



MORTON

UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

Board of Education Meeting Highlights

Audience Presentations—

March 7, 2023

Mrs. Jessica Belsly thanked the board for their recent review of the impact of taking college classes on the MHS Grade Point Average (GPA). She read the explanation of how GPA is calculated. She expressed that it is confusing and frustrating, and few people can make the formula work. She asked that the Board review it. It is complicated and a clearer explanation was requested.

Administrative Reports—

Superintendent's Report— Dr. Craig Smock

- ♦ Dr. Smock noted it is School Social Worker week and that they have a difficult job to do. Mental Health and Social/Emotional struggles are the present reality in schools and School Social Workers are on the front lines. Their work for students, families, and the community is appreciated.
- ♦ Dr. Smock noted that it is strep season and we have had some cases, which is normal for this time of year. Hand-washing, disinfecting, and cleaning are frontlines in managing this season.
- ♦ A fun thing happened today. Mr. Corban Williams's Freshman Career Exploration class did mock interviews with Dr. Sander, Dr. Teater, Ms. Kowalski, and Dr. Smock. The six students interviewed did a phenomenal job. Mr. Williams is teaching through real-world experiences, like job interviews and skills building. Dr. Sander concurred that we would hire them based on their interviews.
- ♦ Dr. Smock and the Board welcomed National Merit Scholar finalist Luke Dennison and National Merit Commended Scholar, Aiden Belsly. Assistant Principal, Jamie Adolphson introduced the scholars to the Board with an explanation of their academic achievements to earn the recognition. About 100 students at MHS took the test. They are in the top 96% of students. They were applauded for their diligence and hard work.

School Board President —Mr. Tim Braker

- ♦ President Braker congratulated Luke and Aiden on their success. The Board enjoys seeing students recognized for their academic excellence and success.
- ♦ Agenda Building— The Board requested we explore the GPA calculation question. Dr. Smock made notes. The Administration will look into it and respond.

Action Items— The Board approved the Reviewed Policy Updates and Asbestos Removal for Summer 2023.

- ♦ **Consent Agenda** — The Consent Agenda included the Ten Year Health/Life/Safety/Survey. Dr. Sander explained that it involves an architect and other professionals evaluating our buildings. It was 174 pages long and is very thorough. We had significantly fewer items on the current survey, compared to the one done 10 years ago. Most were minor items on the list.
- ♦ Regular summer educational programs were approved for SOAR, Challenge, and APEX.
- ♦ Key Club was approved for a Leadership Conference and Lincoln for a 6th Grade Field Trip.
- ♦ Dr. Smock congratulated Ms. Bethany Scroggs on being named the new Assistant Principal at Lincoln Elementary School. She has worked in the District as our ELL Coordinator. She is currently a Special Education teacher at Lincoln. She will make a great addition to Lincoln Leadership and the Administrative Team.

Next: Board of Education Regular Meeting— March 21, 2023 at 7:00 PM (Board meets with teachers at MHS at 5:30)

Future Meetings: April 18, 2023 Regular Meeting—MEAC at 5:30 PM and April 25, 2023 Regular Meeting at 7:00 PM

If you wish to learn more about a subject, you may view an archived broadcast of the meeting on [MP-TV](#) available on the District website; and/or watch our website for posted minutes after being approved by the Board.

Valerie Smith
Administrative Assistant
Superintendent & Board of Education