

**MERIDIAN COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 15
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

December 20, 2021

The Meridian Community Unit School District No. 15 Board of Education held a regular meeting on Monday, December 20, 2021, in the Board Room, Macon Campus. President Monte Hogan called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The following Members were in attendance: Monte Hogan, Adam Herbert, Clint Gorden, Chris Jones, Rebecca Kraft, Kara Morey and Matt Roush. Also in attendance were: Andy Pygott, Superintendent; Mindy McGuire, Middle School Principal; Lori Guebert, Elementary Principal; and Michelle Miller, Recording Secretary.

Meridian Elementary December Students of the Month:

Kindergarten- Wyatt Lovelace, Westyn Easley, Maverick Henderson

1st Grade- Kenzlee Mosley, Levi Metzger, Brooklyn Bardfield, Dixie Major

2nd Grade- Lucas Southerland, Elaina Kater, Harmony Grandon, Annabelle Grandon

3rd Grade- Max Moyer, Hudson Noland, Charlie Patient, Joscelyn Green

4th Grade- JT Hogan, Cayden Mudd, Matthew Nernberger

5th Grade- Kellen McGuire, Cooper Tangney, Cheyenne Mudd

Administrator Reports:

All schools are implementing after-school tutoring for those students in need. ESSER funds make this opportunity available.

The Middle School Drama Club held auditions for the spring play, Moana Jr.

The Toys for Tots drive was a huge success. Over 250 toys were collected for donation.

National Honor Society collected canned foods for the Macon Community Food Basket Program.

The Booster Club purchased a media backdrop to be used for special recognition occasions such as signings and special awards.

Congratulations to Katy Hendricks on signing to play softball at Parkland College.

Superintendent Report:

The District was approved for the School Maintenance Grant, a \$50,000 matching grant that will be used towards the middle school gym roof project.

The District was also awarded a Digital Equity Grant in the amount of \$67,160.00. This grant will be used towards audio/visual equipment for the elementary school.

The installation of a floor drain in the high school gym storage room has been completed.

On a motion by Member Jones, seconded by Member Roush, the consent agenda was approved. This included November 15, 2021 minutes, November financials and December disbursements as follows:

Education	\$152,993.33	Building	\$95,944.50
Transport	\$18,797.80	Tort	\$779.53
TOTAL	\$268,515.16 (does not include payroll)		

Also included are the resignations of the following: Denna Williams as HS Girls Track; Paige Enlow as custodian; Sara Antal as MS/HS RTI Aide; Maggie Comerford as HS Girls Volleyball Asst. Coach; Marsha Baker, MES Cook. Motion carried on a roll call vote 7-0.

The budget analysis was presented.

The tax levy was presented with changes requested by the Board. This will lower the tax rate from the recommended \$4.1198 to \$4.0386 for the 2022 extension.

First Reading of Board Policy Revisions. Mr. Pygott will send a summary in his Friday updates on what changes are reflected in the revisions. The Board discussed a few of the policies and how they apply to our district.

The Buildings and Transportation Committee met on November 30 with Ag Boosters. Members discussed revisions to the existing Ag facility plans to make the project cost efficient. They are hopeful a new bid package will be available late February/early March for Board review.

There was discussion on a facility request from Central Illinois Yankees for use of the baseball field on Sunday afternoons, April-late June. After discussion, it was the consensus to approve the request with the \$150 rental rate. The Board will also request that the pitching mound and base distance remain as is.

Member Jones, seconded by Member Herbert, motioned to adopt the Tax Abatement Resolutions for the 2021 tax year. Motion carried on a roll call vote 7-0.

On a motion by Member Jones, seconded by Member Gorden, the Board adopted the 2021 tax levy. Motion carried with a roll call vote 7-0.

The Board approved the facility use request from Central Illinois Yankees, a 14 & under travel baseball team, with the athletic field rental rate of \$150, on a motion by Member Gorden, seconded by Member Jones. Motion carried with 6 ayes. Member Kraft abstained.

On a motion by Member Jones, seconded by Member Kraft, the Board adjourned to executive session at 7:19 p.m. for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to the employment, appointment, or dismissal of specific employees, or officers, purchase or sale of property, pending legal matters, student discipline and negotiations. Motion carried 7-0.

Member Morey, seconded by Member Roush, motioned to return to open session at 7:32 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Kaylee Booker Smith was approved as a Pre-K special education aide for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year with a motion by Member Morey, seconded by Member Gorden. Motion carried on a roll call vote 7-0.

Member Jones, seconded by Member Roush, motioned to approve Gracie Butler as MDL girls' softball coach for 2022-2023 school year. Motion carried on a roll call vote 7-0.

Member Gorden, seconded by Member Roush, motioned to approve Dalton Collins as HS boys' assistant basketball coach for 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried on a roll call vote 7-0.

Preston Parenti was approved as volunteer coach for HS boys' basketball for 2021-2022 school year with a motion by Member Gorden, seconded by Member Roush. Motion carried on a roll call vote 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m. with a motion by Member Jones, seconded by Member Morey. Motion carried 7-0. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, January 18, 2022, 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room.

Monte Hogan, Board President

Rebecca Kraft, Board Secretary