

**MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709**

**March 4, 2014**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held March 4, 2014, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

**REGULAR MEETING –**

President Clint Heinold called the regular meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Clint Heinold, Mrs. Michelle Bernier, Mr. John Applen,  
Mr. Shaun Bill, Mr. Tom Neeley, Mrs. Kelly Scarfe

Member Arriving at 8:05 p.m.: Mr. Tim Taylor

**Closed Session –**

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mr. Bill, 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. (5 ILSC 120/2 115 ILCS 5/18)

Roll Call Vote:                      Yea 6                      Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 5:40 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education return to regular session.

Roll Call Vote:                      Yea 6                      Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 6:30 p.m.

**Adjournment –**

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mr. Bill that the meeting be adjourned.

Roll Call Vote:                      Yea 6                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

**REGULAR MEETING –**

President Clint Heinold called the regular meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Clint Heinold, Mrs. Michelle Bernier, Mr. John Applen,  
Mr. Shaun Bill, Mr. Tom Neeley, Mrs. Kelly Scarfe

Member Arriving at 8:05 p.m.: Mr. Tim Taylor

**Reports –**

**Administrative –**

**Freedom of Information Requests –**

Dr. Hall reported on two Freedom of Information requests.

- Mr. Brian Anderson, from Lee's Foodservice Parts & Repairs, requested contractor information related to the maintenance, cleaning, sanitizing and repair of food service equipment.
- Mr. David King requested the cost break down for personal computing devices for all students in grades 5 – 12, any additional costs this might add to the technology budget for this coming year, figures for the technology budget over the last five years and the cost per student and how that compares to other school districts.

The [responses](#) to both requests are on the district website.

**Wellness/Insurance Committee Update –**

Dr. Hall reviewed the update submitted to the Board by Mrs. Brenda Heppard, Benefits Coordinator. The district's self-funded health plan will incur fees and cost increases and is at risk to incur additional, substantial fees under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). The additional fee referred to is the Cadillac Tax effective in 2018. This is a 40% tax on the value of a plan that exceeds the threshold of \$10,200 annual premium for single coverage and \$27,500 for family coverage. Our premiums are calculated on the prior year health plan costs. It is our goal to make every effort to reduce the cost of the health plan while trying to provide a generous level of benefit. The first step towards this goal was to implement a wellness program including:

- A health fair held on August 12, 2013, that included a 30 channel blood test, health assessment and full detailed report. This event will be held again in August, 2014.
- An annual flu shot clinic
- A monthly email from Dr. Hall addressing a particular area of wellness.
- A district wide weight loss contest from February thru May, 2014.

- Methodist Wellmobile at three locations in March to provide free blood pressure, blood glucose/cholesterol, spirometry, vascular and retina screenings.

It is the hope of the wellness committee to encourage employees to work with the district to help control the cost of the health plan by emphasizing personal responsibility for wellness.

### **Daily Physical Education Requirement Update –**

Dr. Teater reported that after surveying ten other Illinois public schools and meeting with the district PE teachers in November, an elementary teacher committee was formed and has met twice to evaluate various considerations. The group is made up of elementary classroom teachers, elementary PE teachers, elementary music teachers and the MEA president (12 total). The purpose of the committee is to create a proposal for implementing elementary daily PE beginning in the 2015-2016 school year that is beneficial to our students and minimizes the impact to other programs. At the first meeting in January, the group was assigned the task of working with their principal to schedule daily PE for the anticipated class sections in the 2015-2016 school year for their present facility.

At the second meeting in February, the committee evaluated the various considerations:

- Facilities:
  - Brown – Music room/gym
  - Grundy – Conference room
  - Jefferson – Cafeteria/gym
  - Lincoln – there is no other space available – could move a program to another building or add space
- Staffing:
  - Combining classes is the worst option
  - Ideally 1 class/1 PE 5 days per week, EC-K separate
  - EC & K 10-minute movement education daily and weekly 25-minute structured recess (musical and activity)
  - Classroom teachers 1 period, PE teachers 4 periods 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> with provided activities
  - Look to regain instruction time by changing student day (10-15 minutes per day)
- Curriculum:
  - Various materials and resources will be considered for the different activities depending on the type of room being used and considerations for other classrooms nearby. The outdoors would be used whenever possible.

The next step is for the Leadership Team to address the space issue at Lincoln and determine if any programs there can be moved to another building.

### **Facilities Advisory Committee Report –**

Dr. Hall and Mr. Mike Vlahos, Chairman of the Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC), gave a report to the board using a PowerPoint presentation. The [presentation](#) is available on the District website. Dr. Hall noted the purpose of the committee was to bring recommendations to the board for long term facilities planning. She emphasized that no decisions have been made about financing, a referendum, bond issue or details of the long term plan.

Following are the committee recommendations as presented:

- **Option 1:** Build a new high school, move JH to a repurposed current MHS with grades 5-8, elementary buildings become K-4. PE mandate addressed.
- **Option 2:** Build a new middle grade school, renovate/add on to current MHS, elementary buildings become K-4. PE mandate addressed.
- **Option 3:** Build a new 7-8 junior high, renovate/add on to current MHS, add on to all elementary bldgs., which remain K-6. PE mandate addressed.

It was noted that:

- All three options must address the daily physical education requirement that starts in 2015.
- The administration is currently looking at temporary options until facilities exist.
- It is recommended that the board study possible facilities options to address the PE mandate in the near future.

Critical questions to be answered by the board:

- Which plan best addresses the needs of Morton CUSD 709 students?
- Needs: type of space, amount of space, age of space
- Which plan fits into the financial framework of Morton CUSD 709?
- Which plan represents the best long term investment, as opposed to short term problem solving?

Next steps:

- What additional information is needed?
- Timeline?
- Feedback from our community about plans is vital.

Board members expressed their appreciation to the FAC committee members and agreed that they have much work ahead of them.

### **President's Report –**

Mr. Heinold reported that he and Dr. Hall have begun work on the IASB Board Governance recognition. He noted that much of the required work has been completed by those serving prior to him.

**Discussion Items –****Proposed World Language Textbooks for MHS -**

Dr. Teater reported that the high school Modern Language Department has reviewed texts for all four levels of their Spanish and French classes. The committee reviewed five different publishers for the Spanish texts and three different publishers for the French texts. After a rigorous review by each of the committees, the recommendation and report was presented to the Curriculum Advisory Committee and to the Leadership Team and approved by both.

Recommendation:

- *Asi se dice*, (2012) by Glencoe is the Spanish 1-3 texts recommended for purchase.
- *TEMAS*, (2014) by Vista is the Spanish 4 text recommended for purchase.
- *D'accord!*, (2011) by Vista is the French 1-4 texts recommended for purchase.

TEXT:

- *Asi se dice* Book Price: \$145.82 Resources: \$6,450/level
- *TEMAS* Book Price: \$114 Resources: \$1,980
- *D'accord!* Book Price: \$138 Resources: \$327

Estimated # of students - 525 STUDENTS

**TOTAL EST. COST = \$66,877.25 (including supplemental materials)**

The texts are to be placed on public display at the Morton Public Library for 30 days prior to approval by the Board of Education.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading and Discussion of Policies 8:25 –**

Dr. Hall reported that Policy 8:25 is being revised to more current practices with accepting advertising for facilities and venues within and outside of our school buildings. The Board was asked to review the changes and approve the policy at a future meeting.

**Board Goal Discussion – Facilities –**

Dr. Hall reviewed the Board goal of facilities and gave updates regarding the objectives and action statements associated with each goal. She noted the board will need to adjust some of the objectives at its upcoming retreat, as several have already been met.

**Action Item –****2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Approval of Policies 1:30, 7:185 and 7:185-E –**

The first reading of these policies took place at the February 4, 2014, meeting. Policy 1:30 reflects the current mission statement and Board of Education goals. Policy 7:185 and exhibit 7:185-E reflects changes in the law regarding the teen dating violence policies.





**March 4, 2014**

**8**

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Michelle Bernier, Secretary

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Clint Heinold, President