

# MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

August 20, 2019

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held August 20, 2019, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

## **REGULAR MEETING**

### **Call to Order and Roll Call –**

President Beaty called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Members present: Dr. Shad Beaty, Mr. Jeff Schmidgall, Mr. Kevin Austin,  
Mr. Tim Braker, Mr. Tom Neeley, Mr. Bart Rinkenberger

Member absent: Dr. David Cross

### **Audience Presentations –**

Tyler Rolinitis, Zach Williams, and Roger Collins each individually addressed the Board asking for the Board of Education to approve E-Sports as an activity at Morton High School.

### **Reports –**

#### **Administrative –**

##### **Recognize Steve Young -**

The Board of Education recognized Steve Young for his 37 years of service to Morton School District. He recently retired as Director of Maintenance, Custodians, and Grounds at Morton High School.

##### **E-Sports Update – Craig Anderson, Executive Director, IHSA –**

Craig Anderson, Executive Director of IHSA, gave an update on the IHSA's progress of sanctioning E-Sports as an activity with a state competition. E-Sports is currently being studied by an IHSA advisory committee that will present its findings to the IHSA Board of Directors in September. The earliest this activity could be implemented by the IHSA Board would be for the 2020-2021 school year.

#### **Discussion Items -**

##### **Revision of Selected Policies from Sections 2, 5, and 7 –**

The Board reviewed revisions to various policies based on recommendations made by the IASB Press Policy Service due to changes in school law and/or recent legislation. Policies reviewed include 2:80; 2:230; 5:60; 5:220; 7:190; and 7:270.

**Action Items –****Approve 2019-2020 Tentative Budget –**

Motion by Mr. Rinckenberger, second by Mr. Austin, that the Board of Education approve the tentative 2019-2020 budget that was presented at the August 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, put it on display for thirty days, and set the budget hearing date for September 24, 2019, at 7:15 p.m. at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

Roll Call -                      Yea 6                      Nay 0                      Absent 1 (Cross)

Motion carried.

**Approve E-Sports Pilot –**

Motion by Mr. Rinckenberger, second by Mr. Neeley, that the Board of Education approve adding E-Sports as a pilot activity at Morton High School for the 2019-2020 school year.

Several Board members discussed their struggle to endorse the activity due to amount of student screen time and the rating of League of Legends, the game that schools play in competition. It has a “T” (Teen) rating due to blood, fantasy violence, mild suggestive themes, and use of alcohol and tobacco. Mr. Rinckenberger noted that with privilege comes responsibility. He is willing to take the risk that with parental oversight, students would be responsible for the amount of daily screen time. Dr. Hill offered that the pilot could be modified to only play “E” (Everybody) rated games.

Mr. Neeley made a motion to table the item pending information from the IHSA advisory committee and the IHSA Board of Directors decision. Second by Mr. Austin.

Roll Call -                      Yea 5                      Nay 1 (Rinckenberger)                      Absent 1 (Cross)

Motion carried. Item tabled.

**Approve Revisions of Selected Policies from Sections 2, 5, and 7 –**

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, second by Mr. Neeley, that the Board of Education approve the recommended revisions to policies 2:80, 2:230, 5:60, 5:220, 7:190, and 7:270.

Roll Call -                      Yea 6                      Nay 0                      Absent – 1 (Cross)

Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda –**

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

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve Transportation Claim
- Approve Minutes of the August 6, 2019, Regular Meeting; and the August 6, 2019, Regular Meeting Closed Session
- Approve Bills

	<b>Bills 8-9-19</b>	<b>Bills 8-16-19</b>
Ed. Fund	\$310,748.32	\$12,683.52
Bldg. Fund	651,939.50	--
Trans. Fund	430.03	--
IMRF Fund	--	--

Roll Call:                      Yea 6                      Nay 0                      Absent 1 (Cross)

Motion carried.

**Closed Session -**

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Mr. Austin, that the Board of Education enter into closed session for discussion of Personnel and Purchase or Sale of Property.  
**(SILCS 120/2 115 ILCS 5/18)**

Roll Call:                      Yea 6                      Nay 0                      Absent 1 (Cross)

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

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Mr. Austin, that the Board of Education return to regular session.

Roll Call:                      Yea 6                      Nay 0                      Absent 1 (Cross)

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 8:37 p.m.

Adjournment –

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

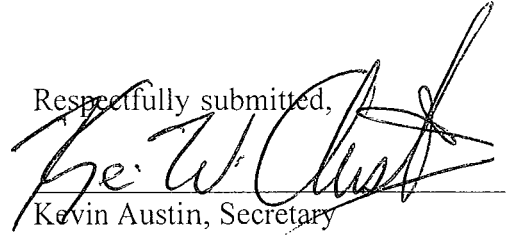
Voice Vote:      Yea 6              Nay 0              Absent 1 (Cross)

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Recorded by,

  
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Respectfully submitted,

  
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Kevin Austin, Secretary

  
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Shad Beaty, President