

**Minutes**  
**Regular Board of Education Meeting**  
**October 14, 2020**  
**7 p.m.**

The board of education of the Meredosia-Chambersburg School District met in regular session October 14, 2020 in the cafeteria of the Meredosia-Chambersburg School. President Jason Morton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Jason Morton, Madeline Buhlig, Scott Gregory and Alan Taylor. Members Kevin Duesterhaus, Brian Werries and Jeff Browning were absent. Also present were Superintendent Thad Walker, Jr./Sr. High Principal Jeff Abell, Carolyn Browning, district bookkeeper, Christine Brant, Shirley Bilyeu.

Member Scott Gregory made a motion to approve the consent agendas. Member Madeline Buhlig seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Jason Morton, yea; Madeline Buhlig, yea; Scott Gregory, yea and Alan Taylor, yea. Motion carried 4 yeas – 0 nays.

There were no public comments.

**Reports:**

**Superintendent's Report:**

- The elementary library is close to being finished. DAS came out and tested the air quality and it's better than outside now. ServPro finished 10/13/2020 and Second Generation has ordered parts for the fresh air returns for the library and Sheryl Sessions rooms. Mr. Mehaffy and Industrial Arts student will be putting in floor and painting the end walls. Ceiling tiles have been ordered and should be in next week. I'm talking with Scholastic to get some books ordered.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> quarter has went very well. I am very proud of the staff for their hard work and dedication to the district. I could not be more proud of them.
- For our SIP Day on October 9<sup>th</sup> we had Anne Cashmann come to give training to the paraprofessionals and Red Cross was here giving CPR, first aid and AED training to all bus drivers, coaches, P.E. teachers and Mrs. Carmean. Mrs. Vannier was certified this summer. The teachers had Heather Robertson going over special education procedures. She is from 4 Rivers and Mrs. Potter and Mrs. Session gave Renaissance Training. Renaissance is our testing system that we use school wide. Lunch was served to staff afterwards.
- It is getting close to bond season. I plan on having Dr. Bill Phillips come sometime in October and look over our budget, 5 year spending plan and how we can best utilize our bonding potential.
- Kindergarten is moving back to full day on October 19<sup>th</sup>. Students have done well with keeping their masks on.
- The new Saxon math series has arrived for K-6<sup>th</sup> Grade. I am looking into selling a lot of our old Journey's curriculum back to Follett. The items to be sold are the extra workbooks and other consumables that were not used.
- Mr. Abell and I believe we really got it right reviewing our COVID-19 Plan for reopening. Things are going very smoothly for students that are attending school. The struggle is coming from the remote students that are not doing their work. There has been contact with the students and parents of those that chose remote learning. We have 15 returning from remote learning at the beginning of the next quarter – October 19<sup>th</sup>.
- All of this work could not have been done without the dedication of the IL-Empower Team and the office staff to make sure we had a great plan in place. Jeannie, Ronda and Carolyn have done a fantastic job of getting things done. There has been so much to follow through on and they have been on the top of their game.
- Once again I cannot say enough about Mr. Abell and Mr. Graham. It has been a great pleasure to work with them through this pandemic. They have gone above and beyond to get the district in the place where we are today.
- We are not having the Bidy Ball basketball league this year. At this time we are scheduling the basketball and volleyball seasons but we're not sure if that is going to happen or not.

**Superintendent's Report continued:**

- Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> we had The Covid Classic Golf outing and cookout for the Jr/Sr. High and the elementary did an ice cream party and sidewalk chalk that afternoon. It all went very well and it was a much deserved break for the students and the staff.
- The students have done a fantastic job also! We have had very little issues with behavior or mask wearing.

**JH/HS Principal's Report:**

- The end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter will be October 16<sup>th</sup>. We have several students returning to face to face instruction starting on October 19<sup>th</sup>. Currently we have 63 in person students and 22 distance learning students, which rounds to 26% of our students are remote for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter.
- We had our Fall-Fest September 28<sup>th</sup>-October 1<sup>st</sup>. There were themed dress-up days throughout the week and on Thursday we ended the week with a tailgate party cookout and a tolf scramble. That is not a type-o, we held a tolf scramble. Tolf is basically like playing golf with a tennis ball and players must use the same club for the entire round. The scramble was played at the world-renowned M-C Dunes Golf Course. The kids really enjoyed it and several stopped and thanked me for the day.
- I want to thank all the parents that met with teachers during our September 24<sup>th</sup> Parent/Teacher Conferences. Parent attendance this year more than doubled the attendance from the last several years.
- Midterm grades were sent home on September 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Our custodians have continued doing a great job keeping the building clean and safe for our students and staff especially with being 1 man down.
- Our IL-Empower Team continues to meet weekly.
- We are up to 242 followers on Instagram.

Member Scott Gregory made the motion to go into Closed Session at 7:18 p.m. to discuss litigation, land acquisition, negotiations, student disciplinary cases, and to consider information regarding the appointment, employment, or dismissal of an employee or officer. Member Alan Taylor seconded the motion. Unanimous vote 4-0.

Member Alan Taylor made the motion to return from closed session and Member Madeline Buhlig seconded the motion. Board returned from closed session at 7:44 p.m.

Member Madeline Buhlig made a motion to approve final reading of Press Plus 104 and 2nd reading of Press Plus 105. Member Scott Gregory seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Madeline Buhlig, yea; Scott Gregory, yea; Alan Taylor, yea; and Jason Morton, yea. Motion carried 4 yeas; 0 nays.

Member Madeline Buhlig made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Scott Gregory seconded the motion. By unanimous vote meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

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President, Jason Morton

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Secretary, Madeline Buhlig