

MARSEILLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #150
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
201 Chicago Street
Thursday, November 17, 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, Cherise Byone, Lawrence Cowie, Brad Miller, Julie Morey, and Vicki Thomas. Christy Carpenter arrived a few minutes later at 720pm. Superintendent Brenda Donahue, Deb DeGraaf, Craig Hepner, Brent DeFore, Paula Wheeler, Tim Misener, Renee Jury, and Monica McGill 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

- The roof bid went into the newspaper. The meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday.

Marseilles Education Association: Tim Misener and Paula Wheeler

- Shared 2nd grade is restructuring smart goals, 1st grade worked on their fun project of disguising turkeys, and Kindergarten is learning the entire alphabet
- MEA thanked the Board for its commitment.

Superintendent: Brenda Donahue

- Thanked Bobby Kaminski for the improved sound system in the big gym, since for the first time, you could clearly hear the Veterans Day program.
- Our Auditor Newkirk and Associates is still waiting for the completion of information from the State to complete the audit.

Ass't Principal: Lindsey Johnson

- Reported great attendance for the parent/teacher conferences in October.
- Thanked everyone for their hard work to put together the Veterans Day program.
- Shared for everyone to keep an eye out for the Christmas Tree decorating contest. Many grade levels and classrooms will be decorating trees at local businesses.

- Updated on MES athletics: 5/6GGB is done, 8GGB is in Regionals, Boys Basketball is in full swing as well as Volleyball getting started.

Treasurer's Report: Craig Hepner

- The balance in the operating account as of October 31 was \$2.56 million, which represents an increase of \$199K from the balance at September 30.
- Receipts for the month of October were \$934K and included \$314K in real estate tax receipts, \$296K in General State Aid, and \$65.5K in Personal Property Replacement Tax.
- Revenue is running about 18% over budget year-to-date through the first four months of the fiscal year due to the timing of real estate tax receipts. We have received approximately 96.5% of our budgeted real estate tax revenue, the difference being taxes that were paid late or sold at auction. We anticipate that there will be at least one more distribution of these late taxes coming from the County in the near future.
- Expenditures in October were \$716K. Expenditures are running about 2% under budget through the first four months of the year.
- The yield on the CD investment portfolio as of October 31 was 3.93% which is about 2 basis points lower than the yield at September 30.

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

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Byone to approve the following transfers/hires pending appropriate licensure and passing of all background checks (if new): Sonya Butler (paraprofessional).

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Barnes and seconded by Carpenter to approve the placing of the 2025 tax levy (FY27) on file.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Carpenter to approve the first reading of the Press Plus Policy 120.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Miller to adjourn to closed session at 724 pm.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Byone and seconded by Thomas to return to open session at 830 pm.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Byone and seconded by Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 831 pm.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried



President - Jim Barnes



Secretary - Deborah DeGraaf