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, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, and La Prad. Member Thompson was absent.

Mr. Timothy Harting addressed the Board regarding bullying in the District and ideas to educate students, parents and teachers about bullying and how to stop it.

Mr. Will Wetzel, spoke to the Board about the Food for Thought program at First Presbyterian church. The program serves 45-60 students per day offering meals, food to take home, and opportunities to learn and have fun.

Senior of the Month for the month of November was Zoe Lambert. She was unable to attend due to a basketball game and will be recognized at a future meeting.

Members of the Board and Dr. Twomey discussed the Joint Annual Conferences and gave brief overviews of the sessions they attended. The Board also discussed Vision 20/20, a new initiative underway in Illinois to change the perception of public education. Member Kiah spoke about his experience at Lincoln Elementary’s Breakfast with Santa and commended the Lincoln teachers for their hard work and effort in planning and putting on the program. Member Sutton noted the Strategic Plan Committee would meet December 18 and encouraged attendance.

Dr. Twomey shared the following information:

- Update on PERA Informal Joint Committee work: The initial meetings of the committee were spent looking at different bases for evaluations: PARCC or Student Learning Objectives (SLO). The committee will meet again to decide which model to use.
- April 7, 2015 General Election: there are three positions available on the Board of Education. First day to file petitions was December 17 and the last day is December 22.
- FOIA request: Records on bond sales from 1984 to present. This was a mass request sent to districts across Illinois. The request was referred to Franczek-Radelet.
- The State granted the District’s request for waiver of non-resident tuition for children of District employees who live out of District.
- Edison drop-off and pick-up: The City contacted Dr. Twomey about heavy traffic and dangerous conditions on Pearl in the morning and afternoon. Bus lanes will be widened at the north end of the Edison drive and cars will use the circle drive for student drop-off and pick-up in an effort to alleviate the traffic issue.
- Bomber mascot: The District adopted orange and black as official colors, but there is no uniformity district-wide regarding the mascot. The proposal is that the Bomber be used as the mascot for all District schools. Information will be gathered over the next month so the Board can make a decision in January.
- The next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 26, 2015.
Mr. Bierman advised he had received e-mails from Leesa Palmer about students in her English classes Skyping with students around the world. He proposed inviting Mrs. Palmer to do a presentation on the activity for the Board.

Member Adams moved, and member La Prad seconded, to approve the Consent Calendar, which included the following items: Minutes from the November 17, 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 Activity Account Reports; and State Funding Update. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Kiah moved, and member Myers seconded, to approve minutes from the closed meeting held during the November 17, 2014 regular Board meeting. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Sutton moved, and member Adams seconded, to approve the following recommendations regarding personnel:

Certificated Staff:

Employment:

Michelle Morgan, Part Time School Counselor, Lincoln Elementary School, up to 30 hours per week, Master’s Degree, effective January 2, 2015.

Request for Leave:

Mindy Frier, Grade 5 Teacher, Edison Elementary School, request FMLA leave to begin April 17, 2015 and extend through the school year, June 3, 2015.

Educational Support Staff:

Employment:

Claire Ascone, Program Assistant, MacArthur Early Childhood Center (home base), effective December 1, 2014.

Co-Curricular:

Employment:

Kelly Sears, Assistant Girls Basketball Coach (Fr.), Macomb Senior High School, effective 2014-2015 season.

Volunteers:


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

Dr. Twomey presented the final 2014 District Levy for approval. He advised there had been no changes since the Board reviewed the levy at the November meeting. The levy was figured using the same philosophy as the 2013 levy, asking less in the O&M and Transportation Funds to help keep the Education Fund balanced. Member Sutton moved, and member Adams seconded, to approve the 2014 District Levy as presented. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.
Member Sutton moved, and member La Prad seconded, to approve a Fire & Life Safety amendment in the amount of $18,000 for repair of the MSHS pool area breaker panel. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Mr. John Meixner, President of the Choir Boosters, presented a proposal for purchase of new choir robes and stoles. The Boosters requested the District contribute the cost of the stoles ($5,171.10) and the Boosters will contribute the remaining $19,083.90 of the total purchase price of $24,255.00. The Board will act on the request at its January meeting.

Mr. Jeff DeJoode, March, McMillan, DeJoode, et al., addressed the Board on behalf of Andy and Andrea Potter regarding a petition for an exchange of land between the West Prairie School District and Macomb C.U.S.D. #185 that would make them residents of the Macomb School District. The Board of Education of each district will vote on the petition and then it will go before the Regional Office of Education Board. That board will consider whether the parcels are compact/contiguous and also look at the benefit to the children. The hearing is scheduled for January 14, 2015. Member Kiah moved, and member Sutton seconded, to approve the petition for the exchange of land between the districts. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Sutton moved, and member La Prad seconded, to approve a trip for theater students to St. Louis to see “Phantom of the Opera”. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Sutton, Adams, Bierman, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed proposed changes to Board policy 7:40, Non-Public School Students, Including Parochial and Home-Schooled Students. Member Kiah moved, and member Myers seconded, to waive second reading and approve the changes as presented. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Sutton moved, and member Myers seconded, to approve the audit engagement letter from Wermer, Rogers, Doran & Ruzon for services to be provided for fiscal years ending June 30, 2015 through June 30, 2017. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Myers moved, and member Kiah seconded, to accept the proposal from Laverdiere Construction for paving work at Edison Elementary in the amount of $31,700. Dr. Twomey explained the purpose of the project is to provide room for buses to pull farther north in Edison’s circle drive allowing enough access for cars to pull in for student drop-off and pick-up. The City provided the engineering study for the project and will stripe the cement and provide signage. Dr. Twomey advised the project does not qualify as Fire & Life Safety work as it is new concrete. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

President Bierman noted the next meeting of the Board would take place on Monday, January 26, 2015, and that the Board would take no action following the closed meeting.

At 8:15 p.m., member Sutton moved, and member Myers 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), the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students, pursuant to 5 ILCS
120/2(c)(10), and the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5). Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

The Board returned to open session at 10:28 p.m.

Member Kiah moved, and member Sutton seconded, to adjourn at 10:30 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

_______________________________________
President

___________________________________________
Date

___________________________________________
Secretary