

**MERIDIAN COMMUNITY  
UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #15  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING**

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 5:30 PM  
Meridian CUSD #15 District Office



**A G E N D A**

- 1. Call to Order - Roll Call**
- 2. Correspondence and Comments from Visitors**
- 3. Presentations and Special Recognitions**
- 4. Administrative Reports**  
Mrs. Lucas, Mrs. Guebert, Mrs. McGuire, Mr. Hurelbrink, & Dr. Gordon
- 5. Consent Agenda**
  - A. Minutes of Previous Meeting(s): Regular Meeting of February 19
  - B. Receipts: February 2024, Disbursements: March 2024, Treasurer Report: February 2024
  - C. Resignations: Scott Barr- MS Boys Basketball Coach, Shannon Houser- HS Boys Basketball Coach
- 6. New Business**
  - A. Committee Update**
    1. Athletic- March 14
    2. Finance- To be scheduled.
  - B. Approvals and Authorizations – Motions**
    1. Consider Approval of 2024-2025 School Calendar
- 7. Discussion Items**
  - A. Budget Update
  - B. Solar Options- Presentation at the April Board meeting
- 8. Executive Session**

**A motion will be requested for an executive session for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to the employment, appointment, or dismissal of specific employees or officers, purchase or sale of property, pending legal matters, student discipline, and negotiations (per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)).**
- 9. Return to Open Session**
  - A. Personnel Action Items**
    1. Consider Approval of Administrative Contract
    2. Consider Approval of Agriculture Teacher
    3. Consider Approval of Elementary Teacher
    4. Consider Approval of MES Paraprofessional for 2024-2025
    5. Consider Approval of Winter Coaches for 2024-2025
    6. Consider Approval of Volunteer Coaches (HS Baseball, HS Track)
- 10. Adjournment**

**By Order of: Mr. Monte Hogan, President  
Board of Education, Meridian CUSD #15**

## **Important Meeting Dates**

The next regular Meridian Board of Education meeting is at 6:30 PM on Monday, April 15, 2024 at the Meridian District Office.

**We are Meridian!**

## **Administrative Reports:**

### **Athletic Director's Report:**

Sports Update

All Conference Basketball Selections:

- 1st Team Unanimous - Sebastian Hill and Ella Woolington
- 2nd Team - Lleyton Miller and Shelby Renfro
- Honorable Mention - Brooks Brown

All Macon County Volleyball Team:

- 1st Team Unanimous- Ella Woolington
- Honorable Mention- Haley Leffler, Jolie Witts, and Layla Lucas

Spring Sports

Baseball- 15 athletes, Softball- 17 athletes, Girls Track- 9 athletes, Boys Track- 16 athletes, Girls Soccer- 19 athletes (12 MHS, 2 SV, 5 CAM)

Boys Track Highlights:

- o Lleyton Miller is #9 for the 60m dash on the Illinois Prep Top Times list
- o Drew Smithers is #31 for the Long Jump on the Illinois Prep Top Times list
- o Cooper Greenwood is #16 for the Shot Put on the Illinois Prep Top Times list

Middle School Volleyball

6th Grade - 9-1-3, 7th Grade - 20-6- Season ended in the Regional Semi Final, 8th Grade - 23-2- Regular Season Okaw Conference Champs, 2nd Place in the Conference Tournament, Regional Champions, Ending their Middle School career 51-5

Projects:

- Uniform purchase date research is ongoing
- Working on creating a rotation for district purchase of uniforms, HS Football will be up first
- Setting up and training MS and HS Track coaches to run the FAT System and set up meets on Athletic.net
- HOCIC Football By-Laws created - see attached

Upcoming events:

- Macon County Track Meet - April 23th
- Track and Field Mini Meet - open to Elementary Students K-5, organized and run by the HS Track Programs - April 24th

### **Maintenance Report:**

Over the last couple months maintenance staff has been busy with a number of tasks. Along with the everyday minor repairs and upkeep the following has been completed or in the process of being completed.

All T8 fluorescent light fixtures have been ballast bypassed to allow LED tube usage, with the exception of the gyms. The gyms on Macon campus will be swapped with ballast compatible hybrid LED tubes over the

summer. These hybrid LED tubes were obtained via no cost through an instant Ameren Rebate. All of the metal halide lights in the Great Hall have been replaced with LED lights. We have removed all but 3 ballast from these fixtures as well. The remaining three will have ballasts removed over the summer.

Over the last couple of weeks, we have been preparing for the start of spring mowing and outdoor sports seasons. We did some final grading and sowed grass between baseball concession stand and the new driveway east of Ag building. We have worked the infields on both softball and baseball fields, lined outfields and soccer for the start of their seasons. We have also put out spring fertilizer on all the ball fields. We have opened the restrooms outside at football concession for spring sport usage. In the last week we have had to repair the MES main basket winch. This winch system may need upgraded in the near future. We also moved all the book shelves in from 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade commons and secured them to the walls.

Over the next couple of weeks, we will be starting irrigation system and plan on getting started on the new classroom TV installs.

### **Grade School Principal's Report:**

Current enrollment numbers – PreK – 73, Kind - 79, 1st - 65, 2nd - 63, 3rd - 59, 4th - 64, 5th –64– total = 467

Kindergarten registration/screenings were held March 14. We screened 12 students. The projected number for Kindergarten next year is 59.

Pre-K screenings were held March 14 & 15, along with 0-3 screenings. There were 43 for PreK and 28 for bright start 0-3.

IAR testing will be completed March 20-22 for 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades and April 3-11 for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade – a parent letter was emailed out, snacks will be provided for testing, and classroom incentives being planned, an IAR test preparation workshop was held in January for staff and staff have been completing additional test preparation with their students.

A third quarter celebration was held Friday March 15. We had inflatables in the gym for all students K-5 - a thank you to Mr. Hurelbrink for sending us over high school helpers.

First grade completed bookworm during the month of February, reading 3,121 books.

Classes are scheduling end of the year field trips.

Spring Music Concert will be held May 2, for Kindergarten – 2nd grade at 6:30 p.m. at the HS gym.

Vision and hearing screenings were held Feb. 28-29.

Scholastic Book Fair and Family Night was the week of March 4. A big thanks to Mrs. Woolington, our teachers, and all our PTO volunteers.

Fifth Grade wrapped up their Engineer in the Classroom by participating in the Rube Goldberg Competition on Sat. March 2, at Eisenhower High School. Mr. Panches 5<sup>th</sup> grade class received 1<sup>st</sup> place with their project and will advance to the Regional Competition at the U of I on Friday, April 5.

Congratulations to Ms. Bourisaw's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class for winning the Macon County Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom poster contest, winning a trip to the St. Louis Science Center.

We participated in Wellness Week March 4-8 through the American Heart Association, with a kick off assembly on Fri. March 1.

### **Professional responsibilities/goals**

Continuing to publicize news in the local newspapers and on webpage and social media  
PD afternoon 3/18 on the new Illinois Literacy Plan  
Working with Math Curriculum Committee to review new math curriculums  
Attended Admin. meeting and SLD Support Project Annual Conference  
Conducted interviews for PreK aide and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers

### **Dates:**

March 25 – Spring Pictures  
March 20-April 11 – IAR testing  
March 20 – PTO Meeting 6pm @ MES Cafeteria  
March 27-1:50 dismissal  
March 28-April 1 – Spring/Easter break

### **MES March Students of the Month -**

Kindergarten: Payton Ballion, Ila Luka, Conner Osborne, Ivie Jackson  
1st Grade: Karmen Powars, Zoe Dunmire, Madelyn Stickney, Autumn Wood  
2nd grade: Zoe Webster, Jolie Rhodes, Jude Davison, Addison Christy  
3rd grade: Leighton Johnson, Elysa Grimm, Nolen Householder, Corryn Tipton  
4th grade: Molly Kraft, Elaina Kater, Harper McGuire  
5th grade: Ruby Major, Alexis Webster, Kyndall Gillen

### **Middle School Principal's Report:**

Current enrollment as of 3/13/2024-  
6th Grade - 61 7th Grade - 64 8th Grade - 70 Total - 199 (Alt - 4)

The MJHS induction ceremony took place in the auditorium on Friday, March 1. 23 students were selected to join the 22 current members based upon their scholarship, citizenship, leadership, and service. Congratulations to the following new members - Madison Briggs, Brody Britton, Tanner Doty, Addison Gant-Fuller, CW Hogan, Celia Ritter, Payton Secker, Hannah Shelton, Cash Beasley, Juliet Childers, Amelia Conder, Jaxson Craft, Chloe Elder, Lyla Gordon, Addison Hendershot, Alex Kraft, Hannah Kraft, Addison Marion, Kellen McGuire, Cheyenne Mudd, Corbin Neihart, Lucas Roberts, and Maggie Smithers

Third quarter report cards were printed and handed out to all students on Wednesday, March 13. A copy will also be printed and mailed home to all at-risk students with information regarding summer school.

The Middle School Drama Club presented The Little Mermaid Jr. on Friday, March 1, Saturday, March 2, and Sunday, March 3. The cast performed a portion of the performance for MES students on Thursday, February 29, and MMS students enjoyed a sneak preview as a positive behavior assembly during the school day on Friday. The entire cast & crew did an outstanding job! A special thanks to Mr. Pekovitch, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Moyer, & Mrs. Pritts for their dedication to the MMS drama club and all the work they put in to make these shows such a success.

IAR testing took place on the following dates - Math: March 5-7 & ELA: March 12 - 13. Daily snack incentives were provided for attendance, attitude, & effort. An overall enrichment incentive activity will take place for students who qualify on Wednesday, March 27.

Staff and students began piloting an electronic hall pass on Monday, March 11. The online platform allows us to monitor who is using a hallway pass, limit how many students are out on a pass at one time, and implement restrictions on who can be out of class together, as needed. After we've had time to familiarize ourselves with the program, a survey will be sent out to staff to collect feedback on the program.

### Important Dates:

March 27: 1:30 p.m. Dismissal; IAR Enrichment Activities

March 28 - April 1: No School

April 8 - 19: Skating Unit in PE

April 12: 4th Quarter Midterm

### Professional Responsibilities:

- Staff evaluations are complete
- Conducted interviews for the new Ag position with Mr. Hurelbrink and Mr. Brockett.
- Attended the County Reunification Meeting, Admin Meeting, and Athletic Committee Meeting
- Continuing to publish MMS Newsletter, update webpage and video screens, post on social media, etc.
- The annual Tornado/Disaster Drill was conducted on March 5.
- Currently working on the Master Schedule for the 24/25 school year; Elective forms will be electronically sent out the beginning of April

### **High School Principal's Report:**

Current enrollment numbers as of 3/12/24

9th Grade – 76, 10th Grade – 78, 11th Grade – 73, 12th Grade – 76

Students of the Month, for March, have been submitted. Congratulations to these students.

On March 7, the following students were inducted into the MHS chapter of the National Honor Society: Makenna Hartry, Jholy Scott, Lucas Miller, Wyatt Weybright, Carson Bergscheider, Alayna Bickel, Cierra Bliesner, Katelyn Clapp, Furie Fringer, Grace Gorden, Olivia Henderson, Ryan Hubner, Ted Jones, McKenna Koehler, Ethan Mendenhall, Shelby Renfro, Nora Roush, Carson Ryan, Ashley Schelling, Katelyn Smith, and Lily Windell.

Scholarships applications are now open for the class of 2024. Mrs. Johnson has been meeting with seniors to go over these opportunities and has also been sending out information for parents, as well.

Meridian High School will hold its testing day on Tuesday, March 19. Juniors will take the SAT test and freshmen and sophomores will take the PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10, respectively.

Meridian HS will hold its Incoming 9th Grade Academic meeting on Thursday, March 21 at 6:30. Incoming 9th graders, and at least one parent, are asked to attend this meeting. We will go over academic requirements for the high school and talk about class scheduling for the 2024-25 school year.

MHS and MMS have begun a pilot for E-Hall pass. This program will help us better monitor student movement during the day. In-service training for this program was held on March 8.

Third quarter report cards were issued on Wednesday, March 13. We will have our third quarter honor roll breakfast later in the month.

NHS held its last blood drive of the school year. Thank you to all who donated.

Academic Challenge students will compete at sectionals on Wednesday, March 13

Currently, I am working on forming a Student Advisory committee that will meet with me to discuss various topics related to the building and, where needed, potential solutions. This committee will be comprised of sophs/juniors and seniors for the 24-25 school year. I am hopeful this will help to bring in the student voice to some of the things we work on throughout the year.

The 5 Essentials Survey has been distributed to staff and parents. Students will take the survey on Thursday, March 14. This will satisfy this portion of the IIRC for this school year.

Administrative Team Meeting – March 13

Athletic Committee Meeting – March 13

Central Illinois Conference Principal's Meeting – March 7

**Superintendent's Report:**

**2024-2025 School Calendar-** Based on conversation at the February Board meeting, a revised calendar is being recommended that has students beginning on Monday, August 19. The structure of parent/teacher conferences was also adjusted from the version discussed in February. In an attempt to alleviate some of the disruption with election day, the calendar committee proposed having PT Conferences on Friday, November 1, and observe the PT Conference day on Monday November 4. This eliminates coming to school on Monday, having a day off, and then resuming the rest of the week.

**Transportation Facility-** Planning has progressed with the transportation facility. Mahannah Excavating has been on site to map out the site with their GPS. I met with Ameren to confirm the layout of the building has enough clearance from the transmission lines. The rock order has been placed with the quarry.

**Christy-Foltz Pay Request-** We are still holding payment. The one item that remains is the installation of a secondary door seal on the large shop door.

**Vape Sensors-** The sensors have arrived. I am coordinating the installation of the cable runs within the next couple of weeks. From there the sensors will be fastened to the ceiling and the system will be up and running.