

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Minutes
December 8, 2015

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/MOTION	FOLLOW-UP/OUTCOME
Roll Call	Present: Dr. Jo Ann Brannon Tyese Hunter Dr. Sharon Gentry, Chair Elissa Kim Mary Pierce Will Pinkston Anna Shepherd, Vice-Chair Jill Speering Chris Henson, Interim Director of Schools Absent: Amy Frogge Dr. Gentry called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.	
Pledge of Allegiance	Led by Hank Clay, Government Relations.	
AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS		
TAEA First Year Art Educator of the Year – Emily Sanford	The Board and Mr. Henson presented Ms. Sanford with a Certificate of Recognition for being TAEA First Year Art Educator of the Year.	
Griffin Academy of Design & Technology – Hunters Lane High School Students	The Board and Mr. Henson recognized students from the Griffin Academy of Design & Technology at Hunters Lane High School for redesigning the Support Services logo and tag line.	
AND THE GOOD NEWS IS...		
Madison Middle Prep Choir and Norman Binkley Elementary School Art Students	Students from the Madison Middle Prep choir performed, and art from Norman Binkley Elementary School students was displayed at the Board meeting.	
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION		
Genny Petschulat - Standardized Testing	Ms. Petschulat addressed the Board concerning standardized testing. She asked the Board to decrease testing time and increase instructional time for students.	
Amberly Sandberg - Excessive Amount of Testing	Ms. Sandberg addressed the Board concerning the excessive amount of testing. She asked the Board to eliminate unnecessary testing and, in return, increase needed instructional time.	
Dr. Natalie Cureton - Teacher Wish Lists	Dr. Cureton addressed the Board on the topic of teacher wish lists. She presented the Board with the wish list.	
Angela House - A Teacher's Perspective on RTI and EL Procedures	Ms. House addressed the Board on RTI and EL procedures. She asked the Board to consider the process of testing and teaching EL students.	

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Amanda Kail - Teacher Evaluations and TN Ready	Ms. Kail addressed the Board concerning changes to standardized testing and TN Ready scores counting towards teacher evaluations. She asked the Board to issue a resolution to oppose TN Ready scores counting towards teacher evaluations for the current year.	
Walter Searcy - NOAH's Concern with the Racial Disparities in School Discipline	Mr. Searcy addressed the Board concerning NOAH's concern with the racial disparities in school discipline. He asked the Board to collaborate with NOAH to decrease the racial disparities number in school discipline for African American students.	
Reverend Troy Merritt - PASSAGE and NOAH's Work	Rev. Merritt addressed the Board concerning PASSAGE and NOAH's work. He asked the Board to collaborate with NOAH to address concerns within the district.	
Debby Gould - NOAH's Call for Systemic Community Engagement	Ms. Gould addressed the Board concerning NOAH's call for systemic community engagement. She asked the Board to create an Equity in School Discipline Committee.	
Dr. JoAnn Sebastian - Teacher Wish List	Dr. Sebastian addressed the Board concerning her teacher wish list. She presented her wish list to the Board.	
Lisa Mingrone – Standardized Tests	Ms. Mingrone addressed the Board concerning standardized tests for the district. She presented her list to the Board which included standardized test changes.	
Nancy Stetten – Love of Learning	Ms. Stetten addressed the Board concerning love of learning. She asked the Board to support science resources within the district.	
Marlowe Brant – RTII	Ms. Brant addressed the Board concerning RTII. She asked the Board to ensure that the resources needed to be successful for RTII were readily available.	
Andy Mizell - First Year Teacher Support	Mr. Mizell addressed the Board concerning his first year as a teacher. He asked the Board to reconsider the teacher evaluation for first-year teachers.	
Erick E. Huth - TN Ready Assessment and Accountability	Dr. Huth addressed the Board concerning TN Ready assessment and accountability. He asked the Board to issue a resolution to oppose TN Ready scores counting towards teacher evaluations for one year.	
Kim L Smith - The Safe and Orderly Transport of our Communities' Children/ Youth	Ms. Smith addressed the Board concerning the transporting of students within the district. She stated the Steel Workers Local 9526 would like to work with the district to improve transportation concerns within the district.	
Eric Warfield - The Safe and Orderly Transport of our Communities' Children/Youth	Mr. Warfield addressed the Board concerning the safe and orderly transport of students within the community. He thanked the Board and the Administration for addressing issues within the Transportation Department.	

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Mary Holden – Excessive Testing and Blaming Teachers	Ms. Holden addressed the Board concerning her wish list for MNPS students. She shared her wish list with the Board which included teacher instruction changes.	
GOVERNANCE ISSUES		
Consent Agenda	Ms. Shepherd read the following consent agenda: V-A-1-a- Recommended Award of Contract for Donelson Middle School ADA Upgrades - Adkisson & Associates Architects, Inc.; V-A-1-b- Recommended Approval of Request #1 for Playground Equipment (Una Elementary School) – GameTime; V-A-1-c- Recommended Approval of Request #10 for Prototypical Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Playgrounds at Various Schools (Dan Mills Elementary School) – Custom Recreation; V-A-1-d- Recommended Approval of Request #9 for Purchase of Furniture (New Goodlettsville Middle School) – GBI; V-A-1-e- Recommended Approval of Request #2 for Large Scope Projects (\$100,000 and above) at Various Schools (Whites Creek High School) – Orion Building Corporation; V-A-1-f- Awarding of Purchases and Contracts (1) Awardees from MNPS Invitation to Bid (ITB) #B16-15 (Fire Alarm Service Agreement), (2) CDW Government, Inc., (3) Connecticut General Life Insurance Company (CIGNA), (4) Dell Marketing LP, (5) Dell Marketing LP; V-A-1-g- Recommended Approval of 2015-2016 Operating Budget Amendment #1 – Budget, Finance and Capital Needs Committee; V-A-1-h- Legal Settlement Claim (\$205,000); V-A-1- i- CLASS Letter of Agreement 2016. Ms. Shepherd made a motion to approve the consent agenda as read. Dr. Brannon seconded.	VOTE: 9-0 – Unanimous
REPORTS		
Teacher Retention	Ms. Black and Dr. Shrader presented the Teacher Retention report to the Board. Ms. Shepherd suggested that the district implement a robust mentoring program for first-year teachers. She also suggested a district Policy Advisor to review/revise current MNPS policies. Ms. Pierce asked, if Mass Insight reviewed Central Office? Mr. Henson said, he believed the focus was mainly priority schools. Ms. Speering stated that she would like the teacher	

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Teacher Retention - continued	evaluation process revised at the state level. She also would like the Administration to address the teachers' concerns about overtesting and professional development. The district needs to work on not only attracting teachers, but retaining teachers. Mr. Henson's request, Ms. Black explained the state's law concerning teacher evaluations. Mr. Pinkston asked Mr. Henson if the district could set a target for reduced testing time as an organizational goal? Ms. Hunter said, she hopes that the teacher retention plan is implemented. Dr. Gentry stated that she looked forward to reviewing the teacher retention recommendations once presented to the Board. Ms. Speering said, the district has to place focus on how to retain teachers, and that cannot happen without revisions to the current teacher evaluation process. Mr. Pinkston asked, if the district could be proactive and set a goal for the 2016-2017 school year to reduce testing time by 20 percent and present that information to the Board?	
Transportation Update	Mr. Carr presented a Transportation Update to the Board.	
B. Committee Reports 1. Budget, Finance and Capital Needs	Ms. Pierce gave a Budget, Finance and Capital Needs Committee report. The next meeting will be held December 15th at 4:00 p.m.	
C. Board Chairman's Report 1. Disciplinary Disparities Committee	Dr. Gentry asked the Board for feedback on the Disciplinary Disparities Committee that would work in partnership with NOAH and the community to address disparity in African American student discipline numbers. Ms. Speering said, she supported the committee. Dr. Gentry stated that Dr. Brannon would serve as the committee chair and Ms. Frogge as a member. She also asked Dr. Majors to be involved in the committee.	
2. Announcements Hillsboro Community Meeting	Ms. Pierce announced that on January 7th at 6:00 p.m. a Hillsboro Cluster Community Meeting would be held.	
Junior National Swim Competition	Ms. Pierce congratulated Mary Kate Breakfield, a Hillsboro High School student and Carrie Selvig, a West End Middle School student, for making the Junior National cut at their swim meet. The two students will compete in Atlanta at the Junior Nationals.	
Croft Middle School	Mr. Pinkston congratulated the staff at Croft Middle School and the Nashville Zoo for their showcase and successful partnership with the Nashville Zoo. Dr. Brannon also congratulated Croft and the Nashville Zoo on their successes.	
NAZA program	Ms. Shepherd thanked the NAZA program for their partnership and support of MNPS by offering a tour at Dupont-Hadley Middle School.	

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• McGavock High School	Ms. Shepherd thanked Dr. Majors and Dr. Wyatt for their participation in the Leadership Donelson Education Day held at McGavock High School.	
• Notice of Resolution	Ms. Shepherd gave notice that she would be bringing a resolution to waive TN Ready scores for one year from the teacher evaluation.	
• Maplewood High School	Ms. Speering announced that Sarah Shaw, the Executive Director of the Tennessee Motor Vehicle Commission, spoke to the Business Academy at Maplewood High School.	
• Bridgestone Firestone Tour	Ms. Speering announced that on December 8 th , Bridgestone Firestone will be taking several students from Maplewood High School on a tour of their LaVergne plant.	
• Maplewood High School Automotive Training Center	Ms. Speering announced that the Maplewood High School Automotive Training Center, in cooperation with Bridgestone Firestone, was featured in the National Lube and Oil magazine in November.	
• High School Football Teams	Ms. Hunter congratulated MNPS football teams on their great season and hard work, and the teams that won district and regional competitions.	
• ACT Testing	Ms. Hunter announced that ACT testing would be held December 12 th .	
WRITTEN INFORMATION TO THE BOARD		
• Transportation Update		
• Substitute Teachers Update		
• Upcoming Committee Meetings		
• Adjournment	Ms. Pierce adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.	
• Signatures	Chris M. Henson Board Secretary Sharon Dixon Gentry Board Chair Date	