

MACON PIATT SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT (MPSED)
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2019
Millikin University, University Commons Leadership Board Room
Decatur, Illinois

Chairman Vic Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 10:38 a.m. Member roll call was taken. Introductions along with welcoming, encouraging words were given to Andy Pygott, the new Meridian Superintendent.

Members Present: Sean German (for Damian Jones), Sheila Greenwood, DeAnn Heck, Brett Robinson, Paul Fregeau, Amanda Geary, John Ahlemeyer, Andy Pygott, Vic Zimmerman (*Chairperson*), Travis Roundcount, Bob Meadows, Kristen Kendrick-Weikle
(12 present)

Members Absent: None

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

Public Participation: None

Seeing no public participation, Chairperson Zimmerman entertained the motion to approve the minutes from the 6/18/2019 meeting. Supt Greenwood motioned to approve the Executive Board minutes as presented, seconded by Supt Heck. Voice Vote: All in favor

No call to **Closed Session**.

Roll Call Action Items

A. Personnel and Administrative Appointments

After a brief summary of personnel, a question was raised regarding the number of open psychologist positions which there are still four open positions. Very grateful for the three retirees returning this year especially since Decatur's MOU has ended. 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 Geary. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (12) Ayes: German, Greenwood, Heck, Robinson, Fregeau, Geary, Ahlemeyer, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Kendrick-Weikle. (0) Nays.

B. MPSED Policies

No changes were made to the policies except adding the legal references. Supt Fregeau motioned to approve MPSED Board Policy 6:120 and Behavior Intervention and Discipline Policy as presented, seconded by Supt Kendrick-Weikle. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (12) Ayes: German, Greenwood, Heck, Robinson, Fregeau, Geary, Ahlemeyer, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Kendrick-Weikle. (0) Nays.

C. MPSED Procedures

Gratitude was expressed to the two superintendents who helped review and revise these procedures. No questions were heard when the revision was sent out earlier, so the unaltered version is included in your packet. The approved procedures will be given to every parent at an IEP meeting along with the procedural safeguards. Supt Geary motioned to approve the Behavior Intervention Guidelines and Section 11: Behavior Intervention and Discipline procedures as presented, seconded by Supt Roundcount. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (12) Ayes: German, Greenwood, Heck, Robinson, Fregeau, Geary, Ahlemeyer, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Kendrick-Weikle. (0) Nays.

D. Specific Learning Disability (SLD) Eligibility Criteria

The actual criteria to determine entitlement did not change but language was included to look at the whole child when making a decision rather than a single data outlier. Our teams will need to collect additional evidence to support the preponderance of data. Overall, felt it was a good process of pulling a team together to review the first year of implementation then making the necessary adjustments, revisions where necessary. The SpEd Administrators are clear on this revision. Supt Ahlemeyer motioned to approve the revision to the SLD Eligibility Criteria as presented, seconded by Supt Kendrick-Weikle. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (12) Ayes: German, Greenwood, Heck, Robinson, Fregeau, Geary, Ahlemeyer, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Kendrick-Weikle. (0) Nays.

E. Emotional Disability (ED) Eligibility Criteria

This was modeled with the same format by including the operational definition and state definition. It has more descriptors and more definitions. This is also part of the internal document – procedures that our evaluation teams will be following. A chart is also included giving common characteristics to help differentiate between an emotional disability (eligible) and a socially maladjusted (not eligible) student. Macon Piatt does have a decision tree tool at the cooperative to help teams work through this task. Supt Greenwood motioned to approve the new eligibility criteria for emotional disability and internal procedures as presented, seconded by Supt Geary. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (12) Ayes: German, Greenwood, Heck, Robinson, Fregeau, Geary, Ahlemeyer, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Kendrick-Weikle. (0) Nays.

Director's Report

- A. October MPSED Meeting date change – since Kathy is on the board for IAASE, she will not be available for Thursday's October 17th scheduled board meeting. After brief discussion, it was decided to move the meeting to October 24th along with MPSED's Finance Committee meeting. Kathy will send an email invite as a reminder. Kathy will be conversing with ROE and Heartland but regardless, Macon Piatt's meeting will be on the 24th.
- B. Finance Committee Meetings (on the fourth Thursday at 7:30 a.m. at MPSED) – The meeting in September has been cancelled due to superintendents being out of town at the IASA conference.
 - ~~September 26 (CANCELLED)~~
 - October 24
 - January 30
 - February 27
 - March 26
- C. Insurance Update – the insurance committee did approve a second voluntary insurance plan with a high deductible. If the employee chooses this option, the district would pay the total amount for single coverage and all but 15% for family coverage. It is a cheaper alternative for both the district and group which is exciting for some.
- D. Adjusted Bills have been sent out to the districts. Some districts have an adjusted bill to pay and others have a credit that will be applied to the first bill of this year.
- E. IDEA grant carryover has been allocated to your grants. If you are ready to write a carryover amendment, Kathy will be glad to help! An email reminder will be sent to you. Please respond to the email letting her know what items/areas you want the carryover amounts written for.
- F. Annual Screening and Notification (Child Find) – Just the annual letter / reminder. This is also included in the link that was sent to each superintendent asking to share with your principals regarding all the special education information.
- G. Personnel Assignments for Sp Ed Administrators is located in your packets. A revision of the psychologist assignments will be sent out later today due to the recent resignation. There are now four psychologist vacancies. We are still looking for a teacher for the Visually Impaired,

along with a SEAP teacher, Muffley SED teacher, EHS LifeSkills teacher, parochial teacher, and one social worker at Pershing. The social worker vacancies are 'out of control' – Decatur alone has 10 vacancies. In addition, there are also a lot of TA vacancies.

- H. Special Education Information for Administrators – This is a folder in Google Drive. Make sure you have the link from your SEA.
- I. MPSED Goals for 2019-2020: One of the goals is to increase the number of IEP students who receive most of their education (80% or more) in a general education setting. The target for 2017-18 was 58% and the 18-19 target was 60% of all students with IEPs (age 6-21). Another goal is to increase the number of students making arduous progress by increased rigor on annual goals and objectives.
- J. MPSED Projects for 2019-2020: Since the Embrace IEP system will help us track Medicaid claims, it will be important for the SEA's to get the Medicaid consent form signed at IEP meetings. Another project will be to continue to review the criteria for eligibility in the other categories (ED, DD, Autism, and Intellectual Disability). Another part of the update/project is for the professional development for teachers to improve their skills, program reviews for SEAP/SED and Life/Essential Skills. The Early Childhood committee meeting will be coming soon and will be looking at some of the criteria reviewed. We have 13 chapters of policies and procedures, and since we have only completed one today, that is another project area. One of my personal projects is new strategies for recruitment for special education positions. Travis Friedrich is working with the CICP group at ISU. It is very apparent that we will be trying to retain and keep teachers – giving them incentives to stay. Travis is going to work closely with any point people in your district attempting to develop partnerships to keep people local in the community.

The board gave an official welcome to the new Assistant Director of SpEd. Travis Friedrich gave a quick summary of his experience and credentials. He is excited to be 'down' state and working for MPSED cooperative.

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 Kendrick-Weikle. Voice Vote: All in favor – Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Handouts:

- Draft June Minutes*
- Vendor Checks (electronically sent)*
- Personnel Appointments*
- MPSED Policy 6:120*
- MPSED Policy: Behavior Intervention and Discipline*
- MPSED Procedures: Behavior Intervention Guidelines*
- MPSED Procedures: Section 11: Behavior Intervention and Discipline*
- Specific Learning Disability Criteria – 2019 with internal procedures*
- Emotional Disability Criteria – 2019 with internal procedures*
- May and June Treasurer's Report*
- Draft Insurance Committee document*
- IDEA Grant Carryover Amount*
- Annual Notice of Screening Procedures*
- SEA and Psychologists' Assignments*
- Current Vacancies*
- Special Education Information for Administrators (electronically sent Google Folder)*
- MPSED Goals for 2019-2020*
- MPSED Projects for 2019-2020*

Decatur Buildings Contact and Hours

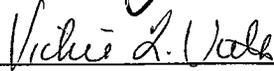
****Next Meeting of the MPSED Executive Board will take place 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 19, 2019 at Richland Community College National Sequestration Education Center (NSEC) building.**



MPSED Cooperative Board Chairperson

9-19-2019

Date Approved



MPSED Cooperative Board Secretary

9/19/19

Date Approved