

November 8, 2021
Franklin, Tennessee

The Franklin Special School District Board of Education met at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, November 8, 2021, at Franklin Elementary School, 1501 Figuers Drive, Franklin. A link to the recording may be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6MfrCgWhaic> .

The following members were present: Chair Robert Blair, Alicia Barker, Allena Bell, Robin Newman, Tim Stillings and Kevin Townsel.

Others present were: Dr. David Snowden, Dr. Mary Decker, Dr. David Esslinger, Dr. Cheryl Robey, Mark Anderson, Josh Bracamontes, Shelly Robinson, Summer Carlton, Amy Fisher, Celby Glass, Lisa Chatman, Susannah Gentry, Chip Sternenber, Amanda Parks, Carol Riordan, principals and other district leadership team members and community members. Guest Board members Mrs. Tiffany Johnson from Rutherford County Schools and Mr. Butch Campbell from Murfreesboro City Schools were present to critique the Board as part of attaining Board of Distinction renewal.

Prior to the meeting the Board met with Attorney Mr. Chuck Cagle in Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and legislation. The Board did not deliberate toward nor make any decision during this session with Counsel.

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:29.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Franklin Elementary Principal Mrs. Anne Riley welcomed those in attendance and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Robert Blair called for a moment of silence before being seated.

III. RECOGNITIONS/GOOD NEWS

Good News – Dr. Mary Decker was recognized as serving as Chairperson of the 2022 Learning Forward Annual Conference, to be held in Nashville at the Gaylord Opryland in early December 2022.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

No one from the public addressed the Board.

V. REPORTS / PRESENTATIONS / DISCUSSIONS

- 1. Teaching and Learning Spotlight, "Leadership Meetings and Professional Learning"**
– Presented by Dr. Decker, this and more information is presented in the Summary of T&L Activity for November (on file).
- 2. Construction Report** – Presented by Dr. Esslinger (reports on file).

- 3. COVID-10 Protocols and Legislation Update** – Dr. Snowden updated the Board on Williamson County and district COVID cases: last week the district had two cases of infection, this week there are 14 infections and 53 exclusions. He also reported on the pending legislation that would only allow a mask mandate under certain conditions as outlined in the legislation. If the Governor signs the legislation, it will go into effect immediately, without the signature, it would go into effect in 10 days from writing, unless it is vetoed by the Governor. Students and personnel may continue to wear masks if they would like, however, without the mandate in place. Communication is ready to go out with information when the legislation is acted upon. According to our counsel, the judge in our court ruling did not limit school boards on their ability to issue or limit mandates. Current FSSD policy ends on January 11, 2022. With a law change, masks would be optional. The Federal Commission of Health is the office that is responsible for quarantining if legislation is passed.

VI. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA

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

VII. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

Approved under Consent Agenda (on file) were:

- 1. Minutes of Board Meeting dated October 18, 2021**
- 2. 2021 LEA Compliance Report**
- 3. Bids: Food and Culinary Services FIS and PGS Serving Line**
- 4. Budget Amendments**

VIII. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

- 1. Policy Revision: Substitute Personnel (5.701) – 1st Reading** - The revision makes the change in policy as to where certification is reported if a retired teacher substitutes over 120 days in the case that no other qualified personnel are available. With change in state law, that reporting now goes to the Division of Retirement instead of the State BOE. The administration recommended approval of the 1st Reading.

Alicia Barker made a **motion to approve the 1st Reading** of revisions to Substitute Personnel (5.701) as presented **and to waive the 2nd Reading**. Allena Bell **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

- 2. Policy Revision: Director of Schools Recruitment and Selection (5.801) – 1st Reading** - This revision follows a review after the annual TSBA audit of our policy manual. TSBA has suggested a change in wording on Item 4.d. based on state law stating “majority” instead of “2/3” vote of membership of the Board, although this nomenclature is the same

for a six-member Board. Also updated is the formatting of steps in the selection process and broadening of the wording based on the TSBA model policy. The administration recommended approval of the 1st Reading.

Robin Newman made a **motion to approve the 1st Reading** of revisions to Director of Schools Recruitment and Selection (5.801) as presented. Allena Bell **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

- 3. Policy Revision: Interference/Disruption of School Activities (6.306) – 1st Reading -**
This revision is per TSBA’s recommendations. “Public Chapter 77 establishes guidelines for principals and teachers to follow when disciplining students as well as a process for the removal of a student from a teacher’s classroom. It also includes an appeal process that a teacher can utilize if the principal denies the teacher’s removal request. This new law, the Teacher Discipline Act, impacts several policies that are required by state law.” This law is effective January 1, 2022. The administration recommended approval of the 1st Reading.

Allena Bell made a **motion to approve the 1st Reading** of revisions to Interference/Disruption of School Activities (6.306) as presented **and to waive the 2nd Reading**. Kevin Townsel **seconded** the motion. During discussion it was clarified that student removal would be situational, and this would be procedural and not written into the policy. The motion **carried 6-0**.

- 4. Policy Revision: Safe Relocation of Students (6.4082) – 1st Reading -** As in the revision for 6.306, TSBA has provided language based on Public Chapter 77 to establish guidelines for principals and teachers to follow when disciplining students as well as a process for the removal of a student from a teacher’s classroom. This law is effective January 1, 2022. The administration recommended approval of the 1st Reading.

Kevin Townsel made a **motion to approve the 1st Reading** of revisions for Safe Relocation of Students (6.4082) as presented **and to waive the 2nd Reading**. Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion, which **carried 6-0**.

VIII. DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS REPORT

- **Career Quest 2021** – Held virtually November 4th, our 8th graders will have had a successful day exploring opportunities. Thanks again to Dr. Lee Kirkpatrick, the Teaching & Learning Team, and the teachers and school administration for its success. We are optimistic that next year the event will be in person.
- **Williamson Chamber State of the Schools Event** – Held at the Williamson County Ag Expo Center November 2nd, it was a chance to highlight many of the great things happening in our district, including TCAP scores from this past year, mental health partnership with Mercy, our therapy dog program, and construction projects, just as examples. While it was a smaller venue this year, our principals also had the chance to attend virtually to hear the address, instead of attending in person as usual. Thanks to Williamson, Inc. for hosting WCS and FSSD at this event.

- **Be Nice Week** – As I highlighted in the State of the Schools address, we celebrate this week as putting special emphasis on our message throughout the district for character and kindness with many activities. We hope that you will be able to visit our schools this week.
- **Veteran’s Day Parade** November 11th – Back to the regular route this year, we look forward to participating in the parade. Six FSSD “Be Nice Student Ambassadors” from each school will walk in the City of Franklin’s Veteran’s Day Parade alongside our fourth graders, FIS Bulldog Council, and FMS/PGMS band, followed by the Story Bus Plus. We also invite you to ride or walk in the Veterans Day Parade on November 11th if your schedule permits.
- **Board meeting in December** – Although this has been scheduled, it is tentative on whether there will be a definitive need for a December Board meeting. The Executive Committee will be communicating after the Thanksgiving holidays for this decision.
- **Items for Board Retreat** – Please let us know if there are topics that you would like to have added to our agenda for January 8th. The Board and the Leadership Team will be continuing diversity training with Derek Young, as well as the Board hosting our legislators, and reviewing the 2022-23 calendar.

X. UPDATES

Teaching & Learning – Dr. Mary Decker, Associate Director for Teaching & Learning, provided the following (on file):

- Demographics Report for November 2021

Finance & Administration – David Esslinger, Associate Director for Finance & Administration, provided the following (on file):

- Personnel Change Report October/November 2021
- Investment Report
- Revenue and Expenditure Reports
- Sales Tax Revenue Comparison Report for November – this provided a 3-year sales tax comparison


XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The TSBA will hold the Delegate Assembly at the upcoming conference; our delegates have been previously chosen.
- Dr. Snowden was thanked for his part in making the Chamber event a success.
- The Board is appreciative of the Chamber members’ warm welcome at the State of the Schools address and acknowledges and appreciates the personal note from President/CEO Matt Largen, as well as the gift card that each Board member attending received.
- Mr. Blair thanked Dr. Lee Kirkpatrick for speaking about our partnership with Mercy Community Healthcare at a recent fundraising event.

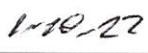
- There will be a Board Work Session on November 29; notification will be sent out in the coming week.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Blair adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

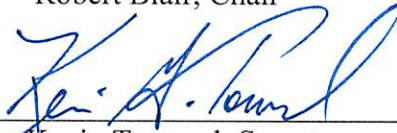


Robert Blair, Chair



Date

ATTEST:



Kevin Townsel, Secretary



Date