

**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 Mercer County Junior High School Music Room*, on **Wednesday, February 22, 2023 at 6:33 PM.**

Prior to Roll Call, President Bowns opened with a brief prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

Board members present upon roll call: Balmer, Bieri, Bowns, Monson, Smock, and Yates.

A quorum was present.

Absent: Wagner zoomed in at 6:40PM

Administrators present: Superintendent Scott Petrie, Principals Cooper, Sedam, McPeek, and Fleurette.

Also in Attendance: Rusy Ruggles, Dustin Murray, Julie Baker, Kayla Gowdy, and Angie Dillie (Recording Secretary),

Reporters: None

RECORD OF MOTIONS & VOTES

	NO. 01	NO. 02	NO. 03	NO. 04	NO. 05	NO. 06	NO. 07	NO. 08	NO. 09	NO. 10	NO.11	
Balmer	AYE	AYE	VOICE	VOICE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	VOICE	
Bieri	AYE	AYE			AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE
Bowns	AYE	AYE			AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE
Monson	AYE	AYE			AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE
Smock	AYE	AYE			AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE
Wagner	-	AYE			AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE
Yates	AYE	AYE			AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE	AYE		AYE

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 1.1 Meeting Minutes – January 18, 2023
- 1.2 Bill List
- 1.3 Treasurer’s Report
- 1.4 Financial Report
- 1.5 BCBS Health Insurance Account Statement

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

SCHOOL CALENDAR

2. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Monson, to approve Option #1 of the 2023-2024 Public School Calendar as presented.

Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

3. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Balmer, to go into Closed Session for Personnel and Real Property at 6:53PM.

3.1 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)

3.2 Real Property

The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the District, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).

Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

OPEN SESSION

4. There was a motion by Monson, seconded by Balmer, to come out of Closed Session at 8:00 PM.

Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

**HIRE HIGH SCHOOL
PARAPROFESSIONAL**

5. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Bowns, to hire Debra VanderHeyden as High School Paraprofessional.

Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

**HIRE PART-TIME AUDIO
VIDEO TECHNICIAN**

6. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Bowns, to hire Cal Bigham as Part Time Audio Video Technician.

Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

HIRE JH TRACK COACH

7. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Bowns, to hire Teague Smith as Junior High Track Coach.

Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

**HIRE SOPHOMORE JV
BASEBALL COACH**

8. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Bowns, to hire Conner Sharp as Sophomore JV Baseball Coach.

Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

**VOLUNTEER
EMPLOYEES**

9. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Bowns, to approve the volunteer employees as presented.

Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

REAL PROPERTY

10. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Bowns, to accept sealed bids on the former Westmer District Office storage in Joy.

Roll Call: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

ADJOURN

15. There was a motion by Smock, seconded by Bowns, to adjourn the meeting at 8:07PM.

Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

OTHER REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

ADDITIONS/ DELETIONS 1. None

JAZZ BAND TRIP 2. Rusty Ruggles spoke to the board regarding the 2024 Jazz Band Trip to Chicago. 46 Students and 8 adults will be attending. They will be gone June 10th –June 12th and will be performing at the Lincoln Park Zoo, as well as visiting many sites in the city. The cost is \$775 per student. Each student will be fundraising.

PUBLIC COMMENT 3. None

BOARD COMMENTS 4. None

CORRESPONDENCE 5. A thank you card was received for the donation sent to the VFW Axillary in memory of Shirley Dellitt.

COMMITTEE REPORTS 6. No comments or concerns.

FOIA REQUESTS 7. We responded to a FOIA request from the Illinois Retired Teachers Association, requesting names of our teachers retiring at the end of this school year.

SUMMER SCHOOL UPDATES 8. Summer School will be offered June 5th-29th again this year. Interested students will meet M-TH, 8AM-12:30PM. K-5 will meet at the Elementary buildings (pending construction), 6-12 at the Junior High School. Bussing will be provided at selected pickup locations as well as breakfast and lunch being offered.

FACILITY UPDATE 9. Mr. Petrie went over the facility updates from the most recent meetings with Bray. A pre-bid meeting was held on Thursday, Feb 9th at both Apollo Elementary and New Boston Elementary. Many contractors were present. The bid opening has been extended to March 9th. A Special Board Meeting will be held on March 21st @6:30PM in the JH Music Room.

SCHOOL CALENDAR 10. The calendar committee provided staff with two calendar options for the 2023-2024 school year. Both options include a week for spring break. Staff approved of Option 1 which balances the length of each semester and provides a full two weeks off at Christmas. We have removed the half day SIP days and Fast Fridays at the High School, while adding a 2PM

dismissal every Wednesday. There is little to no loss in instructional time with these changes.

ADMINISTRATIVE
REPORTS

11. In addition to their written reports, the principals added the following:

Mrs. Cooper discussed the time line for the job openings of Athletic Director, Assistant Principal, and Football Coach. She plans to interview for the AD and Assistant Principal next week and will be conducting interviews for the Football Head Coach position the following week.

Mike Bowns discussed some of the building maintenance issues. The Junior High commons windows are leaking. Sterling Roofing was contacted. Apollos west side of the courtyard leaks. The playground at New Boston needs to be moved prior to construction.

Mark Bieri met with Mike DeFrieze, Mayor of New Boston. The City of New Boston will discuss an action plan at their next meeting with intentions on helping move the playground equipment.

Submitted By: _____
Recording Secretary

President, Bd. of Education

Secretary, Bd. of Education

Approved: _____