

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AND WORK SESSION OF THE MARSHALL BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2020 AT 7:00 PM, IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM

PRESENT: DESMET, NICHOLSON, MIDDLETON, WILLIAMS, DAWSON, GAMBLE, LINDSEY, DAVIS, JONES

ABSENT: NONE

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President DeSmet.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Treasurer Williams.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved Middleton, supported Lindsey, that the agenda be approved as presented with two additions: Board Topics: D. Letter to Internal and External Stakeholders and E. 31n Behavioral Mental Health Services. A roll-call vote unanimously carried the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President DeSmet called for any members of the audience to address the Board on agenda items only. There were none.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS – ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR JANUARY 2020-DECEMBER 2020

Superintendent Davis shared that at the December 16, 2019 Combined Work/Business Session President DeSmet assembled a Nominating Committee. The committee included Secretary Middleton, Treasurer Williams and Trustee Dawson. Secretary Middleton served as Chair. He indicated the committee met and recommended officer assignments as follows:

President – Bill DeSmet
Vice President – Carrie Nicholson
Secretary – Lisa Middleton
Treasurer – Larry Williams

Moved Lindsey, supported by Williams, that the Board of Education approve the election of officers for January 2020 – December 2020 as presented. A roll-call vote carried the motion unanimously.

ELECTED OFFICERS ASSUME CHAIRS

Elected officers assumed their chairs.

BOARD TOPICS:

CALHOUN AREA SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS ASSOCIATION (CASBMA) 2019 AWARD NOMINATIONS: Superintendent Davis asked the Board if there were any individuals they would like to support nominating for a CASBMA Award. He indicated that districts throughout the county will be recommending Retired KCC President Mark

O'Connell for a professional award; Board members were in favor of recommending him for the award as well.

Superintendent Davis asked Board members to submit background information that would support other nominations should they want to nominate others for awards. Board members were asked to submit nominations to President DeSmet before the next Board meeting in order for the Board to consider approving the nomination(s) at that meeting and before February 7 when they are due.

FACILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT UPDATE: Superintendent Davis indicated the core Facility Needs Assessment Committee (FNAC) has moved from a core committee to include a large group of stakeholders. He indicated at the last FNAC meeting debt equalization millage was discussed; it is now time for the Board to begin discussing it as well. Board members were provided a handout that demonstrated the difference in current tax payer rates for Albion and Marshall; the anticipated year the debts will retire for both communities; and what a debt equalization would look like for everyone. The committee is reviewing district facilities as there is potential for a bond in 2021. He indicated buildings in Albion have a great need for improvements and buildings in Marshall require some enhancements. He indicated Marshall Public Schools has historically taken to voters a bond every eight to ten years. He believes equalization needs to occur first; many conversations across the district are necessary to help voters to understand.

Board members discussed debt equalization and a bond going to the voters; their personal understanding of it, how they view what voters may say, and future timelines.

Superintendent Davis indicated the FNAC will not be complete with the committee's assessment until after spring break.

MICHIGAN YOUTH CHALLENGE ACADEMY (MYCA) COMMENCEMENT CYCLE 41: Superintendent Davis shared statistics for MYCA's Cycle 41 cadet completers. A total of 122 cadets graduated from the program of which 105 earned their high school diplomas, four GEDs were earned, 2,196 college credits were earned with a few students expected to return in January to complete their education through Job Challenge.

LETTER TO INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS: Superintendent Davis indicated a former employee of the district that was recently arraigned in Calhoun County District Court. The district has been cautious to share any information as to not interfere with any investigation or litigation that is going on; and to support employees that may be impacted both from a potential victim's standpoint or from a relationship standpoint. He read aloud a letter that will be shared with internal and external stakeholders; it will be given to staff members and posted on the district's website.

31N BEHAVIORAL HEALTH: Superintendent Davis reported it has been approximately 45 days since started a cooperative formally with Summit Pointe and Starr Commonwealth; during that time there have been 15 students that have been referred to the process for mental health counseling services on site in district school buildings. The district has been awarded \$85,000 by the State of Michigan for resources for mental health services through a 31n School Mental Health and Services Grant; these funds will

need to be spent by September 30, 2020; and the district is required to a commit a 20% financial match. The district will hire a licensed masters level social worker. The social worker will be used from a clinical standpoint.

ACTION ITEMS – ANNUAL ORGANIZATION:

SETTING THE MEETING DATES, PLACES AND TIMES FEBRUARY 2020 – JANUARY 2021: Set the regular meeting dates for February 2020-January 2021 for the Marshall Board of Education. Sessions will be held on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School Community Room (MSCR) or at the Marshall Opportunity High School (MOHS), located at 225 Watson Street Albion, unless otherwise noted as follows:

- February 10, 2020—Work Session at MSCR
- February 24, 2020—Business Session at MSCR
- March 9, 2020—Work Session at MSCR
- March 23, 2020—Business Session at MSCR
- April 20, 2020—Combined Work/Business Session at MOHS
- May 4, 2020—Work Session at MSCR
- May 18, 2020—Business Session at MSCR
- June 8, 2020—Work Session at MSCR
- June 22, 2020—Business Session at MSCR
- July 20, 2020—Combined Work/Business Session at MOHS
- August 10, 2020—Work Session at MSCR
- August 24, 2020—Business Session at MSCR
- September 14, 2020—Work Session at MSCR
- September 28, 2020—Business Session at MSCR
- October 12, 2020—Work Session at MSCR
- October 26, 2020—Business Session at MOHS
- November 9, 2020— Combined Work/Business Session at MSCR
- December 14, 2020—Combined Work/Business Session at MSCR
- January 11, 2021—Annual Organizational Meeting
and Work Session at MSCR
- January 25, 2021—Business Session at MOHS

DESIGNATE BANK DEPOSITORIES FOR THE 2020 CALENDAR YEAR: Designate as banks of depositories as follows:

Institution	Institution
Bank of America Merrill Lynch	Hastings City Bank
Chemical Bank	Marshall Community Credit Union
Flagstar Bank	Southern Michigan Bank & Trust

DESIGNATION OF BROKERS FOR THE 2020 CALENDAR YEAR: Designate as brokers Chemical Bank, MBIA Municipal Investors Service Corporation, Baker Tilly, Bank of America, Southern Michigan Bank & Trust and Marshall Community Credit Union.

DESIGNATION OF LAW FIRMS FOR THE 2020 CALENDAR YEAR: Designate as law firms Thrun Law Firm, P.C. and Schroeder DeGraw PLC.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE CASBMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE 2020 CALENDAR YEAR: Appoint Richard Lindsey Jr. as delegate and Carrie Nicholson as alternate delegate to the Calhoun Area School Board Members Association Board of Directors to represent MPS.

DESIGNATE THE ELECTRONIC TRANSFER OFFICER (ETO): Designate Becky Jones as the district's ETO to complete such transactions on behalf of the Board and in accordance with Policy 6144.

Moved Lindsey, supported Middleton, that the Board of Education approve Action Items – Annual Organization as presented. A roll-call vote carried the motion unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS – FINANCIAL:

PARTIAL FUNDING GRANTS FOR INSTALLATION OF ROOM AIR CONDITIONING – ITEM A: Marshall Public Schools (MPS) was awarded two grants totaling \$500,000 to partially fund MPS buildings that completely lack classroom air conditioning. The grants require the district to commit funding toward the projects. Accept donor-advised funds totaling \$500,00 that require the district to commitment financially toward the projects.

Moved Lindsey, supported Williams, that the Board of Education approve Action Item – Financial - A as presented. A roll-call vote carried the motion unanimously.

PURCHASE NEW CHROMEBOOKS – ITEM B: MPS applied for, and was awarded, funding for 80 Chromebooks through the 35a Additional Instructional Time Grant. These Chromebooks will be equally shared amongst the four elementary buildings. Three quotes were solicited from vendors for this purchase. The quote from Trinity3 was selected as the best option for the district as it included 4 year ADP (Accidental Drop Protection) coverage for every Chromebook. The total purchase cost is: \$21,520.00.

Moved Middleton, supported Williams, that the Board of Education approve Action Item – Financial - B as presented. A roll-call vote carried the motion unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

President DeSmet called for any members of the audience to address the Board.

Marshall High School Educators Nick Dent and Tracy Haroff spoke on behalf of high school staff and students that have been traumatized by the news of the former employee of the district that was recently arraigned in Calhoun County District Court. They asked several questions they would like answered; and they invited the Board and Superintendent to meet with the staff to hear from them in person.

Superintendent Davis shared that he understands there is a lot of concern. He indicated the information presented in the article from Sherriff Saxton was accurate. There were four individuals affected and they were all contacted; only one person wanted to press charges. The incidents happened in 2016. Every piece of technology this employee had access to was searched and forensics were completed. No students were involved. The district was not informed that the individual was being arraigned. The district was served a subpoena in October 2019; the investigation did not start with the incidents in 2016;

and the district has consulted with legal representation to see what could and could not be shared. He added there is no evidence of other victims being affected in the district.

Albion Mayor David Atchison indicated it was difficult to follow the conversation about debt equalization. He suggested if the district were to pursue equalizing would it consider naming the school district differently such as the Marshall – Albion School District or Albion – Marshall School District; it would be logical to be one team all on the same page. He praised the district for the Summer Reading Program at Harrington Elementary this past summer. He heard that personal contact was made with every student every week to check in on them and reading of their books. He believes this helped with the summer slide that can occur and that it was an innovated way to keep children reading. He is looking at ways to continue this program for three more summers.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

President DeSmet called for any members of the board for comment. There were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Lindsey, supported by Middleton, that the Board move into executive session under Section 8 (h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute at 8:30 p.m. A roll-call vote unanimously carried the motion.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 8:40 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Lindsey supported by Dawson, that the Board move into executive session under Section 8 (b) of the Open Meetings Act in regard to disciplining of a student at 8:40 p.m. A roll-call vote unanimously carried the motion.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 9:56 p.m.

DISCIPLINE OF STUDENT 9

Superintendent Davis, the hearing officer, took notes during the Board's deliberations and read aloud a proposed resolution for the Board's consideration related to the discipline of Student 9.

Moved by Lindsey, supported by Middleton, that the Board adopt the proposed resolution as read. A roll-call vote unanimously carried the motion. Treasurer Williams abstained.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Middleton, supported by Dawson, that the Board move into executive session under Section 8 (b) of the Open Meetings Act in regard to disciplining of a student at 10:03 p.m. A roll-call vote unanimously carried the motion.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 11:13 p.m.

DISCIPLINE OF STUDENT 10

Superintendent Davis, the hearing officer, took notes during the Board's deliberations and read aloud a proposed resolution for the Board's consideration related to the discipline of Student 10. Treasurer Williams abstained.

Moved by Lindsey, supported by Williams, that the Board adopt the proposed resolution as read. A roll-call vote unanimously carried the motion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Dawson, supported by Middleton, that the Board move into executive session under Section 8 (b) of the Open Meetings Act in regard to disciplining of a student at 11:16 p.m. A roll-call vote unanimously carried the motion.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 11:44 p.m.

DISCIPLINE OF STUDENT 7

Superintendent Davis, the hearing officer, took notes during the Board's deliberations and read aloud a proposed resolution for the Board's consideration related to the discipline of Student 7.

Moved by Lindsey, supported by Dawson, that the Board adopt the proposed resolution as read. A roll-call vote unanimously carried the motion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Williams, supported by Dawson, that the Board move into executive session under Section 8 (b) of the Open Meetings Act in regard to disciplining of a student at 11:47 p.m. A roll-call vote unanimously carried the motion.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 11:59 p.m.

DISCIPLINE OF STUDENT 8

Superintendent Davis, the hearing officer, took notes during the Board's deliberations and read aloud a proposed resolution for the Board's consideration related to the discipline of Student 8.

Moved by Lindsey, supported by Dawson, that the Board adopt the proposed resolution as read. A roll-call vote unanimously carried the motion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Williams, supported by Dawson, that the Board move into executive session under Section 8 (b) of the Open Meetings Act in regard to disciplining of a student at 12:03 a.m. A roll-call vote unanimously carried the motion.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 12:18 a.m.

DISCIPLINE OF STUDENT 6

Superintendent Davis, the hearing officer, took notes during the Board's deliberations and read aloud a proposed resolution for the Board's consideration related to the discipline of Student 6.

Moved by Gamble, supported by Dawson, that the Board adopt the proposed resolution as read. A roll-call vote unanimously carried the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 a.m.

LISA MIDDLETON, SECRETARY

KIMBERLY VANWORMER, RECORDING SECRETARY