



Maplewood Richmond Heights School District

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

Board Briefs, April 2024

New members were sworn in and new officers were selected for the MRH Board of Education at a special reorganization session on Thursday, April 18, 2024. Current director Josh Miller will serve as president, newcomer Jenny Schmidt becomes vice president, director Linda Robinson was chosen as secretary and newly-elected Brian Matz will serve as treasurer.

At its regular monthly business meeting, the Board honored Middle School teacher Nicole Kinkelaar on her selection as Districtwide Teacher of the Year, and ECC lead custodian Mark Benton as Districtwide Support Staff of the Year. This annual recognition program aims to honor individuals who go above and beyond in their roles, embodying MRH values and making a profound impact on the school community.

The Board viewed a presentation by a representative of Simbli, a division of Diligent Communities. Simbli is a board meeting software management system allowing public access to records and providing warehousing for meeting materials as required by law. MRH currently uses BoardDocs for such services, but BoardDocs clients are undergoing a forced migration within the next two years. The current annual contract with BoardDocs is \$9,270; Simbli, which was well-received by MRH administrators during a prior demonstration, would cost \$10,880 per year.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum Dr. Chris McGee presented a proposed resolution for MRH to fully participate in the System Design Zone (SDZ) created by the Success-Ready Students Network (SRSN). As a member of the SDZ, MRH would:

- Share examples of how a competency-based mindset is used to create personalized learning experiences, digital (e.g. text, video, etc.) examples of which can be used for professional learning by other districts.
- Create real-world learning opportunities for students in collaboration with identified partners (e.g. businesses, industry, entrepreneurial opportunities, higher ed. etc.).
- Engage in study and research which inform instructional practice and system design that help identify important qualities of an assessment for learning and reimaged accreditation system.

Superintendent Dr. Bonita Jamison reported that the District has scheduled climate and culture surveys to be completed as follows:

- Staff: April 26, 2024
- Families: April 22-May 10 2024
- Students: TBD (working with building principals to establish dates)

The Board approved the FY25 Budget Directive as compiled by Chief Financial Officer Chris Hoelzer. A budget directive is a set of guidelines that outlines the financial priorities and constraints for the upcoming budget year. It serves as a roadmap for developing the budget, detailing areas where resources should be allocated, anticipated revenue sources, and any limitations or restrictions that need to be considered during the budgeting process.

Board members also approved the academic calendar for the 2025-2026 school year. It is customary for the District Calendar Committee to create calendars two years hence, largely for the benefit of families. At the conclusion of the current school year, [this calendar will be posted on our website.](#)