

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR *AUGUST* MEETING OF THE BOARD
OF EDUCATION OF MILFORD AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT #124
IROQUOIS COUNTY, ILLINOIS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14th, 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, August 14th, 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
Absent: None
Personnel: Supt. John Klaber, Principal Colin Flaherty, Principal Ashley Clemmons,
and Rec. Secretary Jennifer VanHoveln
Guests: Heather Lehmann

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Mabbitt, seconded by Ronna, to approve the consent agenda; minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 17th, 2024, financial report for July 2024, payroll and August vendor bills in the amount of \$947,088.07 and correspondence from Sandy German from the Bearcat Open. 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. Flaherty gave an updated number of one hundred fifty students for the high school enrollment. He informed the Board of the IHSA update that says an all-star team is not allowed for any sport. Mr. Flaherty shared details from an email from a community member about possible recognition for a football family but nothing more will transpire. Mr. Schaumburg has expressed an interest in adding bass fishing as a spring sport. The Board agreed that Mr. Schaumburg needs to gather more information and details about the program. He also said there was interest expressed in adding Dungeons and Dragons but since it's not an educational activity, the Board was not in favor. Mr. Clemmons, Mr. Flaherty and Mr. DeWerff have looked into tarps for the baseball field and decided on a customized two piece set.

Grade School - Mrs. Clemmons shared that the two days of Teacher Institute, Meet the Teacher Night and the first day of school went extremely well. She invited the Board to please come and walk through the school during the first weeks of school to see what is happening. Mrs. Clemmons will invite the new staff members to a future board meeting for formal introductions.

MAPS#124 - Mr. Klaber -

1) The building and grounds update included a change with the AED machines. The multipurpose room needed an AED so the one was pulled from the MHS weight room since there was another one close by. The Guard Shack had some siding, two windows and rock recently fixed. The Tiny House has been moved from the District property to Quenton Schaumburg's rural shop. Proof of Mr. Schaumburg's insurance is needed so the District can drop their insurance for this project. The FFA Alumni have backed this project and will continue, therefore, the school can step away from the Tiny House and the sale of it. Mr. Klaber and Mr. Flaherty will be in charge of meeting with Dexter Cheever who is a member of the Alumni and making sure the proof of insurance is received.

2) Mr. Klaber said after a short meeting, \$75.00 was approved for the price per IEP. Mr. Harms is still currently covering until Mrs. Homerding has completed her training. He also said there were roughly twenty students enrolled in the new MENTA program.

3) An Open House was held on August 6th, 2024 to introduce the new MENTA program. The building is progressing but there is still more work to be completed. Mr. Klaber said that June or July of next year would be the timeline for new carpet in the priority classrooms and hallways. The funding for this project has been cut in half equaling \$36,000 instead of \$72,000.

4) General ~ A) Mr. Klaber shared the cost of hiring an instructional coach through ROE. For one day a week for thirty six weeks, the total amount would be \$18,733. There's a possibility to halve the cost if we were to receive money through a literacy grant through ROE. Unfortunately, Linda Jasmin is already booked elsewhere so the new hire would be Lindsey Nesfeld. The feedback from both the Board and Mr. Klaber was to hold off on hiring an instructional coach for the 2024-25 school year.

B) The next discussion was regarding the district website and unnecessary charges from Surface 51. Mr. Klaber informed the board that he updated the required postings and new staff directory for this school year. Elyse Bulla is interested in taking on the role of Webmaster for District #124. Mr. Klaber suggested a stipend for her time during breaks and the summer months. The Board agreed on four percent for the Webmaster stipend. He suggested the administration team push out the new website of maps124.org.

C) Mr. Klaber shared that there will be an Open House at MAPS on Friday August 23rd, 2024 from 5:00-6:00 p.m. to help celebrate WCIA's Our Town Milford. The Administration and Mr. Klaber will be available at the Open House along with student groups to help facilitate tours. The FFA will be selling pork chop sandwich meals for a cost. The Board discussed lemonade shake ups that Mrs. Tothoroh and FCS would be in charge of but the Board decided against having those available. Instead, the Board decided to donate 20 dozen cookies towards the WCIA event instead of the lemonade shake ups.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

FY25 TENTATIVE BUDGET APPROVAL

A motion was made by Hiltz, seconded by Lavicka, to approve the FY25 Tentative Display Budget as presented. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

DISCLOSURE SERVICES APPROVAL

A motion was made by Mabbitt, seconded by Havens, to approve the engagement to perform continuing disclosure services with Chapman and Cutler, LLP. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

PRESCHOOL COORDINATOR APPROVAL

A motion was made by Havens, seconded by Bakken, to approve Dorothy Hamrick as Preschool For All Grant Coordinator for 2024/25 with a stipend of \$12,000 paid through the grant. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT APPROVAL

A motion was made by Hiltz, seconded by Lavicka, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Watseka for early childhood special education services as presented. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

PRESS POLICY UPDATE APPROVAL

A motion was made by Harris, seconded by Havens, to approve the first reading of PRESS Policy Update Memo Issue 116. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

DISTRICT CRISIS PLAN APPROVAL

A motion was made by Bakken, seconded by Havens, to approve the updated District Crisis Plan as presented. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

CRISISGO CONTRACT APPROVAL

A motion was made by Mabbitt, seconded by Bakken, to approve the three year contract with CrisisGo as presented.

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

COMMUNITY FORUM

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Bakken, seconded by Mabbitt, to enter into closed session for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the school district pursuant to 2(c)(1) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act at 9:03 p.m. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION RECONVENE

A consensus of the Board was reached to leave the Executive Session at 9:24 p.m. per voice vote.

DISTRICT TREASURER HIRE

A motion was made by Ronna, seconded by Mabbitt, to approve the hire of Lynn Price as District Treasurer with the start date of August 1st, 2024. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

MGS TEACHER RESIGNATION

A motion was made by Havens, seconded by Mabbitt, to approve the resignation agreement with Elizabeth Mathias. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

LONG-TERM SUB HIRE

A motion was made by Harris, seconded by Lavicka, to approve the hire of Ashley Danner as a long-term sub for the 2024-25 school year. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

LONG-TERM SUB HIRE

A motion was made by Bakken, seconded by Havens, to approve the hire of Kristina Phelan as a long-term sub for the 2024-25 school year. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

MGS VOLLEYBALL COACH HIRE

A motion was made by Ronna, seconded by Bakken, to approve the hire of Lyndsey Powers as 7th grade volleyball coach. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

SPEECH TEAM COACH HIRE

A motion was made by Mabbitt, seconded by Ronna, to approve the hire of Kena Clark as speech team coach. Roll call resulted as follows:

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

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Mabbitt, seconded by Ronna, to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m. per voice vote.



President



Secretary

