

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Minutes
February 10, 2015

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/MOTION	FOLLOW-UP/OUTCOME
Roll Call	Present: Dr. Jo Ann Brannon Amy Frogge Tyese Hunter Elissa Kim, Vice-Chair Mary Pierce Will Pinkston Anna Shepherd Jill Speering Dr. Jesse Register, Director of Schools Absent: Dr. Sharon Gentry, Chair Ms. Kim called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.	
Pledge of Allegiance	Led by Dr. Ron Woodard, principal of Maplewood High School.	
AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS		
AND THE GOOD NEWS IS...		
Jack Isnehour – Nashville Emmy Award Recipient	Dr. Woodard addressed the Board concerning the Emmy Award winning documentary by Jack Isnehour, “How Bad Was It? A High School Comeback Story”. The movie documented the turnaround and best practices that have occurred at Maplewood High School.	
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION		
Anna-Marie Farmer – Public Engagement and Communications	Ms. Farmer addressed the Board concerning her support of the Board having a Public Engagement and Communications policy, and she asked the Board to create a policy.	
Molly Handler – Testing	Ms. Handler addressed the Board concerning school testing. She asked the Board to reduce the required tests in MNPS.	
Lora Obrothta – MNPS Board Policies for Public Engagement	Ms. Obrothta addressed the Board concerning MNPS Board Policies for Public Engagement. She asked the Board to approve the Public Engagement policy and to engage the public in the future.	
Chris Moth – Unanswered Questions from the Hillsboro Cluster Parent Advisory Council	Mr. Moth addressed the Board concerning unanswered questions from the Hillsboro Cluster Parent Advisory Council. He thanked Dr. Register for answering questions that he had submitted.	

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• Thomas Weber – New Proposed Communications Piece	Mr. Weber addressed the Board concerning the MNPS communication process. He asked the Board to pass the proposed communications plan.	
• Erica Lanier – Public Engagement	Ms. Lanier addressed the Board concerning the Public Engagement policy. She asked the Board to focus on creating a public engagement policy that ensured that all MNPS stakeholders are properly informed.	
• Danielle Gore – Moratorium Against New Schools	Ms. Gore addressed the Board concerning the Moratorium Against New Schools. She asked the Board not to support the moratorium and to consider quality of schools and not type of schools.	
• Laura Jean Marquis – Public Engagement Policy	Ms. Marquis addressed the Board concerning the Public Engagement policy. She asked the Board to support the proposed public engagement policy.	
• Kevin Winter – MNPS Public Engagement	Mr. Winter addressed the Board concerning the Public Engagement policy. He asked the Board to reconsider the proposed changes to Waverly-Belmont Elementary School in 12 South.	
• Dr. Gentry Letter to the Board	Dr. Brannon read a letter to the Board from Dr. Gentry in her absence. See attachment.	
GOVERNANCE ISSUES		
• Consent Agenda	Ms. Shepherd read the following consent agenda: V-A-1-a- Recommended Approval of Change Order #1 for John Early Museum Magnet Middle School Additions and Renovations – Carden Co., Inc.; V-A-1-b- Recommended Approval of Change Order #1 for Percy Priest Elementary School Playground Ramp – Southland Constructors, LLC.; V-A-1-c- Recommended Approval of Supplement #1 for Hume-Fogg Magnet High School Gymnasium Addition – Kline Swinney Associates; V-A-1-d- Recommended Approval of Request #2 for District-wide Roof Repairs (Fall-Hamilton Elementary School) – RSS; V-A-1-e- Recommended Approval of Request #23 for District-wide Maintenance, Repairs, and General Construction (Health Science Simulation Lab at Hillwood High School) – Southland Constructors, LLC.; V-A-1-f- Awarding of Purchases and Contracts (1) Archetype Film & Post, (2) CDW- Government (3.) Children’s Defense Fund, (4.) Mechanical Resource Group, (5) Trane, Inc., (6) Vanderbilt Peabody Research Institute; V-1-A-g- Recommended Approval of Request for Compulsory Attendance Waiver; V-A-1-h- Legal Settlement Claim (\$200,000).	

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Consent Agenda – continued	Ms. Shepherd made a motion to approve the consent agenda as read. Dr. Brannon seconded.	VOTE: 7-0 – Unanimous (Pinkston out of the room)
REPORTS		
A. Director's Report	Dr. Register introduced Mr. Cook, with Mass Insight, to the Board. Mass Insight will be developing turnaround strategies for MNPS.	
1. Priority Schools Update –Mass Insight	Ms. Shepherd asked, when will the Board receive updates? Dr. Register said, the Board will receive updates on a monthly basis.	
2. RFP Charter Process	Dr. Coverstone presented the RFP Charter Process report to the Board. Ms. Speering asked that a Charter Committee meeting be held to discuss the RFP charter process. Mr. Pinkston suggested that the RFP Charter Process be talked about in the Budget, Finance and Capital Needs Committee to address the district fiscal impact of adding charter schools. He said that he would reiterate the Moratorium Against New Schools at the appropriate time. Ms. Frogge said it is important that the district has clear enrollment numbers for charter schools, and capacity requirement measures needed to be set. Ms. Pierce said the same capacity measures should be required across the district. Mr. Pinkston said, the Board needed to have a holistic discussion around the next 5-10 years of charter growth of the existing charters.	
3. Child Nutrition Update	Mr. Carr and Mr. Taylor gave the Board a brief Child Nutrition Update. They announced that 74 school cafeterias scored a perfect 100 on their cafeteria inspection; the other 80 schools averaged a 95 on their inspections.	
4. MJLM Performance Audit Update	Dr. Register passed out the MJLM Performance Audit Update to the Board.	
B. Committee Reports	Ms. Speering stated the Teaching and Learning Committee met on January 28 th . The following topics were discussed: RTI and the Comprehensive Literacy Initiative. The next meeting will be held February 18 th at 11:30 a.m.	
1. Teaching and Learning		
2. Community Engagement	Mr. Pinkston stated that the Community Engagement Community met on January 5 th . During the meeting, the committee reviewed several policy rewrites; a discussion of those policies will continue at a forthcoming Governance Committee meeting. The next Public Engagement meeting will be held March 2 nd .	

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3. CLASS	Ms. Shepherd gave a brief update of a recent CLASS conference call. The CLASS Winter Meeting will be held February 16 th at the Downtown Doubletree Hotel.	
A. Board Chairman's Report 1. Announcements Director Search	Ms. Hunter announced that the Board had begun the Director Search process, and the Board looks forward to engaging the community and stakeholders.	
ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Math and Science Scholarship	Dr. Brannon encouraged high school seniors to apply for the ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Math and Science Scholarship sponsored by the Council of the Great City Schools. To apply for the 2015 scholarship, this application must be postmarked on or before April 8, 2015, and should include evidence of the applicant's academic achievement in high school, leadership skills or community service in the area of Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics and the applicant's commitment to pursue a career in a STEM field. To be eligible for the scholarship, the applicant must have a minimum 3.0 unweighted grade point average, and have been accepted as a full-time student at a four-year institution of higher education.	
Council of the Great City Schools	Dr. Brannon announced that the Council of the Great City Schools is accepting calls for presentations for the 59 th Annual Fall Conference. Deadline for presentation submittal is April 10 th .	
Response to Dr. Gentry's Letter	Ms. Speering gave a brief response to Dr. Gentry's letter. She stated that she did not believe it was appropriate to read the letter on the Board floor, and did not agree with the content of the letter.	
McGavock High School	Ms. Shepherd announced that on February 12 th McGavock High School would hold a Professional Skills Fair from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	
John Early Middle Prep Band	Ms. Shepherd announced that the John Early Middle Prep Band program was featured in the February issue of the Nashville Arts Magazine. She thanked the MNPS staff, CMA, and the Music Makes Us program for their support of the John Early Band program.	
Tennessee School Boards Association	Ms. Shepherd announced that TSBA will hold a reception on February 16 th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. and that Day on the Hill will be held February 17 th at 7:00 a.m. Both events will be held at the Doubletree Hotel.	
Response to Dr. Gentry's Letter	Mr. Pinkston gave a brief response to Dr. Gentry's letter. He stated that the Board needed to ensure that the Director Search process was transparent, and a public engagement policy needed to be developed in order to ensure that community input is always at the forefront.	

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Response to Dr. Gentry's Letter	Ms. Pierce made the following comments concerning Dr. Gentry's letter. She stated that she did not believe that the Board was anti-constituent. She asked that the Board review GP-9 – Board Member Code of Conduct at the next Governance Committee meeting.	
Hillwood High School	Ms. Frogge announced that a community meeting was held February 9 th to discuss the renovation or relocation of Hillwood High School.	
Recess in Middle Schools	Ms. Frogge announced that Middle School principals have agreed to implement at least 20 minutes of recess for all 5 th and 6 th graders throughout the district. She thanked Dr. Steele and principals for their support.	
Hillwood Cheer Team	Ms. Frogge congratulated the Hillwood Cheer Team for being the first MNPS Cheer Squad to reach the National Competition. The team placed 21 st in their division.	
Response to Dr. Gentry's Letter	Ms. Frogge gave a brief response to Dr. Gentry's letter. She stated that the reading of Dr. Gentry's letter was a PR event staged by charter leaders and lobbyists.	
Response to Dr. Gentry's Letter	Ms. Kim said she believes that the Board is unified in the idea that the Board needs to come together in creating efficient public engagement and having a great director search.	
WRITTEN INFORMATION TO THE BOARD		
Upcoming Committee Meetings		
Adjournment	Ms. Frogge adjourned the meeting at 6:47 p.m.	
Signatures	 Chris M. Henson Sharon Dixon Gentry Date Board Secretary Board Chair	