

**Official Minutes of the Monticello Community School District Board of Education for the
Regular Meeting of October 27, 2025**

The Board of Education regular meeting was held on Monday, October 27, 2025, in the Board Room 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, Nick Schauf, Todd Werner, Shannon Kehoe, Nick Thumma, Mike Wink, Katie Harms, and Stacy Price and family.

Motion by Rieken, seconded by Schlarmann to approve the agenda as presented with the exception of removing board policy #503.15-Student Substance Abuse from under Item 4.08. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Dr. Jaeger expressed his appreciation and gratitude to our principals in recognition of Principals Month.

Congratulations were extended to: our principals Nick, Todd, and Shannon for their dedication and teamwork; the following all conference volleyball players: Hannah Butterworth- 2nd team, Addison Norton- Honorable mention; the following on their all-conference XC awards: 1st team: Mary Grace Lyons, Peyton Ries, and Aedan Althoff; 2nd team: Alan Arriaga-Rangel; Honorable mention: Mia Gomez, Emmy Verhagen, Nick Schrader, and Bryce McDonald; the following girls cross country runners for making it to state: Mary Grace Lyons and Peyton Ries and to the boys for finishing third and punched their ticket to state as a team; and to Alan Arriaga-Rangel, Carlos Lagunes, and Cameron Pasker on being selected for All-State Band/Choir!

Principals Reports:

High School, Nick Schauf – Football and volleyball seasons have wrapped up, and good luck to the cross-country runners competing at State on Friday. The upcoming musical, The Wizard of Oz, is just a few weeks away and expected to be a great performance. Congratulations to the students selected for All-State Band and Choir. The band will also hold a mattress sale fundraiser on November 1. Staff are currently working on virtual learning and preparing for the Veterans Day breakfast. Appreciation was expressed to Mike Wink and the Transportation Department for conducting bus evacuations for our students. All safety drills for the semester have been completed, and attention is now turning to reviewing testing data, goals, ESSA, and the SAMI plan. Thanks to Shannon and Todd for their continued support and help.

Middle School, Todd Werner – On October 1, we had our largest-ever “Shadow a Student” Day, welcoming 139 visitors and receiving excellent feedback. All fall safety drills have been completed, and FAST and MAP testing are finished, with data review now underway. The Middle School was recognized as a high-performing school on the Iowa School Performance Profile, thanks to the hard work of our staff, students, and parents. Fall sports have concluded, and 8th graders recently visited Polo Plastics as part of their automation/STEM unit. Virtual learning began today. A special thank you to Nick and Shannon for being outstanding coworkers!

Elementary, Shannon Kehoe – Round one of Virtual Learning for elementary students has begun and will be due on November 10, with round two scheduled to run from November 21 - December 5. Preparations are underway for the upcoming Carpenter Elementary Holiday Music Concert, and students have been working hard for the performance. The event will also kick off the school’s 20th Annual Food Drive to benefit the Monticello Food Pantry. Students are currently working toward earning 1,000 positive behavior Panther Paw tickets by Friday, which will be celebrated with a popcorn party thanks to a generous donation from Theisen’s. Earlier this month, fourth graders enjoyed presentations from the Iowa Beef Producers, including one led by high school 4H Ambassadors. In addition, fourth grade students took part in a field trip to Dubuque, where they attended a performance by the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra and participated in engaging music and drama activities at the University of Dubuque. Special thanks were given to Mr. Thumma for organizing this educational experience.

Curriculum Director Robyn Ponder was absent.

Superintendent, Brian Jaeger – We have three virtual learning days built into the calendar as approved snow days. Two of those days will be used before Christmas break, and one will be used afterward. A legislative forum is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, December 3, at the high school. So far, we have four legislators and representatives from eight schools confirmed to attend. At our next A-Team meeting, SRO Erik Honda and I will lead emergency tabletop exercises with our administrative team and other staff members to review various emergency scenarios and response plans. We've also been busy preparing bond information for the upcoming bond sale. Tomorrow, Marcy Gillmore and I will join a call to help determine our bond rating in preparation for the sale on November 12.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Rieken to approve the bid from Garling Construction from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for the new elementary in the amount of \$22,699,000 and with two alternate bids: the addition of north parking lot for \$245,000 and for the addition of widening Spring Farm Lane for \$59,000 as presented. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Norton, seconded by Schlarmann to approve the resolution providing for the advertisement of the sale and approving the official statement for general obligation school bonds, series 2025 as presented. By roll call vote: Schlarmann, aye; Rieken, aye; Amsler, aye; Stadtmueller, aye; and Norton, aye. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Rieken to approve the proposal with Terracon Consultants, Inc. for construction observation and materials testing services for the new elementary for an estimate of \$74,053 as presented. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Rieken, seconded by Amsler to approve the sixteen 2025-26 early graduation requests as presented. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Norton, seconded by Schlarmann to appoint Tony Amsler as our Delegate for the IASB Convention on November 19. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Amsler, seconded by Schlarmann, to approve the application to the SBRC for English Language (EL) excess costs in the amount of \$65,720.36 as presented. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton to approve Dr. Jaeger's 2025-2026 Superintendent goals as presented. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton to approve the first reading of the following Board policies as presented: #207.0 Board Committees, #207.1 Ad Hoc Committees (*deletion*), #207.E1 Ad Hoc Committee Exhibit to Provide Committee Members (*deletion*), #506.10 Emergency Plans and Drills, #702.7 Transportation Insurance Program, and #702.12 The Use of Seat Belts on School Buses (*Dr. Jaeger presented policy options along with recommendations from IASB and the district's insurance provider for this policy. After discussion, the Board chose to keep the policy unchanged, without adding the use of a seatbelt requirement.*). Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

One of our custodians, Stacy Price, attended the meeting with her family to discuss her employment status. Stacy has been dealing with medical issues that have kept her off work since the end of April. Dr. Jaeger presented relevant information and possible options to the Board, after which Stacy also addressed the Board.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Schlarmann and seconded by Rieken to table Item #4.09 – Consider Termination of Support Staff Employee – until the January 14 work session/special meeting, with a request for an update from the employee and the employee's physician in closed session. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

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

Board members wanted the public to know that the bid for the new elementary came in about \$1.6 million below the estimated cost and that having an alternate turning lane will be a huge benefit.

The following announcements were made:

- Next Work Session is Wednesday, November 12 @ 6:00pm
- IASB Delegate Assembly is November 19
- IASB Annual Convention is November 19-20
- Next Board Meeting is Monday, November 24 @ 6:00pm

There being no further business, Schlarmann made a motion, seconded by Norton to adjourn the meeting at 7:34pm. Ayes: Schlarmann, Rieken, Amsler, Stadtmueller, and Norton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Approved:

Attest:

Craig Stadtmueller, President

Judy Hayen, Board Secretary