**Minutes**

**Regular Board of Education Meeting**

**October 11, 2023**

**7:00 p.m.**

The board of education of the Meredosia-Chambersburg School District met in regular session October 11, 2023 in the Board Room of the Meredosia-Chambersburg School. President Brian Werries called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Brian Werries, Jeff Browning, Erica DeWitt, Jason Morton, Seth Schmitz. Madeline Buhlig was absent. Also present were Principal Kirk Graham, Superintendent Thad Walker, District bookkeeper Shari Kleinlein, Christine Brant, Shirley Bilyeu, Robin Varner, Alex Ebbing, Adam Craddock and Brandon Bennett .

Member Jason Morton made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Member Jeff Browning seconded the motion. By unanimous vote motion carried 5 yeas – 0 nays.

**Reports:**

**Superintendent/Grade School Superintendent’s Report given by Mr. Walker:**

* Ms. Varner will be here as a guest to share some great news about her $20,000.00 grant she received from the Tracy Foundation and her work she is doing at the refuge.
* We will have representatives from Gano Electric and BK Electric to explain the bids for the electrical system upgrade.
* The new vape detectors are active in the school. We have been monitoring them.
* We did purchase a new truck from Jacksonville Auto Mart. We got a 2015 short bed white truck. I could not find a truck with an 8ft bed unless we wanted to spend 7 to 8 thousand dollars more. We got this truck for $14,999.00. It is a nice truck.
* The skylight will not be shipped until November from the factory.
* I am working on getting the alarm alert set up through Johnson Controls, I should have an update or quote by the next meeting.
* I am looking into a new walk-in cooler. Ours has had some issues and is original to the building. I would like to get that replaced over Christmas break. Looking at around $26,000.00. That will be paid with Facilities tax money. (1% sales tax) We have been averaging about $16,000.00 per month. We currently have $474,480 in that fund.
* Going along with facility tax money, I have been talking with Mr. Graham and Rob about doing some outside upgrades to the softball field: New dugouts making them bigger, we have some girls that have to sit outside the dugout for our games, putting concrete behind the backstop up to the concession stand, and for the bleachers, putting a fence up to enclose behind the new building and pouring a concrete slab between the new building and the school and a canopy over that for an outside classroom and Pre-K play area.
* Our fire drill with the fire department will be October 19 at 9:30am.
* I am working on getting the drug dogs again waiting on confirmation from the state police.
* Abby is doing a great job with the community liaison position. In our first 3 weeks we have helped 4 families. She has been at the community center helping with the Bread of Love meals. She has also made 3 home visits and has gotten a student to return to school. It has been a success already.

**JH/HS Principal’s Report given by Mr. Graham:**

1. Teacher institute was last Friday Oct. 6th. Went very well.
2. In the morning: Most K-5th teachers, JH/HS Math and Language Arts teachers participated in training about reviewing data to determine what standards are students are lacking knowledge in Math and Lang. Arts.
3. Mr. Walker met with Paraprofessionals.
4. Other staff participated in CPI training from Four Rivers.
5. In the afternoon:
6. District staff meeting-Abbie M. discussed her new position and how she can help.
7. Elementary staff worked on CKLA
8. JH/HS met and discussed the School Improvement Plan and work to meet our goals.
9. 1st Quarter ends Friday, October 20th.
10. I’ve included the next couple of months “News Notes”.
11. JH/HS Students of the month for September:
12. Based on the Character Trait of “Timeliness”
13. JH – Krislyn Cooper (responsible for getting herself to school daily and is always on time.
14. HS – Gage Davis (perfect attendance so far this year and no tardies to classes)
15. Many good things happening at MCSD – I’m proud of our staff and the dedication they have.
16. Ms. Varner was awarded a $20,000.00 grant from the Tracy Foundation for her work with the DNR at the Wildlife Refuge with her 8th grade Topics in Biology class.
17. Ms. Baker (JH Social Studies Teacher) has C.D. Davidsmeyer visiting her 7th grade Social Studies Class on Wednesday the 11th.
18. Mr. Sievers and HS Student Council planning Halloween activities at the end of the month. (See the News Notes attachment)
19. Mr. Bowman has the Band tentatively scheduled to perform at the White Oaks Mall on Friday, Dec. 8th. Should have confirmation before the November Board meeting.
20. Ms. Kilver and Ms. Schutz started the afterschool “Homework Help and Tutoring” on Tuesdays and Thursdays (grades 5th – 12th). The DLT team has discussed planning and starting the same program for the Elementary students as well.
21. Ms. Varner has started the Fitness Club again for students. (Grades 5th – 12th.)

Member Jason Morton made the motion to go into Closed Session at 7:51 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 Seth Schmitz seconded the motion. Member Jeff Browning made the motion to return from closed session and Member Seth Schmitz seconded the motion. Board returned from closed session at 8:00 p.m.

A decision was made to table the approval of the electrical upgrade until the November meeting. Mr. Walker is going to see if both companies can give a complete bid on the exact same things that are needed.

Member Erica DeWitt made a motion to accept the resignation of Board member Alan Taylor. Member Jeff Browning seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Brian Werries; yea, Jeff Browning; yea, Erica DeWitt; yea, Jason Morton; yea, Seth Schmitz; nay. Motion passed with 4 yeas and 1 nays.

Member Jason Morton made a motion to Adjourn the meeting. Member Seth Schmitz seconded the motion. By unanimous vote meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Next meeting to be held November 8, 2023 at 7pm.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

President, Brian Werries

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Secretary, Erica DeWitt