

**Minutes**  
**Regular Board of Education Meeting**  
**August 12, 2020**  
**7 p.m.**

The board of education of the Meredosia-Chambersburg School District met in regular session August 12, 2020 in the science room of the Meredosia-Chambersburg School. President Jason Morton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Jason Morton, Kevin Duesterhaus, Brian Werries, Jeff Browning, Scott Gregory and Alan Taylor. Member Madeline Buhlig was absent. Also present were Superintendent Thad Walker, Jr./Sr. High Principal Jeff Abell, Carolyn Browning, district bookkeeper, Christine Brant, Shirley Bilyeu.

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

**Reports:**

**Superintendent's Report:**

- The media center should be completed soon. Carpet was just being installed as of the meeting date.
- Jerry Phillips had open heart surgery and will be out for awhile. We might need to look at trying to find a temporary person to help clean.
- I have ordered 2 electrostatic cleaners for the custodians to use to help sanitize the building.
- Registration went well and we had roughly around 42 at this time signed up for remote learning.
- Mr. Walker passed out the latest IDPH guidelines and will do his best to keep the board informed as things change or update. He will also have these posted on the school website.
- August 17<sup>th</sup> will be a teachers institute day for all staff and then the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> are COVID Days.
- Mr. Walker and Mr. Abell along with the IL Empower team have worked all summer on the opening of school and how staff will be utilized in the morning and afternoon in checking kids in with taking temperatures and releasing them at the end of the day. They also plan on having Rich Pulling, Resource Officer at the front by the doors with the double doors shut. He will make sure they have mask and help keep anyone coming into the school that doesn't need to be in the school at a minimum.
- Part of the board packet mailed out included possible questions and answers that staff or the public might have regarding procedures for the school during this time.

**JH/HS Principal's Report:**

- Registration was August 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Abell as well felt everything went pretty smoothly.
- Ronda Carmean and Jeannie Battefeld the school secretaries did their best to call and track down those that didn't come to registration to find out if they were sending their children to school or remote learning.
- We will have 3 days of training for staff August 17-19<sup>th</sup> to go over procedural items and the biggest thing we will stress is to be flexible and stay positive.
- The media center is looking great. We are putting ordering furniture on hold at the moment due to COVID. We don't want to get furniture that can't be wiped down and has to be spaced apart.
- Lockers for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> are going to be color coded orange/black/white and spaced apart as well. Plus with some kids choosing to go remote learning there might be even more spaces in between some than others.
- August 28<sup>th</sup> will be "decision day". With the school boards okay students will have till the 28<sup>th</sup> to decide if they will remote learn or come to school the first quarter. After that they have to stick to their choice and cannot bounce back and forth.
- Mr. Abell said some students asked about possibly graduating early and asked the board what their feelings were on this. The board decided to come up with some criteria and guidelines and present it to them for a final decision.
- The custodians have been doing a great job with our summer maintenance and cleaning.
- The IL Empower team continues to meet weekly.
- We are up to 235 followers on school Instagram.

Member Alan Taylor made the motion to go into Closed Session at 7:34 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 Brian Werries seconded the motion. Unanimous vote 6-0. Member Kevin Duesterhaus made the motion to return from closed session and Member Jeff Browning seconded the motion. Board returned from closed session at 8:32 p.m.

Member Scott Gregory made a resolution to set budget hearing for September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:50 p.m. Member Brian Werries seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Kevin Duesterhaus, yea; Brian Werries, yea; Jeff Browning, yea; Scott Gregory, yea; Alan Taylor, yea and Jason Morton, yea. Motion carried 6 yeas – 0 nays.

Member Alan Taylor made a motion to approve Gracie Duesterhaus as JH Girls Softball Assistant Coach. Member Jeff Browning seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Brian Werries, yea; Jeff Browning, yea; Scott Gregory, yea; Alan Taylor, yea; Jason Morton, yea and Kevin Duesterhaus, abstain. Motion carried 5 yeas; 1 abstain – 0 nays.

Action Item 6.3 was dropped.

Member Brian Werries made a motion to approve COVID-19 Policy number 2020-A. Member Kevin Duesterhaus seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Jeff Browning, yea; Scott Gregory, yea; Alan Taylor, yea; Jason Morton, yea; Kevin Duesterhaus, yea and Brian Werries, yea. Motion carried 6 yeas – 0 nays.

Member Kevin Duesterhaus made a motion to approve 2020-2021 School Calendar. 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 and Jeff Browning, yea. Motion carried 6 yeas – 0 nays.

Member Alan Taylor made a motion to approve 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Press Plus 104. Member Kevin Duesterhaus seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Alan Taylor, yea; Jason Morton, yea; Kevin Duesterhaus, yea; Brian Werries, yea; Jeff Browning, yea and Scott Gregory, yea. Motion carried 6 yeas – 0 nays.

Member Brian Werries made a motion to approve Re-opening Plan 2020-2021. Member Alan Taylor seconded the motion. Roll call was as follows: Jason Morton, yea; Kevin Duesterhaus, yea; Brian Werries, yea; Jeff Browning, yea; Scott Gregory, yea and Alan Taylor, yea. Motion carried 6 yeas – 0 nays.

Member Scott Gregory made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Brian Werries seconded the motion. By unanimous vote meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

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President, Jason Morton

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Secretary, Madeline Buhlig