

MINUTES

MURFREESBORO CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL CALLED BOARD MEETING--
POLICY WORK SESSION
Tuesday, March 12, 2013
6:00 p.m.—Central Administration Building

ATTENDANCE

Board: Chair Mary Wade, Jared Barrett, Butch Campbell, Nancy Rainier, Nancy Phillips and Council Liaison Ron Washington. Absent: Andy Brown and Collier Smith.

Staff: Director Linda Gilbert, Gary Anderson, Sheri Arnette, Lea Bartch, Caresa Brooks, Kim Frank, Greg Lyles, Kristina Maddux, and Ralph Ringstaff.

Others: Staff Attorney Kelley Baker, Principals, *Daily News Journal* Reporter Mealand Ragland-Hudgins.

I. CALL TO ORDER BY BOARD CHAIR

Chair Wade called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

II. APPROVAL TO PURCHASE BUSES

Mr. Anderson provided the Board documents regarding the date that current buses would be retired. He asked that the Board approve the purchase of two special ed buses as students are on the bus too long. The third, a regular ed bus, would be purchased to replace one that is going out of service. He would like to put the buses out to bid as it takes 5-6 months to receive the buses, and they could be ready for service at the beginning of the school year. The buses would be purchased from fund balance. He also pointed out that three additional buses would have to be purchased next school year. He hopes that state law will allow bus service mileage to increase so the district can keep buses longer. The district has good bus service.

Mrs. Rainier stated that this helps with special ed, but she is still aware that students remain at school too long before their bus arrives to take them home.

Mr. Anderson stated that the district is looking at multiple scenarios (7:30, 8:00, 8:30) to change bell times to help with the transportation issues. He added that the district will have to hire bus drivers and aides (\$30,000 and \$20,000 respectively). The district needs the special ed bus as McKinney Vento has increased.

Mrs. Phillips stated that some parents are not happy and may push back on the 8:30 a.m. bell time, as students who participate in ESP are in there from 6:00-8:30 a.m. Students are in bus rooms too long so the district should look at more buses to solve that problem.

Mr. Campbell stated that this would eventually involve the purchase of six buses and personnel at a cost of \$900,000 the first year, and the personnel cost of approximately \$50,000 per bus every year thereafter, coming from fund balance. However, he did not want to get behind due to the current need. Mr. Anderson added that additional buses will have to be purchased with the opening of the new school. Most students will come from the Scales zone. Zoning changes will be brought to the Board in the fall. Mr. Anderson added that the district will also face the additional expense to purchase computers and to upgrade safety. Mrs. Phillips voiced a concern that money continue to be put away for technology upgrades.

Ms. Jordan stated that 8-10 buses run double routes, but the longest a child waits in the bus room is 40 minutes.

Mr. Barrett asked if staggered bus times will not only help in the morning, but also in the afternoon. Mrs. Rainier moved for the district to purchase two special ed and one regular ed bus; Mr. Campbell seconded the motion. The motion carried by acclamation.

III. CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Mr. Anderson reported that Hobgood construction is moving along. Bradley construction begins April 3rd, MNE roof replacement is scheduled, and the district is working with the city's street department regarding parking lot resurfacing. Due diligence surveys, geologic testing, etc. are being done regarding the new school. The last three schools will have front door entrance security complete by spring break. This new safety feature will be activated after parents receive a letter explaining the process. Dr. Gilbert stated that they may have two schools practice using the front entrance safety feature before spring break, but she will meet with principals before drafting the letter. Parents will be notified that they must walk their students to the door. This can be communicated to the community. Mrs. Baker suggested that City Cable 3 could be used.

Mr. Barrett asked that the construction update be made at the televised meeting.

IV. BOARD POLICY REVIEW

Consent Agenda: (Passed on First Reading)

PER 18—Professional Learning *(Complete Rewrite)*

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On motion by Mrs. Phillips and second by Mr. Campbell, the Board approved by acclamation to bring PER 18 as presented back to the Board for approval on second reading.

PER 3—Teacher Effect Data (TVAAS) (*Complete Rewrite*)

On motion by Mr. Barrett and second by Mrs. Phillips, the Board approved by acclamation to bring PER 3 as presented back to the Board for approval on second reading.

STU 41—Inspection and/or Challenge of Instructional Material (*Complete Rewrite*)

In response to the question regarding how often material has been challenged, Mrs. Baker responded three times in ten years, coming from library science classes. On motion by Mrs. Rainier and second by Mr. Barrett, the Board approved by acclamation to bring STU 41 as presented back to the Board for approval on second reading.

PER 46—Employee Use of Social Electronic Media (*New Policy*)

Mr. Campbell moved to approve PER 46 as presented to be brought back to the Board for approval on second reading; Mr. Barrett seconded the motion. Barrett—yes; Campbell—yes; Rainier—yes; Phillips—no; Wade—yes. The motion carried.

For Discussion:

STU 4—Entrance Age (*Revision*)

Mr. Campbell stated that he is concerned with the policy and preschool age, which he communicated to legislators. He is concerned about Head Start if they are to be a certain age. He also stated that the district needs something for non-accredited schools entering MCS. The rules for Head Start are set forth by state government. Pre-K is funded with grants and other funding. What is the mandated age? Dr. Gilbert stated that she would add verbiage regarding preschool. They should hear something in a couple of weeks; Dawn White and Jim Tracy are carrying the bill. Mrs. Payne stated that they have three different funding sources. We will continue with the August 31 date until the bill passes. She noted that preschool will go with a start date of September 1st, and Head Start goes by August 31st. It was asked what if a parent lies, regarding lines 17-21.

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Mrs. Rainier moved to approve STU 4 on first reading contingent upon revising if new legislation is passed; Mr. Campbell seconded the motion. The motion carried by acclamation.

V. REVIEW OF MARCH 26, 2013 DRAFT AGENDA

Mrs. Rainier asked that the moment of silence be held in memory of the John Pittard Elementary employee, Ms. Tammy Csefalvay, who recently passed away.

Mrs. Phillips asked that the Board be given information on how the Head Start sequester will affect the district financially. She added that she believes special meetings should be televised; Mr. Barrett agreed.

Mrs. Wade stated that the Board would discuss the possibility of having City Cable 3 televise special called board meetings at the next policy meeting.

Mrs. Wade asked that a date be set for a retreat to work on Vision.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mrs. Wade adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:10 p.m.

Director of Schools

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