BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes for February 13, 2023

The Maryville Board of Education met in a regular session at 5:30 p.m. on February 13 at Coulter Grove Intermediate School. Board members present were Nick Black, Isaac Simerly, Julie Elder, Candy Morgan, and Bart Stinnett. Chairman Black called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by 6th grade student Delaney Smith.

UPDATE FROM COULTER GROVE

Coulter Grove students Ella May Smith (4th grade), Prachi Patel (5th grade), Delaney Smith (6th grade), and Austyn Burkhalter (7th grade) shared about the experiences and opportunities offered at CGIS. All four students commented on the leadership opportunities extended to students through organizations including student council, leadership programs, CGIS Liaisons, Hawk Helpers, and the Swoop Team. The students expressed their appreciation to the teachers who motivate them and make learning fun.

Dr. Ramona Best, CGIS Principal, introduced assistant principals Wendy Best and Zac Hargett, commending them for their outstanding work with students.

Barbara Taylor, STEM teacher and Director of Student Leadership, shared that 200 students hold leadership positions within the school through opportunities including: Rangers, announcements, book store, Hawk Helpers, etc. Ms. Taylor shared information about the Liaison leaders and the Act of Shakes competition that emphasizes public speaking and soft skills. Liaisons Prachi Patel and Austyn Burkhalter provided insight into some of the opportunities available through being a Liaison and the goal of bringing out one's personal best while creating student leaders. Caroline Carver, 8th grade student at MJHS, commented on her experiences as a Liaison and how activities are designed to bring students out of their shells and strengthen soft skills and leadership opportunities.

ADOPT AGENDA

Nick Black asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Julie Elder moved to adopt, and a second came from Candy Morgan. The agenda was adopted unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

No Request for comments on the agenda were made.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Julie Elder made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Bart Stinnett seconded the motion. The motion carried with full agreement.

1. Approve Minutes of January 9, 2023, meeting (Attachment)
2. Ratify Executive Committee approval for an overnight trip for Maryville High School Orchestra to attend Senior Clinic ETSBOA Festival – Funding Source: Students (Attachment A1)
3. Approve Maryville High School SCOPE delegates overnight trip to attend 2023 SCOPE Conference in Nashville, Tennessee – Funding Source: Maryville City Schools (Attachment A2)

4. Approve Maryville High School DECA students overnight trip to attend Tennessee State Career Development Conference in Chattanooga, Tennessee – Funding Source: Students (Attachment A3)
5. Approve Maryville High School DECA students overnight trip to attend International Career Development Conference in Orlando, Florida – Funding Source: Students (Attachment A4)
6. Approve Maryville High School Hiking Fitness Club overnight trip to Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Mt Collins Shelter, in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. – Funding Source: Students (Attachment A5)
7. Ratify Executive Committee approval for Maryville High School Wrestling Team overnight trip to attend State Dual Tournament – Funding Source: General Athletics (Attachment A6)
8. Ratify Executive Committee approval for Maryville Junior High School Boys Basketball Team and Cheer overnight trip to Murfreesboro, Tennessee for TMSAA State Basketball Tournament – Funding Source: Athletics Account (Attachment A7)
9. Approve a renewal with Skyward for a three-year term – Funding Source: General Purpose Funds (Attachment A8)

AGENDA

1. Consider FY23 Budget Amendment #2 (Attachment B1)
    a. Motion to approve by Candy Morgan. Second from Julie Elder.
    b. Sarah Pritchard, MCS Finance Director, shared:

    This budget amendment is going to be looking at increases to our all 4 of our funds.

    GENERAL PURPOSE
    We are capturing an overall increase of $4.5M
    - sales tax, we are capturing a $500k increase (based on 5 months that we've captured so far).
    - Interest – LGIP account is doing very well. We are earning interest on our fund balance and last month was 4.25%
    - an increase in the BEP line of $79k.
    - Summer programming of $550k
    - Innovative School Models Grant portion - $250k
    - Also budgeting a use of fund balance to transfer to the school construction fund (looking like $2.5M) to start the MHS renovation.

    FEDERAL FUNDS
    Federal funds reflect an overall increase of about $100k. Our Title I allocation actually went down; however, we received more funding for IDEA Part B and IDEA PreK

    ADVENTURE CLUB FUNDS
    Reflect an increase of $551k. These are the SECOND round American Rescue Plan funds that each director applied for. We talked about these last time when we captured round I. The purpose is to provide additional relief for operational expenditures to allow daycares and after school programs the opportunity to build revenue for ongoing sustainability. I'm also capturing some interest in there as well as an increase in the tuition line for MLN due to the expansion of their program.

CAFETERIA FUNDS
Reflect an increase of $250k. Again, capturing more interest due to LGIP account as well as another round of USDA grants…2 supply chain grants and one for contracted food storage.

Overall, this amendment will add almost $5.5M to our overall budget and will go to the City for vote on March 7th.

c. Motion approved unanimously

2. Consider change to Board Policy section 6.309 - Zero Tolerance Offenses (Attachment B2)
    a. Motion to approve from Candy Morgan. Second from Isaac Simerly.
    b. Dr. Winstead explained that this change focuses on Delta 8 and Delta 9 THC products. This change is not a response to a particular incident but from attorneys and chatter across the state. To avoid splitting hairs over Delta 8 not containing a controlled substance and Delta 9 containing a controlled substance, the preference is to make both Delta 8 and 9 zero-tolerance offenses.
    c. Mr. Black noted the spelling of the word sale vs sell, and asked that the spelling be amended for the March meeting.
    d. Motion approved unanimously
3. Consider agreement to purchase house located at 803 Mountain View Avenue in Maryville, Tennessee – Funding Source: Capital Outlay - $275,000.00
    a. Motion to approve from Julie Elder. Second from Bart Stinnett.
    b. Dr. Winstead noted that the house, located adjacent to the high school's C lot, is vacant. Mr. Stinnett asked about the potential to salvage pieces of the home or remaining appliances, and Dr. Winstead confirmed that plan once demolition begins. Until the district is ready to begin the phase of expansion that will necessitate the demolition of this property, Dr. Winstead suggested that a lease company could manage the property to generate revenue.
    c. Candy Morgan inquired about the square footage of the home.
    d. Motion approved unanimously
4. Consider agreement to purchase house located at 809 Mountain View Avenue in Maryville, Tennessee – Funding Source: Capital Outlay - $257,500.00
    a. Motion to approve from Candy Morgan. Second from Isaac Simerly.
    b. Dr. Winstead commented that current tenants in this duplex will remain until the end of their lease (summer 2023). Demolition will begin after the tenants have moved.
    c. Motion approved unanimously
5. Consider agreement to purchase house located at 218 Melrose Street in Maryville, Tennessee – Funding Source: Capital Outlay - $245,000.00
    a. Motion to approve from Candy Morgan. Second from Julie Elder.
    b. Dr. Winstead explained that this house, 2nd house behind B lot, will be in the first phase of renovations.
    c. Candy Morgan commented that she is glad no families are being displaced during this process.
    d. Motion approved unanimously
6. Consider bids for shade structures for John Sevier Elementary School – Funding Source: John Sevier Elementary Adventure Club Funds (Attachment B3)
    a. Before asking for a motion, Dr. Winstead reviewed the bids for the shade structure purchase request. Two companies, PlayWorld and Howlett, submitted

bids. Dr. Winstead shared that playground upgrades are being considered by principals from the second round of stimulus grants. Playworld's bid was the lower bid at $49,929.81.

b. Mr. Josh Oliver, John Sevier Elementary School Principal, explained that the shade structure will provide shade for both the playground area and the amphitheater that will be utilized for grade level assemblies and as an outdoor classroom. He explained that the majority of the cost is in the installation.
c. Motion to approve from Bart Stinnett to accept Playworld's $49,929.81 to install a shade structure at John Sevier. Second from Candy Morgan.
d. Motion approved unanimously

7. Consider bids for bathroom renovations at Maryville High School and Fort Craig – Funding Source: Capital Outlay (Attachment B4)
    a. Before asking for a motion, Dr. Winstead reviewed bids from Holston and First Place Finish. Holston submitted the lower bid of $184,600. Dr. Winstead explained that the renovation would include eight restrooms, and renovations will take place in the summer of 2023.
    b. Motion to approve awarding the bathroom renovation bid to Holston for $184,600 from Isaac Simerly. Second from Julie Elder.
    c. Motion approved unanimously
8. Consider purchase of 26 iMacs for Maryville High School Mac Lab– Funding Source: ISM Grant - $50,648.00 (Attachment B5)
    a. Motion to approve from Julie Elder. Second from Candy Morgan.
    b. Dr. Winstead explained that the purchase of iMacs focuses on one of the immediate equipment needs captured in the budget amendment. Purchases under $25,000 have already been made for the shop classes and STEM; however, this funding need is over $25,000. The current iMacs were purchased by Maryville City Schools Foundation 6-7 years ago. A modular tablet will also be used in conjunction with the new iMacs.
    c. Motion approved unanimously
9. Consider purchase of 470 Dell laptops and 430 dock stations and monitors for teachers - Funding Source: Regular Education Instructional Equipment - $453,779.70 (Attachment B6)
    a. Motion to approve from Candy Morgan. Second from Isaac Simerly.
    b. Ms. Vagnier explained that iReach was prioritized on the Teacher Advisory Council's agenda. She discussed the importance of celebrating the tools and equipment that MCS has, while reassessing needs to provide teachers with the technology that best supports student learning. Teachers have expressed the necessity for a more robust device to accommodate the greater need for video conferencing, professional development, and multitasking. Elementary teachers have shared a need for a laptop, rather than and iPad, for access to professional development opportunities. After gathering feedback, the iReach team found a solution that eliminates the transition from ipad to desktop and from laptop to desktop. The Dell Latitude 5320 is a laptop with double the power of the tiny (desktop) computer and four times the power of the student laptops. The Dell Latitude will plug into a docking station and will include an external keyboard and mouse. Early adopters will use the new device and provide feedback to the technology team. Extra laptops will be available for subs.
    c. Motion approved unanimously
10. Consider purchase of student desks and chairs from Smith System - Funding Source: Capital Outlay - $120,984.35 (Attachment B7)
    a. Motion to approve from Candy Morgan. Second from Julie Elder.

b. New desks are for the eleven-classroom MJHS expansion. Thirty student desks will be in each classroom. The desks and chairs will comfortably accommodate tall students.
c. Motion approved unanimously

REPORTS FROM DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS

Dr. Winstead expressed his excitement that summer school is included in the governor's budget proposal. The money is recurring, so funding for summer school will be provided moving forward. The budget is extended to accommodate rising kindergarten to rising 9th grade students. Transportation funding is also included in the budget.

Dr. Winstead shared that around one dozen petitions have been filed regarding the third grade retention law. These will be addressed during a house committee meeting in March, so it may be close to the time we are out of school before we know of any changes that will occur.

Dr. Winstead reminded everyone of the district's annual Spotlight event on February 20. He shared that Spotlight is his favorite event because all 850 staff members come together to celebrate and highlight the achievements of Maryville City Schools and our employees.

RECOGNITION OF STAFF AND STUDENTS

MJHS and MHS had over 40 band students in grades 9-12 who earned a spot on the All-State East Honor Band

MJHS: Andrew Herbert Won a GEARs grant from the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers

MJHS: The Girl's Basketball team placed third and advanced to the Sectional tournament last weekend at Powell Middle.

MJHS: The Boy's Basketball team advanced to the Sectional tournament and won, and they placed 4th in the state tournament over the weekend.

The MJHS Leadworthy students were invited to speak at the regional conference held in Gatlinburg on Wednesday February 8th!

MHS Ethics Bowl Team - Winner of the 2023 Tennessee High School Ethic Bowl

Adi Madduri
Diya Patel
Maggie West
Ava Oldham
Coston Autry
Mohib Ahmed

2nd team came in 7th out of 16
Ana Elam
Iasmi Siopsis
Eva Noelle Weekley-Hatley
Ollie McQueen

Alexander Falahti

Boys and Girls Basketball teams enter the district tournament this week: Girls play Wednesday at 6pm and the Boys play on Thursday at 6pm. The district tournament will be held at Farragut.

Congratulations to the Varsity Cheerleaders for earning a spot and competing in Nationals in Orlando over the weekend

Boys wrestling qualified an athlete for EVERY weight class for sectionals next Saturday, in addition to winning the regional championship.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Bart Stinnett congratulated Dr. Best and her students on the outstanding programs offered at CGIS. He shared that he really enjoyed the presentations from students and talked about a chamber event where CGIS students interacted with community leaders and the positive comments from those individuals. He praised the students for their public speaking skills and thanked them for their leadership.

Candy Morgan thanked Dr. Best and shared that she enjoyed hearing from the students. Ms. Morgan noted that all of the students expressed CGIS teachers are impacting students' lives and making learning fun. She closed by thanking the students for their leadership.

Isaac Simerly thanked Dr. Best for hosting tonight's meeting. He acknowledged that it takes a lot of guts for these students to speak in front of the school board and public. He noted that a good decision was made by MJHS with their desk and chair selection.

Julie Elder thanked Dr. Best, Mr. Hargett, and Ms. Newton for their energy that impacts both teachers and students. She stated that it's obvious how much love and energy students have for their school and commented on the many fun events.

Nick Black acknowledged the district's foresight many years ago with the iReach initiative. He stated his belief that the district's investment in iReach contributed to our COVID response, with students continuing to learn and engage during shutdown. Mr. Black thanked Dr. Best for hosting the board meeting and shared that it's no surprise that CGIS continues to be a powerful place to learn.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35

Respectfully submitted by Maria Greene