

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

JUNE 1, 2010

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held June 1, 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 6:30 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 –

District Office Summer Hours –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the summer hours at the District Office will be 7:30 – 3:30 until August 16 when the regular hours of 7:30 – 4:15 return.

School Highlights –

Dr. Kilpatrick thanked the principals for providing highlights from their buildings throughout the school year. He noted all of the end of school activities that took place.

Dress Code Update –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported on dress code summaries he has received from the jr. high and high school principals. He noted a minimal amount of infractions that were addressed with the students. Dr. Kilpatrick reviewed from the student handbook how infractions are handled and noted that students, parents and teachers are reminded of the policy at the beginning of the school year and again at the beginning of the fourth quarter in the spring.

Drug Testing Update –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that 261 students were randomly drug tested this past school year. Of those 261, 2 tested positive for illegal substance and the parents were notified. The program has been effective and it is the administrations recommendation to continue random testing for the 2010-2011 school year.

District Dashboard –

Dr. Teater demonstrated an enhanced version of the District Dashboard. He reviewed the MAP assessment and financial sides of the dashboard. When the dashboard is made

public, there will be a link on the District website.

External Counseling Programs Report –

Mr. Johnson introduced Mr. Walt Nunnely of Illini Family Counseling. The school district contracts with Mr. Nunnely for counseling services for high school students and their families. He reported that he sees on average 20 students per week/two days per week. He reviewed the services offered to students and their families. A confidential summary report of the past school year will be made available to Board members.

Family Life and Sex Education curriculum Review –

Mr. Smock reported that a committee will be organized and meet in June. The committee will report at a future board meeting.

Freedom of Information Requests –

There are no Freedom of Information requests to report.

President's Report -

Mr. Neeley noted that this was the off-year for principals' reporting on their School Improvement Plans. The principals will be reporting to Dr. Kilpatrick a synopsis of this past year and what the focus will be for the next school year.

Discussion Items –

Draft Resolution for Property Tax Abatement –

Dr. Kilpatrick reminded board members that earlier in the year, representatives from the Morton Economic Development Council made a presentation to the Board of Education about the possibility of an agreement by the District to abate all new taxes on any commercial or industrial improvement within the enterprise zone for a period of 5 years. The debate about such an issue focuses on how much revenue the District would lose from natural growth within that area versus growth strictly as a result of the abatement. Using past data the revenue that would have been lost over the last few years if such a practice had been in place was significant. As a result the Board of Education expressed interest in seeing if an option could be designed that would provide the District flexibility in determining when the Board might review a project, and when they would not.

The Board reviewed a draft of a document and guidelines prepared by our legal counsel. In an attempt to bring closure and not hold up the EDC committee, the board will review the draft document over the next month and decide at the July or August meeting whether to approve the document.

Board Policy Compliance Process – Community Relations –

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

Dr. Kilpatrick explained the parental involvement portion of the policy. He will provide a list of ways parents are encouraged to be involved in the schools through PTO's, newsletters, back-to-school nights, etc.

Long-Term Facilities Plan –

Dr. Kilpatrick reviewed the recommendation he made at the May 18, 2010, Board of Education meeting for Phase I of the long-term facilities plan. Since Phase I is the primary focus for the short-term plan, and any formal action by the Board of Education would take place at a future meeting for a potential referendum, he proposed that the Board of Education provide a consensus for the Administration to pursue the potential implementation of Phase I with the community for communication and education. The focus this summer would be to organize a community committee and for Dr. Kilpatrick to meet with bonding agents and architects. Dr. Kilpatrick assured board members that flexibility is built into the plan to make adjustments later.

It was the consensus of the Board to move forward with the plan. Mr. Neeley thanked Dr. Kilpatrick for all of the work he has done over the past year on the facilities plan.

High School Dual Credit Textbook –

Dr. Kilpatrick explained that in our program with Illinois Central College for dual credit the high school is required to use the textbook established by the instructor at ICC. For our class on Expository Writing (English 110) the College has selected *Concise Guide to Writing (2009)* by Axelrod and Cooper, published by St. Martin's Press as the student text required for purchase. While the text is selected by ICC, it is the Administration's recommendation that the book be placed on display for 30 days for review by our community.

Action Items –**Approve High School Gym Floor Bids –**

Dr. Kilpatrick reviewed the bid process for replacement of the high school gym floor. His recommendation is to accept the bid of Champion Environmental for removal and abatement of the Morton High School gym floor for \$78,000; to accept the bid of Champion Environmental for removal and abatement of the counseling hallway corridor for \$4,000; to accept the bid of Kiefer Specialty Flooring for the replacement and installation of the Morton High School gym floor for a base bid of \$126,330.

Dr. Kilpatrick also shared that the cost for the engineering services by IDEAL Engineering is \$22,500 and the estimated cost for bleacher removal and replacement for 3 trips is approximately \$18,500, resulting in a total cost of replacing the gym floor of \$245,330. The insurance settlement is expected to be \$152,500 which will be paid in full once we have spent to this level.

Motion by Mrs. Overcash, second by Mr. Riddle, that the Board of Education approve the award of the gym floor removal and abatement project and the counseling hallway corridor for Morton High School to Champion Environmental in the amount of \$82,000.00 and approve the award of the gym floor replacement and installation to Kiefer Specialty Flooring for \$126,330.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Dr. Kilpatrick noted that the start date for the gym floor removal will be June 16.

Consent Agenda –

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

- Approve Liability Insurance Renewal
- Approve Life Safety Extension of Time
- Authorize Submission of General State Aid and Transportation Claims
- Approve Treasurers for 2010-11 School Year and Adopt Treasurer Resolution
- Approve Resolution Designating Depositories and Signatories
- Approve Resolution Authorizing Interfund Loans and Transfers
- Approve Complaint Manager
- Approve Resolution to Set Fees for Freedom of Information Act
- Approve Hazardous Bus Routes
- Approve Prevailing Wage Resolution
- Gift Acceptance Report
- Review Closed Session Minutes
- Approve April Treasurer’s Report
- Approval of Bills and Payrolls

	Payroll 5-21-10
Ed.Fund	\$419,148.31
Bldg.Fund	31,499.38
Trans.Fund	14,553.14
Payroll Accts Pay	349,961.69

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Neeley expressed his gratitude to the PTO's and others listed on the gift acceptance report for their generosity. Dr. Kilpatrick noted that a format will be developed for each school to use in reporting their gifts each year.

1st 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 Mr. Riddle, 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 Mrs. Overcash, second by Mr. Heinold, that the Board of Education approve the personnel report as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Suspension Reports –

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mr. Riddle, that the Board of Education approve the Suspension Reports.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Administrative and Support Staff Salary Changes –

Motion by Mr. Menold, second by Mrs. Kaiser, that the Board of Education approve salary increases to match certified staff increases of 2% plus \$400 for Administrators and an average of 2.8% for support staff for the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

Roll Call Vote: Yea: 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Expulsion of Student 10-4 -

Motion by Mr. Riddle, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education approve the expulsion of Student 10-4 for the 2010-2011 school year.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Expulsion of Student 10-5 –

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mrs. Kaiser, that the Board of Education approve the expulsion of Student 10-5 for the 2010-2011 school year.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

2nd Closed Session –

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mrs. Overcash, 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 9:15 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Heinold, second by Mr. Riddle 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 9:50 p.m.

Adjournment -

June 1, 2010

7

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

Roll Call Vote:

Yea 7

Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Kaiser, Secretary

Thomas Neeley, President