

## DISTRICT EXPANDS SAFETY MEASURES WITH SECOND SRO AT MIDDLE SCHOOL

Following a thorough review of the feedback gathered from the recent School Safety Survey, the board unanimously decided to expand safety measures by adding a second School Resource Officer (SRO) position at McNabb Middle School. This initiative aims to enhance the safety and security of students and staff. In addition, the district and board members are committed to delving deeper into the survey results to identify other potential improvements and strategies that can be implemented to further support the school community's safety needs.



### Dr. Emily Settle Sworn In

On Tuesday evening, Dr. Settle was officially sworn into office. She has taken on this role after winning the District 2 special election. Dr. Settle will fulfill her duties in this role until December 31, 2026, contributing her expertise and vision to the district's future.



*Celebrating our incredible students' hard work, dedication, and achievements your success inspires us all!*

Superintendent Dr. Matt Thompson and the Board of Education recognized the outstanding achievements of several students. In October, the MCHS Boys' and Girls' Golf Teams were honored for competing in the KHSAA State Golf Tournament. The girls' team, which included Madison Easterling, Hannah Lykins, Peyton Patrick, Addison Terry, and Macy Whaley, won the 12th Region and finished in 8th place in the final round of the state tournament. Additionally, Brooks Bonfield and Connor Cooper individually qualified for the boys' state tournament. The MCHS Cross Country Team also had one runner qualify for the state meet last month at the Kentucky State Park, Eli Johnson. Furthermore, the Board expressed heartfelt appreciation to our remarkable staff members who are U.S. Veterans: Greg Bonner, Mark Allen Crain, Bob Donaldson, Corenna Fowler, Tationna Jackson, Duane Kidd, Mike Lopez, Trey Martin, Larry May, David McKinley, Michael Montgomery, David Moore, Dave Motely, Jason Rhdoes, Garry Saunders, Ed Stepanchuk, Tabatha Sturgill, James Thomas, Bob Willoughby, and Kevin Willoughby.

## SCHOOL DISTRICT SEEKS TWO NEW GRANTS

The school board approved the district's application for two grants aimed at enhancing educational opportunities and supporting student success.

The GEAR UP KY grant (2025-2032) will provide funding for wraparound services at McNabb and MCHS, focused on ensuring students are post-secondary ready. These services will include advising on FAFSA, college applications, and scholarships; postsecondary transition curricula; early career experiences like job shadowing, college visits, and summer camps; student ambassadors and leadership opportunities; and scholarships for seniors. Staff will receive professional development, resources for college readiness, and support for family engagement. The program aims to support students' success through high school and beyond.

The Kentucky Comprehensive Literacy Grant is a \$1.5 million initiative designed to support early childhood partners in enhancing oral language development, improving school readiness, strengthening transitions between educational levels, and boosting reading and writing instruction. This grant will provide resources for reading and writing from birth through grade 12, along with professional learning opportunities to help educators effectively implement new instructional materials and strategies to improve student literacy outcomes.



## Superintendent's Report

Our students' opportunities to show mastery of many skills are fantastic! Here are some of the strong performances in all aspects of our student experience since our last Board Meeting.

- MCHS Volleyball was 40th District champions and made it to the semifinals of the Region Tournament
- The MCHS Football Team won the district championship for the first time in many years.
- Jaimen Caba was named the Class 5A District Player of the Year
- Football All-District Honors – Landon Wilson, Jacob Sutton, Cooper Slagle, Kamron Saville, James Kissick, Caleb Jackson, Gabe Tipton, Jonathan Hammond, Jacob Gumm, Jonathan Garcia, Gradyne Fairchild, and Elijah Ebanks.
- MCHS Football Coach Michael Caba was named the District Coach of the Year!
- MCHS Senior Golfer Caley McKinney has committed to continue her academic and athletic career at Clarke University
- MCHS Senior Sara Zink signed with Coastal Carolina to continue her academic and athletic career
- All-District Jazz Band – Trenton Ray, Logan Colliver, Max Sapp, Kathleen Rawlings, Ezekiel Lager, Dillon Risner, Colten Ross, Jason Covington
- All-District Concert Band – Juanita Frazier, Rachel Thompson, Macie Hall, Keegan Miller, and Sam Allen
- Rachel Thompson and Logan Colliver also made it to the 2nd round for All-State Band Auditions.
- Ben Sapp auditioned for MSU's School of Music, and he was not only accepted but also selected as the winner of the MSU Choral Festival solo competition!

### Montgomery County Board of Education

**Sharon Smith-Breiner, Board Chair** (District 3)

**Daniel Freeman, Ed.D, Vice Chair** (District 5)

**Alice Anderson** (District 4)

**Carmela Fletcher-Green** (District 1)

**Emily Settle, DMD** (District 2)



## DISTRICT APPROVES

- After the board gave feedback during a tour of the high school, RBS Design Group created new schematic drawings that included the changes needed for the renovation. The board approved these drawings, marking the first step in the project. Next, the team will enter the design phase. If this phase is finished by early spring, the renovation work can go out for bid, and construction may start as early as the summer of 2025.
- The district must update its Facilities and Construction Plan every four years, prioritizing building, construction, and renovation projects for the next four years. The plan is revised by the Local Facilities Planning Committee (LPC). The board appointed Ms. Carmela Fletcher-Green as the board representative for the LPC.
- The board approved the installation of a new cooling tower at Mapleton Elementary. The decision came after reviewing the current cooling system's performance and considering the school community's needs. The new cooling tower is expected to improve energy efficiency and reliability, contributing to better air quality and overall temperature regulation within the school.

## SCHOOL NUTRITION TO PURCHASE NEW CAFETERIA FURNITURE

The board members approved a proposal from the School Nutrition Department to buy new cafeteria furniture for five schools: Mapleton Elementary, Mount Sterling Elementary, Northview Elementary, McNabb Middle School, and Montgomery County High School. Last year, Camargo Elementary received new furniture during its renovation. The budget for the new furniture at these schools is over \$349,000. This cost will be covered by school nutrition funds set aside to improve food service and the dining experience for students. The goal is to make the cafeterias more inviting and enhance the overall school experience for all students in the district.