

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
March 25, 2008

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/MOTION	FOLLOW-UP/OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roll Call 	<p>Members Present: Marsha Hagan Warden, Chairman; Ed Kindall, Vice Chairman; Dr. Jo Ann Brannon; David A. Fox; Steve Glover; Karen Y. Johnson; Mark North; George H. Thompson, III; Sierra Scivally and Brittany McShand, Student Board Members</p> <p>Member Absent: Gracie Porter</p> <p>Ms. Warden called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pledge of Allegiance 	<p>Led by De' Antwaine Moye, Senior and Captain of the Antioch High School Debate Team.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student Showcase – Antioch Debate Team 	<p>Antioch Debate Team members De' Antwaine Moye and Corey Phillips-Pipps, who both have been accepted to Sewanee College, performed a mini-debate for the Board and audience.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student Board Member Report 	<p>Ms. McShand and Ms. Scivally reported on the Student Advisory Council's college tour on a recent trip to New Orleans, Louisiana. The next TMAC meeting will be held April 4 at David Lipscomb University, and the next Inter-High meeting will be April 2 at John Overton High School.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board Room Renovations 	<p>Ms. Warden thanked the Nashville Alliance for Public Education for their generous donation to help renovate the Board Room. She also thanked Orrin Ingram, Interior Design Services, and Go Design Services for their assistance with the project.</p>	
LINKAGE SESSION		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent Advisory Council 	<p>The Board met with the Parent Advisory Council (P.A.C.) to discuss how to better partner with the Board to excel in education. The P.A.C. was established in 2001 due to the Board's and Director's concern for the need to receive feedback from parents. The P.A.C. consists of representatives from MNPS clusters who have offered advice to the Board and the Director in many ways. The mission of the P.A.C. is to discover commonalities and build links among parents in all school clusters of MNPS to establish an effective and meaningful parent voice, facilitate communication between parents and MNPS Administrators, ensure that all students have access to exemplary schools and school clusters, and provide positive community advocacy for the needs of all children at all schools.</p> <p>Mr. Kindall thanked the P.A.C for their comments and offered his assistance in finding representation for the Pearl-Cohn cluster. Mr. Thompson said he was very concerned about the lack of parental involvement in MNPS schools and sought the P.A.C.'s advice on this issue. Ms. Nevill said she believes parental involvement would increase at cluster meetings and P.A.C. meetings if Board members attended. Ms. Scivally asked how can parents get involved with the P.A.C. Ms. Nevill said the P.A.C. tries to recruit involvement from every cluster in the district with a</p>	<p>Follow-ups: Mr. Kindall asked that the cluster meeting schedules be provided to the Board Administrator.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent Advisory Council - continued 	<p>representative from each tier level - elementary, middle and high. Once a month, three representatives from each cluster (representing each tier level) attend the P.A.C. meeting which is held in the Board Room on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Johnson thanked the P.A.C members for their leadership. She would like to see the Communications Department help P.A.C. develop a presentation to help generate interest in the organization; to help parents begin to view the district as a whole and not cluster by cluster. Also, parents have said P.A.C. meetings can be lengthy. Ms. Nevill said P.A.C. does not have a budget. The P.A.C. currently meets, as a general rule, for two hours and has decided to address ideas that concern the district as a whole to cut down on the length of meetings. Mr. Glover agreed that the P.A.C. has been instrumental to the success of the district and thanked them for their comments. Mr. Kindall asked that the cluster meeting schedules be provided to the Board Administrator. He encouraged the Board to look at ways to provide the P.A.C with supplies and other things for meetings. Ms. Warden asked if a website would be beneficial. Ms. Nevill said, yes. A P.A.C. website would be great where all clusters could post information or if there was a link from the MNPS website to the P.A.C. website and we are provided with a way to make updates. Ms. Warden asked how can we better inform parents about Small Learning Communities (SLC's). Ms. Nevill said, unfortunately, we do not have much high school representation due to the number of commitments parents face at the high school level (booster clubs, etc.). We need comprehensive information on SLC's and need to know how SLC's will affect students long-term.</p>	
GOVERNANCE ISSUES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACTIONS Approve Agenda 	<p>Mr. Kindall made the motion to approve the following consent agenda items: III-A-2-a- Approval of Minutes- 3/4/08 Special Meeting and 3/11/08 Regular Meeting; III-A-2-b- Awarding of Bids and Contracts (1.) Capture Educational Consulting Services, (2.) Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development; III-A-2-c- Approval of Tenure Recommendations for 2008-2009. Ms. Johnson seconded.</p>	<p>VOTE: For-Unanimous 7-0 (Mr. Thompson out of the room)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employee Dismissal Charges- Dezoral Jenkins 	<p>Mr. Henson read the Dismissal Charges for Ms. Jenkins.</p> <p>Mr. Glover moved to adopt the Dismissal and certify the charges. Mr. Fox seconded.</p>	<p>VOTE: For-Unanimous 7-0 (Mr. Thompson out of the room)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student Disciplinary Appeal 	<p>Mr. Glover made the motion to uphold the findings for the Student Disciplinary Appeal. Mr. Fox seconded</p>	<p>VOTE: For-Unanimous 7-0 (Mr. Thompson out of the room)</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EE-12- Instructional Program (Abbreviated Report) 	<p>Mr. Glover moved to accept EE-12-Instructional Program as read and place it on the next consent agenda. Ms. Johnson seconded.</p>	<p>VOTE: For-Unanimous 7-0 (Mr. Thompson out of the room)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-2.2-Academic Achievement-District Assessments 	<p>Mr. Glover moved to accept E-2.2-Academic Achievement-District Assessments as read and place it on the next consent agenda. Ms. Johnson seconded.</p>	<p>VOTE: For-Unanimous 7-0 (Mr. Thompson out of the room)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-2.10-Academic Achievement- Arts 	<p>Mr. Glover moved to accept E-2.10-Academic Achievement-Art as read and place it on the next consent agenda. Ms. Johnson seconded.</p>	<p>VOTE: For-Unanimous 7-0 (Mr. Thompson out of the room)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-2.11 – Academic Achievement-Health, Wellness and P.E. 	<p>Mr. Glover moved to accept E-2.11-Academic Achievement-Health, Wellness and P.E. as read and place it on the next consent agenda. Ms. Johnson seconded.</p>	<p>VOTE: For –Unanimous 8-0</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Monitoring Report – E-2.12– Academic Achievement/Foreign Language 	<p>Ms. Gibson presented E-2.12-Academic Achievement - Foreign Language. MNPS offers various levels of six languages: French, German, Latin, Mandarin Chinese, Russian, and Spanish. MNPS offers six different languages to give students choice in different languages for career options. The goal is to prepare students to understand better the world in which they live, to participate in a global society and economy, and to communicate with people. Two years of foreign language study is currently required to graduate on the university path. However, students are encouraged to continue with their foreign language study to attain more proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. In accordance with student enrollment, schools may offer five years of a language, plus applicable Advanced Placement courses. All courses from level I through level V are available as regular or honors courses; however, most upper level courses are honors. Almost 57% of the high school population is enrolled in foreign languages. The number of students enrolled in levels III-V, AP, and IB are as follows: Spanish-834, French-313, German-102, and Latin-55. This totals 1,321 students or 11.5% of the students enrolled in foreign languages. MNPS leads the state in the implementation of District-wide testing in foreign languages. MNPS is the first Tennessee district to develop assessments in foreign languages. Currently, the district has District Assessments in levels one and two of all six foreign languages. MNPS is fortunate to have many of the most dedicated, well-qualified teachers of foreign languages anywhere. However, the present teacher shortage has affected foreign language staffing, particularly in Spanish. Therefore, an endeavor is in place to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers through various means. Over 92% of foreign language teachers participated in our sessions as part of their professional development activities. Some of the</p>	<p>Follow-ups: Ms. Johnson asked that a copy of the Power Point be given to the Board. Ms. Gibson stated that she would provide the Board with copies.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Monitoring Report – E-2.12– Academic Achievement/Foreign Language - continued 	<p>plans for next steps are as follows: Ensure accurate data on District Assessments by transferring the responsibility of printing and scanning of all answer sheets to the Coordinator of Foreign Languages, Continue to improve the quality of District Assessments, Implement a sequence of class offerings to Heritage Spanish speakers to meet their foreign language needs and promote academic success. This sequence includes Heritage Spanish I, II, and III, followed by Advanced Placement Spanish Language and/or Literature.</p> <p>Ms. Johnson asked how is it determined which schools offer Chinese as a Foreign Language course? Ms. Gibson said much interest was shown by principals to offer the course, but it was difficult to find American teachers to teach Chinese. There has been some progress, and the district hopes to have more success in the near future. Ms. Johnson asked that a copy of the Power Point be given to the Board. Ms. Gibson stated that she would provide the Board with copies. Dr. Brannon asked if the Glendale Elementary students will be allowed to continue the immersion program at J.T. Moore for further learning of Spanish? Ms. Gibson said the plans are in the works. Mr. Henson said yes, the program will continue from Glendale to J.T. Moore.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Monitoring Report- E-2.13-Academic Achievement/Technology 	<p>Mr. Henson requested that E-2.13-Academic Achievement -Technology be deferred until April to include an IT Plan progress update.</p> <p>Ms. Johnson motioned to move E-2.13-Academic Achievement-Technology to an April date. Mr. Glover seconded.</p>	VOTE: For –Unanimous 8-0
BOARD DEVELOPMENT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced Academics – Dr. Sharon Chaney 	<p>Dr. Chaney presented a Power Point to the Board on MNPS Advanced Academics: GATE/Encore, IB, AP, The School for Math and Science at Vanderbilt (SSMV). MNPS offers the following Advanced Programs: GATE/Encore program, Grades Pre-K-6; IB Middle Years Programme, Grades 6-10; IB Diploma Programme, Grades 11-12; Advanced Placement, Grades 10-12; and Vanderbilt School for Science and Math, Grades 9-12. The program consists of: twenty-four teachers and students representing 110 different schools. The goals of the program are: Identify and serve effectively all MNPS academically talented students; Track students’ classroom performances after leaving Encore in order to gauge the effectiveness of the Program; ‘Grow’ gifted and talented students; and Establish and maintain a climate of inquiry in Encore classes. MNPS has IB Middle Years Programmes at Bellevue Middle, J.T. Moore Middle, Brick Church Middle, Goodlettsville Middle, Neely’s Bend Middle, West End Middle and Hunters Lane High grades 9 and 10. MNPS is the only school district in the state to offer the IB Middle Year Programme. MNPS has IB Diploma Programmes at Hunters Lane, Hillsboro and</p>	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced Academics – Dr. Sharon Chaney - continued 	<p>Hillwood High Schools. MNPS offers 32 Advanced Placement Courses in a variety of subjects. For next steps, the district would like to increase the number of AP subject offerings at schools, the number of students taking AP courses, the number of students taking AP tests, and increasing AP test scores. The Vanderbilt School for Science and Math is the only program of its kind in the country. This is an integrative four-year program with MNPS in which 25 students, at no charge, attend Vanderbilt University once a week. Dr. Virginia Shepherd is the Director of the program and looks to expand in the future.</p> <p>Ms. Warden asked if there is progress being made toward the broadening of AP course offerings in comprehensive high schools. Dr. Chaney said she has met with principals and shared numbers and information concerning student/parent interest in AP courses. She hopes to see more AP courses offered in the future. Mr. Glover asked if the \$84.00 fee to take the AP test is a hindrance to students who would like to take the test. Dr. Chaney said she recently discovered information on a fee waiver that may be available to students. Mr. Glover asked how effective is the district communicating details of the AP courses with parents and students. Dr. Chaney said attempts have been made to get the message out in various ways. Mr. Thompson thanked Dr. Chaney for her hard work and dedication. Mr. North asked about the process a principal needs to take to start an IB Programme at a particular school. Dr. Chaney said we try to look at the geographic location of the school and the desires of the administration and teachers in the school.</p>	
ANNOUNCEMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2008-2009 Operating Budget 	<p>Mr. Fox announced that Mayor Dean recommended a budget for MNPS of \$627,227,300.00 which is a 4.9% increase over the current budget. In his budget, Education accounts for 40% of all spending; this is a high number historically. The district has received preliminary information concerning the state BEP funding, and an increase is expected. Also, the internal billings the district pays to Metropolitan Government for various services will increase by about \$400,000 this year. The Mayor's recommended budget of \$627,227,300.00 covers the continuation budget and includes the \$13 million of additional needs. The Mayor's proposal includes \$6.5 million of additional local revenue to fund the expanded budget. This would require the use of \$19.2 million of the districts undesignated fund balance if the Board chooses to support that budget level, and it would still leave an undesignated fund balance that equates to about eight percent of the operating budget. On behalf of the Board, Mr. Fox thanked the Mayor for supporting education.</p>	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minority Participation Procurement Proposal and House Bill concerning Neighborhood Schools 	<p>Mr. Thompson announced a notice to offer a motion at the next meeting on the proposal of the Minority Participation Procurement Program, which is in the process of being adopted by Metro Council. Additionally, Mr. Thompson stated that he is ready to offer a motion at the next Board meeting to submit a resolution to the Tennessee General Assembly, particularly the Davidson County Delegation and the Education Committees of the House and Senate, concerning the pending legislation on neighborhood schools. Ms. Johnson stated that she supports Mr. Thompson's proposal.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayor's Budget Hearing 	<p>Mr. Kindall thanked the Mayor for his support of the districts budget proposal. The Board must hold itself accountable for academic achievement and ask the public to hold us to that accountability. Mr. Thompson stated that he is supportive of the Mayor's Budget recommendation. Mr. Glover stated that the Board must be transparent during the budget process with Metro Council to explain why the additional funds are needed. He also thanked the Mayor for his support. Ms. Warden said she believes the Mayor is sending the message that he will protect education funding and keep it first in the city's budget. Due to the strong financial leadership of the district and Mr. Henson, there are reserve funds available. It will take the support of the State and the collaboration of MNPS to create an accountability structure to use the funds wisely and effectively.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Search Firms 	<p>Ms. Warden announced the search firm proposal submission deadline is March 28 at 4:30 p.m. Seven search firm proposals have been received to date and Board members are more than welcome to view them in the Board Office.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Information and Community Relations Communication Plan 	<p>Ms. Warden stated that each Board member received a draft of the Public Information and Community Relations Communication Plan, and Mr. McMillin would like feedback from the Board.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cane Ridge High School 	<p>Ms. Johnson announced the Cane Ridge High School community meeting April 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the Marshall Middle School band room.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayor's Town Hall Meeting 	<p>Ms. Warden announced the Mayor's Town Hall meeting on April 10 at 6:00 p.m. at Hillwood High School.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metro Council Budget Hearing 	<p>Mr. Henson announced the Metro Council Budget Hearing will be held April 7 at 4:15 pm in the Council Chambers</p>	
WRITTEN INFORMATION TO THE BOARD		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board Calendar Items 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board Meeting Evaluation 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sales Tax Collections as of 3/20/08 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget Financial Report 		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listing of Schools that received Physical Education Equipment 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) Fund Science Lab Renovations 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minority, Women, and Small Business Enterprise Participation in MNPS Capital Improvements Projects and Procurements 		
ADJOURNMENT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjournment 	Mr. Fox made the motion to adjourn at 7:38 p.m.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signatures 	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <hr style="width: 200px; margin: 0 auto;"/> <p>Chris M. Henson Board Secretary</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <hr style="width: 200px; margin: 0 auto;"/> <p>Marsha Hagan Warden Date Board Chair</p> </div> </div>	