

**MINUTES REGULAR MEETING  
MOKENA SCHOOL DISTRICT 159 - BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MOKENA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
November 20, 2013**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Mrs. Danielle Didrickson- President	✓	
Mr. Jim Andresen- Vice President	✓	
Mrs. Anna Briscoe- Secretary	✓	
Mrs. Stacy Cesta	✓	
Mr. Aaron Janik	✓	
Mr. Patrick Markham		✓
Mr. Joseph Spalla	✓	

**STAFF PRESENT:** Dr. Omar Castillo, Superintendent; Kathleen Wilkey, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction; Eileen Parente, Director of Student Services, John Troy, Director of Business Operations & Transportation; Mike Rolinitis, Principal; Anna Kirchner, Principal; Judy Splayt, Assistant Principal; Steve Hastings, Director of Technology, Mary Louise Knoerzer, Board Secretary, Rebecca Cheryl, Crystal Vargo, Debi blank, Stacie Soroka, Kim Rueth, Toni Szostak and Sarah Boldman, Laurel McGowan, Katherine Barr, Jami Morgan.

**VISITORS:** Brian and Lori Matejka, Mark Kowal, Brandon Wilson, Teddie Potter, Sherry Mirou, Doug Heathcock, Michelle de la Vega, Autumn and Mark Robustelli, Angie Street and Cory Cunningham.

**PRESS:** Sarah Janssen: Mokena Messenger; Ginger Braschinger; Southtown Star, Benjamin Feldheim; Mokena Patch

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mrs. Didrickson, the Board of Education, Administration and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**OPEN SESSION and ROLL CALL**

Mrs. Didrickson called the Regular meeting of the Board of Education of Mokena Public School District 159 to order at 7:00 pm on November 20, 2013.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**PUBLIC:** *Mr. Matejka, a parent of a severe allergy student,* asked the BOE to help educate the staff, students and parents of students of the district in regards to of peanut allergy symptoms and side effects; create a safe environment for all students in the district. Ask the BOE for plan to execute this awareness for severe allergies.

**BOARD EDUCATION:** Mrs. Didrickson thanked Mr. Matejka and asked for his continued participation in the Severe Allergy Parent Group.

**MEF/PTA:** Mrs. Briscoe, reported on behalf of the MEF/PTA, thanked the forty plus volunteers and 100 of hours dedicated to the 2013 Fall Fling. Approx. 275 people in attendance; 140 auction items; \$2800 was raised from drawing, and approximately \$32,000 was raised for future equipment etc. for the district to benefit the education of its students. Mrs. Spalla enjoyed this awesome event. The PTA/MEF received a standing ovation

**EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASE:** Mr. Rolinitis introduced music/band teacher Rebecca Chaney in recognition of ILMEA All Star Festival recipients for: Band: Kevin Meaux, Taylor Miron, Emily Wisinski

**Choir:** Allison Genardo, Gillian Genardo, Caroline Heathcock, Natalie Knepper

**Orchestra:** Lauren Samanic; **Jazz Band:** Emily Wisinski

Mr. Rolinitis introduced coaches Sarah Boldman and Crystal Vargos with the MJHS Boys Cross Country team who competed in IESA State meet. Members present were: Will Potter, Ian Fugett, Kyle Kissinger, Nick Natalie, Dominick Baser and Jackson Burriss.

**BOARD MEMBER RECOGNITION:** Dr. Castillo thanked and presented the BOE with spirit wear shirts and certificates in honor of National School Board day/month.

#### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Mr. Spalla moved to approve minutes for the Regular and Closed Session Meeting October 16, 2013; seconded by Mrs. Cesta. Board was unanimous.

#### **EPI-PEN NOW**

Mr. Wilson presented to the BOE, administrators, staff and community with a background on severe allergies and medication and protocol procedures. He offered a donation to the district, EPI-NOW emergency kits to house epi-pens and Benadryl for emergency situations.

#### **DISTRICT WIDE ALLERGY PLAN**

- Re-evaluate peanut free zones; review student with severe allergies files
- Review and update procedures for nurses, school offices and custodial department
- Provide additional training for all staff

#### **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Dr. Castillo updated the BOE:

- New State School Report Cards
- Will County's State Attorney presentation
- Superintendent Roundtable

#### **ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Mrs. Wilkey reported to the BOE:

- Common Core State Standards Staff Survey Results- strengths and weaknesses
- AIMSweb Parent Letter
- Kindergarten Report Cards

#### **DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES**

Mrs. Parente updated the BOE on:

- ISBE Special Education Focused Monitoring- 11/19-11/22.
- Parent Input statement
- Teaming in Student Services

#### **DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS OPERATIONS & TRANSPORTATION**

Mr. Troy updated the BOE on:

- New job description – Lead Supervising Bus Driver

#### **DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY**

- Interactive Projectors received; installation will be completed by December
- Technology Committee
- Network Infrastructure: projects, proposed configurations and timeline

#### **PRINCIPAL REPORTS**

Mrs. Kirchner reported on behalf of MES to BOE:

- Welcomed back Mr. M.

- Thanked Mrs. Meehan, a member of MES leadership team, the monthly theme- giving back to district and or community.
- 1,500 items collected for the " Stuffed the Turkey" theme

Mr. Melnyczenko reported on behalf of MIS to BOE:

- Thanked the BOE and Administrators for their support; thanked Mari Jo Hanson for being Interim Principal at MIS during his absence
- Behavior Initiatives are working
- Review of discipline reports

Mr. Rolinitis reported on behalf of MJH to BOE:

- Also welcomed Mr. M back; glad to have Mrs. Hanson back at MJH
- Music concert 12/10 6pm – 5<sup>th</sup> graders; 7 pm –junior high band
- Boys and Girls Basketball teams have been selected; season under way
- Meteor Coffee 11/21 – 9am MJH Commons
- Student Council will be collecting items and spare change for Illinois tornado victims

### **INFORMATION REPORTS**

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mr. Troy reviewed the Financial Report with the BOE. The revenue for the month in all funds was \$864,317 or 4.56%. The expenditures for the month in all funds were \$1,284,264 or 6.53%.

#### **TREASURER REPORT**

Mr. Troy reviewed the Treasurer's Report with the BOE reporting an ending balance of \$16,491,051.44.

#### **ANNUAL STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS**

Mr. Troy presented to BOE the Annual Statement of Affairs for the fiscal year ending 6/30/2013.

#### **FIRST QUARTER DISCIPLINE REPORT**

Dr. Castillo presented to the BOE the district discipline report. Teaching expectations has reduced the amount of incidences at all buildings.

#### **LINCOLN WAY ARE SPECIAL EDUCATION MINUTES**

Mrs. Cesta reported to the BOE:

- Three of the BOE at other district have voted for the approval of the withdrawal of District 122
- Long Range Planning committee met on 11/2; McKay building is overcrowded; looking for space

### **ACTION REQUESTS**

#### **DISTRICT BILLS**

##### **Recommended Motion:**

Mr. Markham reviewed District bills this month. Mr. Spalla moved to approve the bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Briscoe.

##### **On Roll Call**

Ayes: Mr. Andresen, Mrs. Briscoe, Mrs. Cesta, Mrs. Didrickson, Mr. Janik, Mr. Spalla

Nays: None Abstain: None

**MOTION CARRIED 6-0**

#### **PERSONNEL**

Mr. Janik moved to approved Personnel item 1-6 as presented; subject to successful background check, drug screening (if applicable) and physical; seconded by Mr. Andresen.

##### **On Roll Call**

Ayes: Mr. Andresen, Mrs. Briscoe, Mrs. Cesta, Mrs. Didrickson, Mr. Janik, Mr. Spalla

Nays: None Abstain: None

**MOTION CARRIED 6-0**

**1. Classified – New Hire**

Ginger	Food	District	11/01/2013	\$8.31/hr 5days/wk 3hr/day
Houchens	Server			
Debra Searles	Food	District	10/10/2013	\$8.31/hr as needed
	Server			
Hong Ragland	Food	District	11/04/2013	\$8.31/hr as needed
	Server			

**2. Classified – Status Change to sub**

Lilly	Food Server	District	10/15/2013	\$9.09/hr
Conway				
Marie	Food Server	District	11/15/2013	\$8.69/hr
Spalla				

**3. Administrative-extended LOA**

Eric Melnyczenko	Principal	MIS	11/7	11/15/13
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**4. Administrative – extended assignment**

Mari Jo Hanson	Interim Principal	MIS	10/16-11/22/2013	
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**5. Classified – Resignation**

Lynn Georgen	Food Server	MJH	10/31/2013	
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**6. Classified - Medical Leave of Absence**

Donna Versetto	Para- Professional	MIS	10/22/-11/01/2013	
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**APPROVAL OF TENTATIVE LEVY**

**Recommended motion:**

Mr. Spalla moved that the Board of Education adopt the Resolution entitled, "2013 Truth of Taxation Law Resolution" as presented for the proposed 2013 Levy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Janik.

**On Roll Call**

Ayes: Mr. Andresen, Mrs. Briscoe, Mrs. Cesta, Mrs. Didrickson, Mr. Janik, Mr. Spalla

Nays: None

Abstain: None

**MOTION CARRIED 6-0**

**DISTRICT #122 WITHDRAWAL AGREEMENT**

**Recommended motion:**

Mrs. Cesta moved to approve the Resolution Approving the Petition for Withdrawal of New Lenox School District #122 from Lincoln-Way Area Special Education Joint Agreement District 843 *effective July 1, 2014*, and approve the Withdrawal Agreement as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Andresen.

**On Roll Call**

Ayes: Mr. Andresen, Mrs. Briscoe, Mrs. Cesta, Mrs. Didrickson, Mr. Janik, Mr. Spalla

Nays: None

Abstain: None

**MOTION CARRIED 6-0**

**ITEMS FOR DECEMBER MEETING**

- Levy Hearing/Adoption of Levy
- Professional Development for Allergy Procedures
- Acceptance of Epi-Pen NOW gift

**GOOD OF MOKENA**

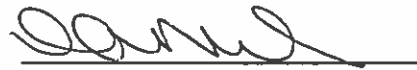
- Holiday Concerts- 12/10 6 pm at MJHS-5<sup>th</sup> grade; Choir and Symphonic Band 7pm-MJH students
- The Fall Fling was a great time and a successful event; A BIG thank you again to MEF/PTA

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:39 pm Mr. Janik moved to adjourn the Regular November 20, 2013 meeting to go to Closed session for purposes relating to Collective negotiations and Leasing of Property; Pursuant of ILCS 5 120/2 (c)(2)(5); to return. The motion was seconded by Mr. Andresen. The board was all in favor.

At 9:06 pm Mrs. Didrickson motioned adjourned the Regular November 20, 2013 meeting. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by  
Mary Louise Knoerzer, Executive Secretary

  
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President

  
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Secretary

