

Midwest Central Community Unit School District #191  
Unit Office, 1010 S Washington St, Manito, IL 61546  
Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Thursday, January 16, 2025 - 6:30 PM

Board Minutes

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Roll Call**

Melinda Beebe:	Present
Mark Berg:	Present
Steve Bernhardt:	Present
Scott Dierker:	Absent
Heather Friedrich:	Absent
Amber Schmidt:	Present
Tara Zaayenga:	Present

**III. Visitors Wishing to Address the Board**

**IV. Consent Agenda**

A. Minutes

1. Open Meetings - December 19, 2024
2. Closed Meeting Verbatim Records - None

B. Treasurer's Report

C. Payment of Bills

**V. Motion for Consent Agenda**

I move to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll call. This motion, made by Steve Bernhardt and seconded by Melinda Beebe, Passed. Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Melinda Beebe:	Yea
Mark Berg:	Yea
Steve Bernhardt:	Yea
Scott Dierker:	Absent
Heather Friedrich:	Absent
Amber Schmidt:	Yea
Tara Zaayenga:	Yea

**VI. Reports**

A. Transportation Report

B. Principals

- Scott Dierker: Present
- Mr. Mooney reported: no discipline report; IAR upcoming; PBIS going well, gentle reminder signs in hallway and kindness club will deliver coffee to teachers at end of month
- Mrs. Jackson reported: two students fully transitioned back to MC, one set to transition next week; IAR preparations for accommodations, some students qualify for DLM, one English language learner
- Mrs. Matthews reported: January 9th, 20 Beta Club members went to Teen Conference; Volleyball off to good start; Scholastic Bowl starting soon, practice started today; signups for the

Middle School play, Beauty and the Beast Jr to be performed in May; 8th grade transition ceremony will be May 22 at 1pm; staff chili cookoff tomorrow as well as fire drill so firefighters will join

- Mr. Welch reported: busy with athletics; girls' basketball, boys basketball, wrestling, scholastic bowl and cheer, February 10th is girls basketball senior night; boys alumni game next Saturday; hosted first home wrestling meet in 5 years; the little cheer clinic in early February and children will cheer at the HS basketball game on February 11th

C. Superintendent

1. Blessman Family Donation

2. Sales Tax Update

**VII. Business Discussion/Action Items**

A. Budget 2025-26

I move to authorize the Superintendent to prepare a tentative budget for Fiscal Year 2026 and post it as required by law. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Tara Zaayenga, Passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

B. High School Graduation Date - May 18, 2025 @ 2:00 PM

I move to approve the high school graduation date as recommended. This motion, made by Melinda Beebe and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

C. Nostaw Donation - \$5,000

I move to approve the acceptance of the donation from Nostaw and thank them for their generosity. This motion, made by Melinda Beebe and seconded by Steve Bernhardt, Passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

D. Vision 2030 Resolution

I move to approve the resolution in support of Vision 2030 as presented. Roll call. This motion, made by Scott Dierker and seconded by Melinda Beebe, Passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Melinda Beebe:	Yea
Mark Berg:	Yea
Steve Bernhardt:	Yea
Scott Dierker:	Yea
Heather Friedrich:	Absent
Amber Schmidt:	Yea
Tara Zaayenga:	Yea

**VIII. Executive Session to Discuss**

I move to enter into executive session to discuss 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) and (21) at 7:41 PM. Roll call. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Tara Zaayenga, Passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Melinda Beebe:	Yea
Mark Berg:	Yea
Steve Bernhardt:	Yea
Scott Dierker:	Yea
Heather Friedrich:	Absent
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)(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).

**IX. Departing Executive Session**

I move to depart executive session at 9:30 PM. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Scott Dierker, Passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

**X. Personnel Discussion/Action Items**

A. Hiring / Appointments

1. Crystal Simpson - Bus Driver

I move to approve hiring Crystal Simpson as a part-time bus driver with a retroactive start date of June 4, 2024 for the 2024-25 school year. This motion, made by Steve Bernhardt and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

B. Informational Items - Resignations, Employee Transfers

C. Other Personnel Items

**XI. Closed Session Minutes - December 19, 2024**

I move to approve the closed session minutes of December 19, 2024. This motion, made by Steve Bernhardt and seconded by Melinda Beebe, Passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

**XII. Closed Meeting Semi-Annual Review**

I move to approve the resolution for the closed meeting semi-annual review as presented. This motion, made by Tara Zaayenga and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

**XIII. Adjourn**

I move to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:32 PM. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Tara Zaayenga, Passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

**XIV. The next meeting is February 6, 2025 at 6:30 PM at the Unit Office**

President: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_