

Official Minutes of the Board of Education for the Monticello Community School District Annual Meeting of November 24, 2025

The Board of Education annual meeting was held on Monday, November 24, 2025 in the Board Room at the High School and was called to order at 5:30pm by President Craig Stadtmueller. Board member Tony Amsler led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the mission statement. Roll call was done by Board Secretary, Judy Hayen. The following directors were present: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Rieken. Absent: None. Others present were Brian Jaeger, Marcy Gillmore, Judy Hayen, Nick Joos, Robyn Ponder, Nick Thumma, Nick Schauf, Todd Werner (*arrived at 6:09pm*), Shannon Kehoe, and Creighton Randolph.

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

Motion by Schlarmann seconded by Amsler to approve the finance reports for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 as presented. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Rieken. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Norton, seconded by Schlarmann to approve the minutes of October 27, 2025 and November 12, 2025, as presented. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Rieken. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Rieken to accept the abstract of the November 4, 2025 School Board Election as presented. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Rieken. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Rieken, seconded by Schlarmann to approve the second and final 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. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Rieken. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Superintendent Jaeger then recognized Board Member Mark Rieken for his four years of service and presented him a plaque and a lifetime activities pass. Thank you, Mark!

There being no further business, Rieken made a motion, seconded by Schlarmann to adjourn the annual meeting at 5:36pm. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Rieken. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Approved:

Attest:

Craig Stadtmueller, President

Judy Hayen, Board Secretary

Official Minutes of the Organizational Meeting of the Board of Education for the Monticello Community School District of November 24, 2025

Superintendent Brian Jaeger called the organizational meeting of the new board to order at 5:36pm.

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

Secretary Judy Hayen administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected Board Members: Mandy Norton, Creighton Randolph, and Craig Stadtmueller.

Written nominations were then received for the office of President of the Monticello School Board. Craig Stadtmueller was nominated for office of President of the Monticello School Board. The Board cast a 5 to 0 ballot for Craig Stadtmueller as President of the Monticello School Board for the 2025-26 school year. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Superintendent Jaeger asked for written nominations for the office of Vice-President of the Monticello Community School District. Mandy Norton was nominated by written ballot for the office of Vice-President. The Board cast a 5 to 0 ballot for Mandy Norton as Vice-President of the Monticello School Board for the 2025-26 school year. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Board Secretary Judy Hayen administered the oath of office to President Craig Stadtmueller and Vice-President Mandy Norton.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton to appoint Judy Hayen as Secretary of the Monticello Board of Education for the 2025-26 school year. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nay: None. Motion carried. President Stadtmueller administered the Oath of Office to Board Secretary, Judy Hayen.

Motion by Norton, seconded by Amsler to appoint Marcy Gillmore as Treasurer of the Monticello Board of Education for the 2025-26 school year. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nay: None. Motion carried. President Stadtmueller administered the Oath of Office to Board Treasurer, Marcy Gillmore.

Congratulations were extended to Coach Donnie Kremer on being selected as inductee into the 2026 Iowa Girls Coaches Association Girls Basketball Hall of Fame!

Principals Reports:

Elementary, Shannon Kehoe – Our fall conferences were very well attended, with 99% attendance at Shannon and 96% at Carpenter. A special shout-out to Mr. Schmitt and the FFA students for presenting to the kindergartners as part of their farm unit. Mr. Thumma has been working hard with Carpenter students as they prepare for their holiday concert on December 9. Elementary students were challenged to demonstrate positive behaviors in the cafeteria by using good manners. They rose to the challenge and earned a “Fine Dining Experience” as a reward. Thank you to Officer Erik Honda for an excellent start to the school year. The feedback from staff and his interactions with students have been outstanding. We appreciate his visibility and commitment to keeping us safe.

High School, Nick Schauf – High school conferences focus on the quality of conversations rather than the quantity. A shout-out to our building leadership team for their work in finalizing our action plan and evaluating our systems to strengthen our state level of high performing. The high school will be serving its holiday meal tomorrow. Officer Honda recently gave a presentation to our students on social media—an eye-opening experience for everyone. A reminder that the first semester ends before winter break on December 19.

Curriculum Director's Report, Robyn Ponder - Special Education: Teams focused on Specially Designed Instruction. The district's special education count increased by 21 students with IEPs, with weighted count rising from 127.37 to 158.31. A major factor was the arrival of 28 new students with IEPs at the start of the school year. Math: Continued work on math curriculum adoption processes. Science: Collaborated with a Department of Education science consultant on standards alignment and lesson development. Other Departments: Updated course guides, including course descriptions, unit overviews, pacing, priority standards, and assessments.

Superintendent, Brian Jaeger – Last week, I attended the Iowa Association of School Boards convention with Tony Amsler. The event featured many excellent speakers, and two key takeaways were the importance of being intentional and the reminder that school culture is built in 30 seconds at a time. Thank you to everyone who joined us this evening for the groundbreaking of our new elementary building—it was inspiring to see such strong community support! A reminder that our legislative forum will be held next Wednesday.

Motion by Randolph, seconded by Schlarmann to set the 4th Monday of each month at 6:00pm in the High School Board Room at 850 E Oak Street, Monticello, Iowa as the time, date, and place for the regular school board meetings and a work session on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:00pm in the Board Room. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton to approve the Resolution of Depositories to designate the following banks as the official school depositories for the 2025-26 school year: Ohnward Bank and Trust in the amount of \$900,000, Citizens State Bank in the amount of \$13,000,000, Iowa Schools Joint Investment Trust (ISJIT) in the amount of \$10,000, and UMB Bank (\$1,400,000) as presented. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Randolph, seconded by Schlarmann to retain the firms of Ahlers & Cooney P.C., and Lynch Dallas P.C. Law Firm to represent the district for personnel issues and on a case-by-case basis for the Board for the 2025-26 school year as presented. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Norton, seconded by Randolph, to designate *The Monticello Express* as our official publication for the 2025-26 school year. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Amsler to accept the appointments of the following board members to each of the committees listed: Negotiations/Labor Relations – Mandy Norton; Grounds/Transportation – John Schlarmann; Education – Tony Amsler; and Finance – Creighton Randolph. The Board President will serve on all committee areas. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Amsler, seconded by Schlarmann to approve the first reading of the Board Policy #503.4 Student Substance Abuse as presented. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton to approve the Letter of Agreement with Optimized Systems/IMEG for the Performance Commissioning Services for the New Elementary School as presented. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton to approve the request to the SBRC for a modified supplemental amount of \$44,383 for open enrolled out students who were not included in the district's previous year certified enrollment count as presented. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Norton, seconded by Randolph, to approve the request to the SBRC for a modified supplemental amount of \$7,109 related to the English Language Learning Program for students who have exceeded five years of weighting that are included on the Fall 2025 certified enrollment head count as presented. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nay: None. Motion carried.

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

Board member activity reports: John Schlarmann remarked that it was wonderful to see such a strong turnout at today's groundbreaking. Tony Amsler also attended the IASB convention, noting it was a great experience, and encouraged the rest of the Board to mark their calendars for next year's convention on November 19, 2026.

The Board wanted to extend congratulations to Creighton Randolph as newly elected Board member and to welcome him to the Monticello Community School District Board of Education!

The following announcements were made:

- a. Legislative Forum will be held on Wednesday, December 3, 2025 at 6:00pm.
- b. Next Board Meeting is Monday, December 15 @ 6:00pm
- c. Winter Break is December 22 – January 1

There being no further business, Schlarmann made a motion, seconded by Amsler to adjourn the meeting at 6:25pm. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nay: None. Motion carried.

The Board then moved to Exempt Session per Iowa Code 20.17(3).

Approved:

Attest:

Craig Stadtmueller, President

Judy Hayen, Board Secretary