Maplewood Richmond Heights School District
2531 S. Big Bend Blvd. • Maplewood, MO 63144 • (314) 644-4400 • www.mrhschools.net
Dr. Bonita Jamison, Superintendent • Dr. Shonda Ambers-Phillips, Assistant Superintendent • Dr. Chris McGee, Assistant Superintendent

scholarship • leadership • stewardship • citizenship

BOARD BRIEFS FOR OCTOBER 17, 2024

At its monthly meeting on Thursday, October 17, the MRH Board of Education opened by recognizing October as LGBTQIA+ History Month (Board resolution on our website). Two students, Aaron Martin and Eavan Kryah, took the podium to state that they feel welcomed and comfortable at MRH High School because of the District's support for those who identify as LGBTQIA+.

Formerly known as Gay and Lesbian History Month, it was started in 1994 by Rodney Wilson, a high school teacher in Missouri who believed that a month should be dedicated to LGBTQIA achievements and accomplishments. In 1995, LGBTQIA History Month was added to the list of commemorative months in a resolution forwarded by the General Assembly of the National Education Association.

Board members voted to approve a special tuition agreement. The agreement specifically targets critical shortage areas, identified by District needs, and includes a repayment agreement contingent on a service requirement. This program will allow staff to pursue further education and training through an approval process with the financial support of the District, under the condition that they remain employed by MRH for a specified period after completing their coursework. If the staff member leaves the District before fulfilling this service requirement, they will be required to repay the reimbursement.

2555 Oakland 2556 Oakland

Two MRH-owned houses will now go on the sale block after the Board agreed to declare them as surplus. Both houses formerly served MRH Alternative Education students; those programs have now moved into the new secondary campus building addition. The District may use proceeds from the sale of the two surplus properties to reinvest in educational programs and services, directly benefiting students and addressing achievement gaps. It may also add potential family housing back to the community.

Superintendent Dr. Bonita Jamison presented post-event survey responses from the September 5 Board of Education Community Roundtables event. The purpose of the Roundtable discussion is to solicit community input and feedback for the superintendent of schools for planning purposes. The feedback and comments received will be included as a data point for presentations and/or recommendations to the Board of Education regarding the District's newly adopted strategic plan. The Roundtable feedback is reviewed and considered by the Board of Education as they review the superintendent's recommendations.
The survey responses can be found on our website.

MRH Board of Education
Joshua Miller, President • Jenny Schmidt, Vice President • Linda Robinson, Secretary • Brian Matz, Treasurer
Christy Martinez, Director • Katie Kaufmann, Director • Trent Colbert, Director