

**MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709**

**November 6, 2018**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held November 6, 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 5:32 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

**Closed Session -**

Motion by Dr. Beaty, second by Dr. Cross, that the Board of Education enter into closed session for discussion of Student Discipline, Personnel and Negotiations .

**(5ILCS 120/2 115 ILCS 5/18)**

Roll Call:                      Yea 7                      Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 5:32 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 6:01 p.m.

**Adjournment –**

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

Voice Vote:                      Yea 7                      Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

**REGULAR MEETING**

**Call to Order and Roll Call –**

President Neeley called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:10 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 that there was one Freedom of Information request to report. The request for contracts for athletic training and/or therapy services and the district’s response are posted on the District website.

**Illinois School Report Card -**

Dr. Teater explained that in the past, under the No Child Left Behind Act, only student test scores were used to track student growth. This year under Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), multiple indicators are used.

Elementary:

- ELA Proficiency – 10%
- Math Proficiency – 10%
- ELA/Math Growth – 50%
- ELL Proficiency – 5%
- Chronic Absenteeism – 20%
- Climate Survey – 5%

High School:

- ELA Proficiency – 10%
- Math Proficiency – 10%
- Graduation (4,5,6 yr.) - 50%
- ELL Proficiency – 5%
- Chronic Absenteeism – 7.5%
- Climate Survey – 5%
- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade on Track – 6.25%
- College/Career Ready – 6.25%

He noted that all of our schools are in the top two tiers with Lincoln School rated exemplary and all others commendable. The State Report can be viewed at the following link:

<https://www.illinoisreportcard.com/District.aspx?districtid=53090709026>

Mr. Neeley thanked Dr. Teater for his thorough presentation. Board members will take time to study the report and discuss at a future meeting.

#### **Board Member Recognition –**

The Illinois Association of School Boards recently recognized board members for the time and effort they devote to IASB leadership activities and service to the public education community through the Master Board Member program. Mr. Schmidgall was recognized for reaching Level I and Mrs. Bernier and Mr. Neeley were recognized for reaching Master Board Member status. Dr. Hill thanked them for their leadership and service to District 709.

#### **President's Report –**

President Neeley asked board members to review the sessions available at the upcoming school board conference and be ready at next week's Board meeting to discuss which ones they would like to attend.

Agenda Building – President Neeley asked Board members to be ready to discuss next steps for the Jr. High facility plans at next week's meeting.

#### **Discussion Item -**

##### **2018 Auditors Report –**

Mr. Adam Pulley, CPA, Principal of CliftonLarsonAllen reported the findings of the recent audit conducted on the district's finances. He noted a clean unmodified opinion, which is the best he can give. The district's profile per the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is shown as "Recognition," which is the highest designation a district can receive from ISBE.

Mr. Pulley acknowledged Business Manager and Treasurer, Barb Getz, and her accounting team for their thorough preparation and success of the audit.

##### **Board Compliance – Board/Superintendent Relations –**

President Neeley reported that he has reviewed the Board/Superintendent Policies and has determined that the district is in compliance. He and Dr. Hill will sign the compliance form and place it in the Master Compliance binder in the District Office.

##### **IASB Resolution –**

Mr. Schmidgall will be the delegate for the Resolutions Committee at the upcoming School Board Conference. He reviewed one of the proposed resolutions concerning student safety and protection. The resolution reads as follows:

*"Be it resolved that the Illinois Association of School Boards shall: support and advocate for legislation which provides local school boards the option of developing Student Safety*

*and Protection plans which may include administrators, faculty, and/or other staff who have completed a state approved training course above and beyond concealed carry training, who have passed the multiple background checks and qualifications required for a concealed carry license, or have a current concealed carry license issued under the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act. Only staff who fulfill all requirements listed would be eligible as an active and armed part of the Student Safety and Protection Plan, upon being granted board approval.”*

Rationale for the resolution: Illinois state law currently does not allow for local control of school board in determining if they want to include an option for trained and armed staff to protect their students and fellow staff members in an emergency situation until law enforcement arrives. Ideal security plans include School Resource Officers present at each building students attend. However, some schools in the state of Illinois are unable to employ full time security due to lack of financial resources. Many rural districts do not have the luxury of the fast response times of emergency responders in urban and suburban areas.

Board members agreed that Mr. Schmidgall should vote in favor of adopting this resolution since it would leave the decision to local school boards if this would become law.

#### **Review Jr. High School Schedule Proposal –**

Dr. Hill recapped the proposed Jr. High School schedule presented by Mr. Hoffman at the October 23<sup>rd</sup> Board meeting. He commended the Jr. High staff and Mr. Hoffman for the work involved in devising this plan.

- The plan continues the teaming concept
- Foreign language is a part of the Exploratory options – 7<sup>th</sup> grade – World Language Survey; 8<sup>th</sup> grade – Introduction to Spanish
- The plan is built for 510 students – currently working with the MEA as the plan adds 9 instructional minutes to the teachers’ day, but it reduces class size.
- Increases rigor in ELA
- Adds three teaching positions – has been budgeted for

Mr. Neeley asked to see at a future meeting the long-range effects on the budget due to the additional staff.

#### **Action Item –**

##### **Approve Resolution Authorizing Intervention – Truck Centers, Inc. –**

This resolution allows our district legal counsel to provide intervention at the Property Tax Appeal Board regarding the assessment of property – Truck Centers, Inc. for tax year 2018.

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mr. Austin, that the Board of Education approve the resolution allowing for intervention regarding assessment of property.

Roll Call Vote:            Yea 7                            Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda –**

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

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve Auditors Report
- Approve Out of State Trip Request – MHS Orchestra, MHS Girls Basketball, MHS Wrestling
- Approve Minutes of the October 23, 2018, Committee of the Whole Meeting; the October 23, 2018, Regular Meeting; and the October 23, 2018, Regular Meeting Closed Session.
- Approve Bills and Payroll

	<b>Bills 10-26-18</b>	<b>Bills 11-1-18</b>	<b>Bills 11-2-18</b>	<b>Payroll 10-26-18</b>
Ed. Fund	\$3,722.58	\$74.10	\$137,962.11	\$527,898.75
Bldg. Fund	--	--	204,710.04	36,295.77
Trans. Fund	--	--	19,307.59	14,642.87
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	--	--	432,294.27

Roll Call:                            Yea 7                            Nay 0

Motion carried.

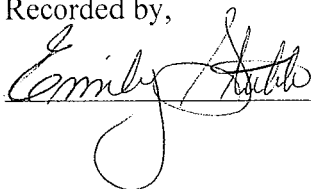
**Adjournment –**

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

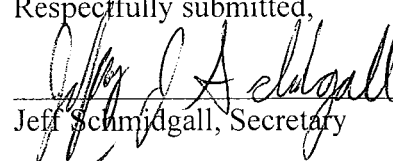
Voice Vote:                            Yea 7                            Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

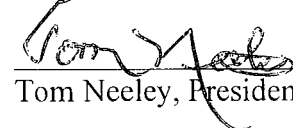
Recorded by,

  
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Respectfully submitted,

  
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Jeff Schmidgall, Secretary

  
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Tom Neeley, President