

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

February 18, 2014

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held February 18, 2014, at Lincoln Elementary School.

REGULAR MEETING –

President Clint Heinold called the regular meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Clint Heinold, Mrs. Michelle Bernier, Mr. John Applen,
Mr. Shaun Bill, Mr. Tom Neeley

Members absent: Mrs. Kelley Scarfe, Mr. Tim Taylor

Reports –

Administrative –

Freedom of Information Requests –

Dr. Hall reported that Brent Johnston, a resident of the State of Illinois requested financial information from the Morton School District. Due to the extensive nature of the request, Mr. Johnston has been informed that the district will be taking the legal 5-day extension to fulfill it.

Facilities Update –

Dr. Hall reported that:

- the bus facility move-in has gone well. Mrs. Weigle reports she is very pleased with operations. The furnace is now installed properly.
- the Facility Advisory Committee presentation will take place at the March 4 Board meeting.
- the Facilities Committee (Mr. Neeley, Mr. Taylor and Dr. Hall) met recently. The district is moving forward with the Morton Park District and the Morton Girls Softball Association on plans to construct a fourth diamond at Birchwood Park.

President's Report –

Mr. Heinold reported that:

- the Board had a good meeting with the Lincoln School teachers earlier in the evening. He is impressed with the innovative ways the staff is using to improve instruction. He noted the collaboration that is taking place across the district and the grade level articulation that was reported. The staff expressed they are pleased with Ms. Albers leadership.

- the Illinois Association of School Boards recently held a training workshop for school board members from the Central Illinois Valley Division. Several board members from Morton School District took part. The workshop was entitled “The Critical Role of School Boards in a Democracy.

Mr. Neeley expressed his concern with the State of Illinois and the direction it is going for education. He asked board members to continue to encourage local legislators to advocate for education issues in Springfield. Dr. Hall added that she is discouraged with the governor’s race and the lack of either side speaking about education in Illinois. She is also concerned with the unequitable funding formula and is frustrated with the pension reform law.

Action Items -

A. Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Working Cash Fund Bonds in the amount of \$1,155,000 and providing for the levy and collection of a direct annual tax to pay the principal of and interest on those bonds -

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mr. Neeley, that the Board of Education Approve the Resolution for the issuance of \$1,155,000 of General Obligation Limited Tax School Bonds Series 2014.

Roll Call:

Yea 5

Nay 0

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda –

Motion by Mr. Bill, second by Mr. Neeley, that the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

Approve Personnel Report

Approve Maintenance Grant Application

Approve Overnight Trip for Girls’ Soccer Team

Approve Minutes of the January 30, 2014, Committee of the Whole Meeting, the February 4, 2014, Regular Meeting and the Closed Session Minutes of the February 4, 2014, Regular Meeting.

Approve Bills and Payroll:

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Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Bernier, Secretary

Clint Heinold, President