MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

MARCH 20, 2012

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held March 20, 2012, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING –

President Tom Neeley called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Tom Neeley, Mrs. Joyce Kaiser, Mr. Clint Heinold,
Mr. John Applen, Mrs. Michelle Bernier,
Mrs. Michelle Kaeb, Mr. Tim Taylor

Reports –

Administrative –

Wellness Committee –

Dr. Teater reported that the Wellness Committee held its annual meeting to review Policy 6:50.   The committee reviewed the policy and noted proposed revisions would be that the high school weight room is available to students on days that staffing is available. Due to curriculum changes at the Jr. High, nutrition is taught in 7th grade only.

High School Scheduling –

Marjorie Johnson reported on high school schedule requirements for graduation. Mrs. Johnson explained the limitation of students to take elective courses throughout their high school career, especially when they are also involved in band, orchestra or chorus. Discussion with the Board included the possibility of having the same teacher all year instead of changing at semester. Mrs. Johnson indicated it is very difficult to schedule with the parameters that are already set, and including that parameter adds another level of difficulty. She explained that the high school counselors meet with each class and incoming Freshman prior to the students signing up for classes for the next year. The counselors are pro-active in the process to help limit having to make changes later.

Common Core –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported a timeline and structure of implementation for Common Core State Standards (CCSS) is currently being formulated. A report will be ready for the Board of Education in the next six weeks. He noted that professional development for the staff is being planned for this summer with full implementation of CCSS in the 2013-2014 school year. Mrs. Kaiser expressed her appreciation to the District for taking on this initiative sooner rather than later. The Common Core State Assessment will be implemented in the 2014-2015 school year.

Freedom of Information Requests –

 Dr. Kilpatrick reported that there have been no Freedom of Information requests.

President's Report –

Mr. Neeley reported that the board met earlier in the evening with the Jefferson School teachers. He noted it was a very good meeting with good information shared. The student ambassadors that gave tours of Jefferson School prior to the meeting were a highlight of the evening.

Mr. Neeley reported that those attending the Central Illinois Division meeting in Metamora last week had the opportunity to take an Open Meetings Act workshop or attend a legislative update session. Dr. Kilpatrick noted that critical legislation is coming up soon for the Illinois Senate and House that will impact education. Mrs. Bernier attended another workshop session on the topic of bullying and reported that bullies and bullying is included in the Common Core State Standard Curriculum.

Discussion Items –

High School Foods Textbook –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the high school Consumer Education Department has reviewed texts for the Foods 1 and Foods 2 classes. The text is used in both classes and is approximately nine years old. It does not provide much of the new updated nutritional information. The texts are severely worn and have been rebound, but are still in disrepair. The review committee analyzed four different texts and quickly narrowed the study to two texts since two of those considered were designed for a foods preparation program.

The recommended textbook is *Food for Today* (2010) by McGraw Hill Glencoe. The total estimated cost for 100 books is $5,436 which includes supplemental materials of a teacher edition, test prep and assessment.

A recommendation and report was presented to the Curriculum Advisory Committee and approved. A text will need to be available for each student. The administrative recommendation is that the Board of Education should request to put the book on public display for 30 days and consider adoption of the recommended textbook at the April 24 board meeting.

Action Items -

Approve Community Engagement Charge – Unicom Agreement -

Dr. Kilpatrick pointed out the revisions to the proposed Community Engagement/Strategic Plan Charge. The language was refined based on prior discussion. Administration also recommended that Unicom-Arc be approved to provide consulting and facilitation services to the District during

the terms of this engagement to support the work of the community engagement committee. Dr. Kilpatrick noted that the agreement can be as long or short as the board desires based upon the district's design of the project. It can be terminated upon 30 days notice which will allow the committee the flexibility to move the process at a pace which is best for the community.

Motion by Mr. Heinold, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education approve the Community Engagement/Strategic Planning charge for the public committee and approve an agreement with Unicom-Arc to provide consulting and facilitation services to the District and the committee.

    Roll Call Vote: Yea 7   Nay 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Neeley expressed his desire to revisit this topic at each meeting to ensure the process moves along. Dr. Kilpatrick stressed that the committee is a facilitating team, not decision makers.

Consent Agenda –

Motion by Mrs. Kaiser, second by Mr. Taylor, that the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

  Approval of School Maintenance Grant Application
  Authorize Renewal of IHSA Membership
  Approve High School Summer School
  Approving and Signing Minutes of the March 6, 2012, Regular Meeting
  Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 3-9-12	Bills 3-15-12	Payroll 3-16-12
Ed. Fund	$185,640.36	$14,703.00	$394,813.15
Bldg. Fund	104,159.13	--	28,324.47
Trans. Fund	19,209.94	--	13,526.21
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	--	383,793.33
Fire & Safety	--	--	--

    Roll Call: Yea 7   Nay 0

Motion carried.

Closed Session –

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education enter into closed session for consideration of appointment, employment, compensation, performance, or dismissal of employees, student discipline, purchase of property, litigation and/or negotiations.

        Roll Call Vote: Yea 7   Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 8:40 p.m.

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mrs. Kaiser, that the Board of Education return to regular session.

        Roll Call Vote: Yea 7   Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 8:50 p.m.

Approve Personnel Report –

Motion by Mr. Taylor, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education approve the personnel report as presented.

        Roll Call Vote: Yea 7   Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Resolution for Non-Re-Employment of Professional Staff –

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mrs. Kaiser, that the Board of Education approve the resolution for non-re-employment of professional staff as presented.

        Roll Call Vote: Yea 7   Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Resolution for Non-Re-Employment of Educational Support Personnel –

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mrs. Kaeb, that the Board of Education approve the resolution for non-re-employment of educational support personnel as presented.

        Roll Call Vote: Yea 7   Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Closed Session Minutes –

Motion by Mrs. Kaiser, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education approve the closed session minutes from the March 6, 2012, regular meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7   Nay 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Neeley reminded board members of the Committee of the Whole meeting planned for April 29. He asked each member to make a list of their goals and they will be prioritized by the board at the meeting.

Adjournment -

Motion by Mr. Taylor, second by Mr. Applen, that the meeting be adjourned.

Voice Vote: Yea 7   Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Clint Heinold, Secretary

Thomas Neeley, President