# BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes for April 19, 2021

The Maryville Board of Education met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. on April 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 at 5:35 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by ninth grader Joseph Leirer.

**SCHOOL UPDATE**

Maryville Academy Administrator Kelly Forester provided an update for the year and focused on priorities during her first year at MA. Current census for the academy is 21 students, with 40 students served so far in 2020-2021. Mrs. Forester noted that she has spent a great deal of time listening and appreciating the voices of all stakeholders – parents, students, teachers, and staff. She also reached out to students who are graduates and including comments from Lexi Moore in her presentation. Parent Stephen Thompson and teaching assistant Shanna Hudson also shared their experiences.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mr. Black called for a vote to adopt the meeting agenda. Candy Morgan moved to adopt the agenda. Julie Elder seconded the motion. The meeting agenda received unanimous approval.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no comments from the public.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

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

1. Approve Minutes of March 8, 2021, meeting
2. Ratify executive committee approval for the Maryville High School girls basketball team to participate in TSSAA Girls State Basketball tournament in Murfreesboro, TN.
3. Approve renewal of ClassLink license
    a. Funding Source: Technology/Software
    b. $18,654.00
4. Approve renewal of Canvas Cloud subscription for 2021-2022
    a. Funding Source: Instructional Materials and Supplies
    b. $21,525.48
5. Approve Coulter Grove Intermediate School Summer Band Camp Proposal.
6. Approve Montgomery Ridge Intermediate School Summer Band Camp Proposal
7. Approve purchase of 8 Newline touch boards
    a. Funding Source: FHE school funds
    b. $17,592.00

**AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Consider purchase of maintenance truck (state contract #64473)
    a. This action will replace a 1997 Chevrolet truck going to surplus.
    b. Amount: $27,260.00
    c. Motion to approve by Candy Morgan. Second by Bethany Pope. Approved unanimously.
2. Consider the purchase of WiFi-enabled bus camera systems from Safety Vision.
    a. Dr. Winstead explained that Safety Vision is a sole source provider and that the new technology will allow bus video footage to be uploaded when a bus comes in range of a school or parks at the bus depot – significantly expediting the review process. Contract buses will be equipped first, for a total of 60 cameras on 20 buses.
    b. Motion to approve by Julie Elder. Second by Chad Hampton. Approved unanimously.
3. Consider replacement of fifty-plus year old dishwasher at John Sevier Elementary from Mobile Fixture Company.
    a. Amount: $51,179.96
    b. Dr. Winstead explained that replacement parts are no longer available for this equipment installed when the building was constructed in the 1960's.
    c. Motion to approve by Bethany Pope. Second by Candy Morgan. Approved unanimously.
4. Consider sole bid from Denver Hunt Company, LLC for awnings at three schools.
    a. These awnings are extensions on already installed awnings that need to extend further than the original plan and budget would allow. (John Sevier Elementary, Coulter Grove Intermediate, and Maryville Jr. High)
    b. Funding source: Building Improvements
    c. Amount: $40,285.00
    d. Motion to approve by Julie Elder. Second by Bethany Pope. Approved unanimously.
5. Consider agreement to purchase house located at 408 Melrose Street, Maryville.
    a. Dr. Winstead explained how the opportunity for purchase came unexpectedly, but the property will serve current and future school and district growth needs.
    b. Funding Source: Capital Outlay
    c. Amount: $225,000.00
    d. Motion to approve by Bethany Pope. Second by Candy Morgan. Approved unanimously.
6. Consider renewal of Filewave Site License renewal for 2021-2022.
    a. Funding Source: Technology Software
    b. Amount: $34,992.00
    c. Motion to approve by Candy Morgan. Second by Julie Elder. Approved unanimously.
7. Consider revised 2021-2022 school calendar to add Monday, April 18, 2022 to the long holiday weekend and move the last day for students to May 20, 2022.
    a. Dr. Winstead explained that he sought input on the four-day break this year and it was met with overwhelming approval. In some years, this break would not work with spring break too, but it will work in 2022.
    b. Motion to approve by Bethany Pope. Second by Candy Morgan. Approved unanimously.
8. Consider purchase of 155 laptops for teachers' in grades 8-12.
    a. Dr. Winstead explained that this purchase will allow for a rotation of current teachers' laptops to students – extending the life of the purchase.
    b. Funding source: Regular instructional equipment
    c. Amount: $106,094.40
    d. Motion to approve by Bethany Pope. Second by Julie Elder. Approved unanimously.

**DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS EVALUATION**

Chairman Black presented an overview of the annual evaluation for Dr. Winstead, noting that the evaluation demonstrated improvement by the director, despite the pandemic. He went on to say it was, "Another great year and the scores reflect a vote of confidence by the board." Dr. Winstead thanked the board and acknowledged how working through stressful times can burden or strengthen relationships. In the case of Maryville, he felt the challenges faced since the pandemic began served to further unite staff and many parents.

**DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS REPORT**

Dr. Winstead shared the good news that sales tax revenues are up and numbers used for budgeting purposes should be available in the coming weeks. He also mentioned a project forthcoming to address needs at the softball field.

**RECOGNITION OF STAFF AND STUDENTS**

- Many thanks to the Maryville City Schools Foundation for everyone who helped make the 2021 Starlight Gala a creative, but wildly successful celebration of public education for our supporters. Special recognition to Brett Coulter, one of the award recipients for the evening.
- Congratulations to Landon Harris who was named athletic director recently and will take over as Larry Headrick fully retires later this year.
- Spring sports are in full swing and we encourage fans to show support for our student athletes by attending games whenever possible.
- This is also the season for students to sign with colleges around the country. Follow us on social media for all the details.
- Congratulations to the MHS Swim Team for earning the title of 2021 KISL Champions for the 4th year in a row.
- @ MRIS, Brayden Black was named 2021 Multiplication Knockout winner and he is in the 4th grade.

**COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

- **Candy Morgan** thanked those who presented on behalf of Maryville Academy and especially appreciated the positive message and attitude of Ms. Hudson.
- **Chad Hampton** thanked Ms. Forester for her work and presentation and wondered where they get their food (since there were comments about how good it is.) He learned that John Sevier Elementary provides the food for MA students. He also spoke directly to MHS government class students in attendance – sharing that he sat in their desk as a student and is now an attorney and parent who is grateful for his start at MHS and happy to know his own children will have the same experience.
- **Julie Elder** thanked all the presenters at the meeting and acknowledged the hard work of everyone involved in state testing across the district.
- **Bethany Pope** expressed her gratitude for the work of everyone at Maryville Academy and encouraged administrators, teachers, and students to "Hang on. Summer is almost here!"
- **Chairman Black** expressed his appreciation for the recap of the year at Maryville Academy. He went on to share his displeasure for the opinion piece that appeared in The Daily Times on April 4, 2021 regarding state-level action that will raise the no-bid contract limit from $10,000 to $25,000. He was especially disheartened by a statement that insinuated board members would take advantage of the increase by awarding no-bid contracts to friends and family. "It is not our practice to allow this and it

is an insult that the newspaper staff agreed to publish such an inflammatory and unfounded statement."

**Meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.** Respectfully submitted by Sharon Anglim.