

**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: October 17, 2022

7:00 Regular Board Meeting

1. Call to order

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order by President Max McComb at 7:03 p.m. He welcomed all present to the meeting.

2. Roll Call

Board members present for the roll call were Max McComb, Meghan Hennesy, Justin Lamb, Sunny McMurry and Dr. Colleen Schultz. Also, physically present were Superintendent, Dr. Kenny Lee, Board Recorder, Jodi McDuffee. Also attending virtually, Attorney Shelli Anderson.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

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

Appointment of Secretary Pro Tem

Motion was made by **Lamb**, seconded by **Henrichs**, to appoint a Secretary Pro Tem due to the absence of Board Secretary Ken Keefe. Motion was approved by “yes” vote 5-0. Motion carried. Member Lamb was appointed Secretary Pro Tem.

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion was made by **Lamb**, seconded by **McMurry**, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

5. Consent Agenda Items

President McComb asked the Board if they would like to see any changes to the consent agenda.

- Minutes
- Bills
- Treasurer’s Report
- Personnel Changes
- Surplus Items
- Out of State and Overnight Trips

Motion was made by **Lamb**, seconded by **McMurry**, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion was approved by “yes” vote 3-2. Members Hennesy and Schultz voted no. Motion carried.

New Teacher Introductions

Christine Northup introduced new employee Alyssa Olson, District BCBA/Behavior Interventionist.

6. Donations

Dr. Lee read the list of donations.

Name of Donor	Description	Donation To	Value
Anonymous	Tuba w/ 2 mouth pieces and extra case	MSJHS Music Department	\$2,800.00
TOTAL			\$2,800.00

Motion was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Hennesy**, to approve the donations as presented. Motion was approved by “yes” vote, 5-0. Motion carried.

7. Communications from PTO, MSEA, Foundation, Commendations, and Visitors

PTO: No report.

MSEA: No report.

MSEF: The MSEF announced that teacher grant applications will open on October 24th and encouraged the teachers to turn in applications, the MSEF is looking forward to helping teachers meet their needs.

Visitors:

Name	Topic
Eric Henrickson	Concern of BOE conflict of interest, real estate taxes.
Mark Thompson	Referendum, curriculum

8. Building Reports, Updates, & Informational Board Communication

Dr. Justin Henrichs Not present.

Ken Keefe Not present.

Justin Lamb No report.

Sunny McMurry Thanked the teachers for all the work and effort they put in to the Parent Teacher Conferences and enjoyed talking with the teachers from elementary through high school.

Dr. Colleen Schultz Shared that she had read in a News Gazette article that she had voted “no” in the October 3rd Special Meeting regarding the MSEA Contract and wants to take the opportunity to be clear as to why she voted “absent” at this meeting. She went on to clarify she did not have reservations about the pay increase, but rather that she didn’t think the contract solved the entirety of the problem the District faces. She also expressed that she had concerns over compensation details and felt uncomfortable with the discrepancy between what the Board was voting on and what the MSEA voted on. She went on to share she felt there were other areas of major concern the District needed to solve, such as lack of bus drivers and teacher retention, that this contract did not address and did not feel the District should lock themselves into a plan without solutions to those major concerns. She further expressed that she felt the Board operates on the premise that some board members are valued and listened too while others are not and that the District functions this way with teachers and staff. She emphasized that if the Board and District continue to operate this way then we can not become the best District we can be. She did clarify that this is not how all members of the District operate. She felt it was important to set the record straight on her misrepresentation and she hopes the Board and District can find real solutions to the problems the District is facing.

Meghan Hennesy Wanted to echo Member Schultz’s comments, specifically the action of truly listening to our community. She hopes that what they heard tonight will turn into action, placing these items, specifically opening comments on You Tube, on the agenda and let the community see and hear the Board discuss these items to see what Board members are truly representing the members of the community.

President McComb Apologized to Colleen for being misrepresented with the News Gazette. He shared that he expressed to the News Gazette that he did not speak on the behalf of the Board or individual Board members and encouraged the journalist to review the Board meeting and come to their own interpretations from that meeting. McComb stated he understands how frustrating that is to misrepresented and apologize again to Member Schultz. He also addressed the comments of “impact fees” and shared that they are off the table due to the governmental structure of the Village of Mahomet.

Financial Update

Chief School Business Official, Heather Smith’s, report was included in the Board Packet. She provided a brief review of the report. No follow up questions were asked.

Director of Student Support Services

Christine Northup’s report was included in the Board Packet. Christine wanted to thank Dr. Kathryn Rhodes for her years of service during October’s Physical Therapy month. She went on to update the Board on the open special education openings throughout the District as requested by Board Member Schultz. Member Schultz followed by asking how the Special Education department is filling the current open roles. Mrs. Northup shared that the support services department is being “patch worked” together but making it work. She went on to describe the brainstorming

efforts that the Administrative team is looking at to help fill this vital need that is not only making an impact at Mahomet-Seymour but throughout the state.

Assistant Superintendent Report

Dr. Nicole Rummel's report was included in the Board Packet. Dr. Rummel wanted publicly congratulate Andrew Robinson, MSHS student, on his perfect score on an Advanced Placement Exam. She also wanted to share that more information regarding the Curriculum Open Houses will be sent out later this week to families.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kenny Lee's report was included in the Board Packet. No follow up questions were asked.

9. Regular Business

9.A. Unfinished Business

9.A.1. Approval of Construction Geometry and Sports Marketing Courses for the SY 23/24 at MSHS

Dr. Rummel was available for any further questions or clarifications on the proposed new courses that have been available for review since first presented to the Board. No follow up questions were asked.

Motion was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Hennesy**, to approve the new courses for the 2023/2024 school year at MSHS as presented. Motion was approved by a "yes" vote of 5-0. Motion carried.

9.B. New Business

9.B.1. SY 23/24 New Courses at MSHS

Department Chairs presented the proposed new courses for the 2023/2024 school year at MSHS. These courses included AP English Language & Composition, Media Literacy & Persuasion, Math 107/108, Dual Credit Physics. Several follow up questions were asked. These courses will be available to review and presented at the November business meeting to take action on.

9.B.2. International Visiting Teaching Program

Dr. Rummel presented the IASB program, International Visiting Teaching Program, to the Board. Several follow up questions were asked.

Motion was made by **McMurry**, seconded by **Hennesy**, to approve the audit as presented. Motion was approved by a "yes" vote of 5-0. Motion carried.

9.B.3. Approval of Audit

Heather Smith introduced Hope Wheeler, Principal Auditor. Ms. Wheeler overviewed the audit process and a brief summary of the findings. Several follow up questions were asked.

Motion was made by **Lamb**, seconded by **McMurry**, to approve the audit as presented. Motion was approved by a "yes" vote of 5-0. Motion carried.

9.B.4. Insurance Renewal

Heather Smith presented the insurance renewal. No follow up questions were asked.

Motion was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Hennesey**, to approve the insurance renewal as presented. Motion was approved by a "yes" vote of 5-0. Motion carried.

9.B.5. Hearing to Deny Future Admission to School Events or Meetings – Kyle Coffin

Dr. Kenny Lee provided a brief history of Kyle Coffin's actions on school property.

Motion was made by **McMurry**, seconded by **Hennesy**, to approve Board President McComb to preside over this hearing. Motion carried.

Member McComb read the hearing, Kyle Coffin was not present at the hearing.

Motion was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Henrichs**, to approve the denial to future school events or meetings for Kyle Coffin. Motion was approved by a “yes” vote of 5-0. Motion carried.

9.B.6. Resolutions for Conference Delegate Assembly

Dr. Lee shared that it was his understanding that the Board typically nominates the Vice President as the Conference Delegate, Dr. Henrichs will not be attending the IASB Annual Conference and thus the Board will need to make a new nomination. Dr. Lee also asked the Board that if they have not reviewed the resolutions already that they were provided in the Board Packet for them to review at their leisure. He suggested that they fill out the form provided in the packet and turn back into him, he can compile those results and share with the nominated delegate.

Member Lamb volunteered to be the Conference Delegate.

Motion was made by **Hennesy**, seconded by **McMurry**, to approve Member Lamb as the Conference Delegate.

Member Schultz moved to amend the original motion to add “in addition in order to avoid impropriety or appearance of impropriety District employees and Board Members will not accept food or beverages from vendors or firms who do business with the District past, present or anticipated future.”

President McComb asked if this would include attending receptions. Member Hennesy felt it would. President McComb shared he felt receptions were an important part of the IASB Conference as it was an opportunity for District employees and Board Members to network. He also shared he felt attending these receptions helps save the District money as food is provided. Member Schultz shared that other local school districts that have adopted similar policies include St. Joseph and Heritage. Member Hennesy commented that she feels it is problematic to go to events where vendors the District does business with provide food and drink and can give the appearance of “pay to play.” She expressed it is important that we remember we spend the tax payer’s money and feels this is an arena that is very difficult to participant in these types of activities and then sign contracts and not appear questionable.

President McComb called for a motion on the amended motion.

Motion was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Hennesy**, to amend the original motion. Motion failed by a "no" vote, 2-3. Members Hennesy and Schultz voted yes, Members Lamb, McComb and McMurry voted no. Motion did not pass.

President McComb called for a vote on the original motion.

Motion was approved by a “yes” vote, 5-0. Motion carried to elect Member Lamb as the Conference Delegate.

9.B.7. Board Policy 5.185 Family and Medical Leave

Dr. Lee presented the proposed changes to Board Policy 5.185 that would reflect the new agreements in the MSEA Contract.

9.B.8. Rental of Space at Sangamon on Main for Technology Department

Heather Smith and Jared Lynn presented the new lease for the office space at Sangamon on Main.

Motion was made by **Lamb**, seconded by **McMurry**, to approve the Rental Space Lease at Sangamon on Main as presented. Motion was approved by a “yes” vote, 5-0. Motion carried.

9.B.9. Goal Setting

Dr. Lee asked the feedback on what the Board members would like to see in a goal getting activity and/or the process of conducting one. Member Hennesy asked if Dr. Lee would be comfortable on facilitating a goal setting session, he expressed he would prefer to participate alongside the Board. He further explained that he would be more than happy to look into further details of facilitators he has worked with before. Member Schultz expressed that in a previous goal setting session that the Board Members brought in a few goals they would like to see the District implement.

The Board then had an open discussion regarding the goals that were brought to the table. Member McMurry expressed that she would like to involve stakeholders and would like to move forward with focus groups involving the community and utilizing facilitators. Member Schultz clarified that she was hoping to set goals for the “short term” but would also like to see a strategic planning process take place as Member McMurry alluded too. Member Hennesy expressed that she felt there were categories within the District that the Board could set goals for or address to set ground work for strategic planning down the line. Member McComb suggested Dr. Lee and the Board gather after the first of the year where Dr. Lee could bring the common themes and priority items he has heard from the community over his first six months at the District and that Board members bring concerns or themes they fill are a priority to discuss.

9.B.10. Phone System Purchase

Jared Lynn asked if there were any follow up questions or concerns regarding the phone system replacement he presented at the October Study Session. No follow up questions were asked.

Motion was made by **Hennesy**, seconded by **Lamb**, to approve the Phone System Replacement as presented. Motion was approved by a “yes” vote, 5-0. Motion carried.

10. Closed Session

McComb stated it was necessary to go into Closed Session for the purpose of: 1) *The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act.* 2) *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.*

Motion was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Hennesy**, at 9:47 p.m. to go into closed session for the purposes stated by McComb.

Motion was made by **Hennesy**, seconded by **Schultz**, at 10:28 p.m. to return to open session.

11. Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, **motion** was made by **Hennesy**, seconded by **Schultz**, at 10:28 p.m. to adjourn. Motion carried.

Max McComb, President

Ken Keefe, Secretary
Submitted by Jodi McDuffee, Board Recorder