

Midwest Central Community Unit School District #191
Unit Office, 1010 S Washington St, Manito, IL 61546
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Wednesday, August 20, 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. Executive session to discuss

I move to enter into executive session to discuss 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(9) at 6:31 PM. Roll call. This motion, made by Heather Friedrich and seconded by Amber Schmidt, 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) (9) Student Disciplinary Cases

V. Departing Executive Session

I move to depart executive session at 6:43 PM. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Jay Blair, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

VI. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes

1. Open Meetings - July 16, 2025
2. Destruction of Closed Meeting Verbatim Records - January 18, 2024 and February 15, 2024

B. Treasurer's Report

C. Payment of Bills

VII. Motion for Consent Agenda

I move to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll call. This motion, made by Melinda Beebe 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

VIII. Reports

A. Transportation Report

B. Principals

- Ms. Timm reported: year is off to excellent start, 21 new enrollments for a total of 412; phones were installed in all rooms as well as a new intercom system
- Mr. Mooney reported: no discipline to date; theme is Level Up Raiders, halls are decked out in video game decor, teachers worked hard to decorate
- Mrs. Matthews reported: discipline report; 9 move out, 6 move in for an enrollment of 189; great orientation night attendance; softball is in full swing, next Tuesday is 8th grade recognition night, Cross Country had first meet yesterday in Delavan
- Mrs. Jackson: 9 Special Education students transferred in, 9 transferred out, OOD placements are down from last year, Work Skills program headed by Abbie Schneider will make t shirts this year; PreK started yesterday with home visits on Friday and Monday, large enrollment of 67 with another screening in October and in March, music teacher will go into PreK this year
- Mr. Norris reported: Golf has 11 members, first match last night; Volleyball has 31 members, home opener August 25 against Heyworth; Cross Country has 2 members and opens August 29 at IVC; new turf mound put in
- Mr. Welch reported: cutting down on cell phones this year; enrollment of 249; 68 students enrolled in strength and conditioning program

C. Superintendent

1. Sales Tax Update

IX. Business Discussion/Action Items

A. Tentative 2025-26 Budget

I move to approve the tentative 2025-26 budget as presented. Roll call. This motion, made by Heather Friedrich and seconded by Scott Dierker, 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

B. Bread Bid Consideration

I move to approve the bread bid with Alpha Bakery for the 2025-26 school year. Roll call. This motion, made by Jay Blair and seconded by Melinda Beebe, 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

C. Dairy Bid Consideration

I move to approve Prairie Farms as the dairy supplier for the 2025-26 school year. Roll call. This motion, made by Alyssa Bennett and seconded by Amber Schmidt, 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

D. Site-Based Expenditures

E. PRESS Policy Issue 119 June 2025 - Second Reading and Adoption

I move to approve the second reading and adoption of PRESS Policy Update Issue 119 June 2025, with the option of "Yes" for policy 2:80. This motion, made by Alyssa Bennett and seconded by Jay Blair, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

F. Special Education Procedure Consideration

I move to approve the amended Special Education Procedures as presented. This motion, made by Scott Dierker and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

X. Executive Session to Discuss

I move to enter into executive session to discuss 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1), (9), and (21) at 7:23 PM. Roll call. This motion, made by Heather Friedrich and seconded by Amber Schmidt, 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)(9) Student disciplinary cases; 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).

XI. Departing Executive Session

I move to depart executive session at 8:08 PM. This motion, made by Scott Dierker and seconded by Melinda Beebe, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XII. Personnel Discussion/Action Items

A. Hiring

- Kevin Justus - Bus Monitor
- Shaylyn Merry - Bus Monitor / Middle School Custodian
- Kattie Ridlen - Food Service
- Noah Whitehouse - Food Service
- Cheyenne Byrd - Middle School Paraprofessional
- Stephanie Brown - Middle School Paraprofessional (Interventions)
- Brittany Dietz - Primary School Paraprofessional

I move to approve hiring Kevin Justus as a Bus Monitor, Shaylyn Merry as a Bus Monitor, Kattie Ridlen and Noah Whitehouse as Food Service employees, Cheyenne Byrd and Stephanie Brown as Middle School Paraprofessionals, and Brittany Dietz as a Primary School Paraprofessional for the 2025-26 school year. This motion, made by Heather Friedrich and seconded by Melinda Beebe, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

B. Appointments

- Lorenzo Ramirez - Band Volunteer

I move to approve Lorenzo Ramirez as a Band Volunteer for the 2025-26 school year. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Alyssa Bennett, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

C. Retirements

1. Kathy Neulinger

I move to approve the retirement request for Kathy Neulinger as presented. This motion, made by Heather Friedrich and seconded by Jay Blair, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

D. Leave Requests

1. Stephanie Brown - Dock Day

I move to approve the dock day request for Stephanie Brown as presented. This motion, made by Scott Dierker and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

E. Informational Items - Resignations, Employee Transfers

1. Marilyn DeClerck - Resignation

F. Other Personnel Items

XIII. Consideration of Student Discipline

I move to approve the expulsion of student 252601 for the 25-26 school year and hold the expulsion in abeyance pending enrollment in an alternative educational placement. This motion, made by Heather Friedrich and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XIV. Closed Session Minutes - July 16, 2025

I move to approve the closed session minutes of July 16, 2025. This motion, made by Alyssa Bennett and seconded by Scott Dierker, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XV. Adjourn

I move to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:17 PM. This motion, made by Heather Friedrich and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XVI. The next meeting is September 17, 2025 at 6:30 PM at the High School

President: _____

Secretary: _____