

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

AUGUST 7, 2007

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held August 7, 2007, at the District Office.

REGULAR MEETING -

Call to Order and Roll Call -

President Linda Menold called the regular meeting to order at 8:10 p.m.

Members present: Mrs. Linda Menold, Mrs. Joyce Kaiser, Mrs. Nancy Overcash,
Mr. John Applen, Mr. Gary Rassi, Mr. Doug Riddle

Members Absent: Mr. Thomas Neeley

Pledge of Allegiance –

The Board of Education recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience Presentations –

There were no audience presentations.

Reports –

Administrative –

Jr. High School Color Change -

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the Jr. High Administrators have requested that the green and white school colors be changed to the high school colors, cherry and gray. They suggested the change would re-energize spirit at the Jr. High and it may be cost effective for parents buying clothing for Jr. High students that would transition easily into the high school. The administrators recommend changing the uniforms over a period of time as they come due for replacement. After discussion, it was suggested that comments be heard from the public on the issue before making the change.

Jackson Street Changes -

Dr. Kilpatrick distributed a letter he delivered to the Village Board the evening before. The letter was in response to changes the Village and IDOT have planned for Jackson Street by adding a center turn lane from Main Street to Kansas Ave. The Village agreed to end the turn lane at Indiana Ave. and to modify the turn lane to 12 feet to keep the traffic further from the sidewalk. A crosswalk will be added on Jackson by the High School in the future after review by the high school staff.

Mrs. Menold thanked Dr. Kilpatrick for working with the Village on this matter.

Current Employment Data –

Mr. Smock distributed and reviewed an analysis of applicants and the District's hiring practices. He noted that of the 28 certified positions filled for the coming school year, 15 are non-residents of Morton, with 13 being residents. He also noted that 5 of those hired were graduates of Morton High School.

Mrs. Menold thanked Mr. Smock for the time taken to gather the information.

Village Comprehensive Planning Committee Update -

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the Village has formed a Comprehensive Planning Committee. He along with Mrs. Menold, Mr. Rassi and other staff members are part of the education sub-committee and will be looking at the education system's needs over the next 10-20 year time period. The sub-committee will focus on facilities, communication and curriculum. They plan to use the results of the survey that the school district will conduct this fall. Dr. Kilpatrick will give periodic updates to the Board.

Board Committees –

Policy Committee -

Mrs. Menold reported that Vickie Foster has been working on updating the Policy Manual. She hopes to have it completed by the end of this school year. She noted that the Administrative Procedures will be split from the policies and placed in a separate manual.

Proposed Resolution –

Mrs. Menold reported that Dr. Kilpatrick recently presented the proposed resolution for funding for "Exceptionally Talented Children" (formerly Gifted Program) to the ISBE committee. The resolution was co-sponsored by Morton, Dunlap and District 150. The committee unanimously approved the resolution to be taken to the full membership in the fall. If it is approved by the full membership, the resolution will then be taken to the State Legislature.

Discussion Items –

Ends Policies -

Mrs. Menold reviewed and noted individual policies that have been revised. She asked the Board to review the changes carefully, as these policies are the foundation of how the Board and District conduct "business." The Ends Policies will be brought back to the Board for the First Reading on August 21.

Approve Assistant Cross Country Coach Position –

Motion carried.

Motion carried.

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 9:20 p.m.

Approve Consent Agenda –

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

Approving and Signing Minutes of the March 6, 2007 Regular Meeting; March 6, 2007 Regular Meeting Closed Session; March 20, 2007 Regular Meeting; March 20, 2007 Regular Meeting Closed Session; April 3, 2007 Regular Meeting; April 3, 2007 Regular Meeting Closed Session; April 24, 2007 Regular Meeting; April 24, 2007 Regular Meeting Closed Session; May 1, 2007 Regular Meeting; May 1, 2007 Regular Meeting Closed Session; May 14 Special Meeting; May 22, 2007 Regular Meeting; May 22, 2007 Regular Meeting Closed Session; June 12, 2007 Regular Meeting; June 12, 2007 Regular Meeting Closed Session; June 25, 2007 Special Meeting; June 25, 2007 Special Meeting Closed Session

Personnel Report

1. Certified
2. Education Support Personnel

Approve June Treasurer's Report

Approval of Bills and Payrolls

	Bills 7-27-07	Payroll 8-3-07
Ed.Fund	\$107,364.35	\$335,708.95
Bldg.Fund	44,483.95	41,944.32
Trans.Fund	4,648.58	4,337.60
Payroll Accts Pay	--	248,673.57
Fire & Safety	4,528.43	--

Motion Carried.

Reports -

Mrs. Menold noted that the next regular Board of Education meeting will be held on August 21 at the District Office. The new administrators will be recognized at the September 4 Board meeting.

Dr. Kilpatrick reminded the Board members of the meeting scheduled with Mr. John Cassel on August 16. The agenda and meeting time will be set soon.

Dr. Kilpatrick noted that the Special Education meeting with the Board will be changed from October to later in the school year.

Mr. Smock distributed updated “Hiring and Retention Considerations” after receiving input from the principals. He also noted “residence requirements” in the school code pertaining to hiring practices.

Adjournment -

Motion by Mr. Riddle, second by Mrs. Overcash, that the meeting be adjourned.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea 6

Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Kaiser, Secretary

Linda M. Menold, President