

## **MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709**

**March 5, 2019**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held March 5, 2019, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

### **REGULAR MEETING**

#### **Call to Order and Roll Call –**

President Neeley called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

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

#### **Reports –**

##### **Administrative –**

##### **Freedom of Information Requests –**

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

##### **Recognize MJHS Boys 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball State Finalists -**

Mr. Carter and Coach Jamie King introduced the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball team. The team placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the IESA State Basketball tournament. Mr. Neeley thanked them for representing Morton well and making the community proud of their accomplishments on and off the court.

##### **Recognize State Chess and Robotics Teams –**

Kara Knepp, Robotics Club co-sponsor, introduced the Robotics Team and reported the club is new to the school district this year. The club was formed last year, but became an official school club this year with members from grades 7-12. The team developed a robot named “Fred” that proved to be very competitive. The team was selected to participate in the Regional competition where it received the Design Award for innovation and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 25 teams. It was one of 44 teams (out of almost 200 statewide) invited to compete at the state event where it finished 6<sup>th</sup> in its division out of 22 teams. Team members were introduced along with “Fred.”

Chess Coach Kim Serrurier introduced the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Chess team that placed 4<sup>th</sup> at the IESA State Chess tournament. She coaches both the JH and HS chess teams and all were participants at the state tournament.

Mr. Neeley and the Board congratulated both teams and thanked them for representing the school district well and making the community proud.

### **Aide Appreciation Day – March 16, 2019**

Dr. Hill reported that for the fifth year, District 709 will set aside March 15 to recognize all support staff aides. (March 16 falls on a Saturday.) The day is in honor of Amy Hardin's legacy, a Lincoln School aide who tragically lost her life in October of 2014 in an automobile accident. Her birthday is March 16. Dr. Hill and President Neeley expressed their gratitude to support staff aides for all they do for the students and teachers of District 709.

### **Superintendent's Report –**

Dr. Hill congratulated the Lady Potters for their Class 3 IHSA Basketball State Championship. They have been champions four times in the past five years.

Dr. Hill reported:

- band director candidate, Tim Gray, will be hired tonight upon approval of the personnel report. He thanked all those involved in the hiring process.
- he attended the Alliance Leadership Summit last week in Springfield. He and Mr. Neeley were able to meet with legislators to discuss matters concerning to school districts.
- Vision for student success - In reviewing District 709's mission, a mission, beliefs, and goals have been identified along with what has been identified through Morton Moving Forward regarding student achievement goals, and the strategies and actions being implemented to reach those goals. Vision, however, is not addressed directly, but some can be gleaned through the beliefs as well as the things that are in place to support student success. Dr. Hill noted his desire to begin the discussion on strategic vision, not to come to any conclusions, but to get board members and administrators thinking about the District's vision and how multiple stakeholders can be involved in the discussion.
- County Facilities Sales Tax – Board Member participation – materials have been prepared to assist board members when speaking to groups - graphs showing property sales tax savings and a FAQ document were reviewed.

### **President's Report –**

President Neeley reported he attended the Alliance Summit in Springfield last week. He noted legislators want input from school officials. School board members need to speak up and let them know how their decisions impact schools.

### **Agenda Building –**

- Mr. Neeley – would like to add safety concerns to the April agenda.

- Mr. Neeley – would like to prepare a survey for students, parents and teachers to be given prior to the end of this school year.

### Discussion Items -

#### BFPAC HVAC System –

Dr. Hill and Rodney Schuck explained that the current HVAC system at the Bertha Frank Performing Arts Center is the original equipment and is currently 23 years old. This system contains six units that reside on the lower roof. One of these units has a failed heat exchanger and cannot be used. The other five units are carrying the heating load at the moment.

- In the past month, there has also been a failure on another roof top unit which was repaired.
- Over the past several years, we have had to replace two supply fan motors (at 300 lbs. each), multiple flue draft motors, multiple condenser fan motors, ignition systems and economizer modules. Parts cost and availability are becoming a problem since the technology has changed drastically since 1996.
- The replacement and remodel of the overall HVAC system has been identified on our 5 year capital plan and was scheduled for FY 2019-20. We were planning to defer this project due to the MJHS office addition, but repairing the failed unit can no longer be deferred.
- Our options are to replace the failed unit and continue to maintain the outdated remaining equipment or to replace the complete HVAC system as per the 5 year capital plan. We recommend replacing the complete system as well as replacing the lower roof for the following reasons:
  - Maintenance of the current system is becoming increasingly costly and difficult due to the age and parts availability.
  - There are definite economies of scale realized by replacing all units and reconfiguring the roof to accommodate the size of the new equipment.
  - Replacing only one unit would require adapting the existing roof curb to the dimensions of the new rooftop unit. Adding a curb adaptor to the existing curb raises the working height of the new unit to an elevation that makes maintenance very difficult. This would not be required if we were to replace all of the rooftop units and the roof curbs in conjunction with a small roofing project.
  - The complete roof at Bertha is original to the building and is designated on our 5 year capital plan for replacement in 2022. We would recommend replacing the lower roof only in conjunction with replacing the HVAC units. This lower roof is slightly under half of the whole roof.
- The estimated cost to replace the HVAC system along with replacing the lower roof and curbs is \$552,000 (this includes \$52,000 for design and engineering). The cost to replace one unit (including design) is estimated to be \$69,000.

Board members agreed to allow Mr. Schuck to start the process to go out for bids. This item will be an action item at the next board of education meeting.

**Action Item –**

**Approve Bus Bid–**

Dr. Hill explained that the District has a fiscal year 2019 budget of \$150,000 to purchase new transportation vehicles and has decided to replace a small 29 passenger bus and a 14 passenger white activity bus. A 2006 - 29 passenger bus with 78,500 miles will be traded in along with a 2006 white activity bus with 70,000 miles. The District received two bids for these two buses as follows:

- Midwest Bus Sales \$114,359
- Central States Bus Sales \$117,795

Motion by Mr. Rinkenberger, second by Dr. Beaty, that the Board of Education approve the purchase of one 29 passenger bus and one 14 passenger white activity bus from Midwest Bus Sales for \$114,359.

Roll Call Vote:                      Yea 7                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda –**

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Dr. Cross, that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented:

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve January Treasurer’s Report
- Approve Overnight Trip – MHS Key Club District Convention- Schaumburg, IL – March 8-9
- Approve Minutes of the February 19, 2019, Regular Meeting; and the February 19, 2019, Regular Meeting Closed Session.

Approve Bills and Payroll

	<b>Bills 2-22-19</b>	<b>Bills 3-1-19</b>	<b>Payroll 3-1-19</b>
Ed. Fund	\$434,349.40	\$8,338.14	\$545,589.35
Bldg. Fund	38,751.92	--	37,105.92
Trans. Fund	2,615.81	--	15,846.19
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	--	434,961.30

Roll Call:                    Yea 7                    Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Closed Session -**

Motion by Dr. Beaty, second by Mr. Austin, that the Board of Education enter into closed session for discussion of Personnel, Student Discipline, and Negotiations. **(5ILCS 120/2 115 ILCS 5/18)**

Roll Call:                    Yea 7                    Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 7:45 p.m.

Motion by Dr. Beaty, second by Mrs. Bernier, that the Board of Education return to regular session.

Roll Call:                    Yea 7                    Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 8:46 p.m.

**Adjournment -**

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

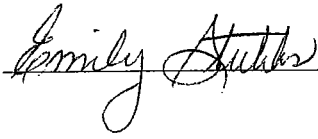
Voice Vote:                Yea 7                    Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

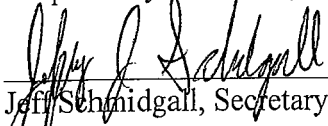
March 5, 2019

6

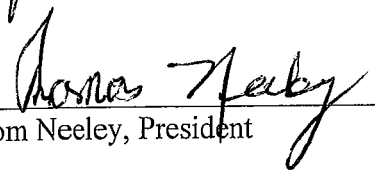
Recorded by,

  
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Respectfully submitted,

  
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Jeff Schmidgall, Secretary

  
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Tom Neeley, President