

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

DECEMBER 1, 2009

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

REGULAR MEETING -

Call to Order and Roll Call -

President Thomas Neeley called the regular meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

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

Reports –

Administrative –

School Highlights –

Dr. Kilpatrick noted the school highlights for the month of November. Mr. Neeley commented on the number of people using Power School and thanked the administrators for the excellent reports.

709 Recognition –

Dr. Kilpatrick noted that during the month of December the Secretarial/Clerical staff and Food Services are being recognized. Notes of appreciation will be sent to each employee and they will be recognized on the MCB community bulletin board.

Technology Update –

Dr. Teater gave an update to the Board members for the Technology Department. He noted that Windows 7 has been released and is being tested on one machine in the District. The virtual workstations at the high school are working well. Seventeen teachers attended the Illinois Education and Technology Conference in November. Those attending will provide mini-workshops within the district mid-winter to share information learned at the conference. The district has purchased more band width from Civic Net that has helped with internet applications. He is planning to interact with local businesses to determine technology skills needed of graduating students.

Facilities Update –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the next CORE meeting is scheduled for December 3. The committee is continuing to narrow the options down and to look at the options in phases.

Freedom of Information Requests –

Dr. Kilpatrick noted that there are no Freedom of Information requests to report.

President's Report –

Mr. Neeley reported he and Dr. Kilpatrick had presented a Certificate of Recognition to Mrs. Jeanenne Plevka today for writing and receiving a grant for purchase of a camera to be used by her writing classes. They also presented a certificate to Mrs. Liz Rebmann for her accomplishments with the High School Fall Play. She re-wrote the play to accommodate more students to participate and updated the story line to current day.

The Board members and administrators shared information from the Joint Board Conference they attended in November.

Discussion Items –

Board Policy Compliance Process – Personnel Policies –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that as part of the policy compliance monitoring practice, a review of the Personnel policies was conducted. After review, it is his opinion that the policies are being followed and that the District is in compliance with those policies. The compliance form will be signed and placed in the master compliance manual.

2008-2009 School District Audit –

Ms. Helen Barrick of Clifton Gunderson Accounting firm gave the annual audit report of the finances of the school district for 2008-2009. Ms. Barrick reviewed the Education Fund. She noted that the administration had been very vigilant in financial planning which has provided a cushion to help since state funding has dwindled.

Mr. Neeley thanked Mrs. Barrick for her report.

4 Period High School Lunch Schedule –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the high school administration and staff has developed a schedule that meets the needs of the students and complies with the MEA agreement to implement a 4 period lunch schedule starting with the second semester. Mr. Johnson reviewed the schedule pointing out that it provides the first lunch to begin at 11:33 and the last lunch to start at 12:44. The schedule change does not need Board approval, but the administrators desire that the Board to understand the changes.

Mrs. Kaiser noted her appreciation to the administration and staff at the high school for their work on this task.

Internet Safety Education Curriculum –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the state legislature incorporated the requirement for internet safety instruction as part of the Illinois School Code for grades 3-12. Dr. Teater reported that Mrs. VanDerVoorn and a team of teachers worked this past summer to create the curriculum. He demonstrated on the district website where the curriculum is located. Though the district has always been conscientious about internet safety, we now have a curriculum in writing with lessons for the teachers to use in their instruction. This information will be shared in the January edition of the “*Communicator*.”

Action Items –**Approve 2010-2011 Levy Resolution** –

Dr. Kilpatrick noted that the tentative levy approved at a previous meeting should allow the district to access all of the taxes available, depending on the precision of estimates and projections. Because the change in the CPI was only .1% and estimated growth is only 1.8%, a hearing for Truth in Taxation purposes was not required.

Motion by Mr. Riddle, second by Mr. Menold, that the Board of Education approve the 2009 Levy Resolution.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve High School APEX Credit Recovery –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that at a previous meeting, Mr. Johnson and Ms. Ashby presented a summary of the steps and review that had taken place in regards to a credit recovery program for those students in danger of not graduating due to the inability to makeup credit or receive enough assistance to help them. In reviewing the APEX program, it has been determined that it fits the rigor of our high school curriculum. The program was reviewed and approved by CAC for recommendation to the Board of Education. If approved, the program will be implemented 2nd semester to a very limited number of students.

Motion by Mrs. Overcash, second by Mr. Menold, that the Board of Education approve the APEX Credit Recovery program and course with implementation to begin second semester 2009-2010.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Bids for Transportation Vehicles –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the district received three bids for the replacement of one of our 78 passenger buses and one bid for replacement of the 19 passenger bus. The administration recommends that the Board of Education accepts the bids from Midwest Bus Sales.

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mr. Riddle, that the Board of Education accept the bid of Midwest Bus Sales for one 84 passenger bus at a price of \$101,326.00 including trade-in and one 29 passenger bus at a price of \$53,577.00 including trade-in.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Consent Agenda –

Motion by Mr. Heinold, second by Mrs. Kaiser, that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Approve 2009 School Library Grant Application
- Approve Suspension Reports for Filing
- Approve October Treasurer’s Report
- Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 11-24-09	Payroll 11-20-09
Ed. Fund	\$148,926.87	\$412,754.00
Bldg. Fund	48,610.64	29,020.77
Trans.Fund	4,293.01	12,221.31
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	339,540.10
Fire & Safety	8,762.75	--

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Closed Session –

Motion by Mr. Menold, second by Mr. Riddle, 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 8:10 p.m.

Motion by Mrs. Overcash, second by Mr. Menold 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 8:45 p.m.

Action Items -

Approve Personnel Report –

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

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Administrative Reports –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that there had been a drug search recently at the high school by the police drug dogs. He explained the procedure used during a search.

Mr. Neeley reported that Mrs. Jankowski has been presenting the facilities studies process at the school's PTO's. He asked Board members to visit their assigned school building. Mr. Neeley also noted that a Board of Education cannot use district monies to help pass a referendum.

Adjournment -

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

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

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Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Kaiser, Secretary

Thomas Neeley, President