

METROPOLITAN NASHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD MEETING –
July 13, 2021

Members Present: Christiane Buggs, chair, Gini Pupo-Walker, Rachael Anne Elrod, vice-chair, Emily Masters, Abigail Tylor, Freda Player-Peters, Sharon Gentry, John Little and Fran Bush

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

CONVENE AND ACTION

- A. Call to Order
Christiane Buggs called the meeting to order.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Berthena Nabaa McKinney.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- A. Councilman Dave Rosenbery - He addressed the Board concerning the Nashville Classical charter application.
- B. Dr. Nicole Arrighi – She addressed the Board concerning her support of Aventura charter school application.
- C. Ann Small– She addressed the Board concerning her support of the Nashville Classical charter application.
- D. Kina Armstrong – She asked the Board to approve the Nashville Classical School Charter application.
- E. Dwight Gordon II – He addressed the Board concerning Nashville Classical charter school.
- F. Hasan Clayton– He addressed the Board concerning his support of the Nashville Classical charter school application.
- G. Charlie Freidman – He asked the Board to approve the Nashville Classical charter school application.
- H. Alexandra Ball– She addressed the Board concerning her support of the Nashville Classical charter application.
- I. Princecilla Ridley– She addressed the Board concerning her support of the Nashville Classical charter application.
- J. Elizabeth Hines – She announced several upcoming MNPS Parent Advisory Committee events.

- K. Berthena Nabaa-McKinney – She addressed the Board concerning MNPS Parent Advisory Committee.
- L. Aracely Reyes– She addressed the Board concerning her support of Nashville Classical charter school.
- M. Monica Sifontes– She addressed the Board concerning her support of Nashville Classical charter school.
- N. Victoria Gordon – She addressed the Board concerning Personalized Learning Plans for students.
- O. Ivy Wilson – She addressed the Board concerning Personalized Learning Plans for students.
- P. Mary Sweat - She addressed the Board concerning Personalized Learning Plans for students.
- Q. Sonya Thomas - She addressed the Board concerning Personalized Learning Plans for students.
- R. Aisha White – She addressed the Board concerning her support of the Aventura charter school application.
- S. Lyn Holt – She addressed the Board concerning under resource schools.
- T. Dr. Kita Williams – She addressed the Board concerning House Bill 580.
- U. Amity Marsh – She addressed the Board concerning the Wit and Wisdom Curriculum.
- V. Stephanie Wrape – She addressed the Board concerning her support of the MNPS budget priorities.
- W. Anna Williams – She addressed the Board concerning Critical Race Theory.
- X. Jason Sparks – He addressed the Board asked the Board to deny the Nashville Classical charter application.
- Y. Bethany Rittle-Johnson – She addressed the Board concerning Critical Race Theory.
- Z. Carmen Foster – She asked the Board to deny the Nashville Classical charter application.
- AA. Eli Foster – He asked the Board to deny the Nashville Classical charter application.
- BB. Cindy Goddard – She addressed the Board concerning Wit and Wisdom.
- CC. Karen Sun – She addressed the Board concerning House Bill 580.
- DD. Stephanie Upchurch – She addressed the Board concerning Wit and Wisdom.

- EE. Pippa Holloway – She addressed the Board concerning her support of Wit and Wisdom.
- FF. Lindsey Harris – She addressed the Board concerning her support of the Aventura Charter school application.
- GG. Amanda Kail – She addressed the Board concerning her support of Wit and Wisdom.
- HH. Julie Trudel – She addressed the Board concerning her support of Wit and Wisdom.
- II. Asha Carr – She addressed the Board concerning her support of an optional mask policy.
- JJ. Cindy Martinez - She addressed the Board concerning her support of the Aventura Charter school application.
- KK. Brad Rayson – He addressed the Board concerning budget concerns.
- LL. Emily Sauerman - She addressed the Board concerning her support of the Aventura Charter school application.

GOVERNANCE ISSUES

- A. 1. Consent
 - a. **Approval of Minutes - 06/22/2021 - Minutes**
 - b. **Recommended Approval of Request #13 for Purchase of Playground Equipment and Installation (Alex Green Elementary School ADA Accommodation) – Playworld Preferred**
 - c. **Awarding of Purchases and Contracts**
 - 1. **American Paper & Twine**
 - 2. **Barge Design Solutions, Inc.**
 - 3. **Blick Art Materials, LLC**
 - 4. **Cameron College Prep, Nonprofit, LLC (LEAD)**
 - 5. **CDW Government, Inc. (2 contracts)**
 - 6. **East End Prep (Martha O’Bryan)**
 - 7. **Follett School Solutions**
 - 8. **Great Minds**
 - 9. **JJCA**
 - 10. **Liberty Collegiate Academy (Republic)**
 - 11. **Metropolitan Nashville Education Association**
 - 12. **Metropolitan Nashville Police Department**

13. **Nashville Prep (Republic)**
 14. **Nearpod, Inc.**
 15. **Noser Consulting, LLC**
 16. **PowerSchool Group, LLC**
 17. **Quality Vending Services**
 18. **S&ME, Inc.**
 19. **Sherwood Holdings I, Inc. dba Shutterfly
Lifetouch, LLC**
 20. **Sun Ridge Systems, Inc.**
 21. **TriStar Mechanical, LLC**
 22. **TTL, Inc.**
 23. **Vanderbilt University Medical Center &
Meharry Medical College**
- ~~d. Policy 4.205 Enrollment in Advanced Courses~~

Gini Pupo-Walker pulled Item A-1-d- Policy 4.205
Enrollment in Advanced Course Education

**Motion to approve the consent agenda with changes.
By Sharon Gentry, seconded Rachael Anne Elrod
Motion Passes
Vote: 9-0**

2. Charter School Amended Applications

**Motion to deny the charter application for Aventura
Community School based upon their continued lack of
meeting standards and academic program design and
capacity due to unclear or unknown curriculum
support and evidence of programing. Additionally,
Aventura Community School continues to only
partially meet standards for the operations plan
capacity with a vague start timeline, little details and
an underdeveloped teacher recruitment plan.
By Rachael Anne Elrod, seconded Freda Player-Peters
Motion Fails
Vote: 4-5 (No: Sharon Gentry, Gini Pupo-Walker, Fran
Bus, John Little, Christiane Buggs)**

Motion to approve Aventura Community School charter application.

**By Gini Pupo-Walker, seconded Freda Player-Peters
Motion passes**

Vote: 5-3-1 (No: Abigail Tylor, Emily Masters and Rachael Anne Elrod, Abstain: Freda Player-Peters)

Motion to approve Nashville Classical Charter School II charter application based on the school's academic achievements, on TN ready scores, the number of parents who support the school and lastly upon the charter review committee report that the school met standards.

**By John Little, seconded Gini Pupo-Walker
Motion fails**

Vote: 2-6-1 (Yes – John Little and Gini Pupo-Walker, abstain – Fran Bush)

Motion to deny Nashville Classical Charter School II charter application based upon the lack of proof that they can enroll enough students at their proposed location and based upon the charter review committee concerns about the school's enrollment and location. Nashville Classical has not articulated how they would be different from the last successful charter network, LEAD Academy who opened in the same location and closed due to low enrollment. Despite support from businesses and non-profits, they have not provided evidence of any meaningful support from the actual families in District 9 who have children old enough to attend.

By Abigail Tylor, seconded Emily Masters

Vote: 6-2-1 (No – John Little and Gini Pupo-Walker, abstain – Fran Bush)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Director's Report – Dr. Battle and staff presented a report on the Promising Scholars Summer Program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Freda Player-Peters thanked the Council for providing additional funding to MNPS to pay for additional unpaid days for support staff.
- B. Gini Pupo-Walker announced that the new Student Board Members would begin attending Board Meeting in the fall.
- C. Fran Bush announced that she would be partnering with the Stronger Than My Father organization to host a Back to School Festival on July 31st.
- D. John Little announced that the Juvenile Detention Center MNPS students would be graduation on July 15th.
- E. Rachael Anne Elrod announced the upcoming dates of the COVID-19 vaccine and immunizations events that will be held at several middle schools.
- F. Emily Masters announced that the Parent Advisory Council is recruiting members.
- G. Abigail Tylor announced that Early College High School is accepting applications.
- H. Christiane Buggs announced that the Board will host a Board Retreat on July 22nd. She also announced that Summer graduations will be held July 27th.

Ms. Buggs adjourned the meeting at 9:53 p.m.



Chris M. Henson
Board Secretary

Christiane Buggs
Board Chair

Date