

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
November 13, 2012

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/MOTION	FOLLOW-UP/OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll Call 	<p>Present: Cheryl D. Mayes, Chair Dr. Jo Ann Brannon Amy Frogge Dr. Sharon Gentry Michael W. Hayes Elissa Kim Will Pinkston Anna Shepherd, Vice-Chair Jill Speering Akaninyene Eyoh; Marquetta Bowling, Student Board Members Dr. Jesse Register, Director of Schools</p> <p>Ms. Mayes called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pledge of Allegiance 	Led by Zachary Anderson and Abhinav Goyal, students at Hume-Fogg Magnet and Busra Gungor, student at Martin Luther King Jr. Magnet.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Board Member Report 	Mr. Eyoh stated that TMAC participated in an interactive group discussion led by Ms. Bagwell, MNPS Coordinator of School Counseling. Ms. Bowling stated that a leadership session was conducted for the newly developed TMAC Student Advisory Group led by MNPS staff. Topics around school climate were discussed, and a full report on the event will be provided in the future.	
AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Siemens Competition in Math, Science, and Technology Award Recipients 	The Board presented Certificates of Excellence to the National Siemens Competition Awards Winners: Zachary Anderson, Abhinav Goyal, and Jacob Seloff from Hume-Fogg Magnet, and Busra Gungor from Martin Luther King Jr. Magnet.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cindy Tinnel – Henry Maxwell Elementary School Cafeteria Manager and <i>Food Network's Chopped</i> Winner 	The Board presented Ms. Tinnel with a Certificate of Recognition for being the winner of the Food Network's television series <i>Chopped</i> .	
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Brenner – Sportsmanship 	Mr. Brenner asked the Board to fight to get the \$3.4 million reinstated to the District.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Carolyn Baldwin Tucker - Smithson-Craighead Middle 	Dr. Baldwin Tucker addressed the Board concerning Smithson-Craighead Middle School. She asked the Board to deny the Administration's recommendation to revoke Smithson-Craighead Middle's charter.	

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
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GOVERNANCE ISSUES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACTIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consent 	<p>Ms. Shepherd read the following consent agenda items: IV-A-1-a- Approval of Minutes – 10/9/12 Regular Meeting and 10/23/12 Special Meeting; IV-A-1-b-Recommended Addition to Existing Contract for Recording Studio at Pearl-Cohn High School – SouthLand Constructors, LLC; IV-A-1-c- Recommended Award of Contract for Architectural Services for Library Renovation at Wright Middle School – Hastings Architecture Associates, LLC-MBOE 12-030; IV-A-1-d- Recommended Award of Contract for Energy Evaluation Services for All Schools – Facility Services, Inc. – MBOE 12-031; IV-A-1-e- Recommended Award of Contract for Preliminary Site Engineering Services for Proposed New School Site in Antioch Cluster – Barge Cauthen & Associates; IV-A-1-f- Change Order #7 for Cane Ridge Elementary School – New Building Construction – Bomar Construction Co., Inc. M-475; IV-A-1-g- Change Order #6 for Cane Ridge Elementary School – Site Work – R.G. Anderson & Co., Inc. –M-472; IV-A-1-h- Change Order #2 for Chadwell Elementary School Additions and Renovations – SouthLand Constructors, LLC – M-479; IV-A-1-i- Change Order #3 for Robert Churchwell Museum Magnet Elementary School Renovations – Robert S. Biscan & Company – M-418; IV-A-1-j- Awarding of Bids and Contracts (1.) APM Associates, (2.) Healthmaster Holdings LLC, (3.) Otis Educational System, Inc. , (4.) Tennessee State Parks, (5.) University of Kansas Center for Research, Inc., (6.) Christopher Johnson, (7.) Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency; (8.) Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency, (9.) Crisis Prevention Institute, Inc., (10.) Mid-South Bus Center, Inc., (11.) Mid-South Bus Center, Inc., (12.) Mid-South Bus Center, Inc., (13.) Mid-South Bus Center, Inc., (14.) CDW Government, (15.) Demand Mechanical, LLC; IV-A-1-k- Recommended Approval of Reading Textbook Adoption Committee; IV-A-1-l- Recommended Approval of Requests for Compulsory Attendance Waiver.</p> <p>Ms. Shepherd made the motion to approve the consent agenda as read. Dr. Brannon seconded.</p>	<p>VOTE: 9-0 - Unanimous</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation to Certify Charges for Monica Adkins 	<p>Dr. Register read the following letter: I am writing to recommend the dismissal of Monica Adkins from employment as a tenured teacher with the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools, pursuant to T.C.A. §49-5-511. I have charged her with incompetence, inefficiency, neglect of duty, unprofessional conduct or conduct unbecoming to a member of the teaching profession, and</p>	

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
November 13, 2012

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendation to Certify Charges for Monica Adkins - continued 	<p>insubordination, which are all grounds for her dismissal pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-5-511. These terms are specifically defined in T.C.A. § 49-5-501. Evidence supporting these charges was set forth in my letter to Monica Adkins on November 7, 2012, a copy of which is attached. I am asking you to certify these charges by voting that if proven true, these charges warrant Ms. Adkins' dismissal. Should you certify these charges, I will inform Ms. Adkins of your action and formally advise her of the right to request a hearing before an impartial hearing officer. At the present time, I am only asking you to certify the charges. I am not asking you to weigh evidence either for or against dismissal. I am merely asking you to vote that the charges, if proven true, warrant dismissal. If Ms. Adkins requests a hearing, it will occur at some point in the future. Accordingly, it is my recommendation that Monica Adkins be dismissed from employment with the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools.</p> <p>Dr. Brannon made the motion to certify the charges. Mr. Hayes seconded.</p>	<p>VOTE: 9-0 (Unanimous)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student Disciplinary Appeal 	<p>Ms. Shepherd made the motion to affirm the Administration's decision. Dr. Brannon seconded.</p> <p>Mr. Hayes made the motion to deny the student disciplinary hearing. Ms. Shepherd seconded.</p>	<p>VOTE: 9-0 (Unanimous)</p> <p>VOTE: 9-0 (Unanimous)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended Approval of MNPS' Commitment to Diversity Resolution 	<p>Dr. Register said this discussion of developing a Commitment to Diversity began over a year ago. The Commitment to Diversity Resolution moves the district to an era of "managing diversity". "Managing Diversity" means that the district is a unitary, non-segregated district that is not under court supervision and not subject to school closings and busing. But, it is important that the district makes decisions that promote diversity within the whole district. The resolution is a commitment statement, and next, the resolution will be shared and discussed with the community.</p> <p>Ms. Mayes read the following resolution: The Metro Nashville Board of Public Education, through the unanimous voice of its nine elected members, supports the motion that Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools reaffirms its commitment to "embrace and value a diverse student population and community" as noted in the School District's Vision statement by declaring and adhering to principles regarding diversity in our schools, <i>WHEREAS</i>, value is added to the quality of education when students learn in settings that</p>	

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
November 13, 2012

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended Approval of MNPS' Commitment to Diversity Resolution – continued 	<p>are diverse by race, ethnicity, culture, and income level, because as our Vision statement says, “All students bring unique cultural backgrounds, learning styles, abilities and interests” to the schools; <i>WHEREAS</i>, all students should be provided the benefits of learning in diverse settings, because as our Vision statement declares, “Different perspectives and backgrounds form the cornerstone of our strong public education system”; <i>WHEREAS</i>, quality, diverse schools at all grade levels are indispensable to the civic and educational purpose of this School District, because in the words of the Supreme Court of the United States, education is “the very foundation of good citizenship” (Brown v. Board of Education, 1954); and <i>WHEREAS</i>, our schools should preserve, support, and further diversity in education by being planned and operated in a manner that maximizes diversity and minimizes isolation, both in a school as a whole and in its classes and programs. <i>BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED</i>, the Metro Nashville Board of Public Education issues this resolution in support of the reaffirmation of the commitment to embracing and valuing a diverse student population and community. Through this resolution, the Board directs the Director of Schools to develop and promulgate appropriate regulations, instructions, plans, and programs to: establish the definition of an integrated school which is meaningful, practical, and embraces measures of diversity including, but not limited to, race and ethnicity; develop and manage a comprehensive, district-wide Diversity Strategy oriented to maximize the number of schools that meet the district’s definition of diversity and to meet the needs of students in schools that do not meet the definition; manage district functions to preserve, support, and further diversity in the schools; enhance diversity by hiring diverse school and central office personnel; and ensure that charter schools in the district have and use diversity plans that meet the same diversity standards expected of all Metro Schools, and ensure that the district’s diversity standards are readily available to operating charter schools and charter applicants. In furtherance of the above directives, the Board requests that the Director of Schools: Keep the Board informed on the development and operation of the definition of an integrated school and the district-wide Diversity Strategy; Keep the Board informed on the status of and prognosis for diversity in the schools by providing periodic briefings and reports, and as necessary to bring to the Board recommendations for Board action to further diversity in the schools; Keep staff of the district, certified and noncertified, as well as parent and public constituencies with interest in the district, informed of this Board Commitment and the District plans and activities to carry it out; Cause data and information to be collected, analyzed, and reported which will illuminate</p>	

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
November 13, 2012

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended Approval of MNPS' Commitment to Diversity Resolution – continued 	<p>the status of diversity in the schools and the trend of diversity system-wide; and Make use of the district's Student Assignment Task Force as a community-based vehicle to help monitor diversity in the schools.</p> <p>Mr. Pinkston said, in the interest of managing expectations, the document before us is a basic value statement, but the key deliverable is the list of practical steps that can be undertaken by the district and charter operators to promote diversity in schools of choice. This process will be a collaborative process which will include community input. Dr. Register said, a great deal of work will be done from now until January 1st. We are reviewing the policies and practices of the District and working to develop a monitoring device for the Board of Education to use as we move forward. The hope is to move forward using Dr. Stephens as a consultant in this process.</p> <p>Ms. Shepherd made the motion to approve the Commitment to Diversity Resolution. Mr. Hayes seconded.</p>	<p>VOTE: 9-0 (Unanimous)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendation to Authorize Dr. Register to Enter into Discussions with Great Hearts Academies about Future Application 	<p>Ms. Shepherd made the motion that the Metropolitan Nashville Board of Public Education give the authority and support to Dr. Register to reach out to the Great Hearts organization for purpose of providing guidance and pertinent information for any future potential charter school application from Great Hearts. Dr. Gentry seconded.</p> <p>Mr. Hayes asked if Dr. Register is not already allowed to have discussions with Great Hearts. Dr. Register said since the Board denied the Great Hearts application, it is very appropriate for a motion to authorize to have discussions with Great Hearts. Mr. Hayes asked if the wording should be changed from "authorize" to "require". Dr. Brannon said, in light of the denial, it is appropriate to make a motion to allow Dr. Register to have discussions with Great Hearts.</p> <p>Dr. Gentry amended Ms. Shepherd's motion to say that the Metropolitan Nashville Board of Public Education requests Dr. Register to reach out to the Great Hearts organization for the purpose of providing guidance and pertinent information for any future potential charter school application from Great Hearts. Mr. Hayes seconded.</p>	<p>VOTE: 9-0 (Unanimous)</p>

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
November 13, 2012

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendation to Authorize Dr. Register to Enter into Discussions with Great Hearts Academies about Future Application - continued 	<p>Ms. Frogge asked to clarify the motion to state that the Board is simply allowing Dr. Register to discuss with Great Hearts how they might fit into the District’s mission should they decide to reapply? Ms. Mayes said yes. Ms. Frogge said her only concern is that this process is not a back door way to allow Great Hearts to submit an application now. Ms. Mayes said this is the Board’s way to reach out to Great Hearts before the application process for the purpose of having discussions. Ms. Frogge said Great Hearts is welcome to reapply in the Spring, and she is open to having discussions concerning them resubmitting an application at that time. Ms. Frogge said she will bring a motion to the next Board meeting concerning whether or not to litigate for the \$3.4 million withheld by the State. Mr. Hayes asked when will Dr. Register begin discussions with Great Hearts? Dr. Register said he would contact Great Hearts immediately to begin discussions on how to move forward. Ms. Mayes said it should be assumed that Great Hearts is not still interested in MNPS, but it is important that Great Hearts understands what we expect in order to be a part of MNPS.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendation to Retain Independent Counsel for BOE 	<p>Ms. Frogge made a motion to begin the process of considering and hiring independent counsel for the Board. Ms. Speering seconded.</p> <p>Ms. Frogge: To clarify to my fellow Board members, I raise the issue of conflict of interest with our attorney as not to question the attorney’s ability to represent clients, it is merely to raise the issue of whether the attorney is representing more than one interest that might be conflicting and that might impede the lawyer’s ability to provide the most zealous representation for one client. The Board has been working with Metro Legal, but in this case, Metro Legal was conflicted. Recently, the Board has been working with Mr. Cagle, and I have questions on whether or not he is conflicted in this case. I would like us to start a process of hiring an attorney. I am not looking for someone that I know personally. I desire that the Board be in a comfortable position concerning legal representation. Mr. Pinkston said he is not opposed to this process, but there could be obstacles in the state law and Metro Charter. I have budget concerns about hiring legal representation, the procurement process, etc. There is a potential for conflict on any different issue. I have concern whether we would be able to find someone that has no potential for conflict. And, we also need to consider how this would affect ongoing litigations. This item may be a work session topic in the future. Ms. Mayes asked if the motion includes hiring legal counsel for all issues of the Board or for only particular issues? Ms. Frogge said the Board will have different needs</p>	<p>VOTE: 2-1-6 – Frogge – yes, Hayes – abstain, Gentry – No, Brannon – No, Speering-yes, Kim-no, Mayes-no, Shepherd-no, Pinkston-no</p>

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
November 13, 2012

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/MOTION	FOLLOW-UP/OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendation to Retain Independent Counsel for BOE-continued 	<p>for different issues, but I believe that the Board needs to be proactive in hiring attorneys. Dr. Register said he has worked with Boards in the past that retain representation different from the county. My personal recommendation would be to stay with Metro Legal to conduct district legal issues. I suggest that we perhaps separate legal representation between the Administration and the Board.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendation to Revoke Smithson-Craighead Middle School Charter Effective May 24, 2013 	<p>Dr. Register read the following resolution: Be it resolved that the Metropolitan Nashville Board of Public Education revoke the charter of Smithson-Craighead Middle School, in accordance with TCA §49-13-122, effective as of the last day of school May 24, 2013 based upon the school's designation by the Tennessee Department of Education as a priority school in the bottom 5% of schools statewide and the data in the Office of Innovation presentation of November 13, 2012 regarding the school's three-year performance.</p> <p><i>WHEREAS</i>, priority status is calculated by the Tennessee Department of Education and included as a basis for revocation of a charter without appeals in accordance with TCA §49-13-122, and whereas MNPS charter school closure procedure states that a charter school in the bottom 5% of the state's academic accountability system and labeled as a priority school will be closed. And <i>WHEREAS</i>, the individual data charts and Smithson-Craighead overview of student performance 2010-2012 show plainly that the school underperforms the district average, the averages of other charter schools serving similar populations, and other district-run schools serving similar student populations. <i>THEREFORE</i>, the Metropolitan Nashville Board of Public Education authorizes the Office of Innovation to impose such conditions on the school, and its Board of Trustees in accordance with TCA §49-13-122 as is determined to be necessary to enable the school to complete the current school year and terminate its operations. In connection with determining and imposing such conditions on the school, the Office of Innovation may confer with a transition committee that shall be established in consultation with the parents and students at Smithson-Craighead Middle School and community leaders. Dr. Register stated that it was his recommendation for the Board to approve the resolution.</p> <p>Ms. Shepherd made the motion to approve the Recommendation to Revoke Smithson-Craighead Middle School Charter Effective May 24, 2013. Mr. Hayes seconded.</p> <p>Ms. Speering asked what would it take for Smithson-Craighead to be removed</p>	<p>VOTE: 8-1 – Gentry – yes, Brannon –no, Speering – yes, Kim – yes, Shepherd –yes, Pinkston –yes, Hayes-yes, Frogge – yes, Mayes – yes</p>

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
November 13, 2012

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendation to Revoke Smithson-Craighead Middle School Charter Effective May 24, 2013 – continued 	<p>from the Priority List at the end of the school year? Mr. Coverstone said the designation is only made every three years. The year that they needed to improve to be taken off of the list would have been 2011-2012. Ms. Speering asked if the school could possibly be placed on probation? Mr. Coverstone said our recommendation is to act now so that parents can take part in the magnet and optional school enrollment process to help make the transition an easier process. Additionally, our recommendation to close the school is based upon three consistent years of low scores. Dr. Brannon asked what would be the process if the school is placed on probation and parents apply for other choice schools? Mr. Coverstone said if a student is accepted, the parent would then have to decide whether to attend the choice school or not, all based upon the hope that Smithson-Craighead exceeds expectations following the probation. Dr. Brannon asked when Smithson-Craighead Elementary struggled, what type of assistance was provided? Mr. Coverstone said the elementary school took seriously its status and worked hard to achieve the needed results. Both schools were allocated the same support. Dr. Brannon asked did Smithson-Craighead not receive funding that other schools received? Mr. Coverstone said that funding is provided by the State, and it is the State's opinion that charters in the bottom 5% should be closed. Ms. Mayes asked if probation is granted and parents understand their options with choice schools, what could happen? Mr. Coverstone said he is not sure that is a wise choice for parents to be put in a position to choose choice schools based upon Smithson-Craighead when they may or may not be open next Fall. Ms. Mayes asked when students reenter their zone school, will they have to be tested? Mr. Coverstone said the students would be placed according to their grade. Dr. Register said all choice school options have to be submitted during the month of November. The other charter schools in the District have a process also. If a parent does not apply during this month, they will not have another opportunity to apply for the Fall. If the parents at Smithson-Craighead do not apply in November for choice schools, their students will attend their zone schools next fall. Ms. Mayes said the difference between MNPS averages and Smithson-Craighead scores are astounding. Mr. Hayes asked what is happening to the other schools in the bottom 5%? Mr. Coverstone said all of those schools have been revamped and set goals to improve 10% or more. Mr. Hayes asked if Smithson-Craighead revamped their school to improve? Mr. Coverstone said there have been efforts, but the results have remained flat. Mr. Pinkston said changing schools is a traumatic experience. What support would MNPS provide to help this be a smooth transition? Mr. Coverstone said we would be reaching out to the parents to explain options.</p>	

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
November 13, 2012

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation to Revoke Smithson Craighead Middle School Charter Effective May 24, 2013-continued 	<p>Ms. Kim asked what are the long-term plans to address low performing schools? Mr. Coverstone said we have spent the last year working with the National Association of Charter School Authorizers to establish a balanced set of measures, including student achievement, that can be used to raise the bar in that bottom 5%. Our commitment has been to develop a balanced framework that can be applied and guide decisions that drive schools further accountability-wise. Ms. Kim asked do we have access to that information? Mr. Coverstone said it is not in place yet, except for the bottom 5%. Mr. Hayes asked is there something MNPS could do to ask the State to release data earlier, and are costs associated with closing the school? Mr. Coverstone said, yes, the sooner data is received the better. We desire for the school to finish strong, and are not encouraging students to leave mid-term. And, we also will be providing support to staff during the transition. Our office is working to hire a part-time person if the school is closed. Dr. Brannon said knowing that the school is going to close will affect student morale. I am thinking of the students, and how this will affect their desire to learn and also the educators. Ms. Mayes said the emotional connections of the students must be considered, but academic achievement must also be considered and the scores of Smithson-Craighead are not acceptable. Dr. Register said a new zoning plan has been implemented in the Smithson-Craighead district. The mistake to make is to not give parents sufficient notice to prepare for the closing of the school. Dr. Gentry said she is not certain what probation for Smithson-Craighead would mean. Ms. Mayes said she asked about probation to find out if that was an option. Ms. Speering asked has the school made growth over the last two years? Mr. Coverstone said no. Ms. Mayes said the purpose of the charter school is to exceed MNPS. Mr. Pinkston asked if there is a way that the State could provide data quicker? Mr. Coverstone said the tests are given the first week in May. We press the State to return data as quick as possible. Dr. Register said the chances to get data back quicker are very limited. It is not a good planning process to wait to decide when a school will be closed. Mr. Hayes said in the case of Drexel, we placed them on probation, but did not re-evaluate the probation. The MNPS agreement with the charter is a contract, therefore, it is incumbent on the Board to act if they do not meet the terms of that agreement. Ms. Kim asked if DEA scores are available? Mr. Coverstone said the DEA scores are available, but should not be used to measure current performance. Ms. Kim said the data is striking that the top performers are charters in reading and math. The good news is that charter schools, broadly speaking, are achieving.</p>	

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
November 13, 2012

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REPORTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TLG Report: Elementary Schools 	<p>Brenda Steele presented the Elementary Schools TLG Report to the Board. Ms. Shepherd asked what defines proficient? Ms. Steele said, concerning TCAP scores, we are working to ensure students are proficient in reading and math by third grade. Ms. Kim said we need to develop a tight process to determine whether or not schools are progressing. Ms. Steele said schools are now implementing those processes developed to ensure each individual child is progressing. Ms. Kim asked are there any returns on the DEA? Ms. Steele said the DEA is predictive, and students are currently taking the second DEA for the year. Ms. Speering expressed concerns about reading scores per grade. What type of reading interventions are going on at the schools? Ms. Steele said there are several different programs depending on the school. It is important that the school use programs with fidelity. Ms. Speering said she is concerned that we do not have a definition of reading in MNPS, which creates a mismatch of materials and programs, and this creates confusion. Mr. Hayes asked where did MNPS stand concerning the State benchmark? Ms. Steele said MNPS exceeded the benchmark in math, met the benchmarks in science and social studies, and was below benchmark in reading for the third grade. Mr. Hayes asked what is the timeline for every student to be proficient or advanced? Ms. Steele said every student, before they leave third grade, must be proficient, and if they are not proficient, some type of intervention must be provided. Mr. Hayes asked how the Board knows whether success has been achieved in ensuring every third grade student is proficient or advanced? How is that measured? How can the Board offer support in that effort? Ms. Steele said teachers must be given support, especially in the area of reading. Dr. Register said standardized data must be measured by growth, benchmarks must be reached, and the achievement gap must be closed. Dr. Gentry asked how the Pre-K program is being expanded. Ms. Steele said the goal is to increase Pre-K classes by two classes per year. We are also working to partner with other Pre-K programs. We evaluate the program to ensure it is running smoothly, and the teachers are MNPS teachers. Mr. Pinkston asked if there are Pre-K classes that are not state-funded? Ms. Steele said we currently have 146 Pre-K state-funded classes, the increase of the two classrooms would cost MNPS about \$200,000, and we are working to include that in the budget. Mr. Pinkston said the Board should have discussion around accelerating improvement, developing a strategy for getting there faster. Ms. Kim said she would love to have more information on what the schools that are achieving are doing so that we can drive that into other schools. Ms. Steele said teachers</p>	


Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
November 13, 2012

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TLG Report: Elementary Schools - continued 	are really working hard to ensure students are taught what is needed.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charter School Application Process 	<p>Mr. Coverstone addressed the Board concerning the Charter School Application Process.</p> <p>Ms. Shepherd asked will there be an opportunity for public comment after the second-round interviews? Mr. Coverstone said at this point no, but that could be discussed.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Report 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council of the Great City Schools 	<p>Dr. Brannon reported that she attended the 56th Annual Conference of the Council of the Great City Schools (CGCS) during October 17th -21st in Indianapolis, Indiana. The CGCS leads the charge of advocacy for 67 urban school districts in the U.S. representing 6 million students. MNPS benefits by the comprehensive research that is performed by CGCS, and they serve as consultants and provide materials, public announcements for many. This year's conference covered topics such as: achievement gaps, professional development, financial management, special education, and other topics. MNPS's own Dr. Earl Wiman and Susan Thompson presented at the conference and did a great job. The CGCS also honors school board members and superintendents with the Richard Green Award on alternating years. This year, the award was presented to Dr. Carol Johnson, Superintendent of Boston Public Schools. Once again, the CGCS will support the Bernhard Harris Exxon Scholarship; I will be distributing the application information shortly. Dr. Brannon gave each Board member a copy of the CGCS Annual Report.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSBA Annual Convention 	<p>Ms. Shepherd stated that TSBA held their Annual Convention at the Opryland Hotel on November 2nd-6th. Dr. Brannon, Ms. Shepherd, and Ms. Mayes attended the event. On the opening night, Nashville School of the Arts performed and the keynote speaker was Michael Thurman. The Coalition of Large School Systems met at 7:00 a.m. on that Monday morning. MNPS Customer Service Manager, Mark Chamberlain, conducted a clinic on Customer Service.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLASS 	<p>Mr. Pinkston said he was not able to attend the CLASS meeting, but was briefed on the meeting. CLASS expects the two biggest issues affecting MNPS will be the proposal of vouchers and a state charter authorizer proposal. There could be many changes made, and updates will continue to be provided.</p>	
Board Chairman's Report		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSBA Board of Directors 	<p>Ms. Mayes announced that she was elected to serve on the TSBA Board of Directors.</p>	

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
November 13, 2012

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee Appointment – Naming of Schools 	Ms. Mayes assigned Dr. Brannon as Chair of the Naming of Schools Committee. Ms. Shepherd and Ms. Speering were added to the committee.	
ANNOUNCEMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gateway Elementary 	Ms. Speering announced that Gateway Elementary receive a donation of \$2,750 from Snyder Electric.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elementary Students’ Library Cards 	Ms. Speering stated that 3, 362 elementary students have library cards for the first time.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pennington Elementary Open House 	Ms. Speering announced that she attended the Pennington Elementary Open House. She was very impressed with how the school conducted their morning announcements.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TSSAA Athletic Director of the Year 	Ms. Speering congratulated Chip Sullivan from Hunters Lane High School for winning TSSAA Athletic Director of the Year.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AT&T Donation 	Ms. Shepherd announced that AT&T donated \$12,000 to fund the scholarship efforts of the McGavock Cluster Coalition Initiative. Ms. Shepherd thanked AT&T for their support and donation, and Tennessee Achieves for their support.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Graduation of Plaza Communtaria 	Mr. Pinkston thanked Capital Charities for the invitation to join the Mexican Council General at the 3 rd Annual Graduation of Plaza Communtaria in Nashville. Plaza Communtaria is an Adult Education program which helps new arrivals develop the language and basic education skills to be productive in the community.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading Demonstration 	Mr. Pinkston thanked Ms. Speering for organizing a demonstration of a first grade reading invention at the Martin Center. Mr. Pinkston said he is thankful to learn from his colleagues what works first-hand in the classroom.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Alliance of Black School Educators 40th Annual Conference 	Mr. Hayes announced that the National Alliance of Black School Educators 40 th Annual Conference would be held November 14 th in Nashville. He also thanked NABSE for their IT donation to MNPS.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PTO meeting at J.T. Moore 	Mr. Hayes stated that he attended a PTO meeting at J.T. Moore, discussing the possibilities of MNPS and is excited about those possibilities. There was also a presentation of what Hillsboro High School could look like with more capital funding.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support of the Board 	Ms. Mayes stated that she has received many calls and emails from the public offering their support to the Board in the decisions made over the last few months. Ms. Mayes stated that a constituent approached her thanking the Board for helping to restore an energy and excitement within the community because the Board stood their ground. Ms. Mayes thanked the Board for their hard work over the last few months.	

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
November 13, 2012

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/MOTION	FOLLOW-UP/OUTCOME
WRITTEN INFORMATION TO THE BOARD		
• Board Calendar Items		
• Sales Tax Collections as of October 20, 2012		
• Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Operating Budget Financial Report		
• Adjournment	Ms. Frogge adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.	
• Signatures	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <hr style="width: 100%;"/> Chris M. Henson Board Secretary </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> Cheryl D. Mayes Board Chair </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> Date </div> </div>	