MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

MAY 19, 2009

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held May 19, 2009, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING -

Call to Order and Roll Call -

Secretary Joyce Kaiser called the regular meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Members present: Mrs. Joyce Kaiser, Mr. John Applen, Mr. Clint Heinold, Mr. Noah Menold

Members absent: Mr. Thomas Neeley

Mrs. Nancy Overcash (arrived at 8:15 p.m.)

Mr. Doug Riddle (present via telephone during closed session and following)

Reports -

<u>Administrative – </u>

Special Olympics Recognition –

Ms. Ashby introduced the coaches and athletes that participated in the Special Olympics that took place Saturday, May 9, at Illinois Wesleyan University. Lincoln School teachers Amanda Cross, Erin Day and Lauren Cox volunteered their time to organize the first Special Olympics team, the "Red Wings," for District 709. Several of the athletes qualified for the state meet taking place in June at Illinois State University.

Dr. Kilpatrick thanked the coaches for organizing the team, the athletes for participating, and the parents for their support.

Dress Code Update-

Dr. Kilpatrick reminded the Board that some modifications concerning shorts and shirt straps were made to the dress code that went into effect this school year. Ms. Merker reported that administrators at the high school were pro-active at the beginning of the school year and had reminder announcements in the spring. She noted there were few infractions. Mr. Carter reported that there were a few infractions at the Jr. High, but students complied when asked to. Dr. Kilpatrick thanked the administrators for enforcing the dress code.

<u>Parental Involvement Report –</u>

Dr. Kilpatrick distributed a handout listing ways that parents are involved or can become involved in our schools throughout the district. He noted that this report was added to the

task board to report annually per policy. He noted in the handout the notices, conferences and hearings that are mandated by law for parental involvement.

Freedom of Information Requests -

Dr. Kilpatrick reported there are no Freedom of Information requests to report.

Board Committees-

Mr. Applen noted that the Transportation Committee report was included in the Board packets.

<u>Discussion Items –</u>

School Improvement Plans – Jr. High and High School -

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that Mr. Crider, Principal at Morton Jr. High School, and Ms. Merker, Assistant Principal at Morton High School, would present their School Improvement Plan for 2009-2011.

Morton Jr. High School - Mr. Crider -

Mr. Crider reviewed goals from the 2007-2009 SIP and the objectives that were met. Those include a new entry way, hallway and classrooms in the former District Office and ISAT specific goals in improving writing and math skills. He pointed out goals set for 2009-2011 that include improving student achievement by using District initiatives, i.e. RtI, MAP testing and Read 180. Also noted were plans to improve the learning environment by building professional relationships and enhancing communication among staff, students and parents.

Mr. Applen met with Mr. Crider and Mr. Carter prior to this meeting. He noted that it was a privilege to work with them and he was impressed by the expectations and their ability to listen and adjust when needed. The staff and administration at the Jr. High are doing a great job.

Morton High School – Ms. Merker –

Ms. Merker explained that one person from each department at the high school served on the SIP committee. She reviewed the goals that had been met from the 2007-2009 plan. Those goals include improving student learning and performance in core areas, improving study skills and increasing the use of computer related technologies in student instruction. Ms. Merker reviewed goals for 2009-2011 that include improving student learning and performance through RtI, Dual Credit courses, AP classes, credit recovery and Read 180. Curriculum mapping will continue along with improving and expanding the RtI process.

Mrs. Kaiser reported that she met with Ms. Merker prior to this meeting. She noted that

Ms. Merker did an excellent job of explaining the plan to her.

Action Items –

Approve Payrolls -

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mr. Heinold, that the Board of Education approve the payroll and bills as follows:

| | Bills 5-15-09 | Payroll 5-8-09 |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Ed. Fund | \$121,414.59 | \$475,641.31 |
| Bldg. Fund | 81,873.50 | 29,710.96 |
| Trans.Fund | 14,864.91 | 13,456.65 |
| Payroll Accts. Pay. | | 336,672.14 |
| Fire and Safety | 17.80 | |

| Roll Call Vote: | Yea 4 | Nay 0 |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------|
| Non Can voic. | ı ca - | INAVO |

Motion carried.

Approve 2009-2010 Student Fees -

Dr. Kilpatrick noted that small adjustments were made to the fee schedule this year rather than waiting and making a large adjustment in the future. He pointed out that there are no changes to the lunch prices this year.

Motion by Mr. Menold, second by Mr. Applen that the Board of Education approve the recommended student fees.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 4 Nay 0

Motion carried.

<u>Approve Bertha Frank Performing Arts Center Rates – </u>

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that in an effort to move the rental rates closer to the actual cost, the administration is recommending an increase in the rental rates in all rental categories.

| Motion by Ma | r. Applen, | second by | Mr. | Heinold, | that the | Board | of | Education | approve | the |
|--------------|------------|----------------|--------|-----------|-----------|---------|------|------------|---------|-----|
| recommended | schedule o | of rental rate | es for | the Berth | a Frank 1 | Perform | ning | Arts Cente | er. | |

Roll Call Vote: Yea 4 Nay 0

Motion Carried.

Approve High School Construction Bids –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the District received bids for replacing the classroom ceiling for the north end of the Illinois Street hallway at Morton High School. These ceilings will replace asbestos ceilings being removed under another contract. The bid also included alternate bids for replacing ceilings in the northwest foyer and ceiling and floor replacements in the Student Services hallway. Dr. Kilpatrick added that more bids were received than ever before and he is pleased with the low bid.

Motion by Mr. Heinold, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education approve the award of the base bid and alternate bids one and two for ceiling and floor removal and replacement at Morton High School to N. Zobrist and Sons in the amount of \$55,400.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 4 Nay 0

Motion carried.

<u>Approve SAN Upgrade – </u>

Dr. Kilpatrick explained that this year the district implemented virtual technology within the network for the applications that run on servers. Next year the district will be implementing a similar virtualization technology within the network for workstations. The initial step to the virtual workstation environment is to purchase the hardware. Multiple bids are not required for this process, so a single bid from Dell was obtained for \$25,937. Money left in this year's technology budget can be used for this purchase.

Motion by Mr. Menold, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education approve the Administration to proceed with the SAN upgrade proposal at a proposed amount of \$25,937.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 4 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Mrs. Overcash arrived to the meeting and Mr. Riddle was present at this time via telephone for the remainder of the meeting.

Closed Session -

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

Roll Call Vote:

Yea 6

Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 8:15 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mr. Heinold, that the Board of Education return to regular session.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea 6

Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 9:39 p.m.

Action Item -

Approve Personnel Report –

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

Roll Call Vote:

Yea 6

Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve MEA Contract -

Motion by Mrs. Overcash, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education approve the negotiated contract with the Morton Education Association.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea 6

Nay 0

Motion carried.

Adjournment -

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mr. Heinold, that the meeting be adjourned.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea 6

Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

| Respectfully submitted, |
|-----------------------------|
| Joyce E. Kaiser, Secretary |
| Thomas M. Neeley, President |

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

PERSONNEL REPORT

May 19, 2009

I. CERTIFIED STAFF

A. RESIGNATIONS

- 1. **Valerie Neal** resigned from her position as 7th grade geography teacher at Morton Jr. High School effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year.
- 2. **Rebekah Smidt** resigned from her position as Spanish teacher at Morton High School effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year.
- 3. <u>Molly Braun</u> resigned from her position as English teacher at Morton High School effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year.

B. VOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

C. INVOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

D. APPOINTMENTS

1. **Vonda Zehr** Morton, IL

Education: BA, Illinois State University

Major: Spanish

Experience: 13 yrs. – Riverton High School

7 yrs. – Morton High School

Assignment: Spanish Teacher, Morton High School

2. Quentin Ackerman Tremont, IL

Education: BS, MBA - University of Illinois, Illinois State University

Major: Agriculture Education, Business Experience: 3.5 yrs. – Metamora High School

Assignment: Agriculture/Business Teacher, Morton High School

3. **Rhonda Howard** Morton, IL

Education: BS, Bradley University
Major: Special Education

Experience: 2 yrs. – part time resource teacher, Woodrow Wilson, Peoria

and Limestone High School, Bartonville

Assignment: Special Education Teacher, Brown School

E. REHIRES

1. Joi Monferdini - part time Math teacher at Morton High School for the 2009-2010 school year.

F. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

G. RETIREMENT

1. **Patricia Ferrel** – retiring from her position as Special Education teacher at Morton High School effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year.

H. DISMISSALS

II. EXTRA-DUTY

A. RESIGNATIONS

1. **Erin Kemp** – resigned from her position as Sophomore Volleyball coach at Morton High School effective for the 2009-2010 school year.

B. APPOINTMENTS

- 1. **Sarah Sorenson** Head Student Council Sponsor at Morton High School effective for the 2009-2010 school year.
- 2. **Quentin Ackerman** FFA Sponsor at Morton High School effective for the 2009-2010 school year.
- 3. **Sueann Spinder** Building Webmaster at Lincoln School effective for the 2009-2010 school year.

- C. SUSPENSION
- D. DISMISSALS

III. SUPPORT STAFF

A. RESIGNATIONS

1. **Robert Borchers** – resigned from his position as custodian at Jefferson School effective July 3, 2009.

B. VOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

- C. INVOLUNTARY TRANSFERS
- D. APPOINTMENTS
 - 1. **Tammy Pfister** part time instructional aide for extended school year at Schramm School for Morton student.

E. REHIRES

- 1. <u>Rebecca Christianson</u> full time computer/technology lab specialist at Morton High School for the 2009-2010 school year.
- F. LEAVE OF ABSENCE
- G. RETIREMENTS
- H. DISMISSALS