

Official Minutes of the Monticello Community School District Board of Education for the Regular Meeting of September 22, 2025

Vice President Mandy Norton called 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: Monticello Elementary School to order at 6:02pm on Monday, September 22, 2025 in the Board Room at 850 E Oak Street, Monticello, Iowa. There were no public comments. Norton closed the public hearing at 6:03pm.

The Board of Education regular meeting was held on Monday, September 22, 2025, in the Board Room at 850 East Oak Street, Monticello, Iowa. Vice President Mandy Norton called the meeting to order at 6:03pm in lieu of Craig Stadtmueller's absence. Norton 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 (Stadtmueller arrived at 7:02 pm). Absent: None. Others present were Judy Hayen, Marcy Gillmore, Brian Jaeger, Kegan Arduser, Nick Thumma, Shannon Kehoe, Nick Schauf, Robyn Ponder, Tim Lambert, Dawn & Greg Graver, and Katie Harms with OPN Architects.

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

Celebration: Dr. Jaeger recognized Officer Dawn Graver with a certificate of appreciation for her 7 years of dedicated service as the School Resource Officer for Monticello Community School District. Thank you, Dawn!

Katie Harms from OPN Architects gave a 3D walkthrough of the new elementary and shared an update with the Board on the building project. She reviewed estimated construction costs with possible alternates, the proposed timeline, and the bidding schedule. Drawings will go out for bid on September 30, with bids opening on October 23. The Board will then select a contractor at its October 27 meeting.

Principals Reports:

Elementary, Shannon Kehoe – The first field trip of the year took place with 4th grade students visiting the Dubuque Arboretum and Botanical Gardens as part of their science unit. The elementary walk-a-thon will be held in October this year instead of spring, and Grandparents Day will move to the spring. Shannon and Carpenter schools will celebrate Officer Dawn Graver tomorrow; the students are looking forward to the event.

Middle School, Todd Werner – Mr. Werner was absent.

High School, Nick Schauf – The school year began a bit differently, and appreciation was expressed to the crisis team, counselors, and Grant Wood AEA staff for their support of students and staff. Gratitude was also shared with Officer Dawn Graver for her valuable service as SRO—she will be missed. Homecoming was held earlier this year and went well, thanks to Student Council Advisor Hannah and the student council. MAP testing begins this week.

Curriculum Director, Robyn Ponder: Fall testing is underway with FAST and MAP assessments. Middle and high school vertical teams met, including a joint meeting with a team from West Delaware. Staff have been reviewing math curriculum and ISASP data. The recently released Iowa School Performance Profile shows the district scoring above the state average in 14 of 15 performance areas.

Superintendent, Brian Jaeger: Following the unique start to the year, the next six weeks should be more routine. The pre-bid conference for the new elementary is scheduled for October 8, with bid opening on October 23 in the City Council Chambers; Board members are welcome to attend both. My goals for the year will be presented at the October 23 Board meeting.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Rieken to approve to send out for public bids for construction of the New Elementary School as presented. Ayes: Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Rieken, seconded by Amsler to approve the funds the funds allocated to the support staff by the State Legislature to be given as a bonus to our support staff with the amount to be based on their hours worked last year and payable on the November 25 payroll as presented. Ayes: Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Amsler, seconded by Schlarmann, to approve the special education allowable growth request in the amount of \$180,838.87 as presented. Ayes: Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Craig Stadtmueller arrived.

Motion made by Rieken, seconded by Amsler to approve the bid from Lifeline Audio Video Technologies for a new sound system at the football field that will be reimbursed by the athletic booster club in the amount of \$30,875 as presented. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nays: None. Motion carried.

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

Board Member Activity Reports: Big thanks to Katie Harms with OPN Architects for keeping us updated and taking the time to answer all our questions about the new elementary!

The Board wanted the public to know that the bid opening for the new elementary will be on Thursday, October 23, 2025. Very exciting!

The following announcements were made:

- a. New Elementary Pre-Bid Conference is Wednesday, October 8 @ 2:00pm in Board Room
- b. Next Work Session is Wednesday, October 8 @ 6:00 pm
- c. New Elementary Bid Opening is Thursday, October 23 @ 2:00pm in the City Council Chambers
- d. Next Board Meeting is Monday, October 27 @ 6:00 pm
- e. IASB Delegate Assembly is November 19
- f. IASB Annual Convention is November 19-20

There being no further business, Amsler made a motion, seconded by Norton to adjourn the meeting at 7:08pm. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Approved:

Attest:

Craig Stadtmueller, President

Judy Hayen, Board Secretary