

MARSEILLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #150
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
201 Chicago Street
Thursday, May 22, 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, Cherise Byone, Brad Miller, Julie Morey, and Vicki Thomas. Christy Carpenter and Lawrence Cowie were absent with notice. Superintendent Brenda Donahue, Lindsey Johnson, Mary Kay Kavanaugh, Deb DeGraaf, Craig Hepner, Brent DeFore, and Paula Wheeler 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

- Informed the Board that the pre-construction meeting with the contractor was held so they can start work on June 1st.

Marseilles Education Association: Paula Wheeler & Tim Misener

- Thanked the Board and administration for all of the goodies that went along with Staff Appreciation Week, which included the award ceremony. They let everyone know that rooms are packed up and ready for summer.

Interim Principal: Lindsey Johnson

- Shared Staff Appreciation Week was amazing! She also shared some end-of-the-school-year events: The PAWS students attended the Wallace Warrior Games and returned to town with a police and fire escort to school, where staff and students also greeted them as they entered the building. Tropical Snow was the reading incentive reward for our students. Track Season is now over - it went well, but no students qualified for State.

Superintendent: Brenda Donahue

- Recognized IASB Board Member awards for Jim and Christy. It's Jim's 20th year of service.
- Acknowledged this summer will be a long summer of 13 weeks - so enjoy it!

- The City of Marseilles shared that the Safe Routes to School Grant is progressing along, and they are contributing their portion.
- Explained that for the first time in her 11 years as Superintendent, the EAV came back lower, leaving us with a \$43,000 loss.

Treasurer's Report: Craig Hepner

- The balance in the operating account as of April 30 was \$1.10 million which represents a decrease of \$91K from the balance at March 31.
- Receipts for the month of April were \$636K and included \$296K in General State Aid, just under \$35.5K in Interest Income and just under \$32.8K in Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax revenue. Revenue is running about 5.7% over budget year-to-date through the first ten months of the fiscal year due primarily to the timing of real estate tax receipts.
- Expenditures in April were \$710K. Expenditures are running about 5% under budget through the first ten months of the year.
- The yield on the CD investment portfolio as of April 30 was 3.54% which is in line with the yield as at March 31.

A motion was made by Byone and seconded by Miller to approve the consent agenda.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Thomas to approve the following transfers/hires pending appropriate licensure and passing of all background checks (if new): Evalyn Mateski (music teacher), Jessica Corsby and Emmalee Crosby (shared 5th and 6th grade cheer), Lexi Baudino (volleyball coach), Braelin Rice (2nd to 3rd grade) Bejan Roumi (1st grade to 2nd grade), and Brittanee Callahan (Kindergarten to Pre-K).

Aye: Barnes, Miller, Morey, and Thomas.

Nay: None

Abstain: Byone

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Miller to approve the following resignations: Nani Torres (part-time custodian), Anna Schiefelbein (Pre-K paraprofessional and volleyball coach).

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Thomas and seconded by Byone to approve the intent to retire at the end of the 2026-2027 school year from Sarah Manz (special education teacher).

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Thomas to approve the payment of \$82,409.99 for the Property/Casualty/Liability Package and \$62,519.87 for the Workers Compensation Package to the Prairie State Insurance Cooperative.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Byone to approve the second reading of PRESS Issue 121.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Byone to approve the 2026-2027 Board of Education meeting/event calendar.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Byone and seconded by Morey to adjourn the meeting at 726pm.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried


President – Jim Barnes


Secretary – Deborah DeGraaf