

June 11, 2009

The Marshall County Board of Education met in regular session on Thursday, June 11, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Conference Room at Jones School.

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

Prayer/Pledge

To open the meeting, the following New Business items were added to the agenda: Mr. Wilkerson – Article 10; Mr. Denton – MES renovations, charges for copies; Mr. Michael – Committee process involvement on selection of Oak Grove’s principal. Mr. Wilkerson made a motion to approve the agenda with the New Business items; Mr. Michael seconded the motion, and the motion passed 7-0. (Ms. Owens was not present for this vote.)

The following students were recognized as this year’s Valedictorians and Salutatorians at the county’s high schools: Cornersville School – Silvia Marleny Romero and Kayla M. Johnson; Forrest School – Madaline Grace Bell and Timothy Dewayne Anderson; Marshall County High School – Erika Finley and Bill Carter.

The following students were honored for being selected to attend the Tennessee Governor’s School: Lenzie Howell and Jacob Terry from Forrest School, and Bethany Vanhooser from Cornersville School.

Ms. Gold wanted it on the record that she does not support or condone the comments made by certain board members at the meeting on May 21, 2009. She went on to say that while board members do not always agree on the issues or decisions made by this board or by the director of schools, their responsibilities include generating support for the school system and concentrating on educating the children of Marshall County.

Mr. Michael wanted it on the record that a previous email from Ms. Tears stated she did not know the subject of Ms. Gold’s address to the board prior to the board meeting, and that is against board policy.

Mr. Keny made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2009, meeting. Mr. Wilkerson seconded the motion, and the motion passed 7-0. (Ms. Owens was not present for this vote.)

Colin Beatty, president of the Marshall County Education Association, presented the MCEA report. He mentioned that last year MCEA provided lunch at the New

Teacher Orientation, and the organization is looking forward to doing the same this year.

The following teachers were recommended for tenure: Elizabeth Christopher, Jennifer Cooper, Regina Croffut, Jennifer Daugherty, Lori Harber, Jamie Morgan, Steven Hileman, Stephanie Maynard, Paul Wilson, Elizabeth Stubblefield, Holly Barnes Cook, Carolyn Keysaer, Patrick Hankins, Jason Tiegert, Mike Whitehead, Kristen Harden, Tina Wood, Katrina Hileman, Randy Blackmon, Connie Donley, Amy Gillespie, Anne Hollingsworth, Lisa Stacey, and Genia Johnsey Borton. Mr. Keny made the motion to approve tenure for these teachers with the second by Mr. Wilkerson. The motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Wilkerson made the motion to approve 2009-2010 Federal Budgets/ARRA (see attached); Ms. Gold seconded the motion. Mr. Michael questioned how positions will be funded once the two-year ARRA (stimulus) funds are exhausted; Lisa Ventura, Special Education Supervisor, stated the positions (three speech/language pathologists and one school psychologist) will be funded either by state and local dollars or with Part B funds. The motion passed 8-0.

Ms. Gold made the motion to approve the Backup Entry to May Resolution (see attached) with the second by Ms. Tears. The motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Wilkerson made a motion to approve the bus bid submitted by Central State (see attached), and Mr. Perryman seconded the motion. Clarification was made that the bids were for a bus for handicapped students. A suggestion was made that future bid sheets contain a date for when the bids were opened and indicate the type of bus being bid. Mr. Michael asked if the order for buses previously approved could be cancelled; Dr. Curtis stated he would get that information. The motion passed 8-0.

The following were presented in the consent agenda: Forrest High School requests the use of the gym 7/6-9/09 for the Lady Rocket Youth Camp; Cornersville High School cheerleaders to attend Cheer Camp 7/12-16/09; and Forrest Middle School eighth grade teachers to sponsor an educational field trip to Washington, D.C. 3/15-19/10. Mr. Perryman made a motion to approve the consent agenda, and Ms. Gold seconded the motion. A suggestion was made to stamp a received date on the requests when submitted. The motion passed 8-0.

Suzanne Ingram, Technology Supervisor, and Glenn Ezell, Transportation Supervisor, gave a presentation on the new Edulog system. Ms. Ingram stated Edulog enables the Transportation Department to keep route data current, make changes instantly, and pull accurate information. Edulog will update the map by 15% growth every year at no cost to the system.

In the Transportation Committee report, Mr. Denton stated the committee met to discuss the purchase of new buses, taking the radios out, and keeping buses instead of trading them in. He concluded by expressing his displeasure with the non-rehire of bus drivers and a mechanic.

Mr. Michael questioned the contract length of the incoming Transportation Supervisor, whether the contract is 10 months or 12 months. Dr. Curtis stated it is a 10-month position; Mr. Denton asked who would supervise the mechanics during the remaining two months of the year. Mr. Wilkerson suggested the Transportation Committee schedule a meeting to discuss this issue, and any other transportation concerns.

Mr. Keny requested to suspend the rules in order to recognize Bethany Vanhooser (Tennessee Governor's School student), who just entered the meeting.

In the Budget Committee report, Ms. Gold stated the Budget Committee is scheduled to meet on June 30 (at 6:30 p.m.) to review the updated budget draft. The committee plans to present the budget to the full board in the July (9th) board meeting, and is scheduled to have the budget to the County Commission's Education Committee July 16 meeting, which will then be taken to the County Commission's Budget Committee meeting the next day. Ms. Gold then made a motion to give the MCBOE Budget Committee the authority to approve line item transfers allowing final adjustments for the '08-'09 budget year. Ms. Tears seconded the motion. In discussion, Mr. Michael stated he would like to see it reviewed by the full board, due to the Budget Committee often having less than the five committee members attend meetings. The motion passed 5-3, with Mr. Denton, Mr. Michael and Ms. Owens voting no.

Mr. Michael wanted to clarify confusion about the funding status of the Coordinated School Health Coordinator position; Dr. Curtis stated the position is funded through a grant from the state, and while some funding has been cut, the grant has not, so the Coordinator position is funded for the coming year. Responding to a question about the CSH assistant position, Dr. Curtis said he has spoken with several directors of schools from across the state, and due to the cuts in the grant most are eliminating the administrative assistant position from the program. He went on to say depending on the budget, a part-time assistant may be considered.

Mr. Michael questioned how the Mentor positions are funded; Linda Williams-Lee stated Title II-A is funding the positions. Mr. Michael questioned why the interview process was re-opened. Dr. Curtis responded that because both the elementary and secondary positions were posted on the same job posting requiring 15 years experience, and it was reposted for the intent of getting more

secondary applicants (asking for 10 years experience), it would be unfair to require 15 years of the elementary applicants and only 10 years for secondary. Ms. Williams-Lee, Federal Projects Supervisor, told the board that only two applied for the secondary position, and one of those wanted part-time. Mr. Michael said comments he had received from those who applied on the first posting felt insulted by the reposting; Dr. Curtis stated it wasn't the intent.

Mr. Denton asked when the organizational chart would be approved; Dr. Curtis stated it would be available for approval by the board in July.

Mr. Michael asked the status of training for the Human Resources Director and if Dr. Curtis is satisfied with the level of training thus far. Dr. Curtis said additional training is needed for licensure, but other than that he is satisfied with the progress of the HR Director.

Mr. Michael wanted clarification on how the attendance supervisor position could be a part-time position when employees report to that individual. Mr. Michael suggested the attendance supervisor be a full-time position since the funding for the system flows through the attendance in our school system; Dr. Curtis said he would take it under advisement.

Ms. Tears stated the Policy Committee met and discussed Section 4 of the Board Policy book. The committee came to the decision that instead of changing policies, administrative procedures could be developed to address certain issues. The committee decided to leave policy #6.2001 (Attendance Middle and High School) as is after receiving insight from teachers. Ms. Tears announced the next Policy Committee meeting will be Tuesday, June 23 at 5:00 p.m. in which the committee will discuss Section 3.

Ms. Tears stated the Director's Evaluation Committee met and board members will be receiving by mail evaluation forms to be completed and mailed back to the Central Office so they can be tallied. She stated if anyone had questions, they could contact any member of the Director's Evaluation Committee: Ms. Tears, Mr. Denton, and Mr. Michael.

Under New Business, the board discussed the subject of Waste Management's (WM) previous offer of donating an electronic sign to Lewisburg Middle School. Terry Douglas of WM had provided an artist's rendering of what the advertisement portion of the sign would look like. Cheryl Ewing, LMS assistant principal, asked the board to consider allowing WM to provide the sign.

Dr. Curtis stated answers to questions asked at the May 21, 2009, board meeting had been sent to Gary Davis, NAACP president, but has not received a response from Mr. Davis.

Ms. Owens made a motion that beginning in August to hold board meetings at the spotlight schools; Mr. Michael seconded the motion. Following discussions, a vote was taken and the motion failed 0-8. Ms. Owens made a new motion, seconded by Mr. Keny, to hold board meetings on a quarterly basis at the spotlight school; the motion passed 8-0.

Ms. Owens addressed the issue of confusion during board meetings regarding rules of order. She suggested discussion be held prior to motions, so everyone would know what they are making a motion on, second and finally what they are voting on. Mr. Denton made a motion to send the rules of order policy back to the policy committee for review during the committee's June 23 meeting; Ms. Owens seconded the motion and the motion passed 8-0.

Ms. Owens made a motion to appoint Dr. Curtis as secretary to record and prepare minutes from the committee meetings; Mr. Denton seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

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

The motion failed 3-5.

Ms. Owens requested board members receive Administrative Procedures when they're developed so the board can follow procedures, as well; Dr. Curtis stated they would be provided.

Mr. Wilkerson made a motion to rescind the motion made in the May 21, 2009, meeting of the board to direct the negotiating team to reopen Article 10 with the MCEA; Ms. Gold seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

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

The motion failed 3-5.

Mr. Denton expressed concern about the renovations taking place at Marshall Elementary, most specifically taking sinks out of the rooms leaving only one sink in the regular restrooms, and laying mismatched tiles. Dr. Curtis said he would get with Sheldon Davis, Maintenance Supervisor, on the issues. Ms. Gold suggested the Building/Maintenance Committee get together with Mr. Davis to discuss the concerns.

Mr. Denton made a motion that school board members do not have to pay for copies made at the central office. Mr. Michael seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-3, with Ms. Gold, Ms. Tears and Mr. Wilkerson voting no.

Mr. Michael asked who was on the interview committee which interviewed applicants for the Oak Grove Elementary School principal position; with assistance from HR Director Mitchell Byrd and Supervisor of Elementary Curriculum Becky Hill, the board was told that Mr. Byrd, Dr. Curtis, Assistant Director of Schools Roy Dukes, Ms. Hill, (parents) Wendy Griffin and Debbie Blalock, and (teachers) Felicia Harper and Debbie Harwell comprised the committee. Mr. Michael questioned if having a non-tenured teacher (Ms. Harper) on the committee would put her in a precarious position by being involved in the process of principal selection. Ms. Tears suggested Mr. Michael contact Dr. Curtis with any such issues or concerns.

Mr. Denton set a Transportation Committee meeting for Thursday, June 18 at 5:00 p.m.

In the Director's Report, Dr. Curtis stated on June 4 and 5 principals and supervisors attended the TASSA Conference in Nashville; principals and supervisors will attend the TN SRO Conference in Nashville on June 15-17; numerous professional development activities have been held for teachers since the beginning of summer break, many taught by teachers who have attended professional development conferences throughout the school year; still waiting on the spring ACT and TCAP scores; provided board members a copy of the county matrix which shows how the system will assign students to classes next school year; pointed out copies provided to board members which reveals upcoming conferences board members may attend; announced Judy Rickman as the new Oak Grove Elementary School principal.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Tears, Chairperson

Dr. Stan Curtis, Director