



# Meridian Community Unit School District 223

Phone: (815) 645-2230 • Fax: (815) 645-4325

[www.meridian223.org](http://www.meridian223.org)

**MERIDIAN**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT #223

## MERIDIAN CUSD 223 PRESS RELEASE

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Date: August 26, 2022  
Contact: Dr. PJ Caposey  
Title: Meridian students, staff, administration, and Board of Education exert state-level influence  
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\* For immediate release

### **Meridian students, staff, administration, and Board of Education exert state-level influence**

Part of Meridian's mission is to create community contributors and our vision is to achieve world-class results. Over the past handful of years we have focused on ensuring this is not only the goal in the classroom, but in everything that we do. As a result, there has been a concentrated effort to have Meridian students, staff, administration, and Board of Education become involved in regional and state-wide activities. In doing so, we have had many members of our school community exert significant influence at the state-level. They are as follows:

#### STUDENTS

Mackenzie Flynn – Illinois State Board of Education Student Advisory  
Nate Youman – Illinois State Board of Education Student Advisory  
Jacob Rhodes – Illinois High School Association Student Advisory  
Payton Voltz - Illinois High School Association Student Advisory

#### FACULTY

Kim Hofmeister - Setting and Linking Study Conference for the Illinois Licensure Testing System Committee  
Abby Risner – ILMEA District Representative for the Board of the Illinois Choral Directors  
Bill Polasky - Executive Committee for the Illinois State Teachers of the Year, Advance Illinois Educator Advisory Committee, and Teach Plus Policy Fellow  
Teresa Eden - Advance Illinois Educator Advisory Committee  
Julie Foss- Treasurer of the Northern Illinois Reading Council  
Beth Kleinschmidt – Illinois SAT Standard Setting (Math)  
Diane Koenig – Scalding Developmental Education Reform in Illinois Advisory and Illinois Community College Board Return to Campus Guidance Committee  
Shawn Byers – Illinois High School Association Softball Advisory Committee  
Laura Henderson and Ed Liegl - Transitional English Language Arts Advisory



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## ADMINISTRATION and BOARD of EDUCATION

Joe Mullikin – Illinois Principals Association Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Regional Chair and Illinois ASCD Communications Chair

Heather Alderks – Illinois High School Association Legislative Commission.

Leslie Showers – Illinois High School Association Legislative Commission, Do What's Right Committee, and the Cheer Advisory Committee

Jill Huber – Vice Chair of the Northwest Division of the Illinois Association of School Boards

PJ Caposey – Advisory to the State Superintendent