

July 20, 2020
Franklin, Tennessee

The Franklin Special School District Board of Education met on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at Johnson Elementary School, 2959 Del Rio Pike, Franklin, with the following members present:

Tim Stillings, Chair
Robert Blair, Vice Chair
Allena Bell
Kevin Townsel
Alicia Barker
Robin Newman

Others present were: Dr. David Snowden, Dr. Mary Decker, Dr. David Esslinger, Mark Anderson, Drew Bingham, Amy Fisher, Celby Glass, Carol Riordan, Susannah Gentry, members of the Leadership Team, FSSDEA and parents.

The July 20, 2020 Board Meeting was live streamed at <https://youtu.be/ae8ixoWGhLs>.

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chair Stillings called the meeting to order at 6:30. An announcement regarding COVID-19 safety precautions was made at the beginning of the meeting: all attendees were screened as they entered the building, seats are physically distanced, and masks may be removed for speaking, otherwise masks should be worn if possible. A moment of silence was requested for our students, parents, personnel, health care workers and members of the community.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

JES Principal Mrs. Tosha Robinson-Baugh welcomed those in attendance and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. PUBLIC INPUT

- Lakeesha Turks, 197 Polk Place Drive, Franklin – her daughter had trouble accessing online programs with the Chromebook provided during the Spring semester, and requested that the district is ready to address possible issues with technology while students are learning remotely in a timely manner. If students are in the classroom setting, teachers are available for issues.
Response from the district: technology support will be ongoing: contact your teacher first, if not resolved, the teacher will consult with technology and/or the building level instructional technology person. Google classroom and ZOOM will be the main programs and the hub for questions from students and parents.
- Nella McCall, 16 Zinnia Lane, Franklin – spoke in concern over meeting CDC guidelines, lack of day care for children, and the potential risk for families and

children, asking for consideration to delay the start of school for 30 days, use a combination of in school and at home, or split days that students attend, also to reach out to the community and to seek emergency funding from the government.

III. REPORTS / PRESENTATIONS / DISCUSSIONS

1. **Teaching and Learning Spotlight**, “Leadership Retreat 2020” – Presented by Dr. Mary Decker, Associate Director (on file).
2. **Construction Report** – Presented by Dr. David Esslinger, Associate Director (on file). Adam Seiter, Project Executive with Nabholz Architectural Firm, was on hand for questions.

IV. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA

Robin Newman made a **motion** to approve the board agenda as presented. Kevin Townsel **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

V. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Allena Bell made a **motion** to approve the consent agenda as presented. Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

The items on the Consent Agenda are as follows:

1. Minutes of Board Meeting dated June 8, 2020
2. Minutes of Budget Work Session dated June 15, 2020
3. Minutes of DOS Performance Goals Work Session dated June 23, 2020
4. Minutes of Work Session dated July 16, 2020
5. FY 21 Consolidated Application Approval for IDEA/ESEA
6. 2020-21 Board of Education Meeting Schedule
7. 2020-21 Board of Education Annual Agenda
8. Budget Amendments

VI. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

Consideration of:

1. **Return to Learn 2020 Reopening of Schools** – Previously presented for discussion at the work session of July 16th in draft form, this plan was presented for approval, with input received from the board and from a questionnaire submitted to parents. Dr. Snowden reiterated that due to the changing environment, this plan has to be fluid and able to change, and the plan presented cannot address every item to be considered in the reopening of schools. A Frequently Asked Questions section will be added to the website. At the end of the week the plan basis will be submitted to the State.

Allena Bell made a **motion** to approve the **Return to Learn 2020 Reopening of Schools**, granting the Director of Schools the authority to modify the plan upon notification of the Board. Robert Blair **seconded** the motion. **By roll call vote**, the motion **passed 6-0**.

- 2. Resolution for Emergency Suspension of Board Policies During 2020-21 School Year** – This Resolution is meant to cover any deviations in certain Board policies as our reopening plans may have conflicts with those policies for a time period. The waiver of any board policies that are affected will only be effective if the Continuous Learning Plan is necessary to be implemented. Policies that could potentially conflict with various aspects of school reopening plans may include, but are not exclusive, of those that specify calendar operations, School Board meetings, our school day and emergency closings, attendance, and the community use of facilities. The administration recommended adoption of the Resolution.

Robert Blair made a **motion** to approve the **Resolution for Emergency Suspension of Board Policies During 2020-21 School Year** as presented. Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion, which **passed 6-0**.

- 3. FY 2020-21 Budget** - Provided for our meeting are the final general purpose budget and debt service documents, including the budget summary and complete revenues and expenditures. During the budget work sessions, much was accomplished through great questions and discussions by the Board. Appreciation was given for the diligent work over these last few months, recognized was the work done by Dr. Esslinger and his department personnel, as well as that of our administrators and supervisors during this budgetary process. The administration recommended approval of the FY 20-21 budget as presented in the final documents, as well as the budgets for federal, capital projects, Food Service and MAC. Mr. Stillings and Mr. Townsel both noted their conflict of interest and that their votes were for the good of the district and had no personal consideration.

Tim Stillings made a **motion** to approve the FY 2020-21 Budgets as presented. Allena Bell **seconded** the motion. **By roll call vote**, the motion **passed 6-0**.

- 4. FSSD Tax Rate for 2020-21** – The tax rate to fund the proposed budgets is **.6260** cents for the General Purpose and **.2030** cents for the Debt Service, for a total of **\$0.8290**. This is the same combined rate as the 2019-2020 budget. The administration recommended approval.

Robin Newman made a **motion** to approve the **FSSD Tax Rate for 2020-21** as presented. Allena Bell **seconded** the motion. **By roll call vote**, the motion **passed 6-0**.

- 5. Guaranteed Maximum Pricing (GMP) for Performing Arts Center and PGS Gymnasium** – Nabholz Construction Services, our Construction Management at Risk firm, has submitted the GMP for the new Performing Arts Center and the Poplar Grove Gymnasium. Their total GMP for the project is \$26,880,820 which is 1.3% lower than their previous estimate. The administration recommended approval of their Guaranteed Maximum Price as submitted in the July 15, 2020 document.

Allena Bell made a **motion** to approve the **Guaranteed Maximum Pricing (GMP) for Performing Arts Center and PGS Gymnasium** as presented. Robin Newman **seconded** the motion. **By roll call vote, the motion passed 6-0.**

- 6. Director of Schools Annual Performance Goals 2020-21** - Mr. Townsel led this item of the agenda, outlining the updates made from the prior year. Mr. Stillings requested whether Dr. Snowden, in true partnership with the board, would accept the document as it was written; Dr. Snowden accepted.

Kevin Townsel made a **motion** to approve the **Director of Schools Annual Performance Goals 2020-21** as presented. Robert Blair **seconded** the motion. **By roll call vote, the motion passed 6-0.**

- 7. New Policy: Home Schools (6.202) – 2nd Reading** - Using the TSBA model policy as a guide, this policy is to provide direction for independent home school requirements for those students zoned for FSSD, as required by the TDOE and current law. There were no changes requested by the Board upon first reading. The administration recommended approval of the second reading.

Tim Stillings made a **motion** to approve the new policy **Home Schools (6.202)** for the second reading as presented. Kevin Townsel **seconded** the motion, which **passed 6-0.**

- 8. Policy Revision: Reporting Child Abuse (6.409) – 1st Reading** – TSBA Director of Policy & Staff Attorney recommends revising this policy to align with new law enacted by the General Assembly, effective August 1st, which makes significant changes to several statutes that govern child abuse reporting requirements. Two of the most notable changes are: (1) the requirement to have one employee designated as the Child Abuse Coordinator at each school; and (2) the prohibition against notifying parents/guardians when educational officials suspect child abuse may have occurred. The name of the policy is also updated to reflect the content of the policy. The administration recommended approval of the first reading.

Robin Newman made a **motion** to approve the first reading of the revisions for **Reporting Child Abuse (6.409)** as presented. Allena Bell **seconded** the motion, which **passed 6-0.**

- 9. Policy Revision: Student Records (6.600) – 1st Reading** - This revision request updates legal and cross references as well as brings the policy up to current language. It is included in consideration of approval due to the request for deletion of the Student Records policy (6.603) which contains duplicate language. The administration recommended approval of the first reading.

Allena Bell made a **motion** to approve the first reading of the revisions for **Student Records (6.600)** as presented. Tim Stillings **seconded** the motion, which **passed 6-0.**

- 10. Policy Deletion: Use of Records (6.603) – 1st Reading** – As stated for Policy 6.600, this request for deletion is due to both policies containing the same language. The administration recommended approval of the first reading for deletion.

Tim Stillings made a **motion** for the first reading to delete **Use of Records (6.603)** as presented. Kevin Townsel **seconded** the motion, which **passed 6-0**.

VII. DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS REPORT

- **Opening of Schools** – This year our “school opening” when all personnel are due back will look very different. Although we do have a speaker that day, personnel will be in their own schools so that social distancing will be observed. We will not have a partnership fair this year for the same reason.

Following the opening, there will be professional learning occurring throughout the district. Included in the learning that day and the following days is orientation on health protocols that will be strictly followed, as well as student learning methods and scheduling for our first days back.

- **EQUIP** – The new teacher induction program will be conducted **July 28-30**.

We look forward to the first year of this updated program as we begin the orientation and support program for our newest FSSD teachers. We are excited to welcome all to the FSSD family.

- **Demographic Report** – Please note that the report that you are receiving this month is a general copy of May’s report; however, updates include how many kindergarten applications have been processed and student movement as of the end of June.
- **Upcoming conferences and meetings:**
 - TSBA Fall District Meeting – September 8th – At this time, the Mid-Cumberland Fall District Meeting is scheduled to meet at one of the Williamson County schools this Fall. If you will not be able to attend, please contact Carol as soon as possible.
 - NSBA CUBE Virtual Conference - September 22-24 – Early Bird registration ends July 31st
 - TSBA Leadership Conference and Annual Convention – November 12-15 – registration open
 - NABSE Virtual Conference – dates not yet posted
 - Equity Symposium and Advocacy Conference – January 23-26
 - Legislative and legal Institute – dates not yet available
 - NSBA Conference – April 10-12, New Orleans – registration opens October

X. UPDATES

Teaching & Learning – Dr. Decker provided the following (on file):

- Demographics for July 2020

Finance & Administration – Dr. Esslinger provided the following (on file):

- Personnel Change Report June/July 2020
- Investment Report dated 5-31-2020
- Revenue and Expenditure Reports dated 7-15-20
- Sales Tax Revenue Comparison Report for July

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dr. Esslinger reported that the tax received as of July was down 11.6% compared to last year.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Stillings adjourned the meeting at 7:21 p.m.



Tim Stillings, Chair

8/10/2020
Date

ATTEST:



Kevin Townsel, Secretary

8/10/20
Date