MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MACOMB C.U.S.D. #185
MARCH 21, 2011
7:00 P.M.

Board President Robert Shouse called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. in the Library at Macomb Jr./Sr. High School. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll was taken with the following members answering “present”: Colvin, Kiah, Klems, Adams, Shouse, Clark, and Thompson.

The Board recognized Martha Klems for her service to the Board of Education, the District, and the community through her eight year tenure as a Board of Education member.

The Board also recognized Alissa DeRoos for being selected Senior of the Month for the month of February.

Member Thompson advised that the MSHS winter sports teams qualified for the IHSA Academic Recognition by having a team grade point of at least 3.0. She also commended Tyler Thorman and Seth Wickert for their performance at the State 3-point Shootout competition, and congratulated the Varsity Scholastic Bowl Team for winning second place in the State Tournament.

Superintendent Reuschel shared the following information:
- Congratulations to Scholastic Bowl for winning second in State.
- Congratulations to band members participating in Music for All in Indianapolis.
- Congratulations to our student athletes for fine academic and athletic performances.
- Paulette Parkins-Guzzardo informed the District that Curt Jefferson, Macomb Schools graduate, will be at WIU as a visiting professor on Tuesday, March 22.
- The Macomb Education Foundation awarded grants in the amount of $2149.19. Thanks to the MEF for their support of the District, its teachers, and for its ongoing endeavors on behalf of children.
- Thanks from WIU for District support of the Science Olympiad.
- Receipt of Library Grant funds in the amount of $1300.
- Thanks from WIU to MSHS Band for participation in Showcase of Bands event.
- Invitation for Superintendent Reuschel to serve on COEHS Deans’ Associates.
- All district schools received Certificates of Recognition from ISBE.
- Invitation to Board and Superintendent to the West Prairie Future Farmers of America banquet.
- Receipt of letter requesting waiver of graduation requirements. The Curriculum Committee will meet prior to the next Board meeting and make a recommendation regarding the request.
- Letter from Senator Sullivan requesting support for bonding legislation to allow Illinois to pay its bills.

Lincoln Elementary School teachers Judy Witten (3rd grade) and Noelle Flynn (Reading Interventionist) presented a short film (“prezi”) their classes made about the Seven Habits initiative at Lincoln. Students illustrated the seven habits through roll play, skits, singing, and dancing.
Member Adams moved, and member Klems seconded, to approve the items on the Consent Calendar, which included the following: Minutes from the February 23, 2011, regular Board meeting; Treasurer’s Report; Investment Report; Monthly Board Report; Bills and Payroll; Financial Update on Life Safety Projects (.05 levy); Financial Update on Life Safety Projects; Activity Account Reports; Monthly Food Service Report; and, Financial Authorizations. Member Kiah commented on the Transportation Fund and commended Dianne Hudgens, District Budget Coordinator, for managing the budget in such a way that the rise in fuel costs has not had the negative impact on the fund balance that it might otherwise have had. He also noted that the purchased services line item is way below where it was last year. Vote was taken on the motion with the following member voting “yes”: Colvin, Kiah, Klems, Adams, Shouse, Clark, and Thompson. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Thompson moved, and member Colvin seconded, to approve and hold indefinitely the minutes from the closed meeting held during the February 23, 2011, regular meeting. Members voting “yes”: Colvin, Kiah, Klems, Adams, Shouse, Clark, and Thompson. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Kiah moved, and member Thompson seconded, to approve the resignations and retirements of Certificated personnel. Members voting “yes”: Colvin, Kiah, Klems, Adams, Shouse, Clark, and Thompson. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Adams moved, and member Colvin seconded, to approve the request for leave for Certificated personnel. Members voting “yes”: Colvin, Kiah, Klems, Adams, Shouse, Clark, and Thompson. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Thompson moved, and member Klems seconded, to approve the release of full and part-time non-tenured Certificated personnel. Members voting “yes”: Colvin, Kiah, Klems, Adams, Shouse, Clark, and Thompson. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Adams moved, and member Colvin seconded, to approve the reduction in force of Educational Support personnel. Members voting “yes”: Colvin, Kiah, Klems, Adams, Shouse, Clark, and Thompson. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

The Board conducted first reading on proposed changes to Board policies, administrative procedures, and exhibits, as follows:

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Second reading will be conducted at the Board’s April 18, 2011, meeting.

The Board reviewed the proposed calendar for the 2011-2012 school year. Approval of the final calendar will be considered at the April 18, 2011, regular meeting.

The Board reviewed the proposed 2011-2012 fee schedule, and will consider approval of the final version at its April 18, 2011, regular meeting. It is recommended that all fees and meal prices remain the same for the 2011-2012 school year.
Superintendent Reuschel advised the Board regarding the bid process for the Summer Food Service Program. Bid paperwork was offered to four providers: two declined to bid, one did not respond, and Aramark submitted the sole bid.

Ms. Suellen Rieckelman, MSHS teacher, presented a proposal for members of the Scholastic Bowl team to travel to the 2011 Pace National Scholastic Championship, June 4-5, 2011, at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. The Board will consider approval of the trip at its April 18, 2011, meeting.

The Board conducted discussion on policies 6:235 and 7:180 and portions of the student handbook dealing with harassment and cyberbullying. Issues presented ranged from appropriate discipline response to incidents occurring off campus as opposed to on campus and what type of response is required when an off campus incident triggers a disruption of the educational process at school. Administrators advised that cyberbullying is prevalent, especially at the junior high age. Incidents at the senior high are less frequent, but usually of greater magnitude. It is hoped that the “Seven Habits” initiative at the elementary level will help to increase the level of respect and empathy among students, thus resulting in fewer instances of cyberbullying as they mature. Superintendent Reuschel advised that the discussion will continue, especially in light of the fact that these are ever present issues that cause concern for all.

Member Klems moved, and member Kiah, seconded, to award the contract for new windows at MJSHS and a new gym floor at MacArthur Early Childhood Center to Laverdiere Construction in the amount of $107,500. Members voting “yes”: Colvin, Kiah, Klems, Adams, Shouse, Clark, and Thompson. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Thompson moved, and member Colvin seconded, to award the contract for the Summer Food Service Program to the sole bidder, Aramark. Members voting “yes”: Colvin, Kiah, Klems, Adams, Shouse, Clark, and Thompson. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Colvin moved, and member Kiah seconded, to approve a list of equipment as surplus for sale or disposal. Members voting “yes”: Colvin, Kiah, Klems, Adams, Shouse, Clark, and Thompson. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Klems moved, and member Thompson seconded, to approve membership in the IHSA for the 2011-2012 school year. Members voting “yes”: Colvin, Kiah, Klems, Adams, Shouse, Clark, and Thompson. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

At 8:14 p.m., member Thompson moved, and member Colvin seconded, to hold a closed meeting for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, pursuant to 105 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). Members voting “yes”: Colvin, Kiah, Klems, Adams, Shouse, Clark, and Thompson. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

The Board returned to open session at 8:55 p.m. Member Thompson moved, and member Adams seconded, to adjourn at 8:56 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

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President