BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes for February 23, 2026

The Maryville Board of Education met in a regular session at 5:30 p.m. on February 23 at Foothills Elementary School. Members present were Julie Elder, Nick Black, Isaac Simerly, Candy Morgan, and Bart Stinnett. Board Chair Julie Elder called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. and asked for a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by 3rd grade students Izzy and Dani Paulraj.

UPDATE FROM FOOTHILLS ELEMENTARY

Principal Kristin Bosco shared Foothills Elementary's beliefs, emphasizing the commitment to teaching to reach each child. She explained the school theme, "Learning Is Joy in Motion," and highlighted School-Wide Goal 6, which focuses on personalizing student learning and fostering a growth mindset. Principal Bosco recognized several school programs and activities, including the No-Sew Blanket Project, Raccoon Romp, Veterans Day Program, Choir, Rocky Runners, Rocky Guard, and the Rocky Leadership Awards.

Students Izzy and Dani Paulraj spoke about their experiences in third-grade choir, sharing what they are learning in music class and expressing gratitude for the opportunity to participate. They highlighted the leadership of their choir teacher, Ms. Bivens, and discussed how choir has helped them learn teamwork and work together toward shared goals.

Students Neeley Thomas, River Flynn, Luca Acosta, and Giovanni Acosta discussed their involvement in Rocky Runners and shared reflections on their experiences in the program. Ernie Cline provided an overview of Rocky Guard and the Rocky Leadership Awards, which recognize students for Quarter 1: Respect, Quarter 2: Ownership, Quarter 3: Cooperation, and Quarter 4: Kindness and Personal Best.

Principal Bosco concluded by thanking everyone for their continued commitment to Maryville City Schools.

ADOPT AGENDA

Chair Julie Elder asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Nick Black moved to adopt, and a second came from Candy Morgan. The motion was adopted unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

No comments were made by the public on agenda items.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Isaac Simerly made the motion to adopt the consent agenda, and a second came from Bart Stinnett. The motion carried with full agreement.

1. Approve Minutes of January 20, 2026, meeting (Attachment)
2. Approve changes to Board Policy 1.901- Charter School Applications and 2.804 – Expenses and Reimbursements – Second reading (Attachment A1)
3. Ratify Executive Committee approval for Maryville High School Swin/Dive Team overnight to Nashville, Tennessee – Funding Source: Athletics (Attachment A2)
4. Approve Montgomery Ridge Intermediate School Orchestra and Encore trip to Pigeon Forge Highs School and Dollywood – Funding Source: parents (Attachment A3)
5. Executive Committee approval for Maryville High School Girls Wrestling Team overnight to Franklin, Tennessee – Funding Source: Athletics (Attachment A4)
6. Approve renewal with Skyward for three-year term – Funding Source: General Purpose, Finance and HR – Software (Attachment A5)
7. Approve Maryville High School Hiking Club overnight to Great Smoky Mountains National Park – Funding Source: students (Attachment A6)
8. Approve Maryville High School Dance Team overnight to Gatlinburg, Tennessee for UDA Camp – Funding Source: Dance Team (Attachment A7)
9. Approve Maryville High School SCOPE delegates overnight to Nashville, Tennessee to attend SCOPE Conference – Funding Source: Maryville City Schools (Attachment A8)
10. Approve Coulter Grove Intermediate School seventh grade to Dollywood – Funding Source: parents (Attachment A9)

AGENDA

1. Consider quote from Central Technologies, Inc for a server at Foothills Elementary School - $26,720.38 – Funding Source: Technology (Attachment B1)
    a. Motion to adopt by Candy Morgan. Second from Nick Black.
    b. Dr. Winstead explained that each school has a server dedicated to managing security cameras. The district is responsible for maintaining the servers, while individual schools oversee the cameras. He noted that server capacity must be updated to adequately support camera operations.
    c. Motion approved unanimously.
2. Consider a three-year agreement for the Catapult system for Maryville High School Football – Funding Source: Maryville High School Football (Attachment B2)
    a. Motion to adopt by Nick Black. Second from Bart Stinnett.
    b. Dr. Winstead clarified that the item was presented for Board approval due to the contract term exceeding one year, not for funding support. He noted that the football program will fund the agreement and that, from a financial standpoint, the three-year contract results in cost savings.
    c. Motion approved unanimously

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS

Dr. Winstead shared reflections on the Spotlight event, noting that having all staff together is always meaningful. He noted the strong attendance and positive energy throughout the morning. This year's format included former students returning to share their experiences, which delivered powerful messages about the impact of MCS on their lives. He expressed appreciation for the event and stated he looks forward to next year.

He provided an update on renovations at Maryville High School, noting visible progress with block wall construction. He explained that a waterline relocation on Broadway is part of the high school project, as the city waterline currently runs through the practice field and must be moved. He added that portions of the school occasionally operate on generators during this process.

Dr. Winstead reported on the Sam Houston Elementary community meeting, which had a strong turnout. Neighbors and families with students asked thoughtful questions regarding construction plans, sidewalk access, and traffic flow. He also noted a strong pre-bid meeting attendance, with ten contractors present. Bids are due by March 3, with a called School Board meeting planned for March 9 to consider approval. Construction crews are expected to be ready to begin by early April.

Finally, Dr. Winstead shared that budget preparation is underway, with the district beginning to receive estimates from the state. The first TISA estimate is expected by the end of the week, reflecting an anticipated base increase of approximately $900,000. He stated that budget materials will be prepared for discussion at the April 7 budget retreat.

RECOGNITIONS OF STUDENTS AND STAFF

Maryville High School

Maryville High School will host its National Honor Society Induction Ceremony on Wednesday.

The National Art Honor Society Induction Ceremony will take place tomorrow evening, welcoming 41 new members.

Rebels and Lady Rebels Wrestling concluded their season at the state championships. Beau Bailey, Caleb Oliver, Delaney Smith, Abbie Cromwell, and senior Brody Lewis all completed their seasons in the consolation rounds. Senior Lily Lentz finished her MHS career earning All-State honors, placing fourth in the 132-pound weight class. Delilah Queen also earned All-State finalist status, finishing runner-up in the 138-pound weight class, with her only loss coming to the state champion. Congratulations to Coach Cate on a successful season.

Lady Rebels Basketball finished the regular season with a 15–11 record and defeated William Blount in the district tournament semifinal.

Rebels Basketball concluded the regular season with a 25–3 record, highlighted by a 102–51 win over Alcoa, and also defeated William Blount in the district tournament semifinal.

Maryville High School sent 17 athletes to the State Swim and Dive Championships. Ellie Stanley earned a State Championship title in the 200-yard butterfly.

The Varsity Cheerleaders placed third nationally at Nationals in the Large Varsity Non-Tumbling Game Day Division.

Foothills Elementary

Foothills Elementary held its annual 2nd grade Marketplace on Friday, transforming the school gym into a student-run marketplace that brought families, staff, and students together. The event reinforces key social studies and civics concepts while supporting the Tennessee Department of Education's emphasis on civic learning.

One Book Blitz

One Book Blitz wraps up this week, and we want to thank the many businesses and sponsors who make this community-wide literacy initiative possible for nearly 9,000 K–5 students across Blount County. We are especially grateful to Parkway Drive-In for hosting free showings of *The Borrowers* on Friday and Saturday night—students simply show their book at the gate to enjoy the movie at no cost.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Bart Stinnett complimented Principal Kristin Bosco and shared that the Spotlight event was powerful, particularly hearing how former students' lives were impacted by Maryville City Schools.

Isaac Simerly thanked Kristin Bosco and Rob Hensley for hosting and praised the students for doing an excellent job sharing their experiences. He shared that he enjoyed the Spotlight event and interviews and appreciated the format. He also thanked Molly Rice for hosting the Sam Houston community meeting and expressed appreciation to Dr. Winstead for the financial planning that allowed COVID funds to be preserved and used to support the project.

Candy Morgan thanked Kristin Bosco and Rob Hensley for the presentation and spoke about the Mission of Hope partnership, noting how students have become aware of community needs and are actively part of the solution. She highlighted how the experience demonstrated the development of servant leadership among students and described the presentation as impactful. She added that although she was unable to attend the Spotlight event, due to a TSBA commitment, she was excited to hear about it.

Nick Black thanked Kristin Bosco and Rob Hensley for hosting and echoed appreciation for the students who participated and for the goals that were shared. He stated that Spotlight was especially meaningful this year. Mr. Black also spoke about Tyler Elmendorf, noting that the comments shared accurately reflected his resilience and perseverance, and expressed pride in his accomplishments and his connection to Maryville City Schools. He shared pride in the girls' wrestling team and commented that it has been a strong semester despite challenging weather. He also noted the possibility of one additional snow day and expressed excitement about facilities improvements at Maryville High School and Sam Houston Elementary.

Julie Elder shared that she left the Spotlight event feeling encouraged and smiling. She noted that the theme, *Past, Present, and Possibility*, was clearly reflected in the presentation and commended Rob Hensley and Kristin Bosco for effectively bringing the theme to life.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:01

Respectfully submitted by Maria Greene