BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes for June 15, 2026

The Maryville Board of Education met in a regular session at 5:32 p.m. on Monday, June 15 at the Maryville City Schools District Office. Board members present were Julie Elder, Nick Black, Isaac Simerly, and Candy Morgan. Chair Julie Elder called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA

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 from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Isaac Simerly made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Nick Black seconded the motion. The motion carried with full agreement.

1. Approve Minutes of May 18, 2026, meeting (Attachment)
2. Ratify Executive Committee approval for Maryville High School and Maryville Junior High School Wrestling overnight to Kentucky – Funding Source: Students (Attachment A1)
3. Ratify Executive Committee approval for Maryville High School Softball Team overnight to Murfreesboro, Tennessee for tournament – Funding Source: MHS Athletics (Attachment A2)
4. Approve renewal of IXL Learning for the 2026-27 school year- $116,262.50 – Funding Source: Summer School/GP Software (Attachment A3)
5. Ratify Executive Committee approval for Maryville High School Girls Basketball Team overnight to MTSU for camp – Funding Source: Girls Basketball (Attachment A4)
6. Ratify Executive Committee approval for Maryville High School Marching Band overnight to Candler, North Carolina for competition – Funding Source: Band Camp Fees (Attachment A5)
7. Ratify Executive Committee approval for Finchum Flooring for the Maryville Junior High School gym floor replacement - $165,856.00 – Funding Source: Building Improvements (Attachment A6)
8. Approve renewal from Curriculum Associates for iReady - $62,045.48 – Funding Source: GP Software/Summer School (Attachment A7)
9. Approve renewal from Renaissance for Accelerated Reader - $62,351.01 – Funding Source: GP Software/Summer School (Attachment A8)
10. Approve to declare certain items as surplus and authorize their disposal (Attachment A9)
11. Approve Maryville High School Dance Team overnight trip to Florida for UDA Nationals – Funding Source: Fundraisers (Attachment A10)

AGENDA

1. Consider 2-year contract extension with Director of Schools (Attachment B1)
    a. Motion to approve by Nick Black. Second from Isaac Simerly.
    b. Board Chair Julie Elder led the discussion of the Director of Schools annual evaluation. Dr. Winstead received an overall score of 4.53, with a score of 4 indicating above expectations and a score of 5 indicating significantly above expectations. The score continues a three-year average above 4.5.
    Nick Black noted that a score of 3 represents acceptable performance, and that Dr. Winstead's evaluation scores have consistently exceeded expectations throughout his tenure. He thanked Dr. Winstead for his service and leadership of the district. Mr. Black also congratulated Assistant Director Josh Oliver on a successful year, expressing appreciation for serving in an expanded leadership role.
    Isaac Simerly thanked Dr. Winstead, Mr. Oliver, and the principals, noting that their leadership makes a complex job look easy while requiring significant work behind the scenes. He praised the district's strategic vision and long-term planning, including the ability to fund projects, such as the Sam Houston renovation, through reserves, and expressed gratitude as both a board member and parent.
    Candy Morgan commended Dr. Winstead's focus on facilities, finance, and long-range planning, noting that the district's growing fund balance reflects strong leadership and responsible stewardship of resources. She also thanked Mr. Oliver for his contributions and the work he performs behind the scenes to support district operations.
    Julie Elder noted that any school district would be pleased to have a Director of Schools who has maintained an evaluation average above 4.5 for the past three years. She highlighted Dr. Winstead's highest-rated areas, including financial management and his relationship with the Board, citing his transparency, accessibility, and willingness to answer questions and provide information.
    c. Motion approved unanimously.
2. Consider changes to Board Policy 1.804 (Alcohol & Drugs in the Workplace), 5.403 (Drug & Alcohol Testing for Employees, 5.608 (Tutoring for Pay), and 5.800 (Director of Schools) (Attachment B2)
    a. Motion to approve by Isaac Simerly. Second from Candy Morgan.
    b. Dr. Winstead explained that the proposed policy revisions are not related to new state laws or State Board of Education requirements. Instead, the updates were recommended by the Tennessee School Boards Association and primarily involve human resources-related language revisions. The proposed changes were reviewed with Human Resources Director Brittany Trentham, and four policies were identified for consideration by the Board.
    c. Nick Black asked for clarification regarding the reasonable suspicion drug testing policy and whether employees are clearly informed that refusal to submit to testing could result in termination. Dr. Winstead stated that the Employee Code of Conduct addresses this expectation and agreed to verify that the language is communicated clearly.
    Board members also discussed the policy related to tutoring for pay. Questions were raised about whether coaches or other employees could provide private lessons to students they currently serve. Dr. Winstead noted that teachers commonly tutor former

students, but providing paid instruction to current students is not permitted. MHS Principal Heather Hilton added that certain situations involving coaches may also be prohibited under Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association rules regarding contact with student-athletes outside of designated time periods.

d. Motion approved unanimously.

REPORTS FROM DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS

Dr. Winstead thanked the Board for its continued trust and confidence, noting that he does not take that support lightly. He shared that he has been blessed to serve as Director of Schools for the past 12 years and expressed appreciation for the students, staff, families, and community that make Maryville City Schools a special place. He emphasized that the positive evaluation reflects the work of the entire district team, including the Central Office staff, school administrators, teachers, and support personnel. He specifically recognized Finance Director Sarah Pritchard and Human Resources Director Brittany Trentham for their leadership and praised the district's principals for their dedication to their schools.

Dr. Winstead shared his excitement about opportunities that will position Maryville City Schools for continued success over the next several years.

He reported that summer school will conclude in three days and thanked the teachers, administrators, office staff, cafeteria workers, and support personnel who have dedicated part of their summer to serving students. He also recognized the district's custodial staff, noting that principals have shared positive feedback regarding the impact custodians have made on school culture and building appearance.

Dr. Winstead provided an update on summer facility projects. Construction at Sam Houston Elementary continues to progress, with crews working six days a week. At the high school, stormwater improvements are underway, while work at the Early Intervention Center is nearing completion. Remaining work includes the parking lot, playground, and exterior improvements.

Additional projects requested by school principals include:

- Foothills Elementary: Extending the sidewalk near the bus lane to improve pedestrian access between Foothills, Montgomery Ridge, and Sandy Springs.
- John Sevier Elementary: Replacing library carpet with luxury vinyl tile flooring.
- Maryville High School: Installing luxury vinyl tile flooring in the library and painting the back of the stadium.
- Coulter Grove Intermediate School: Restriping the parking lot.
- Montgomery Ridge Intermediate School: Pressure washing the building and repairing potholes and water retention areas.
- Maryville Junior High School: Continuing the window replacement project and replacing the gym floor.

Dr. Winstead noted that these projects will make a meaningful difference for students and staff and that additional facility improvements will continue to be addressed in future years.

He concluded by reporting that the district is still awaiting its weighted full-time equivalent enrollment numbers and expects to receive them by the end of the week.

RECOGNITION OF STAFF AND STUDENTS

Montgomery Ridge Intermediate: "Fly Like an Eagle" Summer School at Montgomery Ridge is a huge success! We are serving, on average, *80 students* per day. Summer school at our grade levels is not required, so we are **so** proud of our staff for making this a place students want to be! Academics are the top priority, with focused work happening in language arts and math. From novel analysis to basic skills, to baking cookies and flying paper airplanes (for writing and following directions practice), to math practice and games, students are honing their skills. Activity periods bring snow cones, flight themed guest speakers, and even an inflatable obstacle course! Students are "flying like eagles" this summer on the Ridge!

Foothills Elementary School: The summer learning program, *"Riding the Waves to Success,"* is making a big impact. Students have enjoyed engaging activities like Reader's Theater and hands-on lessons while building important academic skills. Teachers and students have made the most of every day, creating a positive environment where students are growing in confidence, strengthening their skills, and developing a love of learning. Most importantly, students are leaving each day feeling successful and excited about their progress.

MCS Faulty: We had over 170 K-8th grade teachers participate in Introductory iPad training on May 26th at Coulter Grove Intermediate. Attendees spent time learning from Apple's representative, Jill Allshouse. The large group overview session included tips for being a mobile teacher, how to castusing a variety of instructional apps, using the translate app, using live text in camera and more! The second part of the training, teachers were divided up into school level groups and received additional training on resources more specific to their grade level! We've had lots of positive feedback and teachers are excited to continue their own learning over the summer.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:

Isaac Simerly thanked the district's administrators and staff for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. He encouraged principals to take time to rest and enjoy some vacation during the summer months and expressed his appreciation for their continued commitment to serving Maryville City Schools students and families.

Candy Morgan thanked the principals for their leadership and dedication throughout the school year. She expressed her appreciation for all they do to support students and staff and encouraged them to take time this summer to rest, recharge, and enjoy a well-deserved break.

Nick Black congratulated the principals and schools on a fantastic year. He wished staff a great summer as they prepare for the upcoming school year and shared that he feels blessed to be a part of the Maryville community and school system.

ADJOURN
Meeting adjourned at 5:59
Respectfully submitted by: Maria Greene