

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

August 6, 2019

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held August 6, 2019, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call –

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

Members present: Dr. Shad Beaty, Mr. Jeff Schmidgall, Mr. Kevin Austin,
Mr. Tim Braker, Dr. David Cross, Mr. Tom Neeley, Mr. Bart Rinckenberger

Reports –

Administrative –

Freedom of Information Requests –

Dr. Hill reported there are no Freedom of Information requests to report.

Administrator Welcome -

Dr. Hill welcomed the administrators back for the 2019-2020 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 – masonry repair; installed water bottle refill stations; replaced bulbs with LED; installed lockers in 5th/6th hall; installed donated shelving.
- Grundy – repaired SE corner of playground to eliminate puddling; installed new convection oven; installed new bathroom fixtures in the south wing; installed water bottle refill stations; replaced bulbs with LED; installed lockers in 5th/6th hall; new roof is 80% complete.
- Jefferson – installed new playground; some sidewalk replaced; installed water bottle refill stations; new storage shed outside; replaced bulbs with LED; installed donated shelving.
- Lincoln – replaced bulbs with LED in cafeteria; replaced some equipment in kitchen.
- Jr. High – storage shed moved to Birchwood Park; work/cleaned and organized p.e. classrooms/a.c. work; stripped cafeteria floor; installed water bottle refill stations;

new construction underway – good progress.

- High School – installed water bottle refill stations (2); installed new bathroom partitions in 2nd and 3rd floor bathrooms; maintenance on basketball backboard cabling; installed convection oven; east gym light fixtures replaced; installed gate and cameras in back driveway behind theater; did prep work for new scoreboard installation (to begin on August 20).
- BFPAC – roof work is completed; ductwork 50% completed; HVAC units arriving soon; completed by end of August.

Dr. Beaty thanked Mr. Schuck for overseeing all of this work.

Student Support Services Update –

Carlie Owens gave an update of the nursing services in place for the upcoming school year. She noted the goal for the 2019-2020 school year was to have an individual with medical training in all school health offices during student attendance hours. This will provide a more prompt response to medical situations. All positions are filled except one:

- Lincoln – Registered Nurse
- Grundy – Licensed Practical Nurse
- Jr. High - Certified Medical Asst.
- High School - Registered Nurse
- Jefferson/Brown - Certified Medical Asst. - will operate a shared schedule to ensure coverage at critical times in the day until position is filled.

Each of these medical staff will participate in training through the Illinois Health Department this school year to become certified hearing and vision screeners and will take over that duty for the 2020-2021 school year.

The primary role for the medical staff will be caring for medical needs of students and for state reporting of medically-related required information. These positions put Morton School District in alignment with the practices of other districts in the area.

Ms. Owens also gave an update on the change to the speech services delivery model. Traditionally, direct therapy services were only available to students through formal special education services. Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, there will be two ways to access speech services. Some students with sound errors outside of developmental norms will continue to require special education services for their therapy. Others will be able to access speech services without requiring special education services through the newly formed Speech Club Program. The speech pathologists in each building will complete screenings and make recommendations based on developmental guidelines. Parents of any student recommended for speech will be contacted and a signed consent will be obtained prior to beginning services.

President's Report -

Dr. Beaty acknowledged Dr. Smock and those involved with the New Teacher Orientation.

Mr. Neeley reported that he had participated in reviewing and selecting the submitted resolutions that will go before the delegate assembly at the Joint Annual Conference in November.

Discussion Items -**Board Policy Compliance – Process Policies –**

Dr. Hill reported that all sections of the Board Process policies were reviewed. All are being met and the board is in compliance. He and Dr. Beaty will sign off in the Board Compliance binder in the District Office.

2019-2020 Tentative Budget Presentation –

Dr. Hill introduced CFO Lisa Kowalski to give a preliminary look at the FY 2020 budget.

Ms. Kowalski explained major revenue sources –

- Property taxes – 79.1% of combined budgeted revenue
- Evidence Based Funding revenue is 6.3% of combined budgeted and is budgeted \$1.6M in the Education Fund and \$800K in the O&M Fund.
- Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax (CPPRT) is 3.1 % of combined budgeted revenue and is split between the O&M Fund (\$1M) and the IMRF Fund (\$200,000).
- Other State Revenue (Special Education, Transportation) is 2.2% of combined budgeted revenue.
- Federal sources are 2.9% of combined budgeted revenue.
- Other local revenue (interest earning, school fees, lunch receipts, building rentals) are 6.4% of combined budgeted revenue.

Ms. Kowalski commented on budgeted expenditures -

- Salaries and benefits – 62.7% of combined expenditures and 81% of Education Fund Expenditures.
- The FY20 budgeted health insurance expenditures are \$2.1M, which is a 20% decrease from 2018-19 (\$2.6M).
- The Operations and Maintenance Fund contains \$6,300,000 for capital projects and design fees.

The timeline for the budget is:

- August 20, 2019 – Board approves tentative budget
- August 21, 2019 – Publicize display of tentative budget and place on display in District Office.
- September 3, 2019 – Board discuss final budget.
- September 24, 2019 – Public hearing for final budget.
- September 24, 2019 – Board approves final budget.
- September 25, 2019 – Deliver final budget to ROE and County Clerk, upload file to ISBE and post on District website.

Property Tax Abatement Program –

Due to lack of complete information, this discussion item was tabled until further notice.

E-Sports –

In an effort to get every student involved with extracurricular activities, Morton High School is considering adding an E-Sports team. The purpose of the activity is to instill leadership, teamwork, and collaboration for those students who have an interest in E-Sports. It is believed that this opportunity will help engage students who often are not involved with MHS other than daily attendance. It is hoped to engage these students by offering this activity. Board members discussed the pros and cons. While most board members can see the value in engaging students that normally would not get involved in extracurricular activities, there is concern for the amount of added screen time and the type of games they would be playing. Mr. Mainieri explained no ‘first person shooter’ games will be approved. Commonly, other schools are playing “League of Legends” and “Rocket League.” IHSA has a group reviewing E-Sports as an activity and if approved by its board, could be rolled out for the 2020-2021 year. Some board members feel that students will be playing these games anyway, and this is a much more constructive way to play and learn leadership skills. Dr. Beaty noted this will be brought to the Board for action at a future meeting.

Action Items –

Approve Tuition Student Request Per Board Policy 7:60 –

Motion by Mr. Rinkenberger, second by Mr. Austin, that the Board of Education approve the request for a non-resident tuition student to attend Morton Schools for the 2019-2020 school year per board policy 7:60.

Roll Call - Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Security Audit Firm – Facility Engineering Associates –

Motion by Mr. Austin, second by Mr. Schmidgall, that the Board of Education approve Facility Engineering Associates to provide a security audit for Morton School District at the cost of \$17,900.

Mr. Austin explained that he and Dr. Hill have been researching a variety of firms that provide security audits for school districts. After having discussions with each of the firms and their references, they are recommending that Facility Engineering Associates (FEA) conduct a security audit. The audit will provide a blueprint for all school security work going forward and will become part of the short and long term facilities plan. He noted that FEA offers the most robust report after completing the audit.

Roll Call - Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda –

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

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve June 2019 Treasurer’s Report
- Approve Overnight Trip – MHS Girls Tennis
- Approve Minutes of the July 9, 2019, Regular Meeting; July 9, 2019, Regular Meeting Closed Session; July 16, 2019, Committee of the Whole Meeting ; and the July 16, 2019, Committee of the Whole Meeting Closed Session.
- Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 7-12-19	Bills 7-19-19	Bills 7-26-19	Payroll 7-5-19	Payroll 7-19-19	Payroll 8-2-19
Ed. Fund	\$196,931.57	\$15,678.38	\$102,552.87	\$572,092.70	\$585,055.26	\$598,177.21
Bldg. Fund	123,412.44	--	108,825.86	65,846.13	59,361.98	63,669.67
Trans. Fund	15,459.83	--	7,354.20	29,549.60	7,607.35	7,465.11
TORT	12,485.00	--	--	--	--	--
IMRF Fund	--	--	--	31,352.52	25,455.59	25,809.74

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Closed Session -

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Mr. Schmidgall, that the Board of Education enter into closed session for discussion of Personnel. **(5ILCS 120/2 115 ILCS 5/18)**

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 9:30 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Dr. Cross, that the Board of Education return to regular session.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 9:40 p.m.

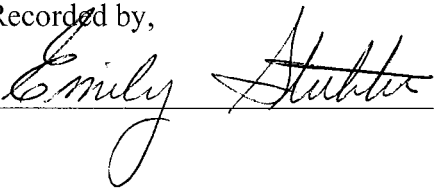
Adjournment -

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

Voice Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

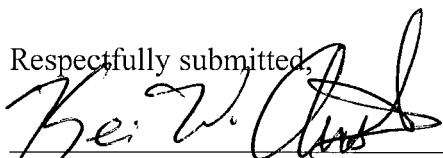
Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Recorded by,




Emily Stubbs

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin Austin, Secretary



Shad Boaty, President