

## MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

September 21, 2021

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held September 21, 2021, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

### BUDGET HEARING –

#### Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Jeff Schmidgall called the Budget Hearing to order at 7:05 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Jeff Schmidgall, Mr. Tim Braker, Mr. Bart Rinkenberger  
Dr. David Cross, Dr. Diane Krall, Mr. Tom Neeley, Mr. Jerry Rudd

President Schmidgall declared the Budget Hearing open for the purpose of answering questions from the public on the proposed 2021-2022 Budget. There being no audience questions or discussion, President Schmidgall declared the budget hearing closed at 7:06 p.m.

### REGULAR MEETING

#### Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Jeff Schmidgall called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Jeff Schmidgall, Mr. Tim Braker, Mr. Bart Rinkenberger  
Dr. David Cross, Dr. Diane Krall, Mr. Tom Neeley, Mr. Jerry Rudd

### Reports -

#### Administrative –

**MHS Extra Curricular Participation Report** – Dr. Hill reviewed the annual report of extra-curricular participation prepared by Scott Jones and Jamie Adolphson, MHS Administrators. Up to date numbers were provided for athletics, marching band, and activities and clubs.

**Superintendent's Report** – Dr. Hill reported that:

- as of today, there are 3 positive COVID student cases out of 3,179 - .09% of enrolled students.
- he attended a second ISBE Board meeting with other Superintendents to request that the state give school districts local control. The Make it Local group launched an Op Ed to all major media outlets throughout the state after that meeting.
- plans are underway to test non-vaccinated employees as mandated by Governor Pritzker. Of 645 employees (includes substitutes and Arbor Food Service), 77% are

vaccinated. Testing will be done on 122 employees on a weekly basis beginning this week on Thursday and Friday. The rapid antigen test will be used until the district receives a supply of the covidShield saliva test developed at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The district has employed nurses and substitute nurses this year rather than contracting nurses. The substitute nurses will be used to administer the tests. It was noted that the district will accept tests performed elsewhere. If an unvaccinated staff member chooses not to be tested, they will be excluded on the following Monday. Results must be reported to the Illinois Department of Public Health.

### **President's Report –**

Mr. Schmidgall reported that the Board met earlier in the evening with Lettie Brown teachers. There were student demonstrations of a STEM project – AM radio, ALEKS math from the newly adopted Math series, and a video of daily activities of students throughout the building.

Mr. Schmidgall noted his appreciation for Dr. Hill's efforts at the state level.

### **Action Items –**

#### **Approve FY22 Budget –**

The Board of Education reviewed the FY22 Tentative Budget at its August 3, 2021, meeting. The Tentative Budget was put on display for thirty days and a budget hearing was held earlier in this meeting.

Motion by Mr. Rudd, second by Dr. Cross, that the Board of Education approve the FY22 Budget as presented.

Roll Call:                      Yea 7                                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

#### **Approve Enterprise Zone Renewal –**

Morton Economic Development Council (EDC) Director Leigh Ann Brown gave a presentation to the Board at its August 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting asking for consideration to renew the Enterprise Zone agreement that expired as of December 31, 2020. The agreement has been in existence since 2014 and provides various incentives. She returned to the September 7<sup>th</sup> meeting for further discussion of the renewal of this agreement.

Motion by Dr. Cross, second by Mr. Rudd, that the Board of Education approve the renewal of the Enterprise Zone Agreement with the other Morton Taxing Bodies.

Roll Call:                      Yea 7                                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda –**

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

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve April, May, June Treasurer’s Report
- Approve Overnight/Out of State Requests – MHS Wrestling, Volleyball, Soccer
- Approve Minutes of the August 31, 2021, Special Meeting; the August 31, 2021, Special Meeting Closed Session; the September 7, 2021, Regular Meeting; and the September 7, 2021, Regular Meeting Closed Session.
- Approve Bills

	<b>Bills 9-10-21</b>
Ed. Fund	\$174,492.85
Bldg. Fund	219,550.34
Trans. Fund	3,077.36

Roll Call:                    Yea 7                    Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Closed Session –**

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

Roll Call:                    Yea 7                    Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 7:52 p.m.

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

Roll Call:                    Yea 7                    Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 8:40 p.m.

**Adjournment –**

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

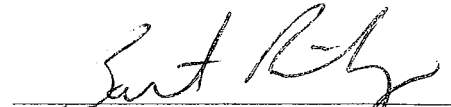
Voice Vote:                Yea 7                    Nay 0

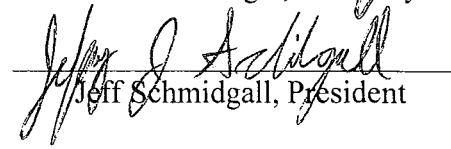
Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Recorded by,

  
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Respectfully submitted,

  
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Bart Rinkenberger, Secretary

  
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Jeff Schmidgall, President