

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

MAY 3, 2011

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held May 3, 2011, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING –

President Thomas Neeley called the regular meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Thomas Neeley, Mrs. Joyce Kaiser, Mr. John Applen,
Mr. Clint Heinold, Mr. Noah Menold, Mr. Doug Riddle,
Mrs. Cheryl Wuthrich

The Board and audience members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Action Items -

Canvass the 2011 Board of Election Results -

Motion by Mrs. Kaiser, second by Mr. Menold that the Board of Education declare John Applen, Michelle Bernier and Tim Taylor elected to serve four-year terms on the Board of Education: further that the “Abstract of Votes” received from the County Clerk be accepted.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Seating of New Board Members –

Mr. Neeley asked the newly elected Board members to affirm their duties as Board of Education members by repeating the Oath of Office.

Mr. Neeley acknowledged and thanked Mr. Riddle and Mrs. Wuthrich for their service to the district as board members.

Adjournment sine die -

Mr. Neeley adjourned the meeting sine die at 6:45 p.m.

May 3, 2011

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Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Kaiser, Secretary

Thomas Neeley, President

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

MAY 3, 2011

Minutes of the Reorganizational Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held May 3, 2011, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING –

President pro tem Thomas Neeley called the reorganizational meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Thomas Neeley, Mr. John Applen, Mrs. Michelle Bernier,
Mr. Clint Heinold, Mrs. Joyce Kaiser, Mr. Noah Menold,
Mr. Tim Taylor

Mr. Neeley noted that he would serve as President pro tem and Emily Stubbs would serve as Secretary pro tem until new officers are elected.

Organization of New Board –

Elect President –

Mr. Neeley asked for nominations for the office of President of the Board of Education. Mr. Menold nominated Mr. Thomas Neeley to serve as President of the Board of Education. There being no other nominations, Mr. Neeley was declared President by acclamation.

Elect Vice President –

Mr. Neeley asked for nominations for the office of Vice President of the Board of Education. Mr. Heinold nominated Mrs. Kaiser to serve as Vice President of the Board of Education. There being no other nominations, Mrs. Kaiser was declared Vice President by acclamation by Mr. Neeley.

Elect Secretary –

Mr. Neeley asked for nominations for the office of Secretary of the Board of Education. Mrs. Kaiser nominated Mr. Heinold to serve as Secretary of the Board of Education. There being no other nominations, Mr. Heinold was declared Secretary by acclamation by Mr. Neeley.

Set Time and Place of Regular Meetings –

Board members agreed to hold regular Board of Education meetings for the 2011-2012 year the first Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m., at the Morton Education and Administration Center. Mr. Neeley noted that any special meetings that are called will generally be held on Tuesday evenings.

Reports –

Administrative –

Mr. Neeley noted that due to Dr. Kilpatrick's absence, Mr. Smock would report for him.

Community Foundation Presentation –

Representatives from the Morton Community Foundation, Scott Witzig and Mark Johnson, were on hand to present a check to Lettie Brown Principal Lee Hoffman. Mr. Witzig noted that the Foundation awarded 15 grants this spring. Thanks to Mr. Hoffman writing the grant, the school district was awarded \$3,818 toward the purchase of SMART Notebook software that ties in with existing SMART Board technology in the four K-6th grade schools. Mr. Witzig noted that the Lincoln School PTO was also awarded \$2,450 toward the purchase of iPads for use at Lincoln School.

School Highlights –

Mr. Smock noted that over the last couple of weeks, virtually every student in the district has completed testing. K-8 completed spring MAP testing and the high school completed PSAE and ACT testing. He noted the success of the high school spring musical and that the high school Math Team finished 2nd and WYSE team 5th in the state. Mr. Neeley thanked the principals for their thorough monthly reports.

Freedom of Information Requests –

Mr. Smock reported that there were no Freedom of Information requests.

Summer Projects –

Mr. Smock reported that he will be meeting this week with custodial and maintenance staff to finalize projects for the summer. The administrators will then be updated on the plans for their buildings and grounds at their weekly meeting .

Food Service Update –

Mr. Smock reported that the food service program has run smoothly this year with few changes at the elementary and jr. high schools. He noted the changes that were made at the high school that have been reported at past meetings. From a financial standpoint, by the end of the school year it is expected that the program will have \$15,000 - \$20,000 of revenue in excess of expenditures. This is comparable to the 2009-2010 school year. Mr. Smock noted that all 6 schools recently received the Tazewell County Health Department Food Excellence Award. We were the only school district in Tazewell County to have all of our schools receive this award. The 2011-2012 school year will be the final year of a five year contract with Sodexo. The contract will go out for bids in late 2011 and we will expect the contract price to increase due to the newly enacted Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act.

President's Report –

Mr. Neeley reported that he will be attending the Central Illinois Valley Division of the IASB meeting this week.

Mr. Neeley responded to Mr. King's audience presentation comments at the April 26 board of education meeting. He has checked our policy on responding to audience presentations with the ISBE policy to make sure our policy aligns with the state's policy. He noted the policy committee will review the policy at their next meeting. Mr. Neeley asked Mr. Smock to respond to Mr. King's request for a certified Agriculture teacher. Mr. Smock noted that staffing is based on need and according to student requests for agriculture courses, there is not a need at this time.

Discussion Items –

2011-2012 Student Fees –

Mr. Smock reviewed the proposed fee changes for the 2011-2012 school year. An approximate 8% increase is being recommended for elementary, jr. high and high school textbook rental, supplies and activity fees. Also recommended is increasing the high school parking passes from \$30 per year to \$45 per year. The fee for Driver's Education is recommended to be increased from \$25 to \$75. Lunch prices would increase by 5%. Mr. Neeley noted that it has been the practice of the district to gradually increase fees instead of waiting several years and having a large increase. Mr. Heinold pointed out that many of the fees have been increased over the past two years due to the decrease in state funding.

Facilities Needs –

Mr. Neeley asked for discussion of portable classrooms before the board is asked to make a decision on the crowding issues at Brown, Grundy and Lincoln Schools. Discussion included the use and placement of portable classrooms on our sites. Also discussed was exploring all other options including re-organizing the buildings. Mr. Neeley responded that the board will look to the administration to help educate the board on life/safety issues involved in any decisions that are made.

Consent Agenda –

Motion by Mr. Menold, second by Mrs. Kaiser, that the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

- Approve Suspension Reports for Filing
- Amend 2010-2011 School Calendar
- Approving and Signing Minutes of the April 5, 2011, Regular Meeting
- Approve 2011-2012 School Board Meeting Calendar

Motion carried.

Approve Closed Session Minutes –

Motion by Mrs. Kaiser, second by Mr. Heinold, that the Board of Education approve the closed session minutes from the April 5, 2011, meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Reports –

Mr. Neeley noted that the IASB offers facilitators for the purpose of self-evaluation for boards of education. Board members agreed that Mr. Neeley should explore this with the IASB for dates a facilitator would be available to meet with our board.

Mr. Neeley noted that board committee assignments will be made soon.

Adjournment -

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

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Clint Heinold, Secretary

Thomas Neeley, President