

**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 18, 2021

**7:00 Regular Board Meeting**

1. **Call to order**

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order by President Max McComb at 7:01p.m. He welcomed all present to the meeting.

2. **Roll Call**

Board members present for the roll call were Max McComb, Dr. Jeremy Henrichs, Ken Keefe, Justin Lamb, Sunny McMurry, and Dr. Colleen Schultz. Also present were Superintendent, Dr. Lindsey Hall, and Board Recorder, Dawn Quinley. Board member Meghan Hennesy called into the meeting at 7:04p.m. She arrived physically at 7:31p.m.

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 **Henrichs**, seconded by **Lamb**, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

5. **Consent Agenda Items**

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

- Minutes for the September 13, 2021 Budget Hearing – Open Session
- Minutes for the September 13, 2021 Joint Session with Village of Mahomet – Open Session
- Minutes for the September 20, 2021 E-Learning Hearing – Open Session
- Minutes for the September 20, 2021 Regular Meeting – Open Session
- Minutes for the September 20, 2021 Regular Meeting - Closed Session
- Bills as presented
- Treasurer’s Report as presented
- Personnel Changes as presented
- PRESS 107 (without Policy 2:130)
- Surplus items
- Overnight Trip

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

**October is National Principals Month! October 25-29th is Principals Week. October 29th is Principals Day.**

6. **Donations**

Dr. Lindsey Hall read the donation list:

<u>Name of Donor</u>	<u>Donation To</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Value</u>
Grace Church Deacon Fund	High School	Cash for Mom's Pantry	\$500.00
Exelon - Women in Nuclear	Middletown Prairie	Supplies for STEAM experiences	\$1,170.50
Jaclyn Park Memorial Fund	Middletown Prairie	Cash for Tracy Wade's Classroom	\$500.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$2,170.50</b>

**Motion** was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **McMurry**, to approve the donations as presented. Motion was approved by "yes" vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

**7. Communications from PTO, MSEA, Foundation, and Board Commendations**

**PTO:** The Dawg Walk was a great success! MPE and LT had slime parties. Book Fairs are going on at each elementary school this week. The PTO is also planning a pasta dinner for staff during parent-teacher conferences.

**MSEA:** No report

**MSEF:** Justin Lamb gave a report for the Foundation. The Foundation Bash will be on April 8 at Carmen's Event Venue in Champaign from 6-11pm with food, drinks, and auction. Entertainment will be provided by Felix and Fingers Dueling Pianos. The Foundation is looking for sponsors for the event. The annual fundraising campaign will kick off in November. An easy way for people who shop on Amazon to support the foundation is to visit [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com), select the foundation as a favorite charity in account settings. A portion of your purchase will be donated to the Foundation.

**Visitors:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Nicole Frydman	Incidents at MSHS during Spirit Week
Gloria Cherry	Questions for the Board
Mark Thompson	Curriculum

**8. Building Reports, Updates, & Informational Board Communication**

**Ken Keefe** had no report.

**Justin Lamb** had no report.

**Sunny McMurry** thanked the High School Cross Country boys team for coming out to support the Junior High Cross Country team and thanked the community for coming out to meet the state champion junior high cross country team as they returned to Mahomet. She also thanked the teachers who are preparing for parent teacher conferences. She said she sees them, appreciates them, and values them.

**Dr. Colleen Schultz** had no report.

**Dr. Jeremy Henrichs** had no report.

**Meghan Hennesy** had no report.

**President McComb** said it was great to see so many students doing so many great things including the junior high cross country team, the high school marching band, and the football team.

**Financial Update**

Heather Smith, Chief School Business Official, gave a report to the Board. She said that revenue is in line, and she shared the timeline for the tax levy. The plan is to ask the Board for approval to put the proposed levy on display at the November meeting, and hold the tax levy hearing and approve the levy in December. She shared her opinion about 13 Acres saying that because of the \$600,000 in drainage issues, joining with the Village makes sense for the District. We will not need to pay for the drainage issues, and also gain tennis courts that the students can use. The board did not have any follow up questions.

### **Director of Student Support Services Report**

Christine Northrup's report was included in the Board Packet. She had nothing to add and the board did not have any follow up questions.

### **Assistant Superintendent Report**

Dr. Nicole Rummel's report was included in the Board Packet. She had nothing to add and the board did not have any follow up questions.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Lindsey Hall welcomed Jeremy Roark back as Director of Transportation, and wished Nick York well in his future endeavors. She thanked the principals and assistant principals in all buildings: Chad Benedict, Matt Hensley, Patrick Bailey, Marissa Franks, Nathan Mills, Doug Fisher, Megan Hunter, Ted Martin, Ryan Martin, and Dustin Day for the outstanding job they do. She introduced the three co-chairs of Bulldog Blueprint: Jama Groteleuschen, Jennifer Soderlind, and Jim Risley. The co-chairs provided the Board with an update on the Bulldog Blueprint effort.

Dr. Lindsey Hall offered an apology to meeting guests for some of the comments made during the public comment portion. She said the comments crossed the line.

## **9. Regular Business**

### **9. A. Unfinished Business**

### **9. B. New Business**

#### **9.B.1. Policy 2:130**

Dr. Lindsey Hall said her recommendation is to approve the changes as outlined in Press 107. She asked Dr. Schultz to speak to the changes she recommended for Policy 2:130. Dr. Schultz explained why she did not believe the changes proposed by PRESS were needed and recommended that the policy be left as it currently is written. The Board asked several follow up questions. Dr. Hall said that leaving the policy as is was acceptable to her.

**Motion** was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Henrichs**, to keep policy 2:130 as is and not make any changes. The motion was approved by "yes" vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

#### **9.B.2. Workplace Experiences**

Dr. Nicole Rummel and Mahomet-Seymour Principal Chad Benedict gave a presentation to the board about Workplace Experiences and how it relates to college and career readiness. The presentation slides were included in the Board Packet. They propose creation of a 3 credit hour course with students released for up to 4 class periods. This would require an additional CTE staff, use of a district vehicle for job site visits, and books and materials for the new course. The Board asked several follow up questions.

**Motion** was made by **Schlutz**, seconded by **Henrichs**, to approve the new Workplace Experiences course and program as presented. Motion was approved by "yes" vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

#### **9.B.3. Substitute Teacher Pay Increase**

Dr. Nicole Rummel asked the board to approve an increase in substitute teacher pay from \$100/day to \$125/day on the 16th day, the sub would move to \$150/day. Dr. Schultz said she would like to see the pay increased to \$150/day because it will make the District's pay higher than surrounding schools to incentivize people to work for the District. The Board asked several follow up questions including whether or not substitute aide pay should also increase. Dr. Rummel said that the District has to be careful with aide pay because the district cannot pay substitute aides more

than the aides employed full time by the district. Dr. Rummel explained the licensing requirements for substitute aides and substitute teachers. She said the district offered a test preparation class for people interested in taking the paraprofessional test. Seven people attended. The District may be able to offer this again in the spring.

**Motion** was made by **Henrichs**, seconded by **Hennesy**, to approve the new pay for substitute teachers effective November 1, 2021 as presented. **Motion** was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Henrichs**, to amend the motion to increase the substitute teacher pay to \$150/day, with no increase on the 16th day. Motion was approved by “yes” vote, 7-0. Motion carried. President McComb called for a vote on the amended motion. Motion was approved by “yes” vote 7-0. Motion carried.

#### **9.B.4. MOU with MSEA: Increasing Sub Pay Internal Coverage**

Dr. Nicole Rummel said that because of the substitute shortage, teachers are covering additional classes. After discussion with the MSEA, she asked the Board to approve an increase from \$20 to \$30/occurrence for full class periods, and an increase from \$15 to \$20/occurrence for partial periods of 25 minutes or less. The Board asked several follow up questions including a request for Dr. Rummel to provide the Board with statistics of occurrences of internal coverage.

**Motion** was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Henrichs**, to approve the MOU with the MSEA for increased pay for internal substitutes effective November 1, 2021.

#### **9.B.5. Request for New School Psychologist**

Dr. Lindsey Hall was asked how the District would pay for a new school psychologist. She said that there are funds available from unfilled positions along with the possibility of using ESSER funds.

**Motion** was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Hennesy**, to approve the addition of a school psychologist. Motion was approved by “yes” vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

#### **9.B.6. Chromebook Purchase**

Jared Lynn said the District has an opportunity to purchase 296 chromebooks with Emergency Connectivity Funds (ECF). He would like to replace chromebooks that are at the end of their life. The Federal government is fully funding the purchase so there is no cost to the district. The district will place the order and reimbursement will be received in 5-6 weeks.

**Motion** was made by **Hennesy**, seconded by **Keefe**, to approve the purchase of 296 chromebooks through the ECF. Motion was approved by “yes” vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

#### **9.B.7. MOU with University of Illinois**

Dr. Nicole Rummel explained that the Illinois State Board of Education requires all university principal and superintendent preparation programs to partner with a school district. Dr. Rachel Roegman, program coordinator for the program at the University of Illinois, is requesting that Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3 serve the role of partner district. The district’s role, as outlined in the MOU, is to provide input on the principal and superintendent preparation programs. Dr. Rummel said it is a great opportunity for the District to provide input on what we would like to see in future principals and superintendents. The Board asked several follow up questions including what the time commitment would be. Dr. Hall said that it would be helpful to the District to be able to provide input for the future of the profession, and also provide a link to future candidates for the District. There was a request for more information before making a decision.

**Motion** was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Henrichs**, to table the item until next month. Motion was approved by “yes” vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

### **9.B.8. Resolution/Transfer of District Property to Village of Mahomet**

Dr. Lindsey Hall asked the Board to approve the transfer of property. The documents to be approved were included in the Board Packet.

**Motion** was made by **Henrichs**, seconded by **Lamb**, to approve the attached Resolution/Transfer of Property to the Village of Mahomet as outlined in the attached Resolution and Agreement.

Member Hennesy expressed her disagreement with the proposal. The Board discussed the transfer of property and asked several follow up questions including whether there is a commitment from the Village that what they say will happen with the property will actually happen. President McComb said that Attorney Brian Crowley has tried to address this by adding some language and the Village has also indicated publicly what they plan to do. The Board asked several follow up questions. Village President Sean Widener answered several questions related to the timing of the grant money and building of the tennis courts and he said the Village intends to build the tennis courts in 2022. Mr. Widener was asked if the Village would be open to a clause that would provide that the land would come back to the District if the tennis courts were not built within a set period of time. Mr. Widener said he thought the Village would be open to that, and stressed that the intent is to build tennis courts as they have stated publicly and he hopes to be playing tennis there in 2022.

**Motion** was made by **Hennesy**, seconded by **Schultz** to table the item and ask lawyers to rewrite documents that include the clause and bring it back next month. President McComb asked Attorney Shelli Anderson if the Board wants a three year clause, do they need to table it, or could they approve the agreement subject to the addition of the clause. She said that she preferred to get Brian Crowley's input, and recommended that the Board discuss it in closed session now. Member Schultz questioned whether the Board could go into closed session or not for this reason. She was under the impression that only the setting of a price was a reason to go into closed session. Attorney Anderson said that the Board could go into closed session.

### **Closed Session**

McComb stated it was necessary to go into Closed Session for the purpose of: *1) The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body.*

**Motion** was made by **Lamb**, seconded by **McMurry**, at 9:23p.m. to go into closed session for the purpose stated by McComb. The motion was approved by "yes" vote, 5-2. Members Hennesy and Schultz voted no. Motion carried.

**Motion** was made by **Keefe**, seconded by **Henrichs**, at 9:57p.m. to return to open session. The motion was approved by "yes" vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

### **Return to Open Session**

After returning to open session, President McComb called for a vote on the motions made before the Board went into closed session.

**Motion** made by **Hennesy**, seconded by **Schultz**, to table the item and ask lawyers to rewrite documents that include the clause and bring it back next month. Motion was not approved by a vote of 2-5. Members McMurry, Henrichs, Lamb, Keefe, and McComb voted no. Motion defeated.

**Motion** was made by **Keefe**, seconded by **McMurry**, to amend the original motion to transfer 13 Acres and Middletown Park to the Village of Mahomet to read "I move the Board of Education approve the resolution approving intergovernmental agreements for the transfer of certain school district property and a facility use agreement related to the property and additional village and school district property subject to a clause being added to the agreement requiring the village to revert the transferred property back to the school district if the

village does not complete tennis courts on the transferred property by December 1, 2024, unless an extension has been agreed upon by the parties such provision to be approved by the school district attorney and superintendent.”

Verbatim comments as requested by Member Hennesy: “Um, I am against these agreements. I will be voting no because in my opinion there is no way to look at this other than a tax increase to the community, uh, by getting rid of assets that have value, uh, for no monetary, uh, compensation. Uh, I don’t believe that these two pieces of land need to be tied together and yet for some reason there’s no way to negotiate this without tying it together and I’m having a hard time understanding how this is in the best interest of the School District. I certainly understand that the Village, uh, this is in the best interest of the Village, but as a school board member, I cannot vote for this because I do not believe it is in the best interest of the school district.”

Member Schultz also said that she agreed with Hennesy. She added that section 2 is not true, and because of her integrity, she cannot vote for something that is not true.

Motion to amend the original motion was approved by “yes” vote, 5-2. Members Hennesy and Schultz voted no. Motion carried. President McComb called for a vote on the original motion. Motion was approved by “yes” vote, 5-2. Members Schultz and Hennesy voted no. Motion carried.

#### **9.B.9. IGA with the Village of Mahomet**

President McComb said this updates the agreement with the Village of Mahomet to reflect the update in ownership.

**Motion** was made by **Henrichs**, seconded by Lamb, to approve the IGA with the Village of Mahomet for the Maintenance and Use of Recreational Facilities as outlined in the attached agreement. Motion was approved by “yes” vote 5-2. Members Hennesy and Schultz voted no. Motion carried.

#### **9.B.10. Drainage Solution**

Dr Lindsey Hall asked the Board to approve the plan to reimburse Darin Peters as presented in the Board packet. Member Keefe asked to split the item into 2 motions.

**Motion** was made by **Keefe**, seconded by **Hennesy**, to approve reimbursement of \$16,000 for the storm drain pieces. Motion was approved by “yes” vote, 5-2. Members Hennesy and Schultz voted no. Motion carried.

**Motion** was made by **McComb**, seconded by **Lamb**, to approve the reimbursement of \$10,000 for dredging. The Board discussed the motion and whether or not the POA should handle the dredging. Motion was approved by “yes” vote, 4-3. Members Schultz, Keefe, and Hennesy voted no. Motion carried.

#### **9.B.11. Policy 7:15 and 9.B.12. Policy 6:210 – Exhibit 1**

**Motion** was made by **Henrichs**, seconded by **Hennesy** to table items 9.B.11. and 9.B.12. to November 1, 2021. Motion was approved by “yes” vote 6-1. Member Schultz voted no. Motion carried.

#### **9.B.13. Reimbursement of Legal Fees for Dr. Jeremy Henrichs**

Dr. Jeremy Henrichs left the meeting. He was not present for discussion or voting. Member McMurry read a statement: “On the morning of August 21, I was approached by Dr. Schultz to review a statement regarding the charges filed against Dr. Henrichs. This statement had been crafted by Dr. Schultz in partnership with Mrs. Hennesy. At the time I reviewed the statement, I was in complete agreement with what these two ladies had drafted. I told Dr. Schultz I had nothing to add and felt it was well written and thanked her for composing it. However, I can no longer fully support the previously released statement in its entirety. While Dr. Henrichs has my full and complete support, I have concerns with the sentence that reads: “We are also aware that within hours of the news breaking, some of our board members were accused of being the individuals who reported Dr.

Henrichs - these accusations are untrue.” Due to some recent confidential developments involving one of my children and some personal experiences I have had, I am worried that this line communicates a sense of unity and a level of trust that is nonexistent on this board. I would also like the record to reflect that the statement drafted by Schultz and Hennessy includes a specific line that reads that board members should be allowed to participate as a board member “without the threat of coercion or the fear of duress or retaliation.” Because of this statement, I feel comfortable sharing this concern with the board.

Therefore, while I am in full support of Dr. Henrichs and the rest of the statement, I would like the record to please reflect that I no longer support the full statement we released to the press. While we cannot go back in time to edit the statement or pull it from publication, I feel it is important to note my objection as we move forward as a board.”

**Motion** was made by **McComb**, seconded by **Hennessy**, to reimburse Dr. Henrichs for expenses incurred in his official and elected role as a member of the Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3 Board of Education. Motion was approved by “yes” vote, 6-0. Motion carried.

#### **9.B.14. COVID-19 Update**

Dr. Lindsey Hall said she did not have anything to discuss, but that she knew there was a desire to discuss contact tracing. Dr. Helnrichs said he thinks the District should be more in the education business than in the health care business and contact tracing and quarantining should be turned back over to the county health department. Dr. Hall read the current guidelines from IDPH about contact tracing. The Board, Dr. Hall, and District Nurse Nita Bachman, discussed the guidelines and the staff needed to conduct contact tracing and testing. Dr. Henrichs asked that contact tracing and quarantining be included on the next agenda as an action item. Dr. Hall said that the test to stay program is keeping kids in school. If we don’t test them, they will have to go somewhere else, and they won’t be in school while they wait for the results. Members Hennessy and Schultz said they agreed with Dr. Henrichs and would like the item included on the next agenda as an action item.

#### **10. Closed Session**

Dr. Colleen Schultz asked President McComb to add 1,8,9,10,11 to the reasons for 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.* 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.* 3) *Security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property.* 4) *Student disciplinary cases.* 5) *The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students.* 6) *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.*

**Motion** was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Keefe**, at 10:46p.m. to go into closed session for the purpose stated by McComb. The motion was approved by “yes” vote, 5-2. Members McMurry and McComb voted no. Motion carried.

**Motion** was made by **Keefe**, seconded by **Lamb**, at 11:07p.m. to return to open session. The motion was

approved by “yes” vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

**11. Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Board, **motion** was made by **Lamb**, seconded by **Henrichs**, to adjourn. The motion passed by “yes” vote, 7-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:08p.m.

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Max McComb, President

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Ken Keefe, Secretary

Submitted by Dawn Quinley, Board Recorder