

# **METROPOLITAN NASHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD MEETING –**

September 24, 2024

**Members Present:** Freda Player - Chair (joined virtually), Berthena Nabaa-McKinney – Vice-chair, Rachael Anne Elrod, Erin O’Hara Block, Cheryl Mayes, TK Fayne, Abigail Tylor, Zach Young and Robert Taylor

**Members Absent:** Rachael Anne Elrod

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m.

## **CONVENE AND ACTION**

- A. Call to Order – Berthena Nabaa-McKinney called the meeting to order.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance - Led by Vanderbilt Peabody Students.
- C. Adoption of Agenda

**Motion to agenda to adopt agenda as listed.**

**By Zach Young, seconded Cheryl Mayes**

**Roll Call Vote: 8-0 (unanimous)**

**Robert Taylor – yes**

**Zach Young - yes**

**Berthena Nabaa-McKinney – yes**

**TK Fayne – yes**

**Cheryl Mayes - yes**

**Erin O’Hara Block - yes**

**Abigail Tylor - yes**

**Freda Player - yes**

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

- A. NFL Latino Excellence in Youth Football Award from the Tennessee Titans - Christopher Barba, Glenclyff High School – The Board and Dr Battle recognized Mr. Barba.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- A. Dr. Battle and staff presented Division of Schools Update - 1. Re-envision Central Office as a Support Hub; 2. Empower and Equip Leaders at All Levels; 3. Create and Support Engaging, Rigorous, and Personalized Learning Experiences for All Students; 4. Identify and Eliminate Inequities update to the Board.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- A. Tarika Davis– She addressed the Board concerning the MNPS Code of Conduct.
- B. Mary Jo Cramb – She addressed the Board concerning a Resolution Sustaining Federal Funding.
- C. Donna Clay – She addressed the Board concerning federal funding for MNPS.
- D. Tom Surface – He addressed the Board concerning NOAH support of MNPS.
- E. Alexandria Danner – She addressed the Board concerning federal funding for public schools.

## **GOVERNANCE ISSUES**

### **a. Minutes – 09.10.2024 – Regular Meeting**

### **b. Awarding of Purchases and Contracts**

- 1. Alignment Nashville**
- 2. CareerSafe, LLC**
- 3. Deloitte Consulting, LLP**
- 4. GoSchoolBox, Inc.**
- 5. State of Tennessee, Department of Human Services**
- 6. Zoobean, Inc.**

### **c. FY25 ESSER 3 Application**

**Motion to agenda to adopt agenda as listed.**

**By TK Fayne, seconded Zach Young**

**Roll Call Vote: 8-0 (unanimous)**

**Robert Taylor – yes**

**Zach Young - yes**

**Berthena Nabaa-McKinney – yes**

**TK Fayne – yes**

**Cheryl Mayes - yes**  
**Erin O'Hara Block - yes**  
**Abigail Tylor - yes**  
**Freda Player - yes**

**2. A Resolution Calling for Increased and Sustained Federal Funding of Public Schools**

**Abigail Tylor read the following resolution.**

**WHEREAS, public education is the cornerstone of our democracy, providing fundamental skills and opportunity to almost 50 million children, or nearly 90%, of school aged children across the United States; and, WHEREAS, In the decade following the Great Recession, students across the U.S. lost nearly \$600 billion from disinvestment by states in their public schools; and WHEREAS, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, both state and federal funding for public schools failed to meet the critical needs of students across the country; and, WHEREAS, the federal government provided nearly \$200 billion through three issuances of the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Act (ESSER) to states and school districts, including more than \$450 million to the Metro Nashville Public Schools; and, WHEREAS, the realized impact of ESSER funding is that it has benefited students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs through targeted and highly effective tutoring programs, after school and summer school programs, access to technology, expanded meal programs; and WHEREAS this investment also provided flexible dollars that allowed districts to make capital improvements, purchase curriculum, offer professional development, and hire sorely needed school personnel including teachers, school counselors, and support staff; and, WHEREAS, research has consistently shown that when increased education funding is spent effectively, it positively affects academic performance, raises graduation rates, and increases future earnings; and,**

**WHEREAS, Metro Schools used the ESSER investment so effectively they were recognized in a Harvard/Stanford study on post pandemic recovery as ranking 3rd among top 100 urban districts in math growth from 2022-2023 and 6th among top 100 urban districts in reading growth from 2022-23; and, WHEREAS, on average, districts nationwide have relied on ESSER money to support roughly 8% of their budgets over the past three years; and, WHEREAS, without an infusion of federal public education funding by Congress, it is estimated that on average, districts across the nation will have to cut over \$1,000 per student from their budgets; and, WHEREAS, the loss of these funds will be felt drastically, especially in high-poverty school districts that have historically been underfunded, yet continue to serve students with the highest levels of need; and, WHEREAS, the systematic and chronic underfunding of public schools is a strategy by those who want to dismantle the public education system to decimate the quality of education that public schools can provide; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Metropolitan Nashville Board of Education calls on Congress to immediately pass the Keep Our PACT Act (S. 1202/H.R. 2715) and the IDEA Full Funding Act (S.2217/H.R. 4519) which would create a 10-year mandatory path to fully fund both Title I and IDEA. ADOPTED BY THE ELECTED METROPOLITAN NASHVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION, meeting in regular session on the 24th of September 2024, with this Resolution to take immediate effect, the public welfare requiring it.**

**Motion to approve A Resolution Calling for Increased and Sustained Federal Funding of Public Schools**

**By Abigail Tylor, seconded Cheryl Mayes**

**Roll Call Vote: 8-0 (unanimous)**

**Robert Taylor – yes**

**Zach Young - yes**

**Berthena Nabaa-McKinney – yes**

**TK Fayne – yes**

**Cheryl Mayes - yes**  
**Erin O’Hara Block - yes**  
**Abigail Tylor - yes**  
**Freda Player – yes**

**BOARD REPORTS**

A. Freda Player gave a brief Capital Needs Report.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Berthena Nabaa-McKinney – Announced that the October 8 Board Meeting would be canceled due to Fall Break.

**WRITTEN INFORMATION TO THE BOARD**

A. Sales Tax Collections as of September 20, 2024.

**Ms. Player adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.**



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Chris M. Henson  
Board Secretary

Freda Player  
Board Chair

Date