

March 11, 2010

The Marshall County Board of Education met in regular session on Thursday, March 11, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Conference Room at Jones School.

Members present were Curt Denton, Kristen Gold, Harvey Jones, Barbara Kennedy, Mike Keny, Craig Michael, Delinda Owens, Randy Perryman, and Ann Tears. No members were absent.

After the Prayer/Pledge the Oak Grove Elementary School Eagle Ensemble, under the direction of music teachers Anna Beth Grant and Todd Campbell, performed the National Anthem.

Mr. Dukes presented certificates to the top three finishers in the MCEA County-wide Spelling Bee: 1st place, Maria Geromo; 2nd place, Laura Beth Brown; 3rd place, Ally Amoroso. He then presented certificates to the Teachers of the Year: Karen Donahue, Melanie Hardison, Jennifer Lynch, Amanda Moseley, Kim Rudd, Julie Welsh, Shannon Brown, Rena Finley, Margaret Foster, Tamela Haislip, Delphine Hockett, Robby Reasonover, Beth Stanford, Mary Beth Williams, Billy Bateman, Vicky Beatty, Elise Dumser, Mike Pieschel.

Mr. Dukes told the board the system received a plaque and certificate recognizing the system as a Patriotic Employer for contributing to National Security and protecting liberty and freedom by supporting employee participation in America's National Guard and Reserve Force.

Mr. Keny recessed the meeting at 6:50 p.m. to go into executive session with attorney Sam Jackson. The meeting reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

The following changes were made to the agenda: Ms. Tears – move Policy Committee Report to Approve Policy Changes; Mr. Michael – add new standards in textbooks under new business. Mr. Perryman made a motion to approve the agenda with the changes. Ms. Gold seconded the motion, and the motion passed 9-0.

Ms. Tears made a motion, with a second by Ms. Owens, to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2010, special called session and the February 8, 2010, regular session. The motion passed 8-1. Ms. Kennedy voted no.

Regarding the consent agenda, Ms. Kennedy and Ms. Tears expressed concern about groups using school system vans; Mr. Dukes stated Transportation Supervisor Michael Frey will look into renting vans for trips of significant distance. The following were presented in the consent agenda: Cornersville FFA to attend the Tennessee State FFA Convention in Gatlinburg on March 27-31, 2010; MCHS Beta Club to attend Beta Club Convention at Opryland Hotel April 5-7; MCHS FCCLA to attend State Meeting at Opryland Hotel April 6-8; MCHS 2010 Senior Trip to Six Flags over Georgia on April 23; Cornersville Middle cheerleaders to attend UCA cheerleading camp in Gatlinburg on July 11-15; and Forrest High cheerleaders to attend cheerleading camp at USA Cheers in Buford, Georgia, on June 20-25. Mr. Perryman made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Jones seconded the motion and the motion passed 9-0.

In the MCEA report, Colin Beatty, President, stated the membership voted following the last regular board meeting and ratified the agreement on changing the previous language of the insurance. He stated this will satisfy the grievance regarding insurance.

Ms. Kennedy made a motion to approve policies #2.702 Inventories, #4.603 Promotion and Retention, and #5.701 Substitute Teachers (see attached). Mr. Michael seconded the motion. Ms. Kennedy asked that #2 in policy 1.700 read "Ensure that the best available applicants are hired to fill a position and, consistent with this goal, make every effort to increase..."; eliminate the word "To" at the beginning of #3; eliminate the words "The Board shall" at the beginning of #4. The motion passed 9-0.

Ms. Tears made a motion to approve policy #6.312 Personal Communication Devices (see attached), changing the word "phone" to "personal communication device" in the five offenses, to become effective at the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year. Mr. Jones seconded the motion, and the motion passed 9-0. Suggestion was made the policy committee review policies concerning cheating (with input from teachers), fundraisers and procedures for the bidding process.

Mr. Michael made a motion to approve the lowest bidder (David Robinson Concrete) for the CVHS Retaining Wall (see attached); Ms. Kennedy seconded the motion. After discussion, David Robinson, who was present, agreed to put weep holes in the retaining wall. The motion passed 8-1 with Mr. Jones voting no.

Ms. Tears made a motion to approve Amendment #3 to the IDEA Part B budget #10.01(see attached). Ms. Owens seconded the motion and the motion passed 9-0.

Ms. Kennedy made a motion, seconded by Mr. Michael, to approve the recommended settlement in the pending EEOC complaint. The motion passed 9-0.

Under new business, Mr. Michael stated that, even though it's not an adoption year for math textbooks, acquiring new math textbooks should be addressed because of the new state standards. He suggested that the teachers who use the books on a daily basis have more meaningful input on the selection of or the need for textbooks, not only in math but all subject areas.

In the Maintenance Committee Report, Mr. Perryman stated the committee met with Kirk Whittington of Siemens, who presented an energy-saving proposal for the school system. Mr. Perryman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Michael, to send the proposal to the County Commission for funding. During discussion, the board recommended that Mr. Whittington make his presentation to the County Commission's Maintenance Committee. Mr. Perryman amended his motion, with Mr. Michael amending his second, to send the proposal to the County Commission's Maintenance Committee for consideration of funding. The motion passed 9-0.

In the Budget Committee Report, Ms. Gold stated the committee met Tuesday, March 9, and reviewed the budget calendar and the prioritized list of items Mr. Dukes had refined from the prepared list submitted by principals and supervisors of instruction. The committee asked Budget Director Janet Wiles to work up a draft budget which included the prioritized items; Mr. Dukes was asked to begin thinking about potential cuts or ways to modify the budget. A joint meeting with the County Commission's Education Committee is scheduled for March 23 at 6:30 p.m. at the courthouse annex (Beverly Miller and Lyn Stacey will address the Tennessee Diploma Project). The next budget committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 19 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Michael announced the next meeting of the negotiating team and MCEA is set for Thursday, April 29 at 3:45 p.m.

Ms. Gold made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tears, to engage Lewis King as board attorney. The motion passed 9-0.

The site of the May board meeting will be Chapel Hill Elementary School.

In the Director's report, Mr. Dukes pointed out the following information at each member's seat: report cards from surrounding counties; student characteristics of Marshall County schools; Race To The Top letter; updated policies; TSBA School Facilities

Workshop; price for a bucket truck; bid proposal for CVHS football field lighting project which will be sent to relevant companies and the media for advertising.

Ms. Tears made a motion to approve the TSBA District Policy Manual Updating and On-line Service Agreement (see attached). Ms. Owens seconded the motion, and the motion passed 9-0.

After discussion regarding kindergarten and first grade report cards, statement was made the textbook committee would take up the issue.

District grant writer Nancy Aldridge informed the board she has applied for a pre-engineering curriculum grant with the state. She told the board that if awarded the grant, four pre-engineering modules will be implemented at Lewisburg Middle School, as well as a curriculum of five engineering courses at Spot Lowe Vocational School. Ms. Aldridge added she is currently involved in pursuing an Improving Literacy through School Libraries Grant. She also stated she has received information on the I-3 Grant from the Obama administration.

Board secretary Rhonda Poole read thank you cards from Jessica Carlton and Vicky Carlton, Miss Kincaid's MES kindergarten class, Mrs. Rollins' MES kindergarten class, and Mrs. Jagod's MES kindergarten class.

Mr. Denton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Michael, to remove the word "Approve" from the agenda. The motion passed 7-2, with Mr. Perryman and Mr. Michael voting no.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Keny, Chairman

Roy Dukes, Director