

MACON PIATT SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT (MPSED)
BOARD MEETING MINUTES – THURSDAY, 1/20/2022 at 7:30 a.m.
Richland Community College – Main Campus – Room N161
Decatur, Illinois

Chairman Vic Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:36 a.m. Member roll call was taken.

Members Present: Damian Jones (Vice-Chair), Sheila Greenwood, DeAnn Heck, Brett Robinson, Bobbi Williams, Amanda Geary, Kris Kahler, Andy Pygott, Vic Zimmerman (Chairman), Travis Roundcount, Bob Meadows, Cheryl Warner
(12 in-person)

Members Absent:

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

Public Participation: None

Chairperson Zimmerman entertained a **motion** by Supt Greenwood to approve the Executive Board minutes from the 12/16/2021 meeting as presented, seconded by Supt Geary. Voice Vote: All in favor.

Call to **CLOSED Session** at 7:38 a.m. by Supt Jones' **motion** to discuss possible litigation, acquisition of real estate, appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, seconded by Supt Robinson. Chairman Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote, the motion carried with (12) Ayes: Jones, Greenwood, Heck, Robinson, Williams, Geary, Kahler, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner. (0) Nay; (0) Absent.

Return to **OPEN Session** at 7:53 a.m. by Supt Geary's **motion**, seconded by Supt Meadows. Chairman Zimmerman called for a Voice Vote with all members present in favor to leave closed session.

Roll Call Action Items

1. Personnel Appointments

Looking at hiring a SED teacher pending LBSI licensure. This TA has been in the teacher program and has worked up the teacher pipeline – this has been going well. Have several transfers, resignations, etc. Our audiologist has tendered her resignation. Have already posted for a replacement educational audiologist and have an applicant or two already. As you can see, the SpEd Director has a request for retirement. There is a contract currently written through 2026 which contains all the provisions of the retirement.

Motion by Supt Robinson to recommend the Executive Board advise Decatur Public Schools, as administrative district for Macon-Piatt Special Education District, that the employees presented be recommended as listed, seconded by Supt Jones. Chairman Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (12) Ayes: Jones, Greenwood, Heck, Robinson, Williams, Geary, Kahler, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner. (0) Nay; (0) Absent.

2. Contract with Consortium for Educational Change

In the packet you will see a summary of the contract. They are very expensive but this is not a cost to the cooperative, it is completely covered by the grant. The ESSER ARP grant is dedicated to the SEAP program; it covers 'learning loss' as part of that particular grant. It will also cover materials and equipment for the SEAP program. SEAP is going to enhance their sensory rooms/ areas for students to deescalate. Instructional coaching will also be provided to help improve the academic rigor of our teachers.

Motion by Supt Heck to recommend the approval of the agreement consulting services for the SEAP Program as presented, seconded by Supt Meadows. Chairman Zimmerman called for a

Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (12) Ayes: Jones, Greenwood, Heck, Robinson, Williams, Geary, Kahler, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner. (0) Nay; (0) Absent.

Director's Report

- A. Financial Update – Our fund balance is still very healthy. This will help with the acquisition of the building and the costs associated with needed improvements. We do have a Finance Committee Meeting next week, Thursday, January 27 at 7:30 via Zoom format only. A calendar invite will be sent as a reminder. Please let Kathy know if there are any other 'attendees' you wish to join this meeting. We will be talking about the formula and if we want to continue shared costs between Life-, Essential-Skills, SED and SEAP programs...with a one-time cost for all kids or wanting to start splitting that back out. We will have that conversation more completely in the finance meeting.

ESSER IDEA Grants – you all have received emails from Kathy if you have completed your ESSER IDEA grants. All have been submitted to you for review, signing off on insurance and submission to ISBE. Most will probably be returned...if so, Kathy will review paperwork they usually give along with their return. This is a nice little extra bonus amount of money...even though nobody knew it was coming. Concerned about MOE in two years...so just be aware we need to be tracking children to write off this exception or other exceptions that we usually use. Kathy inquired if anyone was able to see Excess Cost Worksheets yet in the IWAS system – no one was able to confirm.

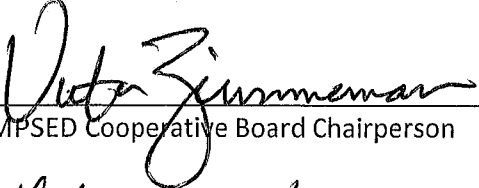
- B. SED Program Update – Happiness abounds! Their rooms are bigger and they like their building administration. It is going well. Two 6th graders made the district spelling bee! It was a good start even though we had such a painful transition. Not sure what to do with the SED program in the middle of our transition...we do not have another DPS building that has three available rooms. We will need to talk some more about this subject.
- C. Due Process Update – We have a due process in Decatur. It is regarding a student who is in the SEAP program. The student's schedule had to be reduced to half-day instruction due to harming staff members by exhibiting externally violent behavior. Movement to half days is our last placement option before starting to look at homebound instruction or therapeutic day treatment. Parent has filed a due process feeling student needs to be at school all-day. Next Thursday is the mediation. Travis Friedrich will be taking the lead on this case – he will be meeting with Jessica and Brandon Wright.

Hearing no further questions or topics, Chairman Zimmerman entertained a motion to adjourn. **Motion** by Supt Geary to adjourn this meeting of the Macon-Piatt Special Education District Executive Board, seconded by Supt Greenwood. Voice Vote: All in favor – Meeting adjourned at 8:05 a.m.

*Handouts: Draft December 16, 2021 Minutes
Personnel Appointments
Contract with Consortium for Educational Change
Treasurer's Report
Vendor Checks (electronically sent)*

****Next Meeting of the MPSED Executive Board will take place at 7:30 am, on Thursday, 2/17/22 at Richland Community College, Room N161.**

****Next MPSED Finance Committee Meeting will take place via Zoom on Thursday, 1/27/22, 7:30 a.m.**


MPSED Cooperative Board Chairperson

2-17-2022
Date Approved


MPSED Cooperative Board Secretary

2/17/22
Date Approved