

Midwest Central Community Unit School District #191
Unit Office, 1010 S Washington St, Manito, IL 61546
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Wednesday, November 19, 2025 - 6:30 PM

Board Minutes

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| Melinda Beebe: | Present |
| Alyssa Bennett: | Present |
| Jay Blair: | Present |
| Scott Dierker: | Present |
| Heather Friedrich: | Present |
| Amber Schmidt: | Present |
| Tara Zaayenga: | Present |

III. Visitors Wishing to Address the Board

IV. Recognition of Middle School Cross Country Athletes

V. Executive Session to Discuss

I move to enter into executive session to discuss 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (9) at 6:54 PM. This motion, made by Scott Dierker and seconded by Jay Blair, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

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|--------------------|-----|
| Melinda Beebe: | Yea |
| Alyssa Bennett: | Yea |
| Jay Blair: | Yea |
| Scott Dierker: | Yea |
| Heather Friedrich: | Yea |
| Amber Schmidt: | Yea |
| Tara Zaayenga: | Yea |

A. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (9) Student Disciplinary Cases

VI. Departing Executive Session

I move to approve departing executive session at 7:26 PM. This motion, made by Alyssa Bennett and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

VII. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes

1. Open Meetings - October 15, 2025
2. Destruction of Closed Meeting Verbatim Records - April 18, 2024, May 5, 2024, and May 16, 2024

B. Treasurer's Report

C. Payment of Bills

VIII. Motion for Consent Agenda

I move to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll call. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Alyssa Bennett, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

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|--------------------|-----|
| Melinda Beebe: | Yea |
| Alyssa Bennett: | Yea |
| Jay Blair: | Yea |
| Scott Dierker: | Yea |
| Heather Friedrich: | Yea |
| Amber Schmidt: | Yea |
| Tara Zaayenga: | Yea |

IX. Reports

A. FOIA

1. Bryan Bustamante - Bruster

B. Transportation Report

C. Principals

- Ms. Timm reported: Mr. Mooney and Ms. Timm enjoyed their time presenting at the Illinois Principals Association; School Report Card showed great growth and proficiency (2.32 points from exemplary)
- Mr. Mooney reported: discipline report; building will be switching out gaming decor for Christmas decor; have received great donations for raider cart, children enjoyed "shopping"
- Mrs. Matthews reported: discipline report; 8th Grade Girls Basketball Night last night, Regionals start Saturday; BETA Club collected almost 900 food items for local pantries; pie eating contest coming up as well as penny wars; staff looking forward to Staff Chili Cookoff; HS/MS Band and Chorus Winter Concert scheduled for December 14; IAR data received, benchmark has changed, school is commendable
- Mrs. Jackson reported: PreK full-day classes walked to HS for Halloween and Veterans Day; Family Night is December 3rd with Santa, cookie decorating, games, etc; Ms. Swearingen's Special Education class participated in Trick or Treating exercises; Raider Roast Café members worked at Meet the Raiders
- Mr. Norris reported: discipline report; Cheerleading has 18 members; Girls Basketball has 10 girls, none from Delavan, first game, Varsity only, tomorrow night in Riverton; Boys Basketball has 29 boys, Peoria Heights Tournament approaching; Wrestling Club has 22 wrestlers, 16 from MC, first match November 25th at Porta; Meet the Raiders was well attended; Volleyball awards last night, well attended, big thank you to the Breedlove's for the use of their event center; IC dropped MC for softball
- Mr. Welch reported: musical in October sold out, attributes to opening up roles to MS and PS students; School Report Card showed graduation rate up to 85% up from 79% last year, Freshman on track showed 96.6%

D. Superintendent

1. Sales Tax Update

X. Business Discussion/Action Items

A. Tentative Levy Resolution

I move that the Board of Education acknowledges that it has reviewed the estimated 2026-27 revenue and expenditure amounts as projected by the Superintendent and adopt the resolution verifying that the estimated revenues and expenditures have been reviewed and that a Truth in Taxation hearing will be held at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, December 17, 2025.

Roll call. This motion, made by Heather Friedrich and seconded by Jay Blair, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

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|--------------------|-----|
| Melinda Beebe: | Yea |
| Alyssa Bennett: | Yea |
| Jay Blair: | Yea |
| Scott Dierker: | Yea |
| Heather Friedrich: | Yea |
| Amber Schmidt: | Yea |
| Tara Zaayenga: | Yea |

B. Consideration and action on a resolution providing for the issue of \$5,500,000 General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2025, of the District for the purpose of increasing the District's Working Cash Fund, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to Morton Community Bank

I move to approve the resolution providing for the issue of \$5,500,000 General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2025, of the District for the purpose of increasing the District's Working Cash Fund, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to Morton Community Bank. Roll call. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Alyssa Bennett, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

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|--------------------|-----|
| Melinda Beebe: | Yea |
| Alyssa Bennett: | Yea |
| Jay Blair: | Yea |
| Scott Dierker: | Yea |
| Heather Friedrich: | Yea |
| Amber Schmidt: | Yea |
| Tara Zaayenga: | Yea |

C. 2026 Maintenance Grant Application - PS/HS Electrical Upgrade

I move to approve the maintenance grant application as presented. Roll call. This motion, made by Jay Blair and seconded by Melinda Beebe, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

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|--------------------|-----|
| Melinda Beebe: | Yea |
| Alyssa Bennett: | Yea |
| Jay Blair: | Yea |
| Scott Dierker: | Yea |
| Heather Friedrich: | Yea |
| Amber Schmidt: | Yea |
| Tara Zaayenga: | Yea |

D. 2025 Summative Designations

E. ISBE Report Card Links - <https://www.illinoisreportcard.com/>

I move to approve the District and School report cards as presented. This motion, made by Alyssa Bennett and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

F. First Reading - PRESS Policy - October 2025, Issue 120

I move to approve the first reading of PRESS Policy - October 2025, Issue 120 as presented. This motion, made by Melinda Beebe and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

G. Consideration of New Sport - Bass Fishing

I move to approve bass fishing as a new sport for Midwest Central High School. This motion, made by Melinda Beebe and seconded by Alyssa Bennett, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XI. Executive Session to Discuss

I move to enter into executive session to discuss 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1), (2), (9), and (21) at 8:59 PM.

Roll call. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Jay Blair, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Melinda Beebe: Yea

Alyssa Bennett: Yea

Jay Blair: Yea

Scott Dierker: Yea

Heather Friedrich: Yea

Amber Schmidt: Yea

Tara Zaayenga: Yea

A. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity; and

B. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(2) Collective negotiation matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; and

C. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(9) Student disciplinary cases; and

D. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(21) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06 (5 ILCS 120/2.06).

XII. Departing Executive Session

I move to depart executive session at 10:00 PM. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Jay Blair, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XIII. Personnel Discussion/Action Items

A. Hiring

- Heather Chaney - Food Service

I move to approve hiring Heather Chaney as a Food Service employee for the 2025-26 school year. This motion, made by Scott Dierker and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

B. Appointments

- Kayleigh Herrman - Middle School Volleyball Volunteer
- Jessica Sidwell - High School Yearbook Sponsor
- Scott Servis - High School Scholastic Bowl

I move to approve appointing Kayleigh Herrman as a Middle School volleyball volunteer, Jessica Sidwell as High School Yearbook Sponsor, and Scott Servis as High School Scholastic Bowl Sponsor for the 2025-26 school year. This motion, made by Melinda Beebe and seconded by Scott Dierker, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

C. Informational Items - Resignations, Employee Transfers

1. Tasha Tumilty - Resignation - High School Scholastic Bowl Sponsor
2. Shaylyn Merry - Resignation - Bus Monitor

D. Other Personnel Items

1. Consideration of Superintendent Contract Amendment

I move to approve the superintendent contract amendment as presented. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Jay Blair, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XIV. Consideration of Student Discipline

I move to approve expelling student 637307141 for the remainder of the 2025-26 school year. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Scott Dierker, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XV. Closed Session Minutes - October 15, 2025

I move to approve the closed session minutes of October 15, 2025. This motion, made by Alyssa Bennett and seconded by Heather Friedrich, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XVI. Adjourn

I move to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:04 PM. This motion, made by Heather Friedrich and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XVII. The next meeting is December 17, 2025 at 6:30 PM at the Unit Office

President: _____

Secretary: _____