

**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: December 19, 2022

**6:30 Tax Levy Hearing**

**1. Call to Order**

The Tax Levy Hearing was called to order by President Max McComb at 6:36 p.m. President McComb shared with the public that as of that afternoon two of the Board Members, Dr. Jeremy Henrichs and Ken Keefe, have vacant seats on the Board due to residency. The Board still needs to reach a quorum of five before they can host a meeting and will wait until 7:00 p.m. in hopes to reach that quorum. McComb signed off 6:40 p.m.

The Tax Levy Hearing was called to order by President Max McComb at 6:58 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 present were Superintendent, Dr. Kenny Lee, and Board Recorder, Jodi McDuffee. Attorney Shelli Anderson attended virtually.

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

**5. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**6. Tax Levy Hearing**

Chief Business Official, Heather Smith, shared that the estimate for the EAV is estimated to increase 8.11%, which requires a hearing since the percentage is over 5.00%. Ms. Smith clarified questions and the tax levy process from the public after her tax levy presentation.

**7. Adjournment**

**Motion** was made by **McMurry**, seconded by **Lamb**, to adjourn the Tax Levy Hearing. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

**7:00 Regular Board Meeting**

**1. Call to order**

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order by President Max McComb at 7:11 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 and 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**

President McComb asked that the 2022 Tax Levy be moved to action prior to the Consent agenda.

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

**2022 Tax Levy**

**Motion** was made by **Lamb**, seconded by **McMurry**, to approve the 2022 Tax Levy as presented. Motion was approved by a “yes” vote of 5-0. 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
- Out of State and Overnight Trips
- NIU Summer STEAM Agreement
- Closed Session Minutes

**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.

**6. Donations**

Dr. Lee read the list of donations.

<b>Name of Donor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Donation To</b>	<b>Value</b>
Anonymous	MSHS	Mom’s Pantry	\$2,000.00
Nicholas & Lori Brian	MSHS Dance Team	Competition Sponsor	\$1,000.00
Grace Church	MSHS	Social Work Fund	\$1,000.00
Michael Lehmann	MSHS	Girls Basketball Team	\$500.00
Mary-Jean Sattazahn	MSHS	Mom's Pantry	\$500.00
Tatman’s	MSHS	Coaches vs. Cancer T-Shirts – Girls Basketball	\$500.00
Josand Brokerage, Inc	MSHS	Wrestling Team	\$500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$6,000.00</b>

**Motion** was made by **Hennesy**, seconded by **Schultz**, 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:** The PTO was happy to provide a Hot Chocolate Bar for staff at MPE and LT. They are looking forward to fun family nights coming up in January including a Glow Bingo night at LT, a movie night at MPE and a STEM night at MPE after the successful night being hosted at LT in conjunction with University of Illinois School of Engineering.

**MSEA:** No report.

**MSEF:** The Foundation was able to fund twenty-two of the teacher grants that were submitted that totaled nearly \$25,000 grant award money, expressed thanks to all the supporters of the Foundation and those who donated to make these grant awards possible.

**Visitors:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Eric	Open comments on YouTube
Mark Thompson	Open comment on YouTube

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

**Meghan Hennesy** Expressed that she wished the Board cared as much about the students, bullying and the environment they learn in as they do about Board Member residency. She implores the Board to make real change by having the tough discussions and make real change for the students. She extends Holiday wishes to everyone.

**Dr. Colleen Schultz** Echoed Meghan's thoughts and wished the Board's focus could be on the students. She also extended Happy Holidays to everyone.

**Justin Lamb** Shared that he is serving on the Board to help the students, teachers and administrators as best as he can. He will always try to do his best to serve the District and is looking forward to being a Bulldog Mentor at the start of the new semester. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and hope that they don't let the distractions that can be around us get in the way of the real reason for the season.

**Sunny McMurry** Expressed her appreciation for Justin Lamb stepping up to being a mentor as strong adult role models are essential to being step one in stopping a bullying environment. She also expressed her thanks and gratitude for those Board Candidates that filed to run in the April election as it is not an easy seat to sit in. She also expressed thanks to the social workers and teachers for all the work they do for those students that may not have a bright holiday break to look forward too. She also extended "good luck" to the students during finals week and wishes everyone a Merry Christmas.

**President McComb** Shared sincerely that mistakes happen and that was the case with the residency with Dr. Henrichs and appreciated his understanding. He also shared that those who claim he is only on the Board for financial gain do not know him. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

### **Financial Update**

Chief School Business Official, Heather Smith's, report was included in the Board Packet. She provided a brief review of the report.

A discussion regarding the food service company, Arbor Management, followed her board report. Ms. Smith shared that she is preparing for next steps should Arbor decided to step out of their contract since she denied a contract raise request from the company. Board members asked several follow up questions and comments regarding contract end date, food quality and disappointment in their service.

A conclusion was made to give Arbor Management their 60-day notice and start on an emergency food service contract to complete the 2022-2023 school year.

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

Christine Northrup's report was included in the Board Packet.

Member Schultz asked what has been done to help the students mentioned in the report that are McKinley-Vento eligible. Mrs. Northrup shared that Suzanne Dill, the District Family Engagement Specialist, is working with these families to see what services can be provided for them. Member Schultz asked in what ways the community could help, Mrs. Northrup shared that monetary donations could be made to the Social Work Fund as well as clothing or other physical donations to Mom's Pantry at the High School.

### **Assistant Superintendent Report**

Dr. Nicole Rummel's report was included in the Board Packet. She provided a brief review of the report. Follow up questions were asked regarding the peer tutors and facilitator that will be assisting with the new Illinois Virtual School and Academy Spanish class addition to start the new semester at MSHS.

### **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 Political Science Dual Credit 122/124 and AP Statistics Courses for 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.A.2. Graduation Requirement - Speech**

Dr. Rummel was available for any further questions and discussion regarding the speech graduation requirement.

**Motion** was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Hennesy**, to approve that the speech graduation requirement be dropped effective immediately.

Discussion followed regarding the hesitation to implement this motion immediately and the effects it would have on straying from guidelines that are typically followed, scheduling conflicts that would arise due to the immediate action, and the students that this requirement effects.

Motion failed by a “no” vote of 2-3. Members Hennesy and Schultz voted “yes” Motion failed.

**Motion** was made by **Lamb**, seconded by **McMurry**, to approve the original recommendation to drop speech graduation requirement for incoming 2023-2024 freshmen.

Member McMurry asked if Mr. Benedict and Dr. Lee felt it was possible to institute this requirement starting at the beginning of the next school year. Dr. Lee, Dr. Rummel and Mr. Benedict all agreed that they were comfortable with making that adjustment.

Motion was made by **Hennesy**, amended the motion to drop the speech graduation requirement starting the 2023-2024 school year, seconded by **Schultz**. Motion was approved by a “yes” vote of 5-0. Motion carried.

Amended motion was approved by a “yes” vote of 5-0. Motion carried.

### **9.A.3. PRESS 110 Updates – Second Reading**

Dr. Lee opened discussion on the proposed PRESS 110 Updates for the District to adopt.

Member Schultz asked to view the changes presented instead of the summary. Action item was tabled until the next regular business meeting after the Board will be able to view the proposed changes.

### **Appointment of Secretary Pro Tem**

**Motion** was made by **McComb**, seconded by **McMurry**, to appoint a Secretary Pro Tem due to the vacancy of Board Secretary Ken Keefe’s seat. Motion was approved by “yes” vote 3-0. Members Hennesy and Schultz voted “present.” Motion carried. Member Lamb was appointed Secretary Pro Tem.

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

### **9.B.1. Tax Abatement Resolution**

CSBO Heather Smith presented the resolution to approve the tax abatement as presented.

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

### **9.B.2. Fuel Bid**

CSBO Heather Smith presented the fuel bid that came in from the open bid process.

**Motion** was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Hennesy**, to approve the fuel bid for the next two years as presented. Motion was approved by a “yes” vote of 5-0. Motion carried.

### **9.B.3. Policy 6:300 – Graduation Requirement – First Reading**

Dr. Lee presented the proposed policy changes to 6:300. No follow up discussion took place.

**10. Closed Session**

McComb stated it was necessary to go into Closed Session for the purpose of: 1) *The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students.*

**Motion** was made by **Schultz**, seconded by **Hennesy**, at 8:44 p.m. to go into closed session for the purposes stated by McComb.

Member Schultz requested to receive an update from Dr. Lee on an individual student matter. Dr. Lee and Member Schultz discussed that Dr. Lee would send an email communication to Member Schultz the following day. Dr. Lee and Member Schultz then had a brief discussion in regards to the update Member Schultz had requested.

It was determined that the Board did not need to go into Closed Session.

**11. Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Board, **motion** was made by **McMurry**, seconded by **Lamb**, at 8:49 p.m. to adjourn. Motion carried.

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Max McComb, President

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Justin Lamb, Secretary Pro Tem

Submitted by Jodi McDuffee, Board Recorder