

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE MARSHALL BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2021 AT 7:00 PM VIRTUALLY.

PRESENT: LINDSEY, NICHOLSON, MIDDLETON, WILLIAMS, DAVIS, LANKERD, GAMBLE

ABSENT: NONE

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Lindsey. A moment of silence was observed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was recited

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Davis supported by LankerD, that the agenda be approved as presented. A roll-call vote unanimously carried the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Megan Vandeboss - Pulled her students from MPS, they now attend Marshall Academy. Give the freedom of choice of wearing masks to parents of the district. Will not be voting for bond because the District is failing. The School Board's job is to listen to the community and they are not doing so. MPS needs to stop the division in our community.

Adam Heikkila -Been to several board meetings to educate boards on way they are violating the rights of citizens. Zoom meetings aren't real meetings. Zoom allows the board to stifle public participation. There are good people on the school board and have known some of you for a very long time - and know you work really hard. But some of the members of the board work really hard to win.

Laura Bartlett - It is important for transparency. Need to work harder to achieve transparency. It's important to allow both sides of the story to be told. Would like to see the weekly update to justify the mask mandates.

Becky Domingo - Thanks the Board for taking public comments. Says passionate people in the community are discouraged after talking to the board. Everyone wants to see Marshall Public Schools succeed. The perception is that the Board has their own agenda. Represent the community as a whole. A national walk out was planned for last Friday. Feels the way the administration handled this protest was different from other protests in MPS history. Concerned that no outside MPS students can attend the upcoming homecoming dance.

Heather Chichester - Thanks the board for being in this position and respects several of the board members. Not familiar with the bond, wants to make an educated decision

Right now feels like the district has other things to worry about other than a bond. Feels the community is spread thin. Feels like some things on the bond could be covered by our sinking fund..

Phil Heath - Doesn't agree with masking - they are a facade. They don't do anything for the students. Need to stop quarantining students.

Michelle Schultz - Concerned about the time students have for lunches - students don't have enough time for lunch. Wants to make sure all students have enough to eat at school. Masks aren't worn at lunches and masking ends at 2:30 when school ends. Trying to understand how all of the masking makes any sense. They have to wear them during the day but then masking goes away at lunches and after school

Jessica Addis - Represents children with disabilities. Had children in MPS - withdrew a child due to masking. Masks and face coverings don't work. Children aren't disease spreaders. COVID is never going away - are we masking our kids indefinitely?

Erica Robinson - Concerned about board member ethics, open meetings act and transparency as a whole. Wants to know why board members are running the MPS facebook page. Says it is beyond unprofessional and that it scares people. Parents are allowed to have a voice and have an opinion. If you want parents to participate in the district, the board needs to have better leadership.

Darla Barnett - For not masking students. Doesn't make sense that at 2:30pm students don't need to wear masks. Says it's all about the perception that masking is all about the mighty dollar. Concerned about the school policy of vaping or smoking. Penalties and punishment for first time offenders doesn't make sense.

Garrett Brown - Thanks the Board for following bylaws by following the CCPHD guidelines. Supports the bond - reinvesting in the community is important. Encourages the board to release the site for the new elementary school in Albion.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

President Lindsey thanked members who made a public comment, and encouraged people to keep making public comments. Public comments make a difference. President Lindsay explained the history of the MPS facebook page. He started a page as a school board page, then it transitioned to a MPS District site. Stated that board members see all the comments that are made to the page.

Trustee Davis wanted to make clear that the reason for the Zoom meeting was because it was logistically better for everyone for the night. Urges to get away from conspiracies and to contact members to get the facts.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:08p.m.

LISA MIDDLETON, SECRETARY

IAN GILYARD-SCHNAITMAN, RECORDING SECRETARY