Board President Matt Bierman called the meeting to order in the Library at Macomb Jr./Sr. High School. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll was taken with the following members present: Kiah, Myers, Adam, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad.

The Board recognized Georgie Hendrickson for being selected Senior of the Month for the month of September.

Member Myers commended the MSHS Marching Band for its successful season. Member La Prad advised he attended the Administrators’ Round Table where several legislators and Dr. Christopher Koch, State Superintendent, discussed the impact the state budget could have on education. Dr. Koch also spoke about PERA and PARCC. Member Kiah advised that he and Kelly Carpenter attended a conference on the needs of homeless students. Mr. Bierman announced the Board would meet October 23 for a work session.

Dr. Twomey discussed the following items:

- Update on Macomb AgriScience Association – the group has put together a 39-page proposal and will present at the Board’s October 23 word session.
- Unland Company, the District’s insurance consultants, are putting together a renewal proposal for umbrella, liability, Board legal and workmen’s compensation insurance coverage. The proposal will be presented at the November Board meeting.
- State Superintendents’ Conference – Dr. Twomey attended sessions on QR codes and how they can be used in the classroom; changing public perception of education using social media; importance of high expectations for students in academics and behavior presented by Rafe Esquith – 5th grade teacher in Los Angeles’ toughest school district.
- PERA – the committee of 5 teachers and 5 administrators will meet to plan for implementation in September 2016. The 2015-16 school year will be the test year for the plan.
- April 7, 2015 general election: there will be three seats open on the Board of Education.
- October 2 IASB Western Division Dinner Meeting – FFA students greeted attendees, served the meal and entertained. Larry Adams and Ardell Thompson were recognized for maintaining Master Board Member status.
- The IASA/IASB/IASBO Joint Annual Conference is November 20-23.
- School Improvement Days/Teacher Institute Days: SIP days are geared toward building/grade level specific activities including data analysis, strategies for RtI, school improvement plans, etc. Teachers’ Institutes focus on planning and professional development.
- Levy – the levy process is the beginning of a new budget cycle. The District Treasurer and the Superintendent work with the McDonough County Clerk to develop the levy. This year’s levy will divert funds from the Transportation Fund to the Education Fund, similar to last year’s.

Kim Pierce, Director of the Macomb Area Economic Development Corporation, addressed the Board regarding two resolutions related to the Enterprise Zone. The first resolution is for the re-application
process, expansion of the current zone and abatement of ad valorem taxes. The proposed zone includes the downtown squares of Bushnell and Macomb, industrial areas, and by-pass areas for an area of 4 Square miles as well as the strip that makes the zone contiguous. If the application is approved, the zone will be granted for 15 years with a 13 year review by the state board, with another 10-year designation if the review is successful. Ms. Pierce affirmed that evidence of investment in the new zone would enhance chances for the 10-year continuation following the year 13 review. The second resolution will be effective in the event the re-application/expansion is not approved. The resolution insures entities that entered the Enterprise Zone with the expectation of 10 years of tax abatement continuation of the abatement for the full 10 years.

Member Sutton moved and member Thompson seconded, to approve the resolution to continue Enterprise Zone abatement of ad valorem property taxes. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Kiah moved, and member Myers seconded, to approve the MAEDCO application and resolution for establishment of a new enterprise zone and abatement of ad valorem property taxes imposed therein. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Mr. Dave Meyer, auditor with Wermer, Rogers, Doran & Ruzon, addressed the Board regarding the official audit for the year ending June 30, 2014. He commended the District staff on an outstanding job of providing information for the audit and noted that the checks run did not turn up anything out of the ordinary. Mr. Meyer advised the District received a 4.0 level recognition for the most recent financial report. The District ended the year with a $6.8 million dollar Education Fund balance, falling within the ideal of 4-6 months’ of expenditures on hand. Mr. Meyer pointed out the District had no grant findings and is one of three out of sixteen districts that did so. Overall, the audit was clean with no findings of note.

Member Thompson moved, and member Adams seconded, to accept the official audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Sutton moved, and member Myers seconded, to approve the proposed MSHS Band and Choir field trip to the Choir and Band Dixie Classic Festival in Chicago April 11-12, 2015. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Mr. Larry Litchfield addressed the Board regarding the proposed Bass Fishing Club for MSHS. He advised the cost for the District to purchase boats for the club when he is no longer a sponsor would be approximately $2,000. He also provided a list of clubs that would provide boats and captains if necessary. He stressed that everyone would learn and participate. Dr. Twomey emphasized even though the club is sanctioned by IHSA, it is not classified as an IHSA sport. In response to a question about transporting club members, Mr. Litchfield advised members would be scheduled to participate different nights so not all club members would be present at all contests and parents would sign a waiver to allow the sponsors to transport members in their vehicles. Brad Bloomer and Dave Haney will assist and equipment will be provided, so there will be little to no cost to the District. Member Adams moved, and member Kiah seconded, to approve the establishment of a Bass Fishing Club at
MSHS. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Adams moved, and member Myers seconded, to approve the items on the Consent Calendar as presented, which included: Minutes from the September 15, 2014 public hearing on the 2014-2015 District budget; Minutes from the September 15, 2014, regular Board meeting; Treasurer’s Report; Monthly Board Report; Bills and Payroll; Financial Update on Life Safety Projects (.05 levy); Financial Update on Life Safety Projects; Monthly Food Service Report; Monthly Activity Account Reports; and State Funding Update. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Thompson moved, and member La Prad seconded, to approve and hold indefinitely the minutes from the closed meeting held during the September 15, 2014, regular Board meeting. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Sutton moved, and member Thompson seconded, to approve personnel recommendation as follows:

Certificated:

Request for Leave:
Jessica Marty, Grade 2 Teacher, Lincoln Elementary School, request for FMLA leave to begin September 17, 2014, and extend through March 27, 2015.
Stephanie Seaver, Grade 5 Teacher, Edison Elementary School, request for FMLA leave to begin November 10, 2014, and extend through December 19, 2014.

Retirement:
Marsha Dagit, Special Education Teacher, Edison Elementary School, under the 2013-2016 contract, effective end of the 2018-2019 school year.

Educational Support Staff:

Employment:
Megan Dildine, Program Assistant, 29 hours per week, Macomb Senior High School, effective October 14, 2014. (replacement)
Cathryn Gilley, Program Assistant, 29 hours per week, Edison Elementary School, effective August 20, 2014. (replacement)

Resignation:
Jeanetta Bodiford, Program Assistant, 29 hours per week, Macomb Senior High School, effective October 24, 2014.
Anita Dobrzycki, Special Services Secretary, MacArthur Early Childhood Center, effective October 10, 2014.
Sarah Lambert, Program Assistant, 29 hours per week, Macomb Senior High School, effective October 29, 2014.

Co-Curricular:

Employment:
Oskar Gasecki, Head Boys Soccer Coach, (2/3 shared stipend) Macomb Senior High School, effective September 25, 2014.
Tasha Kastner, Student Council Sponsor, (shared stipend), Macomb Junior High School, effective 2014-2015 school year.
Zach Keene, Assistant Boys Soccer Coach, (2/3 shared stipend) Macomb Senior High School, effective September 25, 2014.
Wendi Westfall, Student Council Sponsor, (shared stipend), Macomb Junior High School, effective 2014-2015 school year.

Resignation:
Mike McCall, Assistant Boys Track Coach, Macomb Senior High School, effective September 9, 2014.

Volunteers:
High School Football
Andrew McGhghy
Thomas Fritz
Junior High Football
Scott Collins

Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Adams moved, and member Thompson seconded, to approve the request to re-establish freshman boys’ baseball and freshman girls’ softball teams due to increasing participation. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Thompson moved, and member Myers seconded, to establish a 6th grade wrestling program effective for the 1415 wrestling season. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Mr. Bierman announced the current Administrative/Certified Salary Compensation Report is available for review on the District website, in compliance with Illinois School Code.

Mr. Dave Bartlett, Athletic Director, updated the Board on the football conference situation. He advised the West Central Conference membership has diminished to five competing teams. Macomb has received a proposal to join Okaw Valley and may also have a chance to join the Prairieland conference, which is closer to home than Okaw Valley. Mr. Bartlett stated he would explore the possibility of joining the Prairieland Conference and keep the Board updated on his findings.

Members Kiah and Sutton reported on the District Insurance Committee’s September 17 meeting. Mr. Kiah advised the Board the committee has been studying wellness plans to support and enhance the District’s group health plan and to meet the requirements of the Affordable Care Act. The committee received information on a national provider and from McDonough District Hospital on its wellness program. Advantages of the MDH program include local contact/support if test profiles indicate conditions that warrant in-depth attention. He noted the committee will continue to receive information and should have a recommendation for the next regular Board meeting.

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

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Second reading will take place at the November Board meeting with a recommendation for approval.
Members La Prad and Sutton, co-chairs of the Board Strategic Plan Committee, reported on the committee’s October 14 meeting. The committee members and Dr. Twomey discussed the District Strategic Plan and the plan for implementation and laid out clear expectations for the development of the implementation plan. Dr. Twomey explained that in years past, strategic plans have focused on daily operations and getting from point a to point b. The committee members view the District Strategic Plan as a vision for the future and the implementation plan as a guide for the moving toward that vision incrementally.

President Bierman announced the following:
- The next regular meeting of the Board will take place Monday, November 17;
- Members of the Board and Dr. Twomey will travel to Chicago to attend the IASA/IASB/IASBO Joint Annual Conference November 20-23; and,
- There will be one item for Board action after the closed meeting

At 8:59 p.m., member Sutton moved, and member Thompson seconded, to hold a closed meeting for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), student discipline, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9), the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10). Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

The Board returned to open session at 11:00 p.m.

Member Adams moved, and member Myers seconded, to allow continued participation in athletic programs for students 1415:2 and 1415:3. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Sutton moved, and member Adams seconded, to adjourn at 11:05 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

_______________________________________
President

_______________________________________
Date

_______________________________________
Secretary