

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held September 1, 2009, at Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING -

Call to Order and Roll Call -

President Thomas Neeley called the regular meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Thomas Neeley, Mrs. Nancy Overcash, Mrs. Joyce Kaiser, Mr. John Appen, Mr. Clint Heinold, Mr. Noah Menold Mr. Doug Riddle

Reports –

Administrative –

School Highlights –

Dr. Kilpatrick noted that the principals' school highlights were included in their packets. Mr. Crider explained the concept of Professional Learning Communities that is being implemented at the Jr. High this year. He distributed a handout that explains the philosophy being used by the teacher teams.

Freedom of Information Requests –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that he has received a request for information from Online Data Services and that he has responded to the request.

Curriculum Review – Jr. High School –

Dr. Kilpatrick reviewed the 7th and 8th grade curriculum guide and explained that it lines up with the curriculum devised for each subject. He explained the curriculum approval process that is first approved by CAC, then Administrators and the Board of Education.

Dr. Kilpatrick explained that he and the Administrative team will be studying different variables between our district and districts similar to ours. They will try to determine why a few districts do slightly better than our district on testing. He also pointed out that each year the threshold for AYP rises until eventually in Illinois it will be 100% of students needed to meet AYP. As the threshold goes up, more and more schools are not meeting AYP and at some point, Morton schools also will be in the same position.

Mr. Neeley commended Dr. Kilpatrick and the Administrative team for their efforts in this area.

Technology Update –

Dr. Teater reported that the focus of the Technology Plan for the next three years will be on student learning. Accomplishments this summer for the Technology Dept. included:

- Training for MAP
- RtI Training – K-6 Interventions – online resources identified
- Internet Safety – resources to use for training students
- Upgrade Power School – address and boundary information added
- Anti-Virus Protection changed
- Main Switch changed
- Virtual Desktops – 120 @ high school – allows use of old machines

Dr. Teater noted that it is the goal of the District to assist teachers in the use of technology in order to improve student learning. The District has implemented an online help desk and continues professional development for teachers. Curriculum mapping will be used to identify problem areas.

Dr. Kilpatrick commended the Technology staff for the progress made this year.

Extra Curriculum Offerings – Title IX Compliance –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that our District is in compliance with Title IX, female sports availability. He also noted that we have a large number of participants in the extra curricular activities that are offered in our District. The Board decided to have a lengthier discussion in November on this subject.

Communication Plan Review –

Dr. Kilpatrick introduced Mrs. Carol Jankowski who updated the Board members on the District's communication plan. Mrs. Jankowski outlined the focus of the Communications Committee being three-fold: continue to improve the District 709 *Communicator*. Provide stories to local media on a weekly basis and update the District 709 main page on the website regularly. These areas were addressed this past year and will continue to be a priority in the upcoming year. Additional goals for the upcoming year include: a newsletter from the District Office, to attend PTO meetings at each building, an Open House at the MEAC, create an individual communications plan for the facilities study and to look at ways to distribute an alumni newsletter. She noted that some of these goals are already underway.

Mrs. Jankowski is also chairing the Communications Committee for the facilities study and outlined the plan that is underway.

Communicable Disease Plan –

Mr. Smock distributed a packet of information containing actions being taken by the District to be pro-active to prevent the spread of communicable disease. The packet includes guidelines from the CDC. He noted the guidelines are available on the District website. Hand sanitizer is provided in all classrooms and deep cleaning is done periodically. Hand washing is being stressed at all levels.

Classroom Organization Report –

Dr. Kilpatrick distributed the 6th day enrollment report to the Board members. He noted the differences from last year's report and pointed out areas where enrollment has increased. Classroom space is full at all buildings, so a plan needs to be put into place for next year to address this issue.

Substitute List Process –

Mr. Smock outlined the process used to hire substitute teachers and aides. He noted that he meets with all new substitute applicants prior to their name being placed on the personnel report for approval.

President's Report –

Mr. Neeley reported that the National School Board Association (NSBA) conference will be held in Chicago on April 10-12, 2010. He noted the value of attending the conference to gain a wider perspective and encouraged other board members to consider attending.

Committees –

Mrs. Kaiser announced that plans are underway for the District Office open house being held on Thursday, September 24, from 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. Invitations will be sent and the event will be advertised to the public.

Mr. Neeley and Dr. Kilpatrick surprised three Lincoln School teachers with Awards of Recognition earlier in the day. Ms. Amanda Cross, Ms. Erin Day and Ms. Lauren Cox were recognized for forming and organizing the Special Olympics team last spring. Mrs. Barbara Getz, District Treasurer, was also given an Award of Recognition for her efforts in obtaining a Safe Routes to School grant.

Discussion Items –

Facilities Committees Tasks –

Dr. Kilpatrick reviewed the tasks and charges of each of the four potential sub-committees for the facilities study. Suggestions were made for revisions. The Board discussed the structure of reporting for each sub-committee. The need to communicate

our facility constraints and why the District is at this juncture is extremely important.

Consent Agenda –

Motion by Mrs. Kaiser, second by Mr. Riddle, that the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 8-21-09	Payroll 8-28-09
Ed. Fund	\$185,857.90	\$388,447.77
Bldg. Fund	308,582.43	39,926.60
Trans.Fund	15,625.68	6,569.56
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	320,514.43
Fire & Safety	63,774.97	--

Approve Suspension Reports
Approve Application for Recognition of Schools

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Closed Session –

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mr. Heinold, that the Board of Education enter into closed session for consideration of appointment, employment, compensation, performance, or dismissal of employees, student discipline, purchase of property, litigation and/or negotiations.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 8:25 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Riddle, second by Mrs. Overcash that the Board of Education return to regular session.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 9:25 p.m.

Approve Personnel Report –

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mr. Menold that the Board of Education approve the personnel report as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Adjournment -

Motion by Mr. Heinold, second by Mr. Riddle, that the meeting be adjourned.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Kaiser, Secretary

Thomas Neeley, President

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

PERSONNEL REPORT

September 1, 2009

I. CERTIFIED STAFF

A. RESIGNATIONS

B. VOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

C. INVOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

D. APPOINTMENTS

1. Alyssa Benveniste – substitute teacher
2. Bill Bulfer – substitute teacher
3. Larry Irion – substitute teacher
4. Nancy Keimig – substitute teacher
5. Shawn Kirwan – substitute teacher
6. Jill Niemi – substitute teacher
7. Wilma Schulman – substitute teacher
8. Linda Tosch – substitute teacher
9. Tina Fillmore – substitute teacher
10. Nicole Tinsley – substitute teacher

E. REHIRES

F. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

G. RETIREMENT

1. Pam Westerman – retiring from her position as 5th grade teacher at Brown School effective at the end of the 2011-2012 school year.

H. DISMISSALS

II. EXTRA-DUTY

A. RESIGNATIONS

1. Kristen Schick – resigned from her position as Computer Club sponsor at Morton Jr. High School effective for the 2009-2010 school year.

B. APPOINTMENTS

1. Jeanenne Plevka – Yearbook Sponsor at Morton Jr. High School effective for the 2009-2010 school year.
2. Jeanenne Plevka – Computer Club Sponsor at Morton Jr. High School effective for the 2009-2010 school year.
3. Shannon McClure – Freshman Class Sponsor at Morton High School effective for the 2009-2010 school year.

C. SUSPENSION

D. DISMISSALS

III. SUPPORT STAFF

A. RESIGNATIONS

B. VOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

C. INVOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

D. APPOINTMENTS

1. Jeanine Ryan – part time special education instructional aide at Morton High School effective September 2, 2009.
2. Briton Cartner – part time special education instructional aide at Morton High School effective September 10, 2009.
3. Karin Kearney – part time special education instructional aide at Morton High School effective September 2, 2009.
4. Mary Ann Staker – crossing guard at Jefferson School effective for the 2009-2010 school year.
5. Patricia Hutchison – part time class size/class load instructional aide at Jefferson School effective September 2, 2009.
6. Joe Grant – substitute bus driver

- E. REHIRS**
- F. LEAVE OF ABSENCE**
- G. RETIREMENTS**
- H. DISMISSALS**