

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

September 3, 2013

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held September 3, 2013, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING –

President Clint Heinold called the regular meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Clint Heinold, Mr. Tim Taylor, Mrs. Michelle Bernier
Mr. John Applen, Mr. Shaun Bill, Mr. Tom Neeley, Mrs. Kelly Scarfe

Reports –

Administrative –

Freedom of Information Requests –

Dr. Hall reported there has been one recent Freedom of Information request. Mid-Central Illinois Regional Council of Carpenters requested information for various school remodeling projects. The request will be fulfilled by the end of this week. Dr. Hall mentioned that beginning July 1 all Freedom of Information requests are being posted on the District website.

Broadcast Update –

Dr. Hall reported on the number of live views of the Board meetings being broadcast and the number of on demand views of the archived meetings:

- June 4 – 5 live; 29 on demand
- July 9 – 3 live; 13 on demand
- August 6 – Part 1 – 2 live; 21 on demand
- August 6 – Part 2 – 1 live; 39 on demand
- August 20 – 0 live; 10 on demand

Dr. Hall recommended continuing to monitor viewership until the end of the calendar year and review again at that time.

Communicable Disease Plan –

Mr. Smock noted that the communicable disease policies and procedures are reviewed annually. He recommended that no changes be made at this time, but that cases of infectious diseases are always monitored and dealt with on a case by case basis. Staff and students are frequently reminded of good hygiene habits and antibacterial products are provided by the District in all classrooms.

Summer School Report –

Mrs. Waterfield reported that 65 students participated in the elementary regular education summer school program this past summer. It took place Monday through Thursday during the month of June at Lincoln School. Regression analysis will be completed after the fall MAP testing window.

Mrs. Waterfield thanked Mrs. Weigle for coordinating the transportation for summer school.

Mrs. Johnson reported on the APEX credit recovery program offered to high school students during the summer. 27 students were enrolled in 36 courses. Three of the students were seniors that passed their classes allowing them to graduate. 31 of the 36 classes were passed (86%). The program is very successful and the high school plans to continue to offer it during the summer next year.

Extra Curricular Offerings –

Mr. Prichard reported that Morton High School offers 15 competitive athletic teams. The number of participants reported are from the 2012-2013 school year. He noted that random drug testing has not affected the number of participants. There are many non-competitive activities offered as well, including various clubs, fall play, spring musical, Student Council and Interact. Student Council and Interact are very involved in community service. He noted that Kathy Johnson volunteers her time as Interact sponsor and does an outstanding job. Mr. Prichard noted that students that participate in extra curricular activities do extremely well academically.

Mr. Prichard reported there is interest in the community to have competitive swimming teams at Morton High School. There is a possibility of co-oping with Washington High School, but there are many details to be worked out.

AYP Report –

Dr. Teater reported on the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) report for the ISAT testing completed last spring. He explained that none of Morton's schools met the 92.5% rate for meets or exceeds in Math or Reading. All the schools meeting AYP in Reading and/or in Math, met by meeting the Safe Harbor target with the confidence interval applied. Safe Harbor means the group that did not meet state standards last year was decreased by 10%. The new cut scores for 2013 were applied to the 2012 test for calculating Safe Harbor. Those schools making AYP with Safe Harbor applied are:

- Lettie Brown School – Math and Reading
- Ward Grundy School – Math
- Jefferson School – Math
- Morton High School – Reading

Dr. Teater noted that scores from other school districts throughout the state will be available in October.

Dr. Hall commended the district's teachers. All schools were very close to the target scores and this is only one measure. She noted the ACT composite score for Morton High School class of 2013 is 24. That is the highest it has ever been and one of the highest in the state.

Technology Update –

Dr. Teater reported there are now access points for personal computing devices in every classroom and work is ongoing to improve connectivity. Licenses have been purchased for the Websense Triton Mobile Management System. This provides web filtering when the devices leave the building. They will first be applied to staff machines in order to get feedback before purchasing anymore licenses.

Dr. Teater reported that every teacher now has a district owned iPad. There is a lab set in each building and additional sets were provided on a student-to-device ratio to ensure equity between buildings. Professional development training is planned for staff for:

- Managing a personal device as a user
- Communication technology – Edmodo, Socrative, Smartboards
- Instructional technology – Reflection, Touch Mouse, iAnnotate, iTunes University, Kahn Academy
- Information technology – PowerSchool, Internet

Textbook and Instructional Materials Report –

Dr. Hall reported that the list of textbooks and instructional materials used throughout the district is provided annually. She noted that conditions and age of textbooks is always being monitored by Administration.

Curricular Update –

Dr. Teater reviewed textbooks and curriculum targets including:

- **Elementary**
 - Training for the new math series took place in August by McGraw-Hill
 - Follow up on resources during articulation meetings
 - Possible follow up training by McGraw-Hill
- **Grade Level Articulation Meetings**
 - Main focus is on ELA Common Core State Standards (CCSS)
 - Updating to Math CCSS progress
- **Jr. High**
 - Review possible math series
- **Review Math and ELA CCSS progress**
 - How much is currently implemented in math and ELA courses?

- How much of the math and ELA CCSS is currently implemented in other courses?
- Alignment with the high school.
- **High School**
 - Review possible Modern Language series.
 - Review text options for Applied Math.
 - Investigate AP options in Biology, World History and Stats.
- Review Math and ELA CCSS progress
 - How much is currently implemented in math and ELA courses?
 - How much of the math and ELA CCSS is currently implemented in other courses?
 - Alignment with the jr. high school.

Family Life Curriculum –

Dr. Teater reported on the family life and sex education policy that is reviewed every three years. Information was collected from 5th grade, the jr. high and the high school on the curriculum at each level. He and Mrs. Scarfe reviewed the materials. The 5th grade program is delivered by the same people at all four elementary buildings. Dr. Teater noted that he is researching the new state law that will go into effect January 1, 2014, requiring schools to teach contraception. At this time, our curriculum teaches abstinence.

Evaluation Process – Certified Staff –

Dr. Hall reported that the District is moving ahead with the revised evaluation process for all certified staff that follows the Danielson model. The Leadership Team recently took part in a two day Danielson training. Dr. Hall will continue to monitor the process and will have check-in meetings with the Evaluation committee throughout the year. The student growth piece for classroom teachers must be in place by 2016.

Dr. Hall commended Dr. Wellenreiter and the MEA for their cooperation in the evaluation process.

Administrator Review –

Dr. Hall reviewed Board Policy 3:10 which covers the goals of the school administration. She noted that she, Mr. Smock, Dr. Teater and Mrs. Stubbs are currently reviewing and updating the Administrative Procedures.

President's Report –

Mr. Heinold reported that he took part in a training session for Board Presidents in August. Two items to note:

- Any request made of a board member should be passed to the district FOI officer to be treated as a Freedom of Information request.

- IASB has a process for School Board Recognition. In order to qualify, the Board needs to meet a checklist of criteria. He suggested discussing this at a future meeting in order to apply for recognition in the fall of 2014.

Mr. Neeley met recently with the IASB Board of Directors. He shared information on:

- Connecting With the Community – more information to follow.
- IASB is celebrating 100 years this year. They are asking school districts to be a part of a video.
- Group purchasing.
- State grants will be available in the near future for safety of students in school.

Discussion Items –

Enrollment Numbers -

Mr. Smock gave a presentation on enrollment projections including numbers from the two Morton parochial schools from the last ten years. He also reviewed data from the last ten years for District 709. Using these numbers, he presented a predictive model that goes out 20 years, but numbers should be reassessed every five years.

Mr. Heinold noted that the future cannot be predicted, but knowing the potential trends is helpful.

First Reading and Discussion of Board Policy 7:190 –

Mr. Smock reported that he and Ms. Ashby had recently reviewed policy 7:190 due to the strict guidelines in place for physical restraint. He noted it does not happen often, but there are times that a student needs to be restrained for the protection of other students, teachers and themselves. A paragraph was added to the policy and further guidelines were revised in the Administrative Procedure for the policy. In addition, Ms. Ashby devised two forms to be used if physical restraint becomes necessary. Mr. Smock noted that training in physical restraint is provided for special education teachers, special education aides, four general education teachers per building, principals and some custodians. Mr. Smock stressed that there are only a few times in a school year when physical restraint would become necessary. Incidents will be charted and kept on file at the District Office. Mr. Heinold asked that a report be given to the Board at the end of the school year. It was agreed to add the report to the task board for next spring.

Board Goal Discussion: Facilities –

Dr. Hall reviewed the recent goal setting and planning activities regarding the Board Goal of facilities:

- Bus facility – construction started – the driveway is cut. Target is approximately 3

- months – hope to transition over winter break.
- Next Facility Advisory Committee (FAC) meeting is scheduled for September 5. The group will tour Grundy School prior to the meeting.
- FAC recently toured the high school and Jefferson School. Plan to tour the Jr. High and Lincoln School on September 7. FAC will reflect on strengths and weaknesses of each building at the meeting.
- Mr. Smock will give enrollment projections presentation at the next FAC meeting.
- Dr. Judy Harris-Helm will present at the September 17 Board meeting.
- 5-year maintenance plan will be updated this fall.

Discussion ensued concerning the requirement of everyday Physical Education classes beginning in 2015 and the possible interest of Tazewell County school districts to put the sales tax issue on the ballot in the future.

Consent Agenda –

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

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve Application for Recognition of Schools
- Approve July Treasurers Report
- Approving and Signing Minutes of the August 20, 2013, Regular Meeting and the August 20, 2013, Regular Meeting Closed Session Minutes
- Approval of Bills and Payrolls

	Bills 8-26-13	Bills 8-29-13	Payroll 8-30-13
Ed.Fund	\$158,882.99	\$4,368.65	\$447,679.65
Bldg.Fund	235,756.13	--	38,976.48
Trans.Fund	661.67	--	10,887.39
Payroll Accts Pay	--	--	238,204.61
Fire & Safety	11,239.07	--	--

Roll Call:

Yea 7

Nay 0

Motion carried.

Closed Session –

Motion by Mr. Bill, second by Mr. Taylor, 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. (5 ILSC 120/2 115 ILCS 5/18)

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 9:25 p.m.

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mr. Taylor, 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 10:05 p.m.

Mr. Heinold noted that he learned at the Board President’s workshop that board meeting evaluations are subject to FOI requests.

Adjournment -

Motion by Mr. Taylor, second by Mrs. Bernier, that the meeting be adjourned.

Voice Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Bernier, Secretary

Clint Heinold, President