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 May 18, 2023:

MRH's Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Dr. Chris McGee, presented to the Board the latest iteration of the 5-year Strategic Plan. The Plan will be titled "Honoring Our History, Shaping Our Future." In its current draft form, the Plan includes revised statements of the District's vision and mission, core values, priority areas with goals and strategies and a working definition of the Portrait of an MRH Graduate. It also acknowledges the work of the Community Advisory Committee which was convened last fall to begin crafting the Plan, which was presented on Thursday as a study item with no final adoption expected until a subsequent Board meeting.

The Board approved moving forward with the application process for two grant proposals prepared by Federal Programs Coordinator Stephanie Bechard. The first grant, offered by the Federal COPS-School Violence Prevention Program, includes a local match not to exceed \$25,000 over three years. The second grant arose from the creation of a new Middle School course titled Creativity in Technology. The MRH match for this DESE Technology and Engineering grant will not exceed \$6,920 over the course of a year.

At the request of an organ donor advocacy organization called <u>Gift of Life</u>, the Board heard a brief presentation by guest speaker Suzy Ward. She outlined an awareness program targeted to high school students with information on making informed decisions about organ, eye and tissue donations. Ms. Ward described how teachers can integrate the program with their lesson plans.

Members of the Central Office administrative team notified the Board that it may be necessary to adjust school day start and end times at some or all schools next academic year in order to make the length of instructional day with students more equal for the MRH workforce. <u>Currently, the District is surveying all families to gather input on preferences.</u>

A plan to employ summer interns in several District departments gained Board approval. Thirteen workers will supplement Buildings & Grounds, Technology and the gardens program. Part-time interns earn \$15 per hour and work no more than twenty hours per week.

The full regular session may be viewed via YouTube.