

**Mahomet-Seymour
COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT NO. 3
Champaign County, Illinois
Meeting of the Board of Education
Regular Meeting**

Held in the Board Conference Room

Date: August 17, 2020

7:00 Regular Board Meeting

1. Call to order

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order by President Max McComb at 7:02 p.m. He welcomed all present to the meeting.

2. Roll Call

Board members physically present for the roll call were Max McComb, Lori Larson, Merle Giles, and Dr. Jeremy Henrichs. Board members Meghan Hennesy, Ken Keefe, and Dr. Colleen Schultz attended remotely. Also physically present were Superintendent, Dr. Lindsey Hall, and Board Recorder, Dawn Quinley.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

President McComb asked those in attendance to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion was made by **Larson**, seconded by **Henrichs**, *to approve the agenda* as presented. The motion was approved by “yes” vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

5. Message from BOE President Max McComb Regarding Working Agreements for the Board of Education

President McComb shared a message about working agreements he developed for the Board. He reviewed the list of Board Meeting Operating Guidelines that were included in the Board Meeting Packet.

6. Consent Agenda Items

President McComb asked the Board if they would like to see any changes to the consent agenda. Personnel Changes, PRESS 103 & PRESS 104 were removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion. Dr. Schultz noted that she believes including PRESS 103 & PRESS 104 on the consent agenda for adoption violates board policy 2:240.

- Minutes for the July 6, 2020 Special Meeting - Open Session
- Minutes for the July 20, 2020 Regular Meeting – Open Session
- Minutes for the July 20, 2020 Regular Meeting – Closed Session
- Bills
- Treasurer’s Report
- Approval to put FY21 Budget on Display

Motion was made by **Giles**, seconded by **Henrichs**, *to approve the consent agenda as modified*. Motion was approved by “yes” vote, 5-2. Members Keefe, Giles, Henrichs, Larson and McComb voted yes. Members Hennesy and Schultz voted no. Motion carried.

Personnel Changes

There was a question about the team leaders included on the list and the additional cost to the District. There was also a question about the addition of a 5th grade teacher. The Board discussed the personnel changes.

Motion was made by **Giles**, seconded by **Larson** to approve the Personnel Changes as presented. The motion was approved by “yes” vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

PRESS 103 & PRESS 104

Dr. Schultz explained that she believes it is a violation of board policy 2:240 to adopt policies at the Board meeting in which they are first introduced. There was discussion about the Board having agreed in the past to adopt PRESS recommended changes. Dr. Hall indicated that she had informed the Board about including the PRESS updates on the consent agenda about three weeks ago and there was no feedback from any Board member about not proceeding with approval as part of the consent agenda.

Motion was made by **Larson**, seconded by **Henrichs** to adopt PRESS 103 & PRESS 104 policies. The motion was approved by “yes” vote, 4-3. Motion carried.

7. Donations

Dr. Lindsey Hall read the donation list:

<u>Name of Donor</u>	<u>Donation To</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Value</u>
Julie Carper	Middletown Prairie	Clear masks and ear savers	\$200.00
Julie Ditmars	Middletown Prairie	Thermometer	\$60.00
Joseph & Marissa Hill	Middletown Prairie	10 Hopper Balls	\$115.00
Lisa Powell	Lincoln Trail	Cash for Give Me 5 Backpack Program	\$75.00
The Buchanan Family	High School	Cash for Volleyball program	\$2,500.00
H Robert Herriott Farm	High School	Cash for FFA Program	\$500.00
Thomas & Janie DeWitt	High School	Cash for Mom’s Pantry	500.00
Total			\$3950.00

Motion was made by **Henrichs**, seconded by **Larson**, to approve the Donation List as presented. Motion was approved by “yes” vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

8. Communications from PTO, MSEA, Foundation, Visitors and Board Commendations

PTO: No report

MSEA: No report

Foundation: No report

Public Participation

<u>Name</u>	<u>Topic</u>
LaShunda Glover	Racial justice committee
Dani Tietz	Anti-racism resolution

Kris Rath	Board Operations
Dennis Kimmee	Anti-racism resolution
Kelsey Jacobs	Racism education
Jed Taylor	Class rank
Michael Taylor	Class rank
Michelle Matthews	Anti-racism resolution
Andrew Singer	Class Rank
Todd & Jaclyn Patrick	Inclusion and social justice committee
Mahomet-Seymour Equity Alliance	Diversity committee
Aaron Rath	In Person vs Remote learning issues
Corrine Moberly	Diversity, inclusion, and equity committee
Rachel Smith-Bolton	Racism, equity, and inclusion in schools
Martin McFarlane	Remote learning during COVID-19

9. Reports, Updates & Informational Board Communication

Mrs. Meghan Hennesy asked if there was a meeting that took place that led to the rules President McComb read at the beginning of the meeting and asked who was in attendance at the meeting. She shared that she was disappointed and felt that guidelines were presented as the Board having a problem, when it seems clear to her that there are meetings going on that not all Board members know about. She suggested adopting Robert’s Rules in its entirety for running meetings,

Mr. Ken Keefe thanked all of the hardworking administrators, teachers, and staff. He does not support cutting off constituents when they work up the courage and the time to publicly speak to the Board. He agrees that there is room for improvement in how Board meetings are run, but he believes the Board should look for ideas that do not stifle the participation of board members and to encourage and respect the free expression of opinions of fellow Board Members.

Mrs. Lori Larson had no report.

Dr. Jeremy Henrichs thanked the teachers and staff for all of the work they are putting in. There will be bumps in the road and he hopes there is patience and grace along the way.

Mr. Merle Giles thanked the staff and teachers, and also thanked everyone who came to speak tonight and emailed. He said we can disagree on specifics, but can’t disagree on the right to have people come to speak to the Board.

Dr. Colleen Schultz echoed thanks for all teachers and administrators. She also agrees with Mrs. Hennesy about using Robert’s Rules of Order as meeting guidelines. She would like this added as a discussion item at a future meeting.

President Max McComb said that there seems to be some thinking that because the Board chose not to pursue the proposed racial justice committee and not adopt the proposed anti-racism resolution at this time that this means nothing is being done. This is not accurate. He reviewed some of the work being done by Dr. Hall and Dr. Rummel, and he said the goal is to build something comprehensive and long lasting.

Financial Update

Heather Smith, Chief School Business Official, gave a financial report to the Board. She explained why revenue is down with regard to sales tax, corporate replacement taxes, and property taxes. Expenses are in line with expectations.

Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Lindsey Hall echoed President McComb’s words about diversity, equity and inclusion. The plan began three years ago and is rooted in a model of addressing social-emotional learning and all aspects of diversity in schools. Staff trainings will occur on September 14 and 21. Town Hall meetings are scheduled for

September 14, 23, and 30 from 5-6:30pm. A district wide committee will be formed after the meetings. Updates from Dr. Rummel will be added to the regular meeting agenda moving forward.

10. Regular Business

10. A. Unfinished Business

10. B. New Business

10.B.1. IGA with the Village of Mahomet for Development of Infrastructure around East Campus & Sale of the Junior High

Dr. Lindsey Hall recognized Village President Sean Widener, Village Administrator Patrick Brown, and Village Planner Kelly Pfeifer who were in attendance to provide input, answer questions, and engage in the discussion of the proposed intergovernmental agreements provided in the Board packet. Dr. Hall gave a brief overview of each proposed intergovernmental agreement.

Village President Sean Widener thanked the Board for having them and expressed his thanks for the amount of work and cooperation that has taken place between the Village and the District. Village Planner Kelly Pfeifer provided some background and perspective for each proposed intergovernmental agreement and advised the Board to think as land owners and developers as the Board approaches each agreement. She shared that the proposed infrastructure IGA enables a roadway and utilities, owned and maintained by the Village, to be extended through District property and relieves the District of its obligation to build the road as required under the current intergovernmental agreement.

She reviewed the proposed agreement between the Village and the District regarding 13 Acres Park and the sale of the Junior High. The Board discussed the agreement and whether another joint meeting between the Village and the District should be held to discuss both proposed agreements in more detail. President McComb explained that the topic is on the agenda tonight so that the Board of Education can discuss it. President Widener said that the Village Board of Trustees will be discussing the proposed agreements at their next meeting which takes place the next night. The Board spent some time discussing whether new appraisals should be obtained for the Junior High and for 13 Acres Park.

The Board asked what timeline the Village envisions for the South Mahomet Road project. Kelly Pfeifer explained that the next step is to petition the ICC to get a hearing with Norfolk-Southern for an at-grade crossing at South Mahomet Road. Right of way is needed to provide the connectivity, and the target for obtaining the right of way from all involved property owners is the end of September. The hope is that the project is completed by the end of next year. The extension from Churchill to Prairieview Road would be slated for the following year. Kelly Pfeifer will request some additional exhibits and timelines for the Board.

The Board spent additional time discussing the price outlined for 13 Acres and the Junior High. President Widener indicated that if there is concern with the price of \$225,000 for 13 Acres Park, the Village would be willing to discuss rewording the agreement so that it is clear that the Village wants both properties to be included in the plans and would pay a price for each. He wants both boards to work together cooperatively and supports separating the two issues. The Board will add discussion for the purpose of setting the price of a piece of property to closed session.

10.B.2. Class Rank

High School Principal, Chad Benedict, gave a presentation on class rank. He shared that last summer, the leadership team began to discuss the topic and came to the conclusion that they need to look at class rank. The proposed plan would begin with current 8th graders, the class of 2025. The plan would eliminate class rank and replace it with highest honors going to the top ten percent and honors to the top eleven through twenty percent. Commencement speakers would submit their desire to speak to a panel for consideration

and this is voted on by a panel of people. There is some evidence that college recruiters indicate that class rank is not used for admissions, but there are scholarships that need the information and this could be tracked on an individual basis. He acknowledged that there have been impacts to class rank for current 9th through 11th graders because of COVID-19 and he would like to get feedback from the leadership team, staff, and students before a decision is made to implement this change with current ninth through eleventh graders. He recommends beginning with the current 8th grade class. There were no questions from the Board. The Board thanked Mr. Benedict for his work.

10.B.3. Policy 6:330

Dr. Colleen Schultz indicated that she has been talking with Mr. Benedict over the past several days and said that they agree that there are some issues to address with class rank with regard to current ninth through eleventh graders.

Motion was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Hennesy**, to postpone the discussion on the policy until the November Board meeting. Dr. Hall asked for clarification about what needs further discussion. Dr. Schultz indicated that she would like additional time to discuss the impacts on current classes with Mr. Benedict, and she would like this additional time before the Board votes on the proposal to eliminate class rank for the Class of 2025 and beyond. Motion was approved by “yes” vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

10.B.4. Memorandum of Understanding

Dr. Lindsey Hall explained that the MOU is needed because the work day looks different because of COVID-19. It will expire on October 1. She indicated and administration will continue meeting with the MSEA. Dr. Hall, Dr. Rummel, Heather Smith, Derek Halfar, Meg Jones, and James Heinold worked together to draft the MOU. It is being brought to the Board for approval.

Motion was made by **Larson**, seconded by **Giles**, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the work day. Motion was approved by “yes” vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

10.B.5. Revised Policy 6:240

Dr. Lindsey Hall said the policy has been changed as previously suggested by the Board.

Motion was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Hennesy**, to approve Policy 6:240 as stated in the board packet with the following changes--replace the first instance of “Administrative Procedure 6:240” with “Policy 6:240 E1” and the second instance of “Administrative Procedure 6:240” with “Policy 6:240 E2” and to label the form following the policy as “Policy 6:240 E1” and the Chaperone Guidelines as “Policy 6:240 E2”. Motion was approved by “yes” vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

10.B.6. COVID-19 Update

The Board asked several questions focusing on cleaning protocols, and the safety and effectiveness of cleaning materials being used by the District. District Nurse, Nita Bachman, and Director of Facilities, Steve Curtis, provided the Board with details regarding the materials being used noting that everything being used is food grade or non-toxic and specifically stated as being safe for use by children. Disinfectants will only be used by custodians.

The Board asked for more information about District PPE supplies and IDPH guidelines. Mrs. Bachman indicated that the District has a small supply of KN95 masks. We do not have N95 masks because they are not readily available right now, have to be fitted to each person, and are cost prohibitive. Face shields are available for anyone who wants one. She said some of the face shields are also being fitted with cloth that will closed off the bottom of the shield. The District is following guidelines and recommendations from

IDPH and CUPHD, and District reopening plans and policies have been reviewed and approved by CUPHD twice.

The Board asked for clarification on the District's mask policy. Mrs. Bachman indicated that all students and staff will be required to wear a mask. Students who are unable to wear a mask will be required to have a doctor's note. On a case by case basis, a shield will be provided to see if this will work, and additional distancing will be implemented. The Board thanked the staff for all the work that has been done.

There was a question about whether or not students who are remote learning will be able to interact with teachers. Director of Technology, Jared Lynn, explained how students will be able to interact with teachers.

11. Closed Session

McComb stated it was necessary to go into Closed Session for the purpose of: *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) 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 shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 3) The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 4) The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body.*

Motion was made by **Giles**, seconded by **Larson**, at 11:00 p.m. to go into closed session for the purposes stated by McComb. The motion was approved by "yes" vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

Motion was made by **Giles**, seconded by **Larson**, at 11:55 p.m., to return to open session. The motion was approved by "yes" vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

12. Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by "yes" vote, 7-0 at 11:56 p.m. Motion carried.

Max McComb, President

Dr. Jeremy Henrichs, Secretary

Submitted by Dawn Quinley, Board Recorder