

Illinois Open Meetings Act **(5 ILCS 120/1 etseq.)**

The Illinois Open Meetings Act provides public access to the meetings of public bodies. Public bodies shall act and deliberate openly, with several statutory exceptions, as follows: (not an exhaustive list, but most common topics)

- collective negotiating matters;
- appointment, employment and dismissal of employees; including compensation, discipline and performance of employees or legal counsel;
- purchase or lease of real property;
- litigation;
- consider the appointment of a member to fill a vacancy on the public body;
- student discipline;
- placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students;
- consider security procedures;
- consider self evaluation, practices and procedures or professional ethics;
- discussion of minutes of Closed Meetings.

Illinois public School Boards may conduct Closed Meetings in order to discuss subjects covered by one or more exception. No final action is allowed in Closed Meetings.

MOKENA SCHOOL DISTRICT 159



BOARD OF EDUCATION INFORMATION

Mokena School Board Members

ERIC BUSH, Board President bushe@mokena159.org

Eric and his wife Dawn have resided in Mokena since 2002 with their four children. Eric has an undergraduate degree in Accounting from Northern Illinois University along with an MBA with a Finance concentration from DePaul University. Eric is past President and Treasurer for St. John's United Church of Christ of Mokena and currently serving as School Board President.

LISA ZIELINSKI, Board Vice-President zielinski@mokena159.org

Lisa and her husband Todd have been residents of Mokena since 2008, with their daughter who attends Mokena SD 159. Lisa grew up in Mokena and is a graduate of Mokena Jr. High and Lincoln-Way Central. In addition to her School Board duties, she volunteers in many capacities within our schools and community. Lisa also sits on the Mokena Miracles Board and is currently serving as School Board Vice-President and Finance Committee Chairperson.

ANNA BRISCOE, Board Secretary briscoea@mokena159.org

Anna and her husband Tom have resided in Mokena since 2002 with their two children Ava and Grant. She attended the Nursing Program at the University of Michigan-Flint. Anna was re-elected to the Mokena 159 School Board in 2017 and is currently serving as School Board Secretary and D843 Representative. In addition, Anna volunteers in numerous capacities within our schools.

SAMANTHA TUNNEY, Board Member tunneys@mokena159.org

Samantha and her husband Jim have been residents of Mokena since 2014 and have a daughter currently in Mokena SD 159. Samantha is a manager at CTO Enterprises in Mokena, where she has worked since 2012. She is a past PTA President, and currently sits on the Board for the Mokena Chamber of Commerce and the Mokena Burros. In addition, she volunteers for many of our local non-profit organizations. She is a Team Mom for her daughter's cheer team and a Girl Scout Troup Leader.

JIM ANDRESEN, Board Member andreseni@mokena159.org

Jim and his wife Jaymie have been residents of Mokena since 2007 with their three children. Jim grew up in Mokena and is a graduate of MJHS and Lincoln-Way D210. Jim received his Bachelor of Liberal Arts degree in Communications from Eastern Illinois University. Jim is a Financial Representative with COUNTRY Financial. He is also past President of Mokena Lions Club; Vice-President of Mokena Burros; and served as President and Vice-President of Mokena SD 159 Board of Education.

JULIE OOST, Board Member oostj@mokena159.org

Julie has lived in Mokena since 1979 and is a product of Mokena D159 and Lincoln-Way D210. Julie and her husband Kevin are proud parents to triplet boys, Liam, Noah, and Izaac who currently attend Mokena D159. Julie has a Masters Degree in Economics and a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and Economics from IL State University. Julie's professional career spans almost thirty years and includes serving as a Policy Advisor at the IL Commerce Commission, an Economist at Kelly Drye & Warren LLP, and most recently as Vice President of Legal and Regulatory at Peerless Network, Inc. Julie is a 2019 Galaxy Award winner, enjoys volunteering for D159 schools, and is active in her church and community.

KELLI MACMILLAN, Board Member macmillank@mokena159.org

Kelli and her family have been residents of Mokena since 2020. She is a native Southsider, originally from Blue Island. Kelli and her husband Jess have three daughters currently attending Mokena D159 schools. She holds a B.A. in Business Administration/Finance and currently works as a Finance and Accounting consultant. Her professional experience spans 25+ years in the construction, banking, and agriculture sectors with responsibilities involving accounting, finance, contracts, administration, human resources, compliance, and data analysis. Kelli volunteers in the schools regularly and is active in the community.

Public Participation at Board Meetings

The Board of Education, as a representative body of citizens residing in Mokena School District 159, holds regular meetings to carry on the business of the schools. Such meetings are held in accordance with Chapter 2, Section 2.200 and Section 2.230 of Board Policy. The agendas for the Mokena School District 159 meetings of the Board of Education are posted on the District website (www.mokena159.org) or are available at the District Office. The public is cordially invited to attend Board meetings in order for any citizen to express his/her interest and/or concerns for the school district.

Individuals appearing before the Board must be residents of the district and are expected to follow these guidelines:

1. Any person seeking to make comments at a Board meeting shall notify the Secretary of the Board by completing a Request-to-Comment registration card and submitting the card to the Secretary immediately prior to the meeting at which they seek to comment. Public comment registration begins one-half hour before the scheduled opening of the meeting and closes when the meeting is called to order.
2. Address the Board only at the appropriate time as indicated on the agenda and when recognized by the Board President.
3. Identify oneself and be brief. Ordinarily, such comments shall be limited to three minutes.
4. If a number of the public desire to comment at any meeting, the President of the Board, at his/her discretion, may appoint members of the public to act as representatives or spokespersons.
5. The President may also deny an individual the opportunity if the individual has previously addressed the Board on the same subject within the past two months.
6. The Board President shall have the authority to determine procedural matters regarding public participation not otherwise defined in Board of Education policy.
7. Any person wanting to address the Board regarding an "Action Requests," **may do so, once the motion is made and seconded.**
8. If a person brings a topic before the Board that results in open deliberation by the Board, the outcome will be discernible by the public. In the case of statutory exceptions, the Board may vote to conduct a Closed Meeting and direct the Superintendent to respond in writing within a reasonable period of time.
9. Conduct oneself with respect and civility toward others, and otherwise abide by Board policy, 8:30, *Visitors to and Conduct on School Property.*