

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

JULY 6, 2010

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held July 6, 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 –

RtI/MAP Data Results –

Dr. Teater gave an overview of the MAP Data he gathered for the building principals and presented the information in a dashboard view. He demonstrated how principals and teachers can use the information for each student and placing students in RtI. Dr. Kilpatrick added that this is a very valuable tool for the principals to use in planning. Mr. Neeley thanked Dr. Teater for the work done to collect the data.

EDC Workshop –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported on an Economic Development Workshop he and Mr. Heinold had recently attended. The sessions included information on enterprise zones and EDC packages.

ISBE Learning Standards –

Dr. Kilpatrick distributed a draft of revised Learning Standards he recently received from the State Board of Education. The state will publish a cross-over version in order to compare old/new versions. Dr. Kilpatrick stressed that the state Learning Standards will be used as a minimum or “floor” when re-aligning our district learning standards with the state’s standards.

High School Gym Floor –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the first phase was recently completed of replacing the high school gym floor. As of today, the work is on schedule to be completed by the beginning of September. He distributed a sample layout design of the completed floor.

Highlights of Administrative Retreat –

Dr. Kilpatrick gave a summary review of the recently held Administrative Retreat. Topics at the retreat included curriculum mapping/curriculum renewal chart, changes in the federal stimulus funding, School Improvement Plans, beginning of year employee memo, RtI state regulations, Illinois Youth Survey, and the Challenge Program.

ISBE Salary and Benefits Report –

Dr. Kilpatrick explained a new state requirement to report all certified staff salaries and benefits for posting on the ISBE website. It was determined by ISBE not to report earnings from the months of July and August, so salaries reported will not be accurate. The ruling was ISBE's interpretation of the law and though school districts disagreed, Morton School District complied and reported the figures as requested.

Enrollment Trends –

Dr. Kilpatrick compared current Kindergarten enrollments with past enrollments. There is an indication of a fairly significant increase over enrollment numbers 10 years ago. He noted though not an emergency at this time, the administration will be keeping a close eye on the situation.

High School Lunch Room Configuration –

Dr. Kilpatrick reviewed different options drafted by architect, Jeff Keach to increase seating in the high school lunch room. Ideas included changing the serving entrance, changing the table configuration, moving the faculty dining room and expanding student dining to that area, enclosing a portion of the courtyard to add space for 100 more students, or the most expensive idea would be an addition on the front of the building for the library to expand student dining into the current library. He has asked architect Jeff Keach to provide estimates of cost for the different alternatives. Mr. Neeley expressed his gratitude to those involved for exploring all options.

Freedom of Information Requests –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that he has responded to one Freedom of Information request from Organic School Project.

President's Report -

Mr. Neeley reported that a policy meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, July 13, 2010.

Transportation Committee –

Mr. Applen reported that the Transportation Committee had recently met. He commended Dr. Kilpatrick and Nancy Weigle for their documentation of numbers of bus riders. Based on the information that was gathered, bus routes were combined and one bus phased out. He noted that estimates on eliminating a route is approximately \$50,000. Mr. Applen commended Mrs. Weigle on her diligence in maintaining the district vehicles. Mr. Applen also reported that with loss in state funding, the committee is reviewing non-academic field trips and extra curricular trips for possible cost savings.

Discussion Items –**Facilities Timeline –**

Dr. Kilpatrick reviewed the facilities timetable that was developed this past spring. Upcoming activities from June – August would include selection of a financial advisor, requesting proposals from architects/architect interviews and selection. From September to November the community committee would be assembled to take up charge of communicating to the community; construction manager/project engineer discussions would take place; open houses would be held in the buildings; next January the Board would make a determination on a referendum with the election taking place on April 5, 2011.

Action Items –**Approve Algebra I Textbook –**

It is the Administration recommendation to purchase the *Algebra I* textbook that was presented to the Board of Education at the May 18, 2010, meeting and has been on public display for 30 days. Dr. Kilpatrick noted that there were no comments from the community.

Motion by Mrs. Overcash, second by Mr. Heinold, that the Board of Education approve purchase of the *Algebra I* textbook by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt for the estimated cost of \$13,990.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve High School Expository Writing Textbook –

This text is established by Illinois Central College as a requirement for our dual credit course. The text has been on display for 30 days and is recommended by the Administration for approval for the 2010-2011 school year. Dr. Kilpatrick noted that the district receives partial funding from ICC for the purchase. There were no comments

from the community.

Motion by Mr. Heinold, second by Mrs. Kaiser, that the Board of Education approve the purchase of the High School Expository Writing text beginning with the 2010-2011 school year.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda –

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

- Approve Transportation Claim
- Approve Auditor for 2009-2010 School Year
- Approve May Treasurer’s Report
- Approval of Bills and Payrolls

| | Bills 6-25-10 | Bills 6-30-10 | Bills 7-1-10 | Payroll 7-2-10 |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ed.Fund | \$216,150.53 | \$5,727.36 | \$57,117.35 | \$348,492.58 |
| Bldg.Fund | 99,673.14 | 1,920.14 | 360.00 | 47,501.32 |
| Trans.Fund | 164,545.17 | 9,106.53 | -- | 4,346.94 |
| Payroll Accts Pay | -- | -- | -- | 253,489.89 |
| Fire & Safety | 5,422.27 | -- | -- | -- |
| Tort Fund | -- | -- | 318,210.00 | 47,501.32 |

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

1st Closed Session –

Motion by Mr. Riddle, second by Mr. Applen, 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.

