

Quick Board Summary

February 12,
2018

Board of Education

President
Max McComb

Vice President
Cheryl Melchi

Secretary
Lance Raver

Member
Merle Giles

Member
Nezar Kassem

Member
Lori Larson

Member
Jenny Park

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Lindsey Hall

District Office
1301 S. Bulldog Dr.
Mahomet, IL 61853

mahometseymour.org

Overview

The Regular Board of Education meeting was called to order by President McComb at 7:00 p.m. Max McComb, Lance Raver, Cheryl Melchi, Merle Giles, Jenny Park, Nezar Kassem and Lori Larson were in attendance.

Consent Agenda Items: All minutes, bills, activity funds, personnel changes, surplus items and record management items were approved as presented.

Reports, Updates, Public Participation & Informational Items:

Foundation:

Mrs. Larson shared that there are only ten Bulldog Bash Tickets available for sale. It is Friday, March 9th at the City Center. Scholarship applications will be available March 9th.

PTO: Michelle Grindley, President of the Elementary PTO, shared that the PTO is donating \$11,250 towards new playground equipment at Middletown Prairie. The Board thanked Michelle and the PTO for this generous donation.

Board Communication:

- Member Larson was able to go on the Phase II tour, and is pleased with the progress. CSBO, Trent Nuxoll spoke to her class, and her students were impressed with his knowledge and presentation. Larson also participated in a prom for special needs students. There were Mahomet-Seymour students participating, and volunteering their time for this event.
- Melchi commented that the WYSE Team placed 1st overall. "Congratulations to the team and coaches." Melchi was also able to participate in the Poverty Simulation. She shared that the simulation touched on what some of her family went through when they were struggling.
- Mr. Giles was pleased to see Mr. Lybarger in the paper last week.
- Mr. Raver shared that Channel 3 had a great segment on the Freshmen Mentor Program. Raver said "it sounds like the juniors and seniors are getting as much out of it as the freshmen".
- Dr. Kassem attended Mahomet Madness and commented that it was very well run. Kassem has also learned about the "Interact Club", and is very impressed.
- President McComb is thankful that the District has a Chess team, and was able to host sectionals.

Financial Report: Chief School Business Official, Trent Nuxoll, shared that the State Superintendent said we will receive our tier funding in April, May and June. Park asked when will we know what tier we fall into. Dr. Hall said that it should be soon. She shared that there is a huge

The Board of Education met in regular session at

7:00 pm in the Board Conference Room at

Middletown Prairie Elementary

degree of interdependency on other districts with the new formula. Districts can change tiers and that moves other districts.

Superintendent Report:

- The Interact Club is connected to Rotary. Jeanne Champion works with that program. Dr. Hall is hopeful that students in the Interact Club will be involved in service organizations as adults.
- The Freshman Mentor Program is an amazing program. Dr. Hall and Mr. Cheek have talked about taking it on the road, so other districts can model it.
- The High Chess team went on to IHSA State Tournament – Congratulations!
- Had a tour of Phase II with Sangamon staff. The teachers seemed to be excited about seeing their rooms for the first time.
- Dr. Hall shared that she is thrilled to add Ryan Martin to our team!

Discussion/Action Items:

1. **Approve Contract with Haldeman and Homme to Provide and Install MPE Gymnasium Equipment:** Rick Johnston provided an update on Phase II, and shared that they are on track. He also shared the current design for the playground. Playground equipment will be included on the March Board Meeting Agenda. Haldeman and Homme is the supplier for Gill Sporting Equipment in Champaign, and they have won the bid for gym equipment. Haldeman and Homme will install the basketball goals and touch panel system, volleyball standards/anchors/net/stand and wall padding. This item was approved by the board.
2. **Approve Contract with Broeren Russo to Provide and Install Bleacher System in the MPE Gym:** Mr. Johnston shared that the bid for the bleacher system was given to Broeren Russo. Irwin Bleachers will install the bleachers at Middletown Prairie. This purchase was approved.
3. **Approve the Waiving of Board Policy 6:300 for a High School Student:** Dr. Hall shared that a student that has moved into our District, and they are able to meet all graduations requirements in 6 semesters. The current board policy – 6:300 – states students cannot graduate in less than 7 semesters. This is a unique situation, but the board may want to look at changing this policy in the future. This item was approved by the Board.
4. **Approve Contract with CliftonLarsonAllen for Auditing Services:** Trent Nuxoll recommended

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accepting a one-year proposal for CliftonLarsonAllen to again complete this service for the upcoming audit. Mrs. Park asked if we have looked at other companies to perform this service. Nuxoll said that the district has not. Giles commented that CliftonLarsonAllen has knowledge of the Skyward system, and that is very beneficial. Nuxoll also shared that the audit team is changed every couple of years. The Board unanimously approved.

5. **Approval of Action Based Learning Lab at Middletown Prairie:** Middletown Principal, Wendy Starwalt, and District Physical Therapist, Kathryn Rose shared information on this course. Currently there are three classes that students rotate through: art, PE and music. The learning lab will be a fourth course. Research shows that a combination of physical activity and cognitive learning shows greater cognitive growth. There will be minimal cost in implementing this course, and the District is able to use Title funds to cover any cost. There will not be any addition in staffing, due to the retirement of the current music and motion teacher. The addition of this course was approved.
6. **Approval of Change to Substitute Teacher Protocol:** Dr. Rummel shared that she reviewed what other area districts are paying their substitutes. Mahomet-Seymour currently pays less than most other districts. There is a current substitute shortage across districts. Dr. Rummel proposes to increase the daily fee for substitute teachers from \$90 for regular education classrooms and \$95 in special education classrooms to \$100 across the board. Substitute aide pay will remain at \$95 per day. The other proposed change affects long term substitutes. The daily rate for long term substitutes increases to the first step on the salary schedule on consecutive day 16. If a substitute needs to be absent a day, that rate goes back to \$100. This proposal will allow substitutes to be absent and not start over. They will not receive pay for the missed day, however. This will be handled on a case by case basis. This increase was approved.

Closed session was held for: 1) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 2) The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students. 3) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity.

The meeting adjourned at 9:54 pm.