

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

July 11 2017

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held July 11, 2017, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Tom Neeley called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Tom Neeley, Dr. Shad Beaty, Mr. Jeff Schmidgall,
Mrs. Michelle Bernier, Dr. David Cross, Mr. Bart Rinckenberger

Member absent: Mr. Kevin Austin

Mr. Neeley welcomed Dr. Hill to his first official Board of Education meeting as Superintendent. He noted that he and the Board are looking forward to his leadership.

Reports –

Administrative –

Dr. Hill welcomed Mr. Michael Gourley to the meeting. Mr. Gourley started in his position as MHS principal on July 1, 2017.

Freedom of Information Requests -

Dr. Hill noted there are no Freedom of Information requests to report.

Dyslexia Report –

Mrs. Owens gave an overview of current supports for students with Dyslexia, considerations for improvement and 2017-18 action steps.

Considerations for improvement include:

- Training-comprehensive plan
- Expand role of school-based specialists
- Improve use and consistency of procedures
- Improve procedures to align with evidence based practices
- Establish “Learning Profile” (establish team to develop)
- Focus on evidence based practices
- Use data to inform decisions
- Increase parent involvement in process

2017-18 Action Steps:

- Update procedures: implement with fidelity. Increase involvement of school-based specialists and parent involvement.
- Create “Learning Profile” for use with all students diagnosed with Dyslexia.
- Develop 3-year training and implementation plan. Initiate 1st year of training and implementation.

Mr. Neeley thanked Mrs. Owens for the report and for meeting recently with the local parent group of students with Dyslexia.

Legislative Update – State Budget -

Dr. Hill reported that the state legislature recently passed a budget that includes an increase in education funding. There are no specifics at this time as the budget is not yet finalized.

New Health Examination Screening Requirement -

Dr. Hill reported effective June 1, 2017, there is a new requirement for developmental and social emotional screening to be included in the Kindergarten, 6th and 9th grade student physicals. At this time, the rules are not clear and he is awaiting more information and guidance.

President’s Report –

President Neeley reported there is a Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for July 25, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. to continue the goal setting process.

Discussion Items –

Board Self Evaluation – Further Planning –

Mr. Neeley reviewed IASB facilitator Larry Dirk’s suggestions following the Board retreat on June 26, 2017.

- Have plenty of “information lead time” on critical issues.
- Keep conversation at the board table, not on the side; have “big” conversations at the board table.
- Follow chain of command, but “no surprises” by keeping each other informed. Review the chain of command policy and remember that board members cannot solve customer problems.
- Keep lines of communication open between board and administration.
- Be specific regarding the stated exception when entering closed session and keep to that exception.
- Review audience participation guidelines.
- Consider some community engagement ideas.

- Create dashboard of indicators/data/charts for better monitoring of district performance by the board.

Mr. Neeley noted there will be further discussion at a follow-up meeting.

Action Item -

Approve Security Camera Server Replacement –

Dr. Hill reported there is a need to replace the six existing security camera servers. These servers hold security camera video for all schools and the District Office. Over the past several years, the security cameras have been upgraded to high definition IP (internet protocol) cameras as well as adding additional cameras for more coverage. In addition, additional cameras will be added to the new building additions. As a result of this increased demand, the existing servers are not able to archive as much video as is necessary. Over the past year, the server holding the MHS video has decreased from 28 days to 7 days.

The existing servers, which operate continually, are reaching the end of their life span. The oldest server is 7 years old and the newest server is 4 years old. Replacing the existing servers will allow more data to be archived, add additional cameras, replace aging servers and eliminate the need for a service agreement of \$6,000 per year.

The budget for the server replacement will be split between the Tort Fund and the Education Fund.

Base bids were received from two electronic companies to provide four 24TB servers. In addition the administration asked for alternate bids for four 32TB servers. The two base bids ranged from \$82,771 - \$195,700 with MidCo Systems submitting the low bid. The two alternate bids ranged from \$88,705 - \$204,054 with MidCo Systems submitting the low bid.

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mr. Schmidgall, that the Board of Education approve the base bid from MidCo Systems in the amount of \$82,771.04.

Mr. Schmidgall and Mr. Rinkenberger expressed their appreciation for the information provided by Bill Schock, coordinator of security.

Roll Call:

Yea 6

Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Title I Plan –

Dr. Hill reported that one of the requirements of the federally funded Title I program this year is the submission of a Title I District Plan. This plan includes the after-school Homework Club, after-school Math Club and the Title I Math Program that provided

additional services at Jefferson and Grundy Schools.

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, second by Mrs. Bernier, that the Board of Education approve the submission of the Title I Plan to ISBE for the 2017-18 school year.

Roll Call: Yea 6 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve IASB Resolution – Board of Directors Resolution–

Mr. Thomas Neeley, long time district representative to the Central Illinois Valley Division of the Illinois Association of School Boards, past chairman and division director and current IASB Treasurer, is seeking election as Vice President of the Illinois Association of School Boards. A formal resolution from the home district Board of Education that acknowledges the time commitment if selected, is required in order to be interviewed by the committee for possible nomination to the aforementioned position. The term is typically two one-year terms, which is then typically followed by the designation of two one-year terms as President, and then immediate Past President of the Association for an additional two one-year terms.

Mr. Neeley served as division Chair from 1997-2007 and director from 2007-2015, and treasurer beginning in November of 2015.

Motion by Dr. Beaty, second by Mr. Schmidgall, that the Board of Education approve the resolution recommending Mr. Neeley be considered by the IASB Nominating Committee for the position of Vice President of the Board of Directors.

Roll Call: Yea 4 Nay 1 (Bernier) Abstain 1 (Neeley)

Motion carried.

Approve Non-Resident Student Per Board Policy 7:60 –

Dr. Hill noted that per Board Policy 7:60, the Board of Education can approve a request for a non-resident student to attend the Morton Schools. It is the recommendation of the superintendent to approve the request that the Board of Education received, per the guidelines and parameters outlined in this policy.

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Dr. Cross that the Board of Education approve the request for a non-resident student to attend the Morton Schools per the guidelines and parameters in Policy 7:60.

Roll Call: Yea 6 Nay 0

Motion carried.

	Payroll 6-9-17	Payroll 6-23-17	Payroll 6-30-17	Payroll 7-7-17
Ed. Fund	\$410,492.25	\$409,480.98	\$28,336.91	\$395,163.78
Bldg. Fund	44,606.66	51,387.46	--	52,752.93
Trans. Fund	5,161.88	6,558.42	--	7,684.95
Payroll Accts. Pay.	421,099.76	423,593.32	10,564.01	332,504.32

Roll Call:

Yea 6

Nay 0

Motion carried.

Adjournment -

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

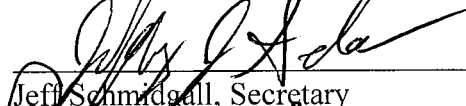
Voice Vote:

Yea 6

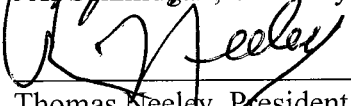
Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Schmidgall, Secretary



Thomas Neeley, President