

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

APRIL 7, 2009

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held April 7, 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 6:34 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

Pledge of Allegiance –

The Board of Education recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience Presentations –

Mr. Christopher Farris of 309 N. Illinois Ave., Morton, addressed the Board concerning the Facilities Plan and the future plans of Jefferson Elementary School. He expressed his concerns for Jefferson students if the building were to close. He asked the Board of Education to consider other options and keep Jefferson open. Mr. Farris expressed his appreciation for the Board's further consideration of this matter.

Reports –

Administrative –

709 Recognition –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that parents and volunteers are the focus of appreciation for the month of April. He expressed his thanks and appreciation for all that the parents and volunteers do throughout the year for all of the schools. He encouraged those present to thank them on the accolades section of the District website.

School Highlights -

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the School Highlights for March were included in the board member's packets. He noted that the food service department has received a top rating award from the Tazewell County Health Department. He commended all of the Sodexo employees for their efforts in this regard.

Mr. Neeley expressed his appreciation for the teachers and staff in their efforts in successfully completing the ISAT testing process.

Drug Testing -

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the drug testing is ongoing and the process is working well. No students have been identified to date. He noted the program has been accepted by the students.

Freedom of Information Requests –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that he has responded to a request from Methodist Hospital for information on the insurance proposals.

Staff Recognition -

Mrs. Menold reported that she and Dr. Kilpatrick presented certificates earlier in the day to Mrs. Rosie Durand for her efforts in receiving approval for the first AP course at Morton High School and to Mrs. Sandra Bump for 50 years of service to education, 44 of those years have been in Morton School District.

Closed Campus –

Dr. Kilpatrick distributed a handout and noted that a more detailed report will be sent to Board members prior to the April 28 meeting. Further discussion or possible action will be taken at that meeting.

Dr. Kilpatrick reviewed the background of the closed campus issue and different scenarios if the high school campus were to be closed. His preferred scenario would be to go to a 4 period lunch for Freshman, Sophomores and Juniors the first year, which would be a learning year. Seniors would still have an open campus during the first year. There would be an opt out system put into place for anyone with parental permission to leave for lunch occasionally. He noted that security features would be put in place the first year along with outdoor courtyards and food option alternatives since students will not be allowed to leave campus during lunch time. It was noted that with the 4 period lunch option the students would have an additional 20 minute study hall.

Summer School –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that information on the 2009 summer school program had recently been sent to Board members. Mr. Bardwell noted that the program will serve K-3 students who will be determined by using MAP assessments and other data. The program will be approved at the April 28 meeting.

Board Committees–

Mrs. Menold reported that the Policy Committee had met earlier in the evening to discuss Internet issues including blogging and Web 2.0.

Discussion Items –

Long Range Facilities Timeframe Update -

Dr. Kilpatrick distributed a timetable he has developed for community involvement, data gathering and community survey throughout the remainder of 2009 for the development of the final plan for the facilities review. It is now time to identify and invite members to form a Core Committee of 20 – 25 people. The Core Committee will assimilate information and develop a list of tasks for sub-committees. Sub-committees would include Community Collaboration, Communications, Survey and Finance. The Board stressed the importance of ongoing communication and avenues to use in order to make sure the entire community is well informed of the process as it is taking place.

Board members asked Dr. Kilpatrick to research options for next year to address the space limitations at the elementary buildings, such as mobile classrooms.

Board Policy Compliance Process – Community Relations –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that as a part of the policy compliance monitoring practice, a review of the Community Relations policies was recently conducted. He reported that the policies are being followed and that the District is in compliance with those policies. Mrs. Menold noted that she and Dr. Kilpatrick will sign off on the compliance form and place it in the Master policy book in the District Office.

Action Items –

Approve District Handbook Changes -

Dr. Kilpatrick noted the recommended changes to the discipline handbooks that were presented at the March 17 meeting. Most of the revisions were changes in wording suggested by legal counsel.

Motion by Mrs. Overcash, second by Mrs. Kaiser that the Board of Education approve the discipline handbook changes as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Mrs. Menold thanked the Discipline Committee that included parents, teachers and administrators.

Approval of February, 2009, Treasurer's Report
Authorize Renewal of IHSA Membership
Approve Bus Bid
Approve High School Photography Agreement
Approve Suspension Reports for Filing

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion Carried.

Closed Session -

Motion by Mrs. Kaiser, second by Mr. Riddle, that the Board of Education enter into closed session for the appointment, employment, compensation, performance, or dismissal of employees, student discipline, purchase of property, litigation and/or negotiations.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 8:17 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Riddle, second by Mr. Applen, 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 9:10 p.m.

Action Item -

Approve Personnel Report –

Motion by Mrs. Kaiser, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education approve the personnel report as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Resolution for Non-Re-Employment of Educational Support Personnel –

Motion by Mr. Riddle, second by Mr. Neeley, that the Board of Education approve the non-re-employment of recommended education support personnel.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Resolution for Non-Re-Employment of Professional Staff –

Motion by Mrs. Kaiser, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education approve the non-re-employment of recommended professional staff.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Resolution for Re-Employment of Professional Staff –

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mrs. Kaiser, that the Board of Education approve the re-employment of recommended professional staff.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Other –

Dr. Kilpatrick reminded board members of the Board Retreat scheduled for Saturday, April 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the District Office.

Mr. Neeley noted that the Central Illinois Valley Governing Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 6. Mrs. Menold encouraged board members to attend.

Adjournment -

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mrs. Kaiser, that the meeting be adjourned.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Kaiser, Secretary

Linda M. Menold, President

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

PERSONNEL REPORT

April 7, 2009

I. CERTIFIED STAFF

A. RESIGNATIONS

1. **Angela Luginbuhl** – resigned from her position as Special Education teacher at Morton Jr. High School effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year.
2. **Malena Rogers** – resigned from her position as part time Agriculture teacher at Morton High School effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year.

B. VOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

1. **Jeanette Grant** – from special education teacher at Grundy School to Kindergarten teacher at Grundy School effective for the 2009-2010 school year.

C. INVOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

D. APPOINTMENTS

1. **Jennifer Krause** – substitute teacher
2. **Kurt Lemke** – substitute teacher
3. **Thomas Wallenfang** – substitute teacher

4. **Christopher Roberts** - Washington, IL
 Education: MA-Graceland Univ., BA-Illinois State University
 Major: Collaborative Teaching and Learning
 Experience: 5 yrs. – Sp. Ed. – Iowa; 1 yr. – History – District 150
 Assignment: Special Education/ARC – Morton High School

5. **Kristi McKinley** - Flanagan, IL
 Education: BS – Greenville College
 Major: Elementary Education
 Experience: Student Teacher – Vandalia Elem. School
 Assignment: 2nd Grade Teacher – Lincoln School

6. **Jessica Huber** - Glasford, IL
 Education: BS – Bradley University
 Major: Elementary Education
 Experience: Student Teacher – Monroe Elem., Bartonville
 Assignment: 3rd Grade Teacher – Grundy School

7. **Kristina Westerfield** - McLean, IL
 Education: BS – Illinois State University
 Major: Special Education
 Experience: Student Teacher – Parkview Jr. High, Pekin High School
 Assignment: Special Education Teacher – Morton High School

E. REHIRES

1. **Jodi Henricks** – full time kindergarten teacher at Lincoln School effective for the 2009-2010 school year; was part time kindergarten teacher at Lincoln School 2008-2009 school year.

F. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1. **Holly Toraason** – requests a one year leave of absence from her position as special education teacher at Brown School effective for the 2009-2010 school year.

G. RETIREMENT

H. DISMISSALS

II. EXTRA-DUTY

A. RESIGNATIONS

1. **Jami Greve** – resigned from her position as Head Volleyball Coach at Morton High School effective for the 2009-2010 school year.
2. **Malena Rogers** – resigned from her position as FFA sponsor at Morton High School effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year.

B. APPOINTMENTS

1. **Stuart Smith** – Assistant Freshman Football Coach at Morton High School for the 2009-2010 school year.

C. SUSPENSION

D. DISMISSALS

III. SUPPORT STAFF

A. RESIGNATIONS

1. **Carol Schmitt** – resigned from her position as substitute bus driver effective April 1, 2009.

B. VOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

C. INVOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

D. APPOINTMENTS

1. **Mary Ann Staker** – substitute crossing guard

E. REHIRES

F. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

G. RETIREMENTS

H. DISMISSALS