

VASSAR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Special Meeting of the Boards of Education for Vassar and Millington for the Dual Superintendency Council

Date: June 18, 2014

Time: 6:00pm

Place: High School Board Room

- A. Call of order:
1. The special meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President Mike Kennard at 6:03 pm.
- B. Roll Call:
VPS Members Present: Kennard, Guile, Hubbard
VPS Members Absent: None
MCS Members Present: Murray, Vance, Shreeve
MCS Members Absent: None
Others Present: Mr. Palmer, Mr. Hennessy, Mr. Collins, Mr. Crump
- C. Pledge of Allegiance
- D. Approval of Agenda:
1. MOTION by Russ Hubbard, support by Ben Guile to approve the agenda as is.
MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)
- E. Operational Issues:
1. Mr. Palmer gave a brief background/overview of the shared services plan. Mr. Shreeve and Mr. Vance both spoke. The Millington Board of Education understands that this could cause Vassar a hardship. But it is in the best interest for Millington at this time. Mr. Guile asked if there was a backlash from staff. Mr. Murray and Mr. Shreeve responded. Yes, there has been a backlash from staff. A majority of their employees do not wish to proceed with the sharing of the High School principal. The morale of the school is important and it is bringing it down. Mr. Guile asked about how much Millington would save from no longer sharing the principal. Mr. Palmer said that by not sharing they would no longer be paying Vassar \$65,000 as in the original plan. But for Millington to hire a principal it will cost them about \$70,000 more. Mr. Guile: Have you already posted the position and is this a done deal? Mr. Palmer: Yes, they have posted it but it would make it easier if Vassar's board is in agreement with them. Mr. Guile: Other than the contract with the Superintendent, the rest is not in a contract so there is no legalese? Mr. Palmer: No the only contract is for the Dual Superintendency. Mr. Murray said that the staff feel this is hindering services instead of helping. The board needed to step back and take another look at the plan. Mr. Guile: We, as a board, have done that same thing before. We have stepped back and re-evaluated things. Mr. Murray: It was across the board that we felt that this wasn't working. Mr. Palmer to Vassar's Board of Education Council Members: Are you ok with this? The Council Members unanimously agreed with Mr. Guile stating that they understood the situation. Mr. Murray: We appreciate your support. Mr. Palmer: The committee will take this to Vassar's meeting Monday night and make a motion to accept the change. We will notify you of the results the next day.

The Revised Shared Service Plan will be the following:

- Payroll for both districts will be shared with the ISD.
- Millington will share its Technology staff with Vassar.
- Millington will share its Dean of Students with Vassar.
- Vassar will share its Superintendent with Millington.
- Vassar will share its Federal Programs Director with Millington.
- Counseling was not a part of the plan that was passed by the Boards of Education. Vassar's Counselor has been assisting Millington with their student scheduling. Vassar will pay the Counselor for his time and then bill Millington for the amount.

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2. Mr. Palmer: Mr. Collins would like to see more set times at each district. Mr. Palmer stated that he does feel there is a need for him to be in both districts daily. Currently his schedule is as follows:

8:00-10:30am Vassar

10:30- 3:00pm Millington

3:00 – end of day Vassar

Mr. Shreeve would like to see the hours posted. Times must be flexible. Mr. Murray: You've been doing this every day for the past 4 months. How do you feel it is going?

Mr. Palmer: It has been hard. It is a lot of time but it is do able. We have learned some good things from Millington and are doing in Vassar. For example the

Headstart/NEMSCA program will be starting at Vassar this coming year. Plus you meet new people and more ideas get shared. Mr. Murray: I'm not there every day.

People seek me out to tell me a problem more often than to praise. These people are concerned that you are not available enough. Mr. Palmer expects this to improve as people get more used to the situation. There will be times when he is pulled from

one district for a day or two due to a problem that has occurred. Mr. Murray to the

Vassar Council Members: Have you had any feedback? Mr. Hubbard: I have not

heard anything. Mr. Kennard: Me neither. Mr. Guile: There does not appear to be a large disruption to our district. Mr. Shreeve: We all have cell phones. The

availability should not be an issue. Mr. Vance: What about alternating full days? Mr.

Palmer: I really need to be in each district every day. Mr. Guile: What if you had set office hours like a professor? Mr. Palmer: That is a really good idea. Mr. Guile: It

provides structure and still allows for flexibility. They can be posted on the websites.

Mr. Murray: Let's set down hours. Mr. Shreeve: We need to keep morale up. Don

Moore, Vassar teacher, asked how much Vassar will be paying for Mr. Munson and if he is a certified social worker to replace Mr. Haines? Mr. Palmer: Vassar is paying

\$26,000 for Mr. Munson to be Dean of Students at Central in the afternoons. Mrs

Inglis: He will handle discipline for students that are unruly and help with truancy.

This will remove a lot of pressure from the office staff. Mr. Palmer: We will re-

evaluate everything in October and see where we are at that time.

F. Public Participation:

1. No one from the public participated.

G. Adjournment:

1. MOTION by Russ Hubbard, support by Ben Guile to adjourn at 6:33 pm.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

Dated 6-23-2014

Signed: Russ Hubbard

(Secretary)