

**MARSEILLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #150**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
201 Chicago Street  
Thursday  
November 18, 2024  
7 p.m.

President Jim Barnes called the Marseilles Board of Education meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Members answering the roll call were President Jim Barnes, Cherise Byone, Christy Carpenter, Lawrence Cowie, Bobby Kaminski, and Brad Miller. Julie Morey was absent with notice. Superintendent Brenda Donahue, Deb DeGraaf, Paula Wheeler, Craig Hepner, and Brent DeFore were also present.

Board members and attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Barnes asked Ms. DeGraaf if anyone had requested public comment. Ms. DeGraaf replied that no one had registered or requested to speak.

**Maintenance: Brent DeFore**

- Shared that the boiler is on and there are no issues
- The sound system in the big gym is being worked on. The installers will be returning soon.
- There is no update on the bids for the k-1 roof - we are still waiting on 4 bids.

**Marseilles Education Association: Paula Wheeler**

- Shared many grade-level updates including: Kindergarten learning letters and sounds, Rodriguez's class completed STAR-360 and is showing growth, Second-grade intervention groups created their theme parks and Fourth grade is busy designing ugly sweaters. Mrs Wheeler also thanked the board for all of their work and dedication to our school.

**Principal: Shawn Collins**

- On November 8, we welcomed Veterans and their families for an assembly and breakfast. As usual, it was well attended, and those who came enjoyed themselves.
- It's American Education Week - we recognize and celebrate all stakeholders at MES, including the Board of Education. Thank you for your time and dedication to the success of our students and staff.
- Winter Benchmarking has ended and we have started our Data Teams. Our scores have increased more than they have in recent years - focussing our efforts on math and literacy is

**paying off! So grateful for the hard work our teachers and support staff continue to do.**

- **The midterm for the 2nd quarter is tomorrow!**
- **Girls' basketball is wrapping up, boys' basketball is in full swing, and wrestling and Volleyball start in the coming weeks!**

**Superintendent: Brenda Donahue**

- **Expressed appreciation for our board including the trust they have in administration to run the school**
- **The Veterans Day program was phenomenal even tear-jerking at times.**
- **Data Team meetings started today and she shared some data**
- **Looking ahead to next school year, we will be adding new staff in a few grade levels. Included Cindi Koetz and Lori Williamson will be retiring.**

**Treasurer's Report: Craig Hepner**

- **The balance in the operating account as of October 31 was \$2.73 million which represents a decrease of \$129K from the balance at September 30.**
- **Receipts for the month of October were \$873K and included \$320K in real estate tax receipts from LaSalle County, \$282K in general state aid, \$71K in Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax and \$39K in Investment Income. Revenue is running about 15% ahead of budget year-to-date, due primarily to the timing of real estate tax receipts.**
- **Expenditures in October were \$982K and included \$170K in building improvement expenditures. Total expenditures are running about 3% over budget through the first four months of the fiscal year.**
- **The yield on the CD investment portfolio as of October 31 was 4.293% which is in line with the yield as of September 30.**

**A motion was made by Kaminski and seconded by Carpenter to approve the Consent Agenda:**

- **6.01 Minutes of:
  - **Regular Meeting October 24, 2024****
- **6.02 Treasurer's Report**
- **6.03 Disbursements / Bills**
- **6.04 Deposits / Receipts**
- **6.05 Employee and/or Board Member professional development, travel expenditures, and/or reimbursements**

- **6.06 Payroll**
- **6.07 Activity Fund Report**
- **6.08 Expenditure Budget Report**
- **6.09 Revenue Budget Report**
- **6.10 Requests for District documents under the Freedom of Information Act: None**

**Aye: Barnes, Byone, Carpenter, Cowie, Kaminski, and Miller**

**Nay: None**

**Motion carried**

**A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Carpenter to approve the following resignations: Laurie Leslie (Assistant Track Coach).**

**Aye: Barnes, Byone, Carpenter, Cowie, Kaminski, and Miller**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

**Motion carried**

**A motion was made by Byone and seconded by Carpenter to approve the following transfers/hires pending appropriate licensure and passing of all background checks (if new): Lexia Severson (PAWS Professional).**

**Aye: Barnes, Byone, Carpenter, Cowie, Kaminski, and Miller**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

**Motion carried**

**A motion was made by Kaminski and seconded by Byone to agree to place on file the 2024 tentative Tax Levy (FY26) and set the levy hearing date for December 19, 2024, at 6:55 pm**

**Aye: Barnes, Byone, Carpenter, Cowie, Kaminski, and Miller**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

**Motion carried**

**A motion was made by Byone and seconded by Carpenter to approve the first reading of Press Plus Policy 117.**

**Aye: Barnes, Byone, Carpenter, Cowie, Kaminski, and Miller**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

**Motion carried**

**A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Byone to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Marseilles and Marseilles Elementary School District #150 Board of Education for School Resource Officer.**

**Aye: Barnes, Byone, Carpenter, Cowie, Kaminski, and Miller**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

**Motion carried**

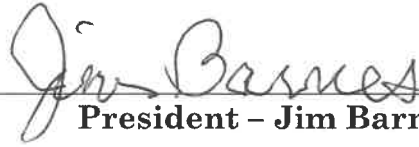
A motion was made by Carpenter and seconded by Byone to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 pm

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

Nay: None

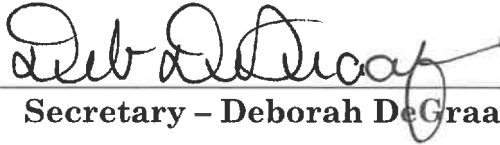
Abstain: None

Motion carried



Handwritten signature of Jim Barnes in cursive script, positioned above a horizontal line.

President - Jim Barnes



Handwritten signature of Deborah DeGraaf in cursive script, positioned above a horizontal line.

Secretary - Deborah DeGraaf