



## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Minutes for October 19, 2020

The Maryville Board of Education met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. on October 19 at John Sevier Elementary School. Board members present were Nick Black, Chad Hampton, Julie Elder, Bethany Pope, and Candy Morgan. Chairman Black called the meeting to order promptly at 5:32 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by JSE students Lyla and Liam Mullen.

### **SCHOOL UPDATE**

The JSE Administrative team reviewed ongoing work to complete the Fox's Burrow on the school campus. Geoff Hamm helped detail the project and shared his experience as a colleague and friend of Keith Burroughs, a dear teacher for whom the project memorializes. Based on Mr. Burroughs' mantra to "just try it," the Fox's Burrow is an outdoor community play space with a playground, walking trail, gaga pit, and a theater that can accommodate up to 200 children. One terrific aspect of the project is new accessible swings for children with disabilities. The Maryville City Schools Foundation funded the swings, and community donations have funded all other space components.

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mr. Black called for a vote to adopt the meeting agenda. Julie Elder made the motion for the agenda adoption. Candy Morgan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no comments from the public.

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Hampton made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Mrs. Pope seconded the motion. The motion carried with full agreement.

1. Approve minutes of September 14, 2020, meeting.
2. Ratify Executive Committee approval of Maryville High School Girls Golf Team overnight trip for State Golf Tournament.

Funding source: Maryville High School Athletics

## AGENDA ITEMS

1. Consider FY21 Budget Amendment #1
  - a. The new Director of Finance for the district, Sarah Pritchard, gave a thorough review of the budget amendment and detailed revenue changes based on pandemic related federal and state funding, as well as numerous grants.
  - b. Mr. Hampton make a motion to approve the budget amendment and the second came from Bethany Pope. The motion to approve passed unanimously.
2. Consider approving a daycare at CGIS with start-up funding not to exceed \$50,000 and to be reimbursed with profits from the program.
  - a. Dr. Ramona Best, CGIS Principal, and Patricia Jones, Adventure Club Director at CGIS, detailed the plans for opening a daycare on the CGIS campus, with an opening day projected for January 4, 2021. Upon approval, enrollment would start immediately and an open house would be held on December 15. The facility would be called "Maryville's Little Next."
  - b. After a motion by Mr. Hampton and second by Julie Elder, the proposal received full approval by all board members.
3. Consider purchase from PCS for 26 Lenovo workstations for the Broadcasting Classroom at MHS.
  - a. Funding source: CTE Perkins (\$38,640) and Instructional Equipment (\$8,134)
  - b. Candy Morgan made the motion to approval; seconded by Mrs. Pope. The motion was approved unanimously.

## DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS REPORT

Dr. Winstead shared with the board that recent benchmark assessments conducted across the district yielded positive and encouraging results about student growth.

Despite projections from state officials that some districts could see significant drops in student performance after the spring and early fall learning challenges, Maryville students are showing growth in many areas, with only minor declines in some grades and subjects.

On the topic of state assessment, Dr. Winstead shared agreement with the Governor's plan to conduct state testing as planned this fall (EOC at MHS) and next spring (Grades 3-12). He went on to say he hopes the legislature will agree to hold school systems, schools, and teachers harmless for the outcome but instead allow educators to have the data in their toolkit for future growth calculations.

Dr. Winstead ended his remarks with a review of the COVID-19 positive rate across the district and the challenges faced by teachers, students, and parents with current close contact isolation requirements.

## RECOGNITION OF STAFF AND STUDENTS

### MJHS

- Twenty-seven students passed PSCC's course: **Computer-Aided Design I (ENST 1311)**, at the end of last year. They each received three college credits at Pellissippi State Community College and credit on their MHS transcripts. Congratulations to our students! This feat is hard enough when we are meeting face to face, but to do this remotely is even more impressive.

- Congratulations to the **MJHS Varsity Volleyball** team for their championship win over Farragut. They finished the season with a total of 33 wins and one loss.
- The **JV Volleyball team** had a great season as well with a final record of 25 wins and two losses. Katie Morse and Lydia Bergwall received All-League Honors, and Katie also received JV Setter of the Year Recognition. Congratulations to both teams for a fantastic season!

### **Sam Houston**

In case you missed it, The Daily Times ran two stories covering wonderful activities at Sam Houston.

- Sam Houston **Story Walk Event** where “readers” are become superheroes ...  
[https://www.thedailytimes.com/news/sam-houston-elementary-holds-story-walk-on-greenway/article\\_653cdf07-681d-5af0-87ad-db1cf91eb691.html](https://www.thedailytimes.com/news/sam-houston-elementary-holds-story-walk-on-greenway/article_653cdf07-681d-5af0-87ad-db1cf91eb691.html)
- **Book Vending Machine** where “books” become treats ...  
[https://www.thedailytimes.com/news/sam-houston-elementary-holds-story-walk-on-greenway/article\\_653cdf07-681d-5af0-87ad-db1cf91eb691.html](https://www.thedailytimes.com/news/sam-houston-elementary-holds-story-walk-on-greenway/article_653cdf07-681d-5af0-87ad-db1cf91eb691.html)

### **MHS**

Sports dominates the news from the high school:

- Varsity Volleyball will play for this first time in 37 years in state competition tomorrow night in Murfreesboro.
- Girls’ soccer will begin regional competition tomorrow night.
- Boys’ football will play McMinn County on Friday (both with 8/0 seasons) to determine the regional champion.
- The cross-country team is having a great year and is projected to compete in the state meet as well.

### **FHE**

Foothills Elementary received Blue Ribbon honors from the U.S. Dept. of Education and was officially named a 2020 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL on September 24. FHE is also a 2014 Blue Ribbon school and Maryville Jr. High (Middle School) was a 1994 Blue Ribbon School. The program began in 1982. Congratulations to the staff and students who made this award possible.

### **COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

- Chad Hampton thanked the JSE admin team and acknowledged the hard work of all teachers. He shared his delight about the benchmark tests showing growth in many areas, despite COVID. He agreed that continuing state assessments was a good move. He wished all the sports teams now ending their seasons good luck.
- Julie Elder thanked the school for hosting the meeting and offered kind words in support of the Fox’s Burrow. Mrs. Elder was pleased the nursery is finally coming to fruition. She also shared her support for giving teachers and staff a pay increase or bonus, if possible.
- Mrs. Pope was supportive of the Fox’s Burrow at JSE and thanked all principals and teachers for their continued focus and hard work.
- Candy Morgan had to step away from the meeting a few minutes early.

- Chairman Black thanked JSE and noted that he is looking forward to walking through the campus and into the Burrow very soon. He is excited for staff to have the nursery as an option for their children. He went on to share how important it was to continue testing and was pleased the funds were available to upgrade all the computers in the Broadcasting class.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Anglim.