

MINUTES 26-01
CITY OF MADISON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
January 8, 2026

Mr. Travis Cummings, president, called the City of Madison Board of Education Meeting to order at 5:00 PM in the board room at the 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	Absent
Place No. 2	Mrs. Cara Sexton-Welsh	Present
Place No. 3	Mrs. Tess Halbrooks	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, board attorney, and Mrs. LaTisha King, recording secretary.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Travis Cummings called for a motion to approve the January 8, 2026, school board meeting agenda. Mrs. Cara Welsh motioned to approve the agenda. Mrs. Tess Halbrooks seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 4-0.

III. PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Heather Donaldson, chief academic officer, presented an award to Dr. Natalia Dooley, federal program coordinator. Dr. Dooley received the Alabama Association of Federal Education Program Administrator Leadership Award. She received the award in recognition of her service, dedication and work with federal programs. She will be representing Alabama at the national conference in Washington D.C. in the spring.

Mrs. Lee Shaw, development coordinator, introduced representatives from the i3Cares organization (a community assistance group) presented a check for \$6,000.00 to the school system to pay for student lunch accounts that had a negative balance. The Board and superintendent thanked i3Cares for their assistance to the students in Madison City Schools.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no members of the public that addressed the school board during this meeting.

V. ACTION ITEMS

The superintendent recommended approval of consent agenda item(s): (a) Minutes #25-27, December 11, 2025; (b) Minutes #25-28, December 29, 2025; (c) field trip requests for Madison City Schools; (d) facility use agreements for Madison City Schools; (e) an agreement by and between the City of Madison Board of Education and Athens Behavior Therapy, LLC., for applied behavior analysis services (for an hourly rate: \$125.00; maximum hours per week: 19 hours; mileage will be reimbursed at the current Internal Revenue Service standard rate of \$0.725) from January 9, 2026 through January 8, 2027, as described in the agreement; (f) Effective January 1, 2026, the mileage rate paid to persons traveling in privately owned vehicles on official business for Madison City Schools will increase to 72.5 cents per mile matching the State of Alabama mileage rate; and (g) an applicant tracking system with PowerSchool from March 4, 2026 to September 30, 2026 for a total cost of \$6,030.84, as described in the agreement. The Board agreed to approve the recommendations as a group.

Mr. Scott Newberry motioned to approve consent agenda items a-g. Mrs. Tess Halbrooks seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 4-0.

The superintendent recommended approval of the November 2025 Financial and Bank Statements for Madison City Schools. Mrs. LaVerne Williams, chief school finance officer, explained the financial statements to the Board and public. Mrs. Cara Welsh motioned to approve the November 2025 Financial and Bank Statements for Madison City Schools. Mrs. Tess Halbrooks seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 4-0.

The superintendent recommended approval of a list of substitutes, a list of supplemental contracts, and other personnel recommendations for Madison City Schools. All school board members agreed to approve the recommendations as a group. Mrs. Cara Welsh motioned to approve the personnel recommendations. Mr. Scott Newberry seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 4-0.

Dr. Nichols announced the retirement of Angela Prudent, permanent substitute at Liberty Middle School. He expressed gratitude for her service to the school district. He also announced that new head football coach at Bob Jones High would be Mr. Seth Parker. Mr. Parker thanked everyone for their support as he takes on the new head football coach position at Bob Jones High School.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Dr. Nichols announced that the school district gained 100 new students since the last semester of school.

VII. BOARD COMMENTS

Mrs. Tess Halbrooks congratulate everyone honored at the school board meeting. She also thanked Mrs. Lee Saw and the i3Cares group for their support of your students.

Mrs. Cara Welsh congratulated Dr. Dooley on receiving her award, Mr. Parker for receiving the heading football coach position at Bob Jones High. Mrs. Welsh then mentioned the Board assisted with the carline at Discovery Middle School.

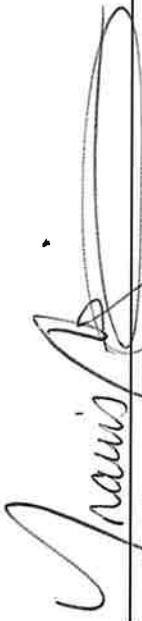
Mr. Scott Newberry also talked about the school board assisting with the carline at Discovery Middle School. He then congratulated Mr. Seth Parker on becoming the new head football coach at Bob Jones High School.

Mr. Travis Cummings also thanked Mrs. Shaw and the i3Cares Team for assisting students with negative lunch balances. Mr. Cummings then congratulated Mr. Parker on his head football coach position at Bob Jones High School.

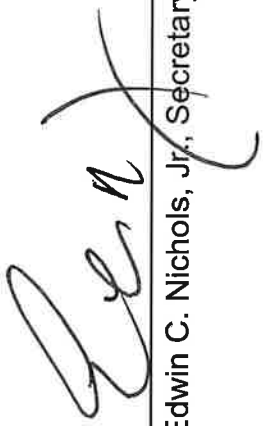
VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Travis Cummings announced the next school board meeting would be held on January 29, 2026 at 5:00 PM (board room at the central office), preceded by a Madison City Schools Instruction Committee Meeting at 4:00 PM. Mr. Travis Cummings then called for a motion to adjourn the January 8, 2026 school board meeting. Mrs. Tess Halbrooks motioned to adjourn the school board meeting. Mrs. Cara Welsh seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 4-0.



Mr. Travis Cummings, Jr., President



Dr. Edwin C. Nichols, Jr., Secretary



Mrs. LaTisha L. King, Recording Secretary