Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools Board of Education Minutes May 12, 2009

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/MOTION	FOLLOW-UP/OUTCOME	
• Roll Call	Members Present: David A. Fox, Chair; Gracie Porter, Vice-Chair; Dr. Jo Ann		
	Brannon; Alan Coverstone; Dr. Sharon Gentry; Steve		
	Glover; Karen Y. Johnson; Ed Kindall; Mark North;		
	Student Board Members Brittany McShand and Sierra		
	Scivally		
	Mr. Fox called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.		
Pledge of Allegiance	Led by Ralph Thompson, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services.		
Student Board Member Report	The Board, Dr. Register and Ralph Thompson recognized student board		
	members Sierra Scivally and Brittany McShand for serving one and a half		
	terms on the Board. Both students thanked the Board, Dr. Register and the		
	Student Services Department for allowing them to serve as student board		
	members. Both students will be attending Clark Atlanta University in Atlanta,		
	Georgia this fall.		
• In Memoriam – Blanca E. Ocon	Blanca died on April 10, 2009 at the age of 43 after a hard fought battle with		
	ovarian cancer. Blanca began working for MNPS in 2002. She worked as a		
	school translator for several Metro schools and, this past year, worked in the		
	ELL Office as a Parent Translator. There were a few things that you knew		
	about Blanca if you were with her for just a short while. First of all, you knew		
	that Blanca was a woman of faith. Secondly, Blanca loved her family as well		
	as education. We mourn the loss of a wife, daughter, mother, grandmother		
	and a special friend. Blanca was a people person who loved life to the fullest.		
GOVERNANCE ISSUES			
`	Ms. Porter read the following consent agenda items: III-A-1-a-Approval		
	of Minutes – April 24, 2009 Special Meeting and April 28, 2009 Regular		
	Meeting; III-A-1-b- Extension of Contract for Digital Reprographics and		
	Printing Services - A Plus Reprographics - MBOE 07-016; III-A-1-c-		
	Change Order #1 for Maplewood High School Additions and		
	Renovations - Robert S. Biscan & Company - M-413; III-A-1-d-		
	Awarding of Bids and Contracts (1.) United Neighborhood Health		
	Services, (2.) NCS Pearson, Inc., (3.) National Deaf Academy.		
	Mr. Glover moved for approval. Ms. Johnson seconded.	VOTE: 9-0 - Unanimous	
REPORTS			
Director's Report	Mr. Jim Briggs presented a power point to the Board titled "New Vision for		
o New Adult High School Initiative	Adult High School Initiatives." The purpose of the Adult School is to offer		
	flexibility in serving the needs of students who choose not to remain in		
	traditional high school or are otherwise limited in the ability to attend school		
	on a regular basis due to personal situations. The two proposed sites are the		
	Old Cockrill school building and the OpryMills Career Center.		
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May 12, 2009

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o New Adult High School Initiative -	Mr. Coverstone asked how many students are currently enrolled in the Adult		
continued	High School? Mr. Briggs said close to 1,000. Mr. Coverstone asked about		
	the process of identifying students who are eligible for the program. Mr. Bill		
	Warren, retired Hamilton County Administrator, stated that guidance		
	counselors are contacted to determine which students are not on target to		
	graduate or those who have a high drop-out probability. Those students are		
	then contacted to see if the Adult High School option would interest those		
	students. Mr. Coverstone asked what qualities should a principal have to lead		
	an Adult High School? Dr. Register stated principals must have a passion to help the students and must be willing to think outside of a traditional school		
	setting in order to meet the needs of the students. Mr. Glover asked what will		
	happen to Cohn Adult High School, and how will funding be provided? Dr.		
	Register said the regular teacher allotment will work to fund the program.		
	Cohn will continue to serve, but the population will decrease. Mr. North		
	asked how the new programs worked with the Diploma Plus or the summer		
	school programs? Mr. Briggs stated that students unable to graduate with		
	summer school credits are targeted for this program. The program seeks		
	students who are solely seeking a high school diploma. Ms. Johnson asked		
	how student opinions in the program are evaluated? Mr. Warren said an		
	internal survey is conducted. The students evaluate the teacher each semester,		
	which is part of the teachers overall evaluation. Ms. Johnson said she would		
	like to explore hiring an outside entity to monitor the program, and would like		
	a copy of the evaluations to be provided the Board. Dr. Register stated that he		
	would provide the Corbett and Wilson evaluation report to the Board. Mr.		
	Kindall said the staffing of the schools is a concern. What will be the teacher		
	selection process? Mr. Briggs said Mr. Warren has worked with the program		
	in Hamilton County, and he will provide input to help select the best teachers		
	for the school. Also, the district will provide the Professional Development needed for teachers to succeed. Mr. Fox asked that the Board forward any		
	additional questions to Ms. Hawkins.		
Community Education	Mr. Fox noted that the Community Education Task Force has made		
Community Education	considerable progress, but has a few details to work out concerning the		
	budget. A more comprehensive update will be provided at a future meeting.		
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ANNOUNCEMENTS			

May 12, 2009

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools Board of Education Minutes May 12, 2009

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Maplewood Awareness Block Party	Ms. Porter invited the Board and public to the Maplewood Community			
	Awareness Block party to be held May 23 rd at Cleveland Park from 10:00			
	a.m. – 6:00 p.m. There will be a community yard sale, cook-off, health			
	screenings and much more.			
WRITTEN INFORMATION TO THE BOARD				
Board Calendar Items				
Adjournment	Mr. Coverstone made the motion to adjourn at 5:05 p.m.			
Signatures				
	Chris M. Henson David A. Fox Date			
	Board Secretary Board Chair			

May 12, 2009