

MARSEILLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #150
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
201 Chicago Street
Thursday, August 20, 2026
7:00 pm
Library

President Jim Barnes called the Marseilles Board of Education meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Members answering roll call were President Jim Barnes, Christy Carpenter, Brad Miller, Julie Morey, and Vicki Thomas. Cherise Byone and Lawrence Cowie were absent with notice. Superintendent Brenda Donahue, Lindsey Johnson, Mary Kay Kavanaugh, Deb DeGraaf, 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 roof on the kindergarten wing is done, but they have a few details to finish. We are holding our final payment to them until it is completely done.

Marseilles Education Association: Paula Wheeler

- Thanked the custodial and maintenance staff for all of their hard work and a very clean school to start the year with.
- Thanked administration for the class time they were given to prep.

Interim Principal: Lindsey Johnson

- Shared with the Board Members that 80% of our families were registered one week before school started
- Unpack the Backpack was hugely successful. So many of our families showed up to meet their teachers and bring their supplies.
- We held the summer health camps, where OSF Caravan and Walgreens were here for physicals and immunizations.
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Superintendent: Brenda Donahue

- Shared that today was the best first day of school ever! Staff and students have been amazing! Tomorrow is our first full day of school.

Treasurer's Report: Craig Hepner: Brenda reported in his absence

- **The balance in the operating account as of July 31 was \$385K, which represents a decrease of \$315K from the balance at June 30.**
- **Receipts for the month of July were \$482K and included slightly more than \$271K in Real Estate Tax receipts from LaSalle County, just over \$79K in Corporate Property Replacement Tax, and \$32K in Interest Income. Revenue is running about 11% over budget through the first month of the fiscal year due to the timing of real estate tax revenue.**
- **Expenditures in July were \$780K. Expenditures are running in line with budget through the first month of the year.**
- **The yield on the CD investment portfolio as of July 31 was 3.46%, which is in line with the yield as of June 30.**

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

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 following transfers/hires pending appropriate licensure and passing of all background checks (if new). Tricia Poremba (kitchen), Kimberly Janes (kitchen), Jillian Karahalios (bus monitor), Tammy Pultz (bus monitor), Trinity Garbutt (custodian), and Luke Holtzman (maintenance).

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 the following resignations and/or retirements: Alyssa White (paraprofessional), Steve Parker (maintenance), Shelby Buckley (bus monitor), and Kim Kesner (bus monitor).

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Morey to approve the request for FMLA from Bethany Gama.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

A motion to approve the request for FMLA from Tracy Bianchi was tabled

A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Morey to approve the reading of Press Policy Issue 122.

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 proposal for architectural services from Green Associates for the 10 year health/life safety survey.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

No motion necessary: Board of Education members review as Mandated Reporters

No motion necessary: Board Members review Bullying Policy 7.180

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Morey to approve the placement of the Fiscal Year 2027 budget on display for 30 days.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried

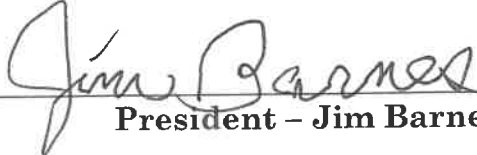
A motion was made by Morey and seconded by Carpenter to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 pm.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried


President – Jim Barnes


Secretary – Deborah DeGraaf