

**MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709**

**JANUARY 17, 2017**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held January 17, 2017, 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, Mrs. Kelly Scarfe, Mr. Shaun Bill,  
Dr. Shad Beaty, Mr. Clint Heinold, Mr. Tom Neeley, Mr. Jeff Schmidgall

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by MHS students Kyra Postlewait and Collin Smith

**Audience Presentation** – Aaron Seaman of 216 S. Missouri, Morton, asked the Board of Education for information on vocational/career courses and opportunities for students.

**Reports –**

**Administrative –**

**Freedom of Information Requests -**

Dr. Hall noted there were no Freedom of Information requests to report.

**Student Ambassador –**

MHS Student Council representative Kyra Postlewait and Collen Smith reported on past and upcoming Student Council sponsored activities. Spirit Week was held the week before finals, held a collection for Toys for Tots and made Santa Calls to children in the community prior to Christmas. Upcoming activities include a Red Cross Blood Drive on February 23 and St. Jude Week to be held from March 14-17.

**Construction Update –**

Dr. Hall reported that good weather in December has allowed construction to continue at Brown, Grundy and Lincoln Schools. Walls are up on the gymnasiums at all three buildings. Summer 2017 work will include the windows scheduled to be replaced at Jefferson School. Bids will go out in mid-March and be brought to the Board for approval at the March 21 meeting. After a recent meeting with architect Jeff Keach, it was decided to add some alternate bids to the bid package that would include non-referendum work including new tile floors at Jefferson and Brown and tuck pointing at the High School.

**Cropper Update –**

Dr. Hall asked the Board to consider an update to the enrollment report completed by Cropper GIS in 2014. For approximately \$6,000, Cropper will update the report using current trends and numbers. Some Board members questioned the value of having the report done at this time while others thought it would be good information for the new superintendent and new board members. Since a majority of the Board thought it practical to wait for the new superintendent and new board members, it was decided not to proceed at this time.

**President's Report –**

President Bernier reported that the Board will be interviewing six candidates for the Superintendent position. That group will be narrowed to 2-3 with a final decision by the end of February.

Mr. Neeley and Dr. Beaty reported that the Policy Committee met with a representative from IASB on Thursday, January 12, for the ongoing Policy manual customization work. The group reviewed 5 sections and hopes to complete the remaining sections at its next meeting on February 2. A draft of the revised policy manual will then be prepared for the entire board to review.

President Bernier reported she and Dr. Hall will meet with new school board candidates to offer background information on school board membership. Candidates will also be invited to attend the spring Central Illinois Valley Division meeting that is being hosted by Morton School District in March. A School Board Candidate workshop will be offered at that meeting.

**Agenda Building –**

- President Bernier – Cropper Report (May)
- Mr. Bill – work based opportunities for students
- Mr. Neeley – opportunities at ICC
- Mrs. Scarfe – Lacrosse team – Dr. Hall noted the high school is awaiting information from IHSA before they can move forward with a recommendation

**Discussion Items –**

**Board Compliance – Instruction Policies –**

Dr. Hall reported that she has reviewed the Instruction Policies and has determined that the district is in compliance. She and President Bernier will sign the compliance form and place it in the Master Compliance binder in the District Office.

### Board Goals Discussion – Achievement –

Dr. Hall reviewed the goal of Achievement that was revamped by the board in the spring of 2016:

*In order to ensure all students have opportunities to achieve their potential, our academic programs will maintain the highest standards and expectations for learning.*

In a climate of increased emphasis and time spent on standardized testing, the board recognizes that the ultimate goal of a K-12 education is learning, growth, achievement, and acquisition of the skills and knowledge needed to be a successful and contributing member of our society after graduating from high school.

- Through articulation meetings and curriculum mapping at all grade levels, the district will continually review and align our curriculum both vertically and across grade levels to ensure consistency of instruction, as well as alignment to Illinois Learning Standards.
- The district will implement and maintain a continuum of services to meet the needs of all students, which includes RtI/MTSS, Special Education, ELL, Challenge, Honors, Dual Credit, CTE offerings and Advanced Placement Classes, as well as a broad and varied extracurricular program.
- Meaningful data that helps to inform the board, administration and teachers about student learning and achievement will be identified and defined and utilized to inform decision making and communication. This will assist with the alignment and coherence of goals and professional development and will also serve as a communication tool with the board and our community about school improvement goals and initiatives.
- The District Leadership Team will identify and monitor benchmarks to measure the progress and success of our students in our classrooms, including but not limited to
  - *3rd graders and reading--at or above grade level at end of 3rd grade year on MAP*
  - *3rd and 5th grade math growth goals on MAP*
  - *7th, 8th, 9th grade ASPIRE data in writing, reading and math*
  - *SAT data for 11th graders*
  - *Graduation Rate*
  - *Enrollment in Dual Credit and AP classes*
  - *Test taking percentage, scores on AP tests*
- Technology will be utilized within the context of the “SAMR” model to enhance instruction and learning throughout the curriculum, with the personal devices initiative continuing to be closely monitored and evaluated.
- Metrics will be established to monitor and evaluate the 1:1 personal devices initiative.

Dr. Teater noted that meta-analysis studies are being used to monitor the use and effectiveness of technology and personal devices in instruction.

**Board of Education Code of Conduct #11 – Mr. Heinold –**

Mr. Heinold reviewed the eleventh point in the Code of Conduct for Board of Education members: *I will model continuous learning and work to ensure good governance by taking advantage of board member development opportunities, such as those sponsored by my state and national school board associations, and encourage my fellow board members to do the same.* Mr. Heinold noted that board members have taken advantage of training and workshops offered by the state and national associations. There is a steep learning curve for new board members and all should take advantage of those offered throughout the year.

**Long Term Facilities Plan –**

President Bernier asked board members to look forward to future needs throughout the school district. She suggested a Committee of the Whole meeting to precede the regular meeting on February 7 for discussion of a long term facilities plan. President Bernier challenged board members to think outside the box with this question: “What would you do if you knew you could not fail?” Mrs. Scarfe urged board members to think of ideas to hand over to the new board in May to give them a starting point for a long term plan.

**Action Item –****Approve Bertha Frank Lighting Control Panel –**

Dr. Hall reported there is an urgent need to replace the lighting control rack in the Bertha Frank Performing Arts Center. The current lighting control rack is original to the building and has been malfunctioning in recent months, now to a daily occurrence. Chicago Spotlight, the original installer of the rack in 1997, has confirmed the necessity of replacement due to lack of parts and advancement of technology. The three computer control modules in the rack all have refurbished parts that are no longer available from the manufacturer. In August 2016, a malfunction in the control module of the rack resulted in a \$2,083 expenditure for the current refurbished parts. Those refurbished parts are now failing with no available back-ups. The lighting control rack controls all house and theatrical lighting (dimnable lights) in the Bertha Frank Performing Arts Center. Without an update to the lighting control system, the facility will not be useable by the District or for outside rentals.

Bids were received from two lighting system companies, Advanced Audio & Lighting and Grand Stage Lighting. The two bids ranged from \$26,993 to \$30,700 with Advanced Audio & Lighting Systems submitting the low bid.

Dr. Hall noted this is an urgent need and funds from multiple sources will be used to pay for this: MHS building budget, district money and activity account money from Drama and Chorus.

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Mrs. Scarfe, that the Board of Education accept the bid from Advanced Audio & Lighting Systems in the amount of \$26,993.00.

Roll Call:                      Yea 7                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda –**

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

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve November Treasurer’s Report
- Review of Closed Session Minutes
- Approve Out of State Trip – MHS Orchestra
- Approve Minutes of the December 6, 2016, Regular Meeting; the December 6, 2016, Regular Meeting Closed Session; the January 12, 2017, Special Meeting; and the January 12, 2017, Special Meeting Closed Session.
- Approve Bills and Payrolls

	<b>Bills 12-9-16</b>	<b>Bills 12-16-16</b>	<b>Bills 12-21-16</b>	<b>Bills 1-6-17</b>	<b>Bills 1-13-17</b>	<b>Payroll 12-9-16</b>	<b>Payroll 12-23-16</b>	<b>Payroll 1-6-17</b>
d. Fund	\$12,163.57	\$124,594.99	\$131,724.84	\$10,566.43	\$84,758.55	\$485,592.15	\$499,801.56	\$410,318.3
ldg. Fund	3,191.35	30,406.69	34,261.57	588.24	26,536.10	32,291.69	34,360.24	32,267.4
rans. Fund	198.80	17,521.08	619.99	183.44	10,551.35	10,681.17	14,326.02	6,004.3
apital Projects	166,144.52	155,298.33	361,190.00	--	119.00	--	--	
ayroll Accts. Pay.	--	--	--	--	--	459,875.84	476,796.89	558,715.4

Roll Call:                      Yea 7                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Closed Session –**

Motion by Mr. Heinold, 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/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 7:35 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 9:16 p.m.

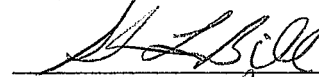
**Adjournment -**

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

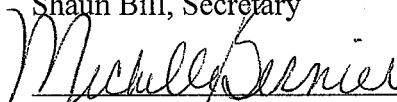
Voice Vote:                      Yea 7                      Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Shaun Bill, Secretary



Michelle Bernier, President