

**MARSEILLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #150**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
201 Chicago Street  
Thursday, October 23, 2025  
7:00 pm  
Library

President Jim Barnes called the Marseilles Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Members answering roll call were President Jim Barnes, Christy Carpenter, Lawrence Cowie, Julie Morey, and Vicki Thomas. The members absent without notice were Cherise Byone and Brad Miller. Superintendent Brenda Donahue, Shawn Collins, Deb DeGraaf, Paula Wheeler, and many GRIT recipients' parents were also in attendance.

Mr. Barnes led 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**

- Reviewed the bid sheet and timeline for the roof replacement.

**Marseilles Education Association: Tim Misener and Paula Wheeler**

- Shared that today was the first day of parent-teacher conferences, with a great turnout by parents
- The 5th grade is wrapping up their first novel study.
- 7th grade is enjoying working with Rosetta Stone for Spanish language learning
- Kindergarten will have an alphabet scavenger hunt on Nov 4th.

**Superintendent: Brenda Donahue**

- LaSalle County posted the EAV, and it looks like it's an 18% increase. We will review with possible truth in taxation. Might need to take the 5%.
- Interestingly, the education costs are 20% of the State
- We haven't received the 1Q revenue from the State, which makes it hard to plan
- Exciting news that MES moved up to commendable.

**Principal: Shawn Collins**

- Parent/Teacher Conferences started tonight and will continue on Tuesday, Oct 27th
- Halloween parade will be at 10 am and parties from 1030-1115am

- Early dismissal on 10/31 for a School Improvement Day - SEL Integration For Any Content Area by our ROE, offering the professional development.
- Veterans Day assembly and breakfast will be on Nov 10th. We are not in school on Nov 11th.
- Boys' and Girls' basketball, along with cheer, are in full swing

**Treasurer's Report: Craig Hepner**

- The balance in the operating account as of September 30, was \$2.4 million, which represents an increase of \$350K from the balance at August 31.
- Receipts for the month of September were \$1.06 million and included \$603K in real estate tax receipts, \$296K in General State Aid, and \$34.7K in investment income. Revenue is running about 15% over budget year-to-date through the first three months of the fiscal year due to the timing of real estate tax receipts.
- Expenditures in September were \$689K. Expenditures are running about 1% under budget through the first three months of the year.
- The yield on the CD investment portfolio as of September was 3.95% which is in line with the yield at August 31.

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Carpenter to approve the consent agenda.

Aye: Barnes, Carpenter, Cowie, Morey, and Thomas.

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Carpenter and seconded by Thomas to approve the following resignations: Cassidy Coons (paraprofessional).

Aye: Barnes, Carpenter, Cowie, Morey, and Thomas.

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Carpenter to approve the following transfers/hires pending appropriate licensure and passing of all background checks (if new): Jessica Crosby (from crossing guard & kitchen to crossing guard & paraprofessional).

Aye: Barnes, Carpenter, Cowie, Morey, and Thomas.

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Carpenter to adjourn the meeting at 725pm.

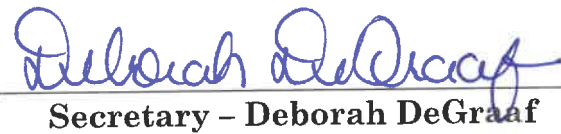
Aye: Barnes, Carpenter, Cowie, Morey, and Thomas.

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

  
President - Jim Barnes

  
Secretary - Deborah DeGraaf