

## MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

APRIL 19, 2016

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held April 19, 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 7:15 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

#### Reports –

##### Administrative –

##### PTO Reports – Brown, MJHS, MHS -

PTO representatives from Lettie Brown (Jessica Kapustka, President), Morton Jr. High School (Shannon Killion, President), and Morton High School (Peg Rumbold, Treasurer), reported on their PTO activities and purchases for their buildings this past school year.

President Bernier thanked them for their support.

##### President's Report –

Mr. Heinold, board building representative for the Jr. High, reported on the meeting held earlier in the evening with the Jr. High teachers. He noted it is good to hear of the many projects and activities taking place at the Jr. High to engage the students and get them excited about learning.

President Bernier reported:

- MHS has received a Silver rating in the 2016 *U.S. News and World Report* Best High School Rankings. This is the first time the school has reached a silver ranking. In the previous six years, the high school has been rated bronze five times. President Bernier congratulated the staff, students and high school administration for the hard work to achieve this rating.
- The policy committee met last week with representatives from Illinois Association of School Boards to hear about additional policy services offered by IASB.
- The summer governing meeting of the Central IL Valley Division of the IASB will be held on Wednesday, May 4.

Mrs. Scarf reported that she and Dr. Hall are working on a resolution to submit to the

IASB Resolutions Committee for the 2016 Joint Annual School Board Conference held in November. The proposed resolution would change the process for school districts selling property.

Mrs. Scarf recently attended the Curriculum Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting. She reported that RtI Coordinator Jill Lyons presented new leveled guided reading books that would be used at each building for K-2. The books would replace readers from the 1970's.

**Discussion Items –**

**Construction Delivery Model – Jeff Keach –**

Mr. Heinold excused himself from this discussion.

District architect Jeff Keach explained two different construction delivery models –

- Design, Bid, Build – the traditional approach where the owner hires a design team, the project is competitively bid and is constructed by the lowest bidding General Contractor under a single lump sum contract.
- Construction Management – the approach where the owner hires a design team and a Construction Manager who work together during design, the project is competitively bid to multiple primes and is constructed by the lowest bidders under multiple prime contracts.

Based on Dr. Hall's recommendation, the board agreed to use the Design, Bid, Build approach for the additions to the three elementary schools. This method takes less time to bid and the District has Rodney Schuck as Director of Operations to oversee the project.

President Bernier explained that Mr. Heinold excused himself from this discussion due to the possibility that his construction company could bid on the project. She read the opinion from the District's attorney stating that Mr. Heinold's company can bid on the project with no conflict of interest. Board members discussed that though there may be no conflict of interest, it may be perceived differently within the community. They agreed though that any company can submit a bid with the project being awarded to the lowest responsible bidder.

Mr. Heinold rejoined the meeting.

**Discipline Handbook Changes -**

Dr. Teater reported on the recommended changes to the student discipline handbook for the 2016-2017 school year. The elementary, Jr. High and High School handbooks have been combined into one for K-12. Suggested revisions include adjustment of suspension language to align with legal expectation and providing clarity of expectations in the dress code allowing for sleeveless (not tank) tops.

Though the entire Leadership Team had input on the revisions, Dr. Teater thanked Mr. Saunders for his work on the format change and Mrs. Waterfield, Mr. Carter and Mr. Edwards for the many hours of work they spent on the handbook details.

**IASB Policy Service –**

Dr. Hall reported that the Policy Committee including Dr. Beaty and Mr. Neeley, along with herself, Dr. Smock and Mrs. Stubbs had met recently with representatives from IASB. They heard a presentation about policy services offered through this organization. As a result, the committee brought a recommendation to the Board to purchase a subscription to *School Board Policy On-Line Services, Press Plus* as well as the policy manual customization services. If these subscriptions are approved, the current subscription to *Press* would be discontinued, replacing it with *Press Plus*. This will be brought back to the Board for approval at a future meeting.

**Philosophical Discussion of Multi-Year Contracts –**

Mrs. Bernier reported the Board had met recently with Dennis Triggs, the District’s attorney, to receive his opinion on the industry standard for superintendents’ contracts of a rolling three-year contract. The Board went through the process for the sake of the new Board members. Dr. Beaty noted he asked for the public discussion, as he was not familiar with this type of contract. The discussion can be viewed at the 2:01 point of the meeting on MP-TV.

**Consent Agenda –**

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

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve Resolution for Non-Re-Employment of Educational Support Staff
- Approve the Minutes of the April 12, 2016, Regular Meeting and the April 12, 2016, Regular meeting Closed Session Minutes.
- Approve Bills and Payroll

	<b>Bills 4-15-16</b>	<b>Payroll 4-15-16</b>
Ed. Fund	\$11,660.26	\$404,642.22
Bldg. Fund	143.99	32,949.19
Trans. Fund	--	6,669.26
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	380,562.46

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Closed Session -

Motion by Mr. Bill, second by Mrs. Scarfe, 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 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 9:28 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, second by Dr. Beaty, 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 10:11 p.m.


Adjournment -

Motion by Mrs. Scarfe, second by Dr. Beaty, that the meeting be adjourned.

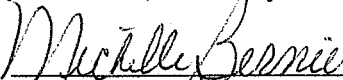
Voice Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Shaun Bill, Secretary

  
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Michelle Bernier, President