

Midwest Central Community Unit School District #191
High School Cafeteria, 910 S Washington St, Manito, IL 61546
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Wednesday, July 15, 2026 - 6:30 PM

Board Minutes

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

Heather Askins: Present
Melinda Beebe: Present
Alyssa Bennett: Present
Jay Blair: Present
Scott Dierker: Present
Amber Schmidt: Present
Tara Zaayenga: Present

III. Visitors Wishing to Address the Board

IV. Recognition of Bass Fishing Athletes

V. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes

1. Open Meetings - June 17, 2026
2. Destruction of Closed Meeting Verbatim Records - December 19, 2024

B. Treasurer's Report

C. Payment of Bills

VI. Motion for Consent Agenda

I move to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll call. This motion, made by Heather Askins and seconded by Scott Dierker, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Heather Askins: Yea
Melinda Beebe: Yea
Alyssa Bennett: Yea
Jay Blair: Yea
Scott Dierker: Yea
Amber Schmidt: Yea
Tara Zaayenga: Yea

VII. Reports

A. FOIA

1. Efim Kensington - The Data Branch Research Team
2. Tania Campbell - databid

B. Transportation Report

C. Principals

D. Superintendent

VIII. Business Discussion/Action Items

A. First Reading - PRESS Policy, Administrative Procedures, and Exhibits June 2026 - Issue 122

This is the first reading of the following policy updates as recommended by PRESS:

- 2:230 Public Participation at Meetings
- 5:40 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease
- 5:70 Religious Holidays
- 5:240 Suspension
- 6:70 Teaching About Religions
- 6:80 Teaching About Controversial Issues
- 7:60 Residence
- 7:130 Student Rights and Responsibilities
- 8:70 Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities
- 2:120-E3 Exhibit Resolution to Appoint a Delegate to the Illinois Association of School Board Delegate

Assembly - NEW

The following policy has been rewritten:

- 2:220-E3 Exhibit Closed Meeting Minutes

This is the first reading of the following policy updates as recommended for Review & Monitoring by PRESS:

- 3:40 Director
- 3:50 Administrative Personnel Other Than the Director
- 3:70 Succession of Authority
- 4:120 Food Services
- 4:175 Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications
- 5:185 Family and Medical Leave
- 7:80 Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance
- 7:345 Use of Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security
- 8:100 Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies

I move to approve the first reading of PRESS Policy, Administrative Procedures, and Exhibits June 2026 - Issue 122 and Policy 7:60 as presented. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Alyssa Bennett, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

B. Consideration of High School Gym Bid Packages

- BP 01 Sitework, 02 Site Concrete & Asphalt, & 03 Building Concrete - Combo bid for Hein
- BP 05 Steel, 15 HVAC, and BP 16 Electrical - Combo Bid for H&S

I move to approve bid packages 1, 2, 3, 5, 15, 16 as presented. Roll call. This motion, made by Heather Askins and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Heather Askins: Yea

Melinda Beebe: Yea

Alyssa Bennett: Yea

Jay Blair: Yea

Scott Dierker: Yea

Amber Schmidt: Yea

Tara Zaayenga: Yea

IX. Executive Session to Discuss

I move to enter into executive session to discuss 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1), (2), and (21) at 7:23 PM. Roll call. This motion, made by Alyssa Bennett and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Heather Askins: Yea

Melinda Beebe: Yea

Alyssa Bennett: Yea

Jay Blair: Yea

Scott Dierker: 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)(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).

X. Departing Executive Session

I move to depart executive session at 7:41 PM. This motion, made by Jay Blair and seconded by Alyssa Bennett, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

A. Consideration of the Collective Bargaining Agreement 2026-2029

I move to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the MCEA as presented. Roll call.

This motion, made by Heather Askins and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Heather Askins: Yea

Melinda Beebe: Yea

Alyssa Bennett: Yea

Jay Blair: Yea

Scott Dierker: Yea

Amber Schmidt: Yea

Tara Zaayenga: Yea

B. Non-Bargained Salaries

I move to approve the non-bargained salaries as presented. Roll call. This motion, made by Scott Dierker and seconded by Melinda Beebe, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Heather Askins: Yea

Melinda Beebe: Yea

Alyssa Bennett: Yea

Jay Blair: Yea

Scott Dierker: Yea

Amber Schmidt: Yea

Tara Zaayenga: Yea

XI. Personnel Discussion/Action Items

A. Appointments

- Sophia Holeman - Middle School Softball Volunteer (HS Student)
- Robbie Golden - Middle School Boys Basketball Volunteer
- Ben Deluhery - Middle School Boys Basketball Volunteer
- Noah Zuercher - Sophomore Class Sponsor
- Nicholas Gerndt - Year 1 Mentor for Lucas DeFrance

I move to approve appointing Sophia Holeman as a Middle School Softball Volunteer, Robbie Golden and Ben Deluhery as Middle School Boys Basketball Volunteers, Noah Zuercher as Sophomore Class Sponsor and Nicholas Gerndt as a 1st year sponsor for Lucas DeFrance for the 2026-27 school year. This motion, made by Heather Askins and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

B. Leave Requests

1. Danielle Willis - Dock Days

I move to approve the dock day request for Danielle Willis as presented. This motion, made by Alyssa Bennett and seconded by Jay Blair, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

C. Informational Items - Resignations, Employee Transfers

1. Abby LeRoy - Resignation - Preschool Teacher
2. Nicole Simkins - Resignation
3. Jeff Hyde - Transfer - Teacher to School Counselor

D. Other Personnel Items

XII. Closed Session Minutes - June 17, 2026

I move to approve the closed session minutes of June 17, 2026. This motion, made by Heather Askins and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XIII. Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes January to June

I move to approve the review of closed session minute from January to June as presented. Keeping closed February 18, March 18, April 15 and May 17. Opening January and June. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Jay Blair, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XIV. Adjourn

I move to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:45 PM. This motion, made by Heather Askins and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XV. The next meeting is August 19, 2026 at 6:30 PM at the Unit Office

President: _____

Secretary: _____