

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF MERCER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #404,
MERCER, HENDERSON, & ROCK ISLAND COUNTIES, ILLINOIS.**

The Board of Education of Mercer County School District #404, Mercer, Henderson, & Rock Island Counties, Illinois, convened at a regular meeting at *the Mercer County Junior High School Music Room, 1002 SW 6th Street, Aledo, IL* on Wednesday, **May 15, 2024** at 6:30 PM.

Prior to Roll Call, President Bill Smock opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

Board members present upon roll call: Smock, Nelson, Monson, Wagner, Yates, Lower. Balmer arrived at 8:15 p.m. A quorum was present.

Absent: None.

Administrators present: Superintendent Scott Petrie, Principals Sedam, Ibouhouten and Cooper, Assistant Principal Dengler.

Also in Attendance: Brandon Livingston, Hannah Libby, HS student (live-streaming), FFA Member Aurora Fitchner, Dr. Patricia Sullivan-Viniard of IASB Executive Search, Recording Secretary Leanne McDermott.

Reporters: None.

| | No. 1 | No. 2 | No. 3 | No. 4 | No. 5 | No. 6 | No. 7 | No. 8 | No. 9 | No. 10 |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| Balmer | - | - | - | - | - | VOICE | - | VOICE | - | - |
| Lower | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | | AYE | | AYE | AYE |
| Monson | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | | AYE | | AYE | AYE |
| Nelson | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | | AYE | | AYE | AYE |
| Smock | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | | AYE | | AYE | AYE |
| Wagner | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | | AYE | | AYE | AYE |
| Yates | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | | AYE | | AYE | AYE |

| | No. 11 | No. 12 | No. 13 | No. 14 | No. 15 | No. 16 | No. 17 | No. 18 | No. 19 | No. 20 | No. 21 |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Balmer | VOICE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | VOICE |
| Lower | | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | |
| Monson | | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | |
| Nelson | | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | |
| Smock | | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | |
| Wagner | | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | |
| Yates | | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | AYE | |

CONSENT AGENDA

1. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Lower to approve the following items on the consent agenda as presented.

- 1.1 Meeting Minutes – April 17, 2024
- 1.2 Bill List
- 1.3 Treasurer’s Report
- 1.4 Financial Report
- 1.5 BCBS Health Insurance Account Statement
- 1.6 Resignation of Apollo Paraprofessional Hailey Milder 5/24/24

1.7 Resignation of 8th Grade Girls Basketball Coach Kraig McPeek effective 5/7/24

1.8 Resignation of Student Senate Advisor Taylor Gibbs effective end of FY24

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

FY25 BREAD BIDS

2. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Yates, to reject bid for Pan O Gold.

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

FY25 MILK BID

3. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Lower, to accept the milk bid from Prairie Farms.

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

FY25 FUEL BIDS

4. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Nelson to accept the fuel bid from Halcomb Oil Company.

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

FY25 SCHOOL REGISTRATION FEES

5. There was a motion by Yates, seconded by Monson to approve the registration fees for FY25.

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

PRESS POLICY QUARTERLY UPDATES

6. There was a motion by Yates, seconded by Wagner to approve the Press Policy Quarterly Updates.

Voice: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

AUDIT FIRM FOR FY24 AUDIT

7. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Lower to approve the audit firm for FY24 from Gorenz and Associates, Ltd.

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

CONSOLIDATED DISTRICT PLAN

8. There was a motion by Lower, seconded by Yates to approve the Consolidated District Plan.

Voice: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

ILLINOIS FUNDS INVESTMENT ACCOUNT

9. There was a motion by Wagner, seconded by Yates to approve the Illinois Funds Investment Account.

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

10. There was a motion by Yates, seconded by Monson, to go into Closed Session after a short recess at 8:00 PM.

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

10.1 Personnel

The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

10.2 Negotiations

Collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).

10.3 Real Property

The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the District, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(e)(5).

OPEN SESSION

11. There was a motion by Yates, seconded by Nelson to come out of closed session at 9:21 PM.
Voice: 7 Ayes 0, Nays. Motion carried.

RE-HIRE MCHS WINTER COACHES

12. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Smock, to approve re-hiring winter coaches as presented.
Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

HIRE MCHS DANCE ADVISOR

13. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Smock, to approve hiring MCHS dance advisor April Plohr.
Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

HIRE JV GIRLS BASKETBALL COACH

14. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Smock, to approve hiring JV girls basketball coach Brian Fearman.
Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

HIRE SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS

15. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Yates, to approve hiring Special Education teachers Ronda Linder and Malorie Matlick.
Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

HIRE APOLLO CUSTODIAN

16. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Yates, to approve hiring Apollo custodian Dana Sandven.
Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

HIRE PRESCHOOL TEACHER

17. here was a motion by Monson, seconded by Yates, to approve hiring preschool teacher Amanda Leng.
Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

HIRE MCHS MATH TEACHER

18. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Smock, to approve hiring MCHS math teacher Mark Frieese.
Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

HIRE SUMMER WORKERS

19. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Smock, to approve summer workers as presented.
Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

NON-UNION WAGES

20. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Smock, to approve the non-union wages as presented.
Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

21. There was a motion by Yates, seconded by Balmer, to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 PM.
Voice: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

OTHER REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: 1. None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: 2. None.

CORRESPONDENCE: 3. Thank you cards were shared from staff for their lunch from the board.

BOARD COMMENTS: 4. Julie Wagner noted that IASB Member School Boards may submit resolutions for consideration until June 26, 2024.

FY25 BREAD MILLK AND FUEL BIDS: 5. Mr. Petrie stated that after further inquiry, his recommendation is to reject the bread bid.

FOIA REQUESTS: 6. There was one request regarding transportation employees and one regarding Apollo and NBE Additions Renovations.

FY24 BUDGET AMENDMENT: 7. Scott Petrie supplied a summary sheet indicating a huge growth in expenditures due to the accelerated pace of the building. More information will be discussed next month.

FFA CHAPTER REPORT: 8. High school student, Aurora Fitchner gave an oral report along with FFA teachers, Hannah Libby and Brandon Livingston stating how important FFA is in our schools.

IASB JOINT ANNUAL CONFERENCE: 9. Julie Wagner noted that registration opens June 1st.

COMMUNITY SURVEY DATA: 10. There were less responses received from the community survey than last year. Bill Smock stated that the data plans to be shared with the upcoming new superintendent.

CONSTRUCTION FINANCING: 11. Scott Petrie expanded on the two scenarios he received from Kings Financial. Further discussion ensued regarding Phases at the high school.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: 12. Mr. Smock stated that the building and grounds committee received an estimate from Bray Architects for a potential storm shelter to be built with the proposed high school construction. However, a storm shelter is not required and Bray Architects estimated the shelter to be an additional \$800,000. Members were in agreement not to proceed with a storm shelter. Mr. Petrie received window estimates for the MCJH building in the amount of \$367,000 which doesn't include the greenhouse windows. He also received a quote for the MCJH sealing in the total amount of \$28,500. More details will be discussed at next month's meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: 13. Written reports were given. Dr. Ibouhouten noted that the NBE students were very well behaved on their recent field trip. Mrs. Cooper stated that a new senate bill may change every teacher's prep period to 45 minutes continuous, uninterrupted classroom planning time per day.

Submitted by:

Recording Secretary

President, Bd. of Education

Secretary, Bd. of Education

Approved: _____