

Official Minutes of the Monticello Community School District Board of Education for the Regular Meeting of May 18, 2026

President Craig Stadtmueller called the public hearing to amend the current FY26 budget to order at 6:00pm on Monday, May 18, 2026 in the Board Room at 850 E Oak Street, Monticello, Iowa. Business Manager, Marcy Gillmore explained the amendment. No public comments were received. Stadtmueller closed the public hearing at 6:01pm.

The Board of Education regular meeting was held on Monday, May 18, 2026 in the Board Room at 850 E Oak Street, Monticello, Iowa, and was called to order at 6:01 pm by President Craig Stadtmueller. 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: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, and Randolph. Absent: Schlarmann. Also present were: Judy Hayen, Marcy Gillmore, Brian Jaeger, Nick Joos with *The Monticello Express*, Nick Thumma, Robyn Ponder, Nick Schauf, Todd Werner, Shannon Kehoe, and Katie Harms with OPN Architects.

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

Congratulations were extended to: the Class of 2026; Rielle Henderson on breaking the 7th grade 800-meter record and the 1500-meter record; the 8th grade shuttle hurdle relay team who broke the middle school record twice this season: Julia Ries, Kendra Davis-Robinson, Bella Gaul, Carly McDonald; Greyson Hinrichs for breaking the 8th Grade 100-meter dash school record at the Beckman meet; Victor McDonald for breaking the 7th Grade school record in the 1600-meter at the West Branch meet; the 7th grade distance medley team of Averie Slaght, Elise Schauf, Madyx McElmeel, and Rielle Henderson, who broke the school record and set a new conference record at the RVC meet; Eli Reyner who broke the conference record at Bellevue in the discus with a throw of 134'9"; the 7th grade boys for their 1st place finish at the conference track meet; Mary Grace Lyons who qualified for the Drake Relays in the 3000; the following students who received a Division I rating for vocal solos at the Iowa State Solo & Ensemble contest: Meghan Besler, Mary Grace Lyons, Kei Lee, Cameron Pasker, and Destiny Wall; the following students who received a Division I rating for their vocal ensemble at the Iowa State Solo & Ensemble Contest: Skylar Christensen, Vannessa Clapp, Eden Devilbiss, Stella Flynn, Haley Larrimore, Mary Grace Lyons, Destiny Wall, Kyle Arduser, Cole Bouska, Greyson Keunen, Carlos Lagunes Torres, Eli Moestchen, Cameron Pasker, Jack Saunders, Lincoln Schneiter, and Caleb Tubbs; the Monticello girls track and field team on winning the state qualifying meet in Hudson! The Panthers topped the team standings with 120 team points. Automatic state qualifiers include: Kenya Davis-Robinson (Long Jump, 100-meter dash), Mary Grace Lyons (3,000, 4x800, 1,500), Peyton Ries (800, 4x800), Halle Recker (4x800) and Brynn Schmit (4x800); and to the boys' track and field team who qualified 10 events for the state track meet. State qualifiers include: Trenton Seemann (4x800-meter relay), Nicholas Schrader (4x800), Alex Jamison (4x800, Distance Medley, 4x400), Mace Schnoor (4x800), Isaac Kray (Distance Medley, 4x400), Conley Schauf (Distance Medley, 4x400), Grant Gassman (Distance Medley, 4x400), Eli Santa (Ambulatory 100, Ambulatory 200, Ambulatory Shot Put), Lincoln Schneiter (Discus), Carter Holub (Shot Put), Mac Burkle (High Jump), Emmit Rickels (110-Hurdles) and Aedan Althoff (3,200). Alternates are Althoff, Jack Jesenovec and Landry Schauf.

REPORTS:

Elementary Principal Shannon Kehoe: A few upcoming events at the elementary include performances by the Red Cedar Chamber Group for 2nd–4th grade students and the University of Iowa Steel Drum Band for Carpenter students on May 21. The PTO Fun Day is also scheduled for May 21. Shannon shared the FAST Elementary Proficiency and Academic Growth Reading graph, highlighting strong student progress and the percentage of students meeting benchmark goals by grade level. The elementary buildings have also enjoyed several fun activities over the past few weeks, including Creativity Week at Shannon, where various guests visited and performed for students, as well as the “Tattoo a Teacher” fundraiser. These events have provided a great way to wrap up the final weeks of the school year.

Middle School Principal Todd Werner: A special shoutout to Donna Wall for directing the spring plays for both our 5th and 6th graders and our 7th and 8th graders—great job! A big thank you also goes out to our incredible staff this month, as well as to the Board for their continued support. Our 5th grade students recently participated in School of the Wild, an experience that continues to be a favorite for both students and staff. The 8th graders also enjoyed beautiful weather for their canoe trip last Friday. In addition, our spring sports seasons have wrapped up, and it was an outstanding year for our track teams.

High School Principal Nick Schauf: This month, we celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week, Support Staff Week, and School Nurse Day. Thank you to all of the local businesses and staff members who donated and helped recognize our employees. Graduation was a tremendous success, and congratulations to the Class of 2026! Mr. Schmitt and his Agronomy class recently met with Nutrien Ag to learn more about seed, fertilizer, and grid soil sampling as part of the FFA plot project. They are also close to completing soybean planting. In addition, Mr. Schmitt and his students delivered approximately 70 flower pots throughout the community, providing a wonderful addition to Monticello. Students are also continuing work on the garden plot and will have two summer interns assisting this year. Our spring sports seasons are wrapping up, and we wish the best of luck to our track athletes competing at the State Meet this week.

Curriculum Director Robyn Ponder: Robyn presented information on the mentor and critical friend program that supports our new teachers. She also discussed the Transition Alliance Program (TAP) summer camp that will be offered this summer for qualifying students. The program provides a variety of learning opportunities and field trips for participating students.

Superintendent Brian Jaeger: Dr. Jaeger shared the Elementary Pen Pal project that was featured on the district's Facebook page, which included many familiar retired staff members and highlighted a very meaningful project for students. In recognition of Board Recognition Month, Dr. Jaeger expressed his appreciation to the Board members by presenting each member with a certificate and thanking them for their time, commitment, and dedication to Monticello Schools. He also recognized Shannon Kehoe on her retirement and presented her with a plaque honoring her years of service. Thank you, Shannon!

Katie Harms from OPN Architects discussed the change order on the new elementary. The change order was necessary to address increased occupant load requirements in the gym required by the state building code review. Updates included additional restroom fixtures, a fourth egress door from the gym, an extra row of bleachers, and expanded restroom space. The changes added three days to the project timeline and resulted in a total cost increase of \$67,323.44.

Motion by Randolph, seconded by Amsler to approve the Garling Construction Change Order #003 in the amount of \$67,323.44 as presented. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, and Randolph. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Norton, seconded by Amsler to approve the FY26 amended budget as presented. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, and Randolph. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Norton, seconded by Randolph to approve the 2026-27 fee schedule as presented. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, and Randolph. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Norton, seconded by Amsler to approve the bid from Barr & Company, LLC as our auditors for a three-year term (\$13,000 for 2027, \$13,200 for 2028, and \$13,400 for 2029) as presented. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, and Randolph. Nays: None. Motion carried.

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

There were no Board member activity reports.

The Board wanted the public to know that construction of the new elementary school is progressing well, with walls scheduled to begin going up in June. They also recognized the strong representation our district will have at the state track meet and congratulated the middle school track athletes on their successful seasons. The Board shared that it is great to see the school year ending with a positive balance of fun activities and strong academics. In addition, they thanked Mrs. Ryan's class for recognizing School Board Month.

There were no agenda items suggested for future work sessions.

The following announcements were made:

- Last day of school is May 22 with 1:00pm early dismissal
- Next Work Session is June 10 at 6:00pm
- Next Board Meeting is June 22 at 6:00pm

There being no further business, Norton made a motion, seconded by Randolph to adjourn the meeting at 7:01pm. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, and Randolph. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Approved:

Attest:

Craig Stadtmueller, President

Judy Hayen, Board Secretary