

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

March 22, 2022

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held March 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 7:00 p.m.

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

Member absent: Mr. Tom Neeley

Reports -

Administrative –

Superintendent's Report –

Ms. VanMeenen, Counselor at Morton Jr. High School, presented on the MJHS Encore Class, *Future Readiness*. Ms. VanMeenen created the class her first year at the Jr. High in the 2018-19 school year. *Future Readiness* provides an opportunity for students to dream about their future while also providing guidance on how to make that become a reality. The class is for 7th and 8th grade students taken one quarter each year. It is taught by the school counselors, librarian, and technology aide. The class is ungraded, however, saved career interests and goals are transferred to the high school. Ms. VanMeenen reviewed the topics covered in both grades and the programs and products used in the course. A third counselor being hired for next school year will take over teaching this class.

President's Report –

Mr. Braker reported he had attended the Lincoln School 5th Grade Etiquette luncheon earlier in the day and board members met with the Jr. High staff prior to this meeting. He reported that board members were given updates from the enthusiastic staff representing the different departments at the Jr. High during the meeting.

Discussion Items –

MJHS Bowling/Golf Proposal –

Due to the popularity and success of the intramural golf and bowling programs, Jr. High Assistant Principal, Chris Carter, offered a proposal for two interscholastic programs for these sports. The intramural programs for both of these sports would continue along with an interscholastic program for each. Students in both programs will benefit by each season

being lengthened and through receiving additional instruction. He noted there would be at least 12 students on each interscholastic team for IESA competition. This proposal will be brought back to the board as an action item at the April 12th meeting.

Cropper Enrollment Study and Building Capacity Proposal –

Dr. Hill noted a proposal has been received from Cropper GIS Consulting for an enrollment and building capacity study. Cropper has worked with the district on projects over the past several years, including a school capacity/utilization study and demographic study in 2014 and a demographic study in 2018. Their forecasts have been tracking accurately, but there is a need to update the study given the impacts on housing and enrollment due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Also, the district has made physical changes/updates to various schools within the district since 2014 and is considering having Cropper perform an updated capacity/utilization study. Board members discussed the cost that has increased since the previous studies. A suggestion was made as to whether Jeff Keach could perform the capacity/utilization study. Dr. Hill will follow up with him as to his capabilities to carry out this study.

Action Items –

Approve and Adopt New and Revised Policies –

A revision of various board policies from Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 is being recommended in order to update our policies to current practice related to review and advice from IASB PRESS services and legal counsel. The 2nd reading and recommendations for revisions are being presented by the Administration and the Policy Committee to the Board.

Motion by Mr. Rudd, second by Dr. Cross, that the Board of Education approve the new and revised policies as presented.

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

Motion carried.

Approve Memorandum of Understanding for the 2021-24 Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) –

This Memorandum of Understanding is meant to clarify the Release Program for the 2022-23 school year. The Pilot Release Program outlined under Article IV, H of the CBA provided certified staff the option of providing the district with a work day on August 10, 2021 in exchange for an early release from the work day during the end-of-quarter work days in October (2021) and March (2022). The attendance/ participation in the initial Release Program day, August 10, 2021, was positive.

The Release Program will continue following the same conditions as presented in the Collective Bargaining Agreement: In the second year of this Agreement, 2022-23, professional staff members who voluntarily elect to work a full work day from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on August 9, 2022 will be granted the right to be released from duty and work early at noon after the students have left the building during the two end-of-quarter Fridays in October and March.

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Motion by Mr. Rinkenberger, second by Mr. Rudd, that the Board of Education approve the Memorandum of Understanding for the 2021-2024 collective bargaining agreement – Continuation of Release Program.

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

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda –

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

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve Renewal of Bethel Lutheran School Rental Contract for 2022-23
- Approve IHSA Membership Renewal
- Approve Resolution for Non-Re-Employment of Professional Staff
- Approve Resolution for Non-Re-Employment of Educational Support Staff
- Approve Minutes of the March 8, 2022 Regular Meeting; and the March 8, 2022, Regular Meeting Closed Session.
- Approve Bills

	Bills 3-11-22
Ed. Fund	\$225,117.19
Bldg. Fund	109,486.10
Trans. Fund	33,911.64
TORT	484.21

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

Motion carried.

Closed Session

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

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

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 8:10 p.m.

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

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

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Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 8:59 p.m.

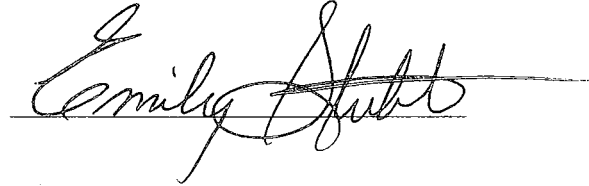
Adjournment –

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

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

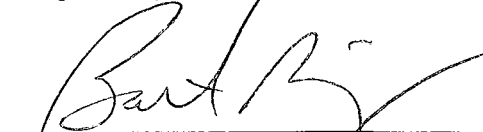
Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Recorded by,

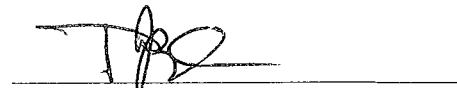


Emily Stubbs

Respectfully submitted,



Bart Rinkenberger, Secretary



Tim Braker, President