# Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools
## Board of Education
### Minutes
#### January 25, 2011

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<tr>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>DISCUSSION/MOTION</th>
<th>FOLLOW-UP/OUTCOME</th>
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<td>• Roll Call</td>
<td>Members Present: Gracie Porter, Chair; Mark North, Vice-Chair; Dr. Jo Ann Brannon; Ed Kindall; Cheryl D. Mayes; Anna Shepherd; Kay Simmons; Antwan Steele and Jhamia Poole, Student Board Members</td>
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<td>Members Absent: Dr. Sharon Gentry; Michael W. Hayes</td>
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<td>Ms. Porter called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.</td>
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<td>• Pledge of Allegiance</td>
<td>Led by Joe Edgens, Executive Director of Facilities.</td>
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<td>• National School Board Appreciation Week</td>
<td>In honor of School Board Appreciation Week, Dr. Register honored the Board with the following words of appreciation for their work for MNPS: Each year, Tennessee celebrates &quot;School Board Appreciation Week&quot; to honor school board members who govern our schools and make a difference in the lives of our children and communities. For 2011, &quot;School Board Appreciation Week&quot; in Tennessee is Jan. 23-29. I have worked with many different Boards of Education throughout my career, and this school board is one of the best I have ever worked with: Our Board members are leaders who understand the critical need to share a common vision – recognizing that as individuals they may not always agree, but as a group they are united in their goals and expectations. Members are focused on ensuring that every student receives the best education available so he or she can be successful in college, career and life. They spend hours in board and committee meetings, which are required, but they also spend many more hours in their schools and communities supporting students, principals and employees because being a member of the Board is more than just an elected position to them – it is a commitment to our children. Being a member of the school board is an extremely difficult job, and one that rarely receives thanks for the investment of time, energy and heart that goes into the work. Tonight, I want to take a moment during this week that is set aside to celebrate school boards across the state to say “Thank You” for your work, your leadership, and your vision.</td>
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## GOVERNANCE ISSUES

| ACTIONS                  | Mr. North read the following consent agenda items: II-A-1-a- Approval of Minutes – 1/18/11 Regular Board Meeting; II-A-1-b- Recommended Award of Contract for Roof Replacement at Pennington Elementary School (Sections A, B, and C) – Maxwell Roofing & Sheet Metal, Inc. - MBOE 10-036; II-A-1-c- Recommended Award of Contract for Roof Replacement at Wright Middle School (Sections A, A1 and B) – Two |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|

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<td>• Recommended Approval of 2011-2017 Capital Master Plan</td>
<td>Mr. Kindall made the motion to approve the 2011-2017 Capital Master Plan. Mr. North seconded</td>
<td><strong>VOTE:</strong> 7-0- Unanimous</td>
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| • Director’s Report  
   o The New Teacher Project | Suzette Robatham and Casey Haugner with The New Teacher Project (TNTP) presented a Power Point to the Board.  
   Ms. Simmons asked if there were any roadblocks to success? Ms. Haugner stated that there are none directly associated with MNPS, but obtaining and maintaining the most up-to-date information is a concern. Mr. Kindall congratulated TNPT for recruiting highly-qualified teachers. He asked if the candidates received adequate cultural diversity training before entering the classroom? Ms. Robotham stated that training sessions are held during the summer which deal with cultural diversity. Mr. North asked about teacher retention? Ms. Haugner said our selection model includes long-term commitment; teachers state that they plan to stay in the district at least three years. Dr. Register said TNPT is a great partner to MNPS, and we are learning from each other. Mr. Kindall commended Dr. Register for requesting TNPT to concentrate on hiring diverse teachers. Mr. Kindall asked if at some point highly-qualified teachers will be recruited for all schools? Ms. Haugner said that is the focus and goal. Ms. Porter asked TNPT to provide information on TNTP requirements of teachers compared to state requirements? |
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| o TLG- Central Office Effectiveness | Dr. Register and Ms. Ucelli-Kashyap presented a Power Point to the Board on Central Office Effectiveness.  

Ms. Shepherd commended Dr. Register on his presentation. She asked how accountability is being communicated to central office staff? Dr. Register said it begins with developing a common vision and culture. It is important that the Administration communicates vision and culture. Dr. Brannon requested data on the surveys on culture. Dr. Register said that the surveys were under development and would be available in the near future. Dr. Brannon asked if any data is available from other districts for comparison? Ms. Ucelli-Kashyap said we are planning seminars to review the implications of our work in this area. Ms. Simmons said she was thoroughly impressed when she visited the Principal’s Retreat. The excitement and teamwork was very encouraging, and she commended Dr. Register on his leadership and vision for the district. Ms. Porter thanked Dr. Register for his hard work and hopes that in the near future other districts will look to the work of MNPS as a best practice. |                  |
| o Teacher Incentive Fund   | Dr. Julie McCargar presented a Power Point to the Board on the Teacher Incentive Fund.  

Mr. Kindall asked how teachers can be prevented from transferring for the benefit of the teacher incentive pay? Dr. McCargar said the State will require districts to attend trainings that will help us to design the best system that addresses those types of concerns. Dr. Register said the Teacher Incentive Fund coincides with other initiatives that we have going on in the district which will help the district move forward. |                  |
| o EE-17 – Charter Schools  | Mr. Coverstone presented a Power Point to the Board on EE-17 Charter Schools. Mr. Coverstone introduced Carol Swann, who will be working with the Private School and Charter School Office.  

Mr. Kindall said it seems that Smithson-Craighead scored higher than any other Charter School. The steps the school used to increase their scores should be evaluated and used in the district. Ms. Simmons asked about the affect of any legislative changes in the near future? Mr. Coverstone said he hopes that the legislative changes will address quality. Dr. Register said as the door opens wider for charter schools, MNPS must ensure the best charter schools are brought to Davidson County. |                  |
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<td>EE-17 – Charter Schools - continued</td>
<td>Ms. Porter said MNPS must be vigilant in ensuring that the best schools are in MNPS.</td>
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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Director Evaluation Committee**
  Dr. Brannon announced that the Director Evaluation Committee meeting will be held February 1st at 4:30 p.m.

- **CLASS**
  Mr. North announced that CLASS will meet February 21st at the Downtown Sheraton Downtown Hotel at 4:30 p.m.

- **Youth Safety Summit Committee**
  Ms. Mayes announced that the Youth Safety Summit Committee will meet on February 9th at 4:30 p.m. in the Board Conference Room.

- **Cane Ridge Open House**
  Ms. Mayes announced that the Academies of Cane Ridge Open House will be held on January 25th at 6:30 p.m.

- **Middle School/High School and Beyond Education Forum**
  Ms. Mayes announced the Middle School/ High School and Beyond educational forum will be held at Cane Ridge High School on February 5th.

- **2nd Annual Keep the Music Playing-**
  Ms. Porter announced that the Nashville Alliance for Public Education will be having the 2nd Annual Keep the Music Playing All-Star concert on February 1st at 6:00 p.m. at the Schermerhorn Symphony Center.

- **Federal Relations Network Conference**
  Ms. Porter announced that she and Mr. North will be attending the Federal Relations Network Conference February 6th - 8th, which will be held in Washington, D.C.

- **Budget and Finance Committee Meeting**
  Ms. Porter announced the Budget and Finance Committee Timeline: 1st meeting – February 28th from 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm; 2nd meeting – March 2nd from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm; Public Hearing – March 10th at 5:30 pm; 3rd meeting – March 10th after the public hearing; Board vote on the budget – March 22nd during the Board meeting.

#### WRITTEN INFORMATION TO THE BOARD

- Sales Tax Collections as of January 20, 2011
- Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Operating Budget Financial Report
- Board Calendar Items
- Adjournment
  Ms. Simmons adjourned the meeting at 6:26 p.m.
- Signatures

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Chris M. Henson    Gracie Porter    Date
Board Secretary    Board Chair   

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January 25, 2011