

**Minutes**  
**Regular Board of Education Meeting**  
**October 13, 2021**  
**7 p.m.**

The board of education of the Meredosia-Chambersburg School District met in regular session October 13, 2021 in the board room of the Meredosia-Chambersburg School. Vice President Alan Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Alan Taylor, Jason Morton, Madeline Buhlig, Jeff Browning, Scott Gregory. Member Kevin Duesterhaus arrived at 7:06 p.m. Member Brian Werries was absent. Also present were Superintendent Thad Walker, Jr./Sr. High Principal Jeff Abell, Carolyn Browning, district bookkeeper, Christine Brant, Shirley Bilyeu and Candy Anderson.

Member Jason Morton made a motion to approve the consent agendas after questions were answered. Member Scott Gregory seconded the motion. By unanimous vote motion carried 5 yeas – 0 nays.

**Public Comment:**

Candy Anderson, a substitute teacher went to the school website to check the agenda but no current agenda was posted. (It now has been updated along with past minutes). Then she said the reason she was at the meeting because she felt the substitute teacher pay should be raised. It was already on the agenda to be addressed as an action item. No further comments.

**Reports:**

**Superintendent/Grade School Principal's Report:**

- I would like to increase the substitute teacher pay to \$100 for the day and \$50 for a half day. It's currently \$85 for a day and \$45 for a half day.
- Mr. Abell and I met with Ameresco Performance Contractors We will have our plan for the November board meeting.
- I met with Mike Battefeld from Prairie State Bank & Trust Co. about getting a construction loan for \$275,000 to build the storage building and bus garage renovations. He didn't think it would be a problem.
- Some of the window tinting is complete. They will come back and finish the rest soon.
- Rich Pulling is not working at this time and his health is now allowing him to be here.
- We started our Covid testing and everyone has been compliant. It's going smoothly.
- This year has been going great. We have our special education worked out so students are getting a full 90 minutes of ELA and their math time in. Thanks to Carol Howard and the rest of the special ed staff for working hard on this to make this happen.
- The new staff is working out great. So many of them being first year people are really doing a great job.
- We are catching a ride to Jacksonville with Brown County for our special ed student going to 4-Rivers. They are charging us \$25 a day.
- CASCO has come down and gave us a bid on resurfacing the basketball/tennis court. We will need to approve that. Cost should be around \$14,859 and we can use our 1% Sales Tax. They will grind out cracks and fill in.
- The swings are up and they look great. John Farmer was the first student to swing on them which made his whole year! The mulch is down underneath them and a safety mat underneath the mulch.
- I met with IL Evaluations Spec. Ed Network which mentors to our special ed teachers. Think this will be very beneficial.
- Having issues with our phones. MMC Consulting out of Jacksonville has given us a bid for \$8400 to move phones from analog to IT system. Takes about 2-3 days to get installed. I'm also wanting to have him install long range wi-fi so we could put up cameras on playground.

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

- Mr. Walker and I have been working on long-range planning for our facilities and curriculum.
- The annual ROE Teachers Institute was changed to a virtual event last Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. Our staff attended the institute from our school.
- The end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter will be October 15<sup>th</sup> and report cards will go home on October 20<sup>th</sup>.
- The midterm for the second quarter will be November 12<sup>th</sup> with grades going home on November 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Our Instagram followers are up to 277. We've had teacher features and homecoming parade pictures.

Member Jason Morton made the motion to go into Closed Session at 7:30 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 Madeline Buhlig seconded the motion. Unanimous vote 6-0. Member Jason Morton made the motion to return from closed session and Member Kevin Dueterhaus seconded the motion. Board returned from closed session at 8:20 p.m. Member Scott Gregory left at 8 p.m.

Member Jason Morton made a motion to approve increasing substitute teacher pay to \$100 a day and \$50 a half day.. Member Madeline Buhlig seconded the motion. By unanimous vote motion carried 5 yeas – 0 nays.

Member Kevin Dueterhaus made a motion to approve hiring bid from CASCO to re-seal basketball/tennis court. Member Jason Morton seconded the motion. By unanimous vote motion carried 5 yeas – 0 nays.

Member Jason Morton made a motion to approve purchase new telephone system from MMC. Member Madeline Buhlig seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Alan Taylor, yea; Jason Morton, yea; Madeline Buhlig, yea; Jeff Browning, yea; and Kevin Dueterhaus, yea. Motion carried 5 yeas – 0 nays.

Member Jason Morton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Madeline Buhlig seconded the motion. By unanimous vote meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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President, Brian Werries

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Secretary, Jason Morton