

MACON PIATT SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT (MPSED)
SPECIAL CALLED BOARD MEETING MINUTES – THURSDAY AUGUST 6, 2020
Regional Office of Education #39 - Conference Room (Zoom Platform available)
1690 Huston Drive, Decatur IL 62526

Chairman Vic Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. Member roll call was taken.

Members Present: Damian Jones, Sheila Greenwood, Brett Robinson, Paul Fregeau, Amanda Geary, John Ahlemeyer, Andy Pygott, Vic Zimmerman (*Chairperson*), Travis Roundcount, Bob Meadows, Cheryl Warner
(8 in person)
(3 conference)

Members Absent: DeAnn Heck (arrived zoom platform 7:53 a.m.)

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

Public Participation: None

Chairperson Zimmerman entertained a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion by Supt Pygott: To approve the Executive Board minutes from the 7/8/20 meeting as presented, seconded by Supt Jones. Voice Vote: All in favor.

No call for **CLOSED Session**.

Roll Call Action Items

A. Personnel and Administrative Appointments

Mentioned an additional teacher was added to the list in the packet. No further questions or discussion.

Motion by Supt Robinson: 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 Geary. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (11) Yea: Jones, Greenwood, Robinson, Fregeau, Geary, Ahlemeyer, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner; (0) Nay; (1) Absent during vote.

Directors Report

- A. 2020-2021 MPSED Meeting Dates / Times / Location – members agreed to continue meeting every month at 7:30 a.m. on the 3rd Thursday. Meetings will take place at ROE#39 Conference Room to provide adequate social distancing. Zoom will be available for the meetings as long as there's a pandemic.
- B. Finance Committee Meetings for 2020-2021 – These meetings will continue every 4th Thursday at 7:30 a.m. The ROE#39 Conference Room will be utilized to allow in person conversation at a safe, distant range. Kathy will send out a list of dates to put on the calendar.
- C. Adjusted Bills have already been sent out to the districts. Most had a credit to be applied to their tuition bills.
- D. Annual Screening and Child Find Notification – this annual letter reminds member districts of their obligation to find children with disabilities. The Child Find process works through the problem-solving model.
- E. Personnel

- a. SpEd Administrators and Psychologist Assignments are included in the packet. The google drive link (re-sending information today) contains a folder SpEd Information for Administrators that continues to be updated with personnel changes. Please note, there are only 5 full-time psychologists.
 - b. A list of Teacher and Teacher Assistant (TA) vacancies is included in the packet. Macon Piatt still has a lot of vacant positions. TA hiring has been slowed down since 1st quarter classes are remote learning.

- F. Special Education Information for Administrators – this is a folder that is located in the google drive link (sending this link out today).

- G. Revised Restraint / Time Out Rules – per ISBE, the SIS coordinator will have to receive the new revised forms and enter them into the SIS enrollment page. We are working on internal procedures for SpEd programs. Anytime a child engages in a restraint/time out that results in the completion of this form, it will be faxed/emailed to your SIS coordinator for input. MPSED will not have access to enter these forms on your behalf. ISBE has given a mid-September deadline for MPSED to enter historical (2017-2020) incidents into SIS. We are trying to work out a process for uploading 3 years of restraint/timeout data without burdening SIS coordinators. We have asked for an extension.

- H. Return of the 3-day draft IEP, Related Service Logs, and RTI Law
Public Act 101-643 was signed by the governor several weeks ago. For SpEd purposes, it returns us to sending draft IEPs to parents 3 days prior to the meeting date. All pages of the draft IEP are sent except the services and placement pages. RTI is still required. It is more articulated to the parents' role in the problem-solving process. Make sure to inform parents that a child is going through intervention. Invite parents to be a participant in any discussion taking place about their child. If a parent requests to view the service log of a social worker, speech pathologist or any other related service, the service provider will need to comply. Records are not required to be handed over, practitioners have been instructed to turn their computer allowing the parent to 'see' the log.

- I. Remote Learning Plans – Per legal advice given, we need to individualize the unique remote learning plan(s) and attach it to every student's IEP - prepare IEPs for all learning scenarios. The SEAs are currently working on sample plans and amendment paperwork to review with teachers. On the remote learning plan, only document the time a teacher or related service professional is directly interfacing with the child. It is about direct service, thereby the minutes may need to be reduced. Teachers and related services may form a group on-line (such as google classroom) where they would interface with a small group of children. Legal has informed this is not a FERPA violation. Conceivably an IEP may have 3 services/placement pages in the IEP:
 - Pre- or Post-pandemic (which is everything in person, full day)
 - Reduced day option or hybrid model (how much time is in person learning...)
 - E-Learning or full remote

These various scenarios would need to be written on a separate page for a defensible IEP. To address a reduced school day, the IEP should be amended to reflect the modified minutes accordingly. Note...504s are similar to IEPs. In addition, teachers are still obligated to provide tiered intervention. RTI would need to be figured in to the day.

- J. DFTA Contract changes were discussed briefly. Insurance has been aligned with the majority of the other bargaining groups, salary has a yearly increase, the statute language for RIF has

allowed for a 30-day notice at any time of the year, and one more day has been added to the beginning of the year allowing mandatory trainings to be completed prior to the start of students.

K. Decatur Proposal for Joint Agreement change(s)

The formation of an Executive Committee was agreed upon to respond to Decatur's proposal. Four members of the Executive Committee, consisting of V. Zimmerman, D. Jones, D. Heck, and K. Horath will be meeting with four members of Decatur's committee. MPSED will be setting up a meeting time. As preparatory, Kathy conferred a list of potential items Decatur has historically talked about that may be placed on their list of requests. After discussing several potential thoughts, it is unknown if Decatur's proposal will include more ownership or more control in/over certain items. DPS' general population enrollment is 42% of the total cooperative but their special education population is about 53-54%. Based on previous conversations at our board meetings, giving weighted votes is not favorable. Various scenarios will need to be studied - not giving any district the majority of votes. In the Joint Agreement, the 'super majority' vote requirement may also need to be reconsidered depending on the outcome. Attention was drawn back to the main purpose of the cooperative - thinking of and doing the best for the 'whole'. On reflection, MP's decisions sometimes impact Decatur's people, thereby, better communication needs to happen making sure the actions of this board does not negatively impact. Further discussion on this topic was tabled until a meeting with Decatur takes place and we see what is on their first proposal. Kathy will be sending out several scenario dates for review. A room large enough for 8 individuals to meet safely and 'in person' will be determined at a later date.

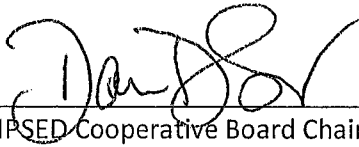
- L. MPSED Cooperative Structure update - moving forward with formation of a legal entity. We are going through the steps of getting a Tax ID number. We have a Federal ID number but are going to work with a corporate attorney in collaboration with Mary Rhoades to get through the tax exempt status. The entity formation will be 'Not for Profit' organization but in the eyes of ISBE, we will have our own RCDT code and exist as an educational institution. This early process consists of items we would be doing anyway. The path of 'legal entity' tends to be the hardest and longest path. For a new employer, contracts would have to be renegotiated. For a separate entity, a union would have to organize if the group of employees wish for that.

Motion by Supt Fregeau: To adjourn this meeting of the Macon-Piatt Special Education District Executive Board, seconded by Supt Jones. Voice Vote: All in favor - Meeting adjourned at 8:20 a.m.

Handouts:

- Draft July Minutes*
- Vendor Checks (Electronically sent)*
- Personnel Appointments*
- Treasurer's Report*
- Annual Notice of Screening*
- SEA and Psychologists' Assignments*
- Current Vacancies*
- Special Education Information for Administrators (electronically sent Google Folder)*
- Restraint / Time Out ISBE Form*
- Decatur Proposal for Joint Agreement change(s) [pending]*


****Next Meeting of the MPSED Executive Board will take place 7:30 a.m., Thursday, 9/17/20 at the Regional Office of Education - 1690 Huston Drive, Decatur IL.**



MPSED Cooperative Board Chairperson

9/17/2020

Date Approved



MPSED Cooperative Board Secretary

9/17/2020

Date Approved