

## **MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709**

**March 17, 2015**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held March 17, 2015, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

### **REGULAR MEETING –**

#### **Call to Order and Roll Call –**

President Michelle Bernier called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

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

Members absent: Mr. Tim Taylor

#### **Audience Reports -**

Mr. David King, 1984 E. Jefferson, noted his displeasure that the only Ag. class, BSAA (Biological Science Application in Agriculture) at Morton High School has been cancelled for next school year. There is a minimum of 15 students needed and that minimum was not met. He respectfully asked the Board of Education to reinstate the class for next year.

Students Julie Martin and Chandler Stimpert asked the Board of Education to honor their former tennis coach, Joal Stanfield, by naming the new tennis complex in honor of him. They served on the committee that met to choose a name for the complex.

#### **Reports –**

#### **Administrative –**

##### **Recognize Morton High School Girls' Basketball Team –**

Dr. Hall introduced Coach Bob Becker who in turn introduced the members of the 3A State Champion Girls' Basketball team. He noted that he has had bigger, more athletic teams, but he has never had a team with more heart and camaraderie. They had the competitive fight to win the ultimate goal – the state championship. It was an incredible experience for all.

##### **Introduce New Assistant Principal –**

Dr. Hall introduced Michelle Peterson, the newly hired assistant principal for Lincoln School effective for next school year. She is set to be approved on the personnel report later in the meeting.

**PARCC Testing Update –**

Dr. Hall reported that PARCC testing at the elementary schools is complete. Testing will begin at the high school tomorrow, March 18, and next week at the Jr. High. Testing went well with a few technical glitches that were quickly resolved.

**President's Report –**

Mrs. Bernier reported that the Board met earlier in the evening with the high school teachers and administrators. The teachers' reports on the use of technology in the classroom was impressive. Mrs. Scarfe noted she was pleased to hear teachers are experiencing a calmer year in relation to the last few years of newly introduced initiatives. She did not hear reports from teachers that they are being made to teach a certain way due to new standards.

**Committee Reports –**

The facility committee met last week to review the cost analysis plan that will be presented later in the meeting. Key Communicators met on Monday, March 9. Mrs. Scarfe encouraged the public to take advantage of the opportunity to stay informed on district activities by attending these meetings which are scheduled once per quarter.

**Action Items –****Approve Revisions of Policy 7:180 –**

Dr. Hall reported that a revision to Policy 7:180 is being made to reflect the recent legal revisions made due to new legislation. The recommendation was presented for a first reading and discussion at the March 3 Board meeting.

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mr. Neeley that the Board of Education approve the suggested revisions to policy 7:180.

Roll Call:

Yea 6

Nay 0

Motion passed.

Mr. Applen commented that as cyber-bullying is addressed, it is important that adults set the example for our students.

**Approve Naming New Tennis Facility After Coach Joal Stanfield –**

Mrs. Bernier reported that upon being presented with a request and signed petition to name the tennis complex after Coach Stanfield, per Board policy 4:150, she appointed a committee

to consider the request. Committee members unanimously agreed to name the tennis complex after Coach Stanfield and that the official name should be:

THE JOAL STANFIELD TENNIS COMPLEX  
"Character Before Victory"

Motion by Mrs. Scarfe, second by Mr. Applen that the Board of Education approve naming the new tennis complex after Coach Joal Stanfield and that the official name of the complex should be "The Joal Stanfield Tennis Complex-Character Before Victory."

Roll Call:                      Yea 6                                      Nay 0

Motion passed.

Mr. Applen suggested having an official recognition/ribbon cutting when the complex is completed.

**Approve Intergovernmental Softball Agreement –**

Motion by Mr. Heinold, second by Mrs. Scarfe that the Board of Education approve the Intergovernmental Softball Agreement for the Birchwood Park Softball Complex.

Dr. Hall reported that parts of the agreement are still being negotiated per request by the Morton Girls Softball Association and is not complete at this time. It should be ready for approval by the March 31 Board meeting.

Motion by Mr. Heinold, second by Mrs. Scarfe that the Board of Education table the motion to approve the Intergovernmental Softball Agreement for the Birchwood Park Softball Complex.

Roll Call:                      Yea 6                                      Nay 0

Motion passed.

**Approve Contract with Farnsworth Group –**

Motion by Mrs. Scarfe, second by Mr. Applen that the Board of Education approve the contract with Farnsworth Group for work on the Softball facility at Birchwood Park.

Dr. Hall recommended tabling this motion until such time that the Board approves the Intergovernmental agreement with the Morton Park District and the Morton Girls Softball Association.

Motion by Mrs. Scarfe, second by Mr. Applen that the Board of Education table the motion to approve the contract with Farnsworth Group for work on the Softball facility at Birchwood

Park.

Roll Call:                      Yea 6                                      Nay 0

Motion passed.

**Approve Cost Analysis Proposal from Keach Architectural Design –**

Dr. Hall reported that at the February 24, 2015, meeting, the Board made the decision to proceed with a cost analysis to be prepared by Keach Architectural Design. Mr. Keach reviewed the summary of the work scope with the Board. There will be three facilities cost scenarios – 1) build a new high school; 2) build a new 5-8 middle school; and 3) no new buildings, improve existing buildings. If approved this evening, Mr. Keach’s team will start work this week and be ready to present the results of the study at the May 19 Board of Education meeting.

After discussion of whether now is the right time to have this analysis done or to wait for the new board to be seated, it was agreed that this is useful information for any board. Having unbiased, expert advice will help make an informed decision for a long term facility plan. Spending this amount of money now is an investment that may save money in the end. The complete presentation and discussion may be viewed at the 29:00 minute mark of the video available on MPTV.

Motion by Mr. Heinold, second by Mr. Bill that the Board of Education approve the cost analysis proposal from Keach Architectural Design in the amount of \$79,000.

Roll Call:                      Yea 6                                      Nay 0

Motion passed.

**Consent Agenda –**

Motion by Mr. Bill, second by Mr. Applen, that the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve MHS Summer School
- Approve Summer Challenge Program
- Authorize Renewal of IHSA Membership
- Approve Resolution for Non-Re-Employment of Professional Staff
- Approve Resolution for Non-Re-Employment of Educational Support Personnel
- Approve February Treasurer’s Report
- Approve Minutes of the March 3, 2015, Regular Meeting and the Closed Session
- Minutes of the March 3, 2015, Regular Meeting.

Approve Bills and Payroll

	<b>Bills 3-6-15</b>	<b>Bills 3-12-15</b>	<b>Payroll 3-13-15</b>
Ed. Fund	\$247,866.46	\$9,559.77	\$445,485.48
Bldg. Fund	78,334.92	--	32,869.85
Trans. Fund	10,284.24	--	13,247.07
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	--	394,112.00
Fire & Safety	--	--	--

Roll Call:                      Yea 6                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Closed Session –**

Motion by Mr. Bill, second by Mrs. Scarfe, 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 6                      Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 8:55 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 9:15 p.m.

**Action Item –**

Motion by Mr. Bill, second by Mr. Applen, that student 15-3 be expelled for two years or whenever the student graduates from MHS, whichever comes first.

Roll Call:                      Yea 6                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

Adjournment -

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


Voice Vote:

Yea 6

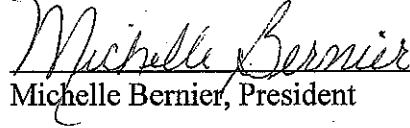
Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Shaun Bill, Secretary



Michelle Bernier, President