

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #413 Monday, April 7, 2025 (4:00 PM)

2714

1.0 Call to Order

The Board of Education of Independent School District #413, Marshall Public Schools met for their regular meeting in the Professional Development Room of the District Administration Office on Monday, April 7, 2025. Chairman Coleman called the meeting to order at 4:00pm and the roll call showed the following were present: Jeff Chapman, Matt Coleman, Mary Swanson, Timothy Van Moer, Sara Brink and Sara Runchey. Also in attendance were Superintendent Williams, Director of Finance Kirchner, Superintendent's Executive Assistant Ruppert, Paul Freeburg, Jean Mather, Sara Welch, Donna Bastemeyer, Denise Smith and members of the media.

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Coleman led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

3.0 Reading of MPS Mission Statement

Vice Chairman Runchey read the Mission Statement of Marshall Public Schools.

3.1 Reading of MPS Mission Statement

The mission of the Marshall Public School District is to educate, support and prepare all learners for success.

4.0 Approval of Agenda

4.1 Approval of Meeting Agenda for Monday, April 7, 2025.

Member (**Jeff Chapman**) Moved, Member (**Sara Brink**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'that the board approves the agenda for Monday, April 7, 2025'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

5.0 Public Forum

5.1 Public Forum allows for comments on agenda or non-agenda items from the public. Board policy allows for setting of a 3-minute time limit per speaker. Generally speaking, the board will dedicate up to 60 minutes to Public Forum before moving on to conduct the business of the school board. Addressing the board is limited to ONE (1) spokesperson per topic.

Paul Freeburg spoke about the updating of Policy 620 regarding weighted grades. He stated that the reason for his opposition is due to scholarship opportunities for students. His concern is that the school did not reach out to parents or students regarding this change.

6.0 Presentation

6.1 Ehlers Public Finance Advisors

Shelby McQuay from Ehlers gave a presentation outlining the different options for referendum that the school district could pursue in the coming year. She shared the current Referendum Market Value based on property types and tax base, and comparisons between residential and agricultural tax values. She also walked through the General Education Formula Allowance and how the gap is growing per pupil due to inflation. Marshall Public Schools' options are to cut budgets or ask for an Operating Referendum or Capital Project Levy.

7.0 Consent Agenda

7.1 Approval of Consent Agenda

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Member (**Jeff Chapman**) Moved, Member (**Sara Runchey**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'that the board approves the consent agenda as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

7.2 Approval of BPA Nationals Trip

Member (**Jeff Chapman**) Moved, Member (**Sara Runchey**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'that the board approves the BPA Nationals Trip as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

7.3 Personnel

Member (**Jeff Chapman**) Moved, Member (**Sara Runchey**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'that the Board approves personnel as presented with the administrative recommendations and any agreements between employees and District to be executed by the Chair and the clerk of the board according to the administrative recommendation'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

a)	<u>Notice of Resignation/Termination</u>	-	<u>(Administration recommends approval)</u>	-	<u>Rationale:</u>
	<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>		<u>Effective Date</u>	
1	Melissa Sheppard	Middle School Counselor		4/4/2025	Resigned for Personal Reasons
2	Heather Huset	ABE		3/31/2025	Resigned for Personal Reasons
3	Heath Kastein	Custodian - Marshall Middle School		4/4/2025	Resigned for Personal Reasons
4	Grant Louwagie	Wrestling Coach		3/21/2025	Resigned for Personal Reasons
b)	<u>Notice of New Contract</u>	-	<u>(Administration recommends approval)</u>	-	
-	<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	
1	Gary Van Overbeke	CTI Substitute	\$137.16 Daily Rate	on or around 3/24/2025-5/30/2025	Replacement for Michael Braithwaite
c)	<u>Notice of Modification of Contract</u>		<u>(Administration recommends approval)</u>	-	
	<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	

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1	Doug Friskey	Custodian - Marshall High School	\$21.20 per hour	3/31/2025	Replacement for Logan Matthys
2	Logan Matthys	Custodian - ALC	\$21.20 per hour	3/26/2025	Replacement for George Mercie
d)	Leave Requests Name		Leave Type	Effective Date	Administration Recommendation
1	Say Paw	ABE Administrative Assistant	Leave of Absence	On or about 7/28/2025 - 10/6/2025	Say Paw is requesting a leave of absence in accordance with the terms and conditions of her agreement. This and all leave requests continue to be determined on a case by case and individual basis.

8.0 Removal from Consent Agenda

9.0 Board Forum

9.1 Board Reports & Updates

Runchey shared that at the recent Community Services meeting they discussed cannabis laws in our community and the updated bids for the Aquatic Center.

Van Moer shared that the Calendar Committee met and discussed the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 calendar options.

10.0 Discussion Items

10.1 First Review of Policies 414, 415, and 620

10.2 Second Review of Policies 413, 425, 512, 621, 704, and 906

11.0 Board Action

11.1 Approval of the 2025-2026 Calendar

Member (**Timothy Van Moer**) Moved, Member (**Jeff Chapman**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'that the board approves the 2025-2026 calendar as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

11.2 Authorization to Negotiate a Contract to Partner on Communication Strategies for a Possible Referendum

Member (**Sara Runchey**) Moved, Member (**Sara Brink**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'that the board authorizes to negotiate a contract to partner on communication strategies for a possible referendum'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

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11.3 Resolution to Approve 2025-2026 Budget Reductions

Member **(Jeff Chapman)** Moved, Member **(Mary Swanson)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'that the board approves the 2025-2026 Budget Reductions as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

11.4 Recommendation to increase self-insured health insurance premiums and health insurance carrier transition.

MPS health insurance has been self-insured for two years. Given the district's current financial position in the self-insurance fund, it is the recommendation of National Insurance Services and the district Insurance Committee to increase health insurance premiums 22% and transition to the carrier HealthEZ with both being effective 7/1/2025.

Member **(Jeff Chapman)** Moved, Member **(Sara Runchey)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'that the board approves a 22% increase in health insurance premiums starting 7/1/2025 and that MPS transitions to HealthEZ effective 7/1/2025'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

11.5 Recommendation to increase self-insured dental insurance premiums.

The 13-year average increase is 3.28%. The districts dental insurance is self-insured, and the district controls the premium increases. To ensure a positive dental insurance fund balance, National Insurance Services and the MPS Insurance Committee recommend a 5.45% increase to dental insurance premiums.

Member **(Jeff Chapman)** Moved, Member **(Matt Coleman)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'that the board approves a 5.45% increase in dental insurance premiums effective 7/1/2025'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

12.0 Adjournment

Having no additional business to conduct, the chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:42pm.

X 

Jeff Chapman
Clerk