Susan Andrews, Butch Campbell, Nancy Duggin, and Nancy Phillips. Absent: Ray Butrum, Dennis Rainier, and Council Liaison Ron Washington.

Staff: Director Linda Gilbert, Gary Anderson, Crystal Farris, Cheryl Harris, Michelle Hummel, Ralph Ringstaff, and Priscilla Van Tries.

Others: City Staff Attorney Kelley Baker.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

I. CALL TO ORDER BY BOARD CHAIR

Chair Mary Wade called the Board meeting to order at approximately 6:35 p.m. followed by a moment of silence. Mrs. Wade asked that the Board keep the family of Black Fox teacher Ashley McKnight in their thoughts and prayers.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Mrs. Duggin and second by Dr. Andrews, the agenda was approved as presented by acclamation.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

- Introduction of newly appointed Director of Human Resources, Mr. Ralph Ringstaff
- Introduction of the 2010 Leadership Academy Participants. Dr. Gilbert referred to the complete list of the participants that had attended the first Leadership Academy asking each in attendance to identify themselves and state in one word what they felt best described the academy. The participants replied with statements such as: enlightening, informative, awesome, honest, collaborative, inspiring, just to mention a few. Dr. Gilbert noted that she would like for these individuals to be able to speak to community groups, to learn from the community

and for the community to learn from them. A reception was hosted in their honor prior to the Board meeting.

- Thanks to Publix, Rutherford Boulevard, and Mr. Rick Smith and Ms. June Bilbo, for their donation of school supplies for the “Blast Back to School” event to be held on August 21.

IV. CONSENT ITEMS (Tab 1)

On motion by Mr. Campbell and second by Dr. Andrews, the following consent agenda items were approved:

A. Minutes of the June 22, 2010 Board

B. Board Policies on Second Reading:

SS 12—Student Fees and Fines

STU 6—School Day

STU 7—Opening-Closing of School Day (Deletion)

STU 11—Administering Medicines to Students

C. School Fees

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the Board/MEA 2010-2011 Contract (Tab 2)

Dr. Gilbert thanked MEA President Natalie Hopkins and MEA Chief Negotiator Sara Catalano for their work and efforts to reach an agreement and for working so collaboratively with the Board’s Chief Negotiator, Lee Wilkerson and Gary Anderson. Mr. Wilkerson stated that two items renegotiated in the contract were to increase the Association leave from eight to fifteen days and to put in place a unified payroll schedule in conjunction with having adopted the unified calendar. The Board commended those involved in this process for working through the negotiations in a professional and cooperative manner. On motion by Mrs. Phillips and second by Mrs. Duggin, the 2010-2011 Board/MEA contract was approved as presented by acclamation.

B. Board Policies—First Reading (Tab 3)

1. STU 37—Student Use of Internet (Proposed Revision)
2. FM 15—Administrative Procedure for Title I Equipment (Proposed New Policy)

Mrs. Baker stated that STU 37 was revised to make it more parent friendly and is being brought to the Board for approval. FM 15 is basically a housekeeping policy stating that the system will develop a procedure on how the system will handle Title I equipment. Dr. Andrews moved that both policies be approved as presented; Mrs. Duggin seconded the motion. The motion carried by acclamation.

VI. REPORTS/INFORMATION

A. Personnel Update

Dr. Gilbert shared the following personnel information:

1. Completion of Ninety Days:
Kathryn Ferrell Health Outreach Coordinator Systemwide
Jessica Markum ESP Site Director MNE/MNP

B. Monthly Revenue and Expenditure Report (Tab 4)

Mr. Anderson reported that property tax collections have increased over last year although sales tax revenue has declined. All BEP revenue has been received. The system is at 98.7% in revenue collections and at 95.8% in expenditures. Two categories that are over would be Other Support due to funds being designated for the purchase of computers/Technology Fund and Regular Capital Outlay due to the completion of the reroofing at Black Fox.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Not as other business, but for clarification, Mr. Campbell asked for an example of what would be considered an item that could be purchased within the \$20 stipulation as indicated in the memo on school fees. Mrs. Baker stated that it could include items such as a particular paper the teacher preferred for the class to use, a t-shirt for field trips, class agendas, etc. If a parent is unable to purchase these optional items, generally some accommodations can be made. For example, if the parent cannot purchase the red field trip t-shirt, the parent may be asked to simply dress the child in a red shirt/t-shirt. Mr. Anderson added that these items could also include calculators, chair pockets, Tennessean weekly newspapers, etc. PTO's have been helpful in providing funding for students who might need assistance. Dr. Andrews added that the Foundation has also provided funds to bring parity to schools whose fund raisers are not quite as successful as other schools.

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VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Wade adjourned the Board meeting at approximately 7:05 p.m.

Director of Schools

MISSION STATEMENT
*To assure academic and personal success
for each child.*