

MARSEILLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #150
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
201 Chicago Street
Thursday, April 23, 2026
7:00 pm
Library

President Jim Barnes called the Marseilles Board of Education meeting to order at 700 pm. Members answering roll call were President Jim Barnes, Christy Carpenter, Brad Miller, Julie Morey, and Vicki Thomas. Cherise Byone was absent with notice. Lawrence Cowie was absent without notice. Superintendent Brenda Donahue, Lindsey Johnson, Amanda Schomas, Mary Kay Kavanaugh, Deb DeGraaf, Craig Hepner, Brent DeFore, and Paula Wheeler were also in attendance.

Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Schomas presented the GRIT awards.

Mr. Barnes and the GRIT award recipients 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 Ameren lighting for the big gym program and how it will save us approximately \$2,000 on the electricity bill per year. The district's portion is \$3,000, while Amerean will pick up the rest of approximately \$14,000.

Marseilles Education Association: Paula Wheeler

- Shared grade level updates: This week, second grade enjoyed a walking field trip to Broadway Park, and third grade went to Sheridan for nature stations. Kindergarten is "trucking" right along in reading and is looking forward to their two walking field trips to different businesses in town.

Interim Principal: Lindsey Johnson

- Spoke more on grade level events as seventh grade went to Nell's Woods in Ottawa and enjoyed a day of learning. Eighth grade is excited for their reward-based field trip to Top Golf.
- IAR & ISA testing is completed.
- The 8th-grade celebration party is on May 1st, which will include volleyball and games. Promotion is on May 14th at 6 pm.

Superintendent: Brenda Donahue

- The theme of Staff Appreciation Week is a '90s style celebration, where we are also including students with a spirit week.
- It's field trip season, and we are grateful to have PTA sponsoring the cost of them.

Treasurer's Report: Craig Hepner

- The balance in the operating account as of March 31 was \$1.19 million, which represents a decrease of \$376K from the balance at February 28.
- Receipts for the month of March were \$427K and included \$296K in General State Aid, just under \$31K in Interest Income, and just under \$20K in Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax revenue.
- Revenue is running about 6.5% over budget year-to-date through the first nine months of the fiscal year due primarily to the timing of real estate tax receipts.
- Expenditures in March were \$785K. Expenditures are running about 4% under budget through the first nine months of the year.
- The yield on the CD investment portfolio as of March 31 was 3.54%, which is in line with the yield as at February 28.

A motion was made by Carpenter and seconded by Thomas to approve the following transfers/hires pending appropriate licensure and passing of all background checks (if new): Carly Greve (teacher)

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Miller to approve the following resignations: Olivia Peterson (ELL Teacher) and Kelly Milligan (Preschool teacher).

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Carpenter and seconded by Barnes to approve granting tenure, beginning with the 2026-27 school year: Bethany Haywood-Game, Stephanie Witalka, Kayla Honn, and Laura Spraggon.
Aye: Barnes, Carpenter, Miller, Morey, and Thomas.
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Motion carried

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Thomas to approve the first reading of the PRESS Issue 121.
Aye: Barnes, Carpenter, Miller, Morey, and Thomas.
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Motion carried

A motion was made by Carpenter and seconded by Thomas to approve the 2026 list of students to be promoted/placed from eighth grade at Marseilles Elementary.
Aye: Barnes, Carpenter, Miller, Morey, and Thomas.
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Carpenter to adjourn to closed session at 721pm.
Aye: Barnes, Carpenter, Miller, Morey, and Thomas.
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Miller to return to regular session.
Aye: Barnes, Carpenter, Miller, Morey, and Thomas.
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Thomas to approve the contractual agreements for administrators.
Aye: Barnes, Carpenter, Miller, Morey, and Thomas.
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Barnes to approve a compensation agreement/contracts for all employees not under a Collective Bargaining Agreement or personal contract and sub rates.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Barnes and seconded by Carpenter to adjourn the meeting at 814pm.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried



President - Jim Barnes



Secretary - Deborah DeGraaf