#### MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

## **MARCH 2, 2010**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held March 2, 2010, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

## **REGULAR MEETING -**

## Call to Order and Roll Call -

President Thomas Neeley called the regular meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Thomas Neeley, Mrs. Nancy Overcash, Mrs. Joyce Kaiser,

Mr. John Applen, Mr. Clint Heinold, Mr. Noah Menold, Mr. Doug Riddle

Also present: Core Committee Members from the Facilities Study

## Reports -

## <u>Administrative</u> –

## School Highlights -

Dr. Kilpatrick thanked the principals for their monthly highlights. He noted that ISAT tests are being administered this week. He thanked the teaching staff for their part in preparation and giving the tests and he wished the students well.

## 709 Recognition -

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that Students are being recognized during the month of March. With the testing taking place this month, it is a good time to show appreciation to our students for their hard work.

## Freedom of Information Requests –

There are no Freedom of Information requests to report.

# **Staff Recognition –**

On behalf of the Board of Education, Mr. Neeley presented a certificate of recognition to Jeff Neavor, Morton High School Band Director, who was recently recognized as one of "50 Directors Who Make a Difference" by *School Band and Orchestra* magazine. Jeff was the director recognized from Illinois.

## **Discussion Items –**

# <u>Facilities Update - Community Survey - </u>

The Core Committee for the ongoing facilities study joined the Board of Education for a

discussion and presentation of the recent community survey administered by the Survey Sub-Committee. Chairman of the Survey Committee, Craig Barley presented the findings of the survey. Invitations to take part in the survey were initially mailed to 600 randomly selected residents that had voted in the three most recent elections. Of those, 346 completed the survey entirely. The survey was then opened to the entire community, of which there were 457 completed surveys. Mr. Barley noted that the results of both group's surveys were very similar. Conclusions drawn from the survey are that though numbers are high for district performance and understanding of space and maintenance needs, no definitive conclusion can be drawn as to whether a referendum would pass. While the results were positive, the Board of Education and District still need to do a good job of communicating the needs.

Mrs. Overcash and Mr. Applen expressed their appreciation for the time spent by the survey committee. They stressed that the board has not discussed the facility plan as a group and is keeping an open mind.

Mr. Neeley also thanked the Core committee, sub-committees, the architects and other volunteers involved in the facilities study. He thanked the community for taking part in the survey and is very grateful for the input. He noted a strong effort is needed in order to continue to communicate the needs of the school district to the community.

# Action Items -

# Reappointment of Building Administrators, Director of Special Education and Director of Research and Information Systems –

Dr. Kilpatrick recommended that all building administrators, the Director of Special Education, and the Director of Research and Information Systems be reappointed for the 2010-2011 school year.

Motion by Mrs. Kaiser, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education appoint Lorna Sherwood, Jefferson School Principal; Robert Bardwell, Brown School Principal; Michael Saunders, Grundy School Principal; Sheila Taylor, Lincoln School Principal; Greg Crider, Principal at Morton Junior High School; Chris Carter, Asst. Principal at Morton Junior High; Dennis Johnson, Principal at Morton High School; Dan Rohman, Administrative Assistant at Morton High School; Greg Prichard, Administrative Assistant/Athletic Director at Morton High School; Marjorie Johnson, Administrative Assistant at Morton High School; Dana Ashby, Director of Special Education; and Dr. Troy Teater, Director of Research and Information Systems for the 2010-2011 school year.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

On behalf of the Board of Education, Mr. Neeley expressed his thanks and appreciation to the administrators for their leadership they provide in their roles.

# <u>Appointment of Freedom of Information Act Officers –</u>

Dr. Kilpatrick explained that as of January 1, 2010, the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requires that all public bodies designate one or more officials or employees to act as a Freedom of Information Act Officer. These FOIA Officers (or their designees) shall receive requests for records, ensure that the public body responds to the requests in a timely fashion, and issue responses under FOIA. He is recommending that the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and the Director of Technology and Research be appointed as FOIA Officers for the school district.

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mr. Riddle, that the Board of Education approve the appointment of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Director of Technology and Research as FOIA Officers for Morton CUSD 709.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion Carried.

## <u>Consent Agenda –</u>

Motion by Mrs. Overcash, second by Mr. Heinold, that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

Approve Suspension Reports for Filing

Approve Elementary Summer School Program

Approve January Treasurer's Report

Approve 2010-2011 Budget Calendar

Approving and Signing Minutes of the January 26, 2010, Regular Meeting, February 2,

2010, Regular Meeting, and February 16, 2010, Regular Meeting.

Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 02-19-10	Payroll 02-26-10
Ed. Fund	\$150,703.29	\$413,155.18
Bldg. Fund	64,527.76	29,754.13
Trans.Fund	1,053.36	13,018.49
Payroll Accts. Pay.		346,080.59
Fire and Safety	8,558.66	

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

## <u>Closed Session – </u>

Motion by Mr. Riddle, second by Mrs. Kaiser, that the Board of Education enter into closed session for consideration of appointment, employment, compensation, performance, or dismissal of employees, student discipline, purchase of property, litigation and/or negotiations.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 7:50 p.m.

Motion by Mrs. Overcash, second by Mrs. Kaiser that the Board of Education return to regular session.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 8:05 p.m.

## **Action Items -**

## **Approve Personnel Report –**

Motion by Mr. Heinold, second by Mr. Riddle that the Board of Education approve the personnel report as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

## **Approve Closed Session Minutes –**

Motion by Mr. Heinold, second by Mr. Riddle that the Board of Education approve the Closed Session minutes from the January 26, 2010, Regular Meeting, February 2, 2010, Regular Meeting and February 16, 2010, Regular Meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

## **Administrative Reports –**

Dr. Kilpatrick noted that the consultant for the community survey felt positive with the results. There was good feedback for an initial survey, but she also expressed the need for

more communication about the district's needs to the community.

Dr. Kilpatrick noted that representatives from MYBA would like to build a new baseball field at the MYBA complex, property owned by the Morton Park District and has solicited the school district for a contribution similar to when the soccer fields were constructed. The new field would potentially be used by the varsity baseball team. A meeting will be scheduled with the Park District to discuss their thoughts.

Dr. Kilpatrick noted that he has been informed that more state aid money is at risk. He briefly shared ideas for 2-3 years from now if the state were to cut more funding than is anticipated now.

# Adjournment -

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mr. Heinold, that the meeting be adjourned.				
Roll Call Vote:	Yea 7	Nay 0		
Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.				
	Respectfully	Respectfully submitted,		
	Joyce Kaiser	Joyce Kaiser, Secretary		
	Thomas Nee	eley, President		