

Midwest Central Community Unit School District #191  
High School Library, 910 S Washington St, Manito, IL 61546  
Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, May 20, 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. Recognition of Middle School Track Athletes**

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

**V. Consent Agenda**

A. Minutes

1. Open Meetings - April 15, 2026
2. Destruction of Closed Meeting Verbatim Records - October 17, 2024 and November 14, 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 Scott Dierker and seconded by Heather Askins, 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. Michael Henry - Illinois Resident

B. Transportation Report

C. Principals

- Ms. Timm reported: Spring Concert was a success, Mrs. Parker received grant for rails for risers; 5th grade transition May 1; May 15th High School graduation walk, barnyard zoo, picnic with parents and Primary School track meet, new principal came to visit on this day as well; years of service recognitions on Facebook

- Mr. Welch reported: Barnyard Zoo had great exhibits (baby racoons, baby squirrels, tortoise, etc.); graduation May 17, shared a story of a student who used school to transform his life; gave out \$48,000 in scholarships
- Mr. Norris reported: discipline report; HS girls softball semifinals were beat 9-3, Grace Meeks broke stealing record, Lexi Wood tied walk record; HS boys baseball senior night was Monday, regionals hosted here Monday; HS track Neveah Cunningham qualified in 100 meter dash, ran a 12.8, boys run tonight at El Paso sectionals, bass fishing regionals last week at Banner Marsh got 1st and 2nd, Lake Springfield tomorrow for sectionals, top 10 boats qualify for state at Lake Shelbyville on June 6; no cost sports physical June 10 1:00-3:30 walk ins
- Mrs. Matthews reported: discipline report; successful athletic year; May 5 band concert; wax museum today; 8th grade field trip tomorrow; transition ceremony on Friday; 6th and 7th grade field trips next week; last data day coming up; new math curriculum for next year specifically for 6th through 8th grades; musical May 1 students did a great job
- Mrs. Jackson reported: PreK field to Fondulac Farm Park; promoting PreK screening on Aug 5, 10 currently signed up; upcoming Kindergartens are starting to "transition" with activities such as eating breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria; May 28 ceremony, May 29 last day of PreK and "popsicles with parents"; SpEd, numbers steady at 174

#### D. Superintendent

1. Sales Tax Update
2. Library Grant
3. ISBE Audits
4. Joint Annual Conference Discussion

### VIII. Business Discussion/Action Items

#### A. First Reading PRESS Policy and Procedure Updates March 2026 - Issue 121

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

- 2:200 Types of Policy Board/Executive Committee Meetings
- 2:220 Policy Board/Executive Committee Meeting Procedure
- 2:250 Access to Cooperative Public Records
- 2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure
- 3:65 Staff Supervision
- 4:165 Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors
- 5:30 Hiring Process and Criteria
- 5:70 Religious Holidays
- 5:250 Leaves of Absence
- 5:330 Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves
- 6:65 Student Social and Emotional Development
- 6:100 Using Animals in the Educational Program
- 7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited
- 7:50 School Admissions and Eligibility for Services
- 7:100 Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students
- 7:185 Teen Dating Violence Prohibited
- 7:230 Misconduct by Students with Disabilities
- 8:90 Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs

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

- 5:20-E Exhibit - Resolution to Prohibit Sexual Harassment - New to District
- 7:280 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease

The following policy has been rewritten:

- 2:140-E Exhibit - Guidance for Board Member Communications, Including Email Use

I move to approve the first reading of PRESS Policies and Procedures as presented. This motion, made by Jay Blair and seconded by Alyssa Bennett, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**B. Special Education Procedure Consideration**

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

**C. Second Reading and Adoption - Handbook Edits**

I move to approve the second reading and adoption of handbooks edits as presented. This motion, made by Jay Blair and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**D. Second Reading and Adoption - Middle School Activities Handbook Edits**

I move to approve the second reading and adoption of activities code edits as presented. This motion, made by Alyssa Bennett and seconded by Jay Blair, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**E. Second Reading and Adoption - High School Activities Handbook Edits**

I move to approve the second reading and adoption of the High School Activities Handbook edits as presented. This motion, made by Heather Askins and seconded by Jay Blair, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**F. Second Reading and Adoption - High School Curriculum Guide**

I move to approve the second reading and adoption of the High School Curriculum Guide as presented. This motion, made by Melinda Beebe and seconded by Alyssa Bennett, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**G. Amended Budget 2025-26**

I move to approve the tentative amended budget as presented. Roll call. This motion, made by Scott Dierker 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

**H. Final Public School Calendar 2025-26**

I move to approve the final public school calendar for the 2025-26 school year. This motion, made by Heather Askins and seconded by Melinda Beebe, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**I. Peoria County Cooperative Purchasing Agreement**

I move to approve the Peoria County Cooperative Purchasing Program as presented. This motion, made by Alyssa Bennett and seconded by Jay Blair, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

J. Contract Approval - Gorenz and Associates Audit 2026-27

I move to approve the contract with Gorenz and Associates for the 2025-26 Audit. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Scott Dierker, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

K. Summer Maintenance Items

I move to approve the summer maintenance schedule as presented. This motion, made by Jay Blair and seconded by Heather Askins, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

L. Officials Pay Increase

I move to approve the pay increases for officials as presented. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Heather Askins, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

M. Overnight Trip

I move to approve the overnight trip as presented. This motion, made by Alyssa Bennett and seconded by Melinda Beebe, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

N. Surplus Property

I move to approve the surplus property list as presented and authorize the superintendent to dispose of the property. This motion, made by Heather Askins and seconded by Alyssa Bennett, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

O. Donation - Manito Musical Advocates

I move to approve accepting a donation of approximately \$1,500.00 in equipment from the Manito Musical Advocates for new sound and lighting at the middle school. This motion, made by Alyssa Bennett and seconded by Jay Blair, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

P. Gym Construction Update

Q. Action to exclude a community member from school property and events

**IX. Executive Session to Discuss**

I move to enter into executive session to discuss 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1), (2), (4.5), (9) and (21) at 8:06 PM. 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

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)(4.5) Evidence or testimony presented to a school board regarding denial of admission to school events or property pursuant to Section 24-24 of the School Code, provided

that the school board prepares and makes available for public inspection a written decision setting forth its determinative reasoning; and

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

E. 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 9:43 PM. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Jay Blair, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

#### **XI. Personnel Discussion/Action Items**

##### **A. Hiring**

- Ty Goss - High School Assistant Principal / Athletic Director
- Lucas DeFrance - High School Social Studies Teacher

I move to approve hiring Ty Goss as the High School Assistant Principal / Athletic Director and Lucas DeFrance as a High School Social Studies Teacher for the 2026-27 school year. This motion, made by Scott Dierker and seconded by Melinda Beebe, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

##### **B. Appointments**

- Emma Stout - Primary School PBIS
- Ben Deluhery - 8th Grade Girls Basketball Coach
- Will Frank - 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach
- Lucas DeFrance - 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach
- Middle School Softball Volunteers - Brian Davis, Alexis Davis, Faith Meeks, Grace Meeks, Ayla Charlton
- Middle School Baseball Volunteers - Nick Friedrich, Kyndal Heberer
- Middle School Girls Basketball Volunteer - Chris Fisher

I move to approve appointing Ben Deluhery as 8th Grade Girls Basketball Coach, Will Frank as 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, Lucas DeFrance as 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, MCMS Softball volunteers Grace Meeks, Ayla Charlton, Faith Meeks, Brian Davis, and Alexis Davis, MCMS Baseball volunteers Nick Friedrich and Kyndal Heberer, and MCMS Girls Basketball volunteer Chris Fisher for the 2026-27 school year. This motion, made by Heather Askins and seconded by Alyssa Bennett, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

##### **C. Retirements**

1. Kelly Schmidgall - Retire - 2nd Grade Teacher, Primary School PBIS

##### **D. Leave Requests**

1. Kelsey Slotter - Maternity Leave

Motion to approve Kelsey Slotter's maternity leave. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Heather Askins, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

2. Allison Schuette - Maternity Leave

Motion to approve Allison Schuette's maternity leave. This motion, made by Scott Dierker and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

3. Maribeth Delgadillo - Leave of Absence

I move to approve the leave of absence for Maribeth Delgadillo as presented. This motion, made by Amber Schmidt and seconded by Heather Askins, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

E. Informational Items - Resignations, Employee Transfers

1. Mikayla Yelton - Resignation - Part-Time Primary School Custodian
2. Jenny Kraft - Resignation - Middle School Paraprofessional
3. Will Frank - Resignation - 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach
4. Nick Friedrich - Resignation - Middle School Assistant Baseball Coach
5. Tasha Tumilty - Resignation - High School Paraprofessional
6. Steve Snider - Resignation - High School Girls Track Coach
7. James DeClerck - Resignation - Bus Driver

F. Other Personnel Items

**XII. Closed Session Minutes - April 15, 2026**

I move to approve the closed session minutes of April 15, 2026. This motion, made by Jay Blair and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**XIII. Adjourn**

I move to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:46 PM. This motion, made by Heather Askins and seconded by Amber Schmidt, Passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**XIV. The next meeting is June 17, 2026 at 6:30 PM at the Unit Office**

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

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