

# MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

January 15, 2019

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held January 15, 2019, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

## REGULAR MEETING

### Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Neeley called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:32 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

### Reports –

#### Administrative –

##### Freedom of Information Requests –

Dr. Hill reported there was one Freedom of Information Act request to report. Jodi Cohen of ProPublica Illinois and Jennifer Smith Richards of the Chicago Tribune requested records related to isolated time out and restraints. The District's response is on the website.

##### Nursing Services -

Ms. Owens reviewed the district's past, present and proposed nursing services for 2019-2020.

##### Past Practice (14-15 through 16-17)

- Contract with Unity Point previously (since 2014) included:
  - 1 registered nurse (Lincoln) for 32 hrs./week
  - 1 Medical Office Asst. (MJHS) for 30 hrs./week (unfilled since 11/2016)
- Contract Hearing/Vision Services- \$3.50/student/test

##### 2017-2018

- Contract with Unity Point:
  - 1 registered nurse (Lincoln) for 32 hrs./week
  - 1 registered nurse (for 1:1 backup) for 20 hrs./week (increased to average 30 hrs./week due to unfilled Medical Office Asst. at MJHS)
  - 1 Medical Office Asst. (MJHS) for 30 hrs./week (unfilled)
- Contract Hearing/Vision Services - \$5.00/student/test

##### 2018-2019

- Contract with Unity Point:
  - Increase to 2 RNs for 6.5 hrs./180 days per year (1-Lincoln; 1-floater (MJHS, MHS Elementary (not Lincoln)

- Increase to 1 (1/2 time) LPN-Grundy student backup, elementary floater
- Increase to 1 Certified Medical Asst.-MJHS/MHS opposite RN
  - Due to staffing challenges, the ½ time LPN went unfilled until Mid-November (and was increased to 6.5 hrs./day). The CMA went unfilled until 12/10/18.
  - This represents an increase in time; however, due to late-year staffing, still operating within the original budget.
- Contract Hearing/Vision Services- \$5.00/student/test

#### **2019-2020 - Proposed**

- Contract with Unity Point:
  - 2 RNs for 6.5 hrs./180 days per year – 1 Lincoln; 1 MJHS/MHS (split)
  - Increase 1 LPN for 6.5 hrs./180 days per year – Grundy (backup for 1:1, ECSE medical support)
  - Increase 2 Certified Medical Asst.– Jefferson, Brown, MJHS
  - Train for information specific to ISBE RN class, supplies for all buildings, oversight of all district Health Offices, etc.
  - All health staff complete ISBE hearing/vision screenings (savings of approx. \$15,000)

#### **Additional Information**

- 17-18 Costs--\$88,500 (adjusted due to unfilled position--budgeted at \$95,900 )
  - Registered Nurse Rate—Approx. \$28/hr. (6.5 hrs./day, 180 days=\$32,760)
  - Medical Office Assistant Rate—Approx. \$16/hr.
- Our Unity Point contract includes “supplies needed to care for diabetic Students, disinfecting supplies and minor first aid supplies.”
- Morton 709 social media efforts (and job posting efforts) were utilized to fill the new RN position
- School Code in IL requires a Certified School Nurse (ISBE License) or a Bachelor’s-level RN with a specific class, in order to fulfill any IEP-related medical tasks (review, recommendation for service, etc.)
- Hearing and Vision screenings are required for specific grade levels (compliance through contract), and for any new special education referral (out of compliance with vision)
- An informal poll of several local High Schools (East Peoria, Pekin, Dunlap, Metamora, etc.) indicates that they all staff a full time RN in each building to help support medical needs, do preventative work, assist drug screenings, and provide counsel to students needing medical support. Pekin has a Medical Office Assistant or Licensed Practical Nurse in every elementary building, East Peoria Elementary District has 1 RN, 1 LPN, and 4 CMAs (7 buildings total).

#### **Morton 709 District Strategic Plan update/Dashboard –**

Dr. Hill reviewed the strategic dashboard currently being developed for the district by ECRA Group, a leadership, planning and analytics firm. ECRA partnered with IASA (IL Assoc. of School Administrators) to provide complimentary dashboards to member school districts. After additional revisions are made, the dashboard will be made available on the district website.

**Literacy Instructional Coaches –**

Literacy Instructional Coaches Ms. Deverman, Jefferson School, and Ms. Gabbert, Lincoln School, described the objectives of the coaches working with elementary teachers in implementing Reader's Workshop. They presented videos of students and teachers throughout the district engaging in Reader's Workshop. They noted the literacy coaches meet together weekly to collaborate and meet once a month with a professor from ISU who provides additional expertise. This year has been a learning year for the literacy coaches and the faculty, but overall, it has been a positive experience.

**President's Report –**

President Neeley reported he will be attending the Advocacy Institute in Washington D.C. January 27-29.

President Neeley asked Board members to consider best ways to engage with community members and receive feedback on district issues being considered by the board. He suggested having conversations with local organizations, PTO's, and booster clubs. Further discussion will take place at the February meeting.

Board members and administrators who attended the Joint Annual School Board conference shared information from sessions they attended. It was a good time of learning and networking. All expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to attend.

**Discussion Item -****Board Compliance – Instructional Policies –**

President Neeley reported that he and Dr. Hill have reviewed the Instructional Policies and have determined that the district is in compliance. They will sign the compliance form and place it in the Master Compliance binder in the District Office.

**2019-2020 School Calendar –**

Dr. Smock explained the changes to the calendar due to rule changes from the state concerning required number of days of student attendance. According to the new rules, any length of a student attendance day counts as one day, and we are no longer allowed to bank extra instructional time for additional school improvement days. In the recent past, students attended 173 days, but 176 days of actual student attendance are now required. The plan is to shorten the early release day schedule that occurs once each month in order to gain back this much needed professional development time. The Board will be asked to approve the calendar at the January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

**Facilities Update –**

Dr. Hill reviewed the 15 year facilities plan. It includes Jr. High renovations that will improve safety, traffic flow and parking. Work will begin this spring/summer. Other projects have been identified at MHS and the MEAC when funds become available. The full plan is included in the *Communicator* that will go out to District 709 homes later this week.

**County Facilities Sales Tax –**

Dr. Hill reviewed Board member roles in supporting the CFST referendum that will be on the April ballot. Board members do have latitude to promote and support the referendum. District monies/supplies cannot be used to promote the referendum. Board members discussed the key points they would like to communicate including the one year zero CPI and that the education fund will not be affected.

**Action Item –****2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Approval of Various Policies from Sections 4; 5; 6; 7–**

A revision of various board policies from Sections 4, 5, 6 and 7 is being recommended in order to update our policies to current practice related to review and advice from IASB PRESS services and legal counsel. In addition, Policy 6:135 – *Accelerated Placement Program* is being introduced as a new policy upon recommendation by IASB PRESS services. State law requires this subject matter to be covered by policy and controls its content. (105 ILCS 5/14A, amended by P.A. 100-421)

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, second by Dr. Cross, that the Board of Education approve revisions to various policies from sections 4, 5, 6 and 7 and new policy 6:135.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea 7

Nay 0

Motion carried.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Adoption of Resolution to Prohibit Sexual Harassment – Policy 5:20-E –**

The State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, 5 ILCS430/70-5(a), amended by P.A. 100-554, requires school districts to adopt a resolution establishing a policy to prohibit sexual harassment. Policy 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited* has previously been adopted by the Board of Education on May 2, 2017.

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, second by Dr. Beaty, that the Board of Education adopt Resolution 5:20-E.

Roll Call Vote:                      Yea 7                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda –**

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

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve November Treasurer’s Report
- Approve Out of State Trip – 6-8 Orchestra – St. Louis Symphony
- Review Closed Session Minutes
- Approve Minutes of the December 11, 2018, Special Meeting; and the December 11, 2018, Special Meeting Closed Session.
- Approve Bills and Payroll

	<b>Bills 12-14-18</b>	<b>Bills 12-21-18</b>	<b>Bills 1-11-19</b>	<b>Payroll 12-21-18</b>	<b>Payroll 1-4-19</b>
Ed. Fund	\$470,250.52	\$58,581.53	\$246,114.76	\$555,648.46	\$506,079.46
Bldg. Fund	50,947.93	40,130.99	72,088.11	36,107.29	35,606.29
Trans. Fund	13,839.62	4,026.24	13,502.13	17,994.67	11,467.85
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	--	--	449,987.98	418,226.58

Roll Call:                      Yea 7                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Closed Session -**

Motion by Dr. Beaty, second by Dr. Cross, that the Board of Education enter into closed session for discussion of Personnel, Student Discipline and Negotiations. **(SILCS 120/2 115 ILCS 5/18)**

Roll Call:                      Yea 7                      Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 8:43 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 9:20 p.m.

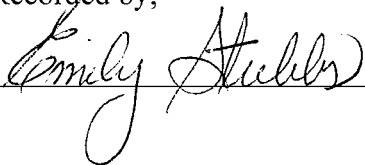
**Adjournment –**

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

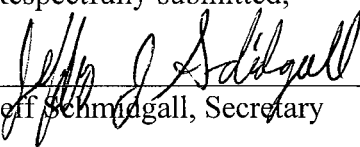
Voice Vote:                      Yea 7                                      Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

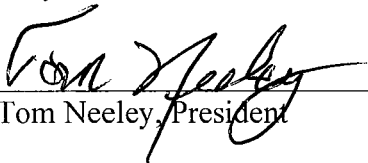
Recorded by,

  
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Respectfully submitted,

  
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Jeff Schmidgall, Secretary

  
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Tom Neeley, President