

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

November 19, 2019

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held November 19, 2019, at the Morton High School library.

REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Shad Beaty called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

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

Audience Presentations – Diane Krall, representing Grundy Moms in Prayer, thanked the Board members for their service to the community and children of Morton.

Reports –

Administrative –

Recognition of MHS Marching Band – Class 2A State Champions -

Mitch Jones recognized the MHS Marching Band and its list of accomplishments this fall including being Class 2A State Champions at the ISU Invitational. Senior band members were present representing the band. Dr. Hill expressed his pride in the bands accomplishments. He noted they have handled the transition to a new director as champions.

President's Report –

Dr. Beaty reported that the Board met earlier in the evening with Morton High School teachers. Board members had discussions with teachers on the new initiatives along with a report from the PTO. All agreed it was a very informational and enjoyable meeting.

Discussion Item –

IASB Conference Resolutions Discussion –

Mr. Schmidgall will be the delegate for the Resolutions Committee at the upcoming School Board Conference. The Resolutions Process is vital to the IASB's mission and is one of the most important functions held at the Annual Conference. It gives member districts ownership in the Association and the opportunity to establish the direction of the Association and its major policies. Every member district has a delegate, a vote, and a voice. Mr. Schmidgall highlighted some of the proposed resolutions and asked the board members for their feedback.

- Student Safety – this resolution calls for the Association to support and advocate for local options for schools, including for armed district personnel subject to training, background checks, licensures, and collaborative superintendent and board approval. Because of geography, resources, and other limitations, response time to emergencies in some rural districts can be substantial. Board members agreed this should be a local control issue.
- School Grant Program – this resolution calls for the State to establish school safety grants so school districts can hire School Resource Officers. In more rural areas, SROs are not readily available and can be costly to a school district. Board members support.
- School District Police Force – this resolution would address student and school safety similar to other resolutions, but in a manner unique to the submitting district (Peoria Public Schools 150). The submitting district asks IASB to pursue legislation to allow for the district to re-establish its school district police force. PPS 150 is asking for IASB’s assistance in attempting to address a local school safety issue that could not, and would not, be widely applied across the State. Board members support.
- School Safety – Traffic Zones – this resolution addresses school safety by calling for legislation to increase traffic safety near schools. Specifically, it calls for reducing speed limits for certain roads near schools, enhancing speed limit signs to increase awareness, and increasing police enforcement near school zones. Board members support.
- School Board Member Compensation – this resolution calls for the IASB to support and advocate for school boards to have the authority to vote to receive compensation. Currently, the School Code requires that school board members serve without compensation. There is concern about potential undesirable motives of future board members and the fact that the money would be better spent on students. The Resolutions Committee recommended not to adopt. Board members agreed not to adopt.

Annual Conference Selections –

The upcoming School Board Conference is an excellent opportunity for school board members to obtain training and professional development now required by law. The conference includes workshops, general sessions, and an exhibit hall. The board members discussed individual workshops they are interested in attending in order to coordinate attendance to maximize exposure to the information available at the conference.

Action Items -

Approve 2020-2021 School Calendar –

A meeting of the calendar committee was held on October 24th. The proposed 2020-2021 school year calendar was presented to the Board of Education at its November 5th meeting and is now being submitted to the Board for approval.

Motion by Dr. Cross, second by Mr. Schmidgall, that the Board of Education approve the 2020-2021 school calendar as presented.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda –

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

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve Overnight Trips – MHS Wrestling and MHS Boys Basketball
- Approve Minutes of the November 5, 2019, Regular Meeting and the November 5, 2019, Regular Meeting Closed Session.
- Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 11-8-19	Bills 11-15-19	Payroll 11-8-19
Ed. Fund	\$91,969.35	\$202,845.58	\$770,943.96
Bldg. Fund	2,093.78	356,324.46	44,238.09
Trans. Fund	880.24	6,744.42	24,296.43
IMRF Fund	--	--	26,326.29

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Closed Session –

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, second by Dr. Cross, that the Board of Education enter into closed session for discussion of Student Discipline, Personnel, and Safety.

(5ILCS 120/2 115 ILCS 5/18)

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 7:46 p.m.

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

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 9:28 p.m.

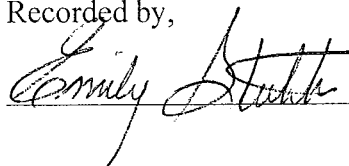
Adjournment –

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

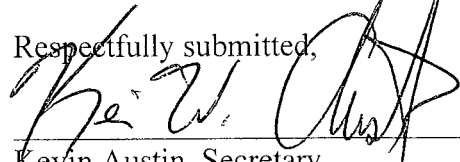
Voice Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

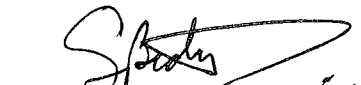
Recorded by,



Respectfully submitted,



Kevin Austin, Secretary



Shad Beaty, President