

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

December 5, 2017

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held December 5, 2017, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

LEVY HEARING

Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Tom Neeley called the Levy Hearing to order at 6:34 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

Mr. Neeley declared the Hearing open for the purpose of public comment and/or questions concerning the 2017 Levy.

There were no questions or comments from Board members or the audience.

Mr. Neeley declared the public hearing closed at 6:36 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Tom Neeley called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:36 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 noted there were no Freedom of Information requests to report.

Recognition of Courtney Eddleman –

Dr. Teater recognized Eleanor Higus for teaching “Above the Line” demonstrated by her exceptional student engagement in her fourth grade classroom at Lincoln School.

School Report Card/PARCC –

The Board of Education received an update on the 16-17 State School Report Card and PARCC scores. Using scatter graphs, Dr. Teater explained how Morton School District compared to the rest of the state. He also explained how the graduation rate is determined. The four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate is the number of students who graduate in four years with a regular high school diploma divided by the number of students who form the adjusted cohort for the graduating class. Those who receive a certificate of completion at the end of four years are not included in the graduation rate, though they are part of the four-year adjusted cohort.

President's Report –

Mr. Neeley asked for two board members to attend a meeting on December 12 with Trajectory Energy Partners concerning leasing land for the installation of solar panels.

Board members shared sessions they attended at the recent Joint Annual School Board conference. It was a good time of learning and networking. All expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to attend.

Discussion Item –**Board Compliance – Personnel –**

Dr. Hill reported that he has reviewed the Personnel Policies and has determined that the district is in compliance. President Neeley will update information on evaluations. He and Dr. Hill will sign the compliance form and place it in the Master Compliance binder in the District Office.

Board Goals Discussion – Achievement –

Dr. Hill reviewed the District Goal of **Achievement**: *“Morton District 709 will nurture and challenge each student to reach their potential through the highest quality teaching using evidence based instructional practices, curriculum, programs and services.”*

Morton Moving Forward sets lofty goals for our district at benchmark grade levels and a path to achieve those goals:

- By the end of 3rd grade 100% of our students will be reading at grade level or above.
- By the end of 6th grade 100% of our students will be meeting or exceeding Illinois Learning Standards in ELA and Math.
- By the end of 8th grade 100% of our students are designated as ready for the next

level in ELA, Math and Science.

- By the end of freshman year 100% of our students will be designated as “ready for the next level.”
- By the end of junior year 100% of our students will have the credits and entrance exam requirements needed for acceptance into the post-secondary option they have identified.

Morton Moving Forward – Year 1 Overview/Strategy 1 –

At the November 1, 2017, Committee of the Whole – Facilities meeting, Morton Moving Forward was introduced. Discussion continued on the overview for years 1 and 2, with a more in-depth look at Strategy 1 – A systemic Focus on Reading.

The Board of Education heard presentations from Dr. Smock, Mrs. Owens and Dr. Teater.

An analysis of options:

- Reduce K-3 class sizes – not being recommended at this time.
- Full-Day Kindergarten for all – space availability and impact for students academically if implemented.
- Literacy Coaches – purpose and how they would be used in each elementary building to assist teachers to effectively carry out Reading Workshop.
- Special Education staffing – proposed model.

The entire presentation can be viewed at <http://www.nfhsnetwork.com/events/morton-high-school-morton-morton-il/1fd240024b> at the 1:25 point of the meeting.

Five Year Facilities Plan –

The Board reviewed potential work being discussed, engineered and bid for completion for the summer of 2018. Some of the work is required based on the 10-year Health/Life Safety survey.

Mr. Schmidgall asked the board to come to a decision on how the buildings are to be utilized over the next 10-15 years. A discussion followed specifically concerning upgrades needed at the Jr. High. Dr. Hill was asked to compile a list of needs at the Jr. High that could be dealt with this next summer.

Action Items –

Approve 2017 Levy Resolution –

The administration has completed the tentative Levy for 2017. Details of that information were provided during the October 17 Board meeting. A public hearing was held for the purposes of inviting public comment earlier in this meeting. Final approval of the Levy resolution is being sought.

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mr. Schmidgall, that the Board of Education approve the 2017 levy resolution.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Sound and Projection Equipment –

There is a need to add a sound system and a video projection system at each of the new gymnasiums. These systems were not included in the original building documents. The sound systems will be used daily by the physical education teachers and the video projection systems will be used for school assemblies and other large presentations. The installation of both the sound and video systems will occur over the Christmas break.

Bids were received from two companies as follows:

Bradfield’s Computer Supply sound system	\$53,967.00
Bradfield’s Computer Supply video projection system	\$39,493.00
Senergy Technologies sound system	\$56,614.92
Senergy Technologies video projection system	\$45,240.87

Motion by Mr. Rinkenberger, second by Dr. Cross, that the Board of Education accept the bid from Bradfield’s Computer Supply for both the sound and video systems in the amount of \$93,460.00.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda –

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

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve Easement Request at Morton Jr. High School
- Approve Overnight/Out of State Trips – Girls Track (Overnight)/Boys Baseball (Out of State)
- Approve October Treasurer’s Report
- Approve Minutes of the November 14, 2017, Regular Meeting and the November 14, 2017, Regular Meeting Closed Session
- Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 11-17-17	Bills 11-21-17	Bills 12-1-17	Payroll 11-24-17
Ed. Fund	\$98,964.13	\$4,441.86	\$123,933.79	\$507,003.60
Bldg. Fund	72,786.20	--	37,310.53	34,303.75
Trans. Fund	10,401.35	--	4,875.05	15,681.27
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	--	--	492,012.08

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Closed Session -

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

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 10:05 p.m.

Motion by Dr. Beaty, second by Mrs. Bernier, 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 10:12 p.m.

Action Item –

Approve Expulsion of Student 17-1 –

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, second by Dr. Beaty, that the Board of Education approve the expulsion of Student 17-1 for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

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

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board re-entered closed session at 10:16 p.m.

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

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

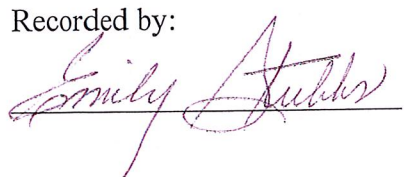
Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 10:40 p.m.


Adjournment -


Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Dr. Beaty, that the meeting be adjourned.

Voice Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:42 p.m.

Recorded by:


Submitted by,


Jeff Schmidgall, Secretary


Thomas Neeley, President