

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

MAY 19, 2009

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held May 19, 2009, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING -

Call to Order and Roll Call -

Secretary Joyce Kaiser called the regular meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Members present: Mrs. Joyce Kaiser, Mr. John Applen, Mr. Clint Heinold, Mr. Noah Menold

Members absent: Mr. Thomas Neeley
Mrs. Nancy Overcash (arrived at 8:15 p.m.)
Mr. Doug Riddle (present via telephone during closed session and following)

Reports –

Administrative –

Special Olympics Recognition –

Ms. Ashby introduced the coaches and athletes that participated in the Special Olympics that took place Saturday, May 9, at Illinois Wesleyan University. Lincoln School teachers Amanda Cross, Erin Day and Lauren Cox volunteered their time to organize the first Special Olympics team, the “Red Wings,” for District 709. Several of the athletes qualified for the state meet taking place in June at Illinois State University.

Dr. Kilpatrick thanked the coaches for organizing the team, the athletes for participating, and the parents for their support.

Dress Code Update-

Dr. Kilpatrick reminded the Board that some modifications concerning shorts and shirt straps were made to the dress code that went into effect this school year. Ms. Merker reported that administrators at the high school were pro-active at the beginning of the school year and had reminder announcements in the spring. She noted there were few infractions. Mr. Carter reported that there were a few infractions at the Jr. High, but students complied when asked to. Dr. Kilpatrick thanked the administrators for enforcing the dress code.

Parental Involvement Report –

Dr. Kilpatrick distributed a handout listing ways that parents are involved or can become involved in our schools throughout the district. He noted that this report was added to the

task board to report annually per policy. He noted in the handout the notices, conferences and hearings that are mandated by law for parental involvement.

Freedom of Information Requests –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported there are no Freedom of Information requests to report.

Board Committees–

Mr. Applen noted that the Transportation Committee report was included in the Board packets.

Discussion Items –

School Improvement Plans – Jr. High and High School -

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that Mr. Crider, Principal at Morton Jr. High School, and Ms. Merker, Assistant Principal at Morton High School, would present their School Improvement Plan for 2009-2011.

Morton Jr. High School – Mr. Crider –

Mr. Crider reviewed goals from the 2007-2009 SIP and the objectives that were met. Those include a new entry way, hallway and classrooms in the former District Office and ISAT specific goals in improving writing and math skills. He pointed out goals set for 2009-2011 that include improving student achievement by using District initiatives, i.e. RtI, MAP testing and Read 180. Also noted were plans to improve the learning environment by building professional relationships and enhancing communication among staff, students and parents.

Mr. Applen met with Mr. Crider and Mr. Carter prior to this meeting. He noted that it was a privilege to work with them and he was impressed by the expectations and their ability to listen and adjust when needed. The staff and administration at the Jr. High are doing a great job.

Morton High School – Ms. Merker –

Ms. Merker explained that one person from each department at the high school served on the SIP committee. She reviewed the goals that had been met from the 2007-2009 plan. Those goals include improving student learning and performance in core areas, improving study skills and increasing the use of computer related technologies in student instruction. Ms. Merker reviewed goals for 2009-2011 that include improving student learning and performance through RtI, Dual Credit courses, AP classes, credit recovery and Read 180. Curriculum mapping will continue along with improving and expanding the RtI process.

Mrs. Kaiser reported that she met with Ms. Merker prior to this meeting. She noted that

May 19, 2009

6

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce E. Kaiser, Secretary

Thomas M. Neeley, President

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

PERSONNEL REPORT

May 19, 2009

I. CERTIFIED STAFF

A. RESIGNATIONS

1. **Valerie Neal** – resigned from her position as 7th grade geography teacher at Morton Jr. High School effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year.
2. **Rebekah Smidt** – resigned from her position as Spanish teacher at Morton High School effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year.
3. **Molly Braun** – resigned from her position as English teacher at Morton High School effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year.

B. VOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

C. INVOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

D. APPOINTMENTS

1. **Vonda Zehr** Morton, IL
Education: BA, Illinois State University
Major: Spanish
Experience: 13 yrs. – Riverton High School
7 yrs. – Morton High School
Assignment: Spanish Teacher, Morton High School
2. **Quentin Ackerman** Tremont, IL
Education: BS, MBA - University of Illinois, Illinois State University
Major: Agriculture Education, Business
Experience: 3.5 yrs. – Metamora High School
Assignment: Agriculture/Business Teacher, Morton High School
3. **Rhonda Howard** Morton, IL
Education: BS, Bradley University
Major: Special Education
Experience: 2 yrs. – part time resource teacher, Woodrow Wilson, Peoria and Limestone High School, Bartonville
Assignment: Special Education Teacher, Brown School

E. REHIRES

1. **Joi Monferdini** – part time Math teacher at Morton High School for the 2009-2010 school year.

F. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

G. RETIREMENT

1. **Patricia Ferrel** – retiring from her position as Special Education teacher at Morton High School effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year.

H. DISMISSALS

II. EXTRA-DUTY

A. RESIGNATIONS

1. **Erin Kemp** – resigned from her position as Sophomore Volleyball coach at Morton High School effective for the 2009-2010 school year.

B. APPOINTMENTS

1. **Sarah Sorenson** – Head Student Council Sponsor at Morton High School effective for the 2009-2010 school year.
2. **Quentin Ackerman** – FFA Sponsor at Morton High School effective for the 2009-2010 school year.
3. **Sueann Spinder** – Building Webmaster at Lincoln School effective for the 2009-2010 school year.

C. SUSPENSION

D. DISMISSALS

III. SUPPORT STAFF

A. RESIGNATIONS

1. **Robert Borchers** – resigned from his position as custodian at Jefferson School effective July 3, 2009.

B. VOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

C. INVOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

D. APPOINTMENTS

1. **Tammy Pfister** – part time instructional aide for extended school year at Schramm School for Morton student.

E. REHIRES

1. **Rebecca Christianson** – full time computer/technology lab specialist at Morton High School for the 2009-2010 school year.

F. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

G. RETIREMENTS

H. DISMISSALS