

Official Minutes of the Monticello Community School District Board of Education for the Regular Meeting of January 22, 2024

President Craig Stadtmueller called the Public Hearing on the 2024-2025 School Calendar to order at 6:01 pm on Monday, January 22, 2024. Stadtmueller asked for comments from the public. Pete Temple asked what happens if the governor changes the start date. Superintendent Jaeger stated we would then bring it back to the Board with the changes for approval. Mark Rieken stated he had a community member ask him if the “Bring your Bible to School Day” could be added to the school calendar. Jaeger stated that this calendar would not be the place to add that, but if we have the community member send him an email explaining what that entails, he could consider other options. Stadtmueller closed the hearing at 6:03pm.

The Board of Education regular meeting was held on Monday, January 22, 2024 in the Board Room at 850 E Oak Street, Monticello, Iowa, and was called to order at 6:03 pm by President Craig Stadtmueller. Board member John Schlarmann led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Monticello CSD mission statement. Board Secretary, Judy Hayen, did roll call. The following directors were present: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Norton, and Stadtmueller. Absent: None. Also present were: Judy Hayen, Brian Jaeger, Nick Schauf, Todd Werner, Denny Folken, Robyn Ponder, Marcy Gillmore, Pete Temple, Mary Jane Maher, Angie Rieniets, and Travis Squires with Piper Sandler.

It was moved by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton, to approve the agenda as presented with one exception: removing Item 4.02-Accept Fiscal Year 2023 Audit, as we have not yet received it from our auditors. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Norton, and Stadtmueller. Nay: None. Motion carried.

President Stadtmueller recognized our visitors and then invited Travis Squires from Piper Sandler to present on our bonding capacity. Travis discussed the issuer and debt profile, the overview of capital financing, and financing scenarios. The Board expressed to Travis that keeping our community general obligation bond low and offsetting the costs with the SAVE (penny sales tax) account was something they wanted to explore more.

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

Elementary Principal Denny Folken: the elementary students just finished up with FAST testing; we have 2 student teachers in our buildings this Spring; Carpenter Elementary went to Jackie Robinson today at the Heritage Center in Dubuque, and Mrs. Fairley will be taking our Title I students to the care center this week. Denny also announced that he will be retiring as Elementary Principal after 21 years on July 31, 2024. He thanked his staff, the administration, and the Board.

Middle School Principal Todd Werner: the 7th & 8th graders just finished up with FAST testing and the 5th & 6th graders will be testing next week; we will be interviewing on Friday for our 6th grade teacher and 8th grade teacher positions that we have open; with all the snow days, we are trying to get back into the swing of things.

High School Principal Nick Schauf: the 2nd semester is off to a great start! The XELLO team is doing great and feel like our district is on the forefront of holding students to a high standard; high school students will be doing MAP testing the week of February 5 and February 12; graduation is right around the corner and our high school Counselor Kathy Larson and Secretary Alyssa McNally are starting to push out scholarship information as we get it; in light of the recent issues, especially in Perry, Iowa, we are constantly re-evaluating our safety procedures; Angie Rieniets is here to present on the Spanish Trip tonight.

Curriculum Director Robyn Ponder gave her report. She reported on IDEA-DA and the special education report card. The special education department is doing well meeting the needs of our students. We are working on a plan and focusing on our significant disability literacy in order to increase our scores on alternative assessments.

Superintendent Jaeger also gave his report. He reported that our next steps on working towards a bond issue for a new elementary school in November. Those include: approving OPN’s proposal at our February work session/special meeting, form a facilities committee, and get community signatures to call for a bond issue. He also stated that we will need to have all five board members on the same page if we are going to move forward

with this. Virtual learning has been going well so far. He's had a few people ask if we are going to do more, we will decide after February 12. Dr. Jaeger mentioned he had emailed legislators about the school start date, asking if they would consider letting us start the Monday of the week of the August 23 instead of on August 23. Legislators are currently talking about that as well as the future of Area Education Agencies (AEA). We have a new budget process this year and he and Marcy have been working on a timeline for that. We have to have to 2 public hearings, and the county auditor will be mailing postcards to all of our district tax payers.

High School Spanish Teacher Angie Rieniets presented on a possible 2025 Spring Break Trip to Costa Rica. The trip would be from approximately March 14-21, 2025. The trip would be through Interact Travel and cost approximately \$3,000.

It was moved by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton to approve Spanish Trip to Costa Rica in Spring 2025 as presented. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Norton, and Stadtmueller. Nay: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rieken, seconded by Schlarmann to approve allowing former Board members to hand out diplomas to their children at graduation. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Norton, and Stadtmueller. Nay: None. Motion carried.

It was moved by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton to approve the 2024-2025 school calendar as presented. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Norton, and Stadtmueller. Nay: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton to approve the 2024-25 High School registration handbook as presented. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Norton, and Stadtmueller. Nay: None. Motion carried.

It was moved by Norton, seconded by Schlarmann to approve the 2024-2025 Jones Regional Center/Kirkwood Plan of Study as presented. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, and Norton. Nay: None. Stadtmueller abstained. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rieken, seconded by Norton to approve the second and final reading of Board policy #201.3 Responsibilities of the Board of Directors as presented. Ayes: Schlarmann, Amsler, Norton, and Stadtmueller. Nay: Rieken. Motion carried.

It was moved by Rieken, seconded by Schlarmann to approve the second and final reading of the following Board policies as presented: #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, #902.6R1 Radon Mitigation. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Norton, and Stadtmueller. Nay: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Schlarmann, seconded by Amsler to approve the first reading of the following board policies as presented: #602.1 Basic Instructional Program, #602.9 Physical Education. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Norton, and Stadtmueller. Nay: None. Motion carried.

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

Board Member Activity Reports: Craig Stadtmueller stated he received a call from the renter that is currently renting the buildings & grain bins on the Fraser land that we purchased. That rental agreement is up March 1, 2024, but he asked for an extension to rent the buildings and grain bins until June 30, 2024. The District agreed to grant the extension.

The Board wanted the public to know that Travis Squires with Piper Sandler did a great job presenting on the bond capacity tonight.

Agenda items for future work sessions: Mark Rieken mentioned he would like to form a curriculum committee that would review our curriculum or at least have the Board become more involved in the review or approval of curriculum.

The following announcements were made:

- Next Work Session is Wednesday, February 14 at 6:00pm
- Next Regular Board Meeting is Monday, February 26 at 6:00pm

There being no further business, Schlarmann, made a motion, seconded by Norton to adjourn the meeting at 8:42pm. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Norton, and Stadtmueller. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Approved:

Attest:

Craig Stadtmueller, President

Judy Hayen, Board Secretary