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, July 19, 2017 at 6:00 PM.

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

ATTENDANCE
Board members present upon roll call: Balmer, Chiles, Dillavou, Smock, Yates, and Wagner. A quorum was present.
Absent: VanderHeyden
Administrators present: Superintendent Scott Petrie
Also in Attendance: Pastor Dietmeier, Architects Matt Longenecker and Bill Phillips, Darla Dixon and Secretary Stefanie Carey.
Reporters: Cathy Decker

RECORD OF MOTIONS & VOTES

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CONSENT AGENDA

1. There was a motion by Balmer, seconded by Smock, to approve the following items on the consent agenda as presented.
   1.1 Meeting Minutes
      a. Regular Meeting Minutes – June 21, 2017
   1.2 Bill List
   1.3 Treasurer’s Report
   1.4 Financial Report
   1.5 BCBS Health Insurance Account Statement
   1.6 Maternity Leave Request from Ashley Stice
   1.7 Resignation of Special Education Teacher Julie Drish
   1.8 Resignation of New Boston Custodian Lori DeFrieze
   1.9 Resignation of Intermediate Cook Angie Aukes

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.
PRESS BOARD POLICY UPDATES
2. There was a motion by Dillavou, seconded by Balmer, to approve the PRESS Policy quarterly updates from the Illinois Association of School Boards as presented. Majority of Ayes by Voice Votes. Motion Carried.

STUDENT HANDBOOKS
3. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Balmer, to approve the student handbooks from New Boston Elementary as presented, Mercer County Intermediate as presented, and Mercer County High School pending clarifications as discussed. Majority of Ayes by Voice Votes. Motion Carried.

HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL
4. There was a motion by Chiles, seconded by Yates, to accept the Health Insurance premium recommendations as presented. Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

DENTAL INSURANCE RENEWAL
5. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Yates, to accept the Delta Dental renewal rates as presented. Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

TREASURER BONDS
6. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Chiles, to approve the Treasurer and Casualty Surety Bond renewals as presented. Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

HIGH ROADS SUPPORT
7. There was a motion by Chiles, seconded by Balmer, to accept the request from High Roads for continued in-kind support. Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

PART TIME DRIVER
8. There was a motion by Balmer, seconded by Smock, to hire a part time bus driver to be on call for routes and shop work. Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION
9. There was a motion by Balmer, seconded by Dillavou, to go into Closed Session for Personnel, Negotiations, Closed Session Minute Review, and Litigation discussion at 7:52 PM.
9.1 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)

9.2 Negotiations
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. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)

9.3 Review of Closed Session Minutes
The discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)

9.4 Litigation
Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.
OPEN SESSION

10. There was a motion by Balmer, seconded by Dillavou to return to Open Session at 8:48 PM.
Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

JV BOYS BASKETBALL COACH

11. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Balmer, to hire Nick Blaser as JV Boys’ Basketball coach.
Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

FRESHMAN VOLLEYBALL COACH

12. There was a motion by Chiles, seconded by Balmer, to hire Ashley Coulter as Freshmen Volleyball Coach.
Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

HEAD SOFTBALL COACH

13. There was a motion by Dillavou, seconded by Smock, to hire Morgan Weeks as Head Softball Coach.
Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

14. There was a motion by Balmer, seconded by Yates, to keep closed session minutes from February 2017 – June 2017 closed.
Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

15. There was a motion by Chiles, seconded by Dillavou, to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 PM.
Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

OTHER REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

ADDITIONS/ DELETIONS
1. None

PUBLIC COMMENT
2. None

CORRESPONDENCE
3. None

BOARD COMMENTS
4. Barb Chiles praised former graduate Collin Wicks for making the Dean’s List at NIU. She also recognized all of the MC kids who showed and participated in the County Fair. Also mentioned was the need to donate to the Mercer County Education Foundation and instructions on how to do so.

Julie Wagner reported to the board that ISBE will have resolutions to be voted on at the Joint Annual Conference this fall. She will be presenting them to the board in August so they can decide how our delegate that will be chosen should vote. They also need to decide who is going.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
5. Mr. Petrie went over the Finance Committee Report highlighting some tax money we received in late June that helped our budget. The athletic budgets and Health Life Safety Plans were also covered.
Barb Chiles gave a report for Buildings and Grounds. She mentioned that a new chair person needs to be appointed. The 10 year Life Safety Plan was brought up, which led to the presentation by Matt Longenecker from Phillip’s and Associates.

ARCHITECT

Presentation

6. Matt Longenecker from Phillip’s and Associates gave details on the urgent list of repairs needed to comply with the Health Safety Plan. He had a slide show with pictures. There was much discussion on the exit door needed at the High school cafeteria and the necessary Auditorium renovations. He also mentioned that the current construction at Apollo is going very well. The 2 companies are working well together.

MORE COMMITTEE

REPORTS

7. Barb Chiles gave a report from the latest BHASED governing meeting. Moline has come back to the co-op, which will benefit everyone involved.

Tab Balmer and Tyson Dillavou submitted a written report and asked for questions. There are plans to streamline a few routes to make things more efficient, trading some houses with Johannes Bus Service routes. It was called to our attention from our insurance company that the driver for High Roads Advantage GED program needs to be employed by us. We own the bus that they use currently. We will be adding this driver to our employ, but High Roads will reimburse us.

HANDBOOKS

8. There was much discussion regarding the High School Handbook revisions. The board was not happy with the consequences listed for pocket knife possession. They wish to have it changed. There was also debate over the use of cell phones in classrooms, and whether or not this should be allowed at all or be up to the classroom teacher. Drink containers were also mentioned. The handbook was approved pending revisions or clarifications on these issues.

HEALTH INSURANCE

RENEWAL

9. Renewal rate recommendations were presented from Blue Cross Blue Shield. The District plans to round to the nearest dollar and go with the recommended rates. The percentage increase listed was different than the actual increase due to the fact that we raised rates higher than recommended last year to build our cushion.

DENTAL RENEWAL

10. The Dental rates will not increase with a 12 month contract. This was what was decided to approve.

PART TIME DRIVER

11. The board decided to hire a part time driver to have on hand to fill in for routes as a substitute and help Ernie Dillie in the shop. There was some discussion on hours and duties. We are always short drivers, and Ernie has to cover for routes, leaving the shop work undone.

FOIA REQUESTS

12. We responded to a request from the Chicago Lawyer’s Committee for Civil Rights for a copy of our High School Student Handbook and School Code from 2015-16.
President, Bd. of Education

Secretary, Bd. of Education

Approved: ________________________________