

MARSEILLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #150
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
201 Chicago Street
Thursday, February 19, 2026
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, Christy Carpenter, Lawrence Cowie, and Julie Morey. Brad Miller and Vicki Thomas were absent with notice. Superintendent Brenda Donahue, Lindsey Johnson, Deb DeGraaf, Craig Hepner, Brent DeFore, Tim Misener, Mary Kay, and Jim Kavanaugh 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

- Had nothing to report.

Marseilles Education Association: Tim Misener

- Updated the board on grade-level activities: 6th grade is exploring AI and is using it to write a narrative, 5th grade went on a field trip to Joliet Junior College and explored the solar system at the planetarium, Mrs. Thompson's Spanish class is learning common household items' (like spoons and forks) Spanish words, PAWS 1.5 & 2 are looking forward to Powling in Peru on Saturday 28th, the district office is collecting raffle baskets for the upcoming PTA event, and the Literacy Booked for the Afternoon event went well.

Interim Principal: Lindsey Johnson

- Booked for the Afternoon , the MES literacy event went well raising over \$8,000 this year towards books. Previous years only brought in approximately \$5,000, so we are happy with the results.
- PTA is sponsoring two upcoming events: Songs and Sidekicks and Bingo with a Buddy
- The 5 Essential survey is out now
- Sports: Volleyball is wrapping up, Chess is going to the State competition and wrestling is almost over also.

Superintendent: Brenda Donahue

- **Added regarding the PTA events, that staff work together and donate baskets for the raffle. We have 13 baskets that will profit and support our students through the PTA sponsored field trips and events.**
- **Reminded everyone our PAWS students will be participating in a bowling event at the bowling alley in Peru coordinated by IL Valley All Starts on Feb 25th.**
- **ELL learners finished testing and we are in preparation for IAR.**

Treasurer's Report: Craig Hepner

- **The balance in the operating account as of January 31 was \$2.14 million which represents a decrease of \$15K from the balance at December 31.**
- **Receipts for the month of January were \$779K and included \$296K in General State Aid, \$63K in personal property replacement tax and \$38K in Interest Income. Also included in the Revenue line was a \$100K transfer to the Operations and Maintenance Fund from the Working Cash Fund. Revenue is running about 12.5% over budget year-to-date through the first seven months of the fiscal year due to the timing of real estate tax receipts.**
- **Expenditures in January were \$776K and included the \$100K transfer from the Working Cash Fund to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. Expenditures are running about 4% under budget through the first seven months of the year.**
- **The yield on the CD investment portfolio as of January 31 was 3.64% which is about 19 basis points lower than the yield at December 31. Yields on the investment portfolio continue to pull back in light of the decline of short-term interest rates that began in the latter part of 2024, and this trend will likely continue as we move forward.**

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

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Carpenter to approve the following resignations: Trevor Workman (track coach).

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Byone and seconded by Morey to approve the request for leave under FMLA for Megan Morris.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

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

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

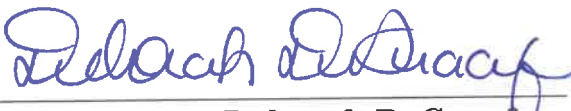
Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried



President – Jim Barnes



Secretary – Deborah DeGraaf