

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

October 20, 2020

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held October 20, 2020, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Shad Beaty called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:32 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

Reports –

Administrative –

Superintendent's Report –

Dr. Hill reported that:

- the Illinois State Board of Education website has a breakdown of the Fall Learning Plans for public schools throughout the state:
 - In Person – 237 districts; 569 schools; 158,216 students
 - Blended Remote Learning – 349 districts; 1,273 schools; 527,022 students.
 - Remote Learning Only – 262 districts; 226 schools; 1,238,405 students.
- As of today, Morton School District has 2 staff members out on quarantine; 1 staff member positive; 23 students out on quarantine; 2 students positive. There are currently 225 remote learners.
- IHSA announced it will be waiving By-law 3.100 for spring/summer 2021 sports so students can participate simultaneously on school teams and non-school club teams from April 10 – June 26. IHSA will announce winter sports guidelines on October 28.

Student Achievement –

Dr. Teater reported on current student achievement using the indicators of Attainment (using standardized tests) – compare to standard/cut score; Growth (using standardized tests) – compare to expected growth; and Daily Work – homework, quizzes, tests, projects, participation. Fall results show slight declines in some grade levels. Testing included content presented last spring during the remote learning time period.

Discussion Items –**2021 Facilities Work –**

Mr. Keach reviewed the 15-year plan and recommended projects for the upcoming summer.

- Jefferson – Maintenance - Shell – Roofing - \$101,521
- Lincoln – Maintenance - Shell – Roofing - \$318,268
- MHS – Maintenance - South Parking Lot – Pavement – 30,500 Sq. Ft. seal and stripe - \$6,483; Shell – Roofing - \$300,683.
- MHS – Capital Improvements – West Gym – strip floor, repaint lines and refinish (includes major logo work) - \$50,540; replacement of existing bleachers - \$240,412; Science classrooms – need for more STEM labs (2) - \$287,246; Softball diamond – enlarge infield to meet IHSA requirements to host tournaments – \$216,300.

At its November 3rd meeting, the Board will prioritize these recommendations and approve those most needed to be completed in 2021.

2021-2022 Tentative Budget and 2020 Tax Levy Presentation –

Ms. Kowalski reviewed the 2021-22 tentative budget and presented three scenarios and the resulting effect to the district for the 2020 tax levy using 2.3% CPI, .46 CPI, and 0.0% CPI. New dollars – 2.3% - \$845.647.62/5.4404 tax rate; .46% - \$288,868.22/5.3462 tax rate; 0.0% new dollars - \$155,193.87/5.3236 tax rate. By not levying to the allowable limit, there is an annual compounding financial consequence to the district.

Board members shared their preferences:

- Mr. Schmidgall, Mr. Braker, Mr. Austin, Mr. Rinkenberger, Dr. Cross – 0.0% - given this past year with loss of jobs by some and uncertainty of future.
- Dr. Beaty – Though this is a conservative board, not using the full allowable amount will have a cumulative effect over time. The board has not issued Working Cash Bonds for over five years. Working Cash Bonds are an alternative source of funds that can be used for working capital expenditures.
- Mr. Neeley – with tax caps and Property Tax Extension Law Limits (PTELL), there is no opportunity to correct a problem. If the entire amount available to the school district is not used, evidence based funding is impacted.

The Board will vote to approve the proposed budget and tax levy at its November 3rd meeting. A public hearing and the vote for the final Levy resolution will take place at the December 8 board of education meeting.

Action Item -

Approve IASB Resolution Committee Delegate for the Virtual Assembly –

The Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Delegate Assembly will be held virtually this year on November 14. To participate in the Delegate Assembly, each IASB member district will need to register one board member as their delegate. Virtual meetings will be held on October 21 and November 5 to allow district delegates to ask questions and debate the merits of the proposed resolutions.

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Mr. Braker, that the Board of Education appoint Mr. Schmidgall as delegate, and Mr. Austin, as alternate, for the IASB Annual Conference Resolutions Assembly for 2020.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda –

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

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve Minutes of the October 6, 2020, Regular Meeting and the October 6, 2020, Regular Meeting Closed Session.
- Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 10-9-20	Payroll 9-4-20	Payroll 9-18-20	Payroll 10-2-20
Ed. Fund	\$343,132.49	\$839,567.24	\$824,428.28	\$842,030.45
Bldg. Fund	797,430.64	45,120.90	47,415.90	46,773.63
Trans. Fund	8,439.65	21,885.67	20,511.65	21,829.65
TORT	9,560.00	--	--	--
IMRF Fund	--	46,191.66	44,777.56	46,057.21

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Closed Session -

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

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 7:46 p.m.

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

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 7:55 p.m.

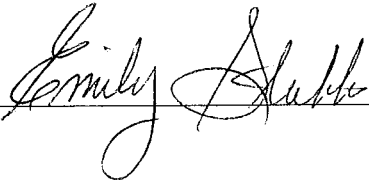
Adjournment -

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

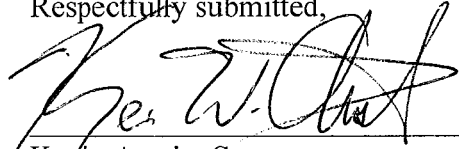
Voice Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

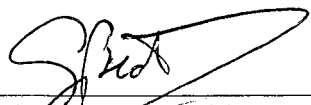
Recorded by,



Respectfully submitted,



Kevin Austin, Secretary



Shad Beaty, President