

January 9, 2023
Franklin, Tennessee

The Franklin Special School District Board of Education met at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 9, 2023, at Poplar Grove Elementary School, 2959 Del Rio Pike, Franklin. A link to the recording may be found at <https://youtu.be/yYVqzRtswlU>.

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

Others present were: Dr. David Snowden, Dr. Mary Decker, Dr. David Esslinger, Carol Riordan, Susannah Gentry, Robbin Cross, Chip Sternenberg, Dr. Lee Kirkpatrick, Dr. Cheryl Robey, Mark Anderson, Celby Glass, Dr. Pax Wiemers, Amy Fisher, Jeremy Maxwell, Summer Carlton, principals, other district leadership team members, FSSDEA and community.

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Poplar Grove Elementary Principal Dr. Alisha Erickson 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

1. **Proclamation in Honor of School Board Appreciation Week** – Mayor Ken Moore presented the Proclamation to the Board (on file).
2. **Good News Awards** - Student Artist of the Month for December was PGES 2nd grader Aadya Narayan from Mallory Hamby's art class, who used the children's television icon Mr. Rogers to express the social emotional component of instruction. Student Artist of the Month for January was PGES 1st grader Maddison Giron Dominguez (also from Mallory Hamby's art class) who used the study of motor skills, texture and the artistic talents of a guitar designer with the Hispanic Heritage unit as an emphasis, to create a colorful guitar out of paper and other materials. Thanks to Chuck Sugg and Sonic Drive-In for sponsoring the student artist of the month program. Also recognized were JES teacher Drew Wilkerson, recently honored by the TN Educational Technology Association as its Teacher of the Year; also Board members Robert Blair and Kevin Townsel, who presented a session at the NABSE Conference in November on FSSD's approach to teaching and learning during the pandemic as a part of NABSE'S governance in education segment (all on file).

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

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

V. REPORTS / PRESENTATIONS / DISCUSSIONS

1. **Rise and Chime Music Club Performance** – PGES Music teacher Mr. Kaylon Gilley presented the Rise and Chime Club in a performance of “On This Day, Earth Shall Ring” and “Canon in D”.
2. **Teaching and Learning Spotlight** – “November 8, 2022 District Professional Learning Day” - presented by Dr. Decker. For additional information as well as updates from the T&L Department, the T&L Summary was provided for the Board (on file).
3. **Construction Report** – Presented by Dr. Esslinger (on file).
4. **2021-2022 Director of Schools Annual Report** – Dr. Snowden presented this report, recognizing the efforts of Dr. Decker and the Teaching & Learning Department, Dr. Esslinger and the Finance & Administration Department, Susannah Gentry and the many other personnel that worked to provide the in-depth report (on file and online).
5. **Report on Debt Obligation** – Presented by Dr. Esslinger (on file).
6. **NABSE Conference Report** – Mr. Blair thanked Dr. Snowden, Dr. Decker, Celby Glass, Leslie Duke and Susannah Gentry for the for the information the they provided for Mr. Blair’s and Mr. Townsel’s session that was presented at the conference.
7. **NSBA CUBE Conference Report** – Mrs. Bell reported on the conference sessions she attended.

VI. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA

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

VII. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

Approved under Consent Agenda (on file) were:

1. **Minutes of Board Meeting dated November 14, 2022**
2. **Ratification for Amendment of Private Acts**
3. **Overnight Field Trip Request – PGMS Cheerleaders to Nationals**

VIII. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

1. **Audit Reports FY 2021-22** – (on file) Copies of both the Annual Financial Report for the FSSD and the individual schools’ Activity Fund Report were presented for review. Andy Matlock from Matlock Clements provide an overview of the audits: both audits yielded a clear opinion with no reportable findings. The administration recommended approval of the Audit Reports as presented.

Allena Bell made a **motion** to approve the Audit Reports FY 2021-22 as presented. Kevin Townsel **seconded** the motion. By roll call vote, the motion **passed 5-0**.

2. **Calendar FY 2023-24** – (on file) Two versions of the proposed calendar FY 2023-24 were outlined and discussed at the Board Retreat held on January 7, 2023. Version 2 draft calendar was recommended by the administration for approval.

Kevin Townsel made a **motion** to approve Version 2 of the **Calendar FY 2023-24** as presented. Alicia Barker **seconded** the motion, which **passed 5-0**.

3. **Policy Revision: Charter School Applications (1.901) – 1st Reading** - Revisions add additional language that, in the case of a charter school application with the district, approval would be based on meeting the guidelines outlined in Board policy and compliance with local, state and federal laws, also that there would be an interim review of the agreement mid-way of the contract period. Language was also been added to the section outlining denial of an application, for clarification. The administration recommended approval of the first reading as presented.

Allena Bell made a **motion to approve the 1st Reading** of revisions to Charter School Applications (1.901) as presented **and to waive the 2nd Reading**. Kevin Townsel **seconded** the motion, which **passed 5-0**.

4. **Street Name for FMS Complex** – Street names 1) for the main drive in front of both schools and PAC was approved by the City and will become “Excellence Way”; 2) for the drive behind PGS, “Poplar Grove Pass” was also approved by the City. However, the drive behind FMS was not approved as “Freedom Circle”. The other choices that were identified were “Stars Boulevard” and “Stars Way”, with “Stars Boulevard” being the second choice. “Stars Boulevard” was approved by the City if the Board votes on this name and approves. The administration recommended approval of “Stars Boulevard” as the name for the street running behind FMS.

Robin Newman made a **motion** to approve the street name partially encircling the FMS Complex “Stars Boulevard”. Allena Bell **seconded** the motion, which **passed 5-0**.

VIII. DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS REPORT

- **School Board Appreciation Week in Tennessee** – We will be honoring our Board members in our schools this year **January 22-28**. TSBA’s theme this year is “Let’s Face It – School Boards Work”. You will be receiving an invitation to an individual school to be honored and recognized for your service to the students and employees of our district. In recognition of your service, the school district will be donating a book to each of the media centers: The World Belonged to Us, written by Jacqueline Woodson and illustrated by Leo Espinosa for the K-4 schools, and Two Degrees, by Alan Gratz for 5-8 grades. Thank you for all the support, time and dedication each of you devote to our district!
- **Statement of Disclosure of Interests to Tennessee Ethics Commission** – As always, please submit your annual statement to the Ethics Commission if you have not. The access to online filing is at <https://apps.tn.gov/conflict/>, with a deadline of January 31st.

- **Retiree Valentine's Day Brunch** – February 14th - Invitations will go out mid-January for this event. The Board was asked to attend if their schedule allowed.
- **FSSD Art Show at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts** – FSSD students from each school will participate in the Franklin Special School District Art Show at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts, on display from January 21 – February 5. The artwork from two students at each grade level from each of our schools will be featured. While there will be no opening day event as they have had in the past, the Frist will provide Certificates of Excellence for each artist. Additionally, vouchers for the student artists and their families will be provided to see the art work and visit the museum free of charge. Also, when they arrive at the museum they will have special stickers to identify they are exhibitors and a selfie area will be provided. We appreciate this partnership with The Frist Center for the Visual Arts and the additional work of the art teachers as they prepare student work to be displayed.
- **Conferences and meetings update:** Board members have been provided a listing of the upcoming conferences and meetings.

XII. UPDATES

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

- Demographics Report for January 2023

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

- Personnel Change Report November/December 2022
- Personnel Change Report December 2022/January 223
- Investment Report
- Revenue and Expenditure Reports
- Sales Tax Revenue Comparison Report for January

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Esslinger reported on the sales tax collection.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Blair adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

 2/13/23
Robert Blair, Chair Date

ATTEST:

 3/20/23
Kevin Townsel, Secretary Date