

## MINUTES

Murfreesboro City School Board  
6 p.m., Tuesday, April 28, 2015  
Council Chambers

### ATTENDANCE

School Board: Jared Barrett, Andy Brown, Chair Butch Campbell, Phil King, Nancy Phillips, Vice Chair Nancy Rainier, and Collier Smith

Staff: Greg Lyles, Shavon Davis-Louis, Karen Hawkins, Caresa Dodson, Lea Bartch, Linda Gilbert, Ralph Ringstaff, Robin Newell, Roseann Barton, Sheri Arnette, Pam Holden, Kim Frank

Staff Attorney Kelley Baker

### I. CALL TO ORDER BY BOARD CHAIR

Pledge of Allegiance led by county-wide spelling bee champion Gabriel Carver of Northfield  
Moment of Silence

### II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Rainier moved to approve the agenda. Mr. King and Dr. Brown simultaneously seconded the motion. All approved.

### III. COMMUNICATIONS

#### Recognition of Parent Organizations

Dr. Gilbert and Chair Campbell expressed appreciation for these parent organizations in attendance at the meeting following a reception the previous hour in their honor:

Reeves-Rogers  
Erma Siegel  
Mitchell-Neilson  
Northfield  
Scales

Dr. Gilbert continued with the following announcements:

Earlier this year, Discovery School sixth graders entered a math competition from Math League. The National Math League released the top 22 schools in the sixth grade category. Discovery came in at number four. There were five Discovery sixth graders who ranked in the top 36 sixth-graders in the league.

Megan Le  
Emma Kate Rosenberger

Webb Dodson  
Macy Harris  
Suren Shah

Murfreesboro City Schools wish to thank members of the Murfreesboro Young Professionals for an awesome job at the Franklin Heights Family Resource Center during the United Way Days of Action on Friday, April 11, 2015.

Murfreesboro City Schools would like to thank the following community partners: New Hope Church of God in Christ for their donation to purchase Rover tickets, and St. Thomas Rutherford and TouchPoint Food Service for their donation of over 1,800 pounds of food to supplement the Backpack Program.

Mitchell-Neilson School would like to thank the congregations of First Baptist Castle Street, First Baptist Main Street, and New Vision Baptist Church for collaborating with the school to create a mentoring program for our students. About 40 adults will be coming once a week to work with classrooms.

Thank you to the City Schools Foundation for providing \$18,500 in parity checks to Murfreesboro City Schools.

Congratulations to Mitchell-Neilson's Gayle Porterfield, who has accepted an invitation to co-teach at the week-long Coding Camp this summer at MTSU. She will teach 7-12 grade students how to use computer coding to program drones, Spheros, and Makeymakes. She will be bringing back that knowledge to Mitchell-Neilson students and will be writing grants.

Congratulations to Rebecca Few, who has been selected to be part of the Learning Forward Academy. The Academy involves having professional conversations and dialogue with educators from around the world for the next 2 ½ years.

TCAP testing began today and continues through Thursday, April 30.

Final preschool registration day is Thursday, April 30, 2015, from 8:30 until 3:30 p.m. at the MCS Administrative Offices. Preschool testing will take place on Friday, May 8, 2015 also at the MCS Administrative Offices.

There will be a retirement reception held in the City Hall Rotunda on Tuesday, May 12, 2015, at 5 p.m. Everyone is invited to thank our retirees for their service and wish them good luck.

Chair Campbell congratulated John Pittard for their preparation for the TCAP with the You Tube video they posted.

#### IV. CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes: March 24, 2015 Meeting

Minutes: April 6, 8, 2015 Budget Meetings

Approval of School Fees (Field Trips)

Mr. Barrett moved to approve the consent items. Ms. Rainier and Dr. Brown simultaneously made a second to the motion. All approved.

V. ACTION ITEMS

Authorization to Use Fund Balance to Enable Early Textbook Purchase

Mr. Anderson explained that he discussed this with the auditors to make sure we did this correctly. He said the first motion before the Board is to approve the use of \$1.2 million in fund balance dollars for textbooks so we have them before the end of the fiscal year. Ms. Phillips moved to approve. Ms. Smith seconded the motion. Following a brief discussion, Chair Campbell asked for a roll call vote.

Jared Barrett Yes    Andy Brown Yes    Phil King Yes    Nancy Phillips Yes  
Nancy Rainier Yes    Collier Smith Yes    Butch Campbell Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

Amendment to 2015-16 Budget-Textbook Adjustment

Mr. Anderson explained this item requires does not require spending more money, but moving it from one year to another year. Ms. Rainier moved to approve the amendment. Mr. Barrett seconded the motion. Chair Campbell asked for a roll call vote.

Andy Brown Yes    Phil King Yes    Nancy Phillips Yes  
Nancy Rainier Yes    Collier Smith Yes    Jared Barrett Yes    Butch Campbell Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

Board Policy IS 11 – Testing Programs      *First Reading*

Ms. Baker explained that line 37 has been added to the existing policy in order to comply with the change in law signed by the governor on Friday. She said it was just released to school systems on Monday, and that is why it is before the Board. This language states that if the district does not receive student TCAP scores at least five (5) instructional days before the end of the school year, the scores shall not be included in the students’ final grades. During discussion, Ms. Smith asserted that she did not want to change the policy at the end of the school year as school children and teachers have expected all school year for the TCAP to be included in their fourth quarter grades. She asked for other Board members to express their thoughts to help finalize her vote. Following discussion, Ms. Phillips moved to approve the policy on first reading. Mr. Barrett seconded. Chair Campbell asked for a roll call vote.

Phil King Yes    Nancy Phillips Yes    Nancy Rainier Yes    Collier Smith Yes  
Jared Barrett Yes    Butch Campbell Yes    Andy Brown Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

### 2015-2016 Calendar Revision

Dr. Gilbert explained the calendar revisions:

- December 18, 2015 and May 26, 2016 were changed from a whole day to a half day for teachers.
- Teachers will work on election day, March 1, 2016.
- The April 7, 2016, PLC half day was removed.
- Students first full day is Monday, August 10, 2015.

Ms. Rainier moved to approve the calendar revisions. Dr. Brown seconded the motion, and all approved.

### Approval of City Schools Foundation new board members:

Doug Young  
Brook LaRoche

Chair Campbell asked where the recommendations come from. Dr. Gilbert said from City Schools Foundation. Ms. Smith moved to approve Doug Young and Brook LaRoche as new City Schools Foundation board members. Ms. Phillips seconded the motion, and all approved.

## VI. REPORTS/INFORMATION

### Presentation of 2015-2016 Budget

Chair Campbell said this Board has already approved this budget after several advertised meetings, and after very active, good discussion. He said Ms. Phillips made the good recommendation that a public presentation of the budget be made so the public will have an understanding of the budget. Dr. Gilbert gave a brief PowerPoint presentation. She said that when you look at the vision of this Board, it is that MCS will create a culture of collaborative learning focusing on the whole child assuring success in the global community. She said the Board recognizes that this district looks at the whole child, that is, academic needs, psychological needs, physical needs, safety needs, etc. She said this budget provides a foundation that assures the whole child will succeed.

Ms. Phillips commended Chair Campbell for an outstanding job of leading the dialogue during the budget process. She said she would like the Board to consider having some of the conversations on the air. She said the budget meetings were duly advertised, but televised meeting make the political process more accessible to the community. Ms. Phillips said she supports the budget because it enhances MCS. Mr. Barrett said it was a very lengthy process, and he would like the state to fully fund the BEP. He added that this budget invests in the future, especially new teachers and varied population of students. He said the Board went through the budget line by line, discussing every aspect of it at length, and he appreciated all of the Board comments. Ms. Smith said she appreciates Mr. Anderson and his staff for the thought behind the budget. She said this Board definitely puts children first with teachers coming closely behind. Ms. Rainier said she echoes what everyone has said. She added that it is a positive thing to see what everyone brings to the table. Mr. King said he came into the process after the budget last year and did not realize teachers did not get a raise. He said these people are professionals, and

he is glad we are paying them and commend them for continuing the job. Ms. Phillips said she urges everyone to consider protecting the fund balance by increasing it. Mr. Barrett said he continues to request the move to long-range planning, especially for big ticket items. Chair Campbell said he is glad that the four percent (4%) raise is for all employees—not just teachers, because everyone from the cafeteria staff, MDAs, EAs, office staff, etc. make contributions to the children's well being.

#### Revenue and Expenditure Report

Mr. Anderson gave the revenue report for the end of March noting that we are 75% into the fiscal year with a net income of \$4,781,851. On the expenditure side, Mr. Anderson said last year's were greater than this year's at this time, and we are in good shape for what was projected.

#### Personnel Report

##### Attendance (PTR) Report

Mr. Anderson said we are down seven students from last month at this time. He said we grew more in period six and seven. He said he does anticipate getting additional growth monies. He added that the state does recalculate growth monies, but we won't know that number until June 30, the last possible day. Mr. Anderson said the attendance rate is at 97%, and pupil/teacher ratio is 20.1 overall. He added that this is the last accounting period the state uses for growth calculations.

### VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Campbell asked if there was any other business. Ms. Smith expressed appreciation that MCS was part of the Commissioner of Education's tour of the state last week, and that Commissioner McQueen visited Black Fox. Ms. Rainier asked how many were retiring from MCS. Mr. Ringstaff said there are 10 so far. She asked what the deadline is to notify non-renewals, and Mr. Ringstaff said June 15. Mr. Barrett encouraged everyone to come see the art on the walls in the City Hall rotunda.

### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. King moved to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Barrett seconded. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:04 p.m.

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Director of Schools