

MINUTES 25-08
CITY OF MADISON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
April 22, 2025

Mr. Tim Holtcamp, president, called the City of Madison Board of Education Meeting to order at 5:00 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	Absent
Place No. 5	Mr. Travis Cummings	Absent

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 April 22, 2025, school board meeting agenda. Mrs. Alice Lessmann motioned to approve the agenda. Mr. Tommy Overcash seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 3-0.

III. PRESENTATIONS

Secondary principals from Bob Jones High, Discovery Middle, Journey Middle and Liberty Middle schools recognized students who were selected as Alabama All-State Choir members. A certificate of recognition was presented to each group for their outstanding performances.

Secondary principals from Bob Jones High and Journey Middle schools also recognized math teams and members who performed exceptionally well during the school year winning at state and national competitions. These groups were also presented with a certificate of recognition for their exceptional mathematical achievements.

Mrs. Jill Bledsoe and Ms. Brianna Davis, federal programs grant administrators, discussed Month of the Military Child, which is held during the month of April. They encouraged everyone to wear purple in support of military students and their families. Mrs. Bledsoe also announced that all Madison City Schools are Purple Star schools – demonstrating they support students of military families. Various events were held by schools throughout the month of April promoting support for military students.

Mr. Shane Bagwell, with Volkert Inc., provided an update on the construction of Russell Branch Elementary. He stated there has already been a saving of approximately \$380,000 on the project. Mr. Bagwell also provided a revised completion date of August 9, 2026. He then had pictures shown of the site and progress of the construction. Mr. Bagwell stated that 62% of construction time is remaining and 72% of construction cost remains.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was one person who addressed the Board and superintendent regarding concerns about legislation that could prevent a safe and inclusive school environment for public school students. The speaker also expressed a concern regarding the mental health of students that may be impacted by the proposed legislation.

V. ACTION ITEMS

The superintendent recommended approval of consent agenda item(s): (a) Minutes #26-07, April 15, 2025; (b) field trip requests for Madison City Schools; and (c) facility use agreements for Madison City Schools. The Board agreed to approve the recommendations as a group. Mr. Tommy Overcash motioned to approve consent agenda items a-c. Mrs. Alice Lessmann seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 3-0.

The superintendent recommended approval of a memorandum of understanding by and between the Huntsville Botanical Gardens and the City of Madison Board of Education to enhance educational opportunities for students and provide professional development for teachers, which will be effective the 2025-2026 school year, as described in the MOU. Mrs. Alice Lessmann motioned to approve the recommendation. Mr. Tommy Overcash seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 3-0.

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 recommendations as a group. Mrs. Alice Lessmann motioned to approve the list of substitutes, a list of supplemental contracts, and other personnel recommendations for Madison City Schools. Mr. Tommy Overcash seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 3-0.

Dr. Nichols congratulated three retirees listed on the personnel recommendation agenda (Carrie Sanders – Discovery Middle, Melinda Long - Bob Jones High, and Debra Fuller- Madison Elementary). He expressed appreciation to the employees for their service to the school system.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Dr. Nichols mentioned there are 22 days left in the current school year. Graduation ceremonies for high school students will occur on May 19, 2025 at the Von Braun Center. Dr. Nichols also mentioned that student testing is over. Dr. Nichols thanked the testing coordinator, Mrs. Courtney Horton school staff for ensuring students had a secure testing environment. Dr. Nichols then stated that fine arts and drama group did exceptionally well at state competitions. He also mentioned that Special Olympics was held at Milton Frank Stadium in Huntsville, Alabama. He thanked everyone who volunteered to make the Special Olympics a success. Dr. Nichols thanked Mrs. Karen Denzine, Madison City Council member, for attending the school board meeting and supporting Madison City Schools.

VII. BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Tommy Overcash stated he and other school board member assisted with the car line drop off for students at Liberty Middle School. He also congratulated math and choir students for their accomplishments. Mr. Overcash also attended a webinar sponsored by the Alabama Association of School Boards regarding assisting students from military families.

Mrs. Alice Lessmann thanked Ms. Karen Denzine, Madison City Councilperson, for always supporting Madison City Schools. She also thanked Ms. Denzine for chairing Girls State. Mrs. Lessmann then congratulate math team and choir members for their outstanding achievements throughout the school year. Mrs. Lessmann also asked community members to reach out to your legislative representatives regarding actions or bills they are proposing to approve.

Mr. Tim Holtcamp thanked School Resource Officer Sam Scott for attending the school board meeting.

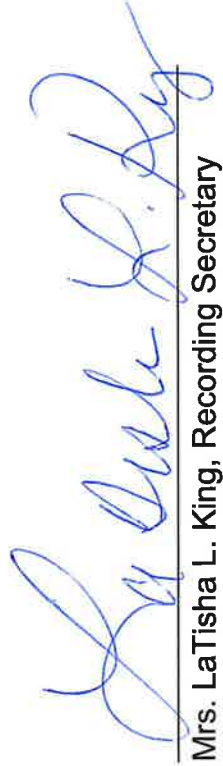
VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Tim Holtcamp announced the next school board meeting would be held on May 7, 2025 at 7:00 AM. Mr. Holtcamp then called for a motion to adjourn the school board meeting. Mrs. Alice Lessmann motioned to adjourn the school board meeting. Mr. Tommy Overcash seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 3-0.


Mr. Tim Holtcamp, President


Dr. Edwin C. Nichols, Jr. Secretary


Mrs. LaTisha L. King, Recording Secretary