

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

NOVEMBER 17, 2009

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held November 17, 2009, at Lincoln School.

REGULAR MEETING -

Call to Order and Roll Call -

President Thomas Neeley called the regular meeting to order at 7:03 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 Report Card –

Dr. Kilpatrick reviewed the District's State Report Card. He noted the district comparison to the rest of the state in different areas such as funding and class sizes. Dr. Kilpatrick noted that there is an interactive state report card at www.iirc.niu.edu for use in comparing our district to another specific school district.

Facilities Update –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the CORE Committee meeting took place November 12. There was a report from the finance, community collaboration and communications committees. The CORE Committee will narrow the options to 4 or 5 at the December 3 meeting. The options will be narrowed to two for the community survey to take place in January. Dr. Kilpatrick noted that this has to be a phased, long term plan.

Mr. Neeley noted that the survey committee has an excellent process planned. He commended the communications committee for all they are doing to convey the message. He reported that Dr. Kilpatrick presented the facility study at the Rotary meeting recently and his message was well received.

Freedom of Information Requests –

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

President's Report –

Mr. Neeley reported that our district is hosting a Diversity Training for the Central Illinois Valley Division of the IASB at the Morton Education and Administration Center in January. He urged all Board members to attend and will to open the invitation to all administrators.

Mr. Neeley reported that the Board had an excellent meeting with the Lincoln teachers prior to the Board meeting. He thanked the 6th graders for their tour of the building. He expressed his appreciation to the Lincoln teachers for giving up their evening to meet with the Board members.

Mr. Applen reported that the transportation committee had met recently and have sent out 2 bus bids to replace a 78 passenger bus with an 84 passenger bus and a replacement for one of the small buses. The Board will be asked for approval of the bids at the December 1 meeting. Mr. Applen reported that the transportation committee had discussed students walking to the non-profit day care facility after school. In hazardous weather, the school district will transport students to the facility.

Discussion Items –**Board Policy Compliance Process – Board/Superintendent Policies –**

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that as part of the policy compliance monitoring practice, a review of the Board/Superintendent 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.

18 – 22 Year Old Transition Program -

Dr. Kilpatrick introduced Ms. Ashby and Mrs. Mays to report on the high school transition program. The administration and the special education staff began last fall developing a separate program for our students that requires services for special education needs that are from ages 18 to 22. They have worked to transition education and skill training to prepare these students to go from the educational environment to the real world environment. Because these students no longer fit the role of a traditional high school student, the design of the transition program aims to provide a continuum of education and training that would be tailored to their entrance to the adult world. Ms. Ashby and Mrs. Mays explained the student daily schedules and activities, parent involvement, MAP/PATH planning and future hopes. They currently have ten students in the program, but explained that on the student's 22nd birthday they age out of the program.

Mr. Neeley thanked Ms. Ashby and Mrs. Mays for the excellent report. It is the Board District's goal to help each child learn and grow.

Consent Agenda –

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

Approving and Signing Minutes of the October 6, 2009, Regular Meeting.
Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 11-13-09	Payroll 11-6-09
Ed. Fund	\$59,078.16	\$430,322.09
Bldg. Fund	43,067.58	31,308.81
Trans.Fund	11,170.50	13,266.09
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	347,712.31
Fire & Safety	--	--

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 8:15 p.m.

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

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

