

MACON PIATT SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT (MPSED)
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019
Richland Community College National Sequestration Education Center (NSEC) Building
Decatur, Illinois

Chairman Vic Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:37 a.m. Member roll call was taken.

Members Present: Damian Jones, Sheila Greenwood, DeAnn Heck, Brett Robinson, Paul Fregeau, Amanda Geary, Andy Pygott, Vic Zimmerman (*Chairperson*), Bob Meadows, Kristen Kendrick-Weikle
(10 present)

Members Absent: John Ahlemeyer, Travis Roundcount

Also Present: Kathy Horath, Travis Friedrich, Vickie Vieth (*Secretary*), Matt Snyder, Jill Reedy, Bret Hitchings

Public Participation: None

Seeing no public participation, Chairperson Zimmerman entertained the motion to approve the minutes from the 8/6/2019 meeting. Supt Pygott motioned to approve the Executive Board minutes as presented, seconded by Supt Geary. Voice Vote: All in favor

Call to **CLOSED Session** at 7:38 a.m. by Supt Fregeau's motion to discuss possible litigation, appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, seconded by Supt Greenwood. Voice Vote: All in favor.

Return to Open Session at 7:44 a.m. by Supt Jones' motion, seconded by Supt Robinson. Voice Vote: All in favor.

Roll Call Action Items

A. Personnel and Administrative Appointments

After a brief summary of personnel, a question was raised regarding what the number was for remaining unfilled positions: 10 – teacher assistants; 1 – MP social worker (10 for Decatur); 4 – teachers; 4 – school psychologists. Even though a lot of teacher assistants have been hired, our turnover seems to be higher this year leaving a lot of vacancies. Supt Kendrick-Weikle motioned to recommend the Executive Board advise Decatur Public Schools, as administrative district for MPSED, that the employees presented be recommended as listed, seconded by Supt Heck. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (9) Ayes: Jones, Greenwood, Heck, Robinson, Fregeau, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Kendrick-Weikle. (0) Nays; (1) not available during vote; (2) Absent.

B. Contract for School Consultation Services

Our greatest need is at Hope and Parsons. We have students who are physically aggressive hurting Life Skills staff. This contract reflects an increase cost of \$10 per hour over last year's contract. Supt Jones motioned to approve the school consultation agreement with the Baby Fold for on-site consultation in SEAP and Life Skills programs, for program evaluation, student-specific behavior consultation and training purposes, seconded by Supt Pygott. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (9) Ayes: Jones, Greenwood, Heck, Robinson, Geary, Pygott, Zimmerman, Meadows, Kendrick-Weikle. (0) Nays; (1) Abstain; (2) Absent.

Director's Report

A. Finance Update – first bills will be sent shortly. Last year's numbers will be utilized to open the administration costs since we have not been able to reconcile special education numbers to

what is in SIS. Adjustments will be made when the special ed numbers in iStar and SIS both align – showing they are correct.

For those who have not amended your grant yet, Kathy is still available to write your amendment. You WILL want to write to receive those carryover dollars. Macon Piatt will need to submit your district's quarterly expenditure reports before first quarter is over. A periodic grant report is also due every quarter. Kathy can help! For the first report, she can fill out the one-page sheet, have you send it, then you can update the report with your district's professional development expenditures related to SpEd.

B. MPSED Programs – impact of moves and construction update.

For the opening of school this year, it was a rough start for our programs due to the moves from closing Harris splitting the programs apart dividing between Hope and Enterprise. Enterprise had a softer open than Hope but overall the programs at Hope are fairly happy with their location. The surroundings at Hope have been challenging with so many vacancies in their building – around 30%. Stephen Decatur had some construction complications but our programs were able to get into their rooms. The new student information system, Skyward, was also challenging since it did not work as they had expected. We had a rough beginning but it is starting to smooth out. We are now focusing on student specific issues.

C. MPSED ongoing vacancies was previously discussed in the meeting.

D. Administrator evaluations – reminder that Kathy does annual evaluations of SpEd

Administrators. She relies on the superintendents and principals to inform her how things are going in your district and in your buildings. If any issues are known, don't hesitate to tell her – she will address it quickly.

E. HB 3586 (House Bill 3586) – this handout was sent to you and is the talk of the SpEd world. We are now required to give parents a draft IEP 3 days prior to the meeting. This is happening but with a little grumblings from some of our case managers. Another piece also requires service logs which our related service people are already doing. Those logs will be shown to parents if they request to see them at an IEP meeting. The last piece is that everyone has to implement RTI using a problem-solving approach and using tiered interventions – which all districts are doing. Inside your packet is a handout. Travis discussed those again with the SpEd Administrators (SEA) on Friday. Most comments were related to the challenges of getting the draft IEP out ahead of time. Based upon the feedback received, the staff is responding well. We are not sending the services and placement pages out in the draft since it may give the appearance of predetermination. This is under the advisement from our councilman – the handout concurs. This bill has not had the best response. Originally this bill was intended for Chicago Public Schools. We thought there would be a trailer bill this fall but it appears the parent advocacy groups have gotten a hold of this and we do not think they will let this go.


As a side note: An email was sent out regarding 504's...we fixed it on our website. If you are linked on our website, you are probably fine – it is under parent resources.

Adjournment: Hearing no further questions or discussions, Supt Robinson motioned to adjourn this meeting of the Macon Piatt Special Education District Executive Board, seconded by Supt Pygott. Voice Vote: All in favor – Meeting adjourned at 7:58 a.m.

Handouts: *Draft August Minutes*
 Vendor Checks (electronically sent)


Personnel Appointments
Contract for The Baby Fold
July and August Treasurer's Report
Current Vacancies
HB 3586 Q&A

****Next Meeting of the MPSED Executive Board will take place 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 24, 2019 at MPSED Office Conference room – 335 E Cerro Gordo Street, Decatur.**



MPSED Cooperative Board Chairperson

10-24-19
Date Approved



MPSED Cooperative Board Secretary

10/24/19
Date Approved