

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

FEBRUARY 2, 2010

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held February 2, 2010, 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 6:32 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 thanked the principals for their monthly highlights. Mr. Neeley noted the community service that is taking place in the schools. He commended the principals for their part in teaching and encouraging staff and students to reach out to the community.

709 Recognition –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that Instructional Aides are being recognized during the month of February. He expressed his appreciation for the role they play in the classrooms for support for teachers and students.

Facilities Update –

Mr. Menold reported that the survey committee had met recently and that 250 surveys have been completed. Volunteers will be working this week to complete 50 more surveys by phone. Dr. Kilpatrick noted that a mailing will take place next week inviting the entire community to take part in the survey.

Freedom of Information Requests –

There are no Freedom of Information requests to report.

President's Report –

Mr. Neeley reported that he and Dr. Kilpatrick had visited each of the district crossing guards at their posts earlier in the day and recognized them for their hard work and

dedication to our students in all types of weather.

Mr. Neeley reported that the District Office hosted the IASB Diversity Training on Wednesday, January 27, at the District Office.

Mr. Neeley reported that he and Dr. Teater, Carol Jankowski and Jeff Keach attended a workshop conducted by C and M Consulting recently to consider processes needed for a facilities project. They learned of the importance of having a community committee and involving the staff when taking on this type of project. He found it reassuring that we are already doing much of what was suggested during the meeting.

Discussion Items –

Board Student Policies Compliance Report –

Mr. Neeley reported that as part of the policy compliance monitoring practice, a review of the Student 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.

First Reading and Discussion of Various Policies from Sections 2,3,4,5,6,7 & 8 –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that various board policies from Section 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 are being recommended in order to update our policies to current practice related to review and advice from the Illinois Association of School Boards. He noted that a review report was included describing the reason for the revisions. These policies will be brought to the board for approval at a future meeting. There was discussion on Policy 6:300 concerning the requirement for students to remain in high school for seven semesters before being eligible to graduate. Dr. Kilpatrick explained the rationale for that policy.

Summer School Proposal –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the District would again like to offer a K-3 general education summer school. The summer session will begin Monday, June 7 and run for 5 weeks until Thursday, July 8. Summer school will be held at Grundy School. The students attending will be identified by classroom teachers based on classroom performance and MAP test scores. The focus of instruction will be on early literacy skills and mathematics. Students at Jefferson and Grundy will be able to attend under Title I funding. Students from Brown and Lincoln may attend on a tuition basis.

Dr. Kilpatrick noted that the Jr. High and High School are working on proposals for summer school sessions. That information will be presented for discussion once the concept has been outlined.

Budget Discussion –

Dr. Kilpatrick asked Board members for comments and discussion on the budget proposals and deficit avoidance plan he presented at the previous meeting. Board members agreed that the measures need to be taken due to the financial cuts being made by the State of Illinois. The Board noted their appreciation to the administrators for their joint effort in working on the budget proposal. Mr. Neeley stressed that communication of the situation will be important.

Action Items –

Approve 2010-2011 School Calendar –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that after receiving input from the Administrative Council and the District Calendar Committee, and after surveying staff, parents and students, the Administrative team is submitting the 2010-2011 school calendar for approval. He noted that High School finals are scheduled to take place before Christmas break with second semester beginning on January 5, 2011.

Motion by Mr. Heinold, second by Mrs. Kaiser, that the Board of Education approve the school calendar for the 2010-2011 school year as recommended.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda –

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

- Approve Suspension Reports for Filing
- Approving and Signing Minutes of the January 12, 2010, Regular Meeting
- Approve December Treasurer’s Report
- Approve Payroll

	Payroll 01-29-10
Ed. Fund	\$432,501.01
Bldg. Fund	33,080.98
Trans.Fund	12,672.78
Payroll Accts. Pay.	190,491.78

Adjournment -

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

Roll Call Vote:

Yea 7

Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Kaiser, Secretary

Thomas Neeley, President