

MINUTES

Board of Education Regular Meeting

May 12, 2026 6:00 PM

MCS Administrative Offices

<p>CALL TO ORDER Procedural Item Present: Mr. Butch Campbell, Ms. Karen Dodd, Ms. Barbara Long, Ms. Amanda Moore, Mrs. Jeanette Price, Absent: Mr. Jimmy Richardson III, Mr. David Settles.</p> <p>In attendance: Dr. Trey Duke, Don Bartch, Daniel Owens, Angela Fairchild, Ken Rocha, April Zavis, Lisa Trail, Sheri Arnette, Maria Johnson, Dr. Liz Rueby,</p> <p>Assistant City Attorney Lauren Bush and City Liaison Bill Shacklett</p>	Chair Amanda Moore
<p>Pledge of Allegiance Procedural Item The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dr. Liz Rueby, principal at Reeves Rogers Elementary.</p>	
<p>Moment of Silence Procedural Item</p>	
<p>APPROVAL OF AGENDA Action Item Motion to approve the agenda. This motion, made by Ms. Barbara Long and seconded by Ms. Karen Dodd, passed. Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2</p>	Chair Amanda Moore
<p>PUBLIC COMMENT Procedural Item</p>	Chair Amanda Moore
<p>CONSENT ITEMS Consent Agenda Motion to approve consent agenda. This motion, made by Mr. Butch Campbell and seconded by Mrs. Jeanette Price, passed. Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2</p>	Chair Amanda Moore
<p>Approval of 4-28-26 Board Minutes Consent Item</p>	
<p>Approval of Contract-Zearn Summer School Consent Item</p>	
<p>Approval of Contract-Daiken HVAC Consent Item</p>	
<p>Approval of Omni TSA Plan Administration Amendment Consent Item</p>	
<p>Approval of Surplus Property Disposal Consent Item</p>	
<p>ACTION ITEMS Action Item</p>	Chair Amanda Moore
<p>Approval of the 2026-2027 Summer School Budget Action Item Motion to approve Budget Amendment-2026-2027 Summer School Budget. This motion, made by Ms. Karen Dodd and seconded by Ms. Barbara Long, passed. Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2 Dr. Duke informed the Board that, in previous years, the transportation portion of the Summer School budget had been presented separately; however, this year it was incorporated into the overall Summer School Budget.</p>	Dr. Trey Duke

<p>Mrs. Arnette provided the Board with an update on the Summer School process. She reviewed what the budget would cover, identified the schools where Summer School would be held, and shared the projected staffing numbers. She informed the Board that 1,219 students are currently enrolled, including 384 third-grade students.</p> <p>Mrs. Arnette also thanked Becky Campbell, Felicia James, and Dr. Bullard for their hard work in planning this year’s Summer School program, noting that the planning process began in January.</p>	
<p>Approval of Budget Amendment-AALN PreK Action Item Motion to approve Budget Amendment-AALN PreK Grant. This motion, made by Mr. Butch Campbell and seconded by Mrs. Jeanette Price, passed. Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2</p>	Dr. Trey Duke
<p>Approval of Budget Amendment-Stronger Connections Action Item Motion to approve Budget Amendment-Stronger Connections. This motion, made by Ms. Barbara Long and seconded by Ms. Karen Dodd, passed. Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2</p>	Dr. Trey Duke
<p>Approval of Budget Amendment-Federal McKinney Vento Action Item Motion to approve the Budget Amendment-Federal McKinney Vento. This motion, made by Mrs. Jeanette Price and seconded by Ms. Barbara Long, passed. Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2</p>	Dr. Trey Duke
<p>Approval of Contract-ABM Janitorial Services Action Item Motion to approve the Contract-ABM Janitorial Services. This motion, made by Mr. Butch Campbell and seconded by Mrs. Jeanette Price, passed. Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2</p> <p>Board Member Karen Dodd asked if the district is still satisfied with the services provided by ABM. Dr. Duke confirmed that the district is pleased overall and explained that principals receive a monthly survey regarding ABM’s performance, with the average score currently at 90%. He acknowledged that there have been staffing challenges and high turnover; however, ABM has kept the district informed and has been very responsive whenever concerns have been raised. Dr. Duke added that the concerns being experienced are similar to those encountered when custodial services were managed in-house.</p> <p>Assistant Superintendent of Operations Don Bartch also addressed the Board and explained that there had been a pattern of accountability concerns during evening hours at the schools. After communicating those concerns to ABM, the company assigned a night foreman to provide additional oversight.</p> <p>Board Member Karen Dodd also asked whether ABM continues to be cost-efficient for the district. Dr. Duke explained that the final year of managing custodial services internally cost approximately \$3.5 million and involved many of the same challenges. In comparison, the current contract with ABM costs approximately \$3.1 million and has allowed district staff to focus on other responsibilities. Dr. Duke stated that he feels confident the district would be unlikely to find better service if a change were made.</p> <p>Board Member Barbara Long shared that she continues to receive calls from teachers regarding custodial concerns. Attorney Lauren Bush explained that the current contract differs from the previous one in that ABM now has a supervisor dedicated solely to the district. She added that if the terms of the contract are not met, the district has the ability to pursue a breach of contract. Ms. Bush further explained that ABM provides monthly reports to the district and that if staffing levels fall below a specified percentage, the company is required to reimburse funds to the district.</p>	Dr. Trey Duke
<p>REPORTS AND INFORMATION</p>	Chair Amanda Moore

Information Item	
<p>Results of Board Self-Assessment Information Item</p> <p>Board Chair Amanda Moore shared the Board self-assessment results with the Board and explained that the assessment is part of the requirements for achieving Board of Distinction status, as well as an opportunity for the Board to evaluate its overall effectiveness. She asked if any Board members had feedback regarding the results, and there was none.</p>	Chair Amanda Moore
<p>Review of Board's Five-Year Strategic Plan 2026-2031 Information Item</p> <p>Dr. Duke informed the Board that the current Strategic Plan extends through 2027, giving the district an early start on developing the next Strategic Plan, which will cover the years 2026-2031. Dr. Duke presented a PowerPoint outlining the proposed goals and objectives for the new plan. He introduced each goal, and district supervisors provided additional details regarding the priority objectives and the strategies that will be used to accomplish them.</p> <p>The proposed goals were presented as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 1: Academic Achievement - presented by Sheri Arnette • Goal 2: Whole Child Supports - presented by Ken Rocha (Objective 1), Lisa Trail (Objective 2), and Dr. Duke (Objective 3) • Goal 3: Employee Growth and Retention - presented by Maria Johnson (Objectives 1-3) • Goal 4: Operational Excellence - presented by Don Bartch (Objectives 1 and 2), April Zavisla (Objective 3), and Daniel Owens (Objective 4) • Goal 5: District of Choice - presented by Lisa Trail (Objective 1) and Dr. Duke (Objective 2) <p>During the discussion of Goal 2, Dr. Duke noted the importance of including measurable indicators related to out-of-school suspensions and student behavior, expressing hope that suspension numbers would decrease as supports and interventions are strengthened. He also commended Jennifer Lowe for her partnership with MTSU and for her work in developing and promoting Parent Universities, which provide valuable resources and support for parents. Dr. Duke explained that the presentation provided a high-level overview of the goals, objectives, and measurable tasks. He encouraged Board members to review the more detailed handout provided and to share any feedback or recommendations.</p> <p>Dr. Duke then asked the Board for direction regarding the next steps in the Strategic Plan approval process. He explained that one option would be for the Board to review the draft and provide feedback on June 9, with possible approval of the plan at the June 23 Board meeting. Another option would be to review the draft and hold a more in-depth discussion during the August 25 Board workshop.</p> <p>Board Member Karen Dodd stated that she preferred the first option, which would allow the Board to review and provide feedback on June 9 and then take a final vote on June 23. The remaining Board members agreed with that approach.</p> <p>Dr. Duke informed the Board that, during the June 9 meeting, each supervisor will provide additional details regarding the strategies and actions being implemented to achieve the outlined objectives. He also noted that the Board will have time to review the Strategic Plan document prior to the June 9 meeting.</p>	Dr. Trey Duke
<p>Director's Update Information Item</p> <p>Dr. Duke informed the Board that third-grade retake testing is approaching. He stated that the district expects to receive test scores on May 20 and will retest all non-proficient third-grade students on May 21. He also shared that two additional Zoom calls for third- and fourth-grade parents are scheduled for Thursday, May 14. Dr. Duke noted that only eight days of school remain, and that this is the latest the district has ever received scores back, leaving only one day available for retesting.</p>	Dr. Trey Duke

<p>Dr. Duke also informed the Board that he will present the proposed budget to the City Council on Thursday, May 14, at 11:30 a.m. at the Murfreesboro Municipal Airport. He stated that the district is still awaiting the final weighted full-time equivalent number from the State, which is expected on Friday, and noted that adjustments to the budget may need to be made at the next Board meeting on May 26. He added that the City Council is scheduled to vote on the budget on June 4.</p> <p>Dr. Duke shared that the last full day of school for students will be the Friday before Memorial Day. He added that teachers will return for two additional days following Memorial Day. He stated that Thursday, May 28, will be students' last half day, with buses running that day for report card pickup, although he expects low attendance. Dr. Duke said that feedback from both parents and staff indicated a preference for having the last full day of school occur before Memorial Day. He also shared that Lisa Trail will communicate to families that grab-and-go breakfast and lunch options will be available for students on May 28.</p> <p>Dr. Duke also informed the Board of the passing of Ms. Sia Phillips' mother. Ms. Phillips serves as principal of Salem Elementary School. He shared that visitation services would be held on Wednesday, May 13, in Memphis and asked the Board to keep Ms. Phillips and her family in their thoughts.</p>	
<p>OTHER BUSINESS Information Item Board Chair Amanda Moore asked about the projected fourth-grade enrollment numbers at Discovery School following the addition of a new classroom for the upcoming school year. Dr. Duke responded that he would provide the Board with the most up-to-date enrollment figures but shared that the latest information indicated that 18 students had registered for the new class.</p>	Chair Amanda Moore
<p>ADJOURNMENT Action Item Motion to adjourn 7:08 p.m. This motion, made by Ms. Barbara Long and seconded by Mr. Butch Campbell, passed. Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2</p>	Chair Amanda Moore

Director of Schools