

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

FEBRUARY 3, 2009

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held February 3, 2009, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING -

Call to Order and Roll Call -

President Linda Menold called the regular meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Members present: Mrs. Linda Menold, Mrs. Nancy Overcash, Mrs. Joyce Kaiser,
Mr. John Applen, Mr. Thomas Neeley, Mr. Gary Rassi, Mr. Doug Riddle

Mrs. Overcash left the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and returned at 8:25 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance –

The Board of Education recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reports –

Administrative –

709 Recognition –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the Instructional Aides are being recognized during the month of February. He encouraged those in attendance to send comments through the accolades section on the District website.

School Highlights –

Dr. Kilpatrick noted that the principals' school highlights were included in board member packets. He noted that a MAP update will be given at the April Board meeting.

School Day Committee –

Mrs. Jayne Eisenmann was present to report on the findings of the School Day Committee. She noted that the committee developed an alternate schedule. Ultimately, teachers at all levels do not want a change. The only change would be if the campus is closed at the high school, the schedule at the high school would change slightly.

Dr. Kilpatrick reviewed the history of why the committee was formed. The School Day Committee came out of the Closed Campus Committee a few years ago.

Freedom of Information Requests –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that there have been no Freedom of Information requests.

Drug Testing Update –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the Drug Testing is ongoing and there have been no positive results. He will send a copy of the updated procedures with his weekly update. He noted that drug testing will be a discussion item in April to recap the program.

County Wide Sales Tax –

Dr. Kilpatrick asked to add the county wide sales tax issue to Discussion Items tonight due to recent news that the issue will be on the April 7 ballot as a referendum.

Board President –

Mrs. Menold reported that she, Mrs. Overcash, Mr. Smock and Dr. Kilpatrick visited the Morton High School and Brown School today to recognize three teachers. They presented a certificate of recognition to Mr. Jeff Neavor at the high school for his achievement with the Marching Band and the honor they brought the community. Mr. Adam Eucker was given a certificate of recognition for obtaining a grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation/Allstate for the Driving Skills for Life Project 2008-2009. Mrs. Teri Horner was presented a certificate of recognition for obtaining grant funds from Verizon for “The Den” at Lettie Brown School.

Mrs. Menold noted that these type of presentations will be made each month the day of the Board meetings.

Mr. Neeley reported that the Central Illinois Valley Division of IASB will have their semi-annual conference and dinner meeting on Wednesday, March 4, at IVC. He encouraged all to attend and asked that the two new board candidates be invited to attend. He noted that he and Dr. Kilpatrick will be discussion leaders in the School Board Candidates workshop that evening.

Discussion Items –

Board of Education Retreat -

Mrs. Menold reported that the Board needs to establish a date to hold the Board of Education retreat for planning and goal setting for the 2009-2010 year. She noted that the Administration is in the process of reviewing our academic targets for this next year and will have that completed by the time of the retreat for discussion. The meeting is being planned for Saturday, April 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The meeting will focus on the “Dashboard” and the five broad goals. The two new board candidates will be invited to attend.

Board Policy Compliance – Instruction Policies –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that as a part of the new policy compliance monitoring practice, a review of the Student Policies was conducted as part of our annual process. After review, Dr. Kilpatrick has determined that the school district is in compliance with these policies. He will sign the compliance form and place it in the Policy Compliance Manual at the District Office. Mrs. Menold distributed a revised monitoring form to be placed in each board members policy binder.

County Sales Tax Referendum –

Dr. Kilpatrick explained that though he has not asked the Board of Education to pass a resolution in favor of placing the county wide sales tax referendum on the April ballot, enough other school districts have and are putting the issue on the ballot. Since we have not completed our facilities study, the timing of the resolution is problematic for us. He explained that he would be in favor of the referendum after having time to educate the public on the tax and its use. Since it will be on the ballot in April, he asked if the Board would support it and do all we can in a short time to inform the community of the advantages of passing the referendum and how the money will be used locally. The Board agreed and discussed using newspapers, mailings and our website as informational means.

Action Items –

Approve Second Reading and Adoption of Selected Board Policies – Section 2, 4, 6 and 7 -

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that selected policies from Section 2, 4, 6 and 7 are being recommended for adoption in order to update our policies to current practice related to review and advice from legal counsel.

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Mrs. Kaiser that the Board of Education conduct a Second Reading of Board Policies 2:220, 4:60, 4:70, 6:60, 6:120, 6:210, 6:230, 6:235, 6:240, 6:330, 7:10, 7:15, 7:20, 7:50, 7:210, 7:230, 7:240, 7:300, 7:325 and adopt these policies as presented and revised.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea 6

Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Board Meeting Date Change –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the regularly scheduled board meeting for February 17, 2009, at Grundy School falls during the week that is being planned for negotiations with the Morton Educators Association. He is recommending that the Board of Education meeting be

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

PERSONNEL REPORT

February 3, 2009

I. CERTIFIED STAFF

A. RESIGNATIONS

B. VOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

C. INVOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

D. APPOINTMENTS

1. Ashley Tucker – substitute teacher
2. Laura Christopher – substitute teacher
3. Jamie Summers – substitute teacher
4. Melanie Wallace – substitute teacher
5. Christine Demetre – substitute teacher
6. Nathan Early – substitute teacher
7. Elizabeth Cash – substitute teacher
8. Teresa Cornetta – substitute teacher
9. Jill Hilst – substitute teacher
10. Whitney Andrews – substitute teacher
11. Heidi Weber – substitute teacher

E. REHIRES

F. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

G. RETIREMENT

H. DISMISSALS

II. EXTRA-DUTY

A. RESIGNATIONS

1. Matt Wright – resigned from his position as head track coach at Morton Jr. High School effective for the 2008-2009 school year.

B. APPOINTMENTS

1. Maghan McMenamin – Play Director at Morton Jr. High School for the 2008-2009 school year.
2. Jennifer Pillman – Assistant Play Director at Morton Jr. High School for the 2008-2009 school year.
3. Jason Thiry – Head Track Coach at Morton High School effective for the 2008-2009 school year.

C. SUSPENSION

D. DISMISSALS

III. SUPPORT STAFF

A. RESIGNATIONS

B. VOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

C. INVOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

D. APPOINTMENTS

E. REHIRES

F. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

G. RETIREMENTS

H. DISMISSALS