

September 12, 2022
Franklin, Tennessee

The Franklin Special School District Board of Education met at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, September 12, 2022, at Freedom Middle School, 750 New Highway 96 West, Franklin. A link to the recording may be found at <https://youtu.be/XUP556fZP4s> .

The following members were present: Chair Robert Blair, Alicia Barker, Allena Bell, Tim Stillings and Kevin Townsel. Not present was: Robin Newman.

Others present were: Dr. David Snowden, Dr. Mary Decker, Carol Riordan, Susannah Gentry, Robbin Cross, Leslie Duke, Chip Sternenberg, Bo Alexander, Dr. Lee Kirkpatrick, Dr. Cheryl Robey, Mark Anderson, Celby Glass, Dr. Pax Wiemers, Amy Fisher, principals, other district leadership team members and community.

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Freedom Middle Principal Dr. Charles Farmer welcomed those in attendance and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Robert Blair called for a moment of silence before being seated.

III. OATH OF OFFICE

Notary Public for Williamson County Carol Riordan gave the Oath of Office to re-elected members Mr. Tim Stillings and Mrs. Allena Bell. Mrs. Robin Newman gave her Oath of Office in front of County Mayor Rogers Anderson on September 6th due to a prior commitment. Special guests for the Oath were Mr. Stillings' father, Mr. Mark Stillings, and wife, Melissa Stillings, and Mrs. Bell's family who included husband Gary Bell, children Chandler, Avery and Grayson, and sister and brother-in-law Dorena and (Pastor) Chris Williamson. (Signed Oaths and Certificates of Election are on file.)

IV. 2022-23 ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

Board Policy 1.200 establishes September as the date the Board organizes through the election of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. As Director of Schools, Dr. Snowden opened the floor for nomination of the 2022-23 Board.

Tim Stillings nominated a **slate of officers for 2022-23** as follows: Alicia Barker, Chair; Allena Bell, Vice Chair; Robin Newman, Treasurer; Kevin Townsel, Secretary. This nomination was rescinded and a second nomination was made by Mr. Stillings as follows:

Chairman: Robert Blair
Vice Chair: Allena Bell
Treasurer: Robin Newman
Secretary: Kevin Townsel

Dr. Snowden asked for other nominations and hearing none called for the vote.

The slate of officers nominated was elected by roll call vote, 5 ayes, 0 nays.

With the close of Election of Board Officers, Mr. Blair left the meeting with a prior commitment. Vice Chair Bell conducted the remainder of the meeting in Mr. Blair's absence. A quorum was still reached with the remaining four Board members.

V. RECOGNITIONS/GOOD NEWS

1. **Resolution in Support of Our Students and Teachers by Requesting the TN General Assembly to Amend 49-6-3115 to Allow School Districts to Make Retention Decisions for Third and Fourth Grade Students** – (on file) read to the meeting participants and signed by those members present.
2. **Good News** – (on file) Student Artist of the Month MES 4th grader Eliza Cathey, recognized for her oil pastel pumpkin artwork completed in Mr. Reynold's art class; thank you for Sonic Drive-In for sponsoring the student artist of the month program with a generous \$15 gift card for our highlighted artist; Chuck Sugg, Franklin Sonic Managing Partner, recognized for his long-time community partnership with our district, highlighting the many ways his support of and sponsorship is appreciated.

VI. PUBLIC INPUT

Public input was requested but there was none for this meeting.

VII. REPORTS / PRESENTATIONS / DISCUSSIONS

1. **Teaching and Learning Spotlight** – “Get to Know the T&L Team – Technology and Media Supervisor Mark Anderson” - introduced by Dr. Decker, a video filmed and edited by Mrs. Amber Whitley of T&L was shown which introduced the Technology Department members.
2. **Construction Report** – presented by Dr. Snowden in Dr. Esslinger's absence. Facilities Supervisor Mr. Chip Sternberg was present for questions from the Board.
3. **2022-23 Community Pre-K Advisory Council Board Representative** – Mr. Kevin Townsel served will serve in this capacity again for 2022-23.
4. **2022-23 TSBA Legislative Liaison** – Mrs. Robin Newman will serve in this capacity again for 2022-23.
5. **2022 TSBA Convention Delegates** – Dr. Alicia Barker, Mr. Kevin Townsel and Mrs. Allena Bell will serve as delegates at the annual TSBA Leadership Conference & Annual Convention.

6. **COSSBA Urban Boards Alliance Symposium** – Takeaways from Mrs. Bell were given. Mrs. Bell reported that the focus of the conference was on teaching and learning and on strong curriculum. She reported that there will be a national conference in Spring 2023 and another August.

VIII. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA

Kevin Townsel made a **motion** to approve the Board Agenda as presented. Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion, which **carried 4-0**.

IX. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Tim Stillings made a **motion** to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion, which **carried 4-0**.

Approved under Consent Agenda (on file) were:

1. **Minutes of Board Meeting dated August 8, 2022**
2. **Minutes of Work Session dated August 23, 2022**
3. **Extended Contract Proposals**
4. **Student Disciplinary Hearing Authority Appointment** – In accordance with Policy 6.317, Mrs. Tosha Robinson-Baugh, Dr. Joel Hoag and Dr. JP Orman have been selected for Board approval to serve on this panel.

X. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

1. **Annual Contract to Audit Accounts FY 2022-23** - Matlock Clements, P.C. has provided the contracts to conduct financial audits of the FSSD for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 at a fixed auditor fee of \$29,070. The fee of \$28,500 had been the same amount that had been in our contracts for the past ten years. There are two contracts, one for the district accounts and one for the individual school activity funds. The administration recommended approval.

Tim Stillings made a **motion** to approve Matlock Clements, P.C. for the annual contract to audit accounts FY 2022-23, which includes district accounts and individual school activity funds, at a fixed auditor fee of \$29,070. Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion, which was **approved by roll call vote 4-0**.

2. **New Policy: Virtual Education Program (4.212) – 2nd Reading** – Public Chapter 897 allows districts to utilize virtual instruction for up to two days each semester. This option can only be used in certain scenarios (i.e., severe weather, serious outbreak of illness). TSBA has provided their model policy for our modifications. Although PC 897 only allows our district up to two days each semester for virtual instruction if needed. The district will continue to earn stockpiled days to use for inclement weather. Minor updates have been made upon final review by the administration for 2nd Reading such as removing Line 11 #2 “Continuity of educational service for students who are quarantining”, as there is no State Board remote learning policy for 22-23, as well as “administration of end of course examinations...” as exams would not be administered virtually. PC 897 was provided for

the board for reference purposes. There were no changes requested by the Board upon 1st Reading. The administration recommended approval.

Alicia Barker made a **motion** to approve the second reading of the new policy Virtual Education Program (4.212) as presented. Kevin Townsel **seconded** the motion, which **passed 4-0**

- 3. Policy Revision: Attendance (6.200) – 2nd Reading** - Tennessee Code Annotated 49-6-3007 changes the tiers of the progressive truancy plan. Under this new law, Tier I applies to all students to provide school-wide prevention-oriented supports. TSBA has provided updates to this policy to align with these changes. Along with these revisions, per Public Chapter 878, state law no longer permits the denial of a driver's license due to poor student academic performance. Accordingly, TSBA has updated their model policy to reflect this change. There were no changes requested by the board upon 1st Reading. The administration recommended approval.

Kevin Townsel made a **motion** to approve the second reading of the revisions to **Attendance (6.200)** as presented. Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion, which **passed 4-0**.

- 4. Policy Revision: Grading System (4.600) – 1st Reading** – Revisions update introductory wording by outlining administrative procedure and responsibility in the evaluation and recording of student progress. In addition, the policy is updated based on the new grading scale for high school courses the WCS Board has adopted in their Board Policy 4.600. This applies to our high school courses taken at the middle school level: algebra, geometry, languages and computer science. In these courses, students may receive high school honors credit by passing (grade 70 or above) both semesters of the course. In addition, for Honors courses that are taught at high school level, teachers will add three (3) percentage points to each grading period and each midterm and final exam. These courses will be included in the calculation towards the WCS Honors Diploma. The administration recommended approval.

Tim Stillings made a **motion** to approve the first reading of the revisions to **Grading System (4.600)** as presented. Kevin Townsel **seconded** the motion, which **passed 4-0**.

- 5. Policy Revision: Student Assignments (6.205) – 1st Reading** – Revisions are to bring the policy to current practice. The administration recommended approval.

Tim Stillings made a **motion** to approve the first reading of revisions to **Student Assignments (6.205)** as presented. Kevin Townsel **seconded** the motion, which **passed 4-0**.

- 6. Policy Revision: Use of Personal Communication Devices and Electronic Devices (6.312) – 1st Reading** – Revisions are to bring the policy to current practice. The administration recommended approval.

Kevin Townsel made a **motion** to approve the first reading of the revisions to **Use of Personal Communication Devices and Electronic Devices (6.312)** as presented and to **waive the second reading**. Allena Bell **seconded** the motion, which **passed 4-0**.

XI. DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS REPORT

- **Director of Schools Advisory Council** - The members of the Director of Schools Advisory Council are in the process of being selected from each site. Our first meeting is scheduled for October 6th. The Advisory Council is composed of an employee and alternate from each school, representatives from the central office, FSSDEA, maintenance/landscaping and transportation. The meetings offer opportunities to celebrate successes at each site/department, as well as to bring concerns and questions to the Director of Schools.
- **Complaint Managers for the FSSD** - The Director of Schools has appointed the Associate Directors or designees as Complaint Managers for the FSSD in accordance with the Complaints and Grievances Policy (5.501).
- **Fall Break** - The FSSD's student Fall Break will occur October 10 - 14. District offices will be closed as well during this time.
- **Conferences and meetings update:** Carol has provided the Board upcoming opportunities for Board development.
- **The Williamson Chamber** will be hosting the State of the Schools Address, coming up on September 29 at the Factory - Mr. Stillings, Mrs. Newman and Mr. Townsel will be representing our Board, along with our Associate Directors, principals and assistant principals in attendance. We look forward to being an integral part of this Chamber event.
- Also, thanks to each Board member for your diligence in your personal growth as a board member as well as growth as a collective board. As noted earlier in the meeting, Mrs. Bell has just attended the new Consortium of State School Boards Association Urban Boards Alliance Symposium; the Mid-Cumberland Region of our Tennessee School Boards Association will be meeting the evening of September 29th with Mr. Townsel, Mr. Stillings and Mrs. Newman in attendance, while Mr. Blair, Mr. Townsel and Mrs. Bell will be representing us at the National School Boards Association Council of Urban Board Educators (CUBE) Conference during the same time frame and through the weekend.
- In addition, in November our district is always well-represented by our board at the TSBA Leadership Conference and Annual Convention, as well as the National Association of Black School Educators Conference (NABSE), both upcoming professional development opportunities. Mr. Blair and Mr. Townsel will be representing us at the NABSE Conference this year.

XII. UPDATES

Teaching & Learning – Dr. Mary Decker, Associate Director for Teaching & Learning,

provided the following (on file):

- Demographics Report for September 2022

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

- Personnel Change Report August/September 2022
- Investment Report
- Revenue and Expenditure Reports
- Sales Tax Revenue Comparison Report for September


XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

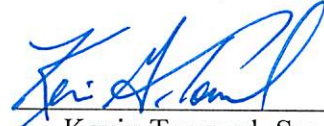
XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Bell adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m.


Allena Bell, Vice Chair


Date

ATTEST:


Kevin Townsel, Secretary


Date