

## **MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709**

**October 2, 2012**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held October 2, 2012, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

### **REGULAR MEETING –**

President Tom Neeley called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Tom Neeley, Mr. John Applen, Mrs. Joyce Kaiser,  
Mrs. Michelle Bernier, Mr. Clint Heinold, Mr. Tim Taylor

Member arriving late: Mrs. Michelle Kaeb – 8:00 p.m.

### **Audience Presentations –**

Mr. Frank Sarver, 133 Jay Ave., Morton, IL – Mr. Sarver distributed a copy of a magazine article to Board of Education members. He asked them to be aware of changes coming to Science textbooks with the onset of Common Core State Standards.

### **Reports –**

#### **Administrative –**

##### **Jr. High Baseball Recognition –**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade State Champion Baseball team was recognized for their 25 – 0 season. Coach Jesse Crawford introduced each player. Players were recognized for their good character and scholarship in the classroom, along with being good baseball players. He noted they are leaders and role models at the Jr. High. The Board members congratulated each player individually.

##### **MHS Marching Band –**

Dr. Hall reported that the MHS Marching Band placed 2<sup>nd</sup> last weekend to Lake Park High School in an 18 team field. The competition was held in Mt. Prospect, IL, with MHS being the only downstate school.

Dr. Hall read a letter from a grandparent of an MHS student. The grandparent is a member of PPP and recently was in the high school to sell homecoming tickets to students. The letter was very complimentary of our students and staff.

##### **Freedom of Information Requests –**

Dr. Hall reported there were no Freedom of Information requests to report.

**Drug Testing Update –**

Dr. Hall reviewed the most recent random drug testing data provided to her by Greg Prichard. So far this year, 30 tests have been administered. Two tested positive for marijuana. Two tests were administered for synthetic cannabinoids and both of those were negative. Dr. Hall noted the random tests are now administered by a contracted medical office assistant who is housed at the Jr. High.

**Dress Code Update –**

Dr. Hall noted that the building principals have reported few violations to the dress code. Most students arrive at school in compliance. Those not in compliance generally have holes in their jeans or are not wearing “enough” clothing. The dress code is alleviating distracting attire.

**RtI Report –**

Dr. Hall reported on the current number of students being served through RtI:

- Lincoln – 32 students/2 aides
- Brown – 30 students/2 aides
- Grundy – 37 students/2 aides
- Jefferson – 49 students/2 aides
- Jr. High – 9 students/1 aide
- High School – 29 students/1 teacher (Chris Roberts – ARC)

RtI is a flexible service delivery model and therefore the numbers of students receiving interventions and supports through RtI is always in flux.

**Crisis Management Plan Review –**

Dr. Teater reported that the purpose of a Crisis Management Plan is to plan for direction in the case of an emergency. The committee met this year on April 30. He noted that the police department has requested aerial footage of all of our buildings. The new classrooms have been added to the plan and sent to the principals for review. Blue prints of the buildings have been requested from Keach Architects.

**Mapping Assessment Report –**

Dr. Teater reported that the fall testing window for the MAP assessment is complete. This year K-8 all tested at the same time. The Common Core version was used with scores being aligned to the Common Core Curriculum. The scoring should be consistent with past tests.

**Dashboard Review –**

Dr. Teater noted that the Dashboard is available on the “About” tab on the District website. The Dashboard includes snips of information about the District. He will update the site with new data as it is available.

**Football Locker Room –**

Dr. Hall noted the school district’s appreciation for the alumni group “Club Soovie” that recently donated supplies and “sweat equity” to remodel the football locker room at the high school.

**709Connect Update –**

Dr. Ben Wellenreiter gave an update for 709Connect as a member of the core committee. There were two invited speakers at the September 25 meeting of 709Connect. Howard Crouse spoke on school finance, including tax caps, and Anne Nobel spoke on the county sales tax. There were 45 in attendance, which is down from previous meetings. The coordinating committee is looking for ways to increase attendance. Verbatim responses and summaries are available on the District website.

The next 709Connect meeting is scheduled for October 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the MEAC community room. The topic will be on facilities.

Dr. Hall thanked Dr. Wellenreiter for facilitating the last 709Connect meeting. She distributed the timeline set by the state for getting the county tax referendum on the ballot for the April 9, 2013 election. Board members agreed to have the county sales tax as a discussion item in November. Discussion would include how the sales tax would benefit Morton School District and how the district could use the monies.

**President’s Report –**

Mr. Neeley noted that information is now available online for the school board conference being held in November. He asked board members to review the workshop topics for discussion at the November board meeting.

Mr. Neeley reported that he, Dr. Hall, Mrs. Bernier and Mr. Heinold recently attended the Central IL Valley Division meeting held at Washington High School. The new IASB Executive Director, Roger Eddy, was the speaker. He is a former state legislator and gave his view of state funding to schools. Mr. Neeley reported they also attended a session on the new evaluation process. He suggested inviting one of the school district’s attorneys to the January meeting for an update as to what the Board’s involvement is in the process.

**Discussion Items –**

**Board Compliance – Operational Policies –**

Mr. Neeley reported that he has reviewed the Operational Policies and has determined that the district is in compliance. He will sign the form and place it in the Master Compliance binder in the District Office.

**Tax Levy –**

Dr. Hall gave a preliminary overview of the 2013 tax levy. She noted that she reviewed the tax levy proposal with Mrs. Getz, Mrs. Bernier and Mr. Heinold last week. The district will be levying to the maximum allowed under tax caps, which is 3% ,which is CPI. The levy will be brought to the Board in early November for approval.

**First Reading of Revised Policy 2:180 –**

Dr. Hall explained that Board Policy 2:180 has been revised to reflect changes in the schedule of the visits of the MHS Student Ambassador to Board of Education meetings. Previously, the policy indicated these visits would occur on a monthly basis. This has been changed to three times per school year in the revised policy.

**Action Items –**

**Approve IASB Delegate and Alternate –**

Motion by Mr. Taylor, second by Mrs. Bernier that the Board of Education appoint Clint Heinold as Delegate and John Applen as Alternate for the IASB Annual Conference Delegate Assembly for 2012.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea 6

Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda –**

Motion by Mrs. Kaiser, second by Mr. Heinold, that the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

Approve Suspension Reports

Approve August Treasurer’s Report

Approving and Signing Minutes of the September 18, 2012, Regular Meeting; the September 27, 2012, Committee of the Whole Meeting; the September 18, 2012 Regular Meeting Closed Session Minutes and the September 27, 2012, Committee of the Whole

Closed Session Minutes.  
 Approve Bills and Payrolls

	<b>Bills 9-21-12</b>	<b>Payroll 9-28-12</b>
Ed. Fund	\$126,429.38	\$408,101.02
Bldg. Fund	288,462.04	31,087.75
Trans.Fund	19,499.41	13,791.61
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	388,016.77
Tort Fund	580.00	--

Roll Call Vote:                      Yea 6                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Neeley noted that the November 6 Board meeting will remain on that day. It had previously been discussed to change it due to the national election.

**Closed Session –**

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mr. Applen, 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 8:10 p.m.

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mr. Applen, 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 10:23 p.m.

**Adjournment -**

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

Voice Vote:

Yea 7

Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Joyce Kaiser, Secretary

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Thomas Neeley, President