

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

JANUARY 12, 2016

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held January 12, 2016, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Michelle Bernier called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Mrs. Michelle Bernier, Mr. Clint Heinold, Mr. Shaun Bill,
Dr. Shad Beaty, Mr. Tom Neeley, Mrs. Kelly Scarfe, Mr. Jeff Schmidgall

Audience Presentation – Mrs. Leslie Unger of Morton spoke in favor of the upcoming bond referendum to be placed on the March 15, 2016, general election ballot.

Words of Remembrance were spoken for Ms. Dana Ashby by Dr. Smock and President Bernier. A moment of silence was held in her honor.

President Bernier reported that Dr. Smock would be filling in for Dr. Hall during the meeting in her absence.

Reports –

Administrative –

Freedom of Information Requests –

Dr. Smock reported that five requests have been received and responses for four of them are posted on the District website. The fifth request was received today and will be posted when it is completed.

Referendum Information –

Board attorney, Dennis Triggs, of Miller, Hall and Triggs reported on referendum guidelines pertaining to school board members. They may not use school funds or resources to advocate for or against a referendum. However, there is a distinction in that as non-paid elected officials, Board members may advocate for or against a referendum, including during board meetings. A school facility may not be used to organize a meeting to promote a position. Mr. Triggs noted that if in doubt to call his office for advice.

Winter Communicator –

Dr. Smock noted the winter edition of *The Communicator* is being mailed this week throughout the school district. He commended the District's Communication Coordinator,

Carol Jankowski, for her involvement in putting it together.

President's Report –

President Bernier reported that Dr. Hall has set a schedule of times and places to present facts about the referendum. She urged board members to review the schedule and attend some of the meetings with Dr. Hall to support her in the effort.

Discussion Items –

Board Compliance – Instruction Policies –

Dr. Smock reported that the instruction policies have been reviewed and that the district is in compliance. President Bernier and Dr. Hall will sign the compliance form and place it in the Master Compliance binder in the District Office.

Board Goal Discussion – Achievement –

Dr. Smock reviewed the Board goal of Achievement – *In order to ensure all students have opportunities to achieve their potential, our academic programs will maintain the highest standards and expectations for learning.*

Dr. Smock noted two initiatives the Leadership team has been engaged in recently:

- How data is used in the district – administrators will report to the Board at the January 19th Board meeting on data usage in the district.
- “Teaching Above the Line” – using the SAMR model for technology integration in the classroom. The Leadership team has been discussing what this means and will be preparing a presentation for the faculty. Dr. Teater is leading this process.

Code of Conduct #12 –

President Bernier reviewed the 12th point in the Code of Conduct for school board members – *“I will strive to keep my board focused on its primary work of clarifying the district purpose, direction and goals, and monitoring district performance.”* She noted this is the final point in the Code of Conduct and it focuses on the main purpose of the School Board.

Action Items –

Approve Bid for Wheelchair Bus -

Dr. Smock reported that the District needs to purchase another wheelchair bus due to the increased demand for transporting wheelchair bound students. The District currently has a 2012 8- passenger plus 5 wheelchair bus that has been driven for 65,000 miles, a 2006 14 passenger plus 1 wheelchair bus that has been driven for 92,000 miles, and a 2012 wheelchair accessible van that was purchased used last year. Wheelchair bound students are transported

daily to Schramm School in Pekin and to Thomas Jefferson School in Peoria. In addition to the scheduled daily routes, students are transported from all schools to various activities as required on a daily basis. Many of these students are temporarily wheelchair bound due to unexpected health issues, but the District is still required to provide transportation.

Motion by Mr. Bill, second by Mr. Heinold, that the Board of Education accept the bid of Midwest Bus Sales for one 29 passenger bus plus 6 wheelchair position bus.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve High School Server Room HVAC Bid –

It was reported that the HVAC system in the High School server room needs to be replaced. The current equipment and duct work is original to the mid-1970s. This room houses the main server equipment for the District and proper temperature control of this space is crucial. There have been many difficulties over the years maintaining room temperature in this space.

In addition to the base bid, alternate bids were requested to address several areas in the High School that need heating improvement. The former steam heating system created residual heat from numerous steam leaks in the tunnel crawl spaces. These leaks were never repaired as they were in inaccessible locations. As a result of the replacement of the steam heating system, the residual heat created by these steam leaks was no longer created. It was realized that there is now a need for supplemental heat in three areas after the first winter's use of the new heating system. The three areas identified are the entryway vestibules, the coaches' office and the hallway and restrooms by the loading dock.

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, second by Mrs. Scarfe, that the Board of Education accept the base bid and the alternate bids from Commercial Mechanical, Inc. for \$99,900.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda –

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Mrs. Scarfe, that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented:

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve November, 2015 Treasurer's Report
- Review of Closed Session Minutes
- Approve the Minutes of the December 8, 2015, Committee of the Whole Meeting; the minutes of the December 8, 2014, Regular Meeting; the Closed Session Minutes of the December 8, 2015, Regular Meeting; the Minutes of the December 15, 2015,

Special Meeting; and the Closed Session Minutes of the December 15, 2015,
 Special Meeting.
 Approve Bills and Payrolls

	Bills 12-11-15	Bills 12-18-15	Bills 1-8-16	Payroll 12-11-15	Payroll 12-24-15	Payroll 1-8-16
Ed. Fund	\$25,160.06	\$49,792.10	\$210,654.35	\$475,558.00	\$486,168.79	\$371,576.02
Bldg. Fund	\$400,339.96	\$267,398.65	\$476,671.10	\$33,672.14	\$32,926.08	\$33,071.27
Trans. Fund	\$3.96	\$11,065.81	\$4,031.94	\$10,224.56	\$14,612.06	\$1,604.82
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	--	--	\$433,392.38	\$442,595.85	\$379,105.80

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Closed Session -

Motion by Mr. Bill, second by Mr. Heinold, 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, Negotiations and/or Security Procedures, School Building Safety and Security.
 (5 ILSC 120/2 115 ILCS 5/18)

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 7:10 p.m.

Motion by Dr. Beaty, second by Mr. Heinold, that the Board of Education return to regular session.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 7:45 p.m.

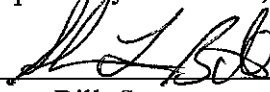
Adjournment -

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Dr. Beaty, that the meeting be adjourned.

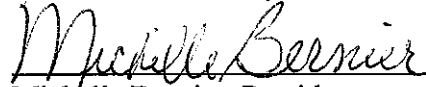
Voice Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Shaun Bill, Secretary



Michelle Bernier, President