

Maplewood Richmond Heights School District

2650 S. Hanley Road • Maplewood, MO 63144 • (314) 644-4400 • www.mrhschools.net Dr. Bonita Jamison, Superintendent • Dr. Shonda Ambers-Phillips, Assistant Superintendent • Dr. Chris McGee, Assistant Superintendent

Board Briefs for January 19, 2023:

- The Board heard a presentation by representatives of Stifel Financial, the firm charged with securing financing in connection with the District's 2023 Tax-Exempt Lease. Last month, Stifel distributed a request for bids to 22 potential bank investors. Stifel received indications from eight potential investors, five of which submitted a qualifying bid and three of which informed Stifel that they would not be competitive and would not submit. Currently, the District is seeking \$3 million in funds for acquiring, constructing, renovating, improving, furnishing and equipping certain school buildings, facilities and sites, including athletic facilities, classrooms and offices. Budget Impact: \$285,000 P/I annually to be paid from the capital projects fund. The Board approved a recommendation to enter into an agreement with Webster Bank.
- The Board heard a status report from Professional Service Industries on the restoration of MRH Elementary School following the December 25 water pipe rupture. Structural repairs are ongoing primarily during hours when staff and students are not present. Air samples will be tested throughout the winter/spring semester. It was reported that more than 1,200 labor hours were recorded for contractors in the first week of January as part of the remediation and restoration efforts.
- Superintendent of Schools Dr. Bonita Jamison presented the <u>results of a recent "climate</u> and <u>culture" survey</u> distributed to District parents, staff and students. Under standards spelled out in <u>MSIP-6</u>, the school system gathers school climate and culture data from all stakeholder groups, analyzes and shares the results, and implements strategies for improvement. The Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP) is the state's accountability system for reviewing, accrediting, and making classification decisions for school districts. It outlines expectations for school practices and student outcomes, with the goal of each student graduating ready for success in college, career, and life.
- Assistant Superintendent Dr. Chris McGee reported that the next meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee will take place on February 9. The strategic plan, or continuous improvement plan, serves as a long-range tool for addressing student performance and District improvement outlining a specific set of actions. In May, the Board approved Insight Education Group as the contractor to facilitate the planning process.
- Board President Brandi Herndon-Miller provided an update on the upcoming April 20 school board election. In the recently-concluded filing period, three people filed for the three open 3-year positions on the MRH Board of Education. Because the number of filers is equal to the number of open seats, the District will not need to hold an election this year. The following candidates will be sworn in as Directors at the April 20, 2023 Board Reorganizational Meeting.
 - Katie Kaufmann (incumbent Board director)
 - Christy Martinez
 - Joshua G. Miller