Following the public hearing on the proposed 2017 Levy, Board Vice President Matt Bierman called the regular meeting of the Board to order at 7:11 p.m. in the Library at Macomb Jr./Sr. High School. Members present were: Duncan, Torrance, Adams, Bierman and La Prad. Board President Jill Myers was present via telephone, and member Thompson was absent.

Mr. Bierman noted the next regular meeting of the Board would be held Monday, January 22, 2018.

Member Torrance advised the November 30 Macomb Agricultural Association auction to benefit the MHS Agriculture program and FFA Chapter was a success. The event was well attended and 200 donated items were auctioned off, raising $40,000 for the program.

Member Duncan asked about the possible effect of net neutrality on Open Educational Resources. He wondered if the new changes would have a negative impact on the cost of OER and download speeds. Dr. Twomey advised cost might not be affected, but it might be possible that search engines could favor a particular book company over another. Another result could be politicization of major book companies.

Dr. Twomey shared information on the following:
- Middle School Update: Quincy’s new school houses 600 students and cost $13,000,000. The 1-cent sales tax could be used to fund a building – at $750,000/year, the District could bond $12,000,000. The USDA grant is still in the works – following some final numbers work and some alterations to building plans, it will be submitted at the federal level. We’ll know more from the Community First partners in January.
- Lincoln Update: footings are poured and steel beams are up.
- Athletic/Extracurricular Conference: Current Prairieland members are still resisting allowing Macomb into the conference. Illini West submitted a proposal to include Macomb, replete with small and large school divisions and travel outlines, and it wasn’t allowed to come to a vote. Dr. Twomey will draft and send a letter to superintendents of districts in the Prairieland Conference. Other actions may include contacting Board members of those districts. WGEM is doing a nice job of reporting on the current situation and giving the issue good coverage.
- Classroom Spotlight – Sean Genovese: Mr. Genovese presented his use of technology (OneDrive app, O365 Stream and Edmodo) to create videos of his lessons for students to view on a device outside the classroom so they can work on homework and have access to him for assistance in the classroom. He also communicates information about lessons to parents and students and sends progress reports to parents using Skyward-Message Center. Discussion ensued regarding equity issues and possible solutions for those. Mr. Genovese invited Board members to attend his session at the January 3 Teachers’ Institute to learn more.

The Board recognized Theodore Li for being selected Senior of the Month for the month of November.

Dr. Twomey provided an overview of District initiatives and activities demonstrating implementation of Strategy 2-1 of the Strategic Plan: Develop a professional community of educational leaders at all
levels of the District. He advised the Administrative Team meets weekly, the Future Ready Team meets bi-monthly, and the Leadership Team meets quarterly. The current focus of these groups is implementation of MAP testing, beginning with reading and math. MAP will come to the District in August to train teachers how to access and use data. Marzano will be used in conjunction with MAP to address classroom delivery. Dr. Twomey shared reflections on the work of the Future Ready Team from Marc Baxter and Molly Selders. Both expressed support for the purpose and work of the team, and noted the current energized, collegial climate amongst team members and in the District as work toward a systematic, comprehensive and reflective approach to teaching all students progresses.

Mr. Bierman removed item 8.2 of the Consent Calendar, Minutes from the November 20, 2017 regular Board of Education meeting, for separate consideration as the minutes originally posted required revisions prior to approval.

Member Adams moved, and member Duncan seconded, to approve items 8.1 and 8.3-8.13 of the Consent Calendar, which included Minutes from the November 20, 2017 public hearing re: the proposed sale of $6,000,000 in Working Cash bonds, Minutes from the December 11, 2017, special 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, Monthly Activity Account Reports, Monthly Food Service Report, State Funding Update, and the WCISEC Financials and Personnel. In response to member La Prad’s question whether the projects associated with the proposed Working Cash bonds had been approved, Dr. Twomey explained the projects – Edison renovation, science rooms and honors lab at MJSHS, and turf – have all been discussed by and with the Board over the past two years. The District has the opportunity to dovetail one bond issue into another to leave the tax rate steady and provide funds for the projects. Member Bierman noted the Finance and Facilities committees met and received in depth information on the projects and the plan to issue Working Cash bonds to fund them. Dr. Twomey advised as the projects develop, the plans will be presented to the Board and the Board will have the opportunity to review and approve each project. Member Duncan explained he voted “no” on issuance of the bonds because the projects had not been formally approved, and member La Prad stressed the need to be transparent to the community. Dr. Twomey noted the bond process required publication of a notice and a public hearing, there had been an article in the newspaper about the bond issue and the projects, and all meetings had been noticed, posted and open to the public. Prior to voting on the motion, member Duncan questioned an item appearing in the bills and figures reflected on the 1718 Claims report. Vote was taken on the motion with the following members voting “yes”: Duncan, Torrance, Adams, Bierman, and Myers. Members voting “no”: none. Member La Prad abstained. Motion carried.

Member Adams noted item 8.2, Minutes from the November 20, 2017 regular Board of Education meeting, had been revised as follows:

- Addition of this paragraph: “Member Adams moved, and member Thompson seconded, to adopt a resolution declaring the intention to issue Working Cash Fund bonds for the purpose of increasing the Working Cash Fund of the District. Members voting “yes”: Torrance, Adams, Bierman, Myers, and Thompson. Members voting “no”: Duncan. Motion carried.”

- Adjustment of the time when the Board returned to open session and adjourned, and members who moved and seconded adjournment.

Member Adams moved, and member Duncan seconded, to approve the Minutes from the November 20, 2017 regular Board of Education meeting with revisions. Members voting “yes”: Duncan, Torrance, Adams, and Bierman. Members voting “no”: none. Members Myers and La Prad abstained. Motion carried.

Member Duncan moved, and member Adams seconded, to approve and hold indefinitely the minutes from the closed meeting held during the November 20, 2017 regular meeting. Members voting “yes”: Duncan, Torrance, Adams, Bierman, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Member Myers abstained. Motion carried.

Member La Prad moved, and member Duncan seconded, to approve personnel recommendations as follows:

Co-Curricular Staff:

Change in Assignment:
Molly Selders was Musical Set Director/Business Manager, now Musical Assistant Director, Macomb Senior High School, Level 9, effective 2017-2018 school year.

Employment:
Mary Kay Benda, Piano Accompanist, Macomb Senior High School, Level 11, effective 2017-2018 school year.
Melanie Butcher, Musical Set Director/Business Manager, Macomb Senior High School, Level 7, effective 2017-2018 school year.
Chelsea Frieberg, Musical Choreographer, Macomb Senior High School, Level 11, effective 2017-2018 school year.
Torren Frieberg, Musical Set Director, Macomb Senior High School, Level 10, effective 2017-2018 school year.
Emmett Hall, Assistant Wrestling Coach, Macomb Junior High School, Level 8, effective 2017-2018 school year.
Doug Mattsey, Musical Pit Band Rehearsal Director, Macomb Senior High School, Level 10, effective 2017-2018 school year.
MaryBeth Stewart, Musical Tickets, Publicity & Programs, and Musical Costume Designer, Macomb Senior High School, Level 11, effective 2017-2018 school year.

Volunteer Coach:
Max Kreps, Assistant Softball Coach, Macomb Senior High School, effective 2017-2018 season.

Members voting “yes”: Duncan, Torrance, Adams, Bierman, Myers, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Adams moved, and member La Prad seconded, to approve the proposed 2017 levy. Members voting “yes”: Duncan, Torrance, Adams, Bierman, Myers, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

At 8:21 p.m., member Torrance moved, and member Adams 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), collective negotiating matters, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), the purchase or lease of real property, pursuant to 5 ILCS 12/2(c)(5), student discipline, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9), and pending or imminent litigation, pursuant to 5 ILCS 12/2(c)(11). Members voting “yes”: Duncan, Torrance, Adams, Bierman, Myers, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

The Board returned to open session at 9:30 p.m. Member Adams moved, and member Duncan seconded, to adjourn at 9:31 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

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President

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Date

___________________________________________

Secretary