



**MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2014
Columbia Campus**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Benjamin Bahan, Ph.D.; Julie Bourne; Sheryl B. Cooper, Ph.D.; Laurie Corcoran; John Ertel, Ph.D.; Dennis Galvan, Ph.D.; Roslyn Hannibal-Booker; Sandy Harriman; Robin Kittleman; David Martin; Angela McCaskill, Ph.D.; Cynthia Neese-Bailes, Ph.D.; Khadijat Rashid, Ph.D.; Joseph Smail, Ph.D., NCSP

SUPERINTENDENT: James E. Tucker

RECORDING SECRETARY: Jennifer Lake

INTERPRETERS: Myra Foley and Brenda Kelly Frey

President Martin called the meeting to order at 9:08am.

A **MOTION** was made to go into closed executive session at 9:11am to protect the privacy of individuals with respect to a matter that is not related to public business – **SECONDED - PASSED.**

A **MOTION** was made to return to Open Session at 9:55 a.m. – **SECONDED – PASSED.**

A **MOTION** was made to approve the Agenda with flexibility – **SECONDED – PASSED.**

A **MOTION** was made to approve the Minutes – **DISCUSSION** – approve Minutes with correction as noted – **SECONDED – PASSED.**

President Martin recognized the large group of visitors in attendance as alumni of the MSD Columbia campus. Mr. Sean Markel President of the MSD alumni association along with fellow members of the alumni association were present along with Charm Smith, President of MDAD.

President's Report: President Martin reminded the members of their obligation to attend 50% of the meetings per year and of the April 30, 2014 deadline for Financial Disclosure filings.

Vice-President's Report: No report.

Secretary's Report: No Report.

Treasurer's Report: Dr. Ertel reported that MSD Foundation manages the Board's funds and the Board pays their fair share of the audit.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Tucker shared that student enrollment is back over 500. Open houses in the fall and spring have been successful.

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Established 1973*



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The proposed FY15 budget is good as the Governor has suggested a 6% increase. On July 1, 2014 he will become President of the Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs of the Deaf (CEASD). Currently he is serving on a team for Maryland to develop information that will be used by the entire state for transition programs which is a federal priority now. The intent is to push for higher expectations for deaf and hard of hearing children.

The President and Superintendent met with the Alumni Association to discuss future collaborations and fund raising. Future Homecoming kickoffs will now be at 2:00pm so that more people can attend.

MSD History by President Martin: President Martin presented a PowerPoint on Mr. George Veditz.

Mr. Sean Markel shared the following announcements with the Board.

- There will be a social with the alumni after homecoming game.
- The next reunion is scheduled for 2016 and the reunion will be after the game.
- 2018 will be the big reunion to celebrate the 150 year anniversary. The alumni association will work with the school to plan the celebrations and the alumni association will work on raising funds for the school.

Ms. Charm Smith addressed the Board. MDAD is working with ODHHS to bring awareness in Annapolis for a Legislative Awareness Day in February on Presidents Day. There are 12 members on the MDAD board and the first meeting is in March at the Frederick Campus.

Open Forum: No one signed up.

Executive Committee Report: No report.

Education Committee Report: Dr. Bahan reported that the school has already made progress on Deaf Studies and ASL classes and the number of credits required for graduation will increase.

Fiscal Matters/Facilities Management Committee Report: Dr. Ertel reported that Mr. Tucker already reported on the budget. President Martin shared that there was a meeting with the company interested in buying some of MSD's property. There will be stipulations for a visual buffer near the athletic field.

Personnel Committee Report: Ms. Corcoran stated that the goal of the committee is to come up with a job description for the Superintendent so that he can be evaluated. Ms. Currin will send descriptions she has found for other Superintendents or similar positions to the committee.

Student Life Committee Report: Dr. Smail shared that the committee talked about nurses who will be retiring and the need to find nurses who can sign. The committee also

talked about diversity and the large number of people who want to be involved with the MSD Diversity committee.

Trusteeship Committee Report: Dr. Cooper shared that there will be 5 vacancies to fill after May.

Recognition by the Board: Principal Jennifer Yost Ortiz introduced Ms. Shannon Negussie and explained why she was chosen to be recognized by the Board. Principal Ortiz shared that Ms. Negussie's dedication and creativity are very much appreciated and valued by the Columbia Campus students and staff. President Martin presented Ms. Negussie with a certificate from the Board.

A discussion took place regarding the diversity of the Board and the School. The Personnel Committee will review the data and bring it to the full Board so that the Board can decide what to do. Suggestion was made to post the school's demographics on the web-site. The Board requested updates from the Diversity Committee at future board meetings.

Old Business:

- President Martin and Dr. Hernandez will talk about the climate survey before the next meeting.
- Once date is determined for the Parent Staff Association (PSA) President Martin will attend as well as any other board members who are able to attend.

A **MOTION** to close Old Business was made – **SECONDED - PASSED.**

New Business:

A **MOTION** to close New Business was made – **SECONDED - PASSED.**

The Board evaluated itself upon the conclusion of the meeting on a scale of 0 to 5 with 0 being bad and 5 being excellent. The scores ranged from 4 to 4.5.

The strengths that the Board expressed regarding the meeting was breaking out for committee meetings, continuing to recognize staff and students, being flexible with the schedule, and moving through the agenda in a timely fashion.

The weakness that the Board expressed regarding the meeting was in what ways the Board can be more productive.

A **MOTION** was made to close the meeting at 3:17pm– **SECONDED - PASSED.**
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully,

Roslyn Hannibal-Booker