

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes for September 12, 2022

The Maryville Board of Education met in a regular session at 5:30 p.m. on September 12 at Maryville High School. Board members present were Nick Black, Chad Hampton, Julie Elder, Candy Morgan, and Bethany Pope. Chairman Black called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by James McCormick, 12th grade student at MHS.

UPDATE FROM MARYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Principal Heather Hilton and senior James McCormick shared a presentation about the ADA accessible classroom transformation that provides specialized instruction to teach living skills. The project was made possible through a grant written by Dr. Melanie Davidson, Special Education Director. James also introduced the Maryville Express snack cart that CDC teacher, Morgan Diggs, created to provide students with the opportunity to learn important job skills by selling snacks to faculty and staff. Mrs. Hilton announced that MHS will be participating in Unified Champion Schools through Special Olympics in both basketball and track and field. Mrs. Hilton shared pictures of the MHS faculty serving the Blount County community by volunteering time at Second Harvest Food Bank during inservice week. In conclusion, Mrs. Hilton communicated Maryville High School's goal and mission of building great people to do extraordinary things.

ADOPT AGENDA

Nick Black asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Chad Hampton moved to adopt, and a second came from Julie Elder. The agenda was adopted unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

No request for comments on the agenda were made.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Bethany Pope made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Candy Morgan seconded the motion. The motion carried with full agreement.

1. Approve Minutes of August 8, 2022, meeting (Attachment)
2. Approve Maryville High School Band overnight trip for ETSBOA Jazz Clinic in Cleveland (Attachment A1)
3. Approve Maryville High School Band overnight trip for ETSBOA Senior Clinic in Gatlinburg (Attachment A2)
4. Ratify Executive Committee approval for renewal of PowerSchool – Funding Source: Regular Education Software - \$33,700.65 (Attachment A3)
5. Approve Maryville Junior High School Tennis Team overnight trip for State Championships in Clarksville (Attachment A4)

AGENDA

1. Consider changes to Board Policy section 4.603 – Promotion and Retention (Attachment B1)

- Motion to approve by Julie Elder. Second from Bethany Pope.
- Dr. Winstead shared that the purpose of the update from TSBA is to align with the new state policy regarding which 3rd grade students are required to be retained, recourses to avoid retainment, summer school tutoring, and exceptions to the law. Dr. Winstead explained that in addition to receiving an informational flyer about the retention law, all families with students scoring below the 60th percentile on the first iReady benchmark will receive a letter that provides information about the range in which their student placed. Families with students in grades K-3 will also receive a letter.
- Further discussion focused on the appeal process and the logistics of summer school, as test data will not be available until the last day of school.
- Motion approved unanimously.

REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS

The state released accountability designations, and Dr. Winstead congratulated John Sevier Elementary, Sam Houston Elementary, and Maryville High School for receiving Reward School designation.

Dr. Winstead announced the kickoff of the Maryville City Schools Giving Campaign and shared that the district has been recognized as one of the top donors in Blount County.

The furniture for the meeting space at Fort Craig will arrive tomorrow, and the Leadership Team meeting will be held in the new space on Wednesday, September 14.

Dr. Winstead provided an update on the following facilities projects: concrete floor planks have been delivered to MJHS, and the block is going up. The interior renovation work will be completed over fall break. The HVAC at MRIS will be completed during fall break, and the preliminary design work is beginning for MHS.

RECOGNITION OF STAFF AND STUDENTS

The Montgomery Ridge Intermediate School Band submitted an audition to the officials/judges at Universal Studios, Orlando, Florida, and was awarded an invitation to perform there at the park. Not every band that applies is accepted, so this is a huge honor. Congrats to MRIS Band.

Congratulations to our students who placed in the TN Valley Fair Student Art Exhibit.

From MRIS:

- Elizabeth Short and Bella Crye placed 2nd
- Lillian Edidin and Kiya Patel received Honorable Mentions

From CGIS:

- Reese Brown placed 1st

From MHS:

- Avery Kumes received Best of Show

From MJHS

- R.J. Angell's work will be on display at the fair through mid-September
- LuLu Atwood received Best-of-Show for Best Mixed-media for her self-portrait

- Hailey Talbott received Honorable mention for her self-portrait.

In the midst of Covid, 4th grader Libby Blevins mentioned to her teacher, Ms. Dulin, that it would be a good idea for the I Survived Series to write a book about surviving Covid. Ms. Dulin encouraged Libby to write the author, and they mailed the letter two years ago. This week, Libby received a large envelope with a response from the author. Congrats to Libby!

On Friday, September 2, friends and family of Kayla Tilley Rooney were invited to attend the dedication of the friendship swing in Kayla's honor. The swing is adaptive and allows children to have fun swinging, regardless of special needs or abilities.

JSE would like to give a shout out to Mrs. Jodi Eanes, JSE STEM teacher, for receiving a grant from the Maryville City Schools Foundation to fund the Letters Alive and Math Alive Curriculum.

JSE would also like to share that 46 of their 3rd graders came out for their first Run Club meeting of the year, led by Mr. Hamm, Mr. Prater, and Mrs. Hibbard.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Candy Morgan shared that she enjoyed learning about the great things taking place at Maryville High School and hearing from James McCormick. She commented on the construction going well and congratulated Ty Elder for being selected as the Scholar Athlete recipient from the Great American Rivalry Series.

Bethany Pope thanked Mrs. Hilton for inviting James to speak. She congratulated JSE, SHE, and MHS for being recognized as Reward Schools and expressed her appreciation to administrators for their hard work.

Chad Hampton thanked Mrs. Hilton and asked that she share with James how much the board enjoyed his presentation. Mr. Hampton commented on the Golden Knights that parachuted on the field during Friday's ball game.

Julie Elder congratulated the schools receiving Reward Schools designations. Mrs. Elder shared that she loved hearing from James and complimented Maryville High School's participation in Unified Champions through Special Olympics. She expressed her excitement about the upcoming activities for homecoming week.

Nick Black thanked Mrs. Hilton for sharing updates from MHS and for inviting James to speak. He commented on the great start to the school year and the activities taking place across the district including fine arts, sports, and other activities. Mr. Black expressed that we are blessed to be part of Maryville City Schools and congratulated SHE, JSE, and MHS for being recognized as Reward Schools.

Meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Maria Greene