

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

MAY 16, 2017

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held May 16, 2017, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Tom Neeley called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Tom Neeley, Dr. Shad Beaty, Mr. Jeff Schmidgall, Mr. Kevin Austin, Mrs. Michelle Bernier, Dr. David Cross, Mr. Bart Rinkenberger

Reports –

Administrative –

LEAP Updates – Brown, Lincoln -

LEAP updates of the goals presented last fall were given by principals from Brown and Lincoln Schools. LEAP (Learning Enhancement Action Plans) were formerly known as School Improvement plans.

Brown – Ms. Waterfield noted the two goals that were implemented last fall.

Goal #1 – In accordance with PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) Lettie Brown Elementary staff will implement behavioral expectations and a corresponding behavioral matrix; develop systems throughout the school to recognize positive behaviors; clearly define the disciplinary process, with an emphasis on major and minor behaviors; and revamp the office discipline referral form to be in alignment with the PBIS process. Link to Board goals – Climate.

Update on Goal #1 – PBIS Committee members attended PBIS trainings. Students have been recognized throughout the school year for exhibiting the four behavioral expectations – Safe, Responsible, Respectful and Engaged. Paw Pride Behavioral Matrix was completed with specific expectations. A flow chart of the discipline process and a listing of major and minor behaviors were completed. Will utilize a form which documents behavioral incidents to analyze and take steps to proactively address areas of concern. The first Tuesday of the month has been designated as Paw Pride Day.

Goal #2 – Teachers will research and utilize math workshop/guided math strategies in order to increase student engagement, meet individual needs, utilize innovative technology and increase mathematics problem-solving skills. Link to Board goals - Achievement

Update on Goal #2 – All “709 Above the Line” components were discussed at monthly staff meetings (student engagement, collaboration, innovation, quality of creation, meaningful outcomes, problem-solving, high-order questioning). Several staff members participated in the math workshop book study – “Math Workshop in Action: Strategies for Grades K-5.” Other staff from Brown attended the workshop entitled, “Practical Strategies to Differentiate your Math Instruction Using Small Group Instruction and Math Learning Centers.” Staff members have observed their colleagues implementing math workshop.

Lincoln – Ms. Albers noted the two goals that were implemented last fall.

Goal #1 – The PBIS team will create lessons for all the areas in the Lincoln building to teach common behavioral expectations. The PBIS team will use data to choose the targeted behavioral focus for the month. The PBIS team along with the staff will implement “green” days to promote and support the identified target behavior.

Update on Goal #1 – PBIS Team Members created lesson plans that were used at the beginning of the school year by teachers to teach behavior expectations in all school areas. Staff wore PBIS Green shirts on Green Days and awarded students who modeled a particular trait (respect, on target, acting like a leader, responsible) that was being focused on during that month. PBIS team was more purposeful in planning and implementing of PBIS. Staff used a common reporting form that allowed the team to identify specific locations and specific traits. The forms allowed the team to monitor repeated behaviors for particular students. The plan for next year is to work towards the implementation of Tier 2 interventions for student behavior through PBIS.

Goal #2 – Increase the complexity of both oral and written questions to provide opportunities for differentiated questioning.

Update on Goal #2 – Created posters called “Lincoln Lion Lingo” to display in classrooms to help teachers be more purposeful in questioning at their grade level. A team of teachers attended a vocabulary workshop and presented ideas and strategies gleaned from the workshop to other teachers. The plan for next year is to use the Frayer Model to create an online vocabulary notebook for teachers to access with the Lincoln Lion Lingo.

“Thank You” to PTO’s –

Referring to the reports recently received from the PTO Presidents, Dr. Hall acknowledged the amazing work they do for each school in the district. There are many projects that are supported at each building that many are unaware of. Mr. Neeley noted the burdens that would be on the school district without the support of the PTO’s. He would like to “tell

their story” to the community. He asked for ideas for ways to share with others the countless undertakings accomplished by our PTO’s.

Ed Framework - Update –

Dr. Teater explained how the District uses Education Framework to protect student privacy on the Internet. The service helps ensure that the software and websites students use are compliant with the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) and other student data privacy regulations. The privacy scoring system helps district technologists understand how the company plans on using student data, allowing the district to make informed decisions. Information can be shared with parents directly to get their consent if required by regulations, ensuring the district is in compliance. District Technology specialists have been and will continue to screen Internet Apps and Online Services and will be posting an approved technology list on the District website in the near future.

President’s Report –

President Neeley reported on an IASB Directors’ meeting he recently attended.

Discussion Item –

Instrument Rental Fees –

Fine Arts Coordinator Patrick Mainieri explained that the District instrumental music program has seen significant growth in interest and enrollment over the past several years. That, combined with the district already having a significant inventory of instruments, has caused him and the administration to take an in-depth look at funding the necessary instrument maintenance/repair/replacement costs that accompany the program. An instrument rental fee is being proposed, to be implemented starting with the 2017-2018 school year. The proposed fees are:

- District-Owned Instrument rental - \$50.00 per year maintenance fee
- District-Owned Percussion use - \$50.00 per semester maintenance fee

Parents will also be asked to sign a Use Agreement if their student plays a district-owned instrument.

The Board of Education will be asked to approve the proposed fees at the June 6, 2017, meeting.

Action Item –

Approve Discipline Handbook Revisions –

Dr. Hall noted that the proposed discipline handbook revisions were presented to the Board of Education at the May 2, 2017, meeting.

Motion by Dr. Beaty, second by Mr. Schmidgall, that the Board of Education approve the 2017-2018 Discipline Handbook revisions presented excluding Item #2 with the change to cellular device usage.

The proposed language states that “students may have their cellular devices on them but off during the school day. However, cellular devices may only be used in school during lunch time in the cafeteria. Any other time or location of use will lead to school consequences.” Board members discussed whether it is better to allow students to keep their cellular devices with them throughout the day or having them leave them in their lockers. Several mentioned that students should not be allowed to turn them on at lunch, but to encourage students to converse with each other.

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mr. Rinkenberger, that Dr. Beaty’s motion be amended.

Roll Call: Yea 5 Nay 2 (Beaty, Neeley)

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mr. Rinkenberger, that the Board of Education approve the 2017-2018 Discipline Handbook revisions, with the amended language in Item #2 to read, “students may have their cellular devices on them but off during the school day and out of sight. Cellular devices may not be used in school during lunch time in the cafeteria.”

Roll Call: Yea 5 Nay 2 (Beaty, Neeley)

Motion carried.

Mr. Rinkenberger asked that the Board of Education receive periodic updates during the school year on student cellular device usage.

Consent Agenda –

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mr. Schmidgall, that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented:

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve March Treasurer’s Report
- Approve Out of State/Overnight Trip – High School Wrestling
- Approve Administrators’ Contracts

Approve Resolution for Non-Re-Employment of Educational Support Staff
Approve Minutes of the May 2, 2017 Regular Meeting and the May 2, 2017, Closed Session.

Approve Bills and Payroll

	Bills 5-5-17	Bills 5-12-17	Payroll 5-12-17
Ed. Fund	\$154,761.46	\$6,499.68	\$ 525,436.39
Bldg. Fund	16,465.26	588.24	32,089.59
Trans. Fund	22,038.08	173.44	16,197.50
Capital Projects	17,931.53	--	--
TORT	58.00	--	--
Payroll Account Payable	--	--	486,390.47

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Closed Session –

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, second by Mrs. Bernier, 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, negotiations and/or school building safety and security. (5 ILCS 120/2 115 ILCS 5/18)

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 9:10 p.m.

Motion by Dr. Beaty, second by Mr. Schmidgall, 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 9:40 p.m.

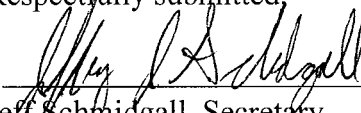
Adjournment -

Motion by Dr. Beaty, second by Mr. Austin, that the meeting be adjourned.


Voice Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Schmidgall, Secretary



Tom Neeley, President