

**MACON PIATT SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT (MPSED)  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES – THURSDAY, 5/20/2021**

Richland Community College, National Sequestration Education Center – Exhibition Hall  
Decatur, Illinois 62521

Chairman Vic Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m. Member roll call was taken.

**Members Present:** Damian Jones (Vice-Chair), Sheila Greenwood, DeAnn Heck, Paul Fregeau,  
(11 present) Amanda Geary, John Ahlemeyer, Andy Pygott, Vic Zimmerman (Chairperson),  
Travis Roundcount, Bob Meadows, Cheryl Warner

**Members Absent:** Brett Robinson

**Also Present:** Kathy Horath, Travis Friedrich, Vickie Vieth (Secretary), Matt Snyder,  
Jill Reedy, Jason Hood, Ellen Lueking

**Public Participation:** None

Chairperson Zimmerman entertained a **motion** by Supt Jones to approve the Executive Board minutes from the 4/15/2021 meeting as presented, seconded by Supt Greenwood. Voice Vote: All in favor.

Call to **CLOSED Session** at 7:35 a.m. by Supt Fregeau's **motion** to discuss possible 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. (11) Ayes: Jones, Greenwood, Heck, Fregeau, Geary, Ahlemeyer, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner. (0) Nay; (1) Absent.

Return to **Open Session** at 8:50 a.m. by Supt Ahlemeyer's **motion**, seconded by Supt Fregeau. Chairman Zimmerman called for a Voice Vote with all members present in favor to leave closed session.

A short break (5-10 minutes) was given before continuing Open Session.

**Call for Nomination of Officers – Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson**

After opening the floor for any nominations, Kathy Horath recommends the same two officers. All other superintendents were in agreement. With no other nominations made, Supt Zimmerman reminds the board he will be retiring at the end of FY22 school year.

**Election of Officers – Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson**

Supt Geary **motioned** to recommend the approval of Vic Zimmerman as Chairperson and Damian Jones as Vice-Chairperson of the Macon-Piatt Special Education Cooperative Board, seconded by Supt Roundcount. Call for Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (10) Ayes: Greenwood, Heck, Fregeau, Geary, Ahlemeyer, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner. (0) Nay; (1) Abstain – Jones; (1) Absent – Robinson.

**Appointment of Secretary**

Supt Jones **motioned** to recommend the approval of Vickie Vieth as the Secretary of the Macon-Piatt Special Education Cooperative Board, seconded by Supt Fregeau. Call for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (11) Ayes: Jones, Greenwood, Heck, Fregeau, Geary, Ahlemeyer, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner. (0) Nay; (1) Absent.

## Roll Call Action Items

### 1. Personnel and Administrative Appointments

Attention was drawn to the list of employees. Several new hires and transfers with various resignations. School psychologist vacancies have been reduced to four! Still waiting to hear acceptance for the Pre-Vocational Coordinator position. There were no further questions.

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

## Policy 2.260 Appeal Decision was amended into two separate action items.

2. **Motion** by Supt Jones to recommend the Board affirm the April 14, 2021 decision of the complaint manager, seconded by Supt Roundcount. No discussion. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (11) Ayes: Jones, Greenwood, Heck, Fregeau, Geary, Ahlemeyer, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner. (0) Nay; (1) Absent – Robinson.

3. **Motion** by Supt Meadows to recommend the Board affirm the May 11, 2021 decision of the complaint manager, seconded by Supt Heck. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with (11) Ayes: Jones, Greenwood, Heck, Fregeau, Geary, Ahlemeyer, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner. (0) Nay; (1) Absent.

### 4. Proposed FY2022 Budget

**Motion** by Supt Greenwood to recommend the approval of the proposed FY2022 Budget as presented, seconded by Supt Geary. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with a super majority vote of (10) Ayes: Jones, Greenwood, Heck, Geary, Ahlemeyer, Pygott, Zimmerman, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner. (0) Nay; (1) Abstain – Fregeau; (1) Absent.

## Director's Report

A. Finance Update – Fund balance is still high. Still working towards the billing enrollment – should be coming out in June. Per the decision of each district, their carryover will be applied to next year.

The IDEA Grant is underway. Currently working on four districts MOE, reconciling differences and trying to figure out the exceptions. We still do not have ISBE's grant allocation estimates yet from Tim Imler – it is late this year. Once the estimates are received, Kathy will be in touch with each district asking what you want to write for your initial grants – for the 7/1 start date. Summer COVID Support has all staff hired and ready to go. Decatur will solidify TA wages on Tuesday at their board meeting. The anticipated final rate for TA's may end up to be \$50/hour. We will have a summer end estimate after all said and done – it will be itemized by student.

B. Vacancy Update – list is in your packet for reference. We have a lot of positions to fill – most being positions for TAs.

C. State of the Cooperative – since there has been a lot of conversation regarding DPS and their willingness to stay with the cooperative or not...or their desire to remain as our administrative agent or not, Kathy felt this was an item that needed to be placed on the agenda for discussion. The last letter received in November from DPS board stated that they wished to push back the decision of being administrative agent for 1 year – requesting more time. Word has been

received that Decatur is going to have another vote to rescind their second letter that was written – Decatur wishes to continue as the administrative agent of MPSED. MPSED appreciates the efforts Decatur is doing to try to rebuild the relationship between DPS and MPSED. It was discussed among MPSED’s board of sending an official response thanking Decatur Board of Education once this vote happens. We look forward to working with the new DPS Board.

- D. August 2021 Meeting Date & Time – All superintendents expressed interest in meeting on the same date as ROE’s ‘Back to School’ breakfast. Our next meeting will be TUESDAY, AUGUST 3<sup>rd</sup> at Millikin University Commons, around 10:30 a.m. after the breakfast. Jill Reedy will be working on getting a smaller room or classroom for our superintendents meeting location.

Additional discussion items that were not on included on the agenda...

- CPI Refresher – the requirement is now for 8 hours of training. Our trainers have come up with a training plan. This training will mostly be virtual and self-directed. Part of the eight-hour training will be to watch a video, complete the booklet and task, then complete the self-directed reflection video. Individuals will be given 1 month to complete this portion of the training. Once done, the trainers will come to the site where your CPI teams need to be physically trained. They will collect all the completed materials then physically train the team. CPI cards will be handed out on that same day. If your district does not use CPI in your buildings – then you will not have to send staff to the CPI training. If your district does want to send a CPI team for training, you may limit your team to 4 or 5 people rather than sending the whole building or district. There are also other ways to get the de-escalation pieces that are not CPI or Restraint Training.
- There are 2 due processes under way. One is in Central A&M which is a dispute about eligibility. It is currently in the mediation phase. The other is from Mt Zion which is a more complex issue of denial of FAPE. Compensatory services have already been granted – they are wanting residential or private day placement.

Before closing, Chairperson Zimmerman congratulated the three Superintendents who will be either retiring at the end of this year, or will be leaving the area to take another position. Congratulations to: John Ahlemeyer, Paul Fregeau, and Sheila Greenwood.

No further comments or questions, Chairperson Zimmerman entertained a motion to adjourn.

**Motion** by Supt Greenwood to adjourn this meeting of the Macon-Piatt Special Education District Executive Board, seconded by Supt Fregeau. Voice Vote: All in favor – Meeting adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

*Handouts:*      *Draft April 15, 2021 Minutes*  
                      *Personnel Appointments*  
                      *MPSED FY22 Draft Budget Summary*  
                      *Treasurer’s Report*  
                      *Vendor Checks (Electronically Sent)*  
                      *Vacancy List*

**\*\*Next Meeting of the MPSED Executive Board will take place around 10:30 a.m., on Tuesday, 8/3/21 at Millikin University Commons.**

  
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MPSED Cooperative Board Chairperson

8-3-2021  
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Date Approved

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MPSED Cooperative Board Secretary

8/3/2021  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved