

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

February 22, 2022

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held February 22, 2022, 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 7:01 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Tim Braker, Mr. Bart Rinkenberger, Dr. Diane Krall,
Mrs. Amanda Leman, Mr. Tom Neeley, Mr. Jerry Rudd

Member absent: Dr. David Cross

Reports -

Administrative –

Superintendent's Report –

Dr. Hill:

- reported there is currently 1 positive COVID case within the District.
- reported the District is following the Return to School Plan approved in August based on the temporary restraining order (TRO) put in place by a Sangamon County Circuit judge on February 4. Modifications to the District plan are possible in March.
- reported that the Illinois Legislators are filing bills during the current veto session related to teacher retention and number of days retired teachers are allowed to substitute teach.

President's Report –

Mr. Braker noted the Board met with the Lincoln School staff earlier in the evening. He expressed his appreciation for their attendance at the meeting and the video that was shared.

Discussion Items –

Reverse Energy Auction Process –

The Board discussed and agreed to enter into a service agreement with Nania Energy Advisors to conduct a live reverse auction to obtain the lowest electricity rates for Morton 709. The service agreement will be brought to the Board for approval at an upcoming meeting.

Enrollment Study –

The Board discussed and agreed to have administration obtain pricing for an enrollment study similar to those conducted in 2014 and 2018.

Textbook Proposal – College Prep Algebra with Trig –

The Board reviewed a textbook proposal for the newly adopted course College Prep Algebra with Trigonometry. The textbook will be on public display on the District website for 30 days prior to approval.

Action Items –

Approve Textbook Proposal – AP Psychology –

This textbook was a discussion item at the January 18, 2022, board meeting. It has been available for 30 days for examination on the district website.

Motion by Dr. Krall, second by Mr. Rinkenberger that the Board of Education approve the purchase of the AP textbook “Updated Myers’ Psychology” for the 2022-2023 school year.

Roll Call: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Cross)

Motion carried.

Approve Textbook Proposal Standard Biology –

This textbook was a discussion item at the January 18, 2022, board meeting. It has been available for 30 days for examination on the district website.

Motion by Mr. Rudd, second by Mr. Rinkenberger, that the Board of Education approve the purchase of the standard biology textbook “Inspire Biology” for the 2022-2023 school year.

Roll Call: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Cross)

Motion carried.

Approve Tuition Student –

Tremont Unit School District has made a request that Morton CUSD 709 consider accepting a special education tuition student for our RISE Program for the 2022-23 school year. Tremont does not operate their own life skills program. The student is currently an 8th grader and would enter Morton High School as a freshman.

In an effort to best ensure consistency in programming for this student, a review of current student matriculation over the next four years has been completed to determine our ability to accommodate this student. Based on current numbers, we can be reasonably assured to have space to accommodate this additional student into our RISE Program for the duration of their school career. The recommended tuition rate for each student is based on the actual per pupil cost to operate our RISE Program during the 2022-23 school year, as reported to ISBE through program cost centers and personnel reporting.

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Mr. Rinkenberger, that the Board of Education approve the tuition student from Tremont High School for the RISE Program for the 2022-2023 school year.

Roll Call: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Cross)

Motion carried.

Approve Asbestos Abatement Bid –

The bid opening for the Asbestos Abatement for Morton High School STEM Lab updates and restroom renovation and Morton Junior High School orchestra floor was held February 8, 2022.

Bids were received from three companies – Abel Plus Services, Kinsale Contracting Group and Midwest Service Group. The base bids ranged from \$148,150-235,000 and the base bid with recommended alternates ranged from \$190,150-318,000 with Kinsale Contracting Group submitting the low bid.

As a result of the work, the High School will have asbestos abatement to allow renovation of two STEM Lab areas, as well as abatement for the updating of the High School restroom and MJHS orchestra flooring.

Motion by Mr. Rinckenberger, second by Mr. Rudd, that the Board of Education accept the base bid plus Alternate Bids 1 and 2 from Kinsale Contracting Group in the amount of \$190,150.

Roll Call: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Cross)

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda –

Motion by Mr. Rinckenberger, second by Mr. Rudd, that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented:

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve Lincoln 6th Grade Trip – St. Louis; MJHS IESA State Bowling Tourn. - Joliet
- Approve Minutes of the February 8, 2022, Regular Meeting, and the February 8, 2022, Regular Meeting Closed Session.
- Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 2-11-22
Ed. Fund	\$173,254.99
Bldg. Fund	87,601.42
Trans. Fund	2,834.82
TORT	25.98

Roll Call: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Cross)

Motion carried.

Mr. Neeley reported he had recently attended the American Association of School Administrators (AASA) National Conference on Education. He attended some sessions pertaining to Social/Emotional Learning (SEL). It was stressed in these sessions that in order for staff to be effective, their SEL needs are to be taken care of as well as students.

Closed Session

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Dr. Krall, 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 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Cross)

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 7:35 p.m.

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

Roll Call: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Cross)

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 8:20 p.m.


Adjournment –

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

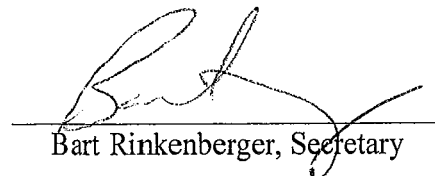
Voice Vote: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Cross)

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Recorded by,



Respectfully submitted,


Bart Rinkenberger, Secretary


Tim Braker, President