

**MINOOKA COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL  
DISTRICT #111  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Laura Hrechko. The meeting was held at Minooka Community High School-Administration Building. A physical quorum was present with the following board members answering roll call:

	YES	NO
• Laura Hrechko	X	
• Jim Grzetic	X	
• Tim Juskiewicz	X	
• Mike Brozovich		X
• Terry Spivey		X
• Mike Hoyt	X	
• Bert Kooi	X	

Additionally, present were:

• Dr. Rob Schiffbauer	X
• John Troy	X
• Dr. Phillip Pakowski	X
• Kristi Boe	X
• Jamie Soliman	X
• Michele Williamson	X

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**COMMUNICATIONS/RECOGNITION**

- Ezra Rodriguez - 4th Place at State Girls' Wrestling
- Madelyn Kiper - Girls' Basketball School Records

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments heard.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Administrative reports were provided in the board packet for review. Dr. Schiffbauer provided an update on the construction. Projects are moving along quite well, painting is about completed in the field house, the next phase will consist of installing the gym equipment from the ceiling, as well as floor installation. At Central Campus in the CTE addition, electrical and HVAC is currently being worked on. Over spring break the rooftop units will be installed in the CTE addition. The Community Leader Breakfast was held on February 27<sup>th</sup>, it was a great turnout and tours of the new fieldhouse was provided. On March 11<sup>th</sup>, 300 senior citizens were treated

to snacks and the musical matinee, Freaky Friday. He noted that Coffee and Connection will be held on April 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION: by Hoyt, seconded by Kooi, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

- A. Open Session Minutes
  - 1. February 18, 2026 Regular Meeting
  
- B. Financial Reports
  - 1. Monthly Financial Reports
  - 2. Payment of Bills/Total
  - 3. Employee Payroll
  - 4. Imprest Fund Report/Total
  - 5. Activity Fund Report
  - 6. Treasurer's Report (Cash/YTD – Exp/Rev)

Voting Aye: Juskiewicz, Hoyt, Grzetich, Kooi, and Hrechko. Motion carried Time: 6:07 p.m.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Educational Foundation Update:

The Educational Foundation update was included in the board packet for review. Members of the foundation met on March 10, 2026 and focused on the final preparations for the upcoming Denim and Diamonds event this Saturday March 21, 2026.

Legislative Update:

Dr. Schiffbauer provided a legislative update in the board packet for review. He recapped the following legislation, HB4416/SB 3286 is in regards to unemployment benefits for education support staff during breaks longer than one week. HB4239 amends the courses of study article of the school code. SB2914 amends the employment of teachers' articles of the school code. Dr. Schiffbauer had the opportunity to recently meet with Senator Balkema and discuss legislation regarding natural gas fueled power plants. He will keep board members up to date on the proposed legislation and the impacts it would have on the district.

GAVC – The GAVC meeting was held on February 26, 2026. Class sectioning and enrollment were discussed. The next meeting will be March 26, 2026.

GCSEC – A meeting was held on March 18, 2026. He gave an update that hiring is about complete for this time of year and Kate Ross is transitioning in the director role as Neil Sandburg retires at the end of the school year.

2026-2027 Student Handbook – First Reading:

There are no recommended revisions for the 2026-2027 student handbook. He noted there are updates to language but no changes. There were no questions or concerns and a second reading and it is anticipated for approval at the April meeting.

#### Student Fees for the 2026-2027 School Year:

Student fees for the 2026-2027 school year was provided in the board packet for review. The recommendation is to not increase student fees and the fee for Chromebooks have been reduced by \$2.00. There were no concerns and it is anticipated for approval at the end of the regular meeting.

#### IHSA Membership Renewal for the 2026-2027:

The IHSA Renewal for the 2026-2027 school year was provided in the board packet for review. There were no questions or concerns and it is anticipated for approval at the end of the meeting.

#### Board of Education Meeting Dates for 2026-2027:

The proposed Board of Education Dates were provided in the board packet for review. There were no concerns for approval at the end of the meeting.

#### Bus Lease:

The Bus Lease bids was provided in the board packet for review. The bid included fifteen new 77 passenger buses and one 45 passengers with 4 wheelchair positions. Mr. Troy reported that three vendors provided bids, Central States, Midwest Bus Sales and Midwest Transit. Midwest Bus Sales could not meet the timeline with the start of school. Central States and Midwest Bus both provided a larger platform which is more suitable for transporting high school students. Each company brought a bus to view and compare. Mr. Troy reported back that Central States provided a more comfortable bus and was the low bidder. The recommendation is to award the bus lease to Central States to purchase 16 school buses in the amount of \$2,394,190 with a guaranteed buy back and finance said purchase with a five-year lease from American Capital with an annual amount of \$363,936 a year. He added that this will be billed back to District 201 for their portion. There were no questions or concerns and it is anticipated for approval at the end of the meeting.

#### Memorandum of Understanding for Interior Painting and Site Improvement Projects.

The Memorandum of Understandings with DLA was provided in the board packet for review. This is for Interior Painting and Site Improvement Projects. Dr. Schiffbauer reported that this was to keep the same design and color palette for the small gymnasium and wrestling room. Additional projects include window replacements at Central Campus using health life safety funds and new varsity baseball and softball stadiums. Mr. Juskiewicz requested to table the project site improvements MOU to review and ask further questions. There were no concerns proceeding with the Interior Painting MOU and it is anticipated for approval at the end of the board meeting. There were no further questions.

#### Technology & Camera for New Additions:

Access Points for CTE and Fieldhouse project proposals were provided in the board packet for review. Two bids were received for the first phase, Fortinet equipment proposal in the amount of \$51,717 and Extreme Networks in the amount \$56,235. The recommendation is to purchase Fortinet Access Points from Shi International for the total cost of \$51,717. It was noted that Fortinet will work seamlessly with the systems that are currently in place. There were no objections and it is anticipated for approval.

#### Tools for the CTE Addition – Snap on:

Quotes for the instructor, student sets and diagnostic equipment with Snap On was provided in the board packet for review. This is through Sourcewell purchasing cooperative in the total amount of \$44,422. There were no objections to proceed with action at the end of the regular meeting.

#### Fire Science Equipment Turnout Gear:

Fire Science Turnout gear bids were provided in the board packet for review. The district decided to request additional quotes from Sourcewell, a cooperative bidding partner. The district received the following:

- Darley \$56,760 (Sourcewell)
- Dinges \$84,000 (Sourcewell)
- Air One \$94,950 (Bid Quote)

The recommendation is to proceed with the low bidder Darley, under the Sourcewell Contract in the amount of \$56,760 for 30 turnout coats and 30 turnout pants.

#### Northwinds Abatement Project Agreement:

The Agreement for Property Tax Abatement was provided in the board packet for review. Mr. Doug Pryor, CEO of the Will County Center for Economic Development spoke on what has been known as Project Northwinds and is being introduced as Hyundai Translead. Representatives from Hyundai Translead were present. This is a manufacturing project that is contemplating taking the former Lion's Electric facility (3835 Youngs Rd. Channahon) which is in the Minooka High School District and the former Caterpillar building (2200 Channahon Rd. Joliet) This project would represent 2.4 million square feet of former manufacturing space in this region and put it back into manufacturing use. He added that this would generate 2500 jobs. The proposed agreement would authorize that Hyundai Translead receive five continuous years of tax abatement of fifty percent (50%) of the real estate extended portion of the property attributable to the EAV equalized assessed valuation. He noted that JJC have partnered with Hyundai Translead to develop specific manufacturing training programs to enhance manufacturing skills and workforce training in the region. Mr. Kooi inquired about increased traffic. Mr. Pryor stated that manufacturing sites usually generates less traffic than warehouses. Mr. Grzetich asked if there were opportunities for Minooka students. Mr. Pryor feels that the high school partnerships are extremely important and that this will absolutely provide opportunities for Minooka students. There were no further questions or concerns and the agreement is an action item at the end of the regular board meeting.

#### Central Campus Cafetorium Lighting Upgrade:

The Central Campus Cafetorium lighting upgrade proposal was provided in the board packet to view and for future consideration. Discussion took place on the issues with the cafetorium lights as they are the original from 2000. At times they have gone out completely and extra lighting have been brought in for events such as the Madrigals Dinner. There were no question or concerns at this time for future consideration and approval.

#### Out of State/Overnight Field Trip Request(s):

The following Out of State/Overnight Trip requests were provided in the board packet for review:

- Boys Lacrosse – South Bend, Indiana
- Boys Track and Field – Belleville, Illinois

There were no questions or concerns and it anticipated for approval at the end of the regular meeting.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

MOTION: by Grzetich, seconded by Juskiewicz, to approve the Student Fees for the 2026-2027 as presented.

Hearing no objections. Motion was approved. Time: 6:40 p.m.

MOTION: Juskiewicz, seconded by Hoyt, to approve the IHSA Membership Renewal for the 2026-2027 School Year.

Hearing no objections. Motion was approved. Time: 6:40 p.m.

MOTION: Grzetich, seconded by Kooi, to approve the board of education meeting dates for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.

Hearing no objections. Motion was approved. Time: 6:40 p.m.

Approval of the Site Improvement Project Memorandum of Understanding was tabled to April

MOTION: by Juskiewicz, seconded by Grzetich, to approve the Interior Painting Memorandum of Understanding as presented.

Voting Aye: Hoyt, Grzetich, Kooi, Juskiewicz, and Hrechko. Motion carried. Time: 6:41 p.m.

MOTION: by Hoyt, seconded by Grzetich, to approve the Purchase of 16 School Buses from Central States for a total of \$2,394,190 dollars with a guaranteed buy back and finance said purchase with a five (5) year lease from American Capital with an annual amount of \$363,936 dollars as presented.

Voting Aye: Kooi, Juskiewicz, Hoyt, Grzetich and Hrechko. Motion carried. Time: 6:42 p.m.

MOTION: by Hoyt, seconded by Kooi, to approve the tool purchase for the CTE Addition with Snap On in the amount \$44,422 dollars as presented.

Voting Aye: Juskiewicz, Hoyt, Grzetich, Kooi, and Hrechko. Motion carried. Time: 6:42 p.m.

MOTION: by Grzetich, seconded by Hoyt, to approve the purchase of the Fire Science Gear from Darley under Sourcewell Contract 02124-WSD in the total amount of \$56,760 as presented.

Voting Aye: Kooi, Juskiewicz, Hoyt, Grzetich, and Hrechko. Motion carried. Time: 6:43 p.m.

MOTION: by Grzetich, seconded by Hoyt, to approve the Hyundai Translead Abatement Agreement as presented.

Voting Aye: Juskiewicz, Hoyt, Grzetich, and Hrechko. Voting No: Kooi. Motion carried. Time: 6:44 p.m.

MOTION: by Grzetich, seconded by Hoyt, to approve the Boys Lacrosse Out of State Trip request as presented.

Hearing no objections. Motion was approved. Time: 6:44 p.m.

MOTION: by Kooi, seconded by Grzetich, to approve the Boys Track and Field Overnight Trip Request as presented.

Hearing no objections. Motion was approved. Time: 6:44 p.m.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

MOTION: by Grzetich seconded by Juskiewicz, to adjourn the meeting to executive session for the purpose of discussing matters related to minutes; the appointment, compensation, discipline, dismissal, employment and performance of specific employees of the student discipline and litigation.

Hearing no objections. Motion was approved. Time: 6:45 p.m.

### **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

MOTION: by Juskiewicz, seconded by Hoyt to return to open session.

Hearing no objections. Motion was approved. Time: 9:33 p.m.

MOTION: Hoyt, seconded by Kooi to begin open session.

Hearing no objections. Motion was approved. Time: 9:38 p.m.

### **ACTIONS FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION**

#### **Closed Session Minutes**

MOTION: by Grzetich, seconded by Spivey, to approve the closed session minutes as presented:

- February 18, 2026, Executive Regular Meeting

Hearing no objections. Motion was approved. Time: 9:38 p.m.

#### **Personnel**

Resignation(s):

MOTION: by Juskiewicz, seconded by Kooi, to accept the following resignation/retirement(s) as presented:

Joe Urbanski – Assistant Football – eff. 2/23/2026 - Resignation

Andrew Knoll – Assistant Wrestling – eff. 2/24/2026 - Resignation

Kayla Rubino – Teacher – P.E. Driver's Ed./ Health eff. 5/22/2026 – Resignation

Rebecca Carmack-Regennitter – JV Madrigals and Jazz Transit Choir

Janet Palasz – Bus Aide – eff. 1/26/2026 – Resignation

Ronald Bean – Bus Driver – eff. 3/18/2026 – Resignation

Hearing no objections. Motion was approved. Time: 9:38 p.m.

MOTION: by Juskiewicz, seconded by Grzetich to terminate Anne Butler as presented.

Voting Aye: Juskiewicz, Hoyt, Grzetich, Kooi and Hrechko. Motion carried. Time: 9:39 p.m.

LOA:

MOTION: by Grzetich, seconded by Juskiewicz, to adopt the resolution for non-renewal of probationary certified staff at the conclusion 2025-2026 school term, and that the Superintendent give written notice of this termination to such:

Jacob Karp

Voting Aye: Hoyt, Grzetich, Kooi, Spivey, Juskiewicz and Hrechko. Motion carried. Time: 9:39 p.m.

MOTION: by Grzetich, seconded by Juskiewicz, to approve the following leaves of absence as presented, pending receipt of proper documentation as presented.

Ron Maruszak - English Teacher, from approximately 3/9/2026 – 4/30/2026 (Days TBD) under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

Gail Caruso – Special Education Aide, from approximately 3/9/2026 – 5/20/2026 (Days TBD) under the Family Medical Leave Act

Mike Devine – Campus Monitor, from approximately 4/8/2026 – 5/20/2026 (Days TBD) under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

Hearing no objections. Motion was approved. Time: 9:39 p.m.

Employment:

MOTION: Grzetich, seconded by Hoyt, to approve the affirmation of returning administration staff as presented.

- Tracey Adams - Department Chair – Math
- Nick Barello - Assistant Athletic Director
- Kristi Boe - Director of Human Resources
- Jon Calder - Department Chair - CTE
- Jeff Easthon - Department Chair - World Languages, World and Art
- Chris Erickson - Department Chair - Science
- Hillary Holden - Director of Student Activities
- Kevin Murphy - Assistant Principal
- Kathi Norman - Director of Finance
- Chris Pendergast - Department Chair - Social Studies
- Matt Shanahan - Department Chair - Special Education
- Matt Smith - Department Chair - P.E./Driver's Ed/Health
- JaRita Steward - Department Chair - English
- Matt Wikoff - Assistant Principal
- Matt Williams - Athletic Director

Voting Aye: Juskiewicz, Hoyt, Grzetich, Kooi and Hrechko. Motion carried. Time: 9:40 p.m.

MOTION: Juskiewicz, seconded by Grzetich to approve the affirmation of returning non certified directors as presented.

- Michele Buscemi - Assistant Transportation Director
- Sloane Dempsay - Director of Transportation
- Aubrey Knight - Director of Community Relations
- Jim Kelly - Director of Technology
- Jason Piper - Director of Buildings and Grounds

Voting Aye: Kooi, Juskiewicz, Hoyt, Grzetich and Hrechko. Motion carried. Time: 9:40 p.m.

NO MOTION (Informational): the re-employment and placement of the presented certified staff on Probationary Status for the 2026/2027 school year:

First Year Probationary

Second Year Probationary

- Mary Kate Beutel
- Dylan Czajowski
- Michael Hamilton
- Daryl Martin
- Christina Murry
- Austin O'Leary
- Jessica Sissom
- Rachel Slattery
- Hannah Spaargaren
- Ashley Tutt
- Joseph Urbanski
- Melissa Wojowski

Third Year Probationary

- Rylie Bolsoni
- Kerri Elkei
- Mialy Frauenthoff
- Mark Moeller
- Kimberly Schrementi
- Brandon Wolfe
- Aaron Woods

Fourth Year Probationary

- Kathryn Norman

NO MOTION (Informational): that the presented certified staff be re-employed and placed on tenured status at the start of the 2026/2027 school year, pursuant to statutes of the Illinois School Code:

- Nicole Grzywna
- Brett Hespell
- Jeremy Holzer
- Julie Johnson
- Andrew Kooi

- JoDee Kovanda
- Bridget McMahon
- Michelle Schoolman

MOTION: by Hoyt, seconded by Grzetich, to approve the employment of the following certified staff member(s) for the 2026-2027 school year as presented, pending proper paperwork and background check deemed favorable by the MCHS #111 Administration:

Nathaniel Baldwin – First-year Probationary Special Educational Teacher – BA/Step 5

Voting Aye: Juskiewicz, Hoyt, Grzetich, Kooi and Hrechko. Motion carried. Time: 9:41 p.m.

MOTION: by Hoyt, seconded by Kooi, to approve the following extracurricular employment/volunteer(s) for the 2025/2026 school year as presented, pending proper paperwork and background check deemed favorable by the MCHS #111 Administration:

- Brad Sprague – Lacrosse (Girls) – Volunteer
- Amanda Sirvatka – Choir – Volunteer
- Mckai Vann – Football – Volunteer

Voting Aye: Grzetich, Kooi, Juskiewicz, Hoyt and Hrechko. Motion carried. Time: 9:42 p.m.

MOTION: by Hoyt, seconded, by Grzetich, to approve the 3-year Contract Extension for Jamie Soliman, Principal as presented.

Voting Aye: Kooi, Juskiewicz, Hoyt, Grzetich and Hrechko. Motion carried. Time: 9:42 p.m.

MOTION: by Grzetich, Hoyt to approve the 3-year Contract extension for Dr. Phil Pakowski , Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, as presented.

Voting Aye: Juskiewicz, Hoyt, Grzetich, Kooi, and Hrechko. Motion carried. Time: 9:43 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: by Juskiewicz, seconded by Hoyt to adjourn the meeting.

Hearing no objections. Motion was approved. Time: 9:43 p.m.

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LAURA HRECHKO, PRESIDENT

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TIM JUSKIEWICZ, SECRETARY

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Date

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Date