

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

MARCH 2, 2010

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held March 2, 2010, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING -

Call to Order and Roll Call -

President Thomas Neeley called the regular meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Thomas Neeley, Mrs. Nancy Overcash, Mrs. Joyce Kaiser,
Mr. John Applen, Mr. Clint Heinold, Mr. Noah Menold, Mr. Doug Riddle

Also present: Core Committee Members from the Facilities Study

Reports –

Administrative –

School Highlights –

Dr. Kilpatrick thanked the principals for their monthly highlights. He noted that ISAT tests are being administered this week. He thanked the teaching staff for their part in preparation and giving the tests and he wished the students well.

709 Recognition –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that Students are being recognized during the month of March. With the testing taking place this month, it is a good time to show appreciation to our students for their hard work.

Freedom of Information Requests –

There are no Freedom of Information requests to report.

Staff Recognition –

On behalf of the Board of Education, Mr. Neeley presented a certificate of recognition to Jeff Neavor, Morton High School Band Director, who was recently recognized as one of “50 Directors Who Make a Difference” by *School Band and Orchestra* magazine. Jeff was the director recognized from Illinois.

Discussion Items –

Facilities Update – Community Survey –

The Core Committee for the ongoing facilities study joined the Board of Education for a

discussion and presentation of the recent community survey administered by the Survey Sub - Committee. Chairman of the Survey Committee, Craig Barley presented the findings of the survey. Invitations to take part in the survey were initially mailed to 600 randomly selected residents that had voted in the three most recent elections. Of those, 346 completed the survey entirely. The survey was then opened to the entire community, of which there were 457 completed surveys. Mr. Barley noted that the results of both group's surveys were very similar. Conclusions drawn from the survey are that though numbers are high for district performance and understanding of space and maintenance needs, no definitive conclusion can be drawn as to whether a referendum would pass. While the results were positive, the Board of Education and District still need to do a good job of communicating the needs.

Mrs. Overcash and Mr. Applen expressed their appreciation for the time spent by the survey committee. They stressed that the board has not discussed the facility plan as a group and is keeping an open mind.

Mr. Neeley also thanked the Core committee, sub-committees, the architects and other volunteers involved in the facilities study. He thanked the community for taking part in the survey and is very grateful for the input. He noted a strong effort is needed in order to continue to communicate the needs of the school district to the community.

Action Items –

Reappointment of Building Administrators, Director of Special Education and Director of Research and Information Systems –

Dr. Kilpatrick recommended that all building administrators, the Director of Special Education, and the Director of Research and Information Systems be reappointed for the 2010-2011 school year.

Motion by Mrs. Kaiser, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education appoint Lorna Sherwood, Jefferson School Principal; Robert Bardwell, Brown School Principal; Michael Saunders, Grundy School Principal; Sheila Taylor, Lincoln School Principal; Greg Crider, Principal at Morton Junior High School; Chris Carter, Asst. Principal at Morton Junior High; Dennis Johnson, Principal at Morton High School; Dan Rohman, Administrative Assistant at Morton High School; Greg Prichard, Administrative Assistant/Athletic Director at Morton High School; Marjorie Johnson, Administrative Assistant at Morton High School; Dana Ashby, Director of Special Education; and Dr. Troy Teater, Director of Research and Information Systems for the 2010-2011 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea 7

Nay 0

Motion carried.

On behalf of the Board of Education, Mr. Neeley expressed his thanks and appreciation to the administrators for their leadership they provide in their roles.

Appointment of Freedom of Information Act Officers –

Dr. Kilpatrick explained that as of January 1, 2010, the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requires that all public bodies designate one or more officials or employees to act as a Freedom of Information Act Officer. These FOIA Officers (or their designees) shall receive requests for records, ensure that the public body responds to the requests in a timely fashion, and issue responses under FOIA. He is recommending that the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and the Director of Technology and Research be appointed as FOIA Officers for the school district.

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mr. Riddle, that the Board of Education approve the appointment of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Director of Technology and Research as FOIA Officers for Morton CUSD 709.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda –

Motion by Mrs. Overcash, second by Mr. Heinold, that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Approve Suspension Reports for Filing
- Approve Elementary Summer School Program
- Approve January Treasurer’s Report
- Approve 2010-2011 Budget Calendar
- Approving and Signing Minutes of the January 26, 2010, Regular Meeting, February 2, 2010, Regular Meeting, and February 16, 2010, Regular Meeting.
- Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 02-19-10	Payroll 02-26-10
Ed. Fund	\$150,703.29	\$413,155.18
Bldg. Fund	64,527.76	29,754.13
Trans.Fund	1,053.36	13,018.49
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	346,080.59
Fire and Safety	8,558.66	--

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

