

August 13, 2009

The Marshall County Board of Education met in regular session on Thursday, August 13, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Conference Room at Jones School.

Members present were Ann Tears, Mike Keny, Todd Tietgens, Mark Wilkerson, Curt Denton, Craig Michael, Kristen Gold, and Randy Perryman. Delinda Owens was absent.

Prayer/Pledge, followed by the National Anthem presented by the Marshall County High School Select Ensemble, under the direction of Elise Dumser.

To open the meeting, the following New Business items were added to the agenda: Mr. Michael – Discuss distribution of classroom supplies and materials, and K-8 curriculum changes; Ms. Tears – TSBA Student Recognition Award letter; Mr. Denton – Privileges of School Board Attorney. Mr. Michael made a motion to approve the agenda with the New Business items; Mr. Keny seconded the motion, and the motion passed 8-0.

David McDonald, parent of a Chapel Hill Elementary School student, expressed his concerns to the board about his son, A.J. McDonald, being placed in Transition class instead of first grade.

Gary Davis, President of the local NAACP chapter, addressed issues of recruiting and hiring African Americans, specifically teachers, in the Marshall County School System. Mr. Davis asked that a meeting be set between the board, director of schools, assistant director of schools and himself so that dialogue could be exchanged to address the problems. Ms. Tears, Roy Dukes (assistant director of schools), Dr. Stan Curtis (director of schools), and Mr. Davis will get together to set a date for a meeting, and then pass that date on to the remainder of the board.

MCEA Grievance Committee Representative Lori Beardsley addressed grievances filed concerning Article 18 (Posting of Positions). She told the board the MCEA wants teachers to have an equal opportunity to apply for posted positions.

Mr. Wilkerson made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2009, regular session, and Mr. Perryman seconded the motion. Mr. Keny asked that at the point the meeting recessed to another date, the minutes reflect the meeting was recessed and not adjourned. Mr. Denton asked that the minutes, in the director's evaluation portion, recognize the work and process the evaluation committee put into preparing the evaluation. The motion to approve the minutes with the changes passed 8-0.

Colin Beatty, president of the Marshall County Education Association, presented the MCEA report. He stated MCEA members will be voting on the negotiated contract Tuesday, August 18. Mr. Beatty voiced concerns that in some schools teachers are not getting their full 30 minutes for duty-free lunch. He continued that fourth and fifth grade teachers are not receiving the science kits which go along with the textbooks. The elementary teachers are concerned because they have lost 80 minutes a week (30 minutes a day) from their planning period. Mr. Michael asked that Mr. Beatty provide each board member a copy of the concerns expressed during the meeting.

Mr. Wilkerson made a motion to approve items to surplus, and Mr. Tietgens seconded the motion. The decision was made to look into the legalities of offering the items at public auction. Dr. Curtis recognized Beth Leftwich and Debbie Montgomery, Central Office employees, who helped clean and organize the gym in which the surplus items were stored. The motion to approve items to surplus passed 8-0.

Mr. Perryman made a motion to approve the fund raisers (see attached), and Mr. Keny seconded the motion. Mr. Keny pointed out that the list included 462 different fund raisers, which would raise approximately \$480,000. While he realized that brings in a lot of money for the school system, he hopes in the future the board could take steps to cut down on fund raisers. Dr. Curtis mentioned one fund raising request (CHES Quarters for Veterans) was turned down because it did not align with board policy, but the board could choose to suspend the policy for that particular fund raiser. Mr. Perryman amended his motion to include the Quarters for Veterans fund raiser. Following additional discussion, a suggestion was made to see if the CHES Parent Organization, instead of the school itself, would sponsor the fund raiser; in this way the fund raiser would not contradict with board policy. Mr. Perryman withdrew his amended motion to include the Quarters for Veterans in this board meeting and requested to move it to the September board meeting for approval. Ms. Tears asked that the MCHS Band request for a "scratch card donations" fund raiser be removed; all agreed. The motion to approve the fund raisers with the changes passed 8-0.

Mr. Tietgens made the motion to approve Minimum/Maximum Credits for 2009-2010 (see attached) with the second by Mr. Wilkerson. The motion passed 8-0.

Under section 8 (Approve Oil, Gasoline and Diesel, and Tire Bids), Mr. Michael questioned the statement "Price will be cost, plus" written before \$1.84.7/10 on the gasoline and diesel fuel submitted by Barber Oil Company. Janet Wiles, Budget Director, explained the price is the bidder's cost plus 3-1/2 cents; the first shipment has to be at the supplier's price, and from that point on it will be his price plus 3-1/2 cents a gallon. She said a statement was included at the bottom of the bid saying the

vendor may be required to show documentation for cost. Ms. Tears made a motion to accept the bids (see attached); Mr. Wilkerson seconded the motion. Concerns were raised that only one bid for fuel and one bid for tires were submitted. Michael Frey, Transportation Supervisor, said he would check with other supervisors of transportation to see what their systems do to address similar issues facing this school system. The motion to accept the bids passed 8-0.

Mr. Keny made a motion to approve the job description of Assistant to the Director of Schools (Rhonda Poole). Ms. Tears seconded the motion, and then added that Ms. Poole does a great job and is very professional. The motion passed 8-0. Mr. Michael made a motion that board members receive updated job descriptions for the system-wide supervisory positions and office staff by the March board meeting each year. Ms. Gold seconded the motion, and the motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Perryman made a motion to approve the supplement schedule (see attached), with a second by Mr. Tietgens. Dr. Curtis told the board he has received a proposal from the coaches, athletic directors and club sponsors to go ahead this year with supplements as they are, then really look at the supplements next year to be more in tune to what's going on around the state. Meetings will be set this year to discuss what would be appropriate for the supplements. Ms. Gold suggested also setting a meeting with the budget committee or other committee of the board to keep them informed as discussions progress. The 2010-2011 school year is the target for any possible changes. The motion to approve the supplement schedule passed 8-0.

Under section 11 (Approve Maintenance Contract with County) Dr. Curtis, after having met with the County Commission's Maintenance Committee, recommended the Marshall County Board of Education approve the maintenance contract with the county. He added that if the board agrees to take on this job, school maintenance will have priority. The commission wants a yearly evaluation, and Commissioner Mickey King, who was present, added the commission would like 90 days to sit down to evaluate what needs to be changed. The Marshall County Maintenance proposed cost would be \$120,846.00, which includes two school system employees (with benefits) and salary supplement for Sheldon Davis, Marshall County School System's Maintenance Supervisor who would act as their supervisor. Mr. Michael questioned the supplement for the supervisor. Mr. Denton made a motion to approve the scope of work (see attached) excluding the 10% annual salary supplement for the maintenance supervisor; Mr. Michael seconded the motion. Ms. Gold asked if the motion meant leaving the maintenance supervisor's salary open for discussion; Mr. Denton said yes. Mr. Michael, who thought the motion indicated the supplement would be excluded, withdrew his second. Mr. Tietgens seconded the motion. Mr. Michael made it clear with the board that any salary increase must be approved by the board. The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Denton	Yes	Mr. Perryman	Yes
Ms. Gold	Yes	Ms. Tears	Yes
Mr. Keny	Yes	Mr. Tietgens	Yes
Mr. Michael	Yes	Mr. Wilkerson	Yes

The motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Wilkerson made a motion to approve the 2009-2010 changes to the Negotiated Contract (see attached). Mr. Perryman seconded the motion, and the motion passed 8-0.

Before the board appointed a Management Team, Dr. Curtis stated enrollment figures have to come from the ADA and since our attendance figures were under 5,000, only four people could be named to the Management Team. His recommendation for the Management Team: Roy Dukes, Mitchell Byrd, Lyn Stacey, and Janet Wiles. Ms. Tears made a motion to accept the Director’s recommendation and Mr. Wilkerson seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Wilkerson made a motion to appoint the Management Team of Mitchell Byrd, Lyn Stacey, and Janet Wiles (excluding Mr. Dukes who cannot serve because he is an MCEA member) to the Negotiating Team; Mr. Keny seconded the motion. Mr. Denton amended the motion to include Dr. Curtis on the team, and Mr. Michael seconded the motion. The roll call vote on the amendment to the motion was as follows:

Mr. Denton	Yes	Mr. Perryman	No
Ms. Gold	Abstain	Ms. Tears	Yes
Mr. Keny	Yes	Mr. Tietgens	Yes
Mr. Michael	Yes	Mr. Wilkerson	No

The motion passed 5-2, with Ms. Gold abstaining.

The roll call vote on the original motion with the addition of Dr. Curtis was as follows:

Mr. Denton	Yes	Mr. Perryman	Yes
Ms. Gold	Yes	Ms. Tears	Yes
Mr. Keny	Yes	Mr. Tietgens	Yes
Mr. Michael	Yes	Mr. Wilkerson	Yes

The motion passed 8-0.

Under the topic of “Discuss Van/Bus Mileage,” (see attached) Ms. Gold recommended the Transportation Committee take this issue under advisement and come back to the board with a proposal on pricing and use of vans and buses, and procedures. Mr. Keny added that whatever the final decision, it be retroactive to the beginning of this school year.

In the Legislative Conference Report, Mr. Wilkerson mentioned two key subjects were covered during the conference: State grading requirements will increase (under American Diploma Project), and requirements to graduate will increase (from 20 to 22 credits beginning with this year's freshman class, plus they must have a math class every year). Mr. Wilkerson then brought attention to a letter placed at each board member's seat from school board attorney Chuck Cagle addressing the issue of board members reviewing student records. He wanted it on record that 35 students graduated early (in December) from Marshall County last school year: 10 from Cornersville, 10 from Forrest, and 15 from MCHS. He also wanted it on record that he graduated from Lawrence County, Alabama, in 1983, and his wife graduated in 1985 from a high school in Montana.

Under new business, Mr. Michael asked if supplies and materials obtained through the new textbook adoptions have been distributed to the classrooms. Dr. Curtis said a meeting would be held the following day to determine what has been distributed, what was on hand, and what else was needed. Rebecca Hill, supervisor of elementary instruction, stated the system still lacks some kits, and while several kits are on hand, Ms. Hill, along with principals, instructional facilitators, and teachers are trying to determine what in the kits will be used this year and what will need to be stored for future years and where the items will be stored. Ms. Gold emphasized that teachers also be on the committee.

Referring to the state mandate requiring 90 minutes of physical activity a week, Mr. Michael expressed his concerns that certified physical education majors are teaching P.E. 60 minutes a week and teaching outside of their certification 30 minutes a week. He went on to point out that art and music instructors are also teaching outside of their certification, instructing intervention classes. Mr. Michael suggested holding a work session to discuss this issue. No date was set.

Ms. Tears informed the board of a letter she received from TSBA announcing that Silvia (Marleny) Romero, a 2009 CVHS graduate, has been selected to receive the 2009 Tennessee School Boards Association South Central Student Recognition Award. Marleny will be presented the award at the TSBA Fall District Meeting on Thursday, September 24 at the Waynesboro Middle School in Waynesboro. Ms. Tears urged board members to attend.

Mr. Denton wanted clarification of whom the school board attorney represents. The answer was the body which makes up the Marshall County School Board. It was further stated that as a general rule when the board requests information for representation as a body, the request is made through the executive committee, but it does not prevent an individual board member from contacting Mr. Cagle.

Under old business: Ms. Tears made a motion to approve the Waste Management artwork/LMS sign, with a second by Mr. Wilkerson. The motion passed 8-0.

In the Director's Report, Dr. Curtis distributed bids to repair the tow motor, and a notebook containing his answer to the Director's evaluation. He announced that, due to the high number of kindergarten enrollees, a new kindergarten teacher position needed to be posted; Mr. Michael made a motion to post the position, with a second by Mr. Wilkerson. The motion passed 8-0. Dr. Curtis stated that due to the minimum wage increase in July, the salary of non-degreed substitute teachers does not meet minimum wage laws and needs to be increased to \$51.00 a day (from \$50.00 a day). Mr. Michael recommended funding the increase by adjusting the salary of degreed substitutes from \$55.00 a day to \$54.00 a day. Mr. Michael then made a motion to adjust the salary scale for substitute teachers to be in compliance with the new minimum wage law and add no additional cost to the school system (\$51.00 non-degreed substitutes; \$54.00 degreed substitutes); Mr. Wilkerson seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-1 with Mr. Tietgens voting no.

Ms. Tears scheduled a Policy Committee meeting for Tuesday, August 18, 2009, at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Denton scheduled a Transportation Committee meeting for Monday, August 17, 2009, at 5:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Tears, Chairperson

Dr. Stan Curtis, Director