

MINUTES  
Murfreesboro City School Board  
6 p.m., Monday, June 13, 2016  
Administrative Offices 2552 S. Church Street

ATTENDANCE

Jared Barrett, Andy Brown, Chair Butch Campbell, Phil King, Nancy Phillips, Nancy Rainier, and Collier Smith.

Staff: Dr. Linda Gilbert, Gary Anderson, and Joe Marlin.

Assistant City Attorney Kelley Baker and Council Liaison Ron Washington.

I. CALL TO ORDER BY BOARD CHAIR

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chair Campbell asked everyone to remember the folks in Orlando during the moment of silence noting that a LaVergne graduate was among the fatalities.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

With the addition of the Student Assignments policy, Ms. Rainier moved to approve the agenda. Mr. King seconded the motion. All approved by saying aye.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Gilbert read the following communications:

Mitchell-Neilson Schools would like to thank Sunnette Peay at Parks Realty for sponsoring their annual essay contest. The theme this year was "The Best Advice I've Ever Received." Parks Realty donated prizes for every grade level, K-6: third place-\$25 Walmart gift card, second place \$50 Walmart gift card, and first place was a bicycle and helmet.

MCS would like to thank Advance Financial for their \$500 donation to support the G.E.M.S. (Girls Empowered and Motivated for Success) and Boys to Men summer camps.

Congratulations to the class of Ms. Carrie Smith, third grade teacher at Cason Lane, for winning the inaugural First Peas to the Table Contest sponsored by the American Farm Bureau. As a result of the win, the class was honored by a visit by Miss America at Batey's The Grove at Williamson Place.

IV. CONSENT ITEMS

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

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Dr. Brown moved to approve Consent Items. Ms. Smith seconded, and all approved by saying aye.

V. ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Board Policies: First Reading

- 1.501, Visitors to the School

Ms. Baker said this policy is current policy and clarifies when people can be asked to leave. Ms. Rainier noted that our original policy contains language that visitors must check out. Ms. Smith said she would like to include language in the policy that visitors must abide by school rules. She also said she would like the language on page 7 to say “employees of the school system.” Ms. Baker said she will add the language. Staff recommended version with changes passed.

- 4.400, Instructional Materials

Ms. Baker said this policy is based on changes in law. Public chapter 660 requires school systems to set a policy regarding religious content of curriculum. She said the religious part only impacts sixth grade and up. Ms. Baker said state law gives parents the chance to challenge. Ms. Smith moved to accept the staff recommended policy. Mr. Barrett seconded. All approved by saying aye.

- 4.804, Religious Content of Courses

Ms. Baker said the floor would be open for public comment before passing of Policy 4.804. She said after the floor is closed to public comment, motions can be entertained. After discussion, Ms. Phillips moved to approve this policy. Dr. Brown seconded the motion. All approved by saying aye.

- 6.304, Student Discrimination, Harassment, Bullying, Cyber-bullying and Intimidation

Dr. Gilbert told the Board to expect changes in this policy to add language to include other behaviors, but that we need to go ahead and get this policy established to comply with law and include it in the parent handbook. After discussion, Mr. Barrett moved to approve Policy 6.304. Ms. Smith seconded the motion, and all approved by saying aye.

- 6.4031, Pediculosis (Head Lice)

Ms. Baker said this policy is recommended by TSBA based on various issues that have come up across the districts, and is not based on any law. After discussion, Ms. Rainier moved to approve the policy. Mr. Barrett seconded the motion. All approved by saying aye.

- 6.205, Assignment of Students to Schools and Classes

Ms. Baker said parents have the right to appeal zone waivers, and she does not recommend the entire Board hear appeals. She recommended appointing a committee to hear them, then present to the Board. Ms. Baker said that is how Williamson County handles this situation.

Chair Campbell said Rutherford County takes appeal to the Board and he is of the opinion it should go before the whole Board. Mr. Barrett asked how many appeals we usually get. Dr. Gilbert said she thinks that if it goes before the whole Board we will get a lot more. Chair Campbell said Rutherford County has had two or three in the last year. Ms. Smith said she agrees with Chair Campbell. Ms. Phillips said she thinks a parent would feel like we are less biased. She agrees with Mr. Campbell. She said if it becomes a whole bunch we may have to revisit the policy. Mr. Barrett asked how many requests we had with rezoning. Mr. Anderson said there are probably about 12 right now asking for a waiver. Ms. Phillips motioned to approve then rescinded the motion. Ms. Phillips then moved to accept the policy with the recommended changes from discussion. Ms. Smith seconded the motion. Chair Campbell requested a roll call vote.

Roll call vote.

Jared Barrett	<u>No</u>	Andy Brown	<u>Abstained</u>	Phil King	<u>No</u>	Nancy Phillips	<u>Yes</u>
Nancy Rainier	<u>Yes</u>	Collier Smith	<u>Yes</u>	Chair Campbell	<u>Yes</u>		

The motion passed with four ayes. There were two no votes, and Dr. Brown abstained.

Ms. Baker said she will be sending the Board a lot of information that they must read that will include detailed information from state statute. Mr. Barrett asked if there is a time limit. Chair Campbell said three minutes. Ms. Baker said no it will be a full-blown hearing so they will have longer. She noted that anyone denied has 10 days to request an appeal.

Approval of Board Policies: Discussion

- 1.403, Agendas

Ms. Baker said this policy was deferred after first reading and the Board requested to bring back the policy with proposed language. Ms. Phillips said she knows she was out of town when this policy was made. She said she was on the Board when a Board member brought something under other business and the staff member was not prepared and it was an awful personal attack.

She said it is not fair to them, and it is not fair to anyone to have something brought up publicly without notification first. Ms. Phillips said she wished they would consider that. Dr. Brown said that issue came up and that is why the Board put in there that if the Board doesn't want to discuss the item, it will be put on a future agenda so everyone has notice. Ms. Phillips said she wishes we had a policy in place to protect all employees so no one gets sucker-punched.

Dr. Brown suggested that a Board member or the superintendent of schools could request the item be deferred. Ms. Smith asked if Dr. Gilbert's decision would be the final say. Dr. Brown said if Dr. Gilbert thinks the staff is not ready to discuss it, then they are not ready to discuss it. Ms. Baker asked if the language should say that if any one person requested to defer discussion, it be deferred. Dr. Brown moved to approve Policy 1.403 with Ms. Baker's recommended language. Ms. Rainier seconded the motion. All approved by saying aye.

## VI. REPORTS/INFORMATION

### Enrollment (PTR) Report

Mr. Anderson said this is the last report of the year with 8,419 students, and that is 356 over the previous year. He said the State will determine additional growth monies over the next few days.

## VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Smith said she spoke before Kiwanis Club. Mr. Marlin announced that Lee Wilkerson will be accepting position in Coffee County as Superintendent.

## VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:06 p.m.

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Director of Schools