

PUBLIC HEARING
(FY26 Tentative Budget)

1. The Public Hearing was called to order at 6:30 PM. Board members present upon roll call: Lower, Monson, Nelson, Frick, and Yates. A quorum was present. Balmer arrived at 6:31 p.m.
2. Principals Zaiser, Sedam, Robertson, Rebecca McPeck, and recording secretary Leanne McDermott were in attendance. Also in attendance: high school student (live streaming) and attached list.
3. There were no public questions/comments.
4. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Yates, to adjourn the public hearing at 6:31 p.m. Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

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

RECORD OF MOTIONS & VOTES

	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	No.6	No. 7	No. 8	No. 9
Balmer	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	V O I C E	ABSTAIN	V O I C E
Lower	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE	
Monson	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE	
Nelson	AYE	AYE	NAY	AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE	
Smock	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE-	AYE	AYE		AYE	
Frick	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE	
Yates	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE	

The Board of Education of Mercer County School District #404, Mercer, Henderson, & Rock Island Counties, Illinois, convened at a regular meeting at *the Mercer County Junior High Music Room, 1002 SW 6th Street, Aledo, IL* on **Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at 6:32 PM.**

ATTENDANCE

Board members present upon roll call: Smock, Lower, Monson, Nelson, Frick, Balmer and Yates. A quorum was present.

Absent: None.

Administrators present: Principals Zaiser, Robertson, Sedam, Rebecca McPeck

Also in Attendance: high school student (live streaming), Recording secretary, Leanne McDermott and attached list.

Reporters: KWQC, Ty Taylor of WRMJ

CONSENT AGENDA

1. There was a motion by Yates, seconded by Frick, to approve the following items on the consent agenda:
 1. Meeting Minutes - Regular Meeting Minutes August 20, 2025

2. Bill List
 3. Treasurer's Report
 4. Imprest Report
 5. P-Card Report
 6. BCBS Health Insurance Account Statement
 7. SRO Agreement with the City of Aledo
 8. Casualty and Surety Bonds
 9. Early Graduate Requests
- Roll: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

FY26 BUDGET

2. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Yates, to approve the FY26 Budget.
- Roll: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

FY27 PRESCHOOL PLACEMENT

3. There was a motion made by Monson, seconded by Balmer, to approve the FY27 preschool placement return back to the elementary buildings.
- Roll: 6 Ayes, 1 Nay. Motion carried.

TENTATIVE 2025 SCHOOL TAX LEVY

4. There was a motion made by Frick, seconded by Lower, to approve the Tentative 2025 School Tax Levy.
- Roll: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

FORD TRANSIT PURCHASE

5. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Yates, to approve the Ford Transit purchase.
- Roll: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

6. There was a motion by Yates, seconded by Balmer, to go into closed session at 7:15 p.m.
- Roll: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Personnel

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

OPEN SESSION

7. There was a motion by Yates, seconded by Nelson, to come out of closed session at 8:11 p.m.
- Voice: Majority of Ayes. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL REPORT

8. There was a motion made by Yates, seconded by Balmer, to approve the personnel report as presented:
Resignations of Ashley Clark - HS Winter Cheer Coach, Ashley Epperson - bus monitor, Ryan Garrett - Assistant Baseball Coach.
Positions to post: 7th grade Volleyball Coach, (2) Assistant Baseball Coach and HS Winter Cheer Coach
OPEN - JV Softball Coach
Hire: Megan Sywassink - Volunteer Volleyball Assistant
Coaching Rehires:
HS Boys Basketball Head Coach- Tim Sedam, JV Coach- Morgan Braucht
 Volunteer Assistant- Joe Hanlin
HS Girls Basketball Head Coach- Brandon Hofmann, JV Coach- Brian Fearman
 Volunteer Assistants- Bailey Blaser & Emma Skrovonski
HS Wrestling Head Coach- Jeremy Finch, Assistant Coach- Tristan Finch

	Assistant Coach- Dallas Moreford
	Volunteer Assistants- Toph Hedrick & Dalton Willett
JH Boys Basketball	Connor Sharp- 8th Grade Coach, Brenton Stropes- 7th Grade Coach
JH Volleyball	Lori Feik- 8th Grade Coach
JH Wrestling	Monte Smith- Head Coach
Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Abstain. Motion carried.	

ADJOURN

9. There was a motion by Balmer, seconded by Frick, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.
Voice: 6 Ayes by, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

OTHER REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

PUBLIC COMMENT: 1. Valeri Talbot spoke regarding the FY27 preschool placement.

ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT PLANNING UPDATE: 2. Teacher Monte Smith went over the K-12 Math Curricular Alignment and Review Framework. They are using EdReports as a guide. Unfortunately some curriculum hasn't been reviewed by EdReports.

HIGH SCHOOL RENOVATION PLAN: 3. Jacob Lower spoke regarding the HS renovation and updated cost estimate with the approved design with and without the four additional classrooms.

Submitted By:

Recording Secretary

President, Bd. of Education

Secretary, Bd. of Education

Approved: _____