

## MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

NOVEMBER 2, 2010

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held November 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 6:30 p.m.

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

Member absent: Mr. Noah Menold

#### **Reports –**

##### **Administrative –**

##### **School Highlights –**

Dr. Kilpatrick thanked the principals for their monthly highlight reports. He noted that Congressman Aaron Schock recently made a presentation to the Civics classes at the high school. The presentation will be aired on Channel 20 in the near future. Mr. Neeley noted the Board's appreciation to the principals for their detailed reports.

##### **Freedom of Information Requests –**

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

##### **ISAT Results –**

Dr. Teater reported on the results of the 2010 ISAT scores. He noted that the district continues to make an effort to move those at the meets level to the exceeds level. He reported that 91% or better of our students taking the test meets or exceeds at all levels in reading, science and math. Dr. Teater pointed out that over the last four years, there has been growth in the exceeds category. Dr. Kilpatrick attributed the gains to the work toward student achievement the staff has undertaken over the years. Mr. Neeley thanked Dr. Teater for the excellent report.

##### **Facilities Update –**

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that Requests for Qualification (RFQ's) had recently been sent out to construction management firms. He and Mr. Smock reviewed the materials of the seven firms that responded and invited five firms for interviews on November 1. He

noted that he is not yet ready to make a recommendation on whether to use a construction manager or a general contractor, but he will make his recommendation at an upcoming Board meeting. Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the interview team included himself, Mr. Smock, Barb Getz and Jeff Keach. He noted his appreciation for Mr. Keach's presence and expertise at the interviews.

### **Family Life and Sex Education Curriculum Update –**

As part of his internship for his superintendent's certification, Mr. Greg Crider led the review of the sex education curriculum. As part of policy 6:60, there is to be a review of this curriculum every three years. Mr. Crider reported that over this past summer he requested the curriculum and resources used for the sex education classes from those staff that teach it. After summarizing the curriculum and recommendations from staff, two board members then reviewed the materials. Mr. Crider reported that the only change made will be in the permission slip that is sent to jr. high parents. The slip now includes that "we stress an abstinence only approach to prevention during these lessons; therefore, any education in regards to birth control methods, including information on the Gardasil shot, will be the responsibility of the parents or guardians." Mrs. Kaiser noted that Mr. Crider did an excellent job working with the staff and board members during the process. Mr. Neeley thanked Mr. Crider and the staff for their involvement.

### **President's Report -**

Mr. Neeley reported that the school district had recently hosted the annual Joint Boards meeting. Board members from throughout the community met to share current topics, concerns and achievements. He noted that Dr. Kilpatrick made an excellent presentation showcasing our students and those attending the meeting had the opportunity to tour the MEAC facility.

Mr. Neeley noted the IASB Delegate Assembly proposed resolutions that Board members received. He asked them to review the resolutions and let him know their thoughts, as he will be voting on the resolutions at the upcoming school board conference.

Mr. Neeley reported that he and Dr. Kilpatrick presented a certificate of recognition today to Dr. Ben Wellenreiter recognizing his recently completed doctoral work. Mr. Neeley noted that the ongoing education of our teachers is beneficial for our students.

### **Discussion Items –**

#### **Calendar Committee –**

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the calendar committee met recently to plan the 2011-2012 school year calendar. Several key considerations (i.e., the calendar's impact on student achievement and school attendance, ISAT and/or PSAE testing dates, parent teacher

conferences, the length of the school terms and quarters, final exams, the dates of holidays) are taken into account in the development of our calendar recommendation each year. He pointed out that the proposed calendar basically follows the current year's format with a few differences. The committee felt it best to give the new format started this year another year's trial before making any major changes. Dr. Kilpatrick expressed his appreciation to those on the committee.

Mr. Neeley expressed his desire to plan a time to bring the teachers together on their first day of the school year to give the Board members the opportunity to welcome them back. Dr. Kilpatrick will discuss this possibility with the administrative team.

**IASB Conference Selections –**

Board members shared workshops they are interested in attending at the upcoming Joint Annual Conference of the IASB, IASA and IASBO to be held in Chicago November 19-21.

**Action Items –**

**Approve 2011-2012 Tentative Budget and 2010 Tentative Levy –**

Dr. Kilpatrick reviewed the 2011-2012 tentative budget and 2010 tentative levy. He explained that the old property will be taxed at a maximum extension increase of the CPI rate of 2.7%. He has received a preliminary indication from the county assessor's office that the change in the assessed value for the District as a result of new construction for the year will be slightly over \$7,000,000 or approximately 1.4%. That amount does not reflect decisions on tax objections or additional property added. In order to protect the District without this data, levy calculations are made on the high side to allow the District to access all potential new construction. The law requires that if the proposed levy represents a 5% or more increase over the prior year's extended taxes, the District must publish notice and establish a hearing. This year the proposed levy is under that threshold and the notice and hearing are not required.

Dr. Kilpatrick explained that the Education Fund expenses for this levy were calculated based on projected salaries and benefits. Purchase services, supply budgets, equipment and tuition expenses were increased by a projected percentage. The details of the documents have been reviewed with the Finance Committee. The proposed levy will be brought back to the Board of Education again on December 7 for final approval.

Motion by Mrs. Kaiser, second by Mr. Heinold, that the Board of Education approve the 2011-2012 proposed budget and 2010 tentative levy.

Roll Call Vote:                      Yea 6                                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Approve Physical Education Waiver –**

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that two years ago the District submitted and received a waiver allowing us to hold elementary physical education two times per week as opposed to daily as required by the School Code. This waiver will expire this spring and we need to reapply to continue to follow this format. The waiver removes the requirement for daily physical education and replaces with a requirement of at least twice weekly.

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mr. Riddle, that the Board of Education approve the application for waiver of daily elementary physical education.

Roll Call Vote:                      Yea 6                                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Approve Banking of Hours for Full Day School Improvement –**

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that four years ago the District submitted and received a waiver allowing us to have school improvement in-service training programs to be scheduled in full day sessions during which students would not be in attendance, provided that a sufficient number of minutes of school work under the direct supervision of teachers are added to the school days during the entire school year to accumulate not less than three hundred (300) minutes for each such day scheduled, and that each such day be counted towards the required number of pupil attendance days. This waiver will expire this spring and we need to reapply to continue to follow this format.

Motion by Mr. Heinold, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education approve the application for waiver to bank hours for full day school improvement days.

Roll Call Vote:                      Yea 6                                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Approve Waiver of Driver Education Maximum Fee –**

Dr. Kilpatrick explained that the District is making an initial application for waiver of the school code mandate that deals with Drivers Education. This waiver will allow the district to charge up to \$300 in Driver Education fees. According to school code, any family that is unable to pay for the course shall have this fee waived. The waiver will be good for the next 5 years once it is approved. The re-allocation of funds will help improve several programs. The savings would allow for the District to continue the commitment to school improvement. Dr. Kilpatrick will bring a recommendation to a future meeting on the amount of the proposed fee for 2011-2012.

Motion by Mr. Riddle, second by Mrs. Overcash, that the Board of Education approve the application for waiver for limitation of Driver Education fee.

Roll Call Vote:                      Yea 6                                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda –**

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

- Approval of Statement of Completion – Health/Life Safety Amendments
- Approve Suspension Reports
- Approve September Treasurer’s Report
- Approve Bills and Payroll

	<b>Bills 10-20-10</b>	<b>Payroll 10-29-10</b>
Ed. Fund	\$201,756.67	\$383,374.67
Bldg. Fund	90,536.64	29,993.89
Trans.Fund	1,298.68	11,464.86
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	353,704.77
Fire & Safety	3,225.00	--

Roll Call Vote:                                      Yea 6                                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Closed Session –**

Motion by Mrs. Kaiser, 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/sale of property, litigation and/or negotiations.

Roll Call Vote:                                      Yea 6                                      Nay 0

