

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

JUNE 7, 2016

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held June 7, 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 6:32 p.m.

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

Audience Presentations – Mr. Wade Morehead and Mr. Shane Weyland requested that the Board of Education consider the addition of a varsity Lacrosse team at Morton High School. They reported that the IHSA will be adding boys and girls Lacrosse to the state series in the spring of 2018.

Reports –

Administrative –

Freedom of Information Requests -

Dr. Hall reported one Freedom of Information request was received and the response is posted on the District website. Nicholas Jack requested an estimate for the project that was awarded to Core Construction and emails related to the estimate. Copies of any bid documents submitted by all firms for the project were also requested.

Recognize Josh Gschwend –

Dr. Hall recognized outgoing MHS Assistant Principal, Josh Gschwend, for his service to the district from 2012 to present. Mr. Gschwend is leaving MHS for a position in northern Illinois.

District Office Summer Hours –

Dr. Hall reported that the District Office summer hours will be 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Drug Testing Update –

Dr. Hall reported that a drug testing update with results for Morton High School is provided to the Board of Education annually. There are approximately 600 students in the pool of candidates for random drug testing. A total of 321 students were tested throughout the 2015-2016 school year.

Physical Restraint Update –

Current data on physical restraint for the district was provided to the Board by the Special Education Department. Physical restraint is used for student safety. Staff is trained in correctly conducting these restraints.

External Counselor Report – MHS -

Dr. Hall reported on the early intervention provided by Illini Family Counseling to MHS students. A summary of contacts made with students throughout the school year was provided. Dr. Hall noted the school district is fortunate to be able to offer this service and support to high school students and their families.

Life Safety Update –

Director of Operations, Rodney Schuck, reported on proposed facilities work to take place during the upcoming summer.

Lettie Brown

- Lounge repair-(2 walls- remove cabinetry/plaster/paint)
- New playground area prep - Core out 12” of dirt in an area 57’x47’/install landscape timbers/line interior with landscape fabric. Playground equipment install by Lettie Brown PTO and manufacturer rep. Pea gravel base installed by district personnel.
- Misc. 10 yr. remaining Health/Life Safety work as able.

Grundy

- Complete removal/replacement of asphalt playground. Bury all downspouts as a result of playground work. Remove/reinstall A/C units affected by playground work. Misc. work associated with playground replacement.
- Misc. 10 yr. remaining Health/Life Safety work as able.

Jefferson

- Primary Restroom ACM abatement.
- Primary Restroom – complete demolition/remodel.
- Misc. 10 yr. Health/Life Safety work as able.

Lincoln

- Misc. 10 yr. Health/Life Safety work as able.
- A/C maintenance-interior units
- Paint exterior soffit

MJHS

- Multiple room ACM abatement - Rooms 111/116/117/211/210

- Multiple room remodel-band room/choir room/ensemble room - 111/116/117/211/210
- Softball diamond work - demolish old sheds/pour slab/set new building/install new backstop fittings and horizontal supports/set new bleachers
- Misc. 10 yr. Health/Life Safety work as able

MHS

- Complete demolition of Main and Bertha parking lot. Replacement of this parking lot including: New main lot lighting/combo of asphalt/concrete paving/curbs and curb islands to facilitate traffic/barrier curb sidewalk to provide better path of travel to canopy/new parking(striping) design to increase parking and better flow of traffic.
- Complete band room demolition/remodel.
- Some acoustical treatments (ceiling/wall) in chorus.
- Completion of Misc. HVAC work started over spring break.
- Complete demolition of maintenance/storage building. Relocation and construction of new maintenance/band storage building complete with restrooms for MHS events.
- Another phase of exhaust fan repair/replacement.
- Upgrading exterior lighting to LED fixtures.
- Misc. 10 yr. Health/Life Safety work as able.
- Athletic field closeout from previous summer.
- Birchwood softball field closeout.

President's Report –

President Bernier reported:

- A Committee of the Whole finance meeting will precede the July 12th Board of Education regular meeting.
- The Policy Committee will meet on August 4th with an IASB representative to begin the policy revision process.
- The District closed on 52.3 acres of the land on S. Fourth Avenue. There is still 36 acres left to purchase.

Agenda Building – a new addition to the agenda, Board members may make suggestions for future discussion items. Mrs. Scarfe asked for an update on Lacrosse. Mr. Neeley asked for an update to highlight Fine Arts across the district in light of a recent report provided by Patrick Mainieri, Fine Arts Coordinator. The report focused on the high numbers of participation in the Fine Arts.

Discussion Items –**Board Policy Compliance – Community Relations –**

Dr. Hall reported that she has reviewed the Community Relations policies and has determined that the district is in compliance. She and President Bernier will sign the forms and place them in the Master Compliance binder in the District Office.

Board of Education Code of Conduct #4 – Mr. Neeley –

Mr. Neeley reviewed the fourth point in the Code of Conduct for Board of Education members: *I will take no private action that might compromise the board or administration and will respect the confidentiality of privileged information.* He noted that board members are on the honor system and need to consider how their actions are perceived by the public.

Transgender Issues –

Dr. Beaty asked at the May 17th Board meeting that transgender issues be a discussion item at a future meeting. During discussion, board members all agreed the school district will support transgender students and their families. All board members find it difficult to support the federal government directive to allow biological males and females to use opposite locker rooms and restrooms. All feel these issues needs to be dealt with at the local level.

Board Goal Setting Discussion – Follow-up -

The board reviewed and discussed further the revisions made to the goals following the discussion at the May 17th meeting.

Action Items –**Approve AP Biology Textbook –**

On May 3, 2016, the Board of Education had a presentation on a textbook selection for AP Biology. A textbook committee has reviewed curriculum sources for AP Biology. A recommendation and report was presented to the Curriculum Advisory Committee and approved. The materials were available for the community at the Morton Public Library for 30 days. The administration is recommending that the Board approve the textbook *Biology in Focus*.

Motion by Mrs. Scarfe, second by Mr. Heinold, that the Board of Education approve the purchase of *Biology in Focus* at the cost of \$4,604.13.

Roll Call:

Yea 7

Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Building Rental Fees –

Dr. Hall reported that building rental fees for District 709 facilities have not been increased in 5 years. After a review of neighboring districts, Morton School District is well within the range of fees charged in raising rates by 10%. This represents a 2% increase per year. The hourly custodial rate will also be set at \$40.00. It was previously \$36.00 at Bertha Frank, and varying hourly rates for building rental. This brings consistency to practices. All costs associated with facilities have gone up over the past five years, including custodial rates of pay, utilities, and equipment replacement costs.

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Mr. Bill, that the Board of Education approve the Building Rental Fees as outlined

Roll Call: Yea 6 Nay 0 Abstain 1 (Bernier)

Motion carried.

Approve Resolution providing for the issue of \$8,990,000 General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2016, of the District, for the purpose of building and equipping additions to and altering, repairing and equipping the Lettie Brown Elementary School, Grundy Elementary School, Jefferson Elementary School, Lincoln Elementary School, Morton Junior High School and Morton High School and improving the sites thereof, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest on said bonds and authorizing the sale of said bonds to Morton Community Bank thereof.

President Bernier announced that a proposal has been received from Morton Community Bank, Morton, Illinois, for the purchase of the District's general obligation school building bonds approved at the March 15, 2016, referendum and to be issued by the District, and that the Board of Education would consider the adoption of a resolution providing for the issue of said bonds and the levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest thereon.

Motion by Mr. Bill, second by Mrs. Scarfe, that said resolution as presented and read by title be adopted. After a full discussion, President Bernier directed that the roll be called for a vote upon the motion to adopt said resolution.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Whereupon President Bernier declared the motion carried and said resolution adopted, approved and signed the same in open meeting and directed the Secretary to record the same in the records of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District Number 709, Tazewell County, Illinois, which was done.

Consent Agenda –

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

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve Out of State Trip - Wrestling
- Approve Liability Insurance Renewal
- Approve Life Safety Extension of Time
- Authorize Submission of General State Aid and Transportation Claims
- Approve Treasurers for 2016-2017 School Year and Adopt Treasurer Resolution
- Approve Resolution Designating Depositories and Signatories
- Approve Resolution Authorizing Interfund Loans and Transfers
- Approve Complaint Managers
- Approve Resolution to Set Fees for Freedom of Information Act
- Approve Hazardous Bus Routes
- Approve Prevailing Wage Resolution
- Approve Gift Acceptance Report
- Approve Review of Closed Session Minutes
- Approve April Treasurer’s Report
- Approve Minutes of the May 9, 2016, Committee of the Whole Meeting and the May 9, 2016, Committee of the Whole meeting Closed Session Minutes; Minutes of the May 17, 2016, Regular Meeting, and the May 17, 2016, Regular Meeting Closed Session Minutes.
- Approve Bills and Payrolls

	Bills 5-20-16	Bills 5-27-16	Bills 6-3-16	Payroll 5-27-16
Ed. Fund	\$82,000.53	\$43,963.03	\$216,046.88	\$462,007.84
Bldg. Fund	186,724.94	--	15,514.47	35,695.13
Trans. Fund	13,511.37	110.67	29,278.95	14,464.25
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	--	--	413,742.70

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Closed Session -

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, second by Dr. Beaty, 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 7:55 p.m.

Motion by Dr. Beaty, second by Mr. Bill, 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 8:45 p.m.

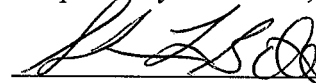
Adjournment -

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

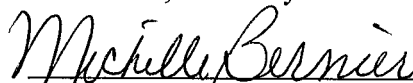
Voice Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

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

Respectfully submitted,



Shaun Bill, Secretary



Michelle Bernier, President