

**MACON PIATT SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT (MPSED)**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2020**  
Macon-Piatt Sp Ed District – Conference Room (Virtual attendees)  
335 E Cerro Gordo Street, Decatur IL 62523

Chairman Vic Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:33 a.m. Member roll call was taken.

**Members Present:** Damian Jones (Vice-Chair), Sheila Greenwood, Brett Robinson, Paul Fregeau,  
(10 virtual) Amanda Geary, John Ahlemeyer, Andy Pygott, Vic Zimmerman (Chairperson),  
(2 attendees after roll call) Travis Roundcount, Cheryl Warner  
**Members Absent:** Bob Meadows (online 7:35 a.m.); DeAnn Heck (online 7:36 a.m.)  
**Also Present:** Kathy Horath, Vickie Vieth (Secretary), *Online Attendance:* Travis Friedrich,  
Matt Snyder, Jill Reedy, Bret Hitchings  
**Public Participation:** None

Chairperson Zimmerman entertained a motion to approve the minutes.

**Motion** by Supt Jones to approve the Executive Board minutes from the 10/15/2020 meeting as presented, seconded by Supt Pygott. Voice Vote: All in favor.

Call to **CLOSED Session** at 7:37 a.m. by Supt Robinson's motion to discuss potential litigation, appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, seconded by Supt Geary. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote to go into closed session. (12) Ayes: Jones, Greenwood, Heck, Robinson, Fregeau, Geary, Ahlemeyer, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner.

Return to **Open Session** at 8:46 a.m. by Supt Ahlemeyer's motion, seconded by Supt Robinson. Voice Vote: All in favor.

#### Roll Call Action Items

##### A. Personnel and Administrative Appointments

Attention was briefly drawn to the SEAP teacher new hire and the returning records secretary. Also referred to a few resignations of voluntary transfers from MPSED to DPS. No further questions. **Motion** by Supt Pygott to recommend the Executive Board advise Decatur Public Schools, as administrative district for the Macon-Piatt Special Education District, that the employees presented be recommended as listed, seconded by Supt Warner. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (11) Ayes: Jones, Greenwood, Heck, Robinson, Fregeau, Ahlemeyer, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner. (0) Nay; (1) Absent -Geary.

##### B. Resolution to Suspend Without Pay Educational Support Person

**Motion** by Supt Meadows to recommend that the Executive Board advise Decatur Public Schools, as administrative district for the Macon-Piatt Special Education District, that the William Scott Wagner be issued a suspension without pay for two days. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (11) Ayes: Jones, Greenwood, Heck, Robinson, Fregeau, Ahlemeyer, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner. (0) Nay; (1) Absent -Geary.

- C. **Contract with Urbana School District for Vision / Hearing Coordination and O&M Service**  
This is a continuation from last year. Urbana's licensed administrator provides expertise with students who are visually impaired, deaf and hard of hearing. Urbana also provides a specialist in Orientation and Mobility. This employee orients a person who is visually impaired to the community and helps them navigate with a white cane.  
**Motion** by Supt Jones to recommend the approval of the agreement for service with Urbana School District as presented, seconded by Supt Pygott. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (11) Ayes: Jones, Greenwood, Heck, Robinson, Fregeau, Ahlemeyer, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner.  
(0) Nay; (1) Absent -Geary.

#### **Director's Report**

- A. **Finance Update** – Treasurer's report is included in your packet. Finance committee meetings need to commence in order to determine our funding formula allocations for year 2021-2022. Planning to start finance committee meetings in January – this will allow enough time for deliberation. Not currently planning on making any recommendations to the board for modifications but this is an annual decision. Kathy will be happy to look through the current funding formula if any person or district feels it is not fair or balanced. A Zoom meeting can be scheduled if anyone wishes to participate in the funding formula finance committee discussion on January 28th.
- B. **IEP Duplication Survey results** – Travis Friedrich asked if there was any questions regarding the power point that was sent to all superintendents. This shows an analyzation from all the data and information collected. Based on this collection along with insight from a larger body of directors from the West, East, and Central IL, Travis' recommendation is to continue with our current practice – not allowing duplication of IEPs for Annual Reviews. These other groups from varying areas of Illinois only allow duplication of IEPs if it is for a revision meeting or adding BIP (behavioral intervention plans) – IEPs are not duplicated for any reviews. This continued practice will give commonality among directors. It is being noted in the meeting minutes that Monticello's Superintendent would prefer allowing duplication of the IEPs.
- C. **Cooperative Transition Update** – Kathy quickly shared nine specific areas that she has been working on regarding transition of the cooperative. The office has been continuing to work on all of the policies. Policies have been downloaded from PRESS (Policy Reference Education Subscription Service) and revisions are being made that are suitable for the cooperative. Job descriptions are near to being ready for approval. Plans are to have them ready for vote at the December meeting. MPSED procedures have also been worked on...the first read is available. The insurance census template has been completed and submitted to our selected insurance broker so they may run those bids for insurance. The PRESS procedures that we have been currently modifying, Kathy would like to bring before the board for first read in January with possible approval in February. In August, papers were submitted to the IRS for an Employer Identification Number for MPSED. After waiting for the 45 day processing period, no letter was ever received with the EIN. Was asked to resubmit another application since the IRS lost the original paperwork. We are now in another 45 day holding pattern to receive an EIN...that puts it into January. A meeting with DPS board president and another member was scheduled for Monday to converse about the transition of the administrative agent. Wednesday of this week a meeting was conducted with ROE#39 to discuss all their business functions. Yesterday a letter was received from Dr. Fregeau asking us to consider the extension of the administrative agent transition to June 30, 2022. DPS has been asked to take it to their board for an action item

instead of submitting a letter – per the advice of our attorney. Dr. Fregeau shared with MPSED executive board that it was confirmed this item will be on the agenda for Decatur’s December 8<sup>th</sup> board meeting. With that information, Kathy recommended that a special board meeting for Macon Piatt be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> of December to consider whatever action the DPS board takes on the 8<sup>th</sup>. The agenda item for MPSED will be to consider the potential rescission of the administrative agent withdrawal or extension to the next year. Having a meeting scheduled immediately afterward will reveal to DPS, employees, and parents of MPSED students that we are willing to consider whatever DPS sends our way. These are all the items that have been done since March up until this point. The following week, week of December 14<sup>th</sup>, we will be planning to have employee meetings to lay out salaries, benefits, and potential structure if we are moving forward – sticking with the original timeline. We will consider action after DPS’ board meeting.

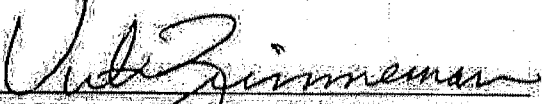
- D. MPSED Special Education Procedures – First Reading: This item consisted of 94 pages of red letters and strike-throughs. Superintendents Pygott and Warner were able to take a quick scan prior to this meeting in order to comment about anything they would like to recommend or have changed. Both stated everything appears fine after skimming through the procedures – nothing stood out nor was there any questions. A 2-page summary of changes for each section is included in your board packet that gives a cliff-note style. The final version will be ready for our next regularly scheduled board meeting on December 17<sup>th</sup>. We will be looking forward to approving these new Macon Piatt procedures at that time along with bringing job descriptions for board approval.

Supt Fregeau asked if the scheduled meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup> could be conducted at 7:30 a.m. since he has a scheduled commitment with his executive cabinet that Wednesday morning. No one was opposed to conducting the meeting at that time. It will not take very long with one action item on the agenda. Before adjournment, clarification was made that we will still be having our regular MPSED board meeting on December 17<sup>th</sup> to conduct regular action items plus job descriptions and policies.

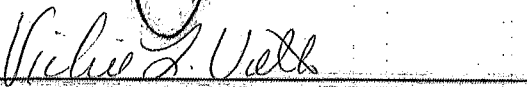
Hearing no further questions or comments. Chairperson Zimmerman entertained a motion to adjourn. **Motion** by Supt Fregeau to adjourn this meeting of the Macon-Piatt Special Education District Executive Board, seconded by Supt Robinson. Voice Vote: All in favor – Meeting adjourned at 9:08 a.m.

- Handouts:*
- Draft October 15, 2020 Minutes*
  - Personnel Appointments*
  - Contractual Agreement with Urbana School District 116*
  - Vendor Checks (Electronically Sent)*
  - Treasurer’s Report*
  - Draft MPSED Procedures – Chapters 1-17 with summary page*

**\*\*Next Meeting of the MPSED Executive Board will take place 7:30 a.m., Thursday, 12/17/20 at the Macon-Piatt Special Education District Office – 335 E. Cerro Gordo St; Decatur, 62523/**

  
MPSED Cooperative Board Chairperson

12-17-2020  
Date Approved

  
MPSED Cooperative Board Secretary

12/17/20  
Date Approved