

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

JANUARY 26, 2010

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held January 26, 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 7:05 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Thomas Neeley, Mrs. Joyce Kaiser, Mr. John Applen,
Mr. Clint Heinold, Mr. Noah Menold, Mr. Doug Riddle

Members absent: Mrs. Nancy Overcash

Audience Presentations –

Mr. Rodney Richards, 2 Akron Ct., Morton, IL, addressed the Board concerning the timing of notification of releasing of personnel from extra-curricular positions.

Reports –

Administrative –

Food Service Report –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the 4-period lunch at the high school began on January 20. Upon a recent visit to the high school, he noted that the students are adjusting quickly, Sodexo has made adjustments to accommodate another line and the teachers are adjusting to the new lunch hours. Administrators are looking at additional areas for students to eat on campus. A second courtyard will be completed in the spring. Students will be surveyed soon for their input.

Facilities Update –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the community survey is ongoing. The initial survey is complete and the survey mailing to the entire community is upcoming.

Budget Reduction Report –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that he visited each school building last week on the inservice day to review the budget concerns with the staff. He reviewed the Deficit Avoidance plan with the Board of Education. The timeline for enacting the plan includes – February 16 – detail the targets with the Board of Education; March 2 – review reductions with the Board of

Education, March 16 – staff non-renewals approved by Board of Education. The district needs to look at long-term reductions due to State Aid losses. The reductions will be equitable across the entire K-12 spectrum including Administrative and support services. Dr. Kilpatrick reviewed areas to increase revenue and reduce expenses.

Mr. Neeley expressed his appreciation to the Administration for their time spent on the budget plan.

Freedom of Information Requests –

Dr. Kilpatrick noted that he has recently responded to two Freedom of Information requests and will respond to another request soon.

High School Gym Floor –

Dr. Kilpatrick updated the Board of Education on the water damaged gym floor at the high school. Temporary measures have been taken in order to be able to use the floor to complete the school year. He is currently working with insurance adjustors and getting estimates to repair or replace the floor.

Race To the Top Grant –

Dr. Kilpatrick explained the Race to The Top Grant being offered by the Federal Government. Though he has signed the memorandum of understanding, he explained that if after gaining more information our district does not file a plan, the memorandum of understanding will expire and the district will no longer be obligated to participate.

President's Report –

Board members set the date of Saturday, April 17, 2010, for the spring Board retreat. The board will review their mission and set goals for next year. Board members decided to use their second meeting in April for a facility planning meeting.

Mr. Neeley reminded the Board members of the IASB workshop scheduled for Wednesday, January 27, at the District Office.

Mr. Neeley reported on the meeting earlier in the evening with the Grundy teachers. He noted his appreciation to the teachers for taking their time to meet with the Board.

Discussion Items –

District Goals –

Dr. Kilpatrick referred to the Board of Education goals and noted that at the beginning of

the new year, it is a good time to review and reaffirm those goals. These goals will be a discussion item at the upcoming Board retreat.

Board Policy Process –

Mr. Neeley reviewed the Board policy review and compliance process. He noted that updates are received from IASB and are adjusted to our needs and also legal advice.

2010-2011 School Calendar –

Dr. Kilpatrick added the 2010-2011 School Calendar as a discussion item to the agenda. He reviewed the calendar that was agreed upon by the calendar committee. He noted that the first semester will end before the Christmas break with high school final exams on December 21 and 22. Staff, students and parents were surveyed for their opinions.

Action Items –

Approve Internet Safety Education Curriculum –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the Illinois State Legislature has incorporated the requirement for internet safety instruction as part of the Illinois School Code for grades 3-12. Dr. Teater provided a brief demonstration of the website and curriculum being proposed in order to meet the legal requirement and to provide instruction to students on safe practices in the use of the internet. The Curriculum and a review of the lessons were provided earlier to the Curriculum Advisory Committee.

Motion by Mr. Heinold, second by Mr. Menold, that the Board of Education approve the Internet Safety Education Curriculum.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 6 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda –

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

- Approving and Signing Minutes of the October 20, 2009, Regular Meeting,
- November 3, 2009, Regular Meeting, November 17, 2009, Regular Meeting,
- December 1, 2009, Regular Meeting.
- Approve AMI Contract Cancellation
- Approve PIPCO Contract

Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 1-22-10	Payroll 1-15-10
Ed. Fund	\$157,967.07	\$372,493.87
Bldg. Fund	57,861.59	31,233.35
Trans. Fund	2,467.04	6,277.34
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	326,119.14
Fire & Safety	455.00	--

Roll Call Vote: Yea 6 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Closed Session –

Motion by Mr. Riddle, second by Mr. Heinold, 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 6 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 8:25 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Riddle, second by Mr. Applen 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 9:44 p.m.

Action Items -

Approve Personnel Report –

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

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Roll Call Vote: Yea 6 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Closed Session Minutes –

Motion by Mr. Heinold, second by Mr. Menold that the Board of Education approve the Closed Session minutes from the October 20, 2009, Regular Meeting, November 3, 2009, Regular Meeting, November 17, 2009, Regular Meeting, December 1, 2009, Regular Meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 6 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Adjournment -

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

Roll Call Vote: Yea 6 Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Kaiser, Secretary

Thomas Neeley, President