

Minutes
Regular Board of Education Meeting
October 10, 2018
7:00 p.m.

The board of education of the Meredosia-Chambersburg School District met in regular session October 10, 2018 in the boardroom of the Meredosia-Chambersburg School. President Jason Morton called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Jason Morton, Brian Werries, Madeline Buhlig, Jeff Browning, Scott Gregory, and Alan Taylor. Member Kevin Duesterhaus arrived at 7:26 p.m. Also present were Superintendent Thad Walker, Principal, Dan Carie, Carolyn Browning, secretary, Christina Brant, Shirley Bilyeu, Jeff Bourne, and David Pistorius.

Madeline Buhlig made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Member Brian Werries seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Jason Morton, yea; Brian Werries, yea; Madeline Buhlig, yea; Jeff Browning, yea; Scott Gregory, yea; and Alan Taylor, yea. Motion carried 6 yeas – 0 nays.

No Public Comments

Reports:

Mr. Walker introduced David Pistorius from First Midstate, Inc. Mr. Pistorius passed out packets to the board members and gave a short presentation explaining who and what First Midstate is. In his presentation he explained what working cash fund is and how if we have bonds ready to pay off we can dovetail another project in before bond is paid off. Rules have changed and he sent Mr. Walker a security engagement letter to sign which is required before we can engage in conversations about this. He went over some figures if we borrowed a certain amount of money at different interest rates what our payments would look like. Mr. Walker and the board thanked him for coming and presenting the information.

Superintendent's Report:

- We have received an IL-Empower Grant. This grant is for under achieving schools. We will receive up to \$700,000 over the next five years. With this process we can use the money to update technology, instruction, and curriculum. Within this process we will be selecting a group to help obtain our goals outlined in the school improvement plan. We will be rewriting the SIP plan over the next few months. I would like to hire Cindy Potter to be a Data Input Specialist. She will do testing and help input our RTI program. She will be paid a salary through the grant.
- The SRO officer has been a success for the school and the village. Mr. Pulling is getting more comfortable walking around the school and interacting with students and staff.
- We have received the Healthy Community Grant again this year to be used for the summer program. We are planning on having the same programs we had last year. The elementary program will be more based on careers and reading. The high school program will be the APEX. Both programs were a success last summer.
- I have been in discussion with the Mt. Sterling YMCA for them to lease our buses this summer. We also have discussed our students attending their summer programs when we have our summer programs at no charge. They are going to pay us \$200 a trip and they will supply the drivers. They will be using the buses twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday unless we need them.
- Mr. Spoon is going to retire at the end of the school year. I am working on a plan to move Jerry up to inside and outside maintenance and then hiring another custodian for the inside cleaning. We will need two bus drivers for next year as John Wood is also retiring. I would like to have this completed in March so we can have a smooth transition when summer cleaning begins.
- The Homecoming parade and dance went very well. I discussed with Triopia and Virginia administration about Virginia and us alternating the parade each year since Triopia always has the football game and the student games. We will discuss this further in the future.
- The teachers attended the Quincy Conference October 5th. Mr. Bettis was the driver for 7 people that did not drive on their own.

Superintendent's Report continued:

- Still have heard nothing back on the kitchen grant except that it was accepted.
- Mrs. Browning has sent out Board member election packets to the 5 members who are up for re-election. They need to be turned in by December 17th to the Morgan County Clerk at the Morgan County courthouse.
- I want to thank everyone for their support this school year! It has been challenging for the staff, student and school board members. I truly appreciate everything the school board does!

Principal's Report –JH/HS:

- 6th-12th grade are finish taking the Star 360 (Renaissance assessment test)
- This will result in more curriculum and learning for students and the staff will be able to focus on student deficiencies.
- Quincy Conference was attended by all staff. There WILL be school Friday, October 19th.
- MTV Homecoming Week went well at Meredosia. Planning on meeting with all 3 student councils to discuss 2019 Homecoming.
- We have no girls playing JH Girls Basketball but the games have been well attended.
- 5 boys are interested in going out for JH Basketball.
- October 10th going on at the moment PCC Choral Concert is going on here. Thanks to Mr. Bowman for getting everything set up for this.
- October 28th is the K-12 PCA Halloween Carnival from 2-4 p.m. Trunk or Treat will be from 3:30-4:30

Member Brian Werries made the motion to go into Closed Session at 7:41 p.m. to discuss litigation, land acquisition, negotiations, student disciplinary cases, and to consider information regarding the appointment, employment, or dismissal of an employee or officer. Member Alan Taylor seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Kevin Duesterhaus, yea; Brian Werries, yea; Madeline Buhlig, yea; Jeff Browning, yea; Scott Gregory, yea; Alan Taylor, yea; and Jason Morton, yea. Motion carried 7 yeas – 0 nays.

Members came out of executive session at 8:24 p.m.

Member Madeline Buhlig made the motion to approve purchasing a 2013 Toro lawnmower. Member Brian Werries seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Brian Werries, yea; Madeline Buhlig, yea; Jeff Browning, yea; Scott Gregory, yea; Alan Taylor, yea; Jason Morton, yea; and Kevin Duesterhaus, yea. Motion carried 7 yea – 0 nays.

Member Madeline Buhlig made the motion to hire one-on-one aide for a grade school student. Member Scott Gregory seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Madeline Buhlig, yea; Jeff Browning, yea; Scott Gregory, yea; Alan Taylor, present; Jason Morton, yea; Kevin Duesterhaus, yea and Brian Werries, yea. Motion carried 7 yea – 0 nays.

Member Alan Taylor made the motion to approve leasing our school bus to Mt. Sterling YMCA during summer months. Member Scott Gregory seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Jeff Browning, yea; Scott Gregory, yea; Alan Taylor, yea; Jason Morton, yea; Kevin Duesterhaus, yea; Brian Werries, yea and Madeline Buhlig, yea. Motion carried 7 yea – 0 nays.

Member Jeff Browning made the motion to approve hiring Cindy Potter as a Data Input Specialist through the Illinois Empowerment Grant – 3 days a week through the rest of the 2018-2019 school year. Member Brian Werries seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Scott Gregory, yea; Alan Taylor, yea; Jason Morton, yea; Kevin Duesterhaus, yea; Brian Werries, yea; Madeline Buhlig, yea; and Jeff Browning, yea. Motion carried 7 yea – 0 nays.

Member Brian Werries made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Alan Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried via voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

President, Jason Morton

Secretary, Madeline Buhlig