

**Official Minutes of the Monticello Community School District Board of Education for the  
Legislative Forum and Regular Meeting of December 20, 2023**

**Legislative Forum:**

The Legislative Forum was held in the Board Room at 850 E Oak Street, Monticello, Iowa on Monday, December 20, 2023 at 6:00 pm. The following directors were present: Craig Stadtmueller, Mandy Norton, John Schlarmann, Mark Rieken, and Tony Amsler. Others that were present: Representative Cindy Golding, Representative Steve Bradley, Senator Carrie Koelker, Brian Jaeger, Judy Hayen, Marcy Gillmore, Pete Temple, Nick Schauf, Todd Werner, Denny Folken, and Robyn Ponder. There were also a several members of the public present.

Each legislator introduced themselves and updated us on the upcoming legislative session and how it related to education as well. Carrie Koelker expressed that there a lot of myths and rumors out there about different bills but noted they haven't had any bills come across their desks yet. She did express that the Governor wants to raise teacher pay. Dr. Jaeger asked if there was some way to get more flexibility with our funding for our different categorical funds and also asked if we could get some funding for the Kirkwood costs that we pay due to be so close to the Kirkwood Jones County Regional Center. Tony Amsler asked each legislator what their personal goals are to strengthen public education. Steve Bradley said to keep our public schools great, Cindy Golding said to focus on academics and to enhance work skills, and Carrie Koelker said to get the State Supplemental Aid passed in the first 30 days of session and to make public education a priority. They also discussed property taxes and Area Education Agencies (AEA's). Dr. Jaeger also asked if there would be chance to change the approval of bond issue from a super majority (60%) to a simple majority (50%), they thought that was a good item to look into.

Dr. Jaeger thanked the legislators for participating in the forum and they did the same. They encouraged everyone to call or email them with any questions or concerns.

The forum ended at approximately 6:45pm. The Board then took a short break and moved to the regular meeting.

**Board Meeting:**

The Board of Education regular meeting was held on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, in the Board Room at 850 East Oak Street, Monticello, Iowa. Board President Craig Stadtmueller called the meeting to order at 6:51 pm. Stadtmueller led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Monticello CSD mission statement. Board Secretary, Judy Hayen, did roll call. The following directors were present: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Absent: None. Others present were Judy Hayen, Marcy Gillmore, Brian Jaeger, Pete Temple, Robyn Ponder, Denny Folken, Nick Schauf, Heather Hansen, Kim Carlson, and Rebecca DeWitte.

It was moved by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Congratulations were extended to: Cameron Pasker, Kaylee Lawrence, and Roth Schnoor for their acceptance into the NE Iowa Middle School honor band; to Preston Ries on being selected as Class 2A Football Player of the Year and The Gazette's 2023 Football Co-Player of the Year and for signing today with the University of Iowa; the following on being selected for the All State Football Team: Peyton Schilling - 1<sup>st</sup> Team; Dylan Monk, AJ Phelps, and Conner Jordan - 2<sup>nd</sup> Team; and the following on being selected for the All District Football Team: Preston Ries-MVP; Peyton Schilling, Adrian Graves, Zach Yates, Dylan Monk, AJ Phelps, Conner Jordan-1<sup>st</sup> Team; Jonah Luensman, Ty Tallman, Easton Prull-2<sup>nd</sup> Team; Gatlin Wright, Carter Holub - Honorable Mention!

Denny Folken, Todd Werner, and Nick Schauf each gave their building reports.

Curriculum Director Robyn Ponder gave her report and Superintendent Jaeger also gave his report.

Heather Hansen, Kim Carlson, and Rebecca DeWitte presented on virtual learning.

It was moved by Rieken, seconded by Amsler to add 6 hours of virtual learning to our 2023-24 school calendar as proposed. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion as made by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton to appoint Rieken to serve on the Jones County Conference Board. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nays: None. Motion carried.

It was moved by Rieken, seconded by Schlarmann to approve the additional early graduation request as presented. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rieken, seconded by Norton to approve the Resolution Establishing a Qualified Educational Assistance Plan for a Teacher Paraeducator Registered Apprenticeship Program (TPRA) as presented. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nays: None. Motion carried.

It was moved by Rieken, seconded by Norton to approve the Educational Assistance Plan for a Teacher Paraeducator Registered Apprenticeship Program (TPRA) as presented. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Schlarmann, seconded by Amsler to approve the Resolution for Modified Allowable Growth Request for At-Risk/Dropout Prevention in the Amount of \$369,763 as presented. Roll call vote: Stadtmueller, aye; Norton, aye; Schlarmann, aye; Rieken, aye; and Amsler, aye. Nays: None. Motion carried.

It was moved by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton to approve the first reading of following Board policies: #201.3 Responsibilities of the Board of Directors, #503.1 Student Conduct, #506.8 Student Insurance (deletion), #600.2 Multicultural and Gender Fair Education, #604.3R1 Reconsideration of Instructional and Library Materials Regulations, #902.E1 Purchasing Flow Chart, and #902.6R1 Radon Mitigation as presented. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Amsler. Nays: Rieken. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Schlarmann, seconded by Rieken to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Board Member Activity Reports: Mark Rieken attended the high school band and vocal concerts and he said they were fantastic! Tony Amsler stated that one of his goals as a board member was to extend his learning by meeting with leaders and the different organizations for the district. So far he has met with a few and we have a lot of neat things going on at Monticello!

The Board wanted the public to know that the state legislators on working teachers' pay.

One item for an upcoming work session was to report on how the virtual learning is going.

The following announcements were made:

- The final Board committee appointments are as follows:
  - Negotiations/Labor Relations—Mandy Norton
  - Grounds/Transportation—Mark Rieken
  - Education—Tony Amsler
  - Finance—John Schlarmann
- Winter Break is from December 22 – January 2. Students return Wednesday, January 3, 2023.
- Next Work Session is Wednesday, January 10 @ 6:00pm
- Next Board Meeting is Monday, January 22 @ 6:00pm

There being no further business, Schlarmann, made a motion, seconded by Norton to adjourn the meeting at 8:02pm. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Approved:

Attest:

Craig Stadtmueller, President

Judy Hayen, Board Secretary