

MACON PIATT SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT (MPSED)
BOARD MEETING MINUTES – THURSDAY, 12/15/2022 at 7:30 a.m.
Richland Community College Main Campus, Room N-161
1 College Park, Decatur Illinois 62521

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order with roll call at 7:30 a.m.

Members Present: Damian Jones (Chairman), Mary Vogt, DeAnn Heck, Brett Robinson, Mike Curry (*for Rochelle Clark*), Jeff Holmes, Kris Kahler, Andy Pygott, Adam Clapp, Travis Roundcount, Bob Meadows, Cheryl Warner (Vice-Chair)

Members Absent:

Also Present: Kathy Horath, Vickie Vieth, Jill Reedy, Bret Hitchings

Public Participation: None

Hearing no questions or concerns regarding the minutes presented, Chairman Jones entertained a **motion** by DPS proxy Mike Curry to approve the Executive Board minutes from the 11/15/2022 meeting as presented, seconded by Supt Holmes. Voice Vote: All in favor. None opposed.

Call to **CLOSED Session** at 7:31 a.m. by Supt Meadows' **motion** to discuss possible litigation, appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, seconded by Supt Robinson. Chairman Jones calls for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carries with (12) Ayes: Jones, Vogt, Heck, Robinson, Curry, Holmes, Kahler, Pygott, Clapp, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner. (0) Nay; (0) Absent.

Return to **OPEN Session** at 7:35 a.m. by DPS proxy M.Curry's **motion**, seconded by Supt Vogt. Voice Vote: all in favor, none opposed.

Roll Call Action Items

1. Personnel Appointments

Motion by Supt Kahler 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 Roundcount. Chairman Jones calls for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carries with (9) Ayes: Jones, Vogt, Heck, Holmes, Pygott, Clapp, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner. (0) Nay; (0) Absent; (3) Abstain: Robinson, Curry, Kahler.

2. Formula for Determining Member District's Proportionate Share for 2023 – 2024 School Year

This was discussed last month. Since there were no requests for changes, we are bringing it back unchanged to roll over for next year as the billing funding formula for Macon Piatt. No questions or concerns voiced.

Motion by Supt Meadows to approve the billing formula for the 23-24 SY, seconded by Supt Heck. Chairman Jones calls for a Roll Call Vote. The motion carries with (12) Ayes: Jones, Vogt, Heck, Robinson, Curry, Holmes, Kahler, Pygott, Clapp, Roundcount, Meadows, Warner. (0) Nay; (0) Absent.

Before going into the Director's report, Kathy shared an update and greeting regarding Travis Friedrich.

Director's Report

- A. Financial Update – A Treasurer's Report is included in your packet. In spring we would like to have our Finance Committee start discussing what we might do to decrease our fund balance – to return some of the money back to the districts or at least save the districts some money. An email was received from ISBE regarding the arrival of Excess Cost worksheets – they are due around the end of February. These worksheets can be quite difficult to complete. MPSED can

provide child count numbers but we don't have access to other needed pertinent numbers. If your district comes up with a positive (or negative) number they do not want you to have, ISBE will work with you to help derive their desired number. Kathy will be sharing an email later today regarding Excess Cost worksheets.

- B. Summer Programming – We are looking at renewing our summer programming just like we have had for the last 2 summers. Our students are still experiencing Covid affects. We will also need summer for compensatory services due to a shortage in speech therapists. We are looking at four weeks starting in June, probably for four days a week (M-Thurs) consisting of four hours per day (8-12 noon). Several other districts are also planning on providing a summer session.
- C. Vacancy Update – An update is included in your packet. We are still trying to find essential services...teachers, teaching assistants, nurses, interpreters. We did get a line on a TA who is not an interpreter but who signs. We might be able to hire her to help us out which is positive.
- D. Program Update – We have been in conversation with the SELA parents regarding the four-in-person and one-remote day student week. We have not experienced much push back. Those that were hesitant were invited in for an IEP meeting – at the end of each of those meetings, we found resolutions. Each week on Wednesday a different, structured professional development day is scheduled in addition to completing the regular incurring student specific matters. The staff are looking forward to the schedule.

Kathy has also met with our Pre-Vocational Coordinators who are transition specialists. They are always looking at the 16-22 year old population. They are seeing a need, programming wise for our super senior population, age 18-22. Once this age group completes their 4 years in high school, we are starting to see our students auditing/ repeating courses – this is also placing them in class with 14-year old students sitting next to them. We are talking about designing a transition (super senior) program on an off-campus setting for the start-up of August 2023. We already have the setting in mind; we just need to work it out. The design would allow students to come to a house setting to practice home living skills, such as cooking, cleaning, gardening. Then for the other half day, students would go to work. DPS's current older Life Skills population is currently 16 to 20 students in number. These students are staying in school because there is not a lot out there for them when they graduate. This is not inclusive only for our Macon Piatt Life Skills program...it is for all districts and for all students in and out of Life Skills program. It is for students who need transition work that are staying in school during their 19th – 21st year. In January, we will be sending out a survey to all of our high schools (including the county). If this program is needed, we will have to figure out what the cost is which is something that could be talked about in our finance committee meeting. One of our goals is to move this (super-senior) transition program to Heartland, Richland campus in a setting with other students their own age. We are looking forward to further conversation for learning at Richland.

- E. Due Process Update – as of date, we have no active due process cases.

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

Motion by Supt Holmes to adjourn this meeting of the Macon-Piatt Special Education District Executive Board, seconded by Supt Kahler. Voice Vote: All in favor – Meeting adjourned at 7:47 a.m.

*Handouts: Draft November 15, 2022 Minutes
Personnel Appointments*

Formula for Determining Member District's Proportionate Share for 23-24 school year
Treasurer's Report
Vendor Checks (electronically sent)
Vacancy List

****Next Meeting of the MPSED Executive Board will take place at 7:30 am, on Thursday 1/19/2023 at Richland Community College Main Campus – Room N-161.**



MPSED Cooperative Board Chairperson

1/19/23

Date Approved



MPSED Cooperative Board Secretary

1/19/2023

Date Approved