

Official Minutes of the Monticello Community School District Board of Education for the Regular Meeting of July 28, 2025

The Board of Education regular meeting was held on Monday, July 28, 2025 in the Board Room at the High School at 850 East Oak Street, Monticello, Iowa. Board President Craig Stadtmueller called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. 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, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Absent: None. Others present were Judy Hayen, Marcy Gillmore, Brian Jaeger, Kegan Arduser, Shannon Kehoe, Todd Werner, Nick Schauf, Robyn Ponder, and Nick Thumma.

Motion by Rieken, seconded by Schlarmann to approve the agenda as presented with the exception of moving Item 5.09 Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Kirkwood Community College for the Workplace Learning Connection and 5.10 Approval of Contract for 4+ Transitional Services with Kirkwood Community College to under the Action Items. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Looking forward to the start of another school year! New teachers report on August 19, all other teachers report on August 20, and Open House is August 21.

Brenda Leonard with Jones County Emergency Management discussed the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan and is asking for approval of the resolution tonight.

Katie Harms from OPN Architects provided the Board with an update on the new elementary building project, including renderings, estimated construction costs, and the proposed timeline. Bidding is scheduled for early October, with the goal of selecting a contractor at the October Board meeting.

Principals Shannon Kehoe, Todd Werner, and Nick Schauf each gave their building report.

Elementary Principal Shannon Kehoe: There aren't many changes to our handbooks this year. A big shoutout to Shawn Green for stepping up this summer while we were short a custodian—both buildings look fantastic thanks to his hard work! Thank you also to Nate Spahr for his efforts in the special education classroom. Our new preschool room is progressing well and will be ready by the start of the school year. One of our goals with the building leadership team this year is to focus on improving processes and procedures in our behavior support. As for enrollment, we're currently planning for three preschool sections with about 17 students each, along with four sections of kindergarten and three sections of first grade.

Middle School Principal Todd Werner: This month, I attended the School Administrators of Iowa's 4 Essential Roles of Leadership training and plan to incorporate some of the key takeaways, including setting clear goals, outlining specific steps, ensuring accountability, and fostering commitment.

We're busy preparing for the upcoming school year—thank you to our custodial and maintenance teams for all their hard work over the summer. Todd also shared updates on the changes made to his handbooks.

High School Principal Nick Schauf: Upgrades at the high school are progressing, with new carpet installed and classrooms freshly painted. It's exciting to see these improvements, especially with new furniture expected next year. Nick reviewed updates to his handbooks and plans to incorporate the Alternative High School handbook into the main High School Student/Parent Handbook. He'll also be working with his office staff to distribute academic letters and honors certificates to last year's seniors.

Curriculum Director Robyn Ponder: Robyn shared the updates she made to the Technology Handbook. She's been collaborating with the math department to review curriculum options that are up for adoption this year and has also been working with middle and high school special education teachers on materials and curriculum evaluation. With the adoption of the new science curriculum, Open SciEd, we'll be attending a free training

hosted by Keystone AEA on August 14. The administrative team is looking forward to attending the SAI Convention next week. On the technology front, staff have been busy preparing Chromebooks for the new school year and setting up new computers for middle school staff. We've also transitioned our internet service from Mediacom to Cascade Communications, which has been working well so far. Online registration opens next week, and we're getting everything in place to be ready.

Superintendent Jaeger's report: Brian shared the updates made to both the Activities Department and Panther Academy Parent handbooks. Work on the new elementary project continues to move forward. Brian will be sending out his welcome back video to parents this Friday. Thank you to our custodial and maintenance staff for all their hard work this summer, especially while short two team members. Our September work session falls during Homecoming week, so we'll need to decide at the August meeting whether to move or cancel it. We're looking forward to another great school year!

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Rieken to approve the Resolution for the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented. By roll call vote: Schlarmann, aye; Rieken, aye; Amsler, aye; Stadtmueller, aye; and Norton, aye. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Norton, seconded by Schlarmann to approve the 2025-26 IASB Legislative Priorities as follows: Student Achievement, Teacher Recruitment and Licensure, Mental Health, and School Safety. Ayes: Schlarmann, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: Rieken. Motion carried.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton to approve the Commercial New Construction Rebate Proposal for the new elementary school with Alliant Energy with an estimated construction rebate of \$26,988.00 as presented. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Rieken, seconded by Amsler, to approve the following 2025-26 handbooks as presented: Elementary Student & Parent Handbook, Elementary Faculty Handbook, Middle School Student & Parent Handbook, Middle School Faculty Handbook; High School Student & Parent Handbook, High School Faculty Handbook, Alternative High School Handbook (*to be added to the HS Student Handbook*), Activities Department Handbook, the 1-to-1 Technology Handbook, and the Panther Academy Parent Handbook. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Rieken to approve the first reading of the following Board policies: #804.3 Capital Assets, #804.3R1 Capital Assets-Regulation, and #804.4 Intangible Assets(deletion) as presented. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Rieken, seconded by Schlarmann to approve the second and final reading of the following Board policies: #102.0 Equal Educational Opportunity, #102.0E1 Annual Notice of Nondiscrimination, #102.0E2 Continuous Notice of Nondiscrimination, #102.0E3 Notice of Section 504 Student and Parental Rights, #102.1 General Grievance Procedure, #203.2 Officers of the Board of Directors – Secretary, #302.0 Administrator Qualifications, Recruitment, Appointment, #303.3 Superintendent Qualifications, Recruitment, Appointment, #401.1 Equal Employment Opportunity Affirmative Action Compliance Program, #403.0 Reporting Child Abuse, #403.2 Limitations to Employment References, #404.0 Employee Records, #405.0 Family and Medical Leave, #405.0F1 Family and Medical Leave Notice to Employees (deletion), #405.0F2 Family and Medical Leave Request Form (deletion), #406.3 Unpaid Leaves of Absence, #501.6 Open Enrollment Procedures, #502.1R1 Chronic Absenteeism and Truancy, #504.1 Educational Records, #600.2 Multicultural and Gender Fair Education, #703.1 Video Cameras in School Buildings and on School Grounds, #803.6 Expenditures for a Public Purpose, #803.6R1 Expenditures for a Public Purpose-Regulation, #803.7 Internal Controls, #803.7R1 Internal Controls-Regulation, #804.1 School District Records, #1001.5 Public Examination of School District Records as presented. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mark Rieken asked that these items be removed from the consent agenda and voted on separately: #5.09 Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Kirkwood Community College for the Workplace Learning Connection, and #5.10 Approval of Contract for 4+ Transitional Services with Kirkwood Community College.

Motion made by Amsler, seconded by Norton to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Kirkwood Community College for the Workplace Learning Connection as presented. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, and Norton. Nays: None. Stadtmueller abstained. Motion carried.

Motion by Norton, seconded by Amsler to approve the contract for 4+ Transitional Services with Kirkwood Community College as presented. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, and Norton. Nays: None. Stadtmueller abstained. Motion carried.

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

The Board would like the public to know that the new elementary school project is progressing well and coming together as planned.

The following announcements were made:

- a. Next Work Session is Wednesday, August 13 @ 6:00pm
- b. New Teacher Orientation is Tuesday, August 19 at 8:00am
- c. All Staff Welcome Back/Employee Recognition Luncheon is Thursday, August 21 at 11:30am
- d. School starts Monday, August 25
- e. Next Board Meeting is Monday, August 25 at 6:00pm

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Approved:

Attest:

Craig Stadtmueller, President

Judy Hayen, Board Secretary