Morton School District #214
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
August 21, 2017

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Pat Saldaña called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm, board members present are Ms. Pat Saldaña, Mr. Warren Dunlap, Mr. Chase Buffington and Mrs. Betty Hutchison. Mr. Josh Austin is absent and excused.

The flag salute was given.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Mr. John Hannah explained the changes to tonight's agenda.
Mr. Chase Buffington made motion to adopt the agenda, Mr. Warren Dunlap seconded. The motion carried with all in favor. The vote carried 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Pat Saldana gave an overview of the guidelines of public speaking.

Mrs. Kip Henderson: Thanked the board for their service to Morton School District. She has been with the District for 32 years and is the Chief negotiator for the MEA. She is here to discuss class sizes issues. The MEA began meeting with their members in early 2017, time and again class size was mentioned as an issue. Large classes, our incoming 3rd and 5th grades have 26 or 27 students which makes it difficult for teachers to give individual instruction which kids need in a high poverty district. Out members have discussed the need to address this in bargaining. The teachers worry that students weren't achieving what they could because it was challenge to get to every student in the class, other teachers don't have enough books, materials and supplies. Large classes make activities such as science experiments unsafe, teachers even said some were concerned to use scissors in their classrooms. Some teachers stopped offering enrichment activities. Many are spending 5-6 evenings a week at school and still not feeling prepared. Their health and personal life are suffering. The State of Washington recognizes that small class sizes are important to education. Last year the State funded Morton K-3 for 18:1. Our District didn't demonstrate this so we were awarded funds for 22:1. Other Districts Onalaska, Mossyrock and Napavine demonstrated a lower ratio. The funding loss wasn't a significant amount, but that isn't the point. The point is, that we can and should be doing more for our students. We are a small district, there are creative ways to make sure there are more adults in classrooms and our teachers are prepared for individualized instruction. On behalf of the members of the MEA she would like this to

be at the bargaining table to benefit our students. She thanked everyone for listening. Mrs. Kip Henderson provided a K-3 class size report.

Ms. Amanda West: She thanked the board for their service. As the MEA president and member of the bargaining team she wanted to discuss class size and the number of preps at the Secondary level. At the secondary level some teacher teach up to 9 preps in a week and the teachers don't have enough time in the week to feel prepared. We have looked at other districts and the class sizes and preps in our District are uncommon. Teachers are stretched to their limits and have asked the bargaining team to bring this issue to the table on their behalf. As we currently do not have any language in the Collective Bargaining Agreement around class sizes or preps. The team put forward a proposal to cap class sizes, we recognize capping class sizes can be difficult in small District, but we feel it is important to start the conversation. The District responded by offering a meeting with administrators for teachers who felt their workload was too high. We don't feel like this is an adequate step forward. Additionally we feel we already have this right and the conversations are ongoing. We have given counter offers, but they have been rejected. At the last session we were in we were informed the secondary schedule would no longer have club or advisory on Wednesday and this decision was made by the administration to reduce workload. This change felt punitive. Clubs offer both students and teachers enrichment, for pursuing interests and passions and having fun. Clubs like Rocket Club with Mrs. Wright, OSMO Club with Mrs. Brooks, and Race Car Club with Mr. Metcalf provide some of our struggling students with connections to school and options to be successful. The newly planned advisory time would have offered many of our students the post secondary advisory and planning they wouldn't get elsewhere. We were informed advisory classes would still happen as necessary, but we feel that the consistent post secondary planning that we as a staff discussed at the end of last year is in the interest of all of our students especially as we transition to an AVID school. We want to be clear the MEA bargaining team does not support the District's decision to take away club time and advisory, we think this will hurt students and we told them this at the bargaining table. We also believe the District has the ability to reduce class sizes, reduce preps and keep advisory and clubs. In the 16-17 School year the state allocated a little over 20 FTE for basic education and 1.9 for LAP teachers. The District reported employing 17.75 teachers for basic ed and none for LAP which is a difference of about 4. Morton's ratio was 1:17 in 16-17 this includes all certificated staff even if not classroom teachers, Mossyrocks was 1:15, Onalaskas 1:16 and Napavine was 1:16 only White Pass and Conway have higher ratios, state wide we ranked 168 out of 295 Districts. The District's end fund balance is forecasted at just above $800,000.00 about 18.5% the state average is around 11%. In sum the District has the financial ability to

reduce class sizes and preps. We do not believe removing clubs and advisory from our students and would like to see this back on the bargaining table to give our students every opportunity to grow. Ms. Amanda West discussed the removal of clubs and advisory classes was a punitive movement.

Ms. Pat Saldana thanked both for their time.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mr. Chase Buffington made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mrs. Betty Hutchison seconded and the vote carried with all in favor. Ms. Pat Saldana asked about Adna School District for Highly Capable. Mr. John Hannah explained we have a highly capable cooperative for Lewis County, the small schools go to the PLC meetings and Adna provides the leader for this who receives a stipend. Ms. Pat Saldana asked about the WASA membership, this is for the Superintendent's, we receive the TWIO report, Dan Steele Legislative Rep, Small Schools Sup Conference and others. In the policies, many had notes to the side, Mr. Hannah explained that these are WSSDA's notes of what changes they made. Mrs. Betty Hutchison asked about Washington State Crop and Soil, this is part of the Carl Perkins grant, Mrs. Betty Hutchison asked about Reliable Enterprises, Mrs. Carlie Womack responded this is for our In-Tot kiddos and that check is being voided and the money was paid to the ESD. Mrs. Betty Hutchison asked about the qualifications for a paraeducator, Mrs. April Kaech explained. Mrs. Hutchison also asked what a certificated sub is, Mr. Hannah explained. The vote carried 4-0.

Consent Agenda Items:

- Approve Board Minutes
  - July 17, 2017
  - July 17, 2017 Budget Hearing
- Approve Vouchers
  - Payroll-July
  - Accounts Payable-August
- Approve Personnel
  - Chelssi Hanger—Teaching out of Content Area, Science
  - Becky Brooks—Teaching out of Content Area, Spanish
  - Trisha Browning—Teaching out of Content Area, Special Education
  - Rosemary Browning, Para Educator
  - Jenny Martinez, Certificated Sub
  - Courtney Fairhart, JH Assistant Volleyball Coach
  - James Collette, Head JH Football Coach
  - Rob Hazen, Assistant JH Football Coach
  - Steve Hanson JH/HS Volunteer Volleyball Coach
  - Kendra Cheney HS Volunteer Cheer Coach
  - Chris Dantinne JH Volunteer Football Coach

- Resignation of Travis Merriman, JH Head Football Coach
- Approve Resolutions
  - None
- Approve Business Transactions
  - Highly Capable iGrant 217
  - Dairy Bid from Dairy Fresh Farms
- Policies: First Reading (Information Only)
  - 1410 Executive of Closed Sessions
  - 3115 Homeless Students-Enrollment Rights and Services
  - 3116 Students in Foster Care
  - 3122 Excused and Unexcused Absences
  - 3122P Excused and Unexcused Absences
  - 3416 Medication at School
  - 3416P Medication at School
  - 3432 Emergencies
  - 4040 Public Access to District Records
  - 4040P Public Access to District Records
  - 4020 School Support Organizations
  - 5005 Employment and Volunteers: Disclosures, Certification Requirements, Assurances and Approval
  - 5240 Evaluation of Staff
  - 6020 System of Funds and Accounts
  - 6100 Revenues from Local, State and Federal Sources
  - 6220 Bid Requirements
  - 6220P Bid Requirements
  - 6580 Continuity of Operations Plan
  - 6580F Continuity of Operations Form-COOP Planning Worksheet
  - 6580P Continuity of Operations Plan
  - 6700 Nutrition, Health, and Physical Fitness
  - 6905 Site Acquisition
  - 6950 Contactor Assurances, Surety Bonds and Insurance, and Change Orders
- Approve Policies: Second Reading
  - None
- Financial Statement (Information Only)
  - July 2017

LINKAGE:

None—We do not have a date for the next PTA meeting.

MONITORING OF ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE:

Ends 1-District Vision: Mr. Hannah presented to the board. There was discussion of AVID training to the board with Mrs. Kip Henderson.

Executive Limitations: Mr. Chasae Buffington would like to add teachers to EL6 because Mr. Hannah is spending time and collaborating with

teachers. He would like the framework of EL6 to add this information. Mr. Hannah stated we could add this to a work session. Ms. Pat Saldana stated this will allow us to look at the language and make appropriate changes. Mr. Chase Buffington made a motion to approve EL6—Inclusive Practice—Collaborating with Families and Community Members but that in the future we have a chance to do a work session to modify the language. Mr. Warren Dunlap seconded and the motion carried with all in favor. The vote carried 4-0. Mrs. Betty Hutchison is unsure of what we are asking. Mr. Chase Buffington agrees. Mrs. Betty Hutchison is not sure she agrees, but has voted. The board agreed on a work session at 5:15 pm prior to the board meeting.

REVIEW OF POLICY:

Mr. Chase Buffington made a motion to approve, GP8—Agenda Planning, GP8E—Annual Board Agenda and GP8E1-Three Year Linkage Plan. Mr. Warren Dunlap seconded and the motion carried with all in favor. The vote carried 4-0.

Mr. Chase Buffington made a motion to approve BSR1—Board Superintendent Connection, Mr. Warren Dunlap seconded and the motion carried with all in favor. The vote carried 3-1. Mrs. Betty Hutchison would like to go to a board work session. We will add this to the work session at 5:15 pm prior to the board meeting. Mr. Chase Buffington stated he could give a rough draft.

OTHER ITEMS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The WSSDA assembly is scheduled in Seattle, please let Mr. John Hannah or Ms. Pat Saldana know if you would like to attend.

EXEMPT SESSION:

The board recessed at 6:44 pm for a small 10 minute break and will recess into exempt session for the purpose of collective bargaining. Mrs. April Kaech is invited to join the board.

The board returned from Exempt Session at 8:01 pm where no actions were taken or decisions made.

ADJORNMENT:

Mrs. Betty Hutchison made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 pm. Mr. Warren Dunlap Seconded seconded and the motion carried with all in favor. The vote 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Board Chairman

Attest: Board Secretary

Board Member

Board Member

Board Member

Board Member