



BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes for August 9, 2021

The Maryville Board of Education met in regular session at 5:33 p.m. on August 9 at John Sevier Elementary School. Board members present were Nick Black, Julie Elder, Bethany Pope, Chad Hampton, and Candy Morgan. Chairman Black called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by third grader Norah Eanes.

SCHOOL UPDATE

John Sevier Elementary principal Brandee Easterly reviewed a school-wide initiative to understand and appreciate the culture of poverty and its effect on the educational process. Much of the work focused on “getting to belonging.” The book “A Framework for Understanding Poverty” by educator and author Ruby Payne informed the initial conversation.

Following the school update, Dr. Winstead introduced Misty Parker to the board and those in attendance. Ms. Parker is the new executive director of the Maryville City Schools Foundation.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

No one from the public commented on the agenda.

Upon special request, Chairman Black granted Mark Pulliam two minutes to share his concerns regarding “Beyond Conversations about Race” – a book selected for study by the MCS Leadership Team. Mr. Pulliam recommended that each board member should read the book and then add the book selection process to a future board agenda.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Approve Minutes of July 12, 2021 meeting (Attachment)
2. Approve Board Policy Manual sections 1.8011, 3.205, 3.211, 4.205, 4.204, 4.213, 4.301, 4.605, 4.700, 5.106, 5.117, 5.200, 5.201, 6.200, 6.202, 6.300, 6.306, 6.402, and 6.4081 – second reading
3. Approve Maryville High School Volleyball Team to attend overnight LIVT Tournament in Louisville, KY. (Attachment A1)
4. Approve Maryville High School Volleyball Team to attend Border Battle Tournament in Murfreesboro. (Attachment A2)

5. Approve Maryville High School Chorus to attend Fall Retreat at Camp Ba-Yo-Ca in Sevierville. (Attachment A3)
6. Ratify Executive Committee approval of the Finck Settlement agreement.
7. Nominate Candy Morgan as a candidate for TSBA President-Elect.
8. Approve application and subsequent amendments to the ESSER 3.0 Fund application.
9. Approve revised FY21 salary scales for Classified and Supplements (Attachment A4)
10. Approve MOU with the Maryville Police Department for school resource officers for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years (Attachment A5)

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Consider FY21 Final Budget Amendment
 - a. Motion to approve by Bethany Pope. Second by Candy Morgan. Approved unanimously.
2. Consider FY22 Budget Amendment #1
 - a. Motion to approve by Candy Morgan. Second by Julie Elder. Approved unanimously.
3. Consider 2022-2023 Maryville City Schools Calendar
 - a. Motion to approve by Bethany Pope. Second by Candy Morgan. Approve unanimously.
4. Consider bids for construction of a softball hitting facility/concession/bathrooms
 - a. Funding Source: Capital Outlay
 - b. Low bid went to Ziggurat, with a base bid of \$821,000.
 - c. Motion to approve by Julie Elder. Second by Bethany Pope. Approved unanimously.
5. Consider Board Policy sections 4.206 (Homebound Instruction) and 4.212 (Virtual Education Program)
 - a. Motion to approve by Bethany Pope. Second by Candy Morgan. Approved unanimously.
6. Consider purchase of 2,825 laptops
 - a. Funding Source: ESSER 3.0 and GP Instructional Equipment
 - b. To optimize delivery and warranty considerations, a substitute motion decreased the number of laptops for approval to 325 for teachers only. The student laptop order and approval request will follow later.
 - c. Motion to approve the purchase of 325 laptops by Bethany Pope. Second by Candy Morgan. Approved unanimously.

DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS REPORT

Dr. Winstead reported a strong return to school for staff and students. He reported an increase of 250 new students - making it the largest increase in district history. With regard to personnel, teaching positions have settled down since July, but openings among support positions is keeping human resources staff very busy. Dr. Winstead indicated his satisfaction with recently released TCAP scores, especially with pandemic related challenges faced by teachers and families in 2020-2021. Lastly, Winstead advised the board that growth in the elementary schools would require a slight rezoning effort for next year. He suggested a public meeting to review the new zone lines and discuss the need to move 40-50 students from Foothills Elementary to Sam Houston Elementary and 65-75 students to John Sevier Elementary.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

- **Chad Hampton** shared his delight seeing the photos of swimmers in the John Sevier pool – a tradition he enjoyed while a student at JSE. Hampton thanked the public for attending and invited Mr. Pulliam to discuss the book further after he has a chance to read it.
- **Candy Morgan** welcomed Misty Parker and thanked Principal Easterly for a thought-provoking presentation.
- **Julie Elder** also welcomed Ms. Parker to her new post at the foundation. Elder then extended kudos to the principals for all they do to make back-to-school such a success. Mrs. Elder indicated she read the book the principals will soon read. She went on to say she defends the Leadership Team’s decision to read the book, regardless of its viewpoints, and assumes education professionals regularly read a variety of viewpoints on different subjects. Julie congratulated Candy Morgan on her nomination as president-elect of the Tennessee School Board Association.
- **Bethany Pope** thanked Principal Easterly for the school update. With regard to the book in question, Pope indicated she trusted the selection process and assumed professional educators read many books with a variety of perspectives to inform their work.
- **Chairman Black** expressed how excited everyone is to be back in school. He offered to continue open dialog with the public regarding any topic and shared that Maryville teachers will follow state law with regard to curriculum and instruction. He shared that the consent agenda included a memorandum of understanding with the Maryville Police Department to continue our SRO partnership for the next two years. Black also congratulated Candy Morgan for her leadership role at TSBA.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Anglim.