

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
February 9, 2010

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/MOTION	FOLLOW-UP/OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roll Call 	<p>Members Present: David A. Fox, Chair; Gracie Porter, Vice-Chair; Dr. Jo Ann Brannon; Dr. Sharon Gentry; Steve Glover; Karen Y. Johnson; Ed Kindall; Mark North; Kay Simmons; and Student Board Member, Antwan Steele</p> <p>Member Absent: Samir Haidar, Student Board Member</p> <p>Mr. Fox called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pledge of Allegiance 	Led by Dr. Susan Kessler, Principal of Hunters Lane High School.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of Assistant to the Director - Meredith Libbey 	Dr. Register introduced Ms. Libbey, Assistant to the Director of Schools, to the Board.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student Board Member Report 	Mr. Antwan Steele noted Mr. Haidar's absence due to his attending a youth leadership conference in Washington, DC with Nashville Prevention Partnership. At the next Board meeting, Mr. Haidar will bring a report of the conference's highlights. Mr. Steele asked for permission to leave at the end of the report to participate in a performance as part of the YMCA SEAL team at Lake Providence Missionary Baptist Church. T-MAC, Director's Student Advisory Council, and private school students will meet Thursday, February 11 th and be trained by Bradford Health Services. The students will learn how to present to middle school students on alcohol and drug prevention and on how and why to make the choice not to use alcohol and drugs. They will also discuss the upcoming Mayor's Youth Summit and will talk about possible changes to the high school start time.	
AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Susan Kessler, Hunters Lane High Principal – 2010 Woman of Influence 	The Board presented Dr. Kessler with a Certificate of Recognition for receiving the 2010 Woman of Influence Award.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carol Crittenden – Administrator of the Year by the Tennessee Art Education Association 	The Board presented Ms. Crittenden with a Certificate of Recognition for receiving the Administrator of the Year Award by the Tennessee Art Education Association.	
GOVERNANCE ISSUES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACTIONS Consent Agenda 	Ms. Porter read the following consent agenda items: IV-A-1-a-Approval of Minutes – 1/26/10 Regular Board Meeting; IV-A-1-b – Recommendation for Approval for Football Field Lighting at Various Schools (Whites Creek, Maplewood, East Lit)-Stansell Electric Company, Inc. – MBOE 09-032; IV-A-1-c- Designer Contract Supplement #5 for Indoor P.E. Rooms at Various Schools (Cora Howe) – Hastings Architecture & Associates – MBOE 02-077; IV-A-1-d- Change	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent Agenda continued - 	<p>Order #5 for John Overton High School Additions and Renovations – Shankle- Lind, LLC – M-412; IV-A-2-e Awarding of Bids and Contracts (1.) Staff Development for Educators, (2.) Vision Service Plan Insurance Company; IV-A-1-f– Legal Settlement – Claim C-24720 B (\$26,000); IV-A-1-g- Legal Settlement – Claim C-24720 C (\$11,000); IV-A-1-h- Legal Settlement Claim-C-24071 (\$10,000); IV-A-1-i- Legal Settlement – Claim L-15062 (\$80,000). Dr. Brannon made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Glover seconded.</p>	<p>VOTE: 9-0 Unanimous</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommended Approval of Tenure for Mr. George Hood, Jr. – McGavock High School 	<p>Dr. Brannon moved for approval of the Recommended Approval of Tenure for Mr. George Hood, Jr. Mr. Glover seconded.</p>	<p>VOTE: 9-0 Unanimous</p>
REPORTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director’s Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ High Schools Update 	<p>Mr. Jay Steele presented the Board with a Power Point on the current status of the high school redesign of Smaller Learning Communities. The plan for high school redesign is: 1. Use the academy, alternative high school and magnet models; 2. Align offerings with targeted, high-skill high-wage careers in grades 10-12 and Freshman academies; 3. Align schools with business and post secondary partners; 4. Align with Tennessee Diploma Project; 5. Integrated and project-based instruction; 6. Prescribe and reduce; 7. Ensure programs are quality – enriched with technology and experiences; 8. School identity – Business and Marketing plans; 9. Student access to acceleration options – advanced placement and dual enrollment; 10. Courses are global and available to all students regardless of academy membership-foreign language, arts, and acceleration options; 11. Phased-in over time – schools are in different stages of implementation.</p> <p>Mr. Kindall asked Mr. Steele to consider adding more areas of focus to Pearl-Cohn High School. Mr. Kindall suggested starting a Construction Management program at Pearl-Cohn. Mr. Kindall requested to be a member of the areas of focus research committee for Pearl-Cohn. Mr. Steele stated that Pearl-Cohn will continue as a Business Magnet but the area of Music Business will be the focus. Dr. Register said it is important to ensure that each school has meaningful programs. Mr. North said the new programs and ideas must be sustainable. Mr. Steele said there has been heavy emphasis placed on creating a network that reaches into the community and business partnerships which should result in sustainability. Ms. Johnson asked what efforts are being made to integrate student ideas into the development of the areas of focus. Mr. Steele said the decision of what courses are offered must</p>	


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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ High Schools Update - continued 	<p>be based on what industries offer in the community. Dr. Register said a student survey will also be conducted. Dr. Gentry said she, too, is concerned about the proposed area of focus at Pearl-Cohn. She asked the Administration to consider Health Care as an area of focus because of its close proximity to major health care companies. Mr. Steele said Pearl-Cohn is a work in progress, and the area of focus will continue to grow over the next three years. Ms. Simmons asked if a choice plan had been developed. Mr. Steele said no, but that idea will be researched. Ms. Porter asked about the original idea of having a Medical Magnet program at Maplewood High School. Mr. Steele said he was not aware of that proposal. Ms. Porter asked Mr. Steele to continue to keep the Board informed on the progress of the proposed areas of focus throughout the district. Mr. North asked how student mobility will be addressed. Mr. Steele said that students should be allowed to change their area of focus if needed, and that is a concern that is being researched.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Board Chairman's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Advocacy 	<p>Mr. Glover provided information to the board regarding class size legislation SB 3713 and HB 3733 allowing certain CTE classes in Davidson County schools to have the same size as academic classes. The legislation was enacted in 2008 and implemented in the 2008-2009 school year.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Federal Relations Network (FRN) Conference 	<p>Mr. North traveled to Washington, DC for the FRN conference January 31-February 2. The following issues were discussed: Race to the Top funds and No Child Left Behind Reauthorization.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Change Leadership Group (CLG) Update 	<p>Mr. Fox provided an update to the board regarding MNPS Achieves. In sum, MNPS Achieves is progressing well. The initiative is now starting to lead to actual transformation. The various TLGs are making differing degrees of progress, which is as expected. To ensure that all nine groups are successful, I think it's important that the School Board maintain a current, informed opinion about the status of each TLG. That level of Board awareness will help ensure that the TLGs are on the path to transformational improvement. Of course, most of the work of the TLGs is at the operational level and is the responsibility of the Director of Schools. So, I am not updating their progress so that the School Board can direct TLGs how to engineer their changes. Rather, I want the full Board to be aware enough of what's going on to feel informed about the operational direction of the school district and to be able to spot if any TLG appears not to be on a path leading to transformational change. At the present, the TLGs are generally in the phase of converting planning into action. As already noted, the groups are at varying stages in this process. Several groups have solidly reached the implementation phase, even as they continue planning for other initiatives.</p>	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Change Leadership Group (CLG) Update – continued 	<p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Needs TLG is moving quickly along the “inclusion” path • High School TLG is pushing ahead with SLCs, a common schedule, gathering data on student and teacher voice • Information Technology/Data TLG is attempting to embed its vision while ramping up the sophisticated use of student performance data across the district. • Human Capital TLG is aiming first at some critical low hanging fruit – namely, shifting the timeframe for hiring teachers to earlier in the hiring season so we can have a more robust pool of prospects. Meanwhile, the TLG is developing its action plan to improve teacher and principal effectiveness. • Central Office TLG is fully engaged in the Magellan initiative by CSS and trying to instill a collaborative culture <p>The Middle School TLG has needed more time to define its vision, focusing on the whole child, and clarifying our Middle School challenge. It is adopting the message from <u>This We Believe: Successful Schools for Young Adolescents</u> from the National Middle School Association. Now, the TLG is beginning to seek to imbed that vision in the school system. Their action steps, which should be more conspicuous three months from now, will follow this preparatory work. The Economically Disadvantaged TLG is pushing along with its Community Schools proposal and studying other high yield strategies that could be pushed out across the district. Meanwhile, it’s wrestling with what can be done to reduce student transiency and how to better serve students who move from school to school during the year. The English Language Learning TLG is taking a fresh swing at defining its vision and developing a plan of action. Some of its action plans will follow from a review of ELL to be completed in the next couple of months by experts from George Washington University. The Communications TLG is planning how to ramp up internal communications as a first step in the communications transformation process, sort of a grass roots approach. Meredith Libbey will bolster the leadership of this TLG. Three months from now, in the next quarterly update from the TLGs, the Change Leadership Group expects to see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more clarity about the TLGs’ plans of action 	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Change Leadership Group (CLG) Update - continued 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • priorities on the implementation of the plans, and • their alignment with the 2010-2011 budget and with staffing and professional development plans <p>That's my brief summary of the quarterly MNPS Achieves update. Again, I invite you to attend the next quarterly presentations of the TLGs. It is a great way to see if the culture really is shifting, if the broader community really is engaged in this effort, and if the various operations of the school district truly are on the path to positive transformation.</p>	
ANNOUNCEMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Stone, Maplewood High School Student 	Ms. Porter announced that James Stone, student at Maplewood High School, has signed with the University of Tennessee to pursue his college football career. Ms. Porter thanked each of Mr. Stone's MNPS teachers from elementary school to high school.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget and Finance Committee 	Mr. Glover announced that the Board will meet with the Metro Council Budget Committee on February 18 th at 5:00 p.m.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Value-Added Assessment 	Mr. North announced that the following schools ranked in the top 10 percent of Tennessee schools in the value-added assessment: McMurray, Meigs, Cameron, Dupont-Tyler, H.G. Hill and West End middle schools; Glenview, Amqui, Stanford Montessori, Glengarry, Charlotte Park, McGavock, Glencliff, and Tusculum elementary schools. Mr. North also congratulated the Glencliff Cluster for having eight schools that scored an A or B on the assessment.	
WRITTEN INFORMATION TO THE BOARD		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Calendar Items 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjournment 	Ms. Simmons adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signatures 	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-end;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <hr style="width: 100%;"/> Chris M. Henson Board Secretary </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> David A. Fox Date Board Chair </div> </div>	