MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF MERCER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #404,
MERCER, HENDERSON, & ROCK ISLAND COUNTIES, ILLINOIS.

The Board of Education of Mercer County School District #404, Mercer, Henderson, & Rock Island Counties, Illinois, convened at a regular meeting at the Mercer County School District Office, on

**Wednesday, November 15, 2017 at 6:00 PM.**

Prior to Roll Call, Pastor Dietmeier opened with a brief prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance led by President Julie Wagner.

**RECORD OF MOTIONS & VOTES**

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**ATTENDANCE**

**Board members present upon roll call:** Chiles, Dillavou, VanderHeyden, Wagner, Smock, Balmer, and Yates

**Absent:** none

**Administrators present:** Superintendent Scott Petrie, Principals Day, Sedam, Jefferson, Bush and Fleuette

**Also in Attendance:** Pastor Dietmeier, Darla Dixon, Rusty Ruggles, Megan Sywassink, Shannon Sedam, and Secretary Stefanie Carey

**Reporters:** Cathy Decker

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. There was a motion by Dillavou, seconded by Chiles, to approve the following items on the consent agenda as presented.
   1.1 Meeting Minutes
   a. **Regular Meeting Minutes – October 18, 2017**
   1.2 Bill List
   1.3 Treasurer’s Report
   1.4 Financial Report
   1.5 BCBS Health Insurance Account Statement
   1.6 Resignation of High School Football Coach Brian Dennison
   1.7 Resignation of Junior High Wrestling Coach Darrin Clawson
   1.8 Resignation of JV Baseball Coach Jesse Harrison

Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.
JAZZ BAND TRIP 2. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Yates, to approve the High School Jazz Band trip to New York in the summer of 2019. Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

SNOW REMOVAL 3. There was a motion by Chiles, seconded by Balmer, to approve the snow removal quotes as presented. Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

BALL DIAMOND SALE 4. There was a motion by Chiles, seconded by Smock, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for Transfer of Real Estate with the City of New Boston for sale of the New Boston Ball Diamond for $1. Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS 5. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Chiles, to approve the permanent transfer of funds from Capital Projects to Debt Services in the amount of $200,000. Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION 6. There was a motion by Yates, seconded by Balmer, to go into Closed Session for Personnel, Negotiations, and Litigation discussion at 7:33PM.  
6.1 Personnel  
The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

6.2 Negotiations  
Collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).

6.3 Litigation  
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 must be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).

The Board returned to Open Session at 9:24 PM.

RECONSIDER 7. There was a motion by Balmer, seconded by Smock, to reconsider the motion to hire Dustin Murray as the JV softball coach for this year. Roll Call: 5 Ayes, 2 Nays. Motion carried.

HIRE JV SOFTBALL COACH 8. There was a motion by Dillavou, seconded by Balmer, to hire Dustin Murray as the JV Softball Coach. Roll Call: 5 Ayes, 2 Nays. Motion carried.
JUNIOR HIGH VOLLEYBALL COACH  
9. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Balmer, to hire Nicole Hermansen as Junior High Volleyball coach.
Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

HIGH SCHOOL CUSTODIAN  
10. There was a motion by Balmer, seconded by Yates, to hire Wendy Harvey as High School Custodian.
Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

APPROVE RETIREMENT  
11. There was a motion by Chiles, seconded by Balmer, to approve the retirement of Secretary Jolene Vipond effective at the end of 2018 school year with the same retirement incentive as we have had in the past.
Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

APPROVE RETIREMENT  
12. There was a motion by Chiles, seconded by Balmer, to approve the retirement of Secretary Karen Lewis effective the end of 2019 school year with the same retirement incentive as we have had in the past.
Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

MCTEA MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
13. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Chiles, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding on overtime/ compensatory time for the MCTEA as presented.
Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

ADJOURN  
14. There was a motion by Chiles, seconded by Balmer, to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 PM.
Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

OTHER REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

ADDITIONS/ DELETIONS 1. None

PUBLIC COMMENT  
2. Megan Sywassink and Shannon Sedam came to speak to the board about the new Sensory rooms they have created at New Boston Elementary to help students with sensory and focus issues. All funds were raised by donation, and they have had notable success with the students who use the rooms. Training is planned for other staff on how to best utilize the rooms and gadgets within.

CORRESPONDENCE  
3. Three cards were received, as well as numerous emails, from staff thanking the Board for providing lunch for National Education Appreciation week.
BOARD COMMENTS 4. Barb Chiles made positive comments on the recent High School Blood Drive and National School Board Members Day. Bill Smock spoke well of the Cyber Safety Assembly and hopes that we continue with something similar every year. Tab Balmer praised the recent Veterans Day Assembly.

SNOW REMOVAL 5. Snow Removal quotes were presented and approved, continuing the current prices that we have been paying for the 3 snow removal businesses. A slight increase was approved for Landmark Landscaping, still keeping them as the lowest bidder for their respective building.

BALL DIAMOND SALE 6. The School District agreed to sell the New Boston Elementary Ball Diamond to the City of New Boston for $1. The City currently maintains the diamond, sharing usage with the District. Selling the diamond to the City will allow them to apply for grants that will fund necessary improvements and benefit everyone.


COMMITTEE REPORTS 8. Dave VanderHeyden read the minutes from the Finance Committee. Barb Chiles reviewed the BHASED agenda and gave a brief update. Mr. Petrie reported on Buildings and Grounds, noting that a meeting is needed for December. Lead Testing requirements were mentioned.

CHILES APPOINTED TO EDUCATION COMMITTEE 9. Barb Chiles was appointed to Senator Weaver’s Education Committee to give feedback and be a sounding board for the State.

FIRST EDUCATION FOUNDATION GRANT 10. Liz Gray received the first Education Foundation Grant for classroom supplies. It was discovered later that Dawn Noble’s classroom is receiving a grant as well.

FUNDING AND LEVY 11. Mr. Petrie went over the Evidence Based Funding Model and explained the difference in tiers that determine funding. This led into discussion on the upcoming levy adoption in December.

RESOLUTIONS FOR DELEGATE ASSEMBLY 12. Julie Wagner asked for more input from the board members on their voting preferences for the Joint Annual Conference Delegate Assembly. They are to report back to her before she attends.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS 13. In addition to their written reports, the following was mentioned: Mr. Sedam highlighted the recent Veterans Day Assembly, noting that Boondocks provided breakfast at no charge and there were around 120 people served. They also participated in Red Ribbon Week and a Cyber Safety Assembly, both of which were well received.
Mr. Jefferson reported on the trip to the high school matinee and the students’ theatre experience.

Mr. Bush noted well-attended Parent Teacher Conferences, as well as the upcoming Career Day and Breakfast with Santa.

Mrs. Day spoke about the grant from the Education Foundation that Dawn Noble is receiving for classroom books. This is the second grant awarded from the Foundation.

Mr. Hofer added that an agreement was signed with Nevco Inc. for a new scoreboard at no cost to the school district that will contain promotional advertising. He also mentioned a potential safety issue with the football field because of “bentgrass,” causing unlevelled conditions.

Submitted By: ________________________________________
Recording Secretary

________________________________________
President, Bd. of Education

________________________________________
Secretary, Bd. of Education

Approved: ________________________________