

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

June 4, 2024

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held on June 4, 2024, 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 Braker called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Tim Braker, Dr. David Cross, Dr. Diane Krall, Mrs. Amanda Leman, Mr. Andrew Roth, Rudd, and Mr. Tom Neeley.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Recognition of Excellence --

Dr. Smock and the Board welcomed Morton High School and Morton Junior High School track athletes to recognize their unequaled success at the IHSA and IESA State placing performances this season. Several long held records were shattered. Athletic Directors, Scott Jones (MHS) and Scott Hammond (MJHS) reflected on amazing season, the talent, the character, and the diligence of the athletes. Coach Tucker (MHS) and Coach Swearingen (MJHS) shared highlights.

Scott Jones shared that we had 96 Mid-Illini All-Academic Award Recipients, the highs we have ever had. Mr. Jones listed each award. MHS is the Mid-Illini All Sports Champion for the 2023-24 school year with 10,850 points, the highest score ever recorded in the Mid-Illini Conference.

Agenda-Related Audience Presentations:

Dr. Ashley Fischer requested time to address the Board of Education on Agenda-Related items. She spoke for three minutes reserving 3 minutes for Non-Agenda Audience Presentations.

Administrative Reports

Superintendent's Report— Dr. Smock

- Dr. Smock gave updates on the MHS renovation project. There is some additional asbestos abatement needed. He reiterated the gratitude for the invaluable support of the MHS Administrative team. They have helped keep the project moving along.
- Grundy principal interviews begin next week. The Board may need to set up a Special Meeting of the Board of Education for the Board to meet the candidate before approval.
- SkillsUSA is heading to Atlanta, GA, for Nationals in June.
- June 15, 2024, is the District Garage Sale from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Lindsay Franklin, Director of Student Support Services, gave the annual Restrained Time Out (RTO) Report to the Board. She updated the Board on some of the Professional Development trainings in place to help de-escalate students. Ms. Franklin and Mrs. Bethany Scroggs, Asst. Director of Special Education, are doing another training that does not use restraint. She has a big job and does it well.
- Ms. Franklin reported briefly on the Consolidated District Plan that helps improve our program in needed areas and shows how we use grant funding.

President's Report – Dr. Cross

- Dr. Cross congratulated the student athletes. It is fantastic to see them.
- Mr. Neeley shared that the School District with Tazewell County worked together for a Veterans Day program. The SkillsUSA students, teachers, and Scouts who helped were great. Bertha Frank was packed. It was special to see.

Action Item(s) –

Approve Proposed Changes to the District Student Handbooks for FY25–

Mr. Neeley motioned for the Board of Education to approve the changes to the District Student Handbook for FY25. Mr. Rudd supported the motion.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Reappointment of CFO for FY25-

Mr. Braker motioned for the Board of Education to approve the re-appointment of Ms. Lisa Kowalski to the position of CFO for FY25. Mr. Rudd supported the motion.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Tentative Salary & Wage Increase for 12-Month Employees for FY25 -

Mrs. Leman motioned for the Board of Education to approve the tentative 4% salary increase for 12-month employees until the MEA contract is set. Dr. Krall supported the motion.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda –

Mr. Rudd motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Braker supported the motion.

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve Minutes of the May 21, 2024, Regular Meeting; the May 21, 2024, Closed Session Meeting Approve Hazardous Bus Routes
- Approve Consolidated District Plan for FY25
- Approve Treasurers for 2024-25 School Year and Adopt Treasurer Resolution
- Approve Resolution Designating Depositories and Signatories
- Approve Resolution Authorizing Interfund Loans and Transfers
- Approve Resolution to Set Fees for Freedom of Information Act
- Approve Liability Insurance Renewal
- Approve Complaint Managers
- Approve Donation/Scholarship Report
- Approve Life Safety Extension of Time
- Approve Out of State/Overnight Trip – MHS SkillsUSA- Nationals - June 2024 per Board Policy 6:240
- Approve 2023-24 Physical Restraint Data Report and Reduction Plan
- Approve Treasurers Report – April 2024
- Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 5-21-24	Bills 5-31-24 6-3-24	Payroll 5-10-24	Payroll 5-24-24
Ed. Fund (10)	\$221,699.93	\$545,901.53	\$1,000,288.97	\$1,010,026.06
Bldg. Fund (20)		386,181.15	49,455.43	49,105.86
Trans. Fund (40)		25,153.25	33,593.29	34,428.20
IMRF (50)			51,206.20	51,949.53
TORT (80)		310.58		

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Non-Agenda Presentations:

Ms. Heather McMeekan (5 minutes) and Dr. Ashley Fischer (3 minutes) requested time to address the Board of Education on Non-Agenda related items. Each one spoke for five minutes or 3 minutes if they spoke earlier in the meeting.

Closed Session – President Cross called for a motion to enter into closed session for the matters of **Negotiations and Personnel**. Dr. Krall motioned for the Board to enter into closed session. Mr. Rudd seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

The Board entered into Closed Session at 6:23 p.m.

A motion was made by Dr. Krall to re-enter open session. Mr. Rudd supported the motion.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

The Board re-entered open session at 7:52 p.m.

Adjournment –

Mr. Neeley made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Voice Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

The motion carried with a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Recorded by,

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Smith, Recording Secretary

Amanda Leman, Secretary

David Cross, President