



FARRAGUT / KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS
EDUCATION RELATIONS COMMITTEE
TOWN HALL BOARD ROOM
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2017
4:00 PM

1. Call to order
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. August 1, 2017
3. Youth Application to Serve on the Education Relations Committee
4. Youth Engagement Initiative
5. Outdoor Classroom Discussion
6. Review Any Actions Items
7. Adjournment

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MINUTES
FARRAGUT / KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS
EDUCATION RELATIONS COMMITTEE
AUGUST 1, 2017
4:00 PM

Committee Members Present:

Kristen Pennycuff-Trent, Carla Werner, Tony Carasso, Alice Thornton, LeAnn Trotter

Staff Present:

Gary Palmer, Sue Stuhl, Julia Barham, Jenn Hatmaker

Guests:

Alderman Louise Povlin, Naoko Blue, Alan Sloan with the farragutpress

Call to Order

Chair Pennycuff-Trent called the meeting to order.

New committee member Alice Thornton introduced herself and shared her background with the committee.

Approval of the Minutes

Ms. Trotter moved to approve the June 6, 2017 minutes. Mr. Carasso seconded the motion. All voted in favor; motion passed.

Election of Officers

Ms. Werner nominated Ms. Pennycuff-Trent for Chairman. Ms. Trotter nominated Ms. Werner for Vice Chairman. Ms. Werner nominated Ms. Trotter for Secretary.

Mr. Carasso moved to elect Ms. Pennycuff-Trent as Chairman, Ms. Werner as Vice Chairman, and Ms. Trotter as Secretary. Ms. Thornton seconded the motion. All voted in favor; motion passed.

School Liaison Assignments

Chair Pennycuff-Trent volunteered to serve as liaison to Farragut Primary, Ms. Trotter volunteered to serve as liaison to Farragut Intermediate, Mr. Carasso volunteered to serve as liaison to Farragut Middle, and Ms. Werner and Ms. Thornton volunteered to serve as liaisons to Farragut High.

Mr. Carasso moved to approve the school liaison assignments. Ms. Thornton seconded the motion. All voted in favor; motion passed.

Farragut Museum Outreach Program

Julia Barham stated she would like to create an outreach program specific to one grade level and would like the program to meet testing requirements for that grade. Ms. Barham has requested two committee members to help her develop and implement the program. Ms. Werner and Ms. Trotter volunteered to help Ms. Barham with the Museum Outreach Program. Ms. Trotter stated that fifth grade was approved for one semester of Tennessee History and would take affect the 2019-2020 school year.

Teacher Appreciation Program

Chair Pennycuff-Trent presented the Teacher of the Year Awards to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen during the budget adoption process. The Board did not approve funds for the awards in the FY2018 budget. Chair Pennycuff-Trent suggested that the committee write a letter to each of the Knox County Teacher of the Year Award recipients instead of providing a monetary award. Mr. Palmer stated that the agenda item should be pulled from discussion and revisited at a later time.

Youth Council Initiative

Mr. Palmer recommended that the committee have a separate meeting to discuss the Youth Council Initiative. The committee will have a special called meeting on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 4 PM to discuss the Youth Council Initiative.

Writing / Speaking Contest – LeAnn Trotter

Ms. Trotter stated that she would like to revisit this agenda item at a later date due to the other initiatives the committee is taking on at the moment.

Review Any Action Items

Alderman Povlin stated that she would like the Town of Farragut to join the school PTOs; to join is approximately \$20-25. Mr. Palmer stated that he would look into the cost and joining.

Ms. Werner moved to adjourn. Mr. Carasso seconded the motion.

The committee will hold a special called meeting on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 4 PM in the Town Hall Board Room to discuss the Youth Council Initiative. Next regular committee meeting will be Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at 4 PM in the Town Hall Board Room.

Print**Youth Representative Committee Application - Submission #3996****Date Submitted: 9/3/2017****Town of Farragut Youth Representative Committee Application****First Name**

Hyatt

Last Name

Christenberry

Address1**Address2****City**

Knoxville

State

Tennessee

Zip

37934

Home Phone**Email****Briefly describe your life goals/aspirations:**

My short-term goal is to graduate from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville with a B.S. in Public Administration, followed by a Master's degree in Public Policy Administration. With this degree, I hope to begin working for a local non-profit organization. My experience working with several organizations while in high school, including the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, the Helen Ross McNabb Great Starts Foundation, and East Tennessee Children's Hospital, has allowed me to realize how much I value the sense of purpose and additional challenges that accompany business and leadership in the public sector. One particularly eye-opening experience that brought about this realization was the summer I spent completing an internship at the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation while at the same time interacting with children suffering from the disease at Children's Hospital. It was heartbreaking to see their suffering, but it reminded me of the necessity of the organization's work and that for every smiling face that makes the postcards, there are many more children for whom there is work to be done.

Additionally, I have had the opportunity to serve in numerous leadership roles within my school and community through my involvement with Student Government Association, PTSA, and Youth Leadership Knoxville. So, after gaining some experience in the field, I would love to eventually work in a management-level position, as I feel this is where I will be able to have the greatest impact. Furthermore, though I will be happy working with any organization to start, my passion lies with children, and I would love to eventually work for an organization centered on improving the lives of children in the community. Ultimately, if in the course of my career I discover a need not being fulfilled by a pre-existing organization, I would love to play a role in founding an organization to represent the individuals with this need.

Which committees are you interested in serving:

First Committee Choice:

Knox County Schools Education Relations Committee (1st Tuesday of every other month at 4pm at Town Hall) ▼

Second Committee Choice:

Arts Council (1st Tuesday of each month at 5:30pm at Town Hall) ▼

Third Committee Choice:

Visual Resources Review Board (4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm at Town Hall) ▼

School Official or Sponsor Name

Derek Griffin

Phone Number

(423) 774-3527

Please upload a letter of recommendation

H. Christenberry Rec Letter.pdf ▶



STEM ACADEMY

Science | Technology | Engineering | Math

30 August 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

My Name is Derek Griffin and I am an instructor at the L&N STEM Academy in Knoxville, TN. I am writing this letter on behalf of Hyatt Christenberry who was a student of mine in AP United States History her junior year and is currently my student in Personal Finance. Hyatt was in my class that was combined with AP Language Composition where we met for two full blocks at the local public library. In addition to this, we worked closely together on a project for National History Day in which she placed 1st in the state and competed in the international competition in Washington D.C.

I can honestly say that I have been waiting for the opportunity to write this letter. I have worked with many students who have been great in so many different ways, but I have never worked with a student who is as gifted and well-rounded as Hyatt is. I first worked with Hyatt in our school's Student Government Association where I was a sponsor and she was her class' treasurer. In that time, I got a glimpse of the hard-working and dedicated person that Hyatt is.

It wasn't until the next school year that I had the privilege of being Hyatt's teacher. In that time, I learned how determined Hyatt is to succeed. I saw that she is not only equipped with above average academic ability, but with an unmatched will to thrive in the classroom. I am not sure that I have met a student who pushes themselves as hard, holds themselves as accountable, or puts in as many hours as Hyatt does. This is undoubtedly responsible for her very high position in this year's graduating class from one of the area's most rigorous schools. Over the last two years as her teacher, I have found that Hyatt has pushed me to be better in every possible way. I find myself not only wanting to provide Hyatt with the best opportunities to succeed, but also even wanting to be more like her in many ways.

While I got to know Hyatt as a student in the classroom, I learned a lot about her as a person in our Student Government Association. Hyatt has served as a very active member of the Executive board of the SGA in the two years since I have become the sponsor of

the organization. Hyatt provides great ideas and input at all meetings and does so in a way that is productive and professional. Not only that, she works tirelessly at all times to get her job done and contribute to the organization. Not only that, she has gone above and beyond her duties by planning an annual pancake breakfast to support the Helen Ross McNabb center, a local charity that provides behavioral health care.

In addition to the first hand knowledge I have of her hard work and dedication, I also know how hard Hyatt works in other aspects to help the school and her community. Hyatt plays Varsity Tennis, plays an active role in Model UN and the Technology Students' Association, and leads Sunday School at her church. She is also the student representative to the Parent Teacher and Students' Association at the school. Hyatt takes on these roles not to build a résumé, but because she has a desire and a motivation to help others and cannot sit back and do nothing when she knows she can help.

It is due to all of these reasons that I would feel comfortable recommending Hyatt for just about anything she asked me to. I know that she is capable of great things and I look forward to seeing what she chooses to do, because I know she will bring her unique qualities to it and leave a lasting impact. The same lasting impact that she has left on the school, the community, and me.

Sincerely,
Derek A. Griffin
Social Studies Instructor
derek.griffin@knoxschools.org