

**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: November 21, 2022

**7:00 Regular Board Meeting**

**1. Call to order**

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order by President Max McComb at 7:00 p.m. He welcomed all present to the meeting.

**2. Roll Call**

Board members present for the roll call were Max McComb, Meghan Hennesy, Dr. Jeremy Henrichs, Justin Lamb, Ken Keefe, 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.

**4. Approval of Agenda**

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

**Motion** was made by **McMurry** to amend the agenda to add Illinois School Code, seconded by **Lamb**. Motion was approved by a “yes” vote 7-0. Motion carried.

Motion was made by **Hennesy** to amend the agenda to add Open Comments on You Tube, seconded by **Schultz**. Motion was approved by a “yes” vote 5-2. Members McMurry and McComb voted no. Motion carried.

The motion to approve the agenda, as amended, 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
- ATLAS Activity Account
- ISU CTE Department Requested Research
- Dual Credit Course with University of St. Francis

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

Motion was approved by “yes” vote 5-2. Members Hennesy and Schultz voted no. Motion carried.

**6. Donations**

Dr. Lee read the list of donations.

<b>Name of Donor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Donation To</b>	<b>Value</b>
Cindy Brumfield	MSHS	Mom's Pantry	\$500.00
Ron & Margaret White	MSHS	Mom's Pantry	\$500.00
Julie Labhart	MSHS	Mom's Pantry	\$1,000.00

M-S Drama Boosters	MSHS	Theatre - Lighting Equipment	\$2,000.00
Ellis & Danielle Evans	MSHS	Music Department - Percussion	\$500.00
All Things Kids Inc	MSHS	Boys Soccer Cash Bash Calendar	\$500.00
Korbin & Marla Beyer	MSHS	Boys Soccer Cash Bash Calendar	\$500.00
Lawrence & Rachel Bolton	MSHS	Boys Soccer Cash Bash Calendar	\$500.00
Ralph Dady	MSHS	Boys Soccer Cash Bash Calendar	\$620.00
Charlotte & Thomas Grim	MSHS	Boys Soccer Cash Bash Calendar	\$620.00
Charles & Rebecca Hawley	MSHS	Boys Soccer Cash Bash Calendar	\$500.00
Reagan Properties, LLC	MSHS	Boys Soccer Cash Bash Calendar	\$500.00
Janto Tjahjadi	MSHS	Boys Soccer Cash Bash Calendar	\$620.00
Sunset Landscaping & Trees Inc.	MSHS	Wrestling Team Activity Sponsor	\$500.00
Imperial Pools Inc.	MSHS	Wrestling Team Activity Sponsor	\$5,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$14,360.00</b>

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

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

**PTO:** Dawg Walk celebrations have wrapped up and Fall Book Fairs went well. The PTO is looking forward to more family engagement activities early in the New Year.

**MSEA:** No report.

**MSEF:** A reminder that teacher grant applications are due and they look forward to awarded as many grants as they can.

**Visitors:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Doug Higgins	Referendum
Erick Henricksen	Referendum
Mark Thompson	Curriculum

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

**Ken Keefe** Wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**Meghan Hennesy** No report.

**Dr. Colleen Schultz** No report.

**Justin Lamb** No report.

**Sunny McMurry** Expressed her gratitude and thanks to Dr. Jeremy Roark on how hard he works on getting kids to school and how hard he works to problem solve. She also encouraged that anyone that is interested in running for school board to do so.

**Dr. Justin Henrichs** Wishes everyone safe travels for the upcoming holiday and hopes everyone is able to take time to disconnect and enjoy time with their family.

**President McComb** Clarified that the Board has not voted to implement the new sexual education curriculum from the State of Illinois. Also, CRT has not been implemented in the curriculum. If anyone feels that it is and has examples to please reach out to the Board. He also wishes everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.

### **Financial Update**

Chief School Business Official, Heather Smith's, report was included in the Board Packet. She provided a brief review of the report. She also shared that the District has reached "Financial Recognition" status level. No follow up questions were asked.

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

Christine Northrup's report was included in the Board Packet. Expressed her thanks the three-chool psychologist at the District and all that they do for the students. Member Schultz asked if there has been any progress on hiring more staff. Mrs. Northrup shared that they were able to hire a few more staff to fill some needs.

### **Assistant Superintendent Report**

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

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Kenny Lee's report was included in the Board Packet. In honor of Board Member appreciation day, he expressed his gratitude to the Board Members for their time and dedication to the students, staff and community on behalf of the District. No follow up questions were asked from the report.

## **9. Regular Business**

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

#### **9.A.1. Approval of AP Language, Media Literacy & Persuasion, MAT 107/108 and PHY 120/209 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.

**Motion** was made by **Keefe**, seconded by **Lamb**, to approve the new courses for the 2023/2024 school year at MSHS as presented.

**Motion** was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Hennesy**, to amend the motion to remove speech as a graduation requirement effective immediately.

Dr. Nicole Rummel shared that the practice is implement curriculum changes with the incoming freshmen class.

Member McMurry asked if Member Schultz could expound upon why she is suggesting this motion. Member Schultz shared that last year the English Department opposed removing this requirement last year even though it is no longer a state requirement. However, after hearing from the Department Chair that it is being incorporated into other English classes and that some students are being impending by this requirement she feels it is reasonable thing to remove this requirement if English graduation requirements are being met in other ways now and the state law no longer requires it.

Member McMurry agreed with Member Schultz's points however, her hesitation is that there are high school students now who have taken speech already that might not have wanted to do so and feels that it is appropriate to start this requirement with an incoming freshmen group to keep things equitable among the classes.

Member Hennesey feels that the recommendation is set for an arbitrary timeline and does not see why it could not be implemented immediately. Dr. Rummel shared that incoming freshmen typically map out their four year plan the spring semester prior to high school, it is not typical for a student to face requirement changes to then have to "re-map" their high school four-year plan. Dr. Lee reiterated that Dr. Rummel, the English Department, and the DIRT team overviewed these new courses with the acknowledgement that the changes to the speech requirement would be effective with the incoming freshmen class.

Member McMurry asked a Dr. Rummel the effects of course planning if this amendment is immediate. Dr. Rummel felt there could be a disruption in scheduling for both students and staff brining on a curriculum change mid-year.

**Motion** was made by **Henrichs** to table the amendment to remove speech as a graduation requirement, seconded by **Hennesy**. Motion was approved by a "yes" vote of 4-3. Members Keefe, McMurry and Schultz voted no. Motion carried.

**Motion** was made by **Henrichs** to table the speech graduation requirement discussion to the December meeting, seconded by **Schultz**. Motion was approved by a “yes” vote of 7-0. Motion carried.

After the conclusion of the discussion, the vote for the amended motion took place.

Motion was approved by a “yes” vote of 7-0. Motion carried.

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

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

Department Chair Andy Seo presented the proposed AP Statistics course for the 2023/2024 school year at MSHS. Dr. Rummel presented the proposed Dual Credit Political Science 122 and 124 for the 2023/2024 school year at MSHS. No follow up questions were asked.

### **9.B.1B. Illinois School Code**

Member McMurry asked for clarification on school board member residency as it relates to the Illinois School Code.

### **9.B.1C. Open comments on YouTube**

Member Hennesy shared her official request to add this to the December meeting for official action.

Member Henrichs asked Attorney Anderson if the comments would become part of the public record and liabilities of opening comments for the District. She shared that she would prefer to talk offline regarding her legal outlook on this topic.

Dr. Lee expressed that he, his staff and the Board are all available by phone, email and personal meetings for those in the community that would like to discuss any issues or concerns.

### **9.B.2. Resolution Concerning Review of Hazardous Conditions**

Dr. Jeremy Roark, Director of Transportation, reported that there are no changes to the list of hazardous conditions this year. Follow up questions were asked.

**Motion** was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Keefe**, to approve the audit as presented. Motion was approved by a “yes” vote of 7-0. Motion carried.

### **9.B.3. Dental Insurance Renewal**

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

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

### **9.B.4. Display of Estimated 2022 Tax Levy**

Heather Smith presented estimated 2022 Tax Levy for display. Discussion followed regarding the balloon rate with agreement to raise the current rate listed to 15%.

**Motion** was made by **Keefe**, seconded by **Lamb**, to approve the insurance renewal as presented. Motion was approved by a “yes” vote of 7-0. Motion carried.

### **9.B.5. Stipulated Agreement Regarding Assessment of Real Estate**

Heather Smith reviewed the stipulated agreement with Bridle Brook.

**Motion** was made by **Lamb**, seconded by **Henrichs**, to approve the Phone System Replacement as presented. Motion was approved by a “yes” vote, 6-0. Member Schultz voted present. Motion carried.

### **9.B.6. Six Semester Graduate**

Dr. Lee presented the background on a candidate for six-semester graduate.

**Motion** was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Hennesy**, to approve the Six Semester Graduate as presented. Motion was approved by a “yes” vote, 6-0. Member Henrichs abstained. Motion carried.

Member Schultz feels it would be appropriate to review Board Policy 6:300 in regards to Board Approval needed for early graduates. Dr. Lee stated he would bring a first reading for the proposed Policy 6:300 to the December regular meeting.

#### **9.B.7. Revision of Policy 5:185**

Dr. Lee presented the proposed changes to Board Policy 5:185 to reflect the newest language of the MSEA Contract.

**Motion** was made by **McMurry**, seconded by **Lamb**, to approve the Phone System Replacement as presented. Motion was approved by a “yes” vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

#### **9.B.8. PRESS 110 Updates**

Dr. Lee presented the first reading of the PRESS 110 proposed updates. No discussion followed.

#### **9.B.9. Spring Referendum 2023**

President McComb noted that Member Keefe and Member Schultz requested this agenda item.

Member Keefe wanted to open discussion on placing a referendum question on the April 2023 ballot. Discussion followed on filing deadlines to be placed on this ballot.

**Motion** was made by **Keefe**, seconded by **Hennesy**, to place a referendum question, that the Board agrees upon, on the April 2023 ballot. Motion did not pass by a “no” vote, 3-4. Members Hennesy, Keefe, and Schultz voted yes.

Member McMurry felt positive that the referendum in November was going to pass and that it did not she would like to pause and open channels to gather appropriate data for what the community would like to see on a referendum.

Member McComb shared he felt the most positive outcome, for him, would be if the Board was able to do a reset and communicate with the community on a plan that they can get on board with.

Member Lamb noted that there are so many community members who are looking at numerous building options that makes it hard to narrow down what they will support.

Member Keefe expressed that he felt it the Board could offer a proposed referendum option while running community and stakeholder discussions parallel to get feedback on what voters are looking for and why they voted the way they did in the previous referendum elections.

Member Schultz shared that space is needed now and that something needs to be done for the students now and not wait any longer. She suggested that if a referendum does not go on the ballot that then options of using sales tax revenue to build additions at Lincoln Trail and the Junior High.

After discussion closed, the motion went to a vote.

Motion did not pass by a “no” vote, 3-4. Members Hennesy, Keefe, and Schultz voted yes.

#### **9.B.10. Contractual Salary Adjustments**

Dr. Lee presented the Contractual Salary Adjustments at 1.6% for the qualifying non-bargaining District employees. The Board went into Closed Session to discuss the contractual salary adjustments.

### **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.*

**Motion** was made by **Keefe**, seconded by **Henrichs**, at 9:26 p.m. to go into closed session for the purposes stated by McComb.

**Motion** was made by **Keefe**, seconded by **Henrichs**, at 10:32 p.m. to return to open session.

#### **9.B.10. Contractual Salary Adjustments**

The Board came out of closed session to vote on the proposed contractual salary adjustments. Member McComb read the staff and administrators names and corresponding salary adjustment.

**Motion** was made by **Lamb**, seconded by **Henrichs**, to approve the audit as presented. Motion was approved by a “yes” vote of 5-0. Members Hennesy and Schultz voted present. Motion carried.

Both Members Hennesy and Schultz expressed their vote was based on the process of the salary adjustments, not providing the actual adjustments to the administrators and staff.

#### **11. Closed Session**

McComb stated it was necessary to go into Closed Session for the purpose of: *3) The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students.*

**Motion** was made by **Henrichs**, seconded by **McMurry**, at 10:41 p.m. to go into closed session for the purposes stated by McComb.

**Motion** was made by **Henrichs**, seconded by **Keefe**, at 10:58 p.m. to return to open session.

#### **11. Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Board, **motion** was made by **Keefe**, seconded by **Lamb**, at 10:58 p.m. to adjourn. Motion carried.

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Max McComb, President

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Ken Keefe, Secretary

Submitted by Jodi McDuffee, Board Recorder