

**TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING**

The Board of Education of Mercer County School District #404, Mercer, Henderson, & Rock Island Counties, Illinois, held a TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING at **the District Office, 1002 SW 6th Street, Aledo, IL, on Wednesday, December 18, 2019 at 6:00p.m.**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Board members present upon roll call:** Balmer, Dillavou, Smock, Wagner, and Yates. A quorum was present. Frieden arrived at 6:16pm.

**Absent:** Bowns

**Administrators present:** Superintendent Scott Petrie, Principals Stacey Day, Bill Fleuette, Ryan Koresko, and Marcus Bush

**Also in Attendance:** Andrew Hofer, Mark Bieri, Sarah Gillespie, Chad Cook, Cordel Gray, Amanda Gray, Beth Knapp, Jayson Thomson, Secretary Angie Baker

**Reporters:** Cathy Decker

A Public Hearing was held to inform the public of our 2019 Tax Levy.

Mr. Petrie reviewed the 2019 Tax Levy information and explained the rationale for the amounts and rates contained in the Truth in Taxation Notice that was published in the local newspaper.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**      There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Balmer, to adjourn the Public Hearing for 2019 Tax Levy. 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.**

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, December 18, 2019 at 6:13p.m.**

**ATTENDANCE:** Same as above.

The Board of Education and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Board President Julie Wagner.

**RECORD OF MOTIONS & VOTES**

	NO. 1	NO. 2	NO. 3	NO. 4	NO. 5	NO. 6	NO. 7	NO. 8	NO. 9	NO. 10
<b>Balmer</b>	AYE	AYE	VOICE	AYE	VOICE	VOICE	AYE	AYE	VOICE	AYE
<b>Bowns</b>	-	-		-			-			
<b>Dillavou</b>	AYE	AYE		AYE			AYE			
<b>Frieden</b>	AYE	AYE		AYE			AYE			
<b>Smock</b>	AYE	AYE		AYE			AYE			
<b>Wagner</b>	AYE	AYE		NAY			AYE			
<b>Yates</b>	AYE	AYE		AYE			AYE			

	No. 11	No. 12	No. 13	No. 14	No. 15
Balmer	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	VOICE
Chiles	-	-	-	-	
Dillavou	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	
Frieden	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	
Smock	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	
Wagner	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	
Yates	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. There was a motion by Dillavou, seconded by Balmer, to approve the following items on the consent agenda:

- 1.1 Meeting Minutes
  - a.Regular Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2019
- 1.2 Bill List
- 1.3 Treasurer’s Report
- 1.4 Financial Report
- 1.5 BCBS Health Insurance Account Statement
- 1.6 Resignation of Intermediate School Cook Colleen Smith
- 1.7 Maternity Leave High School PE/Drivers Ed Teacher Laura Swanson

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

**ADOPT 2019 TAX LEVY**

2. There was a motion by Dillavou, seconded by Yates, to adopt the resolution for 2019 Tax Levy as presented, for a total anticipated amount of \$7,374,006 excluding bond and interest.

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

**2021 JAZZ BAND TRIP**

3. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Balmer, to approve the 2021 Jazz Band Trip to Nashville.

Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

**IESA JUNIOR HIGH SOFTBALL**

4. There was a motion by Dillavou, seconded by Balmer, to approve the addition of IESA Junior High Softball for the 2020-2021 school year.

Roll Call: 5 Ayes, 1 Nay. Motion carried.

**PRESS POLICY QUARTERLY UPDATES**

5. There was a motion by Dillavou, seconded by Yates, to approve the Quarterly PRESS Policy updates as presented.

Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN – MCJH**

6. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Frieden, to approve the Mercer County Junior High School Improvement Plan as presented.

Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

**SUBSTITUTE SALARIES**

7. There was a motion by Balmer, seconded by Frieden, to approve the increase in substitute salaries for secretaries, cooks, and paraprofessionals to \$9.25/hr effective January 1, 2020.

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

8. There was a motion by Balmer, seconded by Frieden, to go into Closed Session at 7:18pm to discuss Personnel, Security, and Negotiations.

8.1 **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)*

8.2 **Security**

*Emergency security procedures and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public or public property. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8).*

8.3 **Negotiations**

*Collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).*

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

OPEN SESSION

9. There was a motion by Frieden, seconded by Balmer, to return to open session at 9:06pm.

Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

HIRE LONG TERM SUB  
SPECIAL ED TEACHER

10. There was a motion by Balmer, seconded by Frieden, to hire Ashley Anderson as a Long Term Substitute Special Education Teacher at the High School.

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

HIRE JUNIOR HIGH  
ASSISTANT WRESTLING  
COACH

11. There was a motion by Balmer, seconded by Dillavou, to hire Eric Baker as a Junior High Assistant Wrestling Coach.

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

FALL COACH REHIRES

12. There was a motion by Dillavou, seconded by Balmer, to re-hire the fall Coaches as amended.

- Girls Golf: Aaron Heartt
- Boys Golf: Darrin Clawson
- XC: Peter Nelson
- Volleyball: Erika Biddle
- Volleyball: Lara Swanson
- Volleyball: Michaela Matlick
- Football: Andrew Hofer
- Football: Eric Russell
- Football: Jason Kenney
- Football Fred Lucas
- Football: Monte Smith

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

VOLUNTEER  
EMPLOYEES

13. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Balmer, to approve volunteer employees as presented.

- Travis Keever/NBE Classroom Volunteer
- Joseph Hanlin/HS Boys Basketball
- Kyle Ellison/HS Boys Basketball

Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER 14. There was a motion by Balmer, seconded by Dillavou, to approve the Agreement with the City of Aledo for the School Resource Officer as presented.  
Roll Call: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried

ADJOURN 15. There was a motion by Balmer, seconded by Yates, to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 PM.  
Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

**OTHER REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS:**

ADDITIONS/ DELETIONS 1. None

PUBLIC COMMENT 2. None

BOARD COMMENTS 3. Bill Smock commended the district music department for the holiday concerts they organized. Our students did a great job.  
  
Tab Balmer mentioned the passing of Mrs. Nancy (Koresko) Watkins. Sending thoughts and prayers to her family.  
  
Julie Wagner mentioned the Community Forum that will be held in April. She is asking the board members to send her new nominations by February. The National School Board Conference will be held April 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> in Chicago. Any board members interested in attending please let her or Mr. Petrie know.

CORRESPONDENCE 4. There were several Christmas cards received by the board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS 5. Jake Frieden and Mr. Petrie went over the Finance Committee Meeting Minutes, discussing the health insurance balance increase compared to last month.  
Bill Smock reviewed the Buildings and Grounds Meeting Minutes discussing the possibility to hire a company to conduct a facility plan. He discussed the handouts in the board packet from BLDD Architects.  
Tyson Dillavou reviewed the minutes from the Transportation Meeting. Mr. Petrie has not received an update from Johannes about the contract for next year.  
Julie Wagner discussed the Policy Minutes from the December meeting. The committee reviewed Board Policy Section 6 – Instruction.

- TAX LEVY 6. No changes were made from the tentative Tax Levy presented last month. We are not abating Tax Levy on bonds for next year. Using those funds for facility upgrades/construction. Final rate is 4.85 prior to bond and interest.
- JUNIOR HIGH SOFTBALL 7. The board discussed the addition of the softball program at the Junior High. Transportation, multiple sports, and the fall season was a concern. Many positives were also discussed prior to taking action.
- FOIA REQUESTS 8. We responded to one FOIA request from SmartProcure.
- 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY GRANT 9. Mrs. Day discussed the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant Program at the High School. Lindsey Beighle is our site coordinator and organizes the before and after school activities that are offered to our high school students. The library is open Monday-Thursday until 5:00pm offering crafts, homework help, games, etc. Our students also have the opportunity to come before school for homework help. Two family paint nights have been a great success. The program has also purchased books for book studies along with many other items.
- ROTARY CLUB GRANT AWARD 10. Mr. Petrie shared the exciting news regarding a grant that the Elementary Schools received from the Rotary Club. All Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teachers and Title I have \$150 to spend on books for their classrooms, totally \$2,550.
- PRESS PLUS 11. Mr. Petrie discussed the cost and benefits of upgrading to IASB's PRESS Plus Service. This policy update service provides full access to PRESS online, provides additional assistance to help districts keep their policy manuals current, and is customized to fit our district's needs. Brochures were included in the board packet. More information will be gathered for the next board meeting.
- STAKEHOLDER'S MEETING 12. Mr. Petrie highlighted some of the information from the Stakeholder's Meeting minutes. Technology reported that we are now one to one with Chromebooks in grades 2-12.
- REPORT ON GOALS CHROMEBOOKS 13. Mr. Fleurette and Mr. Bush reported how Chromebooks are utilized in their buildings. They give the students the ability to individually reach their particular levels, once general instruction is finished. Chromebooks also help teachers to develop plans for individual students, showing both strengths and weaknesses. Administrators feel they have been a wonderful addition to the curriculum and our students.
- ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS 14. In addition to their written reports, the principals added the following:  
**Apollo** – Mr. Fleurette discussed the Apollo Elementary state report card. The Apollo Christmas Program was live streamed on facebook. The kids did a great job. He also mentioned the Warrior Calvin Mural that Hannah Baker, and Myah Balmer helped our students create.

**New Boston** – Mr. Bush discussed the New Boston Elementary state report card. Mr. and Mrs. Bambrick read “The Giving Tree” to our kindergarten students and each child received a book of their own to take home.

**MCIS**- Mr. Koresko discussed the Intermediate School state report card. He also commended the music programming stating 70% of MCIS students participate in band and choir.

**JH** – Mr. Sedam was not in attendance.

**HS** - Mrs. Day discussed the High School state report card. She also mentioned the PA system. Phones are in place in each classroom. They will begin using the phones 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.

Submitted By:

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Recording Secretary

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President, Bd. of Education

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Secretary, Bd. of Education

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_