

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
MERCER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #404,
MERCER, HENDERSON, & ROCK ISLAND COUNTIES, ILLINOIS.**

The Board of Education of Mercer County School District #404, Mercer, Henderson, & Rock Island Counties, Illinois, convened at a regular meeting at the District Office, 1002 SW 6th Street, Aledo, IL, on Wednesday, July 13th, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

	NO. 1	NO. 2	NO. 3	NO.4	NO.5	NO.6	NO.7	NO.8	NO.9	NO.10
Chiles	NO	AYE	AYE	NO	NO	AYE	AYE	NO	AYE	NO
Forret										
Yates	ROLL	AYE	AYE	ROLL	ROLL	AYE	AYE	ROLL	AYE	ROLL
Tucker		AYE	AYE			AYE	AYE		AYE	
Shoemaker	CALL	NAY	NAY	CALL	CALL	AYE	AYE	CALL	AYE	CALL
Ball		NAY	NAY			AYE	AYE		AYE	
Smock	VOTE	AYE	AYE	VOTE	VOTE	AYE	AYE	VOTE	AYE	VOTE

	NO. 11	NO. 12	NO.13	NO.14	NO.15	NO.16	NO.17	NO.18	NO.19	NO.20
Chiles	AYE	AYE	AYE	NO	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	NO	
Forret										
Yates	AYE	NAY	AYE	ROLL	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	ROLL	
Tucker	AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE		
Shoemaker	AYE	NAY	AYE	CALL	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	CALL	
Ball	AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE		
Smock	AYE	AYE	AYE	VOTE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	VOTE	

On roll call, the following members answered present:

Chiles, Tucker, Shoemaker, Ball, Yates, and Smock

Absent: Forret

Also present: Supt. Boucher, Principals, Robert Reed, Nancy Robinson.

Faculty members: Stacey Day, Geoff Long, Bob Beguelin, Kim Sheese, Mike Chausse, Karen Jones, Liz Gray, Chris Swanson.

Reporters: Deb Robinson

Also: Shari Chandler, Mrs. Rind, Pastor Losey, Hillary Gipson, Mary Hess, Linus Griswold, and others.

- CONSENT AGENDA** 1. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Chiles, to approve the following items on the consent agenda:
- a. Minutes of meetings
 - June 15, 2011
 - June 22, 2011
 - July 6, 2011
 - b. Bill List
 - c. Treasurer's Report
 - d. Financial Report
- Majority of Ayes by voice vote. Motion carried.
- SENIOR STUDY HALL** 2. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Tucker, to rescind part 3 of the motion from March 9th, 2011 to disallow Juniors and Seniors from taking study halls, with the condition that there will be a limit to one Study Hall per student, and a committee will be formed to re-examine the current graduation requirements and the new Junior ACT PREP class.
- Roll call: 4 Ayes, 2 Nays. Motion carried.
- MOTION AMENDMENT** 3. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Tucker, to amend the previous motion to include decreasing the minutes of Advisory Period back to the 2010-2011 schedule.
- Roll call: 4 Ayes, 2 Nays. Motion carried.
- TECHNOLOGY LEASE** 4. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Tucker, to allow the Technology team to solicit sealed bids for the Tech Lease Plans.
- Majority of Ayes by voice vote. Motion carried.
- SEX EQUITY** 5. There was a motion by Yates, seconded by Chiles, to approve the results of the Sex Equity Plan as presented.
- Majority of Ayes by voice vote. Motion carried.
- TREASURER'S BOND** 6. There was a motion by Shoemaker, seconded by Chiles, to renew the Treasurer's Bond and Life Safety Bond Insurance.
- Roll call: 6 Ayes, No Nays. Motion carried.
- FORK LIFT AND MAN LIFT** 7. There was a motion by Tucker, seconded by Smock, to purchase a fork lift for \$950, a man lift for \$975 and grass catcher for \$1,200.
- Roll call: 6 Ayes, No Nays. Motion carried.
- TITLE I PLAN** 8. There was a motion by Chiles, seconded by Tucker, to approve the Title I District plan as presented.
- Roll call: 6 Ayes, No Nays. Motion carried.

- ACCEPT MILK BID** 9. There was a motion by Shoemaker, seconded by Smock, to approve the Anderson Erickson milk bid as previously presented.
Roll call: 6 Ayes, No Nays. Motion carried.
- ADULT MEAL PRICES** 10. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Yates to raise the adult meal prices to \$1.60 for breakfast and \$2.60 for lunch, in accordance with State regulations.
Majority of Ayes by voice vote. Motion carried.
- LOCKER ROOM FAN** 11. There was a motion by Tucker, seconded by Smock, to approve the purchase of the locker room fan for the high school bid at \$1,158 installed.
Roll call: 6 Ayes, No Nays. Motion carried.
- HIGH SCHOOL LOBBY DOOR** 12. There was a motion by Tucker, seconded by Smock, to approve the replacement of the lobby door at the High School.
Roll call: 4 Ayes, 2 Nays. Motion carried.
- INTO CLOSED SESSION** 13. There was a motion by Shoemaker, seconded by Yates, to adjourn to closed session at 9:15pm to discuss personnel.

Personnel - The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the District or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

Roll call: 6 Ayes, no Nays. Motion carried.
- OPEN SESSION** 14. There was a motion by Yates, seconded by Shoemaker, to return to open session at 10:30pm, with the following members present: Yates, Chiles, Tucker, Shoemaker, Ball, and Smock.
Majority of Ayes by voice vote. Motion carried.
- HIRE ELEMENTARY GUIDANCE COUNSELOR** 15. There was a motion by Tucker, seconded by Yates, to hire Courtney Rico as an Elementary School Guidance Counselor.
Roll call: 6 Ayes, no Nays. Motion carried.
- HIRE BUS MONITOR** 16. There was a motion by Tucker, seconded by Chiles, to hire Vanessa Sronce as a bus monitor.
Roll call: 6 Ayes, no Nays. Motion carried.

**HIRE CUSTODIAN AT
NEW BOSTON
ELEMENTARY**

17. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Yates, to hire Tiffany Daum as a custodian at New Boston Elementary School.
Roll call: 6 Ayes, no Nays. Motion carried.

**APPROVE PRINCIPAL
CONTRACT**

18. There was a motion by Yates, seconded by Tucker, to approve principal's contract for Gavin Sronce as written.
Roll call: 6 Ayes, no Nays. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

19. There was a motion by Shoemaker, seconded by Smock, to adjourn at 10:53pm.
Majority of Ayes by voice vote. Motion carried.

OTHER REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

**COUNTY ASSESSOR
PRESENTATION**

1. Don St. Germaine gave information on the newly renovated grain facility in New Boston. He reported that their office is not experienced in assessing a facility of this type and magnitude. He recommends that an appraiser be hired to get an accurate assessment of property value. They have asked that the taxing bodies share the cost of the appraisal, since they would be the ones collecting the higher taxes from this property. Our approximate share would be \$3,000. The board would like more information before proceeding on this. They would like to wait to see if a comparable property could be found to help with assessment and avoid paying the appraisal. This topic will be discussed again next month.

SENIOR STUDY HALL

2. There was much discussion and public comment on the Senior Study Hall issue. Parents have called and complained about their senior students not being allowed to have a study hall. There were numerous questions regarding the reasoning for this rule. Stacey Day and Mike Chausse were asked to give a synopsis on the background that led to this decision since they were involved with the faculty committee that came up with the plan. They reported that it was a *faculty* decision based on the entire schedule to help offset the uneven classes due to the added ACT prep classes for juniors, and there was not a lot of time to discuss other options. Several parents gave their opinions on why they felt this was not fair for their students. With busy work schedules and extra-curricular activities, they needed the time to do homework.

It was decided that the previous motion to disallow seniors be rescinded with a limit to one study hall per student, and a committee be formed to research the topic and possibly come up with a better way to help with the scheduling. Advisory period will also go back to its original time frame, as it had been increased along with the No Study Hall motion. The committee will also look at the following options: Advisory Period being at a different time of day, students not leaving so early for sports, and graduation requirements.

TECHNOLOGY LEASE 3. Last month, our technology team was here to present information about a proposed technology lease. They have reworked some information to present again this month. 3 leases would replace all computers in the district. The money allotted for leasing is from property taxes.

The technology plan was accepted, and the team was told to go out for sealed bids to decide where to purchase the new hardware.

During Public Comment, Liz Gray and Chris Swanson spoke in support of the technology plan, and expressed their opinions on how technology is necessary for even the youngest students.

VOLUNTARY LIFE INSURANCE 4. A possible voluntary life insurance policy for the staff was discussed. By creating a group policy, it would, there would be lower rates for individuals and no physicals or health histories taken. There would be no cost to the District as all expenses would be paid by the employees. Mr. Shoemaker brought up the fact that there might be income tax issues if amounts were over 50,000. This could be a payroll problem. This item was tabled, and will be discussed again after more information is available.

MILK BID 5. The milk bid was postponed at the last meeting to check on whether or not Anderson Erickson provided milk coolers. They do, so the motion was put back on the floor and accepted.

ADULT MEAL PRICES 6. The government mandates that the staff meal prices by at a certain level (determined annually) above the highest student meal price. The minimum adult meal price is figured by the sum of the highest charge for student meals, the federal paid reimbursement, and the Planned Assistance Level (PAL) for donated commodities. For our district, that means we have to raise the adult prices at least 48cents above the high school meal prices. Rounding to the nearest nickel, it would mean that our staff lunches will be \$2.60 and adult breakfast \$1.60.

REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION 7. The Governor took away from the State budget the salary money for ROE staff. The superintendents from the other 3 districts of our ROE area are asking that the 4 districts pay the salaries of Jodi Scott and Bob Gound while the State sorts out the issue. Our portion would be about \$20,850. Our board did not think it prudent to step in financially in this situation as it might set a precedent and initiate more financial aid requests in the future.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES 8. Finance Committee Meeting - August 3rd, 2011 at 7pm

Douglas Ball, President, Bd. of Education

Barbara Chiles, Secretary, Bd. of Education

Approved: _____