

## **Official Minutes of the Monticello Community School District Board of Education for the Regular Meeting of August 25, 2025**

The Board of Education regular meeting was held on Monday, August 25, 2025, in the Board Room at 850 East Oak Street, Monticello, Iowa. Board President Craig Stadtmueller called the meeting to order at 6:06pm. Board member Tony Amsler led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Monticello CSD mission statement. Board Secretary, Judy Hayen, did roll call. The following directors were present: Tony Amsler, Craig Stadtmueller, Mandy Norton, John Schlarmann, and Mark Rieken. Absent: None. Others present were Judy Hayen, Brian Jaeger, Kegan Arduser, Nick Thumma, Shannon Kehoe, Todd Werner, Nick Schauf, and Robyn Ponder. Roger Worm and Nick Duffy with OPN Architects were also in attendance.

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

Celebrations: We've had a successful New Teacher Orientation Day and Professional Development days; thanks to all our staff for a wonderful Open House and thanks to Jones Regional Medical Center, Citizens State Bank, F&M Bank, Jones County Dairy Producers, Fareway, United Church of Monticello, and Ohnward Bank & Trust for providing food for our welcome back days. Congratulations to 4<sup>th</sup> Grader Gabbi Stumma who was selected as a top 100 National Math Start participant. She was one of 6,000 across the United States and the only one from Iowa and has qualified for a scholarship!

Roger Worm and Nick Duffy from OPN Architects provided the Board with an update on the new elementary building project, including updated renderings of the art, music, gym, and playground areas. They also shared an updated timeline. A pre-bid conference is set for October 8, bid opening on October 23, and then approving a contractor at the October 27 Board meeting.

Principals Shannon Kehoe, Todd Werner, and Nick Schauf shared their building reports, highlighting a successful first day in all buildings and expressing appreciation to the community for supporting our welcome back events. They noted that we are still in need of 3–4 associates. Homecoming is just two weeks away, and Nick is collaborating with the Foundation on a potential Hall of Fame.

Robyn Ponder, Curriculum Director gave her report: Our first few professional development days went well; we welcomed 5 new teachers to the district, and teachers are collaborating on the new curriculum for this year. Robyn also mentioned that with the new students we have this year, that WE NEED ASSOCIATES! Thank you to our technology staff of Morgan Murray, Michael Robertson, Kim Carlson, and Heather Hansen for getting technology ready for this school year.

Dr. Jaeger gave his Superintendent's report. A big thank you to our Administrative team for their teamwork and support of one another; lucky to have all of you! With having a first full week of school, an early dismissal today was a perfect start. Jaeger attended the Community Picnic during Open House and was impressed by the great turnout—it truly is a wonderful event. That evening, he also visited with Steve Williams (former Superintendent) and noted that in Monticello Schools' 150-year history, we've had only 27 Superintendents—an impressive fact! In addition, he attended the dedication of the monument sign donated by the Class of 1965 and later led a tour for the group.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Rieken to set September 22, 2025 at 6:00pm for the public hearing for the purpose of hearing or receiving any objections to the adoption of the proposed drawings, specifications, and form of contract, and the proposed cost for the furnishing of all necessary labor, material, and equipment for new Monticello Elementary School as presented. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Rieken. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Rieken, seconded by Schlarmann, to approve the second and final reading of the following Board policies as presented: #206.1 Open Meetings, #400.2 Recruitment of Personnel, #403.1 Abuse of Students by

District Employees, #502.1 Compulsory Attendance, #503.10 Anti-Bullying and Harassment, #503.10E1 Anti-Bullying/Anti-Harassment Complaint Form, #506.3 Student Health and Immunizations, #602.1 Basic Instructional Program, #602.10 Health/Human Growth & Development Education, #606.1 Graduation Requirements. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Rieken. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Rieken, seconded by Norton to approve the additional 2025-26 PTO Fundraisers as presented. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Rieken. Nays: None. Motion carried.

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

Board Member Activity Reports – John Schlarmann was impressed by the great turnout at the middle school open house! Tony Amsler attended the employee recognition luncheon and felt it was a fantastic way to kick off the year with such positive energy.

Board members shared that bids for the new elementary school are expected to go out in about a month – an exciting milestone!

The following announcements were made:

- a. No Work Session in September due to Homecoming week.
- b. Next Board meeting is Monday, September 22 @ 6:00 pm

There being no further business, Schlarmann made a motion, seconded by Amsler to adjourn the meeting at 6:51pm. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Rieken. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Approved:

Attest:

Craig Stadtmueller, President

Judy Hayen, Board Secretary