

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

July 11, 2023

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held on June 6, 2023, at the Morton Education and Administration Center. The meeting included the District Goals of Achievement, Communication, Climate, Facilities, and Finance.

REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Tim Braker called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:32p.m.

Members present: Mr. Tim Braker, Dr. David Cross, Mrs. Amanda Leman, Mr. Tom Neeley, Mr. Roth, and Mr. Jerry Rudd. Members Present: 6 Member absent: 1 (Dr. Krall)

Administrative Reports:

Superintendent's Report— Dr. Smock

- Dr. Smock invited Ms. Franklin to share the annual Restrained/ Time Out data. She presented ISBE definitions of Physical Restraint. She shared how they evaluate the need for physical restraint, different types of restraints, and she explained defensive behaviors and The Verbal Escalation Continuum. She shared the number of restraints for the 2022-23 school year and historical data. 55 trained staff members and we have 4 trainers on staff.
- Facility Updates include: Summer projects are going well. Asbestos abatement, new floor, and painting are underway at Jefferson. The MHS STEM lab is on target. The MJHS projects are coming along. Many roofs are being replaced. The cracking issue in the three new gyms at the elementary schools are being repaired with a specialized paint at no expense to the District. The DO is having some updates.
- We are still waiting on some architectural design options for the High School after a second walk through and discussion. Dr. Smock will share the designs with the Board when he gets them so decisions can be made.
- The Business Office is needing some updates for privacy for payroll and insurance. We want to improve the area for the work and workflow. We will look at downstairs next year for some updates.
- Our AP placement scores came back. Ms. Ripka will present them in August. They are very good.
- Dr. Teater is working on his Student Data presentation incorporating the recently received testing data..

President's Report - Mr. Braker President Braker noted that they had been presented with some great ideas for improving the MHS space. It would be great to have it look like a real entrance and spaces that function well. He noted that the Superintendent's Committees need to be set for the year.

- The Superintendent's Finance Committee needs to meet to look at what funds are available for projects.
- The Superintendent's Finance Committee needs to meet to narrow down which projects to present to the whole Board. The Board will then come up with a plan.
- Dr. Smock added that we really need all of the Superintendent's Committees to meet soon. We have new policies to review, most are policies impacted by Faith's Law.
- Dr. Sander is working on the Superintendent's Extra-Curricular Mission Committee to review if our extra-curricular offerings are in line with the District's Goals and Mission. Mrs. Leman will be on the committee and Mr. Neeley said he is willing unless someone else wants to do it. Dr. Sander will let them know when and where they will meet. Mr. Braker asked that all Board members give feedback on what

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Dr. Sander sends out. Mr. Braker noted it is important for everyone to know what the expectations are for our extracurricular activities and clear about how that activity helps the educational process.

- Dr. Smock noted that the Superintendent’s Curriculum Committee may broaden its scope beyond curriculum. Mr. Neeley talked with him about expanding beyond overseeing curriculum to include observation, assessment, and data with discussions. Mr. Neeley and Dr. Krall are on that committee. TLC has been on the committee, but we will plan to expand with the goal of improving academic performance.
- The Board discussed sharing agendas and discussions from the Superintendent’s Committee Meetings with the rest of the board so they can offer input and feedback.
- The New Teacher Dinner with the Board is 5:30 PM at the Bertha Frank Lobby on August, 8, 2023. Mrs. Smith will send out invitations to the Board of Education members.
- President Braker asked about the status of posting all of our Morton 709 Curriculum online. Dr. Smock shared that Dr. Teater had reported that all curriculum is now online, with the small exception of some elementary music curriculum we are still waiting on. The link is on each building’s website under the parent tab.

Action Items-

Approve Extra Duty Revision

The Board approved the Extra Duty Revisions.

Mr. Rudd motioned for the Board to approve the Extra Duty revisions. Mr. Neeley supported.

Roll Call: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Dr. Krall)

Motion carried.

Approve Tentative FY24 Budget

Ms. Kowalski had previously presented the Tentative FY24 Budget. She was available for questions. Dr. Cross motioned that the Board of Education approve the Tentative Budget as presented. Mr. Rudd supported.

Roll Call: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Dr. Krall)

Motion carried.

Approve Memorandum of Understanding: Salary Placement Based On Academic Advancement

President Braker asked for a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Salary Placement Based on Academic Advancement. With a motion by Mr. Neeley and a second by Mrs. Leman, the Board approved the MOU.

Roll Call: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Dr. Krall)

Motion carried. Dr. Smock offered additional explanation and clarification.

Approve Resolution Allowing for Intervention Regarding Assessment of Property

With a motion by Mr. Neeley and seconded by Dr. Cross, the Board approved the Resolution for the Intervention Regarding Assessment of Property – Kroger.

Roll Call: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Dr. Krall)

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Motion carried. Dr. Sander explained further the process of property tax appeals, appraisers, and legal interventions.

Approve Resolution Allowing for Intervention Regarding Assessment of Property

With a motion by Dr. Cross and second by Mr. Rudd, the Board approve the Resolution for the Intervention Regarding Assessment of Property – Peterson Companies LLC/ Holiday Inn Express.

Roll Call: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Dr. Krall)

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda –

Motion by Mr. Roth to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Seconded by Mr. Rudd.

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve Treasurer’s Reports: March 2023 & April 2023
- Approve 2022-2023 Physical Restraint Data Report
- Approve MHS Cross Country Overnight Trip
- Approve Legislative Update to Board Policy 4:60 Purchases & Contracts
- Approve Minutes of the June 6, 2023, Regular Meeting; the June 6, 2023, Closed Session Meeting minutes.
- Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 6-9-23	Bills 6-30-23	Bills 7-7-23	Payroll 6-2-23	Payroll 6-16-23	Payroll 6-30-23
Ed. Fund	\$36,674.42	84,537.51	440,394.63	32,214.91	794,758.59	58,844.84
Bldg. Fund	\$714.09	58,259.66	53,976.50	55,982.82	72,158.68	3,457.54
Trans. Fund	\$341.86		133,626.10	18,140.64	14,810.69	1,108.59
TORT Fund			277,553.50			
IMRF Fund				33,011.19	27,596.59	

Roll Call: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Dr. Krall)

Motion carried.

Closed Session

Motion by Mr. Rudd, second by Dr. Cross, that the Board of Education enter into closed session for discussion of **Personnel and Purchase/Sale of Property. (5ILCS 120/2 115 ILCS 5/18)**

Roll Call: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Dr. Krall)

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 6:08 p.m.

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Motion by Dr. Cross that the board return to regular session. Seconded by. Mr. Rudd

Roll Call Vote: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Dr. Krall)

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 6:43 p.m.

Personnel - Following the closed session discussion on a Personnel related appeal, President Braker called for a motion for the Board of Education to uphold the Superintendent's decision presented in the Parent/Student Appeal.

A motion was made by Mr. Rudd. It was supported by Dr. Cross. The Board of Education upheld the Superintendent's decision on the Student/Parent Appeal.

Voice Vote: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Dr. Krall)

Purchase/Sale of Property Discussion – The Board of Education returned open session.

Following closed session, Dr. Smock stated that after discussion on several confidential conversations and discussions with our attorney, the Board of Education would like to move forward with the potential sale of the property that the District owns on Fourth Ave in Morton. More details will come later.

Adjournment –

A motion was made by Mr. Neeley to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dr. Cross.

Voice Vote: Yea 6 Nay 0 Absent 1 (Dr. Krall)

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Recorded by,

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Smith, Recording Secretary

Jerry Rudd, Secretary

Tim Braker, President