

MINUTES 25-02
CITY OF MADISON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
January 23, 2025

Mr. Tim Holtcamp, president, called the City of Madison Board of Education Meeting to order at 5:03 PM in the board room at Madison City Schools Central Office. After the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag, roll call was conducted of school board members.

I. ROLL CALL

Roll Call of school board members recorded as follows:

Place No. 1	Mr. Tommy Overcash	Present
Place No. 2	Mr. Tim Holtcamp	Present
Place No. 3	Mrs. Alice Lessmann	Present
Place No. 4	Mr. Scott Newberry	Present
Place No. 5	Mr. Travis Cummings	Present

Also present were Dr. Ed Nichols, superintendent of Madison City Schools, Mr. Woody Sanderson, school board attorney, and Mrs. LaTisha King, recording secretary.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Holtcamp called for a motion to approve the January 23, 2025, school board meeting agenda. Mrs. Alice Lessmann motioned to approve the agenda. Mr. Scott Newberry seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 5-0.

III. PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Jamie Hill, principal of Discovery Middle School and Mrs. Amanda Haynes, teacher at Discovery Middle School, provided information regarding a college and career program, “Panther Spark.” The program was created to assist students in discovering and/or determining possible career paths. Mrs. Haynes announced the next career day event would be held on November 8, 2025.

Mrs. Lee Shaw, development office coordinator, introduced members of the Knights of Columbus who presented checks to the school district for the Special Education Department. The checks totaled more than \$10,000. Plaques were given to the elementary, middle and high schools (Heritage Elementary, Discovery Middle, and Bob Jones High respectively) who participated in the 5K Tootsie Roll Run that had the highest number of participants and collected the most donations. The Board and superintendent thanked the Knights of Columbus and Parish 171519 for their generous donation to Madison City Schools.

Dr. Susan Zinkil, director of special education, introduced representatives from Chic-fil-A, Madison YMCA, and The Westin Hotel who partner with Madison City Schools to employ special education students. A certificate of appreciation was given to the business representatives for providing employment opportunities to students with special needs. The Board and superintendent thanked the companies for their partnership with the school district.

School principals and central office staffers honored the school board in recognition of January being School Board Appreciation Month. Board members thanked all for the opportunity to serve and the expressions of appreciation provided to them during the school board meeting.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments made by members of the public during this meeting.

V. ACTION ITEMS

The superintendent recommended approval of consent agenda item(s): (a) Minutes #25-01, January 9, 2025; (b) field trip requests for Madison City Schools; (c) facility use agreements for Madison City Schools; (d) 2025 secondary schools spring sports schedules and officials' agreements (Bob Jones High School – girls'/boys' soccer, outdoor track & field, boys'/girls' golf, tennis, and baseball; James Clemens High School – baseball, softball, girls'/boys' soccer, tennis, outdoor track and golf; Discovery Middle School – girls'/boys' Soccer, baseball, and softball; Liberty Middle School – baseball, soccer, and softball; and Journey Middle School – soccer, baseball, and softball); (e) 2025 Bob Jones High School Indoor Ensemble Travel Schedule (indoor varsity and junior varsity color guard, indoor winds, indoor drumline and concert ensembles); and (f) an agreement by and between the City of Madison Board of Education and Ember Sports, LLC, for use of an indoor practice facility for the baseball/softball teams at Bob Jones High School during the 2025 baseball and softball season (January 24, 2025 through May 16, 2025) at a rate of \$1,500.00 per month as described in the agreement. The Board agreed to approve the recommendations as a group. Mrs. Alice Lessmann motioned to approve consent agenda items a-f. Mr. Tommy Overcash seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 5-0.

The superintendent recommended approval of a LEA School Make-Up Day Option Request to the Alabama State Department of Education for Friday, January 10, 2025, due to Governor Ivey declaring a state of emergency for areas impacted by a winter storm warning (Madison City School District received snow and ice that created hazardous conditions in its school zone). Mr. Scott Newberry motioned to approve the recommendation. Mrs. Alice Lessmann seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 5-0.

The superintendent recommended approval of a list of substitutes, a list of supplemental contracts and other personnel recommendations for Madison City Schools. The Board agreed to approve the list of substitutes, contracts for the ACCESS Program (spring 2024-2025), supplemental contracts and personnel recommendation as a group. Mr. Tommy Overcash motioned to approve the substitute list, contracts for the ACCESS Program (spring 2024-2025), supplemental contract list and personnel recommendations. Mr. Scott Newberry seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 5-0.

Dr. Nichols announced the retirement of Mrs. Suzanne Marsh, library media aide at Columbia Elementary School. He expressed appreciation for Mrs. Marsh's dedicated years of service to Madison City Schools.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Dr. Nichols stated a meeting was held with local legislators to discuss unfunded mandates, unfair requirements for public schools vs. private schools and other pertinent information regarding public schools. he also thanked transportation and operations staff members for their work to ensure buses and schools were operational during the extremely cold weather. Dr. Nichols also stated he attends a meeting with District Nine Superintendents where they discussed funding for Pre-K students. He then talked about a podcast he did focusing on a partnership with military families. Dr. Nichols thanked the school board members for their service to Madison City School students. Lastly, Dr. Nichols announced the passing of Dr. Terry Davis, former superintendent of Madison County Schools.

VII. BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Tommy Overcash talked about meeting with Local legislators. He also Congratulated Mr. Clay Combs, as he takes on a new role as the school system's multi-media teacher. Mr. Overcash thanked staff for recognizing the school board during School Board Member Appreciation Month (January).

Mr. Scott Newbery stated he and other school board members assisted with car at Madison Elementary during the extreme cold weather. He also stated the legislators want to hear from constituents. He encouraged everyone to contact their legislative representatives. He also thanked Dr. Travis Schrimsher, Transportation Department administrator, Mr. John Jones, chief operations officer, and their staff for the outstanding job done during the extremely cold weather. Mr. Newberry then thanked staff for recognizing the school board during School Board Member Appreciation Month (January)..

Mrs. Alice Lessmann expressed her gratitude to staff for their tokens of appreciation given to the school board. She mentioned that being on the school board is a privilege. She also stated that she and other school board members advocate for the school system to local and state legislators. Mrs. Lessmann then thanked the Knights of Columbus for their donations to Madison City Schools.

Mr. Travis Cummings echoed the sentiments of previous school board member comments. Mr. Cummings then congratulated Mr. Clay Combs as the new multi-media teacher for the school district.

Mr. Tim Holtcamp thanked School Resource Officer Bullinton for attending the school board meeting and for mentoring students in the district. He also stated he is honored to serve as a school board member in the school district.

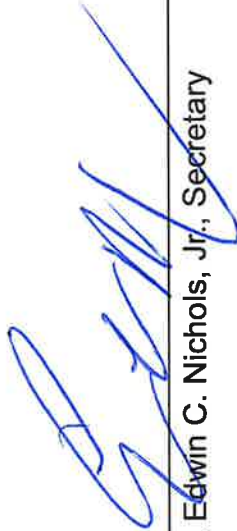
VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Tim Holtcamp announced the next school board meeting would be held on February 6, 2025 at 5:00 PM, preceded by a finance committee meeting at 4:00 PM. Mr. Holtcamp then called for a motion to adjourn the school board meeting. Mrs. Alice Lessmann motioned to adjourn the school board meeting. Mr. Scott Newberry seconded the motion.

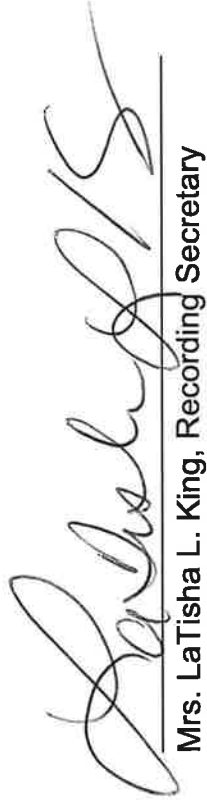
The motion was approved 5-0.



Mr. Tim Holtcamp, President



Dr. Edwin C. Nichols, Jr., Secretary



Mrs. LaTisha L. King, Recording Secretary