

**MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709**

**November 2, 2021**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held November 2, 2021, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

**REGULAR MEETING**

**Call to Order and Roll Call –**

President Tim Braker called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

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

**Action Item –**

**Approve Appointment of Amanda Leman to Vacant 1.5 Year Term on the Board of Education and Administer the Oath of Office –**

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Mr. Rinckenberger, that the Board of Education approve the appointment of Amanda Leman to fill the vacant 1.5 year term on the Morton School District Board of Education.

Roll Call:      Yea 6              Nay 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Braker administered the Oath of Office to Mrs. Leman and she took her seat at the board table.

**Reports -**

**Administrative –**

**Freedom of Information -**

Dr. Hill reported there has been one request for information under the Freedom of Information act. He noted the request and information provided are posted on the District website.

**Board Member Appreciation Day -**

Dr. Hill reported November 15 is Board Member Appreciation Day. He commended the school board members for their willingness to serve the school district and community in this unpaid, volunteer position. They spend many hours preparing for and attending meetings that take them away from their families, along with balancing school board time with their careers. Dr. Hill encouraged others to take the time to thank school board members for their role in creating educational opportunities that meet the goals set forth by the community for their children.

**Student Achievement Update –**

Dr. Teater gave an update on Student Achievement as reported on the District Dashboard under the “Indicators” tab. He demonstrated how to navigate the dashboard page and the information available.

**Superintendent’s Report –**

Dr. Hill reported:

- he is continuing to follow the legal climate and legislative bills that include - COVID days for staff, Health Care Right of Consciousness Act, and the Levy legislation he gave details of at a recent board meeting.
- this has been an amazing fall for MHS extracurricular activities including boys soccer, football, cross country, and marching band.
- COVID cases are low with 2 positive cases today, up from 0 over the past several days. He again commended parents for keeping ill children at home.

**President’s Report –**

Mr. Braker had no items to report, but Mr. Neeley reported he attended a recent Illinois Principals Assoc. (IPA) meeting. Associate Principal Jamie Adolphson presented at that meeting and Mr. Neeley reported she did an outstanding job. She represented Morton School District well. Mr. Neeley also reported IASB board of directors had a conversation today with State Superintendent Dr. Carmen Ayala and discussed updating assessments, racial equity – lack of black/brown teachers, and masking sanctions. He shared with her Morton School District’s low COVID numbers in support of local control.

**Discussion Items –****Policy 7:40 – Non-public School Students, Including Parochial and Home-Schooled Students/Extracurricular Participation -**

Board members discussed this policy that addresses parochial and home schooled students’ extracurricular participation in public schools. The district currently requires attendance for at least half of the regular school day to participate. This aligns with the IESA and IHSA guidelines. More information will be gathered before the board makes a decision on whether to revise the policy.

**Consent Agenda –**

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

Approve Personnel Report

Approve Overnight Trip – MJHS Wrestling State Meet – March 11-12, 2022, NIU, Dekalb

Approve Minutes of the October 19, 2021, Regular Meeting; and the October 19, 2021, Regular Meeting Closed Session.

Approve Bills

	<b>Bills 10-22-21</b>
Ed. Fund	\$556,605.60
Bldg. Fund	90,240.10
Trans. Fund	11,871.67

Roll Call:                    Yea 7                    Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Closed Session**

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

Roll Call:                    Yea 7                    Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 7:17 p.m.

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

Roll Call:                    Yea 7                    Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 8:27 p.m.

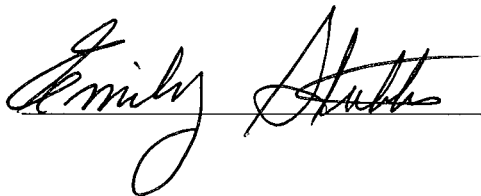
**Adjournment –**

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

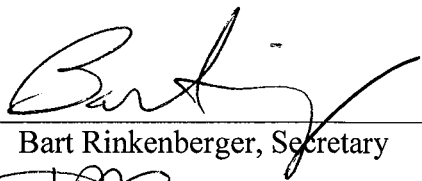
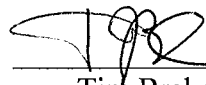
Voice Vote:                Yea 7                    Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Recorded by,



Respectfully submitted,

  
Bart Rinkenberger, Secretary  
  
Tim Braker, President