

Official Minutes of the Monticello Community School District Board of Education
Regular Meeting of February 24, 2025

President Craig Stadtmueller called the Public Hearing on the 2025-2026 School Calendar to order at 6:08 pm on Monday, February 24, 2025. Stadtmueller asked for comments from the public. There were no comments. Stadtmueller closed the hearing at 6:09pm.

The Board of Education regular meeting was held on Monday, February 24, 2025, in the Board Room at 850 E Oak St., Monticello, IA. President Craig Stadtmueller called the meeting to order at 6:09pm. Stadtmueller also led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Monticello CSD mission statement. Board Secretary Judy Hayen did roll call. The following directors were present Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. (Norton arrived at 6:11pm). Others present were Dr. Brian Jaeger, Marcy Gillmore, Judy Hayen, Pete Temple, Nick Schauf, Todd Werner, Shannon Kehoe, Robyn Ponder, Shannon Guyer, Mike Wink, Katie Harms with OPN Architects, and a few staff members.

It was moved by Schlarmann, seconded by Rieken to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Congratulations were extended to: the following Senior Athletes on their high school career: **Wrestling:** Tyler Eastin, Urijah Etzel, Reeve Graver, Kadin Liles, Tait Luensman, Phoenix Robertson, Lincoln Verhagen; **Boys Basketball:** Brennan Bohlken, Carson Lambert, Jack Lambert; **Girls Basketball:** Hailey Henderson, Natalie Henderson, Madilynn Kromminga, Jayden Kuper, Annie Schlarmann; **Girls Bowling:** Julia Ambundo, JoAnna Patterson, Kendall Siebels; **Boys Bowling:** Zander Alden, Talyn Smith; **Cheer:** Alexis Orth, DeeAnna Pumphrey, Mia Riches; **Dance:** Seneca Freeze, Arrianna Jones, DeeAnna Pumphrey, Annie Schlarmann, Cameron Vargason, Myra Wilson; Izzy Taylor for her 2nd place finish at state wrestling; Urijah Etzel on making it to state wrestling; Quinn Thomas for qualifying for State Bowling and placing 2nd; and to the following groups for receiving a 1 rating at State contest: Readers Theater - Zander Alden, Stella Flynn, Royce Kiburz, Carlos Lagunes-Torres, Brianna Merfeld, Alexis Orth, Karli Schwendinger, Quinn Thomas, Bonnie Tran, Destiny Wall; Choral Reading - Cole Bouska, Skylar Christensen, Nessa Clapp, Haley Larrimore, Meredith Parker, Sam Ruchti, Kendall Siebels, Caleb Tubbs, Emersen Verhagen, Ashlyn Warner; Radio Broadcasting - Lydia Ahlrichs, Leah Koehler, Kendall Siebels; Short Film - Meghan Besler, Macey Burlage, Brynn Schmit, Katherine Stadtmueller, Ashlyn Warner; Short Film - Zander Alden, Rylan Bertling, Carlos Lagunes-Torres, Quinn Thomas; Group Improv - Lydia Ahlrichs & Leah Koehler. And Congratulations to Choral Reading for being nominated to All State. They were 1 of 25 Choral Readings across the state of Iowa nominated to All State.

Katie Harms with OPN Architects presented the floor plans for the new elementary building.

Principals Nick Schauf, Todd Werner, and Shannon Kehoe gave their building reports.

Shannon Kehoe: We recently completed MAP testing with 3rd and 4th graders. Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for March 11 & 13, with an art show at Carpenter on March 11. Our staff has been focusing on new state personalized reading plans. Additionally, as we transition from two buildings to one, staff will have an "adaptive learning" opportunity in March and May.

Todd Werner: The middle schoolers have completed MAP testing. We celebrated School Counselor Week and School Resource Officer Day earlier this month, thanks to our counselors and Dawn Graver for all they do. Phil Hannah came in to do heart dissections with 5th graders, and FFA members held activities with middle schoolers last week, thank you to Eric Schmitt, he does a great job. Our student council organized a winter dance, attended by around 185 students. The middle school activities are wrapping up.

Nick Schauf: Winter sports are wrapping up. A big thank you to Kathy Larson for her work with college and career planning – Happy School Counselor’s Week! Last week was National FFA Week, and thanks to Eric Schmitt for organizing a great week of activities. On Wednesday, we’ll be focusing on enrichment activities and preparing for ISASP testing with a "hype" day, emphasizing the importance of these tests for decision-making, college courses, and interventions. The new high school cafeteria furniture has arrived and looks great. We're also keeping an eye on some education issues like cell phones, vaping, and illegal substances.

Special Programs Director Robyn Ponder gave her report. In the technology department, we are preparing bids for our internet connection and exploring switches to improve it. For curriculum, we are reviewing the high school Spanish curriculum and Open Sci-Ed with our elementary staff. In special education, I am presenting the updated District Service Plan, which is required every 5 years.

Superintendent Jaeger also gave his report. Travis Squires with Piper Sandler could not be here tonight but will be here on March 24. Some of our property is mixed with the City's, and since I've started here, I've been working to resolve that. With a new elementary building in the works, it's a good opportunity to review the football field, bus barn area, and the Shannon and Carpenter locations to explore the possibility of swapping land. The Board had a productive discussion and will continue the conversation in future meetings.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Rieken to accept the bid from School Bus Sales for a new 65-passenger school bus at a price of \$133,775, while recognizing that potential tariff impositions may impact the final cost of the unit, as outlined. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nay: None. Motion carried.

After much discussion, motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton, to approve the 2025-2026 school calendar as presented. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, and Amsler. Nay: Rieken. Motion carried.

Motion by Amsler, seconded by Norton to approve the addition of a third preschool section, expanding from two to three, and the availability of childcare at Panther Academy on Wednesdays, starting in the 2025-2026 school year as presented. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Rieken, seconded by Amsler to approve the District Special Education Delivery Plan for 2025-2030 as presented. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Rieken, seconded by Amsler to accept the fiscal year 2024 audit as presented. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Amsler to set March 24, 2025 at 6:00 pm as the date & time for the first public hearing on the 2025-2026 budget. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Norton, seconded by Schlarmann, to approve the 2025-2026 Budget Guarantee Resolution as presented. By roll call vote: Stadtmueller, aye; Norton, aye; Schlarmann, aye; and Rieken, aye; and Amsler, aye. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Rieken, seconded by Amsler to approve the second and final reading of Board Policy #401.3F3 Disposition of Complaint Form as presented. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Schlarmann, seconded by Norton to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Board Member activity reports: Board member Schlarmann reminded everyone of the Foundation Tailgate Party & Alumni Reunion this Saturday, March 1, 2025.

The Board wanted to let the public know we are excited to be expanding our preschool program!

There were no agenda items suggested for future work sessions.

The following announcements were made:

- Foundation Tailgate Party & Alumni Reunion is Saturday, March 1 at 5:30pm
- Spring Break is March 17-21, 2025
- Next Regular Board Meeting is Monday, March 24 at 6:00pm

There being no further business, Schlarmann made a motion, seconded by Norton to adjourn the meeting at 8:18pm. Ayes: Stadtmueller, Norton, Schlarmann, Rieken, and Amsler. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Approved:

Attest:

Craig Stadtmueller, President

Judy Hayen, Board Secretary