

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

April 20, 2021

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held April 20, 2021, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Shad Beaty called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

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

Reports –

Administrative –

Superintendent's Report –

Dr. Hill reported that:

- there are several education bills in committee at the state level that he is tracking:
 - HB 7 – forced consolidation. Many feel it should be left to local communities whether to consolidate. There is nothing in the bill for reimbursement of consolidation costs from the state.
 - HB 1736 – mandates that a comprehensive standards-based sex education course be taught Pre-K through 12.
 - HB 3897 – provides that a student whose 22nd birthday occurs during the school year is eligible for special education services through the end of the school year rather than being eligible for services only until the day before his or her 22nd birthday.
- Attorney Chris Oswald of Miller, Hall and Triggs is representing the District in a Property Tax Appeal (PTAB) case. The Tazewell County Board of Review and Kroger have been discussing settlement on the EAV for the Kroger property in Morton to resolve cases for 2018, 19, and 20.
- 17 students are COVID positive with 150 in healthy quarantine as of today. That is an uptick, but administration is committed to staying the course and trying to keep things as normal as possible for students.
- he recently participated in the Morton Chamber of Commerce Forecast Breakfast.
- the return of the Pumpkin Festival announcement was made from Carper Field on April 19. The Festival will return in September with the theme “Pumpkins, Tailgates and Traditions.

President's Report –

Dr. Beaty reported that new board members Diane Krall and Jerry Rudd will be seated at the May 4th meeting. Dr. Cross and Mr. Austin will be going off the board at that time.

Discussion Item -

Jackson St. Crosswalk Improvements -

Dr. Hill reported that the Village of Morton has plans for two improved school crosswalks on E. Jackson St. for both the Jr. High and High School. The Village is asking the District to share in the costs of these crossings by committing to half of the price of the project not to exceed \$35,000. Board members agreed that the improvements are needed and are committed to student safety. The improvements are scheduled to be completed by the start of next school year. This will be brought to the board for approval at the next meeting.

Action Item –

Approve K-6 Grade Math Curriculum Resources –

As the most recent elementary math textbooks were purchased in 2013, new Kindergarten - 6th Grade curriculum resources have been reviewed. Based on feedback from the teachers, principals have shared a recommendation with the Teaching and Learning Council. The materials were presented to the Board at the March 23 Board of Education meeting and were made available for community review and feedback on our website for 30 days.

Motion by Mr. Rinkenberger, second by Mr. Austin, that the Board of Education approve the K-6 Math Curriculum resources as recommended.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda –

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

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve 2021-2022 Student Fees
- Approve IHSA Membership Renewal
- Approve Re-Employment of Non-Tenure Staff
- Approve Minutes of the April 13, 2021, Regular Meeting; and the April 13, 2021, Regular Meeting Closed Session.

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Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Closed Session -

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

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 5:58 p.m.

Motion by Dr. Cross, second by Mr. Schmidgall, 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 7:05 p.m.

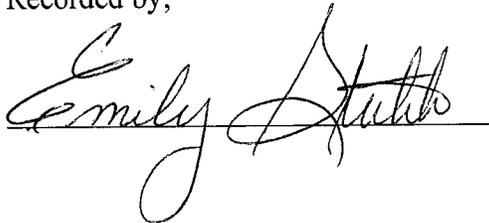
Adjournment -

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

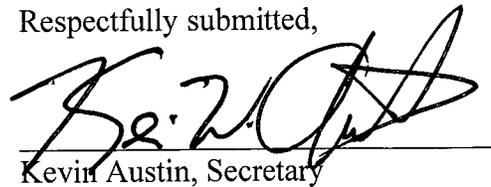
Voice Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Recorded by,



Respectfully submitted,



Kevin Austin, Secretary



Shad Beaty, President