

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

August 7, 2018

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held August 7, 2018, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Neeley called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Tom Neeley, Dr. Shad Beaty, Mr. Jeff Schmidgall, Mr. Kevin Austin, Mrs. Michelle Bernier, Dr. David Cross, Mr. Bart Rinkenberger

Reports –

Administrative –

Freedom of Information Requests -

Dr. Hill reported there was one Freedom of Information request to report. The request and response is posted on the district website.

Administrators Welcome –

Dr. Hill welcomed the Administrators back for the 2018-2019 school year.

Facilities Update –

Rodney Schuck, Director of Operations, reported on maintenance and life safety work that has taken place throughout the district this summer. Besides routine maintenance at each facility, the following took place:

- Brown – roof replacement
- Grundy – work in kitchen; playground timbers replaced with curb; waterline infrastructure replaced.
- Jefferson – north/south facing windows replaced; multiple interior doors and jambs replaced.
- Lincoln – replaced windows in south wing of original building; replaced water main – new faucets in primary wing; replaced oven in kitchen
- Jr. High – abatement work in kitchen – replaced some kitchen equipment, new ceiling; replaced windows on south face and tuck pointing; replaced four entrance doors; created new office for additional counselor; new LED lighting in gym.

- High School – elevator upgrade-new hydraulic cylinder; replaced north canopy doors and some interior doors; moved the maintenance office to a former storage area; removed and replaced duct work in kitchen and gym handler unit-less noise; created two offices for additional counselors; new LED fixtures and overhead door in Bertha Frank Performing Arts Center.
- MEAC – created a tech conference room; roof replacement starting soon.

Dr. Hill and Mr. Neeley thanked Mr. Schuck for overseeing all of this work.

Personnel Update –

Dr. Smock reported that 37 new certified staff were hired for the upcoming school year and new teacher orientation is taking place this week. There is still a need for a part time and a full time social worker.

Mr. Neeley thanked the administrators for their work during the hiring process.

President's Report –

President Neeley reported:

- He will be a participant on the committee for IL Vision 2020 this week as it determines next steps.
- the IASB Resolutions Committee met last week and heard proposed resolutions having to do with safety and funding charter schools.

Mr. Neeley expressed the desire for a survey of parents, students and the community on safety in our schools. Mrs. Bernier and Mr. Austin volunteered to work on a process to conduct a survey followed by board discussion to take place in October.

Discussion Item –

Board Policy Compliance – Process Policies –

Mr. Neeley and Dr. Hill reported that all sections of the Board Process policies are being met and the board is in compliance. They will sign off in the Board Compliance binder in the District Office.

Action Items -

Approve Tentative Budget and Schedule Budget Hearing –

Dr. Hill reported that the tentative budget for 2018-2019 has been prepared and was reviewed by the Board of Education at its July 20, 2018, committee of the whole – finance meeting. With Board approval of the tentative budget, it will be put on display for thirty days and a

budget hearing will be set for September 18, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Dr. Cross, that the Board of Education approve the tentative budget, put it on display for thirty days and set the Budget Hearing date for September 18, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approval of Tazewell County Sales Tax Resolution directing the Regional Superintendent to certify to the Tazewell County Clerk the question of imposing a 1% county school facility sales tax for submission to the voters of Tazewell County at the November 6, 2018, general election-

Motion by Mr. Rinkenberger, second by Mr. Austin, that the Board of Education approve the Resolution directing the Regional Superintendent to certify the question of imposing school facility sales taxes in Tazewell County at the November 6, 2018, general election.

Board members reviewed the six scenarios of possibilities if the CFST passes:

- Scenario #1 - District saves county facility sales tax proceeds
- Scenario #2 - No CPI increase for 2018 levy - \$689,500
- Scenario #3 - Abate Bond levy 4 years starting in 2020-21
- Scenario #4 - 1 year levy reduction - \$1.5 million
- Scenario #5 - No county facilities sales tax
- Scenario #6 - No CPI increase for 2018 levy - \$689,500 plus abate bond levy 4 years starting in 2020-21

Mr. Schmidgall polled board members for their preferred scenario:

- Mr. Schmidgall - #6
- Dr. Cross - #6
- Mr. Austin - #6 – would like some sort of abatement for taxpayers and is willing to debate which option.
- Mr. Rinkenberger – in agreement for some sort of abatement for taxpayers.
- Mrs. Bernier - #3 – in agreement with some sort of abatement, but is concerned with freezing CPI for a year, as those funds are lost in subsequent years.
- Dr. Beaty - #6 – in agreement for some sort of abatement for taxpayers.
- Mr. Neeley – wants to wait to get enrollment figures from Cropper report.

Mr. Schmidgall concluded the discussion by stating that the majority of the board wants to offer some sort of permanent tax relief if the CFST passes.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

The entire discussion can be viewed on MPTV at the 37:00 point of the meeting.

Consent Agenda –

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

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve Overnight Trip – Madrigals, Retreat, Hudson, IL
- Approve Overnight Trip – MHS Volleyball, Tournament at Illinois College
- Approve June 2018 Treasurer’s Report
- Approve Transportation Claim
- Approve Minutes of the July 10, 2018, Regular Meeting; the July 10, 2018, Regular Meeting Closed Session; the July 31, 2018, Special Meeting; and the July 31, 2018, Special Meeting Closed Session.
- Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 7-11-18	Bills 7-13-18	Bills 7-20-18	Bills 7-27-18	Bills 7-30-18	Bills 7-31-18	Bills 8-3-18
Ed. Fund	\$12,550.33	\$124,957.73	\$1,280.70	\$161,267.44	\$200.00	\$1,202.10	\$261,298.53
Bldg. Fund	598.87	24,353.00	--	84,262.87	--	--	596.60
Trans. Fund	63.42	3,530.05	--	3,971.72	--	--	63.33
Capital Projects	--	--	--	60.00	--	--	101,789.60
TORT	--	9,560.00	--	--	--	--	--

	Payroll 7-20-18	Payroll 8-3-18
Ed. Fund	\$407,285.45	\$413,193.18
Bldg. Fund	51,778.80	52,587.77
Trans. Fund	6,094.07	5,034.20
Payroll Accts. Pay.	278,966.44	279,638.17

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Neeley asked that the overnight trips policy be reviewed at an upcoming meeting.

Closed Session -

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, second by Dr. Cross, that the Board of Education enter into closed session for discussion of Personnel and Purchase/Sale of Property (**SILCS 120/2 115 ILCS 5/18**)

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 8:50 p.m.

Motion by Dr. Beaty, second by Mrs. Bernier, that the Board of Education return to regular session.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 10:06 p.m.

Adjournment -

Motion by Dr. Beaty, second by Mr. Rinkenberger, that the meeting be adjourned.

Voice Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

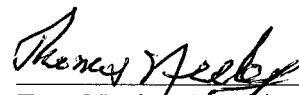
Recorded by,



Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Schmidgall, Secretary



Tom Neeley, President