

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

March 17, 2020

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held March 17, 2020, at Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Shad Beaty called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:16 p.m.

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

Audience Presentations – Mr. Luke Knapp, Lincoln School parent, thanked the administrators and teachers for assembling the materials for student pickup today.

Reports –

Administrative –

Strategic Planning/Board Retreat Dates -

Board Members set their retreat dates for June 23 and July 21 at 5:30 p.m.

Infectious Disease Preparedness Update –

Dr. Hill shared slides from an ISBE webinar that occurred earlier today. The webinar included Act of God days, continuity of education, e-learning, grades, special education and English language learners, state assessments, nutrition, employment and labor issues, open meetings act, and keeping administrators onsite.

Dr. Smock reported on the first day of schools being closed to students and teachers. All full time support staff with benefits will continue to report to work. Custodians are disinfecting buildings and busses. Some projects normally done in the summer will be started during the shut down. Building secretaries are working as support to administrators. Technologists are supporting teachers and planning for distance learning. The District Office is open and staffed. More than 80% of students picked up resources and personal items at their school and 330 students picked up meals today.

Dr. Smock reported that the administration and MEA reached agreement today on expectations for distance learning.

Board members commended the district administrators, the administrative team, and the MEA for work over the past weekend as information from the state kept changing and evolving. Exceptional work was done in a short amount of time.

Board members and administrators agreed to keep the scheduled spring break for April 6
– 13.

Discussion Item -

7th and 8th Grade Math Textbook –

A textbook committee has reviewed curriculum sources for 7th and 8th Grade Math. The current math license for Big Ideas Math is up for renewal. Big Ideas Math does not score well on Edreports.com. It only meets expectations. The committee looked at five different series that did meet expectations to replace the old textbook series. A recommendation and report was presented to the Teaching and Learning Council. A presentation was also made to the Leadership Team. The materials will be available for the community online, as the Morton Public Library is closed due the COVID-19 pandemic.

Reveal Math – McGraw Hill is the series recommended for purchase. This includes consumable student workbooks and an online learning system.

Cost: 3 – year \$37,000; 5 year - \$45,500

The textbook request will be brought to the Board of Education at its April meeting for adoption.

Action Items -

Approve Music Curriculum Resource -

A Music Curriculum committee has reviewed curriculum resources for music. A recommendation and report was presented to the Teaching and Learning Council and Leadership Team. A presentation was made to the Board of Education at the March 4, 2020, meeting. The materials were available for the community at the Morton Public Library for 30 days.

Quaver Music Curriculum is the student curriculum recommended for purchase.

Cost: \$8,575.00 per building for a total of \$34,300

Motion by Dr. Cross, second by Mr. Schmidgall, that the Board of Education approve the purchase of the *Quaver* Music Curriculum for a total of \$34,300.

Roll Call:

Yea 7

Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Anatomy and Physiology Textbook –

A textbook committee has reviewed curriculum sources for the new course being offered for the first time for the 2020-2021 school year – Anatomy and Physiology. A recommendation and report was presented to the Teaching and Learning Council and Leadership Team. The materials were presented to the Board of Education at the March 4, 2020, meeting. The materials were available for the community at the Morton Public Library for 30 days.

Pearson *Human Anatomy and Physiology* is the student text recommended for purchase.

Cost: 50 anatomy books along with 6 years of e-text and online resources for \$9,762.15. This includes teacher resources and exam view test generator.

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, second by Dr. Cross, that the Board of Education approve the purchase of *Human Anatomy and Physiology* by Pearson for a total of \$9,762.15.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Biology Textbook –

A textbook committee has reviewed curriculum sources for the Honors Biology class. A recommendation and report was presented to the Teaching and Learning Council and Leadership Team. The textbook was presented to the Board of Education at the March 4, 2020, meeting. The materials were available for the community at the Morton Public Library for 30 days.

Norton *Biology NOW* is the student text recommended for purchase.

Cost: 100 copies of *Biology Now*, 2nd High School Edition and Story of Life plus 6 years of digital access for Biology Now is \$104/per book with the 600 digital subscriptions included (100 subscriptions for 6 years) \$10,842 for book, shipping, and handling.

The board has addressed the topic and the administration will be working with staff to ensure that the standards regarding the teaching of scientific theories are taught and that all evidence surrounding theories is analyzed.

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Mr. Rinkenberger, that the Board of Education approve the purchase of *Biology Now* for a total of \$10,842.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Nutrition Dual Credit Course –

The dual credit Nutrition course, FCS 120 Principles of Nutrition, is being proposed for the 2020-2021 school year. Strategy #3 of the Morton Moving Forward Initiative is to increase focus on college/career readiness and post high school options. The dual-credit Nutrition course would be a partnership between Illinois Central College and Morton High School. This partnership will offer our students the opportunity to earn college credit for taking this Nutrition course at Morton High School. This course will be offered to any Junior or Senior at Morton High School.

Textbook/Software Fees - \$76.45 -- students will be required to pay this fee to access the online software "Mastering Nutrition" in order to complete the required capstone project. A fee of \$50 will be assessed to each student taking a dual credit course through ICC in addition to any textbook fee.

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, second by Mr. Austin, that the Board of Education approve the Dual Credit course FCS 120 Principles of Nutrition

Roll Call:

Yea 7

Nay 0

Motion carried.

Arbor/Bethel Lutheran School Food Service Agreement –

To offer higher quality food service for their students, Bethel Lutheran School will be entering into a food service contract with Arbor Management. Bethel Lutheran School would like to utilize Morton CUSD 709 facilities to allow Arbor to fulfill their end of the contract. Arbor will be utilizing our kitchen at Morton High School as well as our vehicle for transportation of the food to Bethel Lutheran School.

To offset the cost of utilizing our facilities and vehicle, Bethel Lutheran School agrees to pay Morton CUSD 709 \$250.00 per month for use of the kitchen and vehicle for transportation. Breakdown is as follows:

Transportation 4 miles/day @ \$.575/mile @ 20 days/month	\$46
Kitchen Use of kitchen/month	<u>204</u>
Total	\$250

Motion by Mr. Austin, second by Mr. Schmidgall, that the Board of Education approve the rental contract for transportation and kitchen use for the 2020-2021 school year.

Roll Call:

Yea 7

Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve E-Learning Plan –

ISBE has strongly recommended that districts are prepared to implement an e-Learning program in the event schools would need to close for an extended period of time. The administration would recommend using this plan if needed.

Motion by Dr. Cross, Second by Mr. Schmidgall, that the Board of Education approve the e-learning plan as presented.

Roll Call:

Yea 7

Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Policy 3:45 – Emergency Powers of Superintendent –

In the unlikely event that a sufficient number of school board members are unavailable due to a state of emergency such as a coronavirus outbreak, our attorney has prepared this policy providing for emergency powers of the Superintendent to insure that the school district is able to continue to function.

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, Second by Mr. Austin, that the Board of Education approve Policy 3:45 as recommended by the district's attorney.

Roll Call:

Yea 7

Nay 0

Adjournment –

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

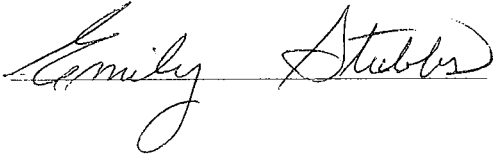
Voice Vote:

Yea 7

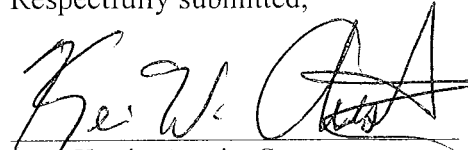
Nay 0

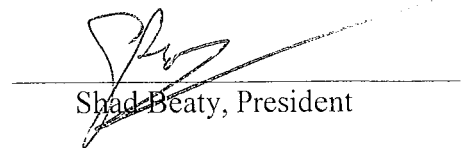
Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Recorded by,


Emily Stubbs

Respectfully submitted,


Kevin Austin, Secretary


Shad Beaty, President