BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes for August 21, 2023

The Maryville Board of Education met in a regular session at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, August 21 at Fort Craig. 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 Isaac Simerly.

UPDATE FROM MARYVILLE VIRTUAL SCHOOLS

Principal Deana Bishop shared Maryville Virtual School's current enrollment of 80 students and 9 students who are receiving virtual instruction for specific reasons including electives and administrative placements. MVS also provides virtual instruction to homebound students who can best be served through a non-traditional schedule.

Mrs. Bishop recognized her staff and adjunct teachers who continue to provide strong educational support to students and families, while building a sense of community. She highlighted an orientation event for students and parents during the first week of school where students played games, received laptops, learned procedures, and received materials for the school year. Additional highlights include establishing a National Honor Society Charter and providing Ready Graduate support.

Mr. Bob Kirkland shared his enthusiasm for virtual school programing and reflected on his time as an adjunct teacher.

Mrs. Bishop concluded by thanking the school board for providing alternative programming for students and families. The Class of 2024 commencement ceremony will be held on Friday, May 10 at 1:00 p.m.

ADOPT AGENDA

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

No comments were made by the public on agenda items.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Isaac Simerly made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Candy Morgan seconded the motion. The motion carried with full agreement.

1. Approve Minutes of July 17, 2023, meeting (Attachment)
2. Approve changes to Board Policy section 3.205 – Security – Second reading (Attachment A1)

3. Approve Maryville Junior High School and Maryville High School Chorus overnight trip to Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee for All-East Honors Chorus, Funding Source: students (Attachment A2)
4. Approve Maryville Junior High School and Maryville High School Band overnight trip for ETSBOA All-State East Senior Band Clinic in Gatlinburg, Tennessee (Attachment A3)
5. Approve Maryville Junior High School Band and Maryville High School Band, Chorus, and Orchestra overnight trip to attend TMEA All-State Convention in Nashville, Tennessee (Attachment A4)
6. Ratify Executive Committee approval for Maryville High School Golf Teams overnight trip to Johnson City, Tennessee for Science Hill High School Golf Invitational – Funding Source: Maryville High School Golf account (Attachment A5)
7. Ratify Executive Committee approval of two vans to transport students to PSCC, TCAT, and job sites – Funding Source: Innovative School Grant - $87,271.00 (Attachment A6)
8. Approve Maryville High School Volleyball overnight trip to Louisville, Kentucky for LIVT Tournament – Funding Source: Volley Budget (Attachment A7)
9. Approve Maryville High School Volleyball overnight trip to Franklin, Tennessee for Border Battle – Funding Source: Volleyball Budget (Attachment A8)
10. Approve Maryville High School Cross Country overnight to Huntsville, Alabama for the Southern Showcase Race – Funding Source: students (Attachment A9)
11. Approve Maryville High School Band overnight trip to Cleveland, Tennessee for ETSBOA Jazz Clinic – Funding Source: students (Attachment A10)
12. Approve Maryville High School DECA overnight trip to Chattanooga, Tennessee for the TN State Career Development Conference – Funding Source: students (Attachment A11)
13. Approve Maryville High School Orchestra/Band overnight trip to Chicago, Illinois – Funding Source: students (Attachment A12)
14. Approve Maryville High School Wrestling Team overnight trip to Asheville, North Carolina, to attend Great Smoky Mountain Grapple- Funding Source: Wresting account (Attachment A13)

AGENDA

1. Consider 2024-2025 Maryville City Schools Calendar (Attachment B1)
    a. Motion to approve from Julie Elder. Second from Bart Stinnett.
    b. Dr. Winstead explained that 2024 is an election year, with election dates on both August 1 and November 5. Both dates will be Inservice days, as the leadership team voiced support for reinstating November Inservice days, particularly during election years. An additional change highlighted by Dr. Winstead included shortening Inservice week from 6 days to 5 days. Graduation for the Class of 2025 will take place on May 16.
    c. Motion approved unanimously.
2. Consider appointing Melissa Stowers and one administrator from Coulter Grove Intermediate, Montgomery Ridge Intermediate, and Maryville Junior High School, and Maryville High School to the MCS Discipline Hearing Authority.
    a. Motion to approve from Candy Morgan. Second from Issaac Stinnett.
    b. Dr. Winstead explained the DHA hears appeals for any suspension over 10 days, and the number of members cannot exceed the number of school board members and must

include one central office administrator. If the DHA makes a decision that does not satisfy parents, the parents can appeal to the school board.
    c. Motion approved unanimously
3. Consider revisions on first reading to Board Policy section 1.901 – Charter School Application (Attachment B2)
    a. Motion to approve from Candy Morgan. Second from Isaac Simerly.
    b. Dr. Winstead explained that tweaks are made to the state law every year regarding charter schools. This revision aligns with the state law adopted TSBA policy.
    c. Motion approved unanimously
4. Chairman Black Director shared the results of the Director of Schools survey, with Dr. Winstead receiving a 4.6 overall score.

REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS

Dr. Winstead reflected on his evaluation and expressed his appreciation for a school board that shares the same vision and goals for Maryville City Schools. He acknowledged the incredible school leaders and central office staff whose work is a reflection upon him and the importance of letting others do their jobs well.

Dr. Winstead highlighted the achievement data, the best in his tenure with MCS, as test scores have trickled in over the summer. He shared MCS is 2nd overall in TN, and the current 7th grade class placed #1 in Math, Science, English, and Social Studies. Growth scores will be released soon, and Dr. Winstead explained differences in the letter grade scores that will be awarded to schools based on achievement, rather than growth.

In conclusion, Dr. Winstead provided enrollment numbers for the current school year. 5,640 students are currently enrolled in grades K-12, with an additional 86 students in pre-k. This number is an increase of 11 from the 22-23 school year.

RECOGNITION OF STAFF AND STUDENTS

Sam Houston will be celebrating its 70th birthday in a celebration on September 8 between 5:00-7:00 p.m. Smokie staff and alumni can order t-shirts in advance. On the evening of September 8, a timeline museum will be set up in the gym, and guests can enjoy snacks and beverages in souvenir cups while touring the school with current and former Smokies.

John Sevier would like to recognize their 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders as well as the specials teachers for another successful Swim Week. Special thanks was also given to Roger Murphy and Heather Ledbetter for volunteering their time throughout the week to make it such a huge success.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Isaac Simerly expressed his appreciation to Dr. Winstead for consistently lifting others up and displaying a high degree of courage as he leads the district.

Candy Morgan thanked principals for investing time in the summer to ensure a great start to the school year. She also congratulated Dr. Winstead on his evaluation.

Julie Elder thanked the administrators for all they do and the hard work they invest in teachers and students each day. She thanked Dr. Winstead for his leadership and always prioritizing what is best for students. She remarked on his impeccable handling of the 3rd Grade Retention law.

Bart Stinnett shared a quote about leadership by Kirby Smart and the costs associated with being a great leader. He commented on Dr. Winstead's strong leadership skills that flow through the entire district.

Nick Black remarked on the great start to the school year and acknowledged that work doesn't stop at the end of the school year. He shared his personal appreciation for his own children's enthusiasm about attending school each day. He congratulated Dr. Winstead on his evaluation and thanked him for leading the best school district in the state in such an exemplary manner. Mr. Black thanked Mrs. Bishop and Mr. Kirkland for their presentation and striving to do new and different things to serve students. He looks forward to attending the graduation ceremony in May. He concluded by welcoming guests in attendance from Leadership Blount.

Meeting adjourned at 6:11
Respectively submitted by: Maria Greene