

BRADLEY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting - Minutes
April 19, 2011

Members Present

Troy Weathers, Chair, 4th District
Richard Baker, 1st District
Vicki Beaty, 2nd District
Christy Critchfield, 6th District
Rodney Dillard, 5th District
David Kelley, 3rd District
Charlie Rose, 7th District

The Bradley County Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. in the William R. Walker Board Room at the Administrative Office Building in Cleveland, Tennessee. Troy Weathers called the meeting to order, and the invocation was given by Rev. Rusty Asble, Minister of Recreation at First Baptist Church. The Pledge of Allegiance was also conducted. The board recognized Building-Level and System-Level Teachers of the Year prior to the meeting.

5019 Upon motion duly made by Mr. Kelley and seconded by Dr. Baker, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Mr. McDaniel presented the Director of Schools' Good News Report. Highlights of the report included:

- Black Fox Elementary School** presented the board with the CD *Pickle in the Middle Blues* recorded live at Black Fox with national renowned singer and storyteller Kim Weitkamp.
- Blue Spring Elementary School** partnered with the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency to offer a community week-long hunter safety course.
- Bradley Central High School** has been approved by the Tennessee Board of Education to offer the Cambridge program as an international course of study.
- Faculty members at **Charleston Elementary School** are participating in two book talks to increase professional skills – *The Leader in Me* by Stephen Covey and *Teach Like a Champion* by Doug Lervov.
- One hundred **Lake Forest Middle School** students were recognized with a special school-wide media production for achieving advanced TCAP scores in two or more subjects.
- Michigan Avenue Elementary School** has received a new piece of playground equipment funded by an HCI grant and matching grant from Play and Park Structures.
- North Lee Elementary School** has initiated a project to clean and repair certain computers around the campus through the Ram Extended Academic Programs.
- Oak Grove Elementary School** held a Family Health Night in conjunction with the Creative Discovery Museum and several health-related vendors.
- Ocoee Middle School** Arts Club sponsored *The Empty Bowls* events with proceed going to the Caring Place of Cleveland.
- Park View Elementary School** held its first DARE graduation.
- The Lee University Singers assisted with the spring auction at **Prospect Elementary School**.

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--**Taylor Elementary School** TCAP *Survivor Week* included a morning walk, testing and an afternoon “survivor activity.”

--The **Walker Valley High School** Mustang Band hosted the Lord Mayor from Westminster and received an invitation to participate in the London New Year’s Day Parade in 2013.

--**Waterville Community Elementary School** held a groundbreaking for a new playground which will be handicap accessible. Grant money from the county Healthy Community Initiative, Proctor and Gamble, and TVA along with community donations helped fund the project.

--Proctor and Gamble awarded a grant in the amount of \$10,000 to six elementary schools (Blue Springs, Oak Grove, Park View, Taylor, Valley View, and Waterville) to purchase library books.

The board recognized the Bradley Central High School Wrestling Team. The team won the state duals championships and placed second in traditionals. The wrestling program now has 22 state titles which is a state record.

Angie Lyon of Kaatz, Binkley, Jones and Morris reported that finishes are being installed in the Bradley Fine Arts Facility. Cason Conn, TriConn Construction, reported that all is going well with the project. A preliminary walk-through with the fire marshal and building inspector will take place next week. The building will be ready in approximately three weeks for the BCHS baccalaureate service to be held in the facility. Mr. Conn presented a change order for approval by the board. A change was made to the canopies in the original scope of work in order to provide a more complete canopy package for the project. The change order increased the GMP by \$16,900 – the difference in the original canopy package and the revised package. Money will be taken from the contingency fund for the project.

5020 Upon motion duly made by Mr. Kelley and seconded by Ms. Critchfield, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve Change Order No. 7 as presented which increased the Guaranteed Maximum Price of the Bradley Central High School Fine Arts Facility to \$3,277,816.

Ms. Beaty had left the meeting and was not available for the vote.

Mr. Weathers asked for an update on remodeling to take place at Bradley Central within the space being vacated by fine arts. Todd Shoemaker, Principal at Bradley Central, reported that painting will be done and new flooring installed. Some of the space will be used to enlarge the weight room, and there will also be two additional classrooms available. The summer paint crew will be utilized to do the painting. Additional furniture and fencing will come from the remaining contingency.

Ms. Critchfield reported that no changes were recommended to Policies 6.100-6.319 in the annual review cycle.

Rick Smith, Business Manager, requested the approval of two bus transfers. It was recommended to transfer bus routes #1 and #7 from Dale Cawood to Deborah Cawood.

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- 5021** Upon motion duly made by Mr. Kelley and seconded by Dr. Baker, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the transfer of bus routes #1 and #7 from Dale Cawood to Deborah Cawood.

Mr. Smith also presented the bid for solid waste collection/disposal. The agreement is for a three year period beginning July 1, 2011, and covers those schools outside the city limits. Three bids were received. Mr. Smith recommended the lowest bid by Waste Connections of TN. They hold the current contract. Mr. Weathers asked if there had been any problems with this contractor during the past three-year cycle. Mr. Smith responded that there had been no significant issues. All issues had been worked through and were not extraordinary.

- 5022** Upon motion duly made by Mr. Kelley and seconded by Ms. Critchfield, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to award the contract for solid waste/collection beginning July 1, 2011, to waste Connections of TN, Inc. in the amount of \$38,034 annually.

Ms. Beaty returned to the meeting.

Dan Glasscock, Supervisor of Secondary Education, presented a proposal asking the board to approve the addition of Cambridge International, JROTC, and Dual Enrollment as acceptable areas of elective focus for high school graduation requirements. Within the Tennessee Diploma Project, students must have three credits from an elective focus as a requirement for graduation. Currently, standards allow CTE electives, science and math, humanities, fine arts, or AP/IB courses to count as the elective focus. The standards also state *other area approved by local Board of Education*. The Tennessee Diploma Project was designed by the Tennessee Department of Education.

Mr. Glasscock informed the board that the International Baccalaureate program was planned for implementation at Walker Valley High School and the Cambridge program, just approved by the State Board of Education, would be implemented at Bradley Central High School. These programs provide an advanced curriculum for gifted and advanced students. Students would have to choose to take the courses and would have to meet requirements for enrolling.

Ms. Beaty asked Mr. Glasscock to speak more about the IB program. Mr. Glasscock reported that around 20 schools in Tennessee offer the program. Locally, the program is implemented at Signal Mountain High School. As of the last state board meeting, students may take the IB program instead of the Tennessee Diploma Project to meet graduation requirements. The state board approved Cambridge on a course by course basis at this time. Currently, 28 states accept the Cambridge program. Almost all colleges and universities recognize AP and IB courses for college credit. Acceptance of Cambridge courses is by request with the requests almost always accepted for college credit. Funding to begin the two international programs initially will come from the Smaller Learning Communities grant. The initial start-up cost includes training for teachers. Once instituted, an annual fee of \$8,000 to \$12,000 is required.

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Mr. Kelley stated he understood the program addressed religion. Mr. Glasscock responded that the programs present a global view. Mr. McDaniel responded that while the curriculum may be a broad view, the courses will be taught by the same teachers who teach now in the high schools. Dr. Baker commented that he had researched IB and could not find any documentation to validate any concerns. Ms. Critchfield commented that Bradley County students will compete globally for jobs, and these programs represented opportunities for students.

5023 Upon motion duly made by Ms. Critchfield and seconded by Mr. Dillard, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the addition of Cambridge International, JROTC, and Dual Enrollment as acceptable areas of elective focus for fulfillment of current high school graduation requirements.

A member of the audience asked to speak. Mr. Weathers responded that the meeting was for the board. Mr. Weathers instructed the gentleman asking to speak to contact Mr. McDaniel.

Mr. Weathers noted that the BCEA contract recently negotiated had been sent to School Board Attorney Chuck Cagle for review. As it has not yet been returned, a report was delayed. The item will be on the May agenda.

Mr. McDaniel presented Charges for Dismissal of Ronda White, a tenured teacher in Bradley County Schools. Mr. McDaniel asked that a copy of the charges be attached as an exhibit to the minutes.

5024 Upon motion duly made by Dr. Baker and seconded by Ms. Critchfield, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that if the charges presented are true then dismissal of Ronda White is warranted.

Chairman Weathers directed Mr. McDaniel to notify Ms. White of her right to a hearing before an impartial hearing officer and that a request for a hearing must be received within thirty (30) days of receipt of the notice.

Chairman Weathers announced the board will meet in work session on May 3 and the regular board meeting on May 10. Both meetings will begin at 4:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Troy Weathers, Board Chairman

Johnny McDaniel, Director of Schools