

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MAY MEETING OF THE BOARD  
OF EDUCATION OF MILFORD AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT #124  
IROQUOIS COUNTY, ILLINOIS WEDNESDAY, MAY 15th, 2024**

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Milford Area Public Schools District #124, Iroquois County, Illinois were held at the District Office on Wednesday, May 15th, 2024. President Mary Ronna called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Darren Bakken, Donna Hiltz, Josh Harris, Justin Lavicka, Jeff Mabbitt, Mary Ronna, Jodie Havens  
Personnel: Supt. Dr. Michele Lindenmeyer, Principal Michelle Sobkoviak, Principal Stephen Totheroh and Rec. Secretary Jennifer VanHoveln  
Guests: Colin Flaherty, John Klaber, Dylan Payne, Wade and Ashley Clemmons

**CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Havens, seconded by Lavicka, to approve the consent agenda; minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 17th, 2024 and Special Board Meeting of May 9th, 2024, financial report for April 2024, payroll and May vendor bills in the amount of \$1,057,409.44, and correspondence from Karen Bolen and facility request from Milford Dolphin Swim Team. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Harris, Lavicka, Mabbitt, Ronna, Havens, Bakken  
Present: Hiltz  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

**AUDIENCE TO PERSONS SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE**

None.

**ADMINISTRATORS REPORTS**

High School - Mr. Totheroh informed the Board that Mrs. German and Miss Bulla organized another successful prom. He also shared that Mr. Flaherty will be taking over two of his prior commitments ~ board membership of the Illinois 8 Man Football Association and President of the Iroquois County Administrators Association. There will be thirty four MHS graduates on May 17th, 2024 and Mrs. Ronna and Mr. Harris will take turns handing out the diplomas.

Grade School - Mrs. Sobkoviak shared that the junior high math team placed first in the Iroquois County Math Contest. Mrs. Garofil worked really hard with her students and held higher expectations which earned them the traveling plaque. Both Isaac Schaumburg and Jack Van Hoveln received individual awards, as well. Mrs. Sobkoviak also shared that the junior high track team placed 7th at the state track meet recently. Both Tobias Betts and Evan Havens received individual awards for their events.

MAPS#124 - Dr. Lindenmeyer -

- 1) Dr. Lindenmeyer shared information regarding this year's Joint Annual Conference ~ Educate. Inspire. Lead. The conference will be held November 22nd - 24th, 2024 in Chicago. Registration opens on Monday, June 3rd and Dr. Lindenmeyer asked the board members to rsvp to her no later than June 1st.

- 2) Dr. Lindenmeyer shared several Building and Grounds updates including scheduled summer projects. The Menta area at the Sheldon facility is all cleaned out and ready for summer renovations. District Office fencing and HVAC fencing will take place for a total of \$12.5K. The grade school staff parking lot will be sealed for a total of \$10K. Since the sealing of the front and back parking lots in 2021, noticeable cracks have formed. The Board verbally agreed to add these repairs to the summer project and will formally approve at the June meeting.  
The HVAC project will be installed at the Sheldon campus for a total of \$100K with half being paid for by grant money. Lastly, the high school ordered new furniture for a total of \$25K.
- 3) A few branding environmental signage projects have been left unfinished such as the signs on the east side of the high school, the digital sign and landscaping.  
Dr. Lindenmeyer reminded the Board that if they wish to complete any of these projects in FY25, they will need to allocate money into the budget.
- 4) Dr. Lindenmeyer updated the Board on the FY24 Budget and shared that as of April 30th, 2024, the District is at 83.33% of the FY passed. 74.94% of the budget has been spent from all nine funds.
- 5) Dr. Lindenmeyer reminded the Board of the upcoming June 8th, 2024 dinner event at The Possum Trot honoring Mr. Totheroh.
- 6) Dr. Lindenmeyer informed the Board that the open house for the new building project went very well and there are no extra bills from Veregy as of now.
- 7) The Special Ed Coop update included a brief share that different salaries and negotiations are in the works and Dr. Lindenmeyer will keep the Board posted.
- 8) The Board received news that the district received the Digital Equity Grant totalling four thousand dollars. New junior high chromebooks will be purchased with the grant money.
- 9) The results from the tax extension report from the county from December showed an increase of 9.3%. However, the expected decrease of two cents actually decreased eleven cents instead.
- 10) Dr. Lindenmeyer shared that MENTA is going to do a site visit in Sheldon sometime soon in preparation for the renovations.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **FFA OVERNIGHT TRIP APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Mabbitt, seconded by Hiltz, to approve the overnight trip to the Illinois State FFA Convention in Springfield June 10th through June 13th as presented. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Harris, Lavicka, Mabbitt, Ronna, Havens, Bakken, Hiltz  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

### **GRADING SCALE APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Bakken, seconded by Lavicka, to approve the details of the 90, 80, 70, 60 MGS and MHS grading scale for the 2024~2025 school year as presented. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Bakken, Hiltz, Harris, Lavicka, Mabbitt, Ronna, Havens  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

### **MHS HANDBOOK APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Mabbitt, seconded by Hiltz, to approve changes and updates to the MHS handbook for the 2024-2025 school year as presented. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Hiltz, Harris, Lavicka, Mabbitt, Ronna, Havens, Bakken  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **DISTRICT CONSOLIDATED PLAN APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Hiltz, seconded by Lavicka, to approve FY25 District Consolidated Plan as presented. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Havens, Bakken, Hiltz, Harris, Lavicka, Mabbitt, Ronna  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

#### **2024-25 DISTRICT HEALTH INSURANCE APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Havens, seconded by Mabbitt, to approve the 2024-2025 District Health Insurance renewal with Blue Cross Blue Shield as presented. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Bakken, Hiltz, Harris, Lavicka, Mabbitt, Ronna, Havens  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

#### **BOARD POLICIES APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Harris, seconded by Havens, to approve board policies: 6:125 and 6:130 as presented. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Hiltz, Harris, Lavicka, Mabbitt, Ronna, Havens, Bakken  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

#### **PRESS POLICY ISSUE APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Mabbitt, seconded by Hiltz, to approve the second reading and approval of PRESS Policy Issue #114 as presented. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Bakken, Hiltz, Lavicka, Mabbitt, Ronna, Havens  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

**ATHLETIC TRAINER SERVICES APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Hiltz, seconded by Bakken, to approve renewal of Carle athletic trainer services contract as presented. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Hiltz, Harris, Lavicka, Mabbitt, Ronna, Havens, Bakken  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

**AMENDED BUDGET APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Havens, seconded by Hiltz, to approve the amended FY24 tentative display budget as presented. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Harris, Lavicka, Mabbitt, Ronna, Havens, Bakken, Hiltz  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

**MHS 2024~2025 COURSES APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Mabbitt, seconded by Lavicka, to approve new MHS Career and Technical Education Courses for the 2024-2025 school year as presented. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Havens, Bakken, Hiltz, Harris, Lavicka, Mabbitt, Ronna  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

**HVAC WORK APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Hiltz, seconded by Bakken, to approve additional HVAC work at the Sheldon campus teacher lounge and large classroom office and office areas to be paid for through the FY24 Round #1 School Maintenance Project Grant. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Bakken, Hiltz, Harris, Lavicka, Mabbitt, Ronna, Havens  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

**COMMUNITY FORUM**

None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Hiltz, seconded by Harris, to enter into closed session at 8:39 p.m. for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the Dist. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-0057. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Bakken, Harris, Lavicka, Mabbitt, Ronna, Havens, Hiltz  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION RECONVENE**

A consensus of the Board was reached to leave the Executive Session at 9:10 p.m. per voice vote.

**NURSE CONTRACT APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Mabbitt, seconded by Harris, to approve the school nurse contract for the 2024-2025 school year as presented. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Harris, Lavicka, Mabbitt, Ronna, Havens, Bakken, Hiltz  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

**MGS SUBSTITUTE HIRE**

A motion was made by Bakken, seconded by Mabbitt, to approve hire of Elizabeth Mathias as a long-term substitute for the 2024-2025 school year. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Havens, Bakken, Hiltz, Harris, Lavicka, Mabbitt, Ronna  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

**MGS PRINCIPAL CONTRACT**

A motion was made by Harris, seconded by Bakken, to approve contract negotiations with Ashley Clemmons as new Milford Grade School Principal beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Bakken, Hiltz, Harris, Lavicka, Ronna, Havens  
Present: Mabbitt  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

**BUS DRIVER RETIREMENT**


A motion was made by Havens, seconded by Mabbitt, to approve the retirement request from Karen Bolen as bus driver effective April 29th, 2024. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Aye: Hiltz, Harris, Lavicka, Mabbitt, Ronna, Havens, Bakken  
Nay: None. Motion declared carried.

**ADJOURN**

A motion was made by Bakken, seconded by Ronna, to adjourn the meeting at 9:12pm per voice vote.

  
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President

  
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Secretary