



Meridian Technical Charter High School

3800 N Locust Grove Road
Meridian, Idaho 83646
Telephone (208)288-2928
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www.mtchs.org

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MTCHS SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

May 19, 2025

- Date, Place, & Time** An online and in-person meeting of the MTCHS Board of Trustees convened at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 19, 2025. The meeting was held at Meridian Technical Charter High School, 3800 N. Locust Grove, Meridian, Idaho.
- Call to Order** Chairman Wally Hedrick called the regular meeting to order at 4:00.
- Attendance** Chairman Wally Hedrick, Diane DeSpain, Larry Andrews, Staci Low, Tami Hansen, Nick Crabbs, Charter Administrator Craig Miller, Beth Richtsmeier, and Mora Claflin attended.
- Consent Agenda**
- Approval of minutes from the April 21 Board Meeting** Staci Low moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Larry Andrews. Motion carried.
- Approval of Monthly Financial Statement** Motion to approve payment of the bills by Diane DeSpain, seconded by Larry Andrews. Motion carried.
- Public Comment** Sign in sequence (New SB1361). There were no public comments.
- Discussion/Action Items**
- Jeff Bodell Retirement** One of our founding teachers, Jeff Bodell, is retiring after 26 years with the school. We are honoring his extraordinary service by naming the trophy case in Haley Hall after him. Nick Crabbs stated that Jeff was a really exceptional teacher who will be hard to replace, and Tami Hansen agreed that her kids love him as a teacher. Motion to approve Jeff's letter of retirement by Nick Crabbs, seconded by Larry Andrews. Motion carried.
- Approve West Ada Salary Schedule** The biggest salary movement is in the lower levels. Discussion of the schedule, Advanced Professional Endorsement, and the CTE Certification Stipend of \$3000. Motion to the 2025-2026 West Ada Salary Schedule by Nick Crabbs, seconded by Diane DeSpain. Motion carried.
- Rehire Current Staff** Craig Miller said everybody earned either a Proficient or Distinguished in their evaluations. Motion to rehire the staff with the exception of those who have resigned or retired by Larry Andrews, seconded by Nick Crabbs. Motion carried. Wally added that we have an excellent staff and low turnover.
- Hiring New Teachers** Craig recommends the hiring of two new teachers:
Sarah Bandlamudi – Earth Science/Physics - Sarah is from El Paso, joining her husband here who is a computer engineer. She has a natural science degree and an associate's in computer science, and has been in Special Education in Texas.
Kimberly Jensen – Biology, Health, IDLA – Kimberly has been teaching science at Gem Prep and her husband is a software developer.
Motion to hire the two new teachers by Staci Low, seconded by Diane Despain. Motion carried.



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West Ada Service Contract Updated service agreement with West Ada. There have been a lot of inconsistencies over the years, this gets everything on paper and will make payments more consistent. Discussion of contract: West Ada provided services like food, custodial, budgets, HR, payroll, building maintenance, Special Ed, tech-related, and more. Motion to approve updated Service Contract by Nick Crabbs, seconded by Larry Andrews. Motion carried.

Principal's Report

Clearwater Updates

1. Ideas for Advisory Board. Interview board members regarding their perceptions on growth. Clearwater would then reach out to three to five industry people and get their input on what makes sense from the industry side of things. Request for input from board members if they know people who would give good feedback.
2. Demographic Report. Identify potential places for growth.

Summer Standards Work. Teachers are doing some work over the summer to identify areas we are hitting, and areas we can improve academic pathways.

West Ada Calendar Change We're going from 187 to 188 days, and days with students has changed from 172 to 171.

Adjournment

June 9 will be our Annual Budget Meeting, then August 18, and September 15 all at 4:00 pm. At this point, no July meeting.

Thanks to the board for completing Charter Administrator evaluations, which were reviewed with Craig. Wally commends Craig, Beth, faculty, and support staff for the excellent standards at MTCHS.

Nick Crabbs mentioned starting an alumni network/association, people who believe in the mission of the school and can help push things forward.

Meeting closed at 4:30