

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
August 12, 2008

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/MOTION	FOLLOW-UP/OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll Call 	<p>Members Present: Marsha Hagan Warden, Chair; Ed Kindall, Vice-Chair; Dr. Jo Ann Brannon; David A. Fox; Steve Glover; Karen Y. Johnson; Mark North; Gracie Porter</p> <p>Member Absent: Sierra Scivally and Brittany McShand, Student Board Members</p> <p>Ms. Warden called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pledge of Allegiance 	Led by Alan Coverstone, District 9 Board member-elect.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Memoriam – Dorothy Gupton 		
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harry Sherrell – Neely’s Bend Elementary 	Mr. Sherrell addressed the Board concerning an incident involving his daughter’s teacher at Neely’s Bend Elementary School.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Betty Nixon – Rezoning Plan 	Ms. Nixon asked the Board to reconsider the 2009-10 Student Assignment Plan to ensure it embraces the future of Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools boldly and without fear.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rev. Inman Otey – Rezoning Plan 	Rev. Otey asked the Board to reconsider the 2009-2010 Student Assignment Plan and to conduct research to ensure it will not re-segregate MNPS.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Won S. Choi – Rezoning Plan 	Mr. Choi, Executive Director for Tying Nashville Together, asked the Board to reconsider the 2009-10 Student Assignment Plan. Tying Nashville Together has conducted research on the rezoning of Metro Schools and discovered many factors they would like the Board to consider.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rev. Bill Barnes – Rezoning Plan 	Rev. Barnes asked the Board to reconsider the zoning plan to ensure MNPS passes a plan that will unify the district and the community to create one city and one people.	
AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition of Outgoing Board Members 	Mr. Henson presented outgoing Board members Ms. Warden and Mr. Thompson with MNPS watches in honor of their dedicated service to MNPS.	
GOVERNANCE ISSUES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACTIONS • Consent Agenda 	<p>Mr. Kindall made the motion to approve the following consent agenda items: V-A-2-a- Approval of Minutes –7/08/08 Regular Board Meeting; V-A-2-b – Recommended Award of Contract for Cole Elementary School Renovation and Addition – Edwards Construction – MBOE 08-007 (Control No. A-22060); V-A-2-c- Recommended Award of Contract for Land Surveying, 2008 – Thornton & Associates, Inc.– MBOE 08-009 (Control No. A-22-063); V-2-A-d- Recommended Award of Contract for Land Surveying, 2008 Fisher & Arnold, Inc. – MBOE 08-010 (Control No. A-22062); V-2-A-e- Recommended Award of Contract for Land</p>	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consent Agenda - continued 	<p>Surveying, 2008 – Cherry Land Surveying, Inc. – MBOE 08-010 (Control No. A-22064); V-A-2-f- Change Order #1 for Julia Green Roof Replacement – Porter Roofing Contractors, Inc. – M-385 (Control No. A-21978); V-A-2-g- Change Order #1 for Indoor P.E. Rooms, Pkg. F (Cora Howe, Crieve Hall, and Kirkpatrick Elementary) – Bomar Construction – M395 (Control No. A-22061); V-A-2-h- Naming of MNPS Facilities and Programs; V-A-2-I – Awarding of Bids and Contracts (1.) Metropolitan Public Health Department (Amendment), (2.) Capture Educational Consulting Service (Amendment), (3.) Genesis Learning Center DBA Genesis Academy, (4.) Tennessee Department of Education, (5.) Tennessee Department of Education, (6.) Developmental Learning Center, Inc. (formerly Institute of Learning Research, Inc.) (8.) The NEA Foundation for the Improvement of Education, (9.) Otis Educational Systems, Inc.; V-A-2-j- Request for Approval of Textbooks – Personal Finance and Calculating Your Future: Personal Finance; V-A-2-k- Legal Settlement – Claim C-21934 A; V-A-2-l- Legal Settlement – Claim C-21934 B. Mr. Glover seconded.</p>	<p>VOTE: For–9-0 Unanimous</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student Code of Conduct 	<p>Mr. Thompson reviewed the changes to the 2008-2009 Student Code of Conduct with the Board. The following changes were presented: (1) Pg 10: Searches and Seizures: 2nd bulleted item at bottom of page no longer applies per TCA 49-6-4204 (2) Pg. 11: Searches and Seizures (continued): 2nd bulleted item at top of page will remain and cover for aforementioned item on page 10 that no longer applies (3.) Pg 11: Searches and Seizures (continued): 2nd bulleted item under Paragraph 1 – beginning with “The following procedures” will no longer apply (4) Pg 12: Suspensions: 4th paragraph – beginning with: “When a principal seeks suspension of a greater...the last statement that reads ‘within five (5) days of the alleged misconduct’, is now changed to: “<u>within twenty-four (24) hours of the alleged misconduct</u>” per TCA 49-6-3401. Mr. Thompson stated the changes would be provided to each school and placed as an insert within each 2008-2009 Student Code of Conduct book before given to the students.</p> <p>Mr. Glover moved to adopt the revisions. Ms. Johnson seconded.</p>	<p>VOTE: For–8-0 Unanimous (Mr. Thompson out of room)</p>
REPORTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director’s Report –Opening of Schools Report 	<p>Mr. Briggs presented the Board with a summary of the first day of school for high schools. He stated that he was very pleased with the response of MNPS staff and parents, who where very helpful during the first day of school. Mr. Briggs said after the orientation issue at McGavock, a follow-up parent</p>	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director's Report –Opening of Schools Report 	<p>meeting was held at McGavock to address safety and security issues at the school. Currently, the Administration is rotating visits to schools 2-3 days a week. The goal is to be more involved in the schools and to create better relationships with the schools' staff, students and parents.</p> <p>Ms. Warden applauded the high schools for a successful first day. Ms. Porter stated she visited the 9th grade Academy at Dalewood for Maplewood High School. Students were in class on time and looked awesome in their Standard School Attire. Ms. Johnson thanked the Administration for the structural changes completed at Antioch High School. The changes contributed to a successful first day and brought organization and order to the front area of the school. Mr. Glover thanked the parents and students for their help in having a successful first day.</p> <p>Ms. Tinnon presented the Board with a summary of the first day of school for middle schools. On the first day of school, every middle and special education school was visited by Central Office personnel. Feedback from those visits revealed that all registered students had schedules, locker assignments, students were dressed in Standard School Attire, and parents participated in helping with the First Day of School.</p> <p>Dr. Patterson presented the Board with a summary of the first day of school for elementary schools. At 100% of MNPS elementary school, some type of welcome back activity was held, whether an orientation or a picnic, to ensure student felt welcome. Parents were heavily involved on the first day and students looked great in their Standard School Attire. There was a feeling of happiness and excitement in each of the elementary schools. All MNPS K-12 schools experienced similar issues such as late buses (due to traffic); student transfers and textbook shortages at some schools, but all problems were addressed quickly and are typical first day issues.</p> <p>Dr. Keel reported on the status of hiring on the first day of school. There were 500 teachers hired between May 1st and August 12th. Currently, there are 21 teacher vacancies, and only three of those positions are in Math. This is a tremendous achievement for MNPS, and this improvement is attributed to the Differentiated Pay Plan for teachers. There will be about 37 teachers eligible for the Differentiated Pay Plan. There are a number of vacancies for Education Assistants due to the highly qualified requirement. There are currently 105 new hires for bus monitors and 19 additional buses that are</p>	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director's Report –Opening of Schools Report - continued 	<p>currently covered by Education Assistants who are choosing to work overtime.</p> <p>Ms. Warden asked what is the percentage of brand new first year teachers compared to new to MNPS but with prior experienced teachers who are hired? Dr. Keel stated in the past, the percentage of fist year teachers has been around 30-40% of the total number of teachers hired. It is important to realize that many of our teachers are individuals who are second-career teachers. Those teachers bring the experience and wisdom that age brings into the classroom.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tom Joyner Foundation – Back to School 	<p>Mr. Kindall thanked MNPS, the Mayor's Office, Chamber of Commerce and IMF for their support of MNPS students. He stated the Tom Joyner Foundation held a Back-to School drive at Hickory Hollow Mall. There were gift cards and grocery give-a-ways. Many backpacks and school supplies were given out to students and around 2,500 people attended. Dr. Ray stated that new MNPS Parent Liaisons were present to help assist with the Back-to-School drive.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director's Report – Ombudsman Program Update 	<p>Mr. Ralph Thompson reviewed the changes to the Ombudsman contract with the Board. The changes are as follows under section 2.7 Insurance: the addition of the following sentence: "Throughout the term of this contract, Contractor shall provide an updated certificate of insurance upon expiration of the current certificate." The program will be available at 8 locations and has changed from 4-hour day to a 6.5-hour day.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director's Report – Pre-K Update 	<p>Dr. Ray addressed issues concerning the Pre-K registration. In March of 2007, MNPS received a state visit of compliance that occurs every March. As a result of the visit, MNPS was asked to input in place a screening tool to assist with the placement and acceptance of Pre-K students into Title I classes. MNPS has 101 Pre-K classrooms and 23 of those are funded with Title I dollars. The district adopted the Brigance screening test to test students and then place students in one of the Title I classes in order of their scoring from lowest to highest. The testing occurred from April 21-25 of this year, and students were continued to be assessed outside of that window, which creates parallel data bases of dates and scores. The process was not clearly communicated to parents and community, and there was a misunderstanding of the use of the Brigance test and which schools were required to have students tested. A student who registers for Pre-K does not have a confirmed seat until their Acceptance Letters is returned to the Central Office. This miscommunication resulted in two federally funded Pre-K schools and 26 children bring placed incorrectly on the Brigance scores list.</p>	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director's Report – Pre-K Update - continued 	<p>To solve the problem, MNPS has contacted principals to identify a school for those children to attend Pre-K and have apology letters mailed home. A full-time Pre-K Coordinator has been hired, and staff is working with the Alignment Nashville Pre-K committee to identify slots around the city to service the children. A clear set of procedures will be developed and communicated to schools and the community for the Pre-K registration process.</p> <p>Ms. Warden said although MNPS has the largest Pre-K program in Tennessee, the need for more Pre-K programs in MNPS is far larger than what MNPS currently provides. Dr. Ray stated there are 1,818 Pre-K seats filled in MNPS and 1,390 students on the waiting list. Ms. Warden stated Pre-K is generally not funded through the BEP Funding. Dr. Ray said Pre-K programs are funded by Title I, lottery and state funds. Mr. Henson stated the state lottery funded Pre-K's are handled as if they are running through the Basic Education Program formula which means there is a required local match. Davidson County has the highest local dollar match in the state, which equals around a 50/50 split.</p> <p>Ms. Porter stated that she is excited about the Brigance testing for Pre-K's and believes these steps will lead the district to the ultimate enhancement of the graduation rate. Dr. Ray stated MNPS did not receive any additional funds for Pre-K for the 2008-2009 school year.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Chairman's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Symposium Committee 	<p>Ms. Warden stated the Best Practice in Urban Education symposium will be held August 22 at the Martin Professional Development Center. Many superintendents from around the state and country will be in attendance. The event will be held from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</p>	
ANNOUNCEMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor's Task Force on Special Education 	<p>Ms. Warden announced the Mayor's Task Force on Special Education will be held August 13, 2008 at the Mayor's Office in the Media Room at 3:00 p.m.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fed Up Rally and Southeast Health Event 	<p>Ms. Johnson thanked Mr. Ralph Thompson for his support at the Fed Up Rally in Antioch. She also thanked MNPS volunteers for their help and assistance at the Mayor's First Day Festival and the First Southeast Health Event. Over 500 people attended the health fair, and numerous services were offered to attendees.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanks and Appreciation to Ms. Warden and Mr. Thompson 	<p>Mr. Fox and Mr. Glover each thanked and commended Ms. Warden and Mr. Thompson for their years of service and dedication to the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools Board of Education.</p>	

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WRITTEN INFORMATION TO THE BOARD		
• Board Calendar Items		
• Sales Tax Collections as of 7/20/08		
• Quarterly District Standard Operating Procedure Revisions		
ADJOURNMENT		
• Adjournment	Mr. Fox made the motion to adjourn at 6:26 p.m.	
• Signatures	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%; border-top: 1px solid black; padding-top: 5px;">Chris M. Henson Board Secretary</div> <div style="width: 45%; border-top: 1px solid black; padding-top: 5px;">Ed Kindall Date Board Vice Chair</div> </div>	