

MACON PIATT SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT (MPSED)
BOARD MEETING MINUTES – Thursday, February 19, 2026
Regional Office of Education #39
3433 Rupp Parkway; Decatur, IL 62526

Damian Jones called the meeting to order with roll call at 7:30am

Members Present: Damian Jones (Chairman), Adam Clapp, Michael Tresnak, Shane Gordon,
(9 in person) Sacha Young, Travis Roundcount, Adam Ibbotson, Cheryl Warner, Mike Curry
(for Rochelle Clark)

Members Absent: Mary Vogt, Emily Weidner, Jonathan Field

Also Present: Kathy Horath, Liz Lang, Ellyn Lord, Jill Reedy, Bret Hitchings, Zakry Standerfer,
Shane Jones

Public Participation: None

Hearing no questions or concerns regarding the minutes presented, Chairman Jones entertained a **motion** by Mike Curry to approve the Executive Board minutes from the January 15, 2026, meeting as presented, seconded by Supt Tresnak. Voice Vote: All in favor. None opposed.

Call to **CLOSED Session** at 7:31 by Supt Ibbotson motion to discuss possible litigation, appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, seconded by Supt Clapp. Chairman Jones calls for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carries with (9) Ayes: Jones, Young, Tresnak, Ibbotson, Gordon, Clapp, Roundcount, Warner, Curry (3) Absent: Field, Vogt, Weidner

Return to **OPEN Session** at 7:43am by Supt Tresnak, seconded by Supt Ibbotson. Voice Vote: all in favor, none opposed.

Roll Call Action Items

- A. **Possible Suspension Without Pay for a MPSED Paraprofessional** Motion by Mike Curry to recommend that the Executive Board advise Decatur Public Schools, as administrative district for the Macon-Piatt Special Education District, that Crista Hjort be suspended without pay for 2 days, seconded by Supt Tresnak. Chairman Jones calls for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carries with (9) Ayes: Jones, Young, Tresnak, Ibbotson, Gordon, Clapp, Roundcount, Warner, Curry (3) Absent: Field, Vogt, Weidner
- B. **Personnel Appointments** Motion by Supt Gordon 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 Ibbotson. Chairman Jones calls for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carries with (8) Ayes: Jones, Young, Tresnak, Ibbotson, Gordon, Clapp, Roundcount, Warner, (1) Present: Curry (3) Absent: Field, Vogt, Warner
- C. **Adoption of Board Policies** Motion by Supt Warner to adopt board policies section 1, (which includes 1:10, 1:20 and 1:30) and board policies section 2, (which includes 2:10, 2:20, 2:100, 2:105, 2:110, 2:125, 2:130, 2:140, 2:150, 2:160, 2:170, 2:200, 2:220, 2:230, 2:240, 2:250, 2:260, 2:265, and 2:70) as presented, seconded by Supt Roundcount. Chairman Jones calls for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carries with (9) Ayes: Jones, Young, Tresnak, Ibbotson, Gordon, Clapp, Roundcount, Warner, Curry (3) Absent: Field, Vogt, Weidner

Director's Report

- A. Financial Update- Kathy passed out copies of updated 24/25 final adjusted bills to each district. Kathy explained that DPS questioned a bill which led to MPSED looking at each district and identifying errors. Kathy explained that these corrections will be reflected on this year's final adjusted bill in August. Mike Curry offered a suggestion that he recently implemented in his office to put more checks and balances in place. Kathy agreed that MPSED office will do the same and each bill will be presented to her along with the previous month's bill and the bill from the year prior. This will hopefully identify any discrepancies that can be fixed before the bills are sent out. Kathy mentioned the next finance meeting on March 9th at 8:00 am at MPSED. A draft budget will be ready for viewing before May budget adoption.
- B. Vacancy Update- There are still a lot of vacancies. Travis is at an ISU recruiting fair today hoping to find teachers.
- C. Program Update- MPSED is looking for space within DPS schools to possibly open a new elementary Life Skills classroom. The need is due to an increase in students coming out of Pershing with little language. Kathy notes that the elementary Life Skills teaching positions are typically hardest to fill.
- D. Due Process/ISBE Complaint Update- 2 open formal requests, both DPS students. New IEE and a facilitated IEP case. It was noted that districts are seeing a lot of cases immediately going higher than they should instead of being resolved internally.
- E. Summer 2026- MPSED continuing summer ESY and compensatory services for Life Skills and Essential Skills students first 4 weeks of summer Monday-Thursday 8:00am-12:00pm. Kathy made mention of a proposal from SELA to offer community-based summer program in July for 3 weeks, 3 days a week, for 3 hours a day. This would be available to K-8 SELA students who can safely attend programs within the community. MPSED would have to charge member districts for this summer program, no member district saw transportation as a potential problem.
- F. Joint Agreement- 2010 agreement and 2026 amendment with all signatures submitted to ISBE and complete.
- G. First Read: Board Policies Section 3 (3:10, 3:30, 3:40, 3:50, 3:60, 3:65, 3:70)-Press policies
- H. First Read: Board Policies Section 4 (4:10, 4:15, 4:30, 4:40, 4:45, 4:50, 4:55, 4:60, 4:70, 4:80, 4:100, 4:120, 4:130, 4:150, 4:160, 4:165, 4:170, 4:175, 4:180, 4:190)- Mostly operational services written in cooperation with what MPSED relies on from DPS and referencing DPS policies. Also press policies, and mention of Bonds which MPSED cannot have.

Hearing no further questions or topics to discuss, Chairman Jones entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion by Mike Curry to adjourn this meeting of the Macon-Piatt Special Education District Executive Board, seconded by Supt Clapp. Voice Vote: All in favor – Meeting adjourned at 8:03am.

*Handouts: Draft January 15, 2026 Minutes
Personnel Appointments
Policies-Sections 1 and 2 (electronically sent)
Treasurer's Report (January)
Vendor Checks (electronically sent)
Policies-Sections 3 and 4 (electronically sent)
Vacancy List*

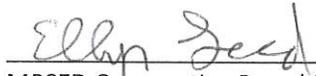
****Next Meeting of the MPSED Executive Board is Thursday, March 19, 2026, 7:30 am at the Regional Office of Education 3433 Rupp Parkway, Decatur.**



MPSED Cooperative Board Chairperson

3/19/24

Date Approved



MPSED Cooperative Board Secretary

3/19/20

Date Approved