

MARSEILLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #150  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
201 Chicago Street  
Thursday  
May 27, 2021  
6:25pm  
ELearning Hearing at 6:25pm – Meeting at 6:30pm  
Band Room at MES

President Jim Barnes called the Marseilles Board of Education ELearning hearing to order at 6:25pm. Members answering roll call were President Jim Barnes, Cherise Byone, Lawrence Cowie, Brad Miller, and Julie Morey. Christy Carpenter and Bobby Kaminski were absent with notice. Also in attendance were Brenda Donahue, Jeff Owens, Brent DeFore, and Tracy Bianchi along with our retiree honorees and their spouses attending to receive their retirement clocks.

President Barnes asked Secretary Deb DeGraaf if anyone had requested public comment. Mrs. DeGraaf reported that no one had requested public comment.

Superintendent Donahue asked if anyone in the audience had any questions and proceeded to explain the schedule of our ELearning Program emphasizing getting devices to students is the key.

At 6:26pm a motion to adjourn the hearing was made by Morey and seconded by Miller. Hearing was adjourned.

President Jim Barnes called the Marseilles Board of Education meeting to order at 6:30pm. Members answering roll call were President Jim Barnes, Cherise Byone, Lawrence Cowie, Brad Miller, and Julie Morey. Christy Carpenter and Bobby Kaminski were absent with notice. Also, in attendance were Brenda Donahue, Jeff Owens, Brent DeFore, and Tracy Bianchi along with our retiree honorees and their spouses attending to receive their retirement clocks.

Jeff Owens led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

Retirement honorees were presented with their clocks.

President Barnes asked Secretary Deb DeGraaf if anyone had requested public comment. Mrs. DeGraaf reported that no one had requested public comment.

Director of Maintenance: Brent DeFore

- Shared information moving forward on the air conditioning for the MPR and the big gym. He's working with the engineers and getting our costs more pinpointed and will report back

- Summer work has started today. They are already moving furniture into the hallways to start work.

Marseilles Education Association: Tracy Bianchi

- Shared some grade level exciting events: 7<sup>th</sup> grade took a walking field trip to Illini State Park
- Second grade went on a virtual field trip to the Columbus Ohio Zoo
- Mrs. Rodriguez is transitioning some of her remote students to in person learning.

Marseilles Educational Support Staff: No one in attendance

Principal / AD: Jeff Owens

- Reviewed personnel hires and resignations, student discipline and athletic director updates
- Shared Milton Pope isn't interested in co-oping softball/baseball
- Reported the Army Corp was here and placed stakes last Monday. Looking forward to having an answer June 1.

Superintendent: Brenda Donahue

- Shared with the Board the IASB SOPA information for them to review.
- Received disappointing news – looks like masks will be required for next school year

Mr. Hepner School Board Treasurer provided his monthly report to the Board:

- The balance in the operating account as of April 30, 2021 was \$1.592 million which was up from the March 31 balance of \$1.471 million.
- Receipts for the month of April were slightly less than \$695K as compared to \$391K in March. Corporate Personal Property Tax receipts were \$63K more in April vs March and we also received \$52.3K in PreK Grant proceeds in April. Investment income was slightly more than \$6K in April. We also transferred \$40K from the Working Cash Fund of which \$14K was transferred to the Social Security Fund and \$26K was transferred to the IMRF Fund.
- Expenditures in April were slightly over \$574K which was approximately \$80K more than the March level. Most of this difference is related to the expenditure of Emergency Relief Grant proceeds received as part of the Covid stimulus program.
- The yield on the CD investment portfolio as of April 30 was .747% which is down about 19 basis points from the yield at April 30. As has been the case for the past several months, this is the result of the current interest rate environment and maturing CD's that being renewed at lower rates.

Cowie questioned how total expenditures through April 30 compare to budgeted levels and whether or not there is expected to be a budget surplus for the year. Hepner indicated that he reviews the monthly variance report provided by Rachael Lauer and that total expenditures through April 30 appear to be in line with budgeted levels. Donahue stated that the investment portfolio of \$7 million is roughly the equivalent of total expenditures for one year which is a target that most districts strive for.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Cowie to approve the consent agenda:

- Minutes of:
  - Regular Meeting – April 29, 2021
- Treasurer’s Report
- Receipts
- Disbursements
- Payroll
- Activity Fund Report
- Destruction of Closed Meeting Audio Recordings – None
- Approval of Closed Session Minutes – None
- FOIA Requests: None

Aye: Barnes, Byone, Carpenter, Cowie, Miller and Morey

Nay: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Byone to approve the E-Learning Plan as required by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

Aye: Barnes, Byone, Cowie, Miller and Morey

Nay: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Miller to approve the resignations of Lilliana Arteaga as ESL teacher and Mollie Benner as Learning Behavior Resource teacher for the 2021-2022 school year.

Aye: Barnes, Byone, Cowie, Miller and Morey

Nay: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Barnes to approve the agreement for Newkirk & Associates, Inc. Certified Public Accountants to complete the ISBE-required annual audit.

Aye: Barnes, Byone, Cowie, Miller and Morey

Nay: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Cowie to consider the acceptance of Mrs. Laura Williamson’s intent to retire per the Collective Bargaining Agreement at the completion of the 2024-2025 school year.

Aye: Barnes, Byone, Cowie, Miller and Morey

Nay: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Byone and seconded by Morey to approve the employment of Mrs. Sarah Manz as Remedial / Remote Teacher.

Aye: Barnes, Byone, Cowie, Miller and Morey

Nay: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Barnes and seconded by Byone to approve the payment of \$42,305 for the Property/Casualty/.Liability Package and \$33,365 for the Workers Compensation Package to the Prairie State Insurance Cooperative.

Aye: Barnes, Byone, Cowie, Miller and Morey

Nay: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Morey to approve the substitute teacher rate of \$105 per day and the substitute paraprofessional rate of \$12 per hour.

Aye: Barnes, Byone, Cowie, Miller and Morey

Nay: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Barnes to approve the employment of Ms. Amy Kelley as Yearbook Coordinator beginning with the 2021-2022 school year.

Aye: Barnes, Byone, Cowie, Miller and Morey

Nay: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Byone to approve the Board meeting dates for the 2022 fiscal year.

Aye: Barnes, Byone, Cowie, Miller and Morey

Nay: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Byone to approve the employment of Mrs. Judy Frye, Mrs. Dana Davis, Ms. Savannah Sullivan and Ms. Anna Schiefelbein (pending licensure) as Paraprofessionals beginning with the 2021-2022 school year.

Aye: Barnes, Byone, Cowie, Miller and Morey

Nay: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Byone and seconded by Barnes to approve the second reading of the handbook changes for the next school year.

Aye: Barnes, Byone, Cowie, Miller and Morey

Nay: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Morey to adjourn the meeting at 7:10pm.

Aye: Barnes, Byone, Cowie, Miller and Morey

Nay: None

Motion carried

  
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President – Jim Barnes

  
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Secretary – Deborah DeGraaf