

October 17, 2022
Franklin, Tennessee

The Franklin Special School District Board of Education met at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, October 17, 2022, at Freedom Intermediate School, 840 Glass Lane, Franklin. A link to the recording may be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dTDcJ-eTcs0>.

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

Others present were: Dr. David Snowden, Dr. Mary Decker, Carol Riordan, Susannah Gentry, Robbin Cross, Leslie Duke, Chip Sternenberg, Dr. Lee Kirkpatrick, Dr. Cheryl Robey, Mark Anderson, Celby Glass, Dr. Pax Wiemers, Amy Fisher, Marne' Price, Jeremy Maxwell, Dr. Gina Looney, Summer Carlton, Josh Bracamontes, Shelley Robinson, principals, other district leadership team members, community and media.

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:32.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Freedom Intermediate Principal Dr. Joel Hoag 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

Recognized this month: Student Artist of the Month PGMS 6th grader Izzy Brandon, whose artwork was a bird of paradise in the style of "amate bark painting" as part of the focus on Hispanic Heritage Month; 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; former student and Eagle Scout Max Hancock, who created a butterfly garden at PGES; FIS FCS personnel Freda McLemore and Kristin Hardemon were recognized for coming to the aid of a choking student; TN Association of School Librarians Conference recognitions: FIS Principal Dr. Joel Hoag, with the Distinguished School Administrator Award and media specialist Dinah Wade and teacher Jill Ashworth with The Teacher Collaboration Award; FMS Cross Country runners Dane Bergsrud, Margaret Swafford, Naomi Mercer, Davis Cox, Miles Elam and Honor Harris, all who competed and placed in the Championship Run and Medal Run – South (all on file).

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

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

V. REPORTS / PRESENTATIONS / DISCUSSIONS

1. Teaching and Learning Spotlight – "FSSD Social Workers" - introduced by Dr. Decker, Amanda Fisher's and Melissa Lopez's responsibilities were highlighted by Ms. Fisher. For

additional information on their roles as well as updates from the T&L Department, the T&L Summary was provided for the Board (on file).

2. **Street Names for FMS and PGS Complex** – PAC Coordinator Jeremy Maxwell reported the options our Leadership Team/School Teams have proposed for the naming of the three private streets in this property (the road that runs in front of all three buildings, the road that runs behind FMS and the road that runs behind PGS), for the Board’s discussion.

As presented by Mr. Maxwell: with the additions of the PAC and new sports fields at the back of the properties there is a greater need for more efficiency for parents, patrons and spectators to find these new facilities. Giving our private drives names associated with the district and schools also lends a sense of ownership and uniqueness to the area around the facilities. Criteria given for naming the streets: the street names cannot already exist in Williamson County, the streets cannot be named after individuals, and that there would be multiple names in case the first choices are not approved. The signage must be blue to signify a private street. The top three suggested names are as follows: for the main drive in front of the schools and the PAC: Excellence Way, Excellence Avenue and Be Nice Drive; for the drive behind FMS: Freedom Circle, Stars Boulevard and Stars Way; for the drive behind PGS: Poplar Grove Pass, Pride Drive and Pride Lane. The Board was requested to let the administration be aware that evening if they had other names to be considered

At the November meeting, street names are slated to be chosen by the Board for submission to the City for approval. Addresses of the schools and PAC will change as a result of street naming.

3. **Construction Report** – Presented by Dr. Esslinger (on file), there were no questions from the Board.
4. **FSSD Energy Management Update** – Dr. Esslinger outlined an update for our energy management due to lighting upgrades/sensors, district-wide behavior changes, automated HVAC/building automation software, and highly efficient kitchen equipment upgrades. Even with additional new square footage with some of our buildings, usage and energy costs have been stable. Job responsibilities compared to the prior energy management have evolved: recommended are continued focus on energy management and modifications, discontinuance of Cenergistic management software, discontinuance of physical, after-hour audits by our energy specialists, continued communication of expectations for energy conservation via email and an addition of a biannual newsletter, continuation of current operation and shut down guidelines, and continued review of monthly costs and usage for all utilities. The new role of our Energy Specialist will include being the central point of contact for scheduling and support of all HVAC building automation software, providing training for administrators on key components of their systems, managing district-wide key pad codes, as well as communication elements listed above (full report is on file).

VI. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA

Allena Bell made a **motion** to approve the Board Agenda as presented. Robin Newman **seconded** the motion, which **passed 5-0**.

VII. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Robin Newman made a **motion** to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion, which **passed 5-0**.

Approved under Consent Agenda (on file) were:

1. **Minutes of Board Meeting dated September 12, 2022**
2. **Bids: Transportation Department Type D Buses**
3. **Surplus Property Authorization – 2007 Thomas Type D Diesel School Bus**

VIII. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

1. **Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Limited Tax School Improvement Bonds** (on file) - Our Private Acts were last amended in 2021: that amendment allowed the school district to issue an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$45,000,000. The Board approved the issuance in the principal amount of \$19,185,000 in May, 2021. The resolution before the Board at the current meeting authorized the issuance of limited tax school improvement bonds for the FSSD in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$25,815,000. Whit Moloney from Piper Sandler was present to answer any questions related to the issuance. The administration recommended approval.

Allena Bell made a **motion** to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Limited Tax School Improvement Bonds for the FSSD in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$25,815,000, as presented. Kevin Townsel **seconded** the motion, which by roll call vote **passed 5-0**.

2. **Central Office Complex – Phase 1B Guaranteed Maximum Price** – Amendment No. 2 included \$3,609,228 for Phase 1B of the Central Office Complex (labeled Facilities & Transportation Center) (on file). This is for the interior of that building. Nabholz's John Strack, EVP of Operations and Marco Regoli, Project Manager were on hand for questions. The administration recommended approval.

Kevin Townsel made a **motion** to approve the Central Office Complex – Phase 1B Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$3,609,228 as outlined in Amendment No. 2. Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion, which by roll call vote **passed 5-0**.

3. **ESSER 3.0 Public Plan for Remaining Funds 2022-23** – The next three items (on file) concern our ESSER 3.0 funding and needs the Board's final consent. The first is the Public Plan for Remaining Funds – Addendum Guidance. The Board will need to provide approval every six months for this funding. The administration recommended approval.

Kevin Townsel made a **motion** to approve the Public Plan for Remaining Funds 2022-23 – Addendum Guidance as presented. Allena Bell **seconded** the motion, which by roll call vote **passed 5-0**.

4. **Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan Addendum Guidance 2022-23** – This document needed to be approved prior to posting on our website.

LEAs are required to update the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan every six months. The administration recommended approval.

Alicia Barker made a **motion** to approve the Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan Addendum Guidance 2022-23 as presented. Kevin Townsel **seconded** the motion, which **passed 5-0**.

5. **FY23 ESSER 2.0 and ESSER 3.0 Application for Board Approval School Year 2022-23** – This application is formal approval of the Board for the ESSER budgets. The addendum documents the Board has reviewed and voted on prior includes the breakdown of the budgets for the remaining funds in ESSER 2.0 and ESSER 3.0. All planning documents but the final sign-off have been submitted online and have moved through State approval, and now require full Board approval to move forward. Dr. Snowden recognized Dr. Pax Wiemers and Mrs. Teresa Dickson for their work during the reporting process. The administration recommended approval.

Allena Bell made a **motion** to approve the FY23 ESSER 2.0 and ESSER 3.0 Application for Board Approval School Year 2022-23 as presented. Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion, which by roll call vote **passed 5-0**.

6. **Policy Revision: Grading System (4.600) – 2nd 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 60 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. One update was made for 2nd Reading: on Page 2 Line 21 “70” was changed to “60”. There were no changes requested by the Board upon 1st Reading. The administration recommended approval.

Allena Bell made a **motion** to approve the second reading of the revisions to **Grading System (4.600)** as presented. Kevin Townsel **seconded** the motion, which **passed 5-0**.

7. **Policy Revision: Student Assignments (6.205) – 2nd Reading** – Revisions are to bring the policy to current practice. There were no changes requested by the Board upon 1st Reading. The administration recommended approval.

Robin Newman made a **motion** to approve the second reading of the revisions to **Student Assignments (6.205)** as presented. Allena Bell **seconded** the motion, which **passed 5-0**.

8. **Policy Revision: Promotion and Retention (4.603) – 1st Reading** – TSBA has provided policy update recommendations based on a new state law which will impact students this school year. Quoted from TSBA, “the State Board of Education has updated a regulation that goes into more detail on the process. In particular, districts should be aware of the

required contents of promotion plans, involvement of special education staff, when appropriate, and the criteria for retention decisions. While much focus has been placed on third and fourth graders, [TSBA] would encourage district staff to review this process for all students as it is important to understand how this policy applies at different grade levels.” The administration recommended approval.

Kevin Townsel made a **motion to approve the first reading** of the revisions to **Promotion and Retention (4.603)** as presented **and to waive the second reading**. Allena Bell **seconded** the motion, which **passed 5-0**.

XI. DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS REPORT

- **Fall Break** - The FSSD’s student Fall Break was October 10 - 14. District offices were closed as well during this time.
- **FSSD/Parks & Rec Baseball and Softball Complex Ribbon Cutting event** – The ribbon cutting is scheduled for November 4th beginning at 3:00, we hope our Board members will be able to attend.
- **Remote Learning Drill – October 25** – Our families have been notified by Blackboard Connect that to be in compliance with a new Tennessee law, we will be conducting a remote learning drill on Tuesday, October 25th to ensure that schools, students, and parents/guardians can easily transition from in-person to remote learning in the event of an emergency. As part of the drill, all K-8 students will take home their assigned tablet/laptop and will be asked to complete a simple digital assignment on the device. Teachers will practice this task at school with students ahead of the drill so they understand the expectations.
- **JA Finance Park replacing Career Quest** – The basics of this program was previously provided to the Board by email. Our 8th graders will experience career exploration and financial literacy aligned to numerous 8th grade TN Social Studies, ELA, Math and Guidance Standards during the dates of **December 2-8**. Additionally, our 8th graders will visit their zoned high schools during the spring to tour CTE classes and also learn about the WCS Entrepreneurship and Innovation Center. Partnering with these opportunities are Innovative Schools Models grants we are seeking for both FMS and PGMS to further ensure success of our students transitioning to similar high school programs. We are excited to have our students experience each of these changes as we move through this year and beyond.
- **Conferences and meetings update:** Board members have been provided a listing of the upcoming conferences and meetings, please let us know of your interest in attending if you have not already.

XII. UPDATES

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

provided the following (on file):

- Demographics Report for October 2022

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

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

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Taxes received were down 2.2% compared to that during the last fiscal year.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

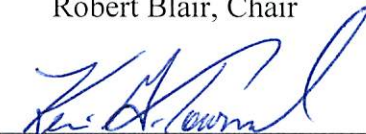
Chair Blair adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.



Robert Blair, Chair

11/14/2022
Date

ATTEST:



Kevin Townsel, Secretary

11/14/22
Date