

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

APRIL 24, 2012

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held April 24, 2012, at Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING –

President Thomas Neeley called the regular meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

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

Audience Presentations –

Mrs. Jessie Sidwell, 423 W. David St., Morton, IL, mother of an MHS student appealed to the Board of Education for a stronger bullying policy.

Mr. Chad Walker, 3478 Royal, Peoria, IL, father of an MHS student also appealed for a stronger bullying policy.

Mr. Neeley thanked Mrs. Sidwell and Mr. Walker and noted that the Board of Education is very concerned about bullying district wide and noted that many of the board members have attended workshops on this subject. The board will endeavor to acquire the facts on this particular case from the administration.

Reports –

Administrative Report -

FFA Student Presentation –

Mr. Johnson introduced FFA students, Cole Meyer and Brad Litwiller. They reported on a Farm Bureau conference they attended in Springfield and shared some of the information they gained. Mr. Meyer expressed his desire that the FFA program be allowed to continue at MHS.

Mr. Neeley thanked them for their report and he also thanked Tammy Legel for her help and support for the FFA program at MHS.

Facilities Update –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the most recent report from the Construction Manager indicates that they are well ahead of schedule on the elementary building additions. If all continues at the current schedule, the buildings could be ready for move in by August 1.

Dr. Kilpatrick noted that at the May 8 meeting, he will update the Board on all of the summer projects currently being planned.

Freedom of Information Requests –

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

President's Report –

Mr. Neeley reminded board members of the meet and greet event at Eli's from 1:30 – 3:30 on Thursday, April 26, for the community to meet Dr. Hall. She will also attend the Rotary Lunch Meeting and Business After Hours that same day.

Mr. Neeley shared the IASB application for School Board Governance Recognition. The Board agreed to begin the processes to apply for the recognition.

Discussion Items –

Video Broadcasting Board Meetings –

Dr. Kilpatrick reviewed results of his research into costs of video recording board meetings for broadcast. Less expensive options were discussed including using only one stationary camera in the back of the room or audio recording for podcasting. The board agreed to explore the options further and discuss at the next meeting.

ICC Dual Credit Textbooks –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that two textbooks need to be replaced for ICC dual credit courses Business Law and Expository Writing. Mr. Johnson explained that ICC changes texts more often than the high school normally would, but the school district is reimbursed a portion of the cost by ICC. The board agreed to put the books on public display for 30 days and consider the adoption of the recommended textbooks at the June meeting.

Action Items –

Approve Discipline Handbook Changes –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that the Discipline Committee has met and is in agreement with the administrative recommended changes in the discipline handbooks. These changes have also been discussed with the Administrative Council and forwarded to legal counsel. The recommended changes have been previously presented for discussion at the April 3 Board of Education meeting. Dr. Kilpatrick noted the changes include more language and is more specific on bullying.

Motion by Mrs. Kaiser, second by Mr. Heinold, that the Board of Education approve the discipline handbook changes as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Tentative Amended Budget –

Dr. Kilpatrick explained that since the Board of Education adopted the budget for 2011-12 last September, the elementary additions have been approved and construction began last month. The School code requires that if our expenditures in any fund are to exceed the original budget, then the District must file an amended budget. The budget was amended only to include the additional estimated expenditure of funds for the construction project that could be paid by June 30. Estimates are that 60% of the cost of the project could be billed and paid by then.

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mrs. Bernier, that the Board of Education approve the 2011-12 Tentative Amended Budget, place it on display for thirty days, and schedule a budget hearing for June 5, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Appoint Jr. High Principal –

Motion by Mrs. Kaiser, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education appoint Lee Hoffman Principal of Morton Jr. High School for the 2012-2013 school year.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Neeley thanked the interview committee involved in the process. He welcomed Mr. Hoffman as the new Jr. High Principal.

Consent Agenda –

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

- Approve Summer Challenge Program
- Approve Abatement of Working Cash Fund
- Approving and Signing of Minutes of the April 3, 2012, Regular Meeting and the April 19, 2012, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 4-5-12	Bills 4-20-12	Payroll 4-13-12
Ed. Fund	\$75,258.24	\$169,948.63	\$393,655.04
Bldg. Fund	21,954.63	272,356.30	29,362.58
Trans. Fund	25,736.66	17,410.48	13,426.44
Payroll Accts. Pay.	--	--	384,362.86
Fire & Safety	--	--	--

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Closed Session –

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mrs. Kaeb, 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 8:10 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Applen, 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 9:00 p.m.

Approve Personnel Report –

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

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

