

RECORD OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MORRISON COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #6
January 23, 2017

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Morrison Community Unit School District #6, County of Whiteside, State of Illinois, was duly called and held at 5:30 P.M. in the Office of the Superintendent located within Morrison High School in said district on January 23, 2017.

On roll call, the following were present: Tricia Mickley, Stephanie Neas, Jim Ridley, Wolfgang Schmidt, Brandon Shelton, and Cathleen Vegter. Gus Linke arrived to the meeting at 6:00pm. Also present were Superintendent Scott Vance, Principals Kay Harwood, Joe Robbins and Jennifer Oetting, recording secretary LuAnn Wieneke. Members from the Public: Duane Shaffer (IT Director), Jan Scott (teacher), Allysen Wetzell (teacher), Jennie Gowan (teacher), Dana Bennett (teacher), Cheryl Robinson (curriculum director), Andy Harridge and Kaywyn Beswick (Morrison Food Pantry).

5:30 P.M.

Closed Session

Motion: Mickley; Second: Shelton; To enter into closed session for the purpose of student discipline and other matters relating to individual students and the appointment, employment, discipline, performance or dismissal of a specific employee).

Ayes: Six; Nays: None. Motion carried

7:11 P.M.

Adjourn Closed Session

Motion: Shelton; Second: Mickley; To adjourn closed session and reconvene in open session in the HS Library.

Ayes: Seven; Nays: None. Motion carried

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Cathleen Vegter asked for changes to the agenda. There were no additions or subtractions to the Agenda.

Motion: Linke; Second: Neas; Ayes: Seven; Nays: None. Motion carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Cathleen Vegter called for any changes or corrections to the minutes of the last regular Board meeting held December 19, 2016.

Motion: Neas; Second: Mickley; To approve the minutes of the last regular Board meeting of December 23, 2016.

Ayes: Seven; Nays: None; Motion Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Good News from Around the District

Mrs. Harwood updated the Board on activities that have been happening at the High School. Highlights from the High School include the wrestling team being ranked 13th in the State at this time with 7 wrestlers being ranked individually. The Pons participated at the IHSA competition and qualified for state which will be held the weekend of January 27-28th in Bloomington. The Student Success Team continues to meet with students that have been identified previously have shown improvement and the MVP program is ready to start at the end of the month. Mr. Joe Robbins stated that the Jr High had a goal of \$1500 for the "pennies for patients" program this year. As of this time they have raised over \$2200 toward that program. Allyson Wetzell will be leaving in the next few weeks for a fellowship with Eureka Math for the 3 day training session in San Diego. Mrs. Oetting updated the board that there are two student teachers from WIU this semester at Northside working with Susie Ottens and Karen Mayberry. There will be teachers coming from Rock Falls to observe Chelsea Stuart and Karen Mayberry teaching Engage NY later this month. Southside school had a firearm simulation on January 19th and on January 26th Northside will also have the firearm simulation. Both are being held after school hours when no students are present in the schools.

RECORD OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MORRISON COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #6
January 23, 2017

Jan Scott and Allyson Wetzell (MJHS teachers) gave information to the Board on alternative ways to grade students work. At this time they are using this grading system with their students to see if it has a positive impact.

Public Forum

- Duane Shaffer wanted to inform the Board that the High School ESports club will be holding a conference event. There are 26 students from surrounding schools coming to participate (10-Sherrard, 5-Prophetstown, 1-Newman and the rest are Morrison students)
- Kaywyn Beswick asked the Board and the school to help get the word out that the Morrison Food Pantry is extending their hours to include every 3rd Saturday of the month from 9-11am. If the school observes anyone at the school who might benefit from the help of the food pantry to please let them know there is food available. She also thanked the Board and teachers for all the work they do for the students of the District.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Financial Report

The financial report as of December 31, 2016 was reviewed.

Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2016

The treasurer's report as of December 31, 2016 was not available to review.

Bills as of January 23, 2017

The Board reviewed the bills for payment as of January 23, 2017.

ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

For the first time in months, District enrollment is up. As of the start of the second semester district enrollment is at 1016 students. Although district enrollment has increased, the total number of students still is something to be aware of and monitor.

CATEGORY II INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES

District Technology Director Duane Shaffer is exploring ways to increase funding for the district technology infrastructure. MCUD #6 is eligible to submit projects for up to \$155,000 to increase our technology infrastructure. If approved the District would be required to pay for 30% of the project with the remaining 70% paid for through E-rate.

2017-2018 MORRISON HS AND JUNIOR HS REGISTRATION FEES

By lowering extracurricular fees for the 2017-2018 school year the board may want to explore other options to recoup potentially lost revenue. One such avenue discussed was increasing registration fees at Morrison High School and Morrison Junior High School. An increase in fees would allow students in grades 6-12 free admittance to MJHS and MHS athletic events. Listed below are potential fee increase options and the estimated revenue they would generate.

- \$5 Increase = \$2645
- \$10 Increase = \$5290
- \$15 Increase = \$7935

HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR HIGH BUILDING SIGNS

In an effort to make our buildings more aesthetically pleasing the possibility of installing new digital signs has been discussed. The benefits of adding such signs are:

- Increase the outward appeal of our buildings for current families, community members, and potential new residents
- Additional avenue to convey messages and announcements to parents.
- Publically recognize student achievements.
- Display student artwork

RECORD OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MORRISON COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #6
January 23, 2017

- Broadcast highlights of student performances and athletic events
- Increase the ease and speed of updating information
- Promote family engagement and community relations

Funds to purchase the signs would come from Sales Tax Revenue so no general fund dollars would be spent.

DRIVER EDUCATION CAR

The current District car is becoming undriveable, therefore it is time explore options for replacing the current vehicle. Options include purchasing a new vehicle for the Driver's Education program and transitioning the current Driver's Education vehicle to become the District car. The second option would be to lease a new Driver's Education car and transitioning the Driver's Education car to the District car. Listed below are the conditions for leasing a Driver's Education vehicle from Kunes Auto Group of Morrison

- Cost per day (Monday-Friday) of \$15
- District is responsible for installation of brake and insurance.
- Limit of 5,000 miles per year.
- Vehicle will be under warranty so any repairs would be covered by the warranty.

BUILDING USAGE POLICIES

Recently there has been a lot of confusion and discussion concerning our current building usage policies. Moving forward there may be the need to revise current policies. Some of the issues that have arisen include but are not limited to are custodial fees, classifications, need for custodians, waiving of fees, etc...

With the board's permission the Superintendent would like to review and revise the current policies.

HVAC PROJECT UPDATE

The HVAC project is moving along. District administrators met with Mark Miller and his engineers recently to finalize bid specifications. Some highlights of the meeting are:

- Bid packets are expected to be published in late February
- The Northside renovations will be listed as an alternative bid.
- Asbestos abatement will begin promptly as soon as school is out.
- Some high school classes may be displaced to allow work to continue throughout the year.
- The new addition will not be updated until Summer 2018

2017-2018 DISTRICT CALENDAR

The District Policy Committee recently released a first draft of the 2017-2018 District calendar. Staff members were asked to provide feedback to the draft. A copy of the calendar draft is included in the board folder. Calendar highlights are:

- First day of Student Attendance: August 16 (Wednesday)
- Holidays Observed: Labor Day, Columbus Day, MLK Jr. Day, and President Days
- Winter Break: December 21 (Thursday) through January 3 (Wednesday)
- Spring Break: March 26-April 2
- Last Day of Student Attendance: May 22

DRIVER'S EDUCATION COURSE CHANGE

The High School administration is proposing to change it's Driver's Education course. The administration is proposing to reduce the classroom portion of the course from a full semester to a quarter. This adjustment would align with what other local high schools are currently scheduling. Students would receive a .5 credit for the classroom portion and a .5 credit for the behind the wheel portion.

DISTRICT FINANCIAL SOFTWARE

The district's financial software is becoming old and outdated. In addition the software is not web based and is therefore only accessible through the district server which can be troublesome. Specialized Data Systems provides a web based system that incorporates a payroll system and budget planning system in one.

HIGH SCHOOL LOCKER ROOM UPGRADES

The High School locker rooms are in various states of disarray and in need of upgrades. Included in your board folders are

RECORD OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MORRISON COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #6
January 23, 2017

projected costs to upgrade and renovate the high school: PE lockers, team room, and swimming locker rooms.

DISTRICT SUBSTITUTE PAY

With a shortage of substitute teachers and aides in the area, the District must remain competitive to recruit qualified and able substitutes. One such way to possibly increase our substitute pool would be to increase of daily sub rate for both substitute teachers and substitute aides. Currently the district pays substitute teachers a flat rate of \$75 per day and an hourly rate for substitute aides of \$8.25. Listed below are the local daily substitute pay scale:

- East Coloma \$75
- Fulton \$75*
- Montmorency \$75
- Prophetstown \$90
- Riverdale \$100
- Rocks Falls (E) \$75
- Rock Falls (HS) \$85
- Sterling \$75
- West Carroll \$90

*Considering an increase

TREASURER'S BOND

Our current treasurer's bond is set to expire at the end of the month. Currently our bond insures the district for up to \$50,000. This number is somewhat lower than recommended. It may be advantageous for the district to increase the insured amount with the addition of a new fiscal director.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Neas; Second: Schmidt; To approve the consent Agenda including District bills for payment as of January 23, 2017, Building Activity Reports dated December 31, 2016, Personnel recommendations:

Hires: Non-Certified: **Michaela McNeese** as MJH 2nd Shift Custodian (January 24, 2017). Resignations: -Certified: None, Non-Certified: **Tammy Deter** as HS Softball and F/S Volleyball Coach (June 1, 2017), **Gene VanDeWostine** as MHS Head Custodian (June 5, 2017), **Brandy Stephenson** as MJHS Custodian (June 1, 2017).

On roll call voting Aye – Schmidt, Ridley, Shelton, Linke, Neas, Mickley, and Vegter. Nay – None; motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

SOFTBALL UNIFORM PURCHASE

Motion: Ridley; Second: Linke; To approve the purchase of the following softball uniforms for the 2017 season: 30 Pants (\$2100), 20 Jerseys (\$1260), Printing (\$242)

..

On roll call voting Aye: Ridley, Shelton, Linke, Neas, Mickley, Schmidt, and Vegter; Nays: none; motion carried

NOON RELEASE REQUEST

Motion: Ridley; Second: Linke; To approve request of the Morrison High School administration to allow the student of the months and one (1) guest to leave campus for lunch one (1) day during the following month.

Ayes: Seven; Nays: None. Motion carried

HS SIGN PURCHASE

Motion: Linke; Second: Neas; To approve the purchase of full color single face 3" x 8" wireless digital sign for Morrison High School for the cost of \$13,909.00.

On roll call voting Aye: Linke, Neas, Mickley, Schmidt, Ridley, Shelton and Vegter; Nays: none; motion carried

RECORD OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MORRISON COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #6
January 23, 2017

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL SIGN PURCHASE

Motion: Shelton; Second: Neas; To approve the purchase of full color double faced 2" x 7" wireless digital sign for Morrison Junior High School for the cost of \$14,845.58.

On roll call voting Aye: Neas, Mickley, Schmidt, Ridley, Shelton and Linke; Nays: Vegter; motion carried

DISTRICT FINANCIAL SOFTWARE

Motion: Linke; Second: Schmidt; To approve the purchase of the SDS Financial software for the price of \$18,000 and the annual renewal price of \$4500 per year for two (2) years.

On roll call voting Aye: Mickley, Schmidt, Ridley, Shelton, Linke, Neas and Vegter; Nays: None; motion carried

ALOP CONTRACT

Motion: Ridley; Second: Linke; To approve the Morrison Alternative Learning Program contract as presented.

On roll call voting Aye: Ridley, Shelton, Linke, Neas, Mickley, Schmidt and Vegter; Nays: none; motion carried

8:05 P.M.

Closed Session

Motion: Mickley; Second: Linke; To enter into closed session for the purpose of collective bargaining matters.
Ayes: Seven; Nays: None. Motion carried

9:23 P.M.

Adjourn Closed Session

Motion: Mickley; Second: Shelton; To adjourn closed session and reconvene in open session in the HS Library.
Ayes: Seven; Nays: None. Motion carried

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURN MEETING

9:23 p.m.

Motion: Mickley; Second: Schmidt; To adjourn the meeting.
Ayes: Seven; Nays: None. Motion carried.

(President) _____

(Secretary) _____ Date Approved _____