

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
Nashville School District  
September 21, 2020

The Annual Report to the Public began at 5:36 PM on the above date. The administrators from each building reported highlights from their building so far this year such as enrollment, number of virtual students, programs for virtual and blended learning and cleaning/safety procedures. Nathan Evans reported 94 virtual students and a total enrollment for Primary at 542. Teachers and students are doing a wonderful job with onsite, virtual, and blended learning using many new programs and interventions. Daily cleaning with a variety of products is working to keep students safe and healthy. Rick Rebsamen reported a total of 81 virtual students with a total of 403 students enrolled at Elementary. Mr. Rebsamen spoke highly of his virtual teaching and student and staff participation working towards a successful year. He echoed Mr. Evans on the cleaning being done to keep students and staff safe. Ashley Riggs reported that Junior High has 100 virtual students with a total enrollment of 500. She reported many changes to encourage social distancing such as morning procedures, one-way hallways and adding a third lunch. The addition of an intervention period has helped tremendously. Teacher involvement is fantastic with SPED teachers going above and beyond to meet IEP and other needs. The school custodians have kept the building cleaner than ever with the same procedures as the rest of the district. Mr. Tate Gordon reported the High School has 101 virtual with a total enrollment of 444, up from last year. The full year intervention class has opened the door for more programs not normally offered. Virtual learning through Virtual Arkansas has been successful with the help of our facilitator. Homecoming is moving forward with many new precautions and safety measures. Daily cleaning like the rest of the district keeps students and staff safe. There were also presentations from Kim Slayton on Curriculum and Federal Programs, Kristi Cox on Gifted and Talented, Doug Graham on behalf of LaDonna Curtis for Special Education, Holly Couch for Dyslexia, Julie Smith for Food Service, and Bunch Nichols for Transportation and Athletics. A copy of the full reports is attached.

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by President Jerry Wilson at 6:50 pm. Other board members in attendance were Jamar Finley, Nick Britt and Tem Gunter. David Hilliard was absent.

Jamar Finley made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on August 17, 2020. Nick Britt approved with it passing 4-0.

Superintendent Douglas Graham had no old business on the agenda.

Mr. Graham recommended with an operating balance of \$5,251,390.35 that we pay our bills. Jamar Finley made a motion to approve with Nick Britt seconding. It passed 4-0.

Mr. Graham recommended that we approve the 2020-21 school budget. This had been talked about at the last meeting, and the board met for a budget workshop the following week. Tem Gunter made a motion to approve the budget with Jamar Finley seconding. This passed 4-0.

Mr. Graham presented a technology purchase to the board for approval. Since the school year was cut short there was extra money that would normally have to be spent by the end of the year that the state gave a waiver on. It needs to be spent this year, and Mr. Graham wants to catch the rest of the district up on Promethium boards for the classrooms. This technology ought to equip our teachers to be able to do what needs to be done in this virtual learning/blended learning environment. This should set us up for years to come. White River is a Tips/Taps vendor, and as such this purchase does not require a bid. Jamar Finley made a motion to accept the technology purchase in the amount of \$319,856.52. Tem Gunter seconded the motion with it passing 4-0.

Mr. Graham gave a report on the state partnership requests that he made. The good news is that they approved the Primary roof project. The bad news is that they denied the Fine Arts Center project under the grounds out student population wasn't growing. Mr. Graham is considering an appeal as the current building is a money drain on the district, and its location off campus limits what we are able to accomplish. We would like a Fine Arts Center on campus to be used daily by the band, choir, drama, debate and so many more students. Mr. Graham was very disappointed in this decision by the state saying the kids at Nashville deserved better.

Mr. Graham presented a new COVID 19 policy for the PPC books. The state has announced it will pay for 10 days of leave for a teacher/employee quarantined from COVID-19 due to a positive case, close contact, or other connection to the disease. These 10 days will be reimbursed to the district. This is in addition to the 10 federal days granted for leave, although those 10 days will not be reimbursed in cost. This allows our teachers 20 days total to be out before deductions from their sick days need to be made. Jamar Finley made a motion to accept the PPC changes with Nick Britt seconding. This passed 4-0.

There were no PPC comments made.

Mr. Graham had nothing to add for his Superintendent report.

Mr. Graham recommended the employment of Allison Parson Crump as a custodian at Nashville Elementary. Jamar Finley made a motion to hire with Tem Gunter seconding. This passed 4-0.

Jamar Finley made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Tem Gunter seconding. This passed 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 pm.

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Jerry Wilson-President

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Jamar Finley-Secretary