

Hamilton County Department of Education Board Meeting - Regular Session

February 15, 2018 5:30 PM
3074 Hickory Valley Road Chattanooga, TN 37421
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Chattanooga, TN 37421

Attendance Taken at 5:30 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

approval of the agenda with the following amendments: Change Item V. to Exemplars of Excellence, NJROTC The Howard School Recognition as Most Improved Program in Area 9 “ Colonel Tom McConnell and renumber remaining items. Under Item VI. (Item V on original agenda) Presentations remove Calendar Adjustments “ Dr. Nakia Towns Edwards; Under Item IX. (Item VIII on the original agenda) Approval of the Consent Agenda, 1. Field trips, add a.1. CSAS Field trip to Tono, Japan; Under Item X. (Item IX on the original agenda) Administrative Business Matters, add B. Human Resources/Finance “ Keith Fogleman and Don Hall, 1. FY 18 Retirement Incentive; Under Item XI. (Item X on the original agenda) Board Matters add C. Architectural Selection “ Justin Witt; and add item D. Calendars 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 “ Tim Hensley passed with a motion by Mr. David Testerman 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 - Sharon Dodds, Principal of Wallace A. Smith Elementary

V. Exemplars of Excellence

A. NJROTC The Howard School Recognition as Most Improved Program in Area 9 - Colonel Tom McConnell

VI. Presentations

A. County Working Group Update - Dr. Johnson

Dr. Johnson recognized Mr. Tim Kelly and Mr. Larry Bouy to present and update from the County Mayor's working group.

B. Teaching and Learning Reorganization - Dr. Justin Robertson

Dr. Robertson discussed the reorganization of the Curriculum and Instruction Department/Operations. Dr. Robertson stated that the changes are budget neutral. After the presentation discussion continued between the Board members and Dr. Robertson.

C. Calendar Adjustments - Dr. Nakia Towns Edwards
Removed from Presentations and added as an Amended Agenda item.

VII. Delegations

A. Dan Liner, HCEA
Mr. Liner spoke on behalf of teachers.

B. Ezra Harris/Michael Gilliland - Stand Up for School Bus Safety
Mr. Harris spoke regarding school bus safety and the group that has been established to address the issue.

VIII. **Approval of the Minutes of the January 18, 2018 Regular Session

approve the minutes of the January 18, 2018 Regular Session. 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

IX. **Approval of the Consent Agenda

approval of the consent agenda with the following items being pulled by Mrs. Thurman-
Item IX. B.1.a.1. CSAS Field Trip to Tono, Japan; Item IX. D.2. Ratification of

Music/Vocal Music Textbook Adoption Committee; and Mrs. Robinson - Item IX.C.1.1a. Tyner Roof. passed with a motion by Mr. David Testerman 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

After discussion a motion was made to add the CSAS Field to Tono, Japan back to the agenda for approval and it passed with a motion by Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson and a second by Mr. Joe Galloway.

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

After discussion a motion was made to add the Textbook Adoption Committee back to the agenda for approval and it passed with a motion by Mrs. Rhonda Thurman 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

After discussion the Tyner Roof project was added back to the agenda for approval and it 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

Chairman Highlander recognized Mrs. Thurman to speak regarding the Textbook Adoption Committee. Mrs. Thurman stated that she had received an invitation which had nothing to do with the committee but they did receive an invitation to a Big River Grille and Brewing Works for conversation while exploring the new HMH K-8 custom Science program. She asked if that was regarding an adoption they wanted us to review. Dr. Justin Robertson stated he had not received that invitation but Mrs. Thurman stated it had come through HCDE Announcements. Mrs. Thurman asked Attorney Bennett if this was appropriate since drinks were served there. Attorney Bennett stated he was not familiar with the practice but was familiar with Board policy about code of ethics and it prohibits acceptance of gifts of other things of any value. Discussion continued.

A. Executive Committee Report

B. School Operations

1. Field Trips

a. Dr. Robert Sharpe – Director, Secondary Operations Le Andrea Ware – Director, Secondary Operations (23)

1. a.1. CSS Field trip to Tono, Japan

Chairman Highlander recognized Mrs. Thurman to speak regarding the CSAS field trip to Tono, Japan. Mrs. Thurman stated she would not be voting for the field as she did not like that the Board would be responsible for a group of kids going all the way to Japan. She stated she felt if they wanted to travel to Japan they could get a travel agent and go themselves.

Chairman Highlander asked if this was in conjunction with Mayor Berke's sister city program. Mr. Testerman said that even private schools in town had discontinued school sponsored trips, especially ones out of the country and if this is something the Mayor of Chattanooga wants to do and maybe some other groups want to get behind it, maybe they should be the ones sponsoring it. He stated he had a problem with it being a school sponsored trip.

Chairman Highlander asked Principal, Jim Boles if he could address some of the issues. Mr. Boles stated that this is an exchange program with Japan that has been going on since 1993 even though CSAS students haven't traveled to

Japan in some time. He stated that a trip to Madrid coming up this summer had already been approved by the Board.

b. Karen Hollis and Dr. Neelie Parker - Elementary Operations(1)

c. Jill Levine and Saunya Goss - Opportunity Zone (1)

d. John Maynard - Career and Technology (3)

C. Business and Finance - Christie Jordan

1. Bids/Contracts Chairman recognized Mrs. Robinson to speak regarding the Tyner Academy Auditorium Re-Roof project. She asked how does this play into the work that is going to happen. Mr. Witt stated it wouldn't and they agreed that it is totally separate.

2. Financial Reports

3. Budget Amendments

a. Federal Grants and Self-Funded Programs

b. Pre K Budget Amendment

4. Appropriation of Unassigned Fund Balance

D. Curriculum and Instruction - Dr. Justin Robertson

1. Ratification of Music/Vocal Music Textbook Adoption Committee Chairman Highlander recognized Mrs. Thurman to speak regarding the Textbook Adoption Committee. Mrs. Thurman stated that she had received an invitation which had nothing to do with the committee but they did receive an invitation to a Big River Grille and Brewing Works for conversation while exploring the new HMH K-8 custom Science program. She asked if that was regarding an adoption they wanted us to review. Dr. Justin Robertson stated he had not received that invitation but Mrs. Thurman stated it had come through HCDE Announcements. Mrs. Thurman asked Attorney Bennett if this was appropriate since drinks were served there. Attorney Bennett stated he was not familiar with the practice but was familiar with Board policy about code of ethics and it prohibits acceptance of gifts of other things of any value. Discussion continued.

2. Textbook Adoption Committee Additions

E. Operations - Dr. Lee McDade

1. Board Policy 5.604 First Reading Overtime Pay of Classified Personnel

2. 1st Semester Bullying Report - Karen Glenn

F. Human Resources - Keith Fogleman

1. New Position Request

X. Administrative Business Matters

A. Operations - Dr. Lee McDade

1. **Bakewell Water Line Easement - Justin Witt

approval of the request for an easement for the UnionFork-Bakewell Utility District 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

Chairman Highlander recognized Dr. McDade to speak regarding the Bakewell Water Line Easement. Mr. Witt stated that there is an existing easement with a main well that is on the North Hamilton Elementary property with a future intent of placing it there for future development. Bakewill utilities is in a position now with the increasing numbers of houses and development there is a bigger demand for water in that area so they have asked to provide a water easement to not only provide water to the community but for future developments on our property. It will have a water line that we can tie into in the future.

B. Human Resources/Finance - Keith Fogleman and Don Hall

1. **FY 18 Retirement Incentive

approval of the request to offer a retirement incentive for FY18 passed with a motion by Mr. Joe Galloway and a second by Mrs. Tiffanie Robinson.

Dr. Steve Highlander: Abstain (With Conflict)
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. David Testerman: Yes
Mr. Joe Wingate: Yes

Yes: 7, No: 1, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

Mrs. Rhonda Thurman: No

This was discussed in the Board Work Session.

XI. Board Matters

A. **Partnership MOA - Dr. Bryan Johnson

approval of the Partnership MOA with the State Department of Education in regard to the Opportunity Zone schools passed with a motion by Mrs. Karitsa Jones 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

Chairman Highlander recognized Dr. Johnson who stated that everyone had before them the MOA that the Commissioner shared last week or maybe in the agenda packet so if there were not any questions then we should move forward.

B. ****Discussion and Possible Vote of Resolution Regarding A-F Grading System**

approval of a resolution speaking against the A-F Grading System previously approved by the legislature passed with a motion by Mr. Joe Galloway and a second by Mr. David Testerman.

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

Yes: 7, No: 2

Mr. Joe Smith: No, Mr. Joe Wingate: No

Chairman Highlander stated he had agreed to draft this on behalf of the Board. Chairman stated he had done extensive research before putting the document together. He also stated that Dr. Johnson had recommended leaving out the last paragraph and that would be fine if everyone else was ok with that suggestion. Chairman Highlander read the resolution aloud.

Mr. Galloway stated he appreciated Chairman Highlander's effort in putting the resolution together and was in favor of it.

Mrs. Thurman asked what the State is using to decide whether schools are A-F or is the system going to decide?

Dr. Johnson stated that at the last Board meeting several things were discussed that would be a part of the decision. Mrs. Thurman followed by stating that "a lot has to do with what the Central Office is doing, not necessarily the students. If we are offering the right courses in the right schools, there using that so that doesn't have anything to do with the students in the schools. I don't want the students to look like if we don't offer the right courses in the right schools then they are going to get a bad grade when really the teachers and students don't have any control over that but yet they are going to be graded on that and I don't think that is fair. Then in some schools we have so many English as a second language students there is no way there grades can probably be where they need to be and they are....." She stated she felt more for the teachers and principals of some of the schools because some of the things they have no control over and its going to make their school look really bad when they don't have control of some of these things.

Chairman Highlander said he has done a lot of research and North Carolina and Virginia are two areas that are close to our region but it's all over the country being done and the primary recipients of the F schools are those children who are in schools that have a really high percentage of free and reduced lunch and the ones that are predominantly the A schools across the nation have very low percentage. So quite often they are graded on the basis of....the presumption is that they are graded on the basis of their economics and most people, from articles he read, think it is very negative for children, both rural and urban.

Discussion continued.

C. ** Architectural Selection - Justin Witt

approval of the architects selected for the upcoming building and renovation projects passed with a motion by Mr. Joe Galloway 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

Mr. Witt read the names of the architectural firms selected for the upcoming building projects.

East Hamilton Middle School	TWH Architects, A Michael Brady Company Inc.
Harrison Elementary	Franklin Architects

Howard High Stadium and Track Barge Design Solutions
Snow Hill Elementary Addition Neuhoff Taylor Architects
Tyner Middle High & CSLA Derthick, Henley, & Wilkerson Architects, PLCC

D. **Calendars 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 - Tim Hensley
approval of the 2018-2019 School Calendar Option #3 passed with a motion by Mr. Joe Galloway and a second by Mr. David Testerman.

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

Discussion of the calendar was held during the Work Session prior to the Board meeting.

Option #3 was presented for 2018-2019.

Work will continue with the 2019-2020 calendar to be presented at a later meeting.

XII. Information Only

A. Legal Services Report

XIII. Events/Announcements

XIV. Adjourn

Chairperson

Date

Superintendent

Date