

MHSAA Board Meeting Minutes of July 11, 2023

The Madison High School Alumni Association (MHSAA) held its 4th Board Meeting of 2023 on July 11th at Amqui Station in Madison. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by President Rick Pharris (MHS '75). Also present were Vice President Ron Nimmo (MHS '70), Secretary Jerry Armour (MHS '66), Treasurer Gale Andrews (MHS '71), Pam Nimmo (MHS '73), and Gail Nichols Swann (MHS '65).

Minutes of Prior Board Meeting:

Secretary Jerry Armour read the minutes of MHSAA's last meeting (June 13, 2023). Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Gale Andrews reported that MHSAA currently has \$1,145.32 in its General Fund and \$7,211.86 in its Scholarship Fund.

MHSAA Scholarship Committee:

MHSAA Scholarship Committee Chair Jerry Armour reported that the Scholarship Committee has awarded four \$2,000.00 scholarships for 2023.

MHSAA congratulates:

- Ella Morgan Parks (Goodpasture High School)
- Hutson Eugene Miles (Goodpasture High School)
- Megan Ashley Stein (John Jay High School, New York)
- Shelby Farrah Branham (White House High School)

All the recipients have now enrolled and their scholarship checks have been mailed to their respective universities.

MHSAA All-Class Reunion Committee:

MHSAA All-Class Reunion Chair Rick Pharris announced he needs to step down from his chairmanship, citing health issues. A committee (Ron Nimmo, Pam Warren Nimmo, Gale Andrews and Jerry Armour) was appointed to plan the "All Class Reunion."

The reunion will be held at Madison Middle School (MMS) on Saturday, October 7th. MMS doors will be opened at 5:00 pm and a spaghetti supper will be served in the school cafeteria from 5:00-6:30. The entire school will be open for the event. The Gym will be open all evening and the Alumni Hall and Alumni Room will also be open to visit.

An admission table will be set up at the door to accept MHSAA dues (\$20.00)/person for 2024. Dues for couples who both are MHS alumni only pay \$20.00. Forms with names, class years, addresses, emails, and/or phone numbers of all those joining MHSAA will be collected at the admission table. Announcements regarding the details of the reunion will be emailed to our email bank. The announcement will provide a link to reserve dinner(s) and donate to the Scholarship Fund.

Other items discussed were:

- Gaining approval/feedback from the Board of Education
- Ensuring there will be a school person there to open the doors
- Having a security officer present.

Newsletter/Other Communications Committee:

The Board voted to form a new committee, "Newsletter/Other Communications." This committee will work toward increasing our Alumni Emails list, improving communication with alumni about reunions/alumni news/other MHSAA projects, locating individual class representatives, and involving more alumni in association projects. Pam and Ron Nimmo, Gail Nichols Swann, Rob Hancock, Jerry Armour, Gale Andrews, and Tony Crowder were nominated to serve on the committee.

Grants & Donations Committee:

Jerry Armour announced that he will be assisted in writing grant proposals to area funds/foundations/corporations/others by Pat Parker (MHS '67). Pat, has agreed to provide guidance for Jerry and/or others as they attempt to raise money for both MHSAA's scholarship and general fund. Jerry shared that he has contacted Sylvia Slack (MHS '66) to help write proposals and she has accepted.

Of the eight targeted grant sources, only three are still open for 2023. The committee is currently writing grant proposals for the following:

- The Memorial Foundation
- Wamart
- The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee.

MHSAA's July 3rd Meeting with MMS Principal Cauthen

MHSAA board members (Gale Andrews, Ron Nimmo, Pam Nimmo, and Jerry Armour met with Madison Middle School (MMS) principal Polly Cauthen for about 25 minutes on Monday, July 3rd. This was a productive meeting.

We were able to ask her about, among other things, the availability of a larger room for MHSAA. Principal Cauthen explained that other space is currently unavailable. She said any extra rooms the school has are being used by allied school organizations, for example:

- Red Cross
- Vanderbilt
- Social Workers
- Other.

She did offer to let us use a larger room for those occasions/events when a larger number of persons would be present. She only asked that we let her know of our needs ahead of time.

We told her about MHSAA's past involvement with Madison Middle School. Gale mentioned that we had, in the past, for example, helped distribute textbooks, proctored the TCAPs, provided jackets for sports teams, participated in Pencil Partners, and assisted with fund-raising efforts. We then shared our willingness to be more involved in MMS during the 2023-2024 school year.

Principal Cauthen said the school could use help with:

- Assembling student packets
- Food distribution
- The Clothing Closet
- Dress Code Policies

- Collared shirts
- Jackets
- Etc.

Principal Cauthen shared that she is now in her 4th year at MMS and wants to retire there. It appears she may remain MMS principal for at least the near-future. Considering her evident passion for the students, teachers, and parents of MMS this is a good thing.

We shared our contact information with her and she promised to let us know of upcoming needs. We all realize that MHSAA must make good on our promises and that this will necessitate involvement of additional alumni.

Adjournment & Announcement of MHSAA's Next Board Meeting:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:37 pm. MHSAA's next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 6:00 pm in the Alumni Room of MMS.

Respectfully submitted:

Jerry Armour (MHS '66),
MHSAA Secretary