BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes for July 15, 2024

The Maryville Board of Education met in a regular session at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, July 15 at the new location of Maryville City School's District Office at 520 S. Washington Street. Board members present were Julie Elder, Nick Black, Isaac Simerly, Candy Morgan, and Bart Stinnett. Chair Julie Elder called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS
No comments were made by the public on agenda items.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS
Issac Simerly made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Candy Morgan seconded the motion. The motion carried with full agreement.

1. Approve Minutes of June 10, 2024, meeting (Attachment)
2. Approve Nearpod renewal - $28,570.08 – Funding Source: Reg Education Software (Attachment A1)

AGENDA

1. Consider a two-year contract extension for the Director of Schools (Attachment B1)
    a. Motion to approve by Nick Black. Second from Bart Stinnett.
    b. Chair Julie Elder started the discussion by explaining that Dr. Winstead completes a self-assessment each year, and board members also conduct their own evaluations. The combined results averaged 4.52.
    c. Nick Black praised Dr. Winstead for an outstanding evaluation and his leadership throughout the years. He credited both Dr. Winstead and Assistant Director Amy Vagnier for setting excellent examples and fostering a strong relationship with the board. Mr. Black expressed pride in extending Dr. Winstead's contract for exemplary leadership and shared his excitement for the future, noting the positive impact on his own family.
    d. Bart Stinnett stated that Dr. Winstead has set a strong tone for Maryville City Schools and continues to carry the torch for the district. He emphasized the significant building projects completed during Dr. Winstead's tenure, noting these will be a lasting part of his legacy. Mr. Stinnett concluded by expressing his deep appreciation for Dr. Winstead's leadership.
    e. Isaac Simmerly expressed his enthusiasm for extending Dr. Winstead's contract to June 2028, calling it a "big win" for Maryville City Schools. Mr. Simerly stated the district has benefitted from Dr. Winstead's leadership and positive impact on families, teachers, and the community. Mr. Simerly highlighted his discussions with Dr. Winstead and shared his appreciation for his accessibility. He also commended Dr. Winstead's humility,

willingness to improve, and the major facility renovations under his leadership, expressing his gratitude for the excellent progress being made.

f. Candy Morgan congratulated Dr. Winstead on his great evaluation. She echoed the earlier sentiments and commended the improvements to facilities and building maintenance which have allowed more resources to be available to teachers and students.

g. Julie Elder congratulated Dr. Winstead on an outstanding evaluation, noting that he scored a 4 or higher in every category. She expressed her gratitude for his consistent performance and commended his focus on strengthening staff and personal relationships, highlighting the leadership program that was developed and implemented in the 2023-2024 school year.

h. Mr. Black added that the board is extending Dr. Winstead's contract to the maximum allowed, which speaks volumes about their confidence in his leadership.

i. The motion passed unanimously.

j. Dr. Winstead expressed his gratitude to the School Board for their trust and support. He conveyed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve in Maryville City Schools, stating that he feels blessed to come to work each day. He emphasized his commitment to the district, stating that he is here for the long haul, not as a temporary stop. He expressed that he can't imagine a better place to conclude his career, regardless of how long in the future that may be. Dr. Winstead also expressed his appreciation for working with an incredible team of leaders. He stated that he admires their passion and optimism. He thanked the board for their feedback from the surveys and their evaluation. Dr. Winstead emphasized his dedication to continuous growth and improvement. He concluded by expressing his gratitude for the board's trust and support and his enthusiasm for the next four years.

2. Consider new Board Policy 4.214 – Use of Artificial Intelligence Programs – first reading (Attachment B2)

   a. Motion to approve by Candy Mogan. Second from Issaac Simerly.

   b. Dr. Winstead explained that further discussions will follow regarding AI laws and policies. He noted this is an evolving and fluid process, and the procedures will need to be adaptable as new AI tools are constantly being introduced. AI policies will be a topic at this week's Leadership Team meeting. While the law does not mandate an approval process, there must be a method to monitor the use of technology. Dr. Winstead emphasized the goal is not to prevent teachers and students from utilizing new technology.

   c. Candy Morgan stated she would like to see professional development implemented for teachers. Mr. Black stated he is curious to see how teachers and students can use AI in an appropriate way to support student learning. Mrs. Morgan emphasized that students must develop critical thinking skills, and it is important for Maryville City Schools to acknowledge the risk that can be associated with the use of AI.

   d. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Consider changes to Board Policy 1.501 – Visitors to the Schools – first reading (Attachment B3)

   a. Dr. Winstead provided additional details on the new state law requiring the posting of visitor codes of conduct and parental acknowledge procedures. He shared that attorneys

have provided suggested drafts, and the school leadership teams are reviewing and discussing these. Dr. Winstead added that the policy must be adopted prior to the beginning of the school year, and he hopes for a second reading at the August board meeting.

b. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Consider changes to Board Policy 2.400, 2.403, 2.806. 3.205, 3.400, 4.213, 4.300, 4.301, 4.302, 4.403, 4.600, 4.603, 5.307, 5.802, 6.203, 6.3041, 6.309, 6.316, 6.318, 6.4052, and 6.409 – first reading (Attachment B4)
    a. Motion from Nick Black. Second from Bart Stinnett.
    b. Dr. Winstead explained that TSBA sent out a list of policies to reflect changes in state law. He asked for inquiries regarding these policies.
    c. Nick Black inquired about financial barriers to participating in extracurricular activities and field trips. He shared that he wants administrators and teachers to be mindful of not allowing a family's finances to prevent a student from participating in activities. Mrs. Morgan emphasized that field trips exceeding $50 are most often out of state and require board approval. Isaac Simerly also shared his support of a "soft barrier," and Candy Morgan added that teachers continue to be mindful of keeping costs down to allow accessibility to all students. Dr. Winstead commented on the importance of creating avenues for students that extend beyond extracurriculars, specifically mentioning AP testing.
    d. Isaac Simerly addressed the law regarding library materials. He stated he read the law and policy and doesn't see a major shift, as judgement is still reserved to the school system. He stated that Maryville City Schools has a strong and effective process in place, and he does not feel pressed to take additional action. Mr. Black commented that "shall be removed" suggests a sizable shift.
    e. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS FROM DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS

Dr. Winstead invited Montgomery Ridge Principal David Claxon to introduce Mr. Logan Goodin as the new Assistant Principal at Montgomery Ridge Intermediate. Mr. Claxon expressed his excitement for the upcoming school year and his appreciation for his administrative team.

Dr. Winstead provided updates on the renovation project at Fort Craig. Noting the project is near completion, he anticipates the District Office moving to its new location by the end of July, with the first floor expected to be finished by the end of August. Both Maryville Academy and Maryville Virtual School will relocate at that time. Dr. Winstead expressed his gratitude to Leon Williams, Cope Architecture, and George Hamby for their work on the renovations of the 70-year-old building, which continues to serve MCS well.

Principals are finalizing hiring for the new school year, and Dr. Winstead noted the increased number of late resignations and retirements. He highlighted administrators' efforts in securing staffing for open positions, scheduling, and facility projects, and he looks forward to sharing upgrades to buildings when the schools host board meetings throughout the year.

Dr. Winstead concluded by highlighting the upcoming New Teacher Welcome and Breakfast scheduled for July 26. He shared that 37 new teachers, 2 new assistant principals, and approximately 6 interim teachers will attend, and he looks forward to the board's participation in this special event.

RECOGNITION OF STAFF AND STUDENTS

Congratulations to CGIS teacher Andy Howe for being selected out of 500+ educators as Junior Achievement's teacher of the year. He was chosen for his commitment and dedication to students, educational excellence and continued advocacy and support of Junior Achievement programming.

We would like to thank and recognize all of the coaches, players, and participants in our summer athletic camps. Camps included: boys basketball, girls basketball, boys and girls wrestling, baseball, cheer, dance, soccer, volleyball, softball, and track and field.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Candy Morgan commented that summer is almost over, and she looks forward to another great year for Maryville City Schools.
Isaac Simerly shared that he is looking forward to a new school year.
Bart Stinnett stated that he hopes everyone had a good summer and enjoyed some well-deserved time off with families. He praised the renovations made to Fort Craig and shared his excitement for the future of Maryville City Schools. He thanked Dr. Winstead, the other board members, and the school staff in attendance, stating that Maryville is a great place to be.
Nick Black emphasized that summer is not over, and there is still time to do big things. He congratulated Mr. Goodin on his new position. He thanked Assistant Director Amy Vagnier for her integral role in the success of Maryville City Schools and praised her for being a huge asset to the district. He said that Dr. Winstead's evaluation also reflects her hard work.
Julie Elder congratulated Mrs. Vagnier on the birth of her new grandson. She also congratulated Mr. Goodin on his new position, sharing that he has been an asset to Maryville City Schools as a teacher, coach, and now administrator. She commented on the quickly approaching start to the new school year.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 6:14
Respectfully submitted by: Maria Greene