

# Hamilton County Department of Education Board Meeting - Quarterly Session

December 21, 2017 5:30 PM  
3074 Hickory Valley Road Chattanooga, TN 37421  
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Chattanooga, TN 37421

Attendance Taken at 5:36 PM.

Mr. Joe Galloway:	Present
Dr. Steve Highlander:	Present
Mrs. Karitsa Jones:	Present
Mrs. Kathy Lennon:	Present
Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson:	Present
Mr. Joe Smith:	Present
Mr. David Testerman:	Present
Mrs. Rhonda Thurman:	Present
Mr. Joe Wingate:	Present

## I. Roll Call

## II. \*\*Approval of the Agenda

approve the agenda passed with a motion by Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson and a second by Mrs. Karitsa Jones.

Mr. Joe Galloway:	Yes
Dr. Steve Highlander:	Yes
Mrs. Karitsa Jones:	Yes
Mrs. Kathy Lennon:	Yes
Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson:	Yes
Mr. Joe Smith:	Yes
Mr. David Testerman:	Yes
Mrs. Rhonda Thurman:	Yes
Mr. Joe Wingate:	Yes

Yes: 9, No: 0

## III. Executive Session - No

## IV. Pledge to the Flag and Meditation - Margo Williams, Principal of Westview Elementary

## V. Exemplars of Excellence

A. Signal Mountain Middle High School Girls'™ Cross Country Team - Dr. Robert Sharpe, and Todd Stinson, Principal of Signal Mountain Middle HighDr. Sharpe and Todd Stinson recognized the Signal Mountain High School Cross Country team for winning the State

Championship in Cross Country. Mr. Stinson introduced the coach, Dustin Carpenter, who introduced the team members in attendance.

B. Tyner Academy Football State Runner-ups - Dr. Robert Sharpe and Julius Hargrove, Principal Tyner Academy. Dr. Sharpe and Julius Hargrove recognized the Tyner Academy football state runner-ups. Mr. Hargrove introduced coach Wayne Turner who in turn introduced the players in attendance.

## **VI. Presentations**

### **A. Architect Selection for Current Projects Update - Justin Witt**

Mr. Witt gave an update on the architects selected for interviews for the current building projects. Interviews are scheduled for January 10, 11, and 12. They are as follows:

#### **Architects Selected For Interviews - School Projects 2017**

##### **New East Hamilton Middle School**

1. Allen & Hoshall, Inc.
2. Cogent Studio, LLC, in association with Tim Burney Architects
3. DHW Architects, PLLC
4. Franklin Architects, Inc.
5. TWH Architects, a Michael Brady Inc. Company

##### **New Harrison Elementary School**

1. Allen & Hoshall, Inc.
2. Artech Design Group, Inc.
3. DHW Architects, PLLC
4. Franklin Architects, Inc.
5. TWH Architects, a Michael Brady Inc. Company

##### **Tyner Middle and High School Addition and Renovation for New CSLA**

1. Allen & Hoshall, Inc.
2. Artech Design Group, Inc.
3. DHW Architects, PLLC
4. Franklin Architects, Inc.
5. TWH Architects, a Michael Brady Inc. Company

##### **New Howard High School Stadium and Track**

1. BWSCJnc.
2. DHW Architects, PLLC
3. Franklin Architects, Inc.
3. Hefferlin + Kronenberg Architects
4. Neuhoff Taylor Architects

##### **Snow Hill Elementary Addition**

1. Billingsley Architecture

2. Cogent Studio, LLC, in association with Tim Burney Architects
3. DHW Architects, PLLC
4. Franklin Architects, Inc.
5. Neuhoff Taylor Architects

B. Calendar Update - Dr. Bryan Johnson, Superintendent  
 Dr. Johnson stated that Tim Hensley announced that we will be looking at the calendar and seeking community input and trying to be as responsive as possible. Time-line update: he has already begun organizing the committees and gotten a tremendous response. There will two committees, one of which will be primarily parents and guardians and the other being employees. He will work December and January and is trying to get two years ahead so we are a little behind. We slowed the process down so that we could get the input so we are going to get two years ahead so they will build this year's and also next year and the year after. In February, the committee will come together and we will do a survey to the community and they will bring forth a couple of options obviously engaging the Board as well with the hopes that by the end of February having things solidified. Just one note that we identified is that obviously there many that are preparing for vacations and things of that nature so we want to be very mindful of that. We will not change fall break in regards to what may have been earlier proposed so it will stay the same for 18-19 but going forward based on the feedback that we get and based on input we'll make those adjustments accordingly.

**VII. Delegations**

A. Byron Roberts, Quarterback Club President, Sale Creek Middle High School  
 Mr. Roberts spoke on behalf of the students and football players at Sale Creek Middle/High School regarding a football field and the other construction projects that were previously announced.

B. Dan Liner, HCEA  
 Mr. Liner removed his name as a delegate and chose not to speak at the meeting.

**VIII. \*\*Approval of the Minutes of the November 16, 2017 Regular Session**

approve the minutes of the November 16, 2017 Regular Session passed with a motion by Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson and a second by Mrs. Kathy Lennon.

- Mr. Joe Galloway: Yes
  - Dr. Steve Highlander: Yes
  - Mrs. Karitsa Jones: Yes
  - Mrs. Kathy Lennon: Yes
  - Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson: Yes
  - Mr. Joe Smith: Yes
  - Mr. David Testerman: Yes
  - Mrs. Rhonda Thurman: Yes
  - Mr. Joe Wingate: Yes
- Yes: 9, No: 0

**IX. \*\*Approval of the Consent Agenda**

to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of the items requested to be pulled by Mr. Wingate and Mrs. Thurman passed with a motion by Mr. David Testerman and a second by Mr. Joe Galloway.

Mr. Joe Galloway: Yes  
Dr. Steve Highlander: Yes  
Mrs. Karitsa Jones: Yes  
Mrs. Kathy Lennon: Yes  
Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson: Yes  
Mr. Joe Smith: Yes  
Mr. David Testerman: Yes  
Mrs. Rhonda Thurman: Yes  
Mr. Joe Wingate: Yes

Yes: 9, No: 0

to add back to the agenda item IX. Bids and Contracts C. 1. b. PowerSchool Online Registration System passed with a motion by Mr. Joe Wingate and a second by Mr. Joe Galloway.

Mr. Joe Galloway: Yes  
Dr. Steve Highlander: Yes  
Mrs. Karitsa Jones: Yes  
Mrs. Kathy Lennon: Yes  
Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson: Yes  
Mr. Joe Smith: Yes  
Mr. David Testerman: Yes  
Mrs. Rhonda Thurman: Yes  
Mr. Joe Wingate: Yes

Yes: 9, No: 0

to add IX.B.1.A.4. CSAS Field Trip to Madrid, Spain back to the agenda and approve passed with a motion by Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson and a second by Mrs. Karitsa Jones.

Dr. Steve Highlander: No  
Mr. David Testerman: No  
Mrs. Rhonda Thurman: No  
Mr. Joe Galloway: Yes  
Mrs. Karitsa Jones: Yes  
Mrs. Kathy Lennon: Yes  
Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson: Yes  
Mr. Joe Smith: Yes  
Mr. Joe Wingate: Yes

Yes: 6, No: 3

Dr. Steve Highlander: No, Mr. David Testerman: No, Mrs. Rhonda Thurman: No

to add back to the agenda and approve IX.B.1.c - Opportunity Zone Field Trip for ESOL students passed with a motion by Mrs. Rhonda Thurman and a second by Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson.

Mr. Joe Galloway: Yes

Dr. Steve Highlander: Yes  
Mrs. Karitsa Jones: Yes  
Mrs. Kathy Lennon: Yes  
Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson: Yes  
Mr. Joe Smith: Yes  
Mr. David Testerman: Yes  
Mrs. Rhonda Thurman: Yes  
Mr. Joe Wingate: Yes  
Yes: 9, No: 0

Mr. Wingate asked to pull item IX. Bids and Contracts C. 1. b. PowerSchool Online Registration System for discussion.

Mrs. Thurman asked to pull items IX. Field Trips - B. 1. 4. Chattanooga School for the Arts and Sciences Upper trip to Madrid Spain and IX.B.1.c. - Opportunity Zone Field Trip for ESOL students.

#### A. Executive Committee Report

#### B. School Operations

##### 1. Field Trips

a. Dr. Robert Sharpe “ Director, Secondary Operations Le Andrea Ware “ Director, Secondary Operations (16)Chairman Highlander recognized Mrs. Thurman to begin discussion regarding the CSAS field trip to Madrid, Spain. Mrs. Thurman state she would not vote for any more field trips out of the country because she is not comfortable with the Board being responsible for what may happen.

b. Career and Technology - John Maynard, Director (1)

c. Opportunity Zone - Dr. Zac Brown and Jill Levine (1)Chairman Highlander recognized Mrs. Thurman for discussion of IX.B.1.c - Opportunity Zone Field Trip for ESOL students. Mrs. Thurman asked if this was opened to students other than ESOL. Mrs. Levin responded that ESOL teachers are putting this program together specifically for their students similar to if a government class or a chorus were to design a program for their group of students.

#### C. Business and Finance - Christie Jordan

##### 1. Bids/Contracts

Mr. Wingate began the discussion regarding the PowerSchool online registration by asking for clarification on how data can be accessed regarding Durham and if information can be uploaded from Transportation. Mr. Coulter confirmed that this could be done.

Mrs. Robinson asked if the software system would be available to Spanish speaking parents by translating into Spanish. Mr. Coulter stated there are 13 languages that can be used for translation.

2. Financial Reports

3. Budget Amendments

- a. Federal Grants and Self-Funded Programs
- b. Appropriation of Fund Balance Committed for Telecommunication Project
- c. Appropriation of Fund Balance Committed for Capital Maintenance
- d. FY18 General Purpose Mid-Year True Up Amendment

D. Campus Support - Dr. Lee McDade

- 1. Board Policy 6.203 - School Admissions - First Reading

**X. Administrative Business Matters**

A. Campus Support - Dr. Lee McDade

- 1. **\*\*Board Policy 4.205 - Magnet Programs - Second and Final Reading**  
to approve Board Policy 4.205 - Magnet Programs passed with a motion by Mr. David Testerman and a second by Mr. Joe Galloway.

Mr. Joe Galloway: Yes  
Dr. Steve Highlander: Yes  
Mrs. Karitsa Jones: Yes  
Mrs. Kathy Lennon: Yes  
Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson: Yes  
Mr. Joe Smith: Yes  
Mr. David Testerman: Yes  
Mrs. Rhonda Thurman: Yes  
Mr. Joe Wingate: Yes  
Yes: 9, No: 0

- 2. **\*\*Board Policy 5.304 - Extended Leaves of Absence for Certificated/Classified Personnel**

to approve Board Policy 5.304 - Extended Leaves of Absence for Certificated/Classified Personnel passed with a motion by Mr. David Testerman and a second by Mr. Joe Galloway.

Mr. Joe Galloway: Yes  
Dr. Steve Highlander: Yes  
Mrs. Karitsa Jones: Yes  
Mrs. Kathy Lennon: Yes  
Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson: Yes  
Mr. Joe Smith: Yes  
Mr. David Testerman: Yes

Mrs. Rhonda Thurman: Yes  
Mr. Joe Wingate: Yes  
Yes: 9, No: 0

3. **\*\*Zero Tolerance Suspension Appeal - Hudgins**

to uphold the recommended zero tolerance suspension passed with a motion by Mr. David Testerman and a second by Mr. Joe Galloway.

Mr. Joe Galloway: Yes  
Dr. Steve Highlander: Yes  
Mrs. Karitsa Jones: Yes  
Mrs. Kathy Lennon: Yes  
Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson: Yes  
Mr. Joe Smith: Yes  
Mr. David Testerman: Yes  
Mrs. Rhonda Thurman: Yes  
Mr. Joe Wingate: Yes  
Yes: 9, No: 0

B. **\*\*Agreement for Educational Services Between Chattanooga State and HCDE - Dr. Robert Sharpe and Dr. Justin Robertson**

approval of the Agreement for Educational Services between Chattanooga State and HCDE passed with a motion by Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson and a second by Mr. David Testerman.

Mr. Joe Galloway: Yes  
Dr. Steve Highlander: Yes  
Mrs. Karitsa Jones: Yes  
Mrs. Kathy Lennon: Yes  
Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson: Yes  
Mr. Joe Smith: Yes  
Mr. David Testerman: Yes  
Mrs. Rhonda Thurman: Yes  
Mr. Joe Wingate: Yes  
Yes: 9, No: 0

C. **\*\*Exceptional Education - Agreement with County-Operated Detention Centers - Dr. Justin Robertson**

approval of the Agreement with County-Operated Detention Centers passed with a motion by Mr. Joe Galloway and a second by Mr. David Testerman.

Mr. Joe Galloway: Yes  
Dr. Steve Highlander: Yes  
Mrs. Karitsa Jones: Yes  
Mrs. Kathy Lennon: Yes  
Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson: Yes  
Mr. Joe Smith: Yes  
Mr. David Testerman: Yes

Mrs. Rhonda Thurman: Yes  
Mr. Joe Wingate: Yes  
Yes: 9, No: 0

D. \*\*Textbook Adoption Committees - Jamelie Johns, Jamie Parris, John Maynard, Dr. Justin Robertson

approval of the Textbook Adoption Committees passed with a motion by Mr. Joe Galloway and a second by Mrs. Kathy Lennon.

Mr. Joe Galloway: Yes  
Dr. Steve Highlander: Yes  
Mrs. Karitsa Jones: Yes  
Mrs. Kathy Lennon: Yes  
Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson: Yes  
Mr. Joe Smith: Yes  
Mr. David Testerman: Yes  
Mrs. Rhonda Thurman: Yes  
Mr. Joe Wingate: Yes  
Yes: 9, No: 0

E. \*\*Consultant Agreement with Jessica Kaminski - Jill Levine, Dr. Zac Brown, Arielle Hayes, Preston Gonter

approval of the consultant agreement with Jessica Kaminski passed with a motion by Mrs. Karitsa Jones and a second by Mr. Joe Galloway.

Mrs. Rhonda Thurman: No  
Mr. Joe Galloway: Yes  
Dr. Steve Highlander: Yes  
Mrs. Karitsa Jones: Yes  
Mrs. Kathy Lennon: Yes  
Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson: Yes  
Mr. Joe Smith: Yes  
Mr. David Testerman: Yes  
Mr. Joe Wingate: Yes  
Yes: 8, No: 1  
Mrs. Rhonda Thurman: No

F. \*\*New Position Request - Dr. Bryan Johnson

to approve the position of Chief Equity Officer passed with a motion by Mr. Joe Smith and a second by Mr. Joe Galloway.

Mr. Joe Galloway: Yes  
Dr. Steve Highlander: Yes  
Mrs. Karitsa Jones: Yes  
Mrs. Kathy Lennon: Yes  
Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson: Yes  
Mr. Joe Smith: Yes  
Mr. David Testerman: Yes

Mrs. Rhonda Thurman: Yes  
Mr. Joe Wingate: Yes  
Yes: 9, No: 0

Dr. Johnson explained that would like to make an additional shift across the system to align areas it is felt that it is necessary to bring forth a Chief Equity Officer and would like to elevate the Director of Student Services to that role. In addition to equity efforts, that person would be responsible for Student Services, Social Workers, Counselors, EL Services, Homeless Services, and potentially Special Education.

Mrs. Thurman asked if the person being elevated was Mrs. Drake and if so, who is going to do her job. Dr. Johnson said she will continue to do her job and take on more responsibility. Mrs. Thurman stated that a cost analysis is needed since some positions have been added and some names have been changed it is hard to keep up with everything. She stated that she had asked for an organizational chart which she has not yet received. Mrs. Thurman continued that this would really hit when the budget comes out for next year. Dr. Johnson asked Ms. Jordan to talk about the mid-year true-up. Ms. Jordan said that is taking all the budget status as of where we are today, incorporating everything that has already been approved and we still had funds available to do a few additional projects. The mid-year true-up has no additional funding in it but next year is when you will see some of this. Dr. Johnson stated that tomorrow he would announce the overarching organizational structure with more details as far as what those persons will be doing and you can expect a complete organization chart of the school district. Mrs. Thurman stated she would much prefer to see more teachers in the classroom than more people in the Central Office. She stated she wanted Dr. Johnson to have what he needed to do his job but she has never seen that hiring people in the Central Office improved academics and in fact, it has probably gotten worse because some of the good teachers are taken and put into the Central Office and they are out of the classroom. Mrs. Robinson stated she agreed with the Chief Equity Officer and that she agreed with the root of what Mrs. Thurman was saying and that it would be incredibly helpful if we could start seeing the line item amounts of the budget in relation to the new positions. Discussion continued. Chairman Highlander stated he had been asked by people in his district for a line item amount for the new positions but he is unable to do so and perhaps he missed it. The perception of many people in the community, whether it is true or not, we need to decide whether it is fact or fiction, is that we are overloading Central Office. Chairman Highlander stated he was not saying that is true but we need to either say yes or no definitively by having facts and figures. Mr. Wingate stated that he understood but a budget still has to be presented this spring and we still have the option to approve that or not so it will come out in the wash.

## **XI. Board Matters**

A. Voucher Resolution - Vice Chairman Karitsa Mosley-Jones Mrs. Jones stated this is to complete the process of signing and presenting the voucher resolution to our delegation that represents us in Nashville. Mrs. Thurman stated she did not want her name on the resolution as she had previously voted against it.

## **XII. Information Only**

A. Legal Services Report

**XIII. Events/Announcements**

**XIV. Adjournment**The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_

Date