

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held September 30, 2014, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING –

President Michelle Bernier called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

Member absent: Mrs. Kelly Scarfe

The Committee of the Whole meeting was called for the purpose of the Board of Education to have a more in depth discussion on the topic of facilities.

Dr. Hall opened the meeting with a presentation reviewing the capacity/utilization study, needs of each building, possible solutions for needs; work of the Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC), recommended options that emerged from the FAC, costs, other facilities work that District 709 is doing, and a timeline. This presentation is available on the District [website](#).

Following Dr. Hall's presentation, Board members discussed:

- Suggested questions to ask community members that attend the 709Connect:Facilities meetings which included:
 - Opinions of 5 – 8 grade model?
 - Would they like to see a lesser plan – additional gyms/additional space for kindergarten classrooms?
- Building utilization percentage over time: how would various options keep us at the desired utilization?
- New middle school option vs. new high school option – need to look 10 or more years into the future – lesser time is too short.
- Need to continue with the 5-year facilities plan to keep up with immediate needs and regularly scheduled maintenance in all of the buildings.
- Timeline and costs – out 20 years - would like to get more accurate costs for various plans – new construction and remodeling of current buildings.
- Middle school option whether at high school or a newly constructed building – what grades would be included? Possibly start with 6 – 8 grade first and add 5th grade later. Would not want to see a 7-period day for 5th and 6th graders, but with 2-3 teachers co-teaching a grade.

The entire archived meeting may be viewed on [MPTV](#).

Dr. Hall added that the next step is to hear from the community through the 709Connect:Facilities meetings scheduled for Oct. 22 – 8:30-10:30 a.m., District Office; Oct. 28 – 6:30-8:30 p.m., District Office; Nov. 3 – 6:30-8:30 p.m., District Office; Nov. 6 – 6:30-8:30 p.m., MHS Cafeteria.

Closed Session –

Motion by Mr. Applen, 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 6 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 7:51 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Taylor, 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 8:00 p.m.

Board members discussed plans for the upcoming school board conference in November.

Adjournment -

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

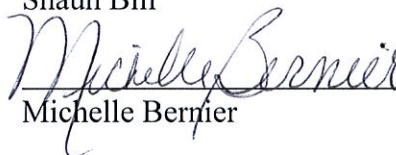
Voice Vote: Yea 6 Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Shaun Bill



Michelle Bernier