

Minutes of the Public Board of Education Meeting, 2007-08 budget presentation & adoption, March 28, 2007 at the Monroe Township High School.

The meeting was called to order by Board President Kathy Kolupanowich at 6:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Kathy Kolupanowich, Board President  
Mr. Lew Kaufman, Board Vice President  
Mr. Marvin I. Braverman - via speakerphone 8:00p.m.until 9:45p.m.  
Ms. Carol Haring  
Mr. Joseph Homoki  
Mr. John Leary  
Ms. Kathy Leonard – arrived 6:51p.m.  
Ms. Rita Ostrager  
Ms. Amy Speizer

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

NONE

JAMESBURG BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT

Ms. Patrice Faraone

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER PRESENT

Mr. George Leonard

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Ms. Gina Antonello  
Mr. Alex Malvone

STAFF

Dr. Ralph Ferrie, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Wayne Holliday, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Dr. Christopher Tienken, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction  
Dr. Edward Forsthoffer, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel

ATTORNEY

Mr. Bertram E. Busch, Esq.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – 65

After the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call, the Board President read the following statement:

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the Monroe Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted March 23, 2007:

1. At all Schools,
2. Home News Tribune,
3. Cranbury Press, and
4. Filed with the Clerk of the Municipality.

#### CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION

Mr. Homoki moved, seconded by Mr. Kaufman the adoption of the following resolution:

“Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Township of Monroe hereby moves to go into closed session, in accordance with Sunshine Law, Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975 to discuss the following subjects:

Collective Bargaining: Representation Petition – Monroe Township Board of Education Employee Organization.

Legal: To receive attorney advice with respect to the obligations of the Board of Education as to the complaints filed before the School Ethics Commission in the matters entitled Dressel v. Kolupanowich, Monroe Township Board of Education, and Dressel v. Speizer, Monroe Township Board of Education.

Personnel: Sick time for employees E.F. and M.H.

Contract: Appraisal services for easements as related to the new Applegarth Road Elementary School.

The discussion conducted in closed session can be disclosed to the public at such time as the matters have been resolved. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Members of the Board of Education convened into Closed Session at 6:35 p.m.

Members of the Board of Education reconvened to the Public Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

#### 2007/08 BUDGET PRESENTATION, PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ADOPTION

Dr. Ferrie welcomed everyone to the 2007/08 Budget Presentation and stated that all questions from the public would be answered at the end of the presentation. Then, Dr. Ferrie acknowledged members of the Board of Education and staff in attendance. Specifically, during the presentation, Dr. Ferrie, Dr. Tienken and Mr. Holliday spoke about projected student enrollment, staffing, instructional programs, state aid, and the major components of 2007/08 projected revenues and appropriations. Board Member Mr. Braverman then made the following statements: “I have just a couple comments about the budget. First, I am opposed to a million and a half dollars for lights and the artificial turf. This is a district that needs more fields, not lights and turf. I didn’t see any evidence of budgeting for new strategies for the block scheduling. Also, we were quick to employ vice-principals for the elementary schools but we are still working with just one custodian. I think we need a second custodian just in case of an emergency particularly with the larger population. Also, I think the budget should be reviewed for the amount of

**Public Board Of Education Meeting, 2007-08 Budget Presentation & Adoption, March 28, 2007** 59 administrators we have in the district with similar job descriptions.” Then, Ms. Kolupanowich asked if any member of the public wanted to speak on the budget. Members of the public made statements and asked administrators questions as related to the proposed 2007/08 budget. Dr. Ferrie, Dr. Tienken and Mr. Holliday responded to questions asked by members of the public. (Item A on Business Administrator’s Report.)

ADOPTION OF THE 2007/08 ANNUAL SCHOOL BUDGET

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman and seconded by Ms. Leonard that the following 2007/2008 Annual School Budget be adopted as written:

	General Fund	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Total
Appropriations	\$78,507,677.	\$733,529.	\$8,098,924.	\$87,340,130.
Revenue	\$11,419,425.	\$733,529.	\$3,609,276.	\$15,762,230.
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Tax Levy	\$67,088,252.	\$ 0	\$4,489,648.	\$71,577,900.

RESOLUTION – March 28, 2007

Finance: 2007/08 Budget

Be It Resolved, by the Monroe Township Board of Education that the 2007/08 General Fund Budget be adopted in the amount of \$78,507,677. and a General Fund Local Tax Levy in the amount of \$67,088,252. and a Special Revenue Fund in the amount of \$733,529. and a Debt Service Budget in the amount of \$8,098,924. and a Debt Service Local Tax Levy in the amount of \$4,489,648. Whereby, the 2007/08 Budget totals \$87,340,130.; and

Be It Further Resolved, that a Commissioner’s Adjustment to the base tax levy of \$16,334. for the fiscal year 2007/08 school budget for increases in capital outlay for municipal water and sewage services for the Applegarth Middle School has been approved by the Commissioner or her designee. The total appropriation for this project is \$400,908. Whereas, this proposed capital project is required to ensure the health and safety of persons using this school facility; and

Whereas, this proposed capital expenditure was formally introduced and discussed in public and that said capital project must be completed by the end of the 2007/08 budget year and cannot be deferred or incrementally completed over a longer period of time; and

Be It Furthermore Resolved, that the adjustment for increase in health care costs in the amount of \$575,032. has been approved by the Commissioner or her designee; and

Whereas, the Monroe Township Board of Education has acknowledged state aid amounts; and

Whereas, such state aid amounts are:

For 2007/08 the Special Education Aid is \$2,109,258.; and

For 2007/08 the Bilingual Education Aid is \$44,222.; and

For 2007/08 the Transportation Aid is \$940,868.; and

For 2007/08 the Consolidated Aid is \$418,692.; and

For 2007/08 the Additional Formula Aid is \$231,427.; and

For 2007/08 the Above Average Enrollment Growth Aid is \$582,761.; and

For 2007/08 the Debt Service Aid is \$1,012,664.; and

Whereas, school district Bylaw #0147, Policy #3440, Policy #4440 and NJAC 6A:23B-1.2(b) provides that the board of education shall establish in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for such travel and expense reimbursement for 2007/08 school year.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Monroe Township Board of Education hereby establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2007/08 school year at the sum of \$148,985., and

Be It Further Resolved that the School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to insure that the maximum amount is not exceeded; and

Now Therefore Let It Be Resolved, that the Superintendent of Schools and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary file the required documents with the County Superintendent of Schools.

Roll Call – yeas – 10 nays – 0 abstention – 0 absent – 0 Motion Carried Unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM – NONE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Leonard and seconded by Mr. Kaufman to approve the minutes of the Public Board of Education Meeting held on February 21, 2007. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ms. Leonard and seconded by Mr. Homoki to approve the minutes of the Public Board of Education Meeting held on March 5, 2007. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Ms. Leonard and seconded by Mr. Kaufman that personnel items (A – K) of the Superintendent's Report be approved by consent with the exclusion of Rachel Contel listed in Item K. Roll call – All Yeas – Motion Carried Unanimously 10 - 0. The vote included the Jamesburg Board Member Representative where appropriate. A copy of the Personnel Section of the Superintendent's Report is attached to the official set of minutes.

A motion was made by Ms. Leonard and seconded by Mr. Kaufman that Board Action Items (A – M) be approved by consent with items I and J amended to have a June 30, 2007 end date. Roll Call – All Yeas - Motion Carried Unanimously 10 - 0. The vote included the Jamesburg Board Member Representative where appropriate. A copy of the Board Action section of the Superintendent’s Report is attached to the official set of minutes.

A motion was made by Ms. Leonard and seconded by Ms. Haring to accept the Superintendent’s Report. Motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

A motion was made by Ms. Leonard and seconded by Mr. Kaufman that Board Action Items (B - N) of the Business Administrator’s Report be approved by consent. Ms. Ostrager questioned Mr. Holliday as to why Design Idea Group is being paid for work on the High School and Mr. Holliday responded that payment was for work previously done under the name of MRM Architecture which has since merged with two other companies. Additionally, Ms. Ostrager asked why payroll expense for a Project Manager was being charged to Fund 34 and Mr. Holliday responded that until the New High School is ready for bidding there is a daily need for a Project Manager and that the majority of future Project Manager payroll charges will be taken from Fund 35 for the New Elementary School. Ms. Ostrager then questioned the lowest bidder on Item N “Grounds Care Maintenance” and Mr. Holliday responded that only ground care maintenance is being approved and no other services. Roll Call – All Yeas with Ms. Ostrager voting no on Item N. Motion Carried. The vote included the Jamesburg Board Member Representative where appropriate. A copy of the Board Action section of the Business Administrator’s Report is attached to the official set of minutes. Mr. Braverman discontinued speaker phone participation after this item and for the remainder of the meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Speizer and seconded by Mr. Homoki that Board Action Item O “Resolution – Access Easement” be approved by consent. Roll Call (9 - 0). Motion Carried Unanimously. The vote included the Jamesburg Board Member Representative.

Mr. Holliday made the following statement: “ The Board of Education is required by New Jersey statute to indemnify board members for legal fees and costs when a school ethics complaint is filed against a board member. In accordance with the law, the Board has obtained insurance coverage for these legal fees and costs, subject to a deductible. The Board is now asked to pass a motion authorizing payment of the fees up to the amount of the deductible.”

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman and seconded by Mr. Leary that members of the Board of Education approve payment to counsel retained and assigned by the New Jersey School Boards Association Insurance Group (“NJSBAIG”) to represent Kathy Kolupanowich and Amy Speizer in the matters entitled Dressel v. Kolupanowich, Monroe Township Board of Education, and Dressel v. Speizer, Monroe Township Board of Education, presently pending before the New Jersey School Ethics Commission, once NJSBAIG retains and assigns counsel as aforementioned, such payment shall be made at the hourly rate(s) charged to NJSBAIG by counsel in these matters and shall be limited to \$15,000 for each matter, which represents the amount of the Board’s deductible for each matter on its insurance policy with NJSBAIG. Roll Call – yeas Mr. Leary, Ms. Haring, Mr. Kaufman, Ms. Faraone, Ms. Leonard and Ms. Ostrager nays – 0 abstention – Ms. Speizer, Mr. Homoki, and Ms. Kolupanowich absent – Mr. Braverman. Motion carried. (Item P.)

A motion was made by Ms. Speizer and seconded by Ms. Leonard to accept the Business Administrator's Report. Motion carried unanimously.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS' REPORT

Student Board Member Mr. George Leonard spoke about Barclay Brook school events which included an assembly by the Franklin Institute, Freestyle Repertory Theatre, an Irish bagpipe band, Character Education, the Middlesex County Food Drive and the Shoot for the Stars field trip. Then, he spoke about Mill Lake School events which included World Masters Week, testing, the Annual Interest Fair, Parent-Teacher's Conferences and a Birds of Prey assembly.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - (Refer to attached transcript.)

OTHER BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS - (Refer to attached transcript.)

PUBLIC FORUM – (Refer to attached transcript.)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman and seconded by Ms. Speizer that the meeting be adjourned. Motion Carried Unanimously. The public meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



WAYNE HOLLIDAY  
BOARD SECRETARY/  
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

# TRANSCRIPT

## PUBLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

### 2007 – 2008 BUDGET PRESENTATION & ADOPTION

MARCH 28, 2007

1 March 28, 2007 meeting

2

2 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: We'll go to  
3 our Committee reports. Curriculum,  
4 Co-curriculum Activities, Athletics, Patrice.

5 MS. FARAONE: We had a curriculum  
6 meeting tonight. It is recommended that  
7 members of the Board of Education approve the  
8 following summer 2007 summer reading list, new  
9 text books for A.P. Spanish Literature,  
10 Spanish II and III, Italian I, II, III and IV.

11 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Okay. Second  
12 by anyone?

13 MS. LEONARD: Second.

14 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Second by Ms.  
15 Leonard.

16 MR. HOLLIDAY: So noted. Thank  
17 you.

18 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Are there any  
19 questions for Patrice? If not then, do --

20 MS. OSTRAGER: Do we have ~~core~~  
21 copies of the reading list?

22 MS. FARAONE: They were e-mailed.  
23 They should have been e-mailed, right, Doctor?

24 DR. TIENKEN: It will be posted  
25 on the website.

1  
2 MS. OSTRAGER: So we're voting to  
3 approve a reading list we haven't seen?

4 DR. TIENKEN: I think you're  
5 voting on Patrice's recommendation from the  
6 Curriculum Committee who viewed the reading  
7 lists.

8 MS. OSTRAGER: Thank you.

9 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Okay. We'll  
10 have a roll call.

11 MR. HOLLIDAY: Mr. Leary.

12 MR. LEARY: Yes.

13 MR. HOLLIDAY: Ms. Haring.

14 MS. HARING: Yes.

15 MR. HOLLIDAY: Ms. Haring votes  
16 yes. Thank you. Mr. Kaufman.

17 MR. KAUFMAN: Yes.

18 MR. HOLLIDAY: Ms. Faraone.

19 MS. FARAONE: Yes.

20 MR. HOLLIDAY: Ms. Ostrager.

21 MS. OSTRAGER: Abstain.

22 MR. HOLLIDAY: So noted.

23 Ms. Speizer.

24 MS. SPEIZER: Yes.

25 MR. HOLLIDAY: Mr. Homoki.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

MR. HOMOKI: Yes.

MR. HOLLIDAY: Ms. Leonard.

MS. LEONARD: Yes.

MR. HOLLIDAY: Ms. Kolupanowich.

MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Yes.

MR. HOLLIDAY: Madam Board

President, the motion has passed.

MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Thank you. We will go on to Finance, Buildings and Grounds, Transportation, Joe.

MR. HOMOKI: I have a report. And I don't think it's anything earth-shaking that people didn't know about but I think it confirms some of the things that we have been talking about. On February the 21st, we had a very extensive discussion <sup>on</sup> in the high school, financing and so on, as we had for as many months and couple years that I can remember. And the Board of Education decided at that time, which was on the 21st of February, that the Buildings and Grounds Committee should meet with the Mayor to get some answers to the questions that seem to be coming up over and over again.

1  
2 Well, we were not able to meet  
3 with the Mayor. I believe he was out of town.  
4 But we did have a meeting with the Shared  
5 Services Committee that was established a  
6 number of months ago, and we had very good  
7 representation on the part of the Board.  
8 Basically, it was the Buildings and Grounds  
9 Committee and we substituted Rita as one of  
10 our members so we had representing the Board  
11 Ms. Ostrager, Marvin Braverman, Amy Speizer,  
12 Kathy Kolupanowich and me. Doctor Ferrie was  
13 there, Wayne Holliday and Jerry Tague.

14 The way we did it was Kathy sent  
15 out an e-mail to all the Board members and  
16 asked them to respond in terms of what their  
17 number one, number two, number three concerns  
18 are, and I think, as you can probably guess,  
19 the answers were very much the same.

20 So what I did was I took those  
21 questions, I still have them in my possession,  
22 and I combined them into concerns of three  
23 questions. I will not answer them as one, two  
24 and three, and so on, because they are so  
25 intertwined, and I hope I can make it clear so

1  
2 that everybody will understand what I'm  
3 talking about. That the first question or set  
4 of questions seems to be how is the township  
5 going to help us with the additional expenses  
6 that we have, whether it's 30 million, 36  
7 million, 35, 25, doesn't make any difference.  
8 How is the township going to help us? And  
9 this question was posed to the Shared Services  
10 Committee.

11 I also want to mention to you  
12 that about two years ago we had some very,  
13 very serious discussions in Shared Services to  
14 create sort of a Rec Center, a huge Rec Center  
15 similar to the one that's in Monmouth County,  
16 <sup>Ritacco</sup> Ricardo Center which was used for all types of  
17 activities. As a matter of fact, we were so  
18 serious about it with the township, that we  
19 actually went down there to take a look and  
20 see what the facility what was all about.

21 But that somehow died away, and  
22 that doesn't seem to be an issue at the  
23 moment. In other words, it's not an issue to  
24 be discussed. But there is interest on the  
25 part of the township to start working on

1  
2 something that deals with cultural arts and  
3 auditorium. And to that point, we asked Jerry  
4 Tague, representing the Board, and Ernie  
5 Feist, the township, to get together and see  
6 if they can come up with anything that we can  
7 share. In other words, get the money from the  
8 township for that particular purpose.

2  
9 Now, we also asked Doctor Ferrie,  
10 this was the committee, because we had a  
11 little meeting right afterwards, that I think  
12 it would be important for EPIC, that's the  
13 company that told us that we were 36 or  
14 thirty-five over, to come in front of this  
15 Board in front of the public and make a  
16 presentation as to the 36 million dollars, and  
17 this will happen probably very soon. I can't  
18 give you an exact date because we don't have  
19 it yet. But it will be very soon, and it  
20 definitely will come in, because that's also  
21 an area that has been questioned. Some people  
22 have questioned is 36 too much or whatever but  
23 anyway, the firm will be in to make a  
24 presentation.

25 Now, the township also suggested

1  
2 a non-binding referendum on monies and our  
3 committee felt that it wouldn't serve us any  
4 purpose at all. If anything, we would lose  
5 valuable time. Why have a non-binding  
6 referendum when, in fact, we need real money.

7 So the bottom line seems to be  
8 that regardless of what we can work out with  
9 the township in terms of Shared Services, we  
10 know we will not be able to get 36 million  
11 dollars from the township, we know that. So  
12 whatever combination we're able to work out,  
13 the simple truth is that we have to go out for  
14 bond referendum. That's the bottom line.

15 The only question is for how  
16 much. And at the present time, I wouldn't  
17 guess until EPIC comes in, but I can tell you  
18 there are a couple of things going on right  
19 now that will probably dictate as to how much  
20 money we will need. We have the archeological  
21 survey going on right now. We expect that to  
22 be completed, hopefully, by the end of April  
23 or early May. And of course, we have gone to  
24 court already, and my personal feeling, I  
25 believe I can speak for the committee, that

1  
2 the judges are waiting for the results and I  
3 think when those, when that archeological  
4 survey is done and goes to the judges, some  
5 form of decision will be made.

6 We were also concerned, knowing  
7 that we will probably have to go out for  
8 bonding, and I put it in very plain terms  
9 right upfront, if we do have to go out and get  
10 additional monies for the high school, as I  
11 think most reasonable people understand, will  
12 we get the support of the township or the  
13 counsel and the answer was in the affirmative.

14 So I just want to share that with  
15 you. So that's where we stand, and I can't  
16 tell you for how much but we will be going  
17 out.

18 The other thing I want to mention  
19 is this: That if we do go out early enough,  
20 if we get the land, of course, we have to have  
21 the land, if we have to make any of these  
22 decisions. In order to go out for a September  
23 referendum, we would have to have the land by  
24 the middle of July, approximate, the middle of  
25 July. Any later than that, we're looking at

1  
2 December for a referendum. So that seems to  
3 be it. And I hope the committee members who  
4 were there, if there's anything that I missed,  
5 please jump in and just share with us because  
6 I'm not always perfect. Anything?

7 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Anyone? Okay.  
8 Thank you, Joe.

9 We will go to Personnel  
10 Negotiations. Amy.

11 MS. SPEIZER: No report.

12 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Community  
13 Relations. Rita.

14 MS. OSTRAGER: We will be meeting  
15 tomorrow afternoon.

16 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: There's a  
17 policy meeting tomorrow afternoon too, I  
18 believe after Community Relations.  
19 Technology, Lew.

20 MR. KAUFMAN: Because of a  
21 business commitment, I was unable to attend a  
22 technology meeting but Mr. Leary, if you would  
23 be so kind.

24 MR. LEARY: Sure. Bill Wetheroff  
25 made a fine presentation this afternoon laying

1 out the technology plan which is shown in this  
2 document. It was a really good presentation  
3 and this is required by the state on a three  
4 year cycle basis, and just to give you a  
5 simple snippet, we're having an 87 million  
6 dollar gross budget and because of all the  
7 regulatory constraints we're living in, the  
8 technology plan is slightly less than one  
9 percent of that. And I have to commend our  
10 information technology people, they have done  
11 a fine job and they are attempting to bring  
12 twenty-first century telecommunications and  
13 information technology to the school district.  
14

15 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Thank you, Mr.  
16 Leary.

17 Any questions for John?

18 Okay. We will go to --

19 A VOICE: Carol needs to read a  
20 resolution to accept that.

21 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Does somebody  
22 have the resolution to accept?

23 DR. FERRIE: Let me just mention  
24 something. I want to echo John's comments.  
25 Our folks are doing an outstanding job in

1  
2 terms of technology in the district and I  
3 would like to emphasize that we have been  
4 working very diligently to make sure that we  
5 are on about a 20 percent replacement each  
6 year, so that every five years we can upgrade  
7 the equipment, and also that the Mill Lake  
8 School next year will be converted, so it will  
9 be an entire PC platform so that will mean the  
10 only building in the district that's not on PC  
11 platform will be Barclay Brook and hopefully,  
12 the plans for that would be <sup>Barclay</sup> Barclary Brook the  
13 following year. So this way the whole  
14 district will be on a single platform. And  
15 that's going to help us quite a bit. So  
16 certainly, I would like to thank Bill and  
17 Reggie and all the folks that work with them  
18 in terms of the work that they do with the  
19 technology in the district. Thank you.

20 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Human Relations  
21 Commission. John.

22 MR. LEARY: Yes, we had a  
23 meeting. And it was essentially an  
24 organizational meeting.

25 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Okay. Thank

1  
2 you. Municipal Rec Board. Amy.

3 MS. SPEIZER: Yes, we met on  
4 Monday night. The only thing I had gotten out  
5 of that, Patrice, they had asked if you could  
6 possibly for next year look into a second  
7 baseball team at Applegarth School.

8 DR. FERRIE: It's not in the  
9 budget so.

10 MS. SPEIZER: Okay. They just  
11 asked me to ask.

12 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: The Jamesburg  
13 Board of Education. Patrice.

14 MS. FARAONE: Our next meeting is  
15 tomorrow night at 7:30.

16 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Thank you.  
17 Middlesex Regional Ed Services Commission.

18 MR. LEARY: Thank you. The  
19 meeting that we held was just a normal  
20 business type meeting but the one thing that  
21 was interesting was that there was a closed  
22 meeting where we started preparing for labor  
23 negotiations. They have had some difficulties  
24 up there in Piscataway but I think now things  
25 may be improved. And we'll see how things

1  
2 shake out. I'll keep you posted.

3 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Thank you, very  
4 much.

5 At this time, is there any other  
6 Board of Education business?

7 Okay. Seeing none, we will go  
8 again to the public. Anyone from the public  
9 wishing to speak, please come to the  
10 microphone and state your name and address for  
11 the record, please.

12 MR. BOYD: Hi. Russell Boyd, 9  
13 Pheasant Lane. Any update on the DCA  
14 approvals? Is there a timeline for when we  
15 are expecting those?

16 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Mr. Holliday.

17 MR. HOLLIDAY: No problem. DCA,  
18 yes. DCA fund 34 or fund 35?

19 MR. BOYD: Thirty-four, I  
20 suppose. Let's go with 34.

21 MR. HOLLIDAY: Thirty-four high  
22 school?

23 MR. BOYD: Yes.

24 MR. HOLLIDAY: So be it, 34 in  
25 regard to the high school is ongoing. I

1  
2 suspect that we will have, oh, say, by  
3 mid-spring, final review. Mr. Tague, you feel  
4 that is correct? Mid-spring.

5 MR. BOYD: Two quick things, the  
6 budget presentation from tonight and the new  
7 technology plan that got approved tonight, can  
8 those be put on the district website?

9 DR. FERRIE: Yes.

10 MR. BOYD: Okay. And the last  
11 thing, tongue in cheek is to say --

12 DR. TIENKEN: They have to be  
13 approved first by the county and then the  
14 state.

15 DR. FERRIE: No, no. We can put  
16 The budget presentation is on. The three year  
17 technology plan, the Board just approved it.  
18 I'm sorry, I stand corrected. The Board  
19 approved the three year technology plan to be  
20 submitted to the County. The County first has  
21 to look and approve it. It has to be approved  
22 by the state.

23 When it is finalized and  
24 approved, we'll certainly put it on the  
25 website but we can't put it out there now

1  
2 because there may be revisions or suggested  
3 revisions.

4 DR. TIENKEN: The state will  
5 actually post our plan on July 1.

6 MR. BOYD: Okay. Great. And  
7 tongue in cheek to say, I think what I heard  
8 from Wayne tonight is having a project manager  
9 on a project is a good thing. Thanks.

10 MR. HOLLIDAY: You're welcome.

11 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Anyone else  
12 from the public?

13 MS. PROHASKA: Good evening.  
14 Nancy Prohaska, 1634 Perrineville Road.

15 I have a question regarding the  
16 new elementary school. Actually, this isn't  
17 the first time <sup>that</sup> thta I have asked this  
18 question. This is the second time I'm going  
19 to ask this question. And I hope tonight I  
20 can get some kind of a response. I guess my  
21 first question should be and I would like to  
22 ask Kathy, the Chair, if any of the Board  
23 members have seen the long-range facilities  
24 plan from 2005 through 2010?

25 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: I would guess

1  
2 that if the Board members wanted to, they had  
3 the opportunity to come into the Board office  
4 and look over that plan.

5 MS. PROHASKA: Okay. And has  
6 anybody, including Wayne Holliday or Doctor  
7 Ralph Ferrie, anyone, have they signed off on  
8 that yet? Do you know?

9 DR. FERRIE: Signed off and  
10 submitted to the state.

11 MS. PROHASKA: Okay. It has. Do  
12 you know around what time that was?

13 DR. FERRIE: I don't have it in  
14 front of me.

15 MS. PROHASKA: Okay. My question  
16 is in regards to the 30 acres on Applegarth  
17 Road where the new elementary school is sited,  
18 I have made this concern in the past that you  
19 have 30 acres and after looking at the  
20 long-range facilities plan and you're still  
21 short one elementary school, why wouldn't it  
22 have been sited on that 30 acres so that in  
23 the future we could build another elementary  
24 school there as a sister school comparable to  
25 Brookside, let me finish, and Barclay Brook.

1  
2 DR. FERRIE: I'll let you finish,  
3 for the same reason we are having all the  
4 difficulty at Barclay Brook and Brookside now  
5 where you have schools with over 1500 students  
6 on that same site in terms of the congestion  
7 with busing and parking, etc. And yes, I do  
8 agree with you, and have always said we're  
9 going to need another school, we will have to  
10 find another 20 or 30 acres to build it on.

11 MS. PROHASKA: Why is it we need  
12 now 20 or 30 acres for an elementary school  
13 that's only going to hold seven or eight  
14 hundred pupils? But wait a second, we have  
15 thirty-five acres for a school that's going to  
16 hold approximately 2300 students.

17 DR. FERRIE: We have had that  
18 conversation. I'm not going there to rehash  
19 it.

20 MS. PROHASKA: It just doesn't  
21 make any sense.

22 DR. FERRIE: Thank you.

23 MS. PROHASKA: You may be  
24 finished but I'm not finished. What I'm  
25 asking the Board to do is to take some

1  
2 responsibility in either (a) having another  
3 plan for an elementary school and where it's  
4 going to be sited, because if I'm going to  
5 come to all these meetings and keep hearing  
6 how the kids are going to be put first, and  
7 nobody is sitting here making any plans, it's  
8 just irresponsible of this Board to continue  
9 to act this way.

10 The high school is a perfect  
11 example of what's already happened. How many  
12 times are we going to go through this? Unless  
13 we have so much land in town where we can  
14 just, you know, at any time find a place to  
15 build the school.

16 Somebody's going to have to  
17 answer these questions somewhere along the  
18 line. It just doesn't look good. It doesn't.

19 And on another note, after all of  
20 these ethics complaints that I see that are  
21 coming up, I'd like to ask the Board, at some  
22 point, are we going to try to possibly clean  
23 up our reputation here? Are we going to try  
24 to do something about this? Either this Board  
25 is not being run properly or it's been run

1  
2 illegally somehow or business as usual can not  
3 stay the way it is if we're not abiding by the  
4 law.

5           Some people have a tendency to  
6 think that the laws do not apply to them but  
7 as we can see here with these ethics  
8 complaints that are coming in one right after  
9 another, somebody needs to take some  
10 responsibility. We either have to dust off  
11 the law books or we have to find them. One  
12 way or another, somebody needs to do  
13 something. Thank you.

14           MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Anyone else  
15 from the public? Seeing no one, our next  
16 scheduled public Board of Education meeting  
17 will be held, Wednesday, April 11th, 2007,  
18 6:30 P.M. at the high school.

19           (End of transcript.)  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - BOARD MEETING MARCH 28, 2007I. **Personnel**

- A. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation, due to retirement, of **Mr. Kenneth Rogers**, social studies teacher at the High School, effective July 1, 2007.
- B. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation, due to retirement, of **Ms. Phyllis Poye**, library coordinator at the High School, effective July 1, 2007.
- C. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of **Ms. Christina Duda**, paraprofessional at Woodland School, retroactive to March 21, 2007.
- D. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of **Ms. Jessica Nahay**, teacher at Barclay Brook School, effective June 30, 2007.
- E. It is recommended that the Board approve an extended medical leave of absence to **Ms. Judith Onichowsky**, secretary in Pupil Personnel Services, effective April 10, 2007 through May 31, 2007. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except to the extent Ms. Onichowsky is entitled to utilize any remaining sick days she may have available.
- F. It is recommended that the Board approve a medical leave of absence to **Ms. Sharon Haflin**, secretary at Central Office, effective March 26, 2007 pending further action of the Board (approximately four weeks). It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except to the extent Ms. Haflin is entitled to utilize any remaining sick days she may have available.
- G. It is recommended that the Board approve the return to work of **Ms. Diane Arcaro**, library coordinator at the High School, effective March 22, 2007.
- H. It is recommended that the Board approve the transfer of **Ms. Rosa Pierron**, paraprofessional at Barclay Brook School to paraprofessional at Applegarth School for 6.5 hours per day (4.5 special education \$12.10/hour and 2.0 hours regular education \$11.10) retroactive to March 16, 2007 through June 30, 2007.
- I. It is recommended that the Board approve **Dr. Edward Forsthoffer**, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel, as the District Affirmative Action Officer for the 2006-2007 school year.

- J. It is recommended that the Board approve the following certificated personnel at the following steps and guides:

Employee	Position	School	Salary Guide	Dates	Reason for hire
Andrew Laffey	Baseball Coach	High School	Volunteer	2006-2007 school year	coaching

- K. It is recommended that the Board approve the following non-certificated personnel at the following steps and guides:

Employee	Position	School	Salary Guide	Dates	Hours	Reason for hire
Camille Colicchia	Paraprofessional	Brookside	\$11.10 /hr	3/19/07-6/30/07	6.5 per day	New position
Margaret Nesby	Paraprofessional	Woodland	\$11.10	4/10/07	2.5 per day	Replacement position
Rachel Contel	Paraprofessional	Woodland	\$11.10	4/10/07	2.5 per day	Replacement position
Audra Perschilli	Paraprofessional Special Education	Mill Lake	Step 2 \$11.20 + \$1.00	3-26-07	3.75	Increase of 1.5 hours
Darlene Rossano	Paraprofessional Special Education	Mill Lake	Step 2 \$11.20 + \$1.00	3-26-07	2.75	Increase of .5 hours

## II. Board Action

- A. It is recommended that the Board approve a renewal of a Conditional (Emergency) Certificate for Teacher of Spanish for **Ms. Linda LoBello**, for the 2006-2007 school year.
- B. It is recommended that the Board approve the three year District Technology Plan.
- C. It is recommended that the Board approve the attached Suspension from School Parent(s)/Guardian Agreement of Services form.
- D. It is recommended that the Board approve the attached list of requests for Staff Professional Development.

- E. It is recommended that the Board approve General ASP Inc as an Application Service Provider for Online Employment Applications at an annual cost of \$2500.00.
- F. It is recommended that the Board approve the Affirmative Action Team to conduct the needs assessment and to develop a Comprehensive Equity Plan for the 2006-2007 school year.
- G. **Residency Contract**  
In accordance with Policy #5111 regarding residency contracts, it is recommended that the Board approve the enrollment of the children noted on the attached Residency Contract whose family is under contract for future residency in Monroe Township.
- H. Attached is the Report of Pupil Suspensions for the Month of February 2007.

I. **RESOLUTION**

That members of the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Board of Education is aware that  
employee  
E F. is suffering from a serious health condition; and

WHEREAS, E.F. has exhaust all of her accrued leave; and

WHEREAS, other Board employees have expressed a willingness to donate  
paid personal leave or vacation days to E.F.; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. In this one instance, the Board will allow employees to donate paid personal leave or vacation days to create a bank of days for E.F. to use in connection with her illness;
2. This accrued leave bank will be administered by Wayne Holliday, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator, on behalf of the Board;
3. The Board retains the authority to approve the days that are contributed to the bank and to approve or to deny each request to use these days;
4. This proposal will be submitted to all Associations and individuals not affiliated with an association.

J. RESOLUTION

That members of the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Board of Education is aware that employee M.H. is suffering from a serious health condition; and

WHEREAS, M.H. has exhausted all of her accrued leave; and

WHEREAS, other Board employees have expressed a willingness to donate paid personal leave or vacation days to M.H.; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. In this one instance, the Board will allow employees to donate paid personal leave or vacation days to create a bank of days for M.H. to use in connection with her illness;
2. This accrued leave bank will be administered by Wayne Holliday, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator, on behalf of the Board;
3. The Board retains the authority to approve the days that are contributed to the bank and to approve or to deny each request to use these days;
4. This proposal will be submitted to all Associations and individuals not affiliated with an association.

K. It is recommended that the Board approve the submission of the proposed Comprehensive Equity Plan.

L. **2006-2007 Violence/Substance Abuse/Estimated Violence/Vandalism Costs** previously reported for the period 7/1/06 through 3/8/07 .....\$6875.00

<u>Date</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Incident</u>	<u>Cost to District</u>
2/23/07	MTHS	fight	n/a

10. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT - BOARD MEETING MARCH 28, 2007I. BOARD ACTIONA. ADOPTION OF THE 2007/08 ANNUAL SCHOOL BUDGET

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve the following amounts and resolution for the 2007/08 School Budget:

	General Fund	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Total
Appropriations	\$78,507,677.	\$733,529.	\$8,098,924.	\$87,340,130.
Revenue	\$11,419,425.	\$733,529.	\$3,609,276.	\$15,762,230.
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Tax Levy	\$67,088,252.	\$ 0	\$4,489,648.	\$71,577,900.

RESOLUTION – March 28, 2007

Finance: 2007/08 Budget

Be It Resolved, by the Monroe Township Board of Education that the 2007/08 General Fund Budget be adopted in the amount of \$78,507,677. and a General Fund Local Tax Levy in the amount of \$67,088,252. and a Special Revenue Fund in the amount of \$733,529. and a Debt Service Budget in the amount of \$8,098,924. and a Debt Service Local Tax Levy in the amount of \$4,489,648. Whereby, the 2007/08 Budget totals \$87,340,130.; and

Be It Further Resolved, that a Commissioner's Adjustment to the base tax levy of \$16,334. for the fiscal year 2007/08 school budget for increases in capital outlay for municipal water and sewage services for the Applegarth Middle School has been approved by the Commissioner or her designee. The total appropriation for this project is \$400,908. Whereas, this proposed capital project is required to ensure the health and safety of persons using this school facility; and

Whereas, this proposed capital expenditure was formally introduced and discussed in public and that said capital project must be completed by the end of the 2007/08 budget year and cannot be deferred or incrementally completed over a longer period of time; and

Be It Furthermore Resolved, that the adjustment for increase in health care costs in the amount of \$575,032. has been approved by the Commissioner or her designee; and

Whereas, the Monroe Township Board of Education has acknowledged state aid amounts; and

Whereas, such state aid amounts are:

For 2007/08 the Special Education Aid is \$2,109,258.; and

For 2007/08 the Bilingual Education Aid is \$44,222.; and

For 2007/08 the Transportation Aid is \$940,868.; and

For 2007/08 the Consolidated Aid is \$418,692.; and

For 2007/08 the Additional Formula Aid is \$231,427.; and

For 2007/08 the Above Average Enrollment Growth Aid is \$582,761.; and

For 2007/08 the Debt Service Aid is \$1,012,664.; and

Whereas, school district Bylaw #0147, Policy #3440, Policy #4440 and NJAC 6A:23B-1.2(b) provides that the board of education shall establish in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for such travel and expense reimbursement for 2007/08 school year.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Monroe Township Board of Education hereby establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2007/08 school year at the sum of \$148,985., and

Be It Further Resolved that the School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to insure that the maximum amount is not exceeded; and

Now Therefore Let It Be Resolved, that the Superintendent of Schools and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary file the required documents with the County Superintendent of Schools.

#### B. BILL LIST

It is recommended that the bills totaling \$6,358,286.25 for February 2007 be ratified by the Board. The bills have been reviewed by the Chairperson of the Finance/Buildings & Grounds/Transportation Committee and certified by the Board Secretary.

#### C. BILL LIST – ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ADDITIONS & RENOVATIONS

It is recommended that the bills totaling \$39,650.00 for February 2007 be ratified by the Board. The bills have been reviewed by the Chairperson of the Finance/Buildings & Grounds/Transportation Committee and certified by the Board Secretary.

D. BILL LIST – NEW HIGH SCHOOL (BOND SERIES 2004)

It is recommended that the bills totaling \$75,561.10 for February 2007 be ratified by the Board. The bills have been reviewed by the Chairperson of the Finance/Buildings & Grounds/Transportation Committee and certified by the Board Secretary.

E. BILL LIST – NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (BOND SERIES 2006)

It is recommended that the bills totaling \$106,267 for February 2007 be ratified by the Board. The bills have been reviewed by the Chairperson of the Finance/Buildings & Grounds/Transportation Committee and certified by the Board Secretary.

F. SECRETARY’S FINANCIAL & CASH REPORT

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)4, Be It Resolved that the Board of Education hereby certifies that it is in receipt of the Financial Reports for February 2007, which indicates that no major accounts or funds have been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the fiscal year in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b). In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)3, Be It Further Resolved that the Board Secretary certifies that the February 2007 Secretary’s Report indicates that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the line item appropriation in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a).

G. TRANSFER #9

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve Transfer #9 as presented for fiscal year 2006/07. A copy is attached hereto.

H. INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT, PART-B/ PRE-SCHOOL

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education acknowledge receipt of and approve the “Final Report” for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part-B Preschool Grant for fiscal year 2006.

I. INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT, PART-B/NON-PUBLIC

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education acknowledge receipt of and approve the “Final Report” for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part-B Non-Public proportional share for fiscal year 2006.

J. INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT, PART-B/BASIC

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education acknowledge receipt of and approve the “Final Report” for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part-B Basic Grant for fiscal year 2006.

#### K. PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT

EXEMPT SERVICES – Awarded without competitive bidding as provided for under provisions of the Public School Contract Law:

1. It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve Margarita Turkish, School Psychologist to provide psychological evaluations for a fee of \$240.00 per evaluation for fiscal year 2006/07.

#### L. IDEIA CONSOLIDATED FISCAL YEAR 2007 GRANT ACCEPTANCE CERTIFICATION

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education acknowledge receipt of and accept the Fiscal Year 2007 Grant Acceptance Certification for the following:

IDEIA BASIC - \$732,828.,  
and  
IDEIA Preschool - \$ 42,138.

#### M. RESOLUTION APPRAISAL SERVICES

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve the following resolution entitled: “RESOLUTION AWARDED CONTRACT FOR EXTRAORDINARY UNSPECIFIABLE SERVICES FOR REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL SERVICES”.

**WHEREAS**, the Monroe Township Board of Education (“Monroe”) expects to expend in excess of the quote threshold amount permitted by N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq. for real estate appraisal services; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(a)(2) provides that a board of education may award a contract for extraordinary unspecifiable services without competitive bidding, provided that the board shall in each instance state supporting reasons for its action in the resolution awarding the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, real estate appraisal services are regulated by the State Real Estate Appraisers Board, and the providers of such services must demonstrate expertise and must obtain a State license, thereby qualifying as the subject of an agreement for extraordinary unspecifiable services; and

**WHEREAS**, it is difficult to create specifications for such a contract requiring qualitative services and Monroe requires real estate appraisal services to acquire three (3) utility easements in connection with the new Applegarth Road Elementary School, which

services would appear to come within the extraordinary unspecifiable services exception to public bidding; and

**WHEREAS**, funds are available in Fund 35;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Monroe Township Board of Education that it hereby authorizes and awards an extraordinary unspecifiable services contract with Fleming White Appraisals, Inc. in accordance with its written proposal, a copy of which is annexed hereto and incorporated herein; and

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED** that notice of this Contract shall be published once in an official newspaper designated by Monroe.

I certify to the accuracy of the foregoing, including, but not limited to, the fact that the above services are needed, that bid specifications would be exceedingly difficult to prepare and that Fleming White Appraisals, Inc. is particularly well suited to provide the services required by the Monroe Township Board of Education.

**N. BID AWARD – GROUNDS CARE MAINTENANCE**

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education award the bid for Grounds Care Maintenance to Greenleaf Landscape. Please refer to the attached bid analysis for supplemental information.

**O. RESOLUTION – ACCESS EASEMENT**

“WHEREAS”, the Monroe Township Board of Education (“the Board”) adopted a resolution at its meeting of March 12, 2007, referred to below, subject to receipt of a description of an Access Easement of approximately five (5) feet in width, and the Board has received a description of the easement (refer to attachments) showing a width of approximately sixteen (16) feet in width,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Resolution Authorizing Grant of an Easement to Facilitate the Connection Between Thompson Park and Certain Replacement Parcels Offered as Part of the Land Diversion Package be affirmed, and the President and Secretary of the Board are authorized to sign the Access Easement.

The above action authorizes the Business Administrator to sign and administer contracts and/or purchase orders.

WAYNE HOLLIDAY  
Prepared by

March 28, 2007  
Date