

Official Minutes of the Monticello Community School District Board of Education for the Regular Meeting of August 24, 2026

The Board of Education regular meeting was held on Monday, August 24, 2026 in the Board Room at the High School at 850 East Oak Street, Monticello, Iowa. Board President Craig Stadtmueller called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. 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 Creighton Randolph. Absent: None. Others present were Judy Hayen, Marcy Gillmore, Brian Jaeger, Kegan Arduser with *The Monticello Express*, Gina McConahay, Todd Werner, Nick Schauf, Robyn Ponder, Rebecca Dewitte, and Travis Squires with Piper Sandler.

Motion by Randolph, seconded by Schlarmann to approve the agenda as presented with the exception of removing item 3.03 *New Elementary Update by Katie Harms* as she was unable to attend the meeting and moving item 4.01 *Consider Approval of Resolution Providing for the Award and Issuance of General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2026, and Providing for the Levy of Taxes to Pay the Same* to later in the meeting for when Travis Squires arrives. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Celebrations included that we had a successful new teacher orientation day, professional development days, and open house! Thank you to Citizens State Bank, Ohnward Bank & Trust, United Church of Monticello, and Fareway for the delicious food to start off the year!

REPORTS:

Principals Gina McConahay, 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. And also to our maintenance staff for making sure our buildings were ready for the start of the year.

Curriculum Director Robyn Ponder: Our first professional development days were a success and included valuable training for all staff, including our associates. We welcomed five new teachers to the district, the District Continuous Improvement Team (DCIT) began collaborating on the Strategic Operating Plan, and I am finalizing curriculum resources so teachers have everything they need for the year ahead.

Superintendent Brian Jaeger: The bond sales went smoothly and the elementary project continues to move forward. Garling Construction aims to have the building fully enclosed by November to allow for interior work throughout the winter, targeting a final completion date of June 7 (excluding punch list items). A warm welcome to our five new teachers joining the district! With milder weather in the forecast, we hope to avoid any heat-related early dismissals this week. Thank you to everyone for making it a great start to the school year!

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton to approve creating a standard retirement recognition for all Monticello employees who retire after 5 years of employment by recognizing them at a Board meeting and presenting them with a years of service plaque. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Amsler, seconded by Randolph to approve the letter of agreement between the Monticello Community School District and the Linn County Emergency Management Agency for Temporary Relocation Center as presented. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Norton, seconded by Randolph to approve the first reading of the following Board policies as presented: #401.4 Employee Use of Cell Phones, #505.1 Extra-Curricular and Co-Curricular Activities. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nays: None. Motion carried.

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

Board member activity reports: Schlarmann reported on the Freshman Orientation and Open House, noting strong attendance and a successful evening, as well as positive expectations for the upcoming football season following Friday's scrimmage. Amsler highlighted the August 20 Community Picnic and commended the football team for volunteering. Stadtmueller extended thanks to the football team for assisting with Cruisin' for Camp Courageous. Randolph attended the teacher breakfast and the employee recognition luncheon; both were great events. He also noted the Foundation had a great turnout for their golf outing.

The Board would like the public to know that the bond sales went smoothly.

There were no agenda items suggested for a future work session.

The following announcements were made:

- a. Next Work Session is Wednesday, September 9 at 6:00pm
- b. Next Board Meeting is Monday, September 28 at 6:00pm

Travis Squires with Piper Sandler presented the sale results for the Series 2026 General Obligation Bonds and reviewed the resolution up for approval tonight.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Randolph to approve the Resolution Providing for the Award and Issuance of General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2026, and Providing for the Levy of Taxes to Pay the Same as presented. By roll call vote: Amsler, aye; Stadtmueller, aye; Norton, aye; Schlarmann, aye; and Randolph, aye. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Travis Squires then discussed the Project Finance Plan with the Board, covering the legislative changes to the 2026 Sales Tax Component and outlining the next steps.

There being no further business Amsler made a motion, seconded by Randolph to adjourn the meeting at 7:36pm. Ayes: Amsler, Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Randolph. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Approved:

Attest:

Craig Stadtmueller, President

Judy Hayen, Board Secretary