

**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 School District Office*, on **Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 6:00 PM.**

Prior to Roll Call, Pastor Dietmeier opened with a brief prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance led by President Julie Wagner.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Board members present upon roll call:** Balmer, Bowns, Smock, Wagner, and Yates.

A quorum was present. Dillavou arrived at 6:42PM.

**Absent:** Frieden

**Administrators present:** Superintendent Scott Petrie, Principals Day, Sedam, Koresko, Bush and Fleurette

**Also in Attendance:** Pastor Dietmeier, Andrew Hofer, Natalie Nelson, Steve Smith, Mark Bieri, and Secretary Angie Baker

**Reporters:** Cathy Decker

**RECORD OF MOTIONS & VOTES**

	No. 01	No. 02	No. 03	No. 04	No. 05	No. 06	No. 07	No. 08	No. 09	No. 10
<b>Balmer</b>	AYE	NAY	VOICE	AYE	NAY	-	VOICE	AYE	AYE	AYE
<b>Bowns</b>	AYE	AYE		AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE	AYE	AYE
<b>Dillavou</b>	-	ABSTAIN		AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE	AYE	AYE
<b>Frieden</b>	-	-		-	-	-		-	-	-
<b>Smock</b>	AYE	AYE		AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE	AYE	AYE
<b>Wagner</b>	AYE	AYE		AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE	AYE	AYE
<b>Yates</b>	AYE	AYE		AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE	AYE	AYE

	No. 11	No. 12	No. 13	No. 14	No. 15
<b>Balmer</b>	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	VOICE
<b>Bowns</b>	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	
<b>Dillavou</b>	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	
<b>Frieden</b>	-	-	-	-	
<b>Smock</b>	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	
<b>Wagner</b>	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	
<b>Yates</b>	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	

- CONSENT AGENDA
1. There was a motion by Balmer, seconded by Bowns, to approve the following items on the consent agenda as presented.
    - 1.1 Meeting Minutes
      - a. **Regular Meeting Minutes – January 22, 2020**
    - 1.2 Bill List
    - 1.3 Treasurer’s Report
    - 1.4 Financial Report
    - 1.5 BCBS Health Insurance Account StatementRoll Call: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
2. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Bowns, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the MCEA regarding Junior High Athletic Director and Junior High Softball Coach positions as presented. Roll Call: 4 Ayes, 1 Nay. 1 Abstention. Motion carried.
- PUBLIC SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020-2021
3. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Balmer, to approve the Public School Calendar 2020-2021, Option 2, as presented. Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion Carried.
- BUS LEASE
4. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Balmer to accept the proposal from Midwest Transit to lease six new buses and trade four at a total cost of \$157,520. Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- JOHANNES CONTRACT FY21
5. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Dillavou, to accept the FY21 Johannes Bus Contract as presented, with routes to be determined at a later date. Roll Call: 5 Ayes, 1 Nay. Motion carried.
- Balmer left 7:53PM. Returned for Closed Session.
- CLOSED SESSION
6. There was a motion by Dillavou, seconded by Bowns, to go into Closed Session after a short recess for Personnel, Negotiations, Litigation, and Review of Closed Session Minutes discussion at 7:55PM.
    - 6.1 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).*
    - 6.2 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).*
    - 6.3 Litigation  
*Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding must be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)*
    - 6.4 Review of Closed Session Minutes  
*The discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)*Roll Call: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

- OPEN SESSION 7. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Bowns to come out of Closed Session at 9:00PM  
Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion Carried.
- HIRE HS CUSTODIAN 8. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Balmer, to hire Sabine Lafever as a High School Custodian.  
Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- HIRE NBE 3<sup>rd</sup> GRADE TEACHER 9. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Dillavou, to hire Miranda Nimrick as New Boston Elementary 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher for the 2020-2021 school year.  
Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- HIRE JH ASSISTANT TRACK COACH 10. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Dillavou to hire Monte Smith as the Junior High Assistant Track Coach.  
Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- HIRE JH PE TEACHER/ ATHLETIC DIRECTOR 11. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Balmer, to hire Morgan Braucht as Junior High PE Teacher/Junior High Athletic Director for the 2020-2021 school year.  
Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- OTHER PERSONNEL 12. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Wagner, to approve the resignation of 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Apollo Teacher, Chad Robertson, after the 2019-2020 school year.  
Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- MCEEA LABOR AGREEMENT 13. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Yates, to approve the MCEEA 2019-2023 Labor Agreement.  
Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- CLOSED MINUTE 14. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Yates, to keep the closed minutes from August 2019-January 2020 closed.  
Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- ADJOURN 15. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Balmer, to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 PM.  
Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

**OTHER REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS:**

ADDITIONS/ DELETIONS 1. None

PUBLIC COMMENT 2. None

CORRESPONDENCE 3. Thank you cards were received for memorials sent in honor of Bill Fleurette's mother and Stacy Tharp's husband. We also received a thank you card from Ginny Boultinghouse for the plaque given to her in recognition of her 39 years of driving school bus.

SCHOOL NEWS UPDATE 4. Natalie Nelson, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Special Education Teacher, shared a video with the board explaining "Genius Hour" during her English class. One student's passion came to life during this time when he chose to run an animal shelter drive. Posters were hung up around the school. 226 items were collected and donated to the local animal shelter. The Mercer County Animal Control Officer also visited Mrs. Nelson's classroom and spoke to her students.

BOARD COMMENTS 5. Tab Balmer commented that Ginny Boultinghouse was very appreciative of the plaque presented to her for 39 years of driving school bus for the kids of Mercer County.

COMMITTEE REPORTS 6. Mike Bowns went over the minutes of the Finance Committee touching base on the increase of the Health Insurance Account and stating that the General State Aid is coming in on time.

Bill Smock discussed the presentation by Bray Architects that was held prior to the Board Meeting. He mentioned the process involving the community and a survey that would be sent out. Don Yates reminded the board and the principals about the opportunities Brad Long was offering with donation of time on small projects.

Julie Wagner reviewed the minutes from the Policy Committee stating no changes were recommended.

Tab Balmer went over the minutes of the Transportation Committee, touching base on the bus barn options. The district will seek bids for a non-heated 8-12 bus building to be built in Joy. Mr. Petrie discussed the Johannes Contract increasing 4.5% from last year. He also discussed the recommendation to lease 6 new buses from Midwest Transit and trading four of our buses.

MEMORANDUM  
OF UNDERSTANDING  
MCEA

7. A memorandum of understanding between the board and MCEA was discussed, agreeing to the continuance of past practice of paying an extra duty junior high athletic director as well as creating the positions of JH Head Softball Coach and JH Assistant Softball Coach due to the addition of the Junior High Softball Program.

BUS LEASE 8. Mr. Petrie went over the bus lease proposals from Midwest Bus Sales

PROPOSALS

and Midwest Transit Equipment. He discussed the different options requested on a two year lease from both companies. The Transportation Committee recommended accepting the proposal from Midwest Transit to lease six buses for two years and trading in four buses for a total cost of \$157,520.

FOIA REQUESTS

9. We responded to one FOIA request this month from Illinois Retired Teachers Association.

IASB DIVISION MEETING

10. Julie Wagner reminded the board about the March 3rd Black Hawk Division meeting. This meeting will take place at Geneseo High School. Registration begins at 5:30pm with dinner to follow at 6:00pm.

ELA CURRICULUM UPDATE

11. Mr. Bush spoke about the ELA curriculum that is being considered for our district. During our Teacher’s Institute Day on Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>, the teachers met at the Intermediate Building for an online conference with teachers from another school district to discuss the Amplify Curriculum. Feedback was very positive.

CLEAN ENERGY PROPOSAL

12. Steve Smith, Clean Energy Design Company, spoke to the board regarding renewable energy production from solar installations at Mercer County School District. Sample proposals were included in the board packet.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

13. In addition to their written reports, the following was mentioned:  
Mrs. Day mentioned the Walk of Champions held at the High School for the wrestlers heading to Individual State. Hall of Fame is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> during the Boys Basketball Game.

Mr. Bush announced the New Boston Elementary Family Night and Book Fair scheduled for Wed, March 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Fleurette mentioned the resignation of 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher, Chad Robertson. He’s had many applicants for that job position and hopes to have it filled by next month’s board meeting.

Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary

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President, Bd. of Education

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary, Bd. of Education

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_