

Minutes of the Public Board of Education meeting held on April 14, 2010 at the Monroe Township High School.

The meeting was called to order by Board President Amy Antelis at 5:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Amy Antelis, Board President  
Ms. Kathy Kolupanowich, Board Vice President  
Mr. Marvin Braverman  
Mr. Ken Chiarella  
Mr. Lew Kaufman  
Mr. Mark Klein  
Mr. John Leary  
Ms. Kathy Leonard  
Mr. Ira Tessler

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

JAMESBURG BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT

Ms. Patrice Faraone

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Nidhi Bhatt  
Ms. Reena Dholakia

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

STAFF

Dr. Kenneth R. Hamilton, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Wayne Holliday, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Mr. Jeff Gorman, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

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 April 9, 2010:

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

#### CLOSED SESSION – RESOLUTION

Ms. Kolupanowich moved, seconded by Mr. Tessler to adopt 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 (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 through 10:4-21), to discuss the following subject:

Personnel: Superintendent's Evaluation.

The discussion conducted in closed session can be disclosed to the public at such time as the matter has been resolved.

Motion Carried.

Members of the Board of Education convened to Closed Session at 5:05 p.m.

Members of the Board of Education reconvened to the Public Meeting at 6:58 p.m.

#### STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS

Ms. Bhatt spoke about the following events at the High School: Mr. Monroe competition and upcoming AP exams. Then, Ms. Bhatt spoke about the upcoming field trips at Applegarth Middle School. Next, Ms. Bhatt spoke about the following events at Oak Tree Elementary School: Meet the Candidates Night Cafe, upcoming assembly for students in grades 3 and 4, and Take Your Child to Work Day.

Ms. Dholakia spoke about the following events at Barclay Brook and Brookside Elementary Schools: Circus Around the World, PTA blood drive, evening conferences, grade 4 Garden State Discovery Museum trip, and the grade 5 field trip to Adventure Aquarium. Then Ms. Dholakia spoke about the following events at Mill Lake Elementary School: the grade 3 World Masters Meet and the grade 3 Family Math Night.

PUBLIC FORUM – Please refer to Transcript 1.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Please refer to Transcript 1.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Hamilton reported that the State of the District Address scheduled for Saturday will be rescheduled to a later date. Next, Dr. Hamilton stated that the Saturday Academy is going well and there are favorable reports from parents. Then, he stated that he met with Commissioner of Education Bret Schundler, Assemblyman Wayne P. DeAngelo, and Assemblywoman Linda Greenstein as related to State aid for the Monroe Township School District. In conclusion, Dr. Hamilton and Ms. Antelis acknowledged the following "Teachers of the Year" and presented each teacher with a plaque:

Applegarth Middle School – Dorothea M. Zeier,  
Barclay Brook Elementary School – Katherine T. Pedersen,  
Mill Lake Elementary School – Sarah M. Ginter,  
Monroe Township High School – Gregor Beyer ,  
Woodland Elementary School – Victoria L. Trent,  
Brookside Elementary School – Christine M. DelRe, and  
Oak Tree Elementary School – Kathleen T. Majewski.

ENROLLMENTOUT OF DISTRICT PLACEMENTSHOME INSTRUCTIONFIRE DRILLS – ALL SCHOOLSPERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman and seconded by Ms. Kolupanowich that Personnel Items (A - Q) be approved by consent roll call with technology staff being removed from Item N. Roll Call – Motion Carried with Ms. Faraone and Ms. Antelis voting no on Item A. 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.

BOARD ACTION

A motion was made by Ms. Leonard and seconded by Mr. Tessler that Board Action items (A – G) be approved by consent roll call. Roll Call – 10 – 0. Motion Carried Unanimously. 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. Kolupanowich and seconded by Mr. Kaufman to approve the attached annual resolution and that Mr. Leary be selected to be the Monroe Township School District's Representative to the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission for the 2010-2011 school year. Motion Carried Unanimously. The vote did not include the Jamesburg Board Member Representative. A copy of the Board Action Section of the Superintendent's Report is attached to the official set of minutes.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS

A motion was made by Ms. Leonard and seconded by Mr. Tessler that Board Action Items (A – O) be approved by consent roll call. Roll Call – 10 – 0. Motion Carried Unanimously. 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.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Please refer to transcript 2.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – Please refer to transcript 2.

OTHER BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS– Please refer to transcript 2.

PUBLIC FORUM – Please refer to transcript 2.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Leary and seconded by Mr. Chiarella that the meeting be adjourned. Motion Carried Unanimously. The public meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



WAYNE HOLLIDAY  
BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

# PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

APRIL 14, 2010

2

1 MS. ANTELIS: At this time we'll open it  
2 up to the public. Please state your name and  
3 address for the record if you wish to speak. Seeing  
4 --

5 MR. ROCHE: I didn't expect to be the  
6 first one. My name is Robert Roche, 18 Muirfield  
7 Boulevard, Monroe Township, New Jersey. I have a  
8 couple questions on the School Story in Monroe  
9 Township that I received in the mail a week or so  
10 ago, and I would like to I guess address my question  
11 to Dr. Hamilton because it dealt with his section of  
12 the -- of his budget proposal, and in page 2, second  
13 paragraph, last sentence, says this state cut in aid  
14 will result in the elimination of many prized,  
15 effective, and revered programs and services,  
16 including, and it lists a variety of them. My  
17 question -- my first question would be was that --  
18 were these cuts included in the budget that was  
19 submitted to the state that was discussed a couple  
20 weeks ago at the meeting.

21 DR. HAMILTON: I don't have a copy --  
22 I'm sorry -- I don't have a copy of that edition in  
23 front of me so if you don't mind, if I could see  
24 specifically what you're referring to so I can give  
25 an accurate answer.

3

1 MR. ROCHE: Well, yes, I'd be happy to.

2 DR. HAMILTON: Yes, I can respond to

3 that. No, those -- the cuts that are in the budget

4 that was approved by the Board at the March 31

5 meeting included reduction in 22 staff positions.

6 MR. ROCHE: Right.

7 DR. HAMILTON: It does not include those

8 items that are listed there.

9 MR. ROCHE: When will these cuts be put

10 into the budget?

11 DR. HAMILTON: If the budget does not

12 pass and Town Council imposes another cut, whatever

13 that number would be, those items that are listed on

14 the School Story would -- some combination of those

15 programs and initiatives would be cut to offset

16 whatever the cut is imposed by Township Council

17 unless the Board decided to go in a different

18 direction.

19 MR. ROCHE: So that introductory

20 sentence is not accurate; is that correct?

21 DR. HAMILTON: The introductory --

22 MR. ROCHE: In other words, the

23 introductory statement says this cut in state aid

24 will result in the elimination of many prized

25 programs. In other words, as I would read it then

4

1 based on what you say, it's contingent upon the  
2 budget being defeated. If the budget is not  
3 defeated, then these cuts will not be made; is that  
4 correct?

5 DR. HAMILTON: That would be an accurate  
6 statement.

7 MR. ROCHE: All right. The last  
8 paragraph on the same page indicates that our total  
9 proposed operating budget for the 2010/2011 school  
10 year is lower than it has been in 25 years. Now, I  
11 looked at the operating budget from last year, the  
12 preceding year, and what I was looking at I did not  
13 see it being lower than even those 2 years. I find  
14 -- so is this statement accurate?

15 DR. HAMILTON: That statement is  
16 accurate. The amount -- the increase in the budget  
17 from year to year is lower than it's been in a  
18 number of years. That part is accurate.

19 MR. ROCHE: Well, that's not -- the  
20 statement reads our total proposed operating budget  
21 for 2010/2011 school year is lower than it has been  
22 for 25 years. Does not say that increases were  
23 lower than it's been in 25 years. The inference is  
24 that the operating budget is lower than it was  
25 25 years ago in Monroe.

5

1 DR. HAMILTON: No, the increase in the  
2 operating budget from year to year is lower than  
3 it's been in 25 years. That would be an accurate  
4 statement.

5 MR. ROCHE: That would be an accurate  
6 statement, but this is not. Now, what will be done  
7 to correct the misinformation that was given to  
8 residents of Monroe?

9 DR. HAMILTON: Well, there is a full  
10 PowerPoint online on the online version of the user  
11 friendly budget that's currently on our web site.  
12 There's also a copy of the PowerPoint presentation  
13 that we've been using to make our presentations in  
14 the different communities and at schools and PTO's  
15 and things of that sort. So that information is on  
16 there. All that information is extracted from the  
17 same data.

18 MR. ROCHE: Well, I've looked at the  
19 PowerPoint, I've looked at the user friendly, and  
20 that information is inconsistent with what's in  
21 here, and I'm not so sure how many residents of the  
22 township read PowerPoint presentations on your web  
23 site. So I talked to some people who have seen  
24 these, and they are of the opinion that there's much  
25 more in the way of cuts than have actually been

6

1 taken place, and I just think it's misinformation  
2 that's been given out to the township.

3 DR. HAMILTON: Well, it's important to  
4 keep in mind, too, sir, that we started out doing  
5 one presentation, and information came through and  
6 cuts came through, and so that data changed. When  
7 that School Story was written, information came  
8 through after that that was published that changed  
9 that. There is information that we presented last  
10 week that changed as a result of other initiatives  
11 that came from the state. So a lot of times the  
12 information is accurate at the time it's released,  
13 and it's changed based on other things that happen  
14 or other edicts that we receive from the state  
15 department and/or from our commissioner of  
16 education.

17 MR. ROCHE: Thank you.

18 DR. HAMILTON: You're welcome.

19 MR. NOTHSTEIN: Tom Nothstein, 15  
20 Nathaniel Street. First off, I happened to notice  
21 that there's a retirement on the agenda tonight, and  
22 I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Holliday, for  
23 that. Of course, I have to also say it certainly  
24 makes your taking a pay freeze not quite as big of a  
25 deal as I had originally thought.

7

1           Secondly, I'd like to applaud the  
2 gentleman that just spoke. I've been away and I  
3 have not looked at the School Story, but quite  
4 frankly, I am appalled. We're basically putting out  
5 false information; is that accurate? That School  
6 Story is not an accurate piece; is that correct?

7           DR. HAMILTON: The School Story was  
8 accurate at the time it was -- at the time it was  
9 written. A lot of that data has -- some of that  
10 data has changed.

11          MR. NOTHSTEIN: I was here for the very,  
12 very first presentation, and never was it said that  
13 we were going to do those cuts. Those cuts were  
14 always only on the table if the Council made cuts.

15          DR. HAMILTON: That's not true. Those  
16 cuts were listed before we even knew where we stood  
17 in terms of whether we would be going to Council,  
18 and as a matter of fact, we still don't know that.  
19 That's still an unknown.

20          MR. NOTHSTEIN: Right, but all we can go  
21 is by precedent. In the past, we have never cut  
22 more from Council of \$500,000; is that accurate  
23 assessment?

24          DR. HAMILTON: That's not accurate.

25          MR. NOTHSTEIN: Okay. The last two

8

1 times it was between 5 and 6, correct?

2 A BOARD MEMBER: Slightly over 6.

3 MS. ANTELIS: Six oh one.

4 MR. NOTHSTEIN: No, I take umbrage, it  
5 was not over 6.

6 MS. ANTELIS: It was 601.

7 A BOARD MEMBER: Six oh one.

8 MR. NOTHSTEIN: Excuse me. Okay, you're  
9 right.

10 MS. ANTELIS: It was over.

11 MR. NOTHSTEIN: So you're telling me  
12 that based on that you would consider those cuts?

13 DR. HAMILTON: Anything that's  
14 nonmandated would have to be considered.

15 MR. NOTHSTEIN: Depending upon -- for a  
16 \$500,000 cut --

17 DR. HAMILTON: No.

18 MR. NOTHSTEIN: -- you would never cut  
19 all those programs --

20 DR. HAMILTON: Absolutely not.

21 MR. NOTHSTEIN: -- is that accurate?

22 DR. HAMILTON: That is absolutely  
23 accurate.

24 MR. NOTHSTEIN: Secondly, the other  
25 statement about the increase, that was never

9

1 accurate; is that correct?

2 DR. HAMILTON: That would be correct,  
3 and I didn't catch that, and obviously our  
4 proofreaders didn't catch that, but what's online  
5 and what I've been stating is accurate, that the  
6 budget is going up six-tenths of 1 percent over last  
7 year, and that is the lowest increase the budget has  
8 seen from year to year.

9 MR. NOTHSTEIN: Can we get some sort of  
10 a retraction? We spent a lot of money on this  
11 School Story against lot of our wishes because we  
12 think it's a waste of time because of the technology  
13 that is in effect in our district that we spend lot  
14 of money for. To have a School Story go out, have  
15 an inaccurate, have our residents read that and say,  
16 wow, they really are doing a great job, this is the  
17 lowest budget. To have inaccurate information out  
18 there, we need to put a retraction on the web site.  
19 Can that happen?

20 DR. HAMILTON: That can happen, but you  
21 need to also hear while there may be advocates who  
22 say that the School Story is is a waste of time, we  
23 get tons of calls from people asking what happened  
24 to the School Story, so we're trying to find an  
25 appropriate balance.

10

1 MR. NOTHSTEIN: Those are the same  
2 people that probably think it's accurate  
3 information.

4 DR. HAMILTON: Those are the same people  
5 who don't have access to the internet, and they're  
6 --

7 MR. NOTHSTEIN: Right, but they're also  
8 --

9 DR. HAMILTON: -- asking for the  
10 information.

11 MR. NOTHSTEIN: Exactly, so they're  
12 relying on the information in there. They can't go  
13 to that PowerPoint presentation that you mentioned  
14 that was on the internet, so they're relying on that  
15 School Story, and you're giving them incorrect  
16 information. That's correct, right?

17 DR. HAMILTON: I don't know --

18 MR. NOTHSTEIN: You just said that that  
19 statement is incorrect.

20 DR. HAMILTON: -- if I would  
21 editorialize it the way you are, but I would not  
22 disagree with your statement.

23 MR. NOTHSTEIN: That isn't -- so can we  
24 get a retraction out there before Tuesday?

25 DR. HAMILTON: I have no problem with

11

1 that.

2 MR. NOTHSTEIN: Thank you very much.

3 MS. ANTELIS: Anyone else from the  
4 public? Seeing no one, we will go on to the  
5 approval of minutes, public Board of Education  
6 meeting March 22.

7 MS. LEONARD: So moved. Miss Leonard;  
8 second by Miss Kolupanowich.

9 MR. HOLLIDAY: So noted for the record.  
10 Thank you.

11 MS. ANTELIS: Questions or comments?  
12 Mr. Leary.

13 MR. LEARY: Yes. As I talked to you  
14 earlier that if we go to page 196 and go to line 16,  
15 the numbers got inverted. It should be 94.7 rather  
16 than 97.4. Minor, but to satisfy Mr. Nothstein, we  
17 want to be absolutely accurate. Furthermore, when  
18 we go down to line 18, it said cut of 16 million.  
19 The proper number is 6.8 million when we talk about  
20 our nearby neighbor, Old Bridge. That's the end of  
21 minor corrective items.

22 MS. ANTELIS: Thank you.

23 MR. HOLLIDAY: Unfortunately, we won't  
24 be able to alter. This is an absolute transcript of  
25 words that were spoken so I won't be able to -- when

1 you're referring to a particular line in the  
2 minutes --

3 MR. LEARY: That's okay. We can in the  
4 follow on transcript for this one. No problem.

5 MS. ANTELIS: Okay. Any other questions  
6 or comments? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions.  
7 Motion carries.

8 (Transcript part 2)

9 MS. ANTELIS: Okay. Moving on to the  
10 Board president's report, I'm asking the Board again  
11 to change the time of the May 5 meeting. We do  
12 anticipate at that time interviewing for Mr.  
13 Holliday's position. It is recommended that the  
14 members of the Board of Education authorize changing  
15 the start time of the May 5, 2010, organization  
16 meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education  
17 from 7 p.m. to 6 p.m., and again, I just want to  
18 point out that it will be a closed session from 6 to  
19 7 due to the personnel issue of interviewing.  
20 Motion.

21 MR. KAUFMAN: So moved.

22 MS. ANTELIS: Mr. Kaufman.

23 MR. HOLLIDAY: So noted.

24 MR. CHIARELLA: Second.

25 MS. ANTELIS: Mr. Chiarella.

13

1 MR. HOLLIDAY: So noted for the record.

2 MS. ANTELIS: All in favor. Opposed.

3 Motion carries.

4 MR. HOLLIDAY: Thank you.

5 MS. ANTELIS: I'd like to talk about

6 Wayne some more, but I will pass. And that

7 concludes my reports.

8 Committee reports. Mr. Kaufman.

9 MR. KAUFMAN: Yes. April 8 was a

10 technology meeting. We discussed the technology

11 plan for the district. The other items we spoke

12 about were acceptable use policy for computer

13 resources, web publishing guidelines, and a no photo

14 letter that we're working on to make sure that it's

15 as good as it could possibly be to make sure that

16 the Board is not being opened up to liability.

17 Another concern we worked on or spoke

18 about was remote desktop computing and how we're

19 going to be able to handle the ability of logging

20 into the network while yet maintaining a level of

21 security. We had done a security analysis of the

22 network a while back, and one of the items that was

23 discussed that we need to tighten up just a little

24 bit more was the remote computing aspect of, you

25 know, in certain circumstances that could be

14

1 considered a vulnerability in our network because if  
2 that is breached and somebody has live access to the  
3 network.

4 And I just want to make one more comment  
5 about Wayne just so that he knows. I'm not speaking  
6 tonight because I don't want to speak tonight. I'm  
7 going to speak his last day, so just so you know.

8 MS. ANTELIS: Thank you. Mr. Leary.

9 MR. LEARY: Yes, I'd like to report on  
10 the Finance Committee. We met on Tuesday, April 13.  
11 We had a very full agenda. I'd like to talk about  
12 one item in particular, and that is item 6, which is  
13 talking about the Section 15 grant for the  
14 construction of the new high school. In December of  
15 2003, we had a total authorization for 83 million,  
16 68 to be funded by the taxpayers, 15 million to be  
17 provided by the state. The state has set up a  
18 series of benchmarks. In total there are five. The  
19 first is a seed grant for like one half of 1 percent  
20 just through your very preliminary planning, and the  
21 very last is when you get the certificate of  
22 occupancy. Now, the state department treasury  
23 administers this, and they send their inspectors,  
24 and they go through everything under the sun. I'm  
25 happy to report we are at the largest of the steps,

15

1 the 65 percent of construction point, and I have no  
2 doubt with Wayne's guidance and with Jerry Tague's  
3 diligence, we will get 5 plus million dollars in due  
4 course, and it again demonstrates we're on time and  
5 we're on budget in the construction of the building  
6 across the way. That's the end of my report.

7 MS. ANTELIS: Thank you. Any other  
8 committee reports. Seeing none, any other Board of  
9 Education business? Mr. Chiarella.

10 MR. CHIARELLA: Yeah, I would just like  
11 to thank Mr. Poye just for putting this document  
12 together. I think it's a great. He did a lot of  
13 work on this and spent a lot of time on this, a lot  
14 of analysis. I just want to thank you for putting  
15 it together for the public.

16 MR. LEARY: I'd like to talk, also.

17 MS. ANTELIS: Mr. Leary.

18 MR. LEARY: I've given a hand out, and,  
19 Tom, I'll give you a copy -- you came in late -- and  
20 it's a side-by-side comparison based on publications  
21 in the Star Ledger, and it shows the highly  
22 irregular behavior of the State Department of  
23 Education. You have cuts in the State Department of  
24 Education that go from 4 percent to 100 percent. We  
25 have the dubious distinction of being the second

16

1 highest. And there's some interesting things about  
2 this. Some of the finest school districts in this  
3 county are the ones that got really whacked,  
4 Cranbury, Monroe, Metuchen, Edison, and Plainsboro/  
5 West Windsor. On the other hand, you go down the  
6 bottom five, and it's the booby prize group, Perth  
7 Amboy with minus 4 percent cut, New Brunswick, South  
8 Amboy, South River, and Dunellen, but they got the  
9 vast amount of the money that's given out through  
10 the Abbott processes.

11 Now let's go over to the Department of  
12 Community Affairs. The vast majority of the cuts in  
13 this county, 18 of the 25, were 20 percent level,  
14 and the range goes from 10.7 percent to  
15 23.2 percent. It's a tight, tight cluster, and it  
16 shows a high degree of uniformity.

17 Now, here you had within the same  
18 unitary executive branch a relatively uniform  
19 process in the Department of Community Affairs and a  
20 highly discriminatory process in the Department of  
21 Education. Now, Dr. Hamilton has been very nice and  
22 says it's difficult. I say it's a damn outrage, and  
23 I rest my case, and I'll give you the evidence.

24 MS. ANTELIS: Thank you, Mr. Leary.  
25 Anyone else? Mr. Kaufman.

17

1 MR. KAUFMAN: Yeah. I've been on the  
2 school board I don't know I guess I'm -- enough. We  
3 won't talk about years. And I know every year at  
4 the last Board meeting before the election, we  
5 always talk about how this is the most important  
6 budget before you and how we need to make sure we  
7 pass the budget to be able to keep the lights on.  
8 Well, there's enough stuff going on in the media,  
9 whether or not you've been living under a rock or  
10 not, that clearly in every possible way you can  
11 think about it, this is a very unique year for  
12 Monroe Township, and it's unique for a lot of  
13 different reasons. It's unique because we got cut  
14 for state aid. It's unique because we have a high  
15 school that's about 60 percent built, which means  
16 that we can't invest as much money because we have  
17 60 percent less money. It means that there are so  
18 many other factors that go into running a school  
19 district that happen to be going against us in the  
20 same year, but let's not forget about one simple  
21 thing. The economy of the United States, the  
22 economy of New Jersey, and the economy of residents  
23 is no longer business as usual. This may be a  
24 significant impact for us this year that we have to  
25 deal with, but rest assured that this is going to be

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1 an ongoing process that this Board of Education will  
2 continue to look for places to save money, things we  
3 can do to (end of tape 1) principal out of every  
4 dollar we collect. So my point being is this is a  
5 -- this is a mission critical election that we have  
6 this year because once these programs are put on the  
7 table to be considered for elimination, they're  
8 going to be gone forever. It's not like we're going  
9 to be able to bring them back in a year or two  
10 because we have to take things away, and some of  
11 these things may support the programs that are there  
12 to begin with.

13 I know it was brought up at one of the  
14 Board meetings that, well, maybe the district should  
15 start thinking about, you know, outsourcing all the  
16 busing and go to a separate subcontractor. There  
17 are so many districts today that would give anything  
18 to be where we are, to be able to dictate terms on  
19 our terms because we have the busing and the  
20 transportation capacity. Once you cross that bridge  
21 and you get rid of the fleet that you have, you are  
22 now 100 percent at the mercy of any bus company.  
23 They could charge you whatever they want because you  
24 have to get your kids transported.

25 So the bottom line is here, there's not

19

1 that much time left. I'm hoping that everyone in  
2 this audience can go out, do whatever they have to,  
3 call whoever you have to. We put a school up in  
4 this district a few years ago in a park, and that  
5 was a grass roots effort that this township decided  
6 it wanted to have happen. If this township decides  
7 next Tuesday that they're not in favor of this  
8 school budget, then this Board is going to be  
9 accountable for making some of these very, very  
10 significant cuts. We don't want to have to do that  
11 because, trust me, every person in here is going to  
12 have their own program that they think is the most  
13 important program, that we should never have it cut,  
14 and there will be hundreds of people in here, and  
15 it's going to get nuts. Support the budget because  
16 in the long term it's going to cost you less. If we  
17 have to pay to play and somebody has to pay 2 or  
18 \$300 per person or per child, per family, that's a  
19 whole lot more than you're going to be looking at  
20 spending for the increase that we need to keep the  
21 lights on move things forward. Keep that in mind.  
22 Go out and vote your conscience next Tuesday, and  
23 let's hopefully we can move this stuff forward.  
24 Thanks.

25 MS. ANTELIS: Thank you, Mr. Kaufman.

20

1 Anyone else? Other Board of Education business?  
2 One thing I forgot to mention in my report. We had  
3 some more good news from the state, and I'm being  
4 very sarcastic on that note. We were once again  
5 reduced by \$66,000, and I'm going to let Mr.  
6 Holliday explain what the state is doing now and why  
7 that money was taken from us.

8 MR. HOLLIDAY: Let's go back to 2003.  
9 The -- yeah, everyone looks at me. Don't worry, I'm  
10 not going to take you through each year. But let's  
11 go back to 2003, and you were -- school districts  
12 had the opportunity to apply for what was referred  
13 to as a Section 15 grant to be able to support any  
14 building initiative. Lots of paperwork, most boards  
15 of education, BA's and superintendents, would have  
16 went like this. No, that was not the case with this  
17 Board of Education or administration. Instead, we  
18 took it in. We started to fill it out day after  
19 day, night after night, and the state in all honesty  
20 was probably hoping that most people would shy away  
21 from that paperwork. We were persistent, and we  
22 were granted \$15.2 million to help offset the tax  
23 burden for the building of the new high school in  
24 2003.

25 Now, of course, that was contingent that

21

1 the bond referendum passed, but we were notified  
2 that we would get that money if the bond referendum  
3 passed, and the bond referendum did, indeed, pass,  
4 and each year we have since received money from that  
5 Section 15 grant.

6 As Mr. Leary mentioned before, there are  
7 certain milestones, but this was the first year that  
8 all of a sudden we got an assessment. Sixty-six  
9 thousand dollars is a lot of money as an assessment,  
10 and it was something that just occurred a couple  
11 weeks ago. Hasn't happened since 2003. And what  
12 has happened is the administration in Trenton at  
13 that particular time -- I will continue to remain  
14 bipartisan -- went and they had to get that Section  
15 15 grant money somewhere. At the time, it was  
16 called the New Jersey School Construction  
17 Corporation. That was the name of it. And they  
18 went out and they sold bonds. They sold bonds, and  
19 it become an obligation of the state, and then they  
20 passed that grant money on to those districts that  
21 were successful in getting the grant.

22 Monroe was successful in getting a  
23 grant, \$15.2 million. We continuously got the money  
24 at each milestone. So far we've been exceptionally  
25 successful.

22

1           Two weeks ago, it was determined that we  
2 would be assessed \$66,000 because the state had to  
3 incur money to obtain those bonds so that they could  
4 then give us that grant money. Well, back in 2003,  
5 if we knew that we were going to be assessed a fee  
6 for the New Jersey Construction Corporation, which  
7 went bankrupt and is now called the New Jersey  
8 School Development Authority, if we knew that we  
9 were going to be assessed that money, we still would  
10 have applied for the grant, no doubt about that, but  
11 I don't think it's fair to change the rules where I  
12 in my office I have a signed document by the  
13 attorney general at the time, and it doesn't make  
14 any reference to any assessment for the state to  
15 sell the bonds to give us the grant, but now they're  
16 trying to recover that money, attorney fees, bond  
17 underwriters fees, and collecting from us. So that  
18 all of a sudden has become part of our budget. Now,  
19 \$66,000 is a lot of money, and that will happen next  
20 year and the following year until the bond  
21 referendum is paid off.

22           MS. ANTELIS: And where did the state  
23 tell you to take the money from? Who is going to  
24 pay for this?

25           MR. HOLLIDAY: The taxpayers.

23

1 MS. ANTELIS: So much for the governor  
2 telling you he's going to lower your taxes. Thank  
3 you, Mr. Holliday.

4 Any other Board of Education business?  
5 Okay. At this time I'll open it up to the public.  
6 Anyone wishing to speak, please state your name and  
7 address for the record.

8 Mr. Nothstein.

9 MR. NOTHSTEIN: Good evening, Tom  
10 Nothstein, 15 Nathaniel Street. To address Mr.  
11 Leary's sheet again, I thought that we kind of went  
12 over this last time. There is a column missing from  
13 that sheet, and that column is the whole basis of  
14 how the state made the cuts to each district. They  
15 said every district, we need to take 5 percent out  
16 of your operating budget. Now, I can equate that to  
17 let's say if I'm making a hundred thousand dollars  
18 between two jobs. One job is 95,000, the other job  
19 is 5,000. I lose the second job making 5,000. I  
20 have lost 100 percent of the income from that job,  
21 but at the end of the day, I've lost 5 percent of my  
22 operating budget or my operating income.

23 I think that you're misleading the  
24 public when you all complain about the 95 percent  
25 loss of state aid without mentioning the 5 percent

24

1 that we lost on our operating budget. Perth Amboy,  
2 you're always bringing up Perth Amboy. So is Mr.  
3 Klein. New Brunswick. Guess what, New Brunswick  
4 lost 3.7, and South -- and Perth Amboy lost  
5 4 percent. That's a big hole in their budgets, too,  
6 and all I hear is complaining. All we do is  
7 complain about the state aid. For the -- every time  
8 I'm here at the budget time, all I hear, especially  
9 from Mr. Klein, we don't get hardly any state aid,  
10 the state aid is so small. Now we lose it, and all  
11 of a sudden it's the biggest impact that we've ever  
12 seen. At some point, someone is misleading us.  
13 It's either a little state aid or no state aid.  
14 Cranbury lost 100 percent of their state aid. Guess  
15 what, 5 percent of their operating budget has been  
16 lost.

17 So my concern, and I saw it with the  
18 School Story, is that we aren't deliberately  
19 misleading the public to vote for this budget. Is  
20 that an accurate statement?

21 MR. LEARY: No. May I reply?

22 MS. ANTELIS: Mr. Leary.

23 MR. LEARY: Let's go through and look at  
24 the numbers. When we look at the municipality, they  
25 are essentially saying we're going to look at the

25

1 state contribution, roughly 20 percent across the  
2 board. Preliminary discussions from the State  
3 Department of Education said we are going to have a  
4 15 percent cut in the state contribution to school  
5 districts. As an example, Superintendent Kaplan up  
6 in New Brunswick, who's got \$123 million from the  
7 state, sockered away \$18 million as his potential  
8 cut. When you look at their budget and take the  
9 5 percent cut, what does he wind up with? He winds  
10 up with a cut of \$6.3 million. He actually has as  
11 his planning, he's \$11 million ahead.

12 When you are a small part on a state and  
13 you go and look at the operating budget, which is  
14 paid for by the local tax levy, you destroy it. On  
15 the other hand, if you're an Abbott district, as Mr.  
16 Klein has talked time and time again, where 85,  
17 90 percent is paid for by the state, and you gobble  
18 5 percent off, hey, it's nickles and dimes. Go  
19 through the math and you'll see that the superior  
20 school districts of this county got the shaft and  
21 the Abbott school districts walked off with a ton of  
22 money.

23 MS. ANTELIS: Mr. Klein.

24 MR. KLEIN: To add to this, being that  
25 I'm being attacked.

26

1 MR. NOTHSTEIN: It's hardly attacked.

2 He's not being attacked.

3 MR. KLEIN: -- about bringing up New

4 Brunswick, you know, Tom, you come to all the

5 meetings. At least you do come to the meetings. I

6 wish more of the parents would come to the meetings.

7 But if you're so knowledgeable about the budget,

8 about making cuts where we should make cuts and

9 spending or not spending where we're spending, I'd

10 like to know whether you came into the office to

11 look at the budget, the book that's about this

12 thick, okay. I'm sure you didn't.

13 MR. NOTHSTEIN: You don't know that for

14 certain.

15 MR. KLEIN: It's easy enough to find

16 out.

17 MR. NOTHSTEIN: Sure.

18 MR. KLEIN: You come here and you make

19 accusations with really no backing. Let's talk

20 facts. The suburban districts would not be in the

21 problem that they have today in funding schools if

22 it wasn't for the New Jersey Supreme Court with the

23 Abbott decision. That's when all of our taxes in

24 the suburbs went through the roof, period, cut and

25 dry.

27

1           You're talking that we got cut  
2 95 percent. It's \$4.7 million. What about the  
3 \$1.5 million from 2009 and 2010, and \$500,000 before  
4 that. Now it's another \$66,000. Where is that  
5 supposed to come from? Do we have a printing press?

6           We try to do the best we can. I'm here  
7 1 year. So I'm talking like the new guy on the  
8 block. These people are committed. They've been  
9 here for many years. If you -- all you got to do is  
10 look at this report. Look what was cut in municipal  
11 aid, and again, who are the big ones, the big cuts,  
12 the suburban districts in the schools. When you  
13 look at Perth Amboy, Perth Amboy was getting \$144  
14 million. They got cut 4 percent. They're still  
15 getting \$139 million. When they had to build a  
16 school, where did all that money come from, the SCC.  
17 We have to fight to get stinking \$15 million that  
18 they promised us. They got -- not only did they get  
19 enough to build the school, they had money left over  
20 to build a second school. You want to talk New  
21 Brunswick, a high school for \$187 million called the  
22 Taj Mahal. You know who paid for that, the SCC,  
23 totally. The SCC was given I forgot how many  
24 billions of dollars that was supposed to last 10 to  
25 12 years. They blew it in 3 years, okay.

28

1           We don't get our fair share. I've  
2   stated we don't get our fair share, and you as  
3   somebody who did run for Mayor should be for the  
4   same thing, for the betterment of the residents that  
5   live in this town and the students that live in this  
6   town and not come here and make accusations that are  
7   unfounded. I take offense to it, and I'm sure the  
8   rest of the Board does, also. Thank you.

9           MR. NOTHSTEIN: Fantastic. What are  
10   these unfounded accusations?

11          MS. ANTELIS: You know what -- I'm --  
12   listen --

13          MR. KLEIN: You want to talk about it,  
14   we'll talk about it --

15          MS. ANTELIS: Mr. Klein, let's --

16          MR. NOTHSTEIN: We also talked about  
17   cuts. January this Board voted on a teachers  
18   contract. That vote was not even on the printed  
19   agenda, but yet you had to know that you were going  
20   to vote on it because our legal counsel was there  
21   that night. So it should have been on the agenda  
22   and it wasn't. Mr. Klein didn't even show up for  
23   that meeting to vote on it. A lot of the people on  
24   the Board cannot by law vote on it because they have  
25   conflicts of interest. Meanwhile, it passed with

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1 not even one -- not one word of discussion about  
2 what was in it for the public to see. I tried to  
3 get that. That's supposed to be posted on the  
4 government web site, as I've talked to Mr. Braverman  
5 and Mr. Holliday about that, but it's still in legal  
6 and they're going over it. So it looks like we're  
7 not even going to be able to look at that online  
8 prior to Tuesday's election, but meanwhile, you talk  
9 about millions of dollars, that was a \$1.5 million  
10 salary increase that we gave to our teachers even  
11 though the budget was passed down, was voted down  
12 last year because of that 4 percent that was built  
13 into that for the teachers, but what does this Board  
14 do? You go and you vote for that even though the  
15 people had voted and said we don't want that budget  
16 because it's too much. People are losing their  
17 jobs, state workers are being furloughed, and what  
18 do we go and do? We go give them a 4 percent raise.  
19 Now, in a perfect world teachers, firemen, they  
20 should get a 10 percent raise. The bottom line, as  
21 our governor has clearly stated, it's unsustainable.  
22 We can't afford it. That's the bottom line. And  
23 this Board went and did it, and when I questioned  
24 it, what do I hear? We were concerned that it was  
25 going to go to binding arbitration. Now, isn't that

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1 a horrible thought, that we don't have negotiations.  
2 We are held hostage, and this has got to stop, and  
3 it's got to stop at the Board level where someone  
4 has to make a stand. At that January meeting, it  
5 was disgusting. All I saw was the gushing from the  
6 Board and from the union, what a great negotiation  
7 we had. We didn't have a negotiation. We had a  
8 hostage situation, and you, this Board, is  
9 responsible for that, and I am sorely upset with  
10 that outcome.

11 Thank you very much for your time, and I  
12 know you had a clock on.

13 MS. ANTELIS: No, we didn't, actually.

14 MR. CHIARELLA: Negotiations went on for  
15 months, number 1. We were -- the rest of the Board,  
16 the people who could be briefed and were part of  
17 that, were briefed routinely by the negotiating  
18 team, which was Mr. Braverman and Kathy and -- I  
19 didn't want to say your last name and butcher it.

20 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Wayne knows how to  
21 pronounce it now.

22 MR. CHIARELLA: And John Leary. That's  
23 number 1. Number 2, and I support our teachers.  
24 And I support the process that we went through. And  
25 I just want to say if we're going to talk about

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1 complaining about giving all of our teachers a  
2 combined raise of \$1.1 million while the governor  
3 doesn't have a problem with giving Senator Bill  
4 Baroni 250 or \$280,000 --

5 MR. KLEIN: Two ninety-four.

6 MR. CHIARELLA: Excuse me?

7 MR. KLEIN: Two hundred ninety-four  
8 thousand dollars.

9 MS. ANTELIS: Thank you, Mr. Klein.

10 MR. CHIARELLA: Two hundred ninety-four  
11 thousand dollars for his job, and that's not  
12 political patronage or a problem? I have a problem  
13 with that. How about the millionaires tax? We're  
14 not going to reinstitute that, which could bring in  
15 an extra billion dollars. Why, because it's the  
16 governor's friends. Excuse me, but I disagree.  
17 Thank you.

18 MS. ANTELIS: Mr. Chiarella.

19 DR. HAMILTON: If I may, I just need to  
20 make one comment. I generally don't comment at this  
21 section, but Mr. Nothstein made a comment that I  
22 feel kind of obligated to respond to, and you  
23 mentioned that the School Story was intentionally  
24 written to mislead people, and I just want to  
25 correct that. There would be no motive to put false

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1 information out there. The intent of the School  
2 Story is to inform folks, and again, new information  
3 comes out after things are published and after  
4 comments are made, and that's the nature  
5 unfortunately of the times that we live in, but I  
6 would never want to be accused of intentionally, and  
7 since I am the author of the vast majority of that  
8 School Story, and even if I wasn't, I'm the  
9 superintendent so the buck stops with me anyway, but  
10 the bottom line is I would never want to be accused  
11 of putting out false information because I think  
12 that gets to an issue of character, and I would  
13 never want to be associated with someone of  
14 unscrupulous character. So I just wanted to say  
15 that publicly.

16 MS. ANTELIS: Thank you, Dr. Hamilton.

17 Anyone else from the Board? Seeing no one --

18 DR. HAMILTON: There's another one.

19 MS. ANTELIS: Okay.

20 MR. POYE: Doug Poye, 4 Tamarack Road.

21 I'm really looking for clarification on the comment  
22 that Mr. Holliday made about this \$66,000 fee. If I  
23 understood you correctly, the Board of Education  
24 will be assessed that fee each year for how many  
25 years?

33

1 MR. HOLLIDAY: It's my understanding  
2 that that fee will be assessed until the bonds have  
3 been paid in full.

4 MR. POYE: And how many years would that  
5 take?

6 MR. HOLLIDAY: The bond referendum for  
7 the new high school is a 30-year bond referendum  
8 that commenced in the year 2004; however, that  
9 amount will go down as more principal is paid off.

10 MR. POYE: Okay, and since it was not  
11 originally in the documentation or the contracts,  
12 whatever how you refer to them, that was signed  
13 between our Board and the state, whatever the state  
14 agency was, you mentioned something about that, that  
15 you could find no mention of any kind of assessment  
16 fee. We have no legal recourse to fight that?

17 MR. HOLLIDAY: You're correct in your  
18 statement, sir, in that when I reviewed the Section  
19 15 grant agreement that was executed by the Board  
20 President and myself and the attorney general, at  
21 the time, I did not make or to this day do I see any  
22 assessment fee; however, it was imposed. Our budget  
23 would have not been approved in terms of its  
24 compliance with the governor's directive as well as  
25 the Department of Education's directive so we had to

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1 include it in our budget; however, there is  
2 legislation if you go to NewJersey.gov and you  
3 search on this, you will find where there is much  
4 legislation that is pending to repeal the  
5 assessment. The professional associations are  
6 likewise trying through legal recourse, to further  
7 answer your question, to have this repealed inasmuch  
8 as we weren't told and therefore we should not be  
9 assessed that fee, but at the time, unless I  
10 included that amount of money in our budget, our  
11 budget would have been rejected by the county  
12 office, by the state for not being compliant. I'm  
13 given a certain set of document, and they make sure  
14 that I abide by those document so I have to follow  
15 the law as it's given.

16 MR. POYE: Okay. I understand that  
17 point, but because of all the years yet to come, and  
18 we have to prepare another budget for 11/12,  
19 2011/12, is it not possible during that 1 year  
20 interim time that something could be done to fight  
21 that assessment?

22 MR. HOLLIDAY: I believe that there's a  
23 great deal that's being done. This has received a  
24 great deal of attention because during those  
25 particular years, many school districts did apply.

35

1 Some didn't get it; some did. Monroe was fortunate  
2 it did. I'm very active with the association that I  
3 belong to, the New Jersey Association of School  
4 Business Officials, and many -- and we have  
5 contacted the legislature, and bills are being  
6 prepared to go ahead and reverse this and to  
7 reinstate it back.

8 MR. POYE: Okay. Thank you.

9 MR. HOLLIDAY: My pleasure, sir.

10 MS. ANTELIS: Because honestly, the way  
11 we're going, we're going to be writing a check to  
12 the state every year because there's not going to be  
13 any state funding left after next year.

14 Mr. Kaufman.

15 MR. KAUFMAN: Wayne, just a quick  
16 question. When did we get this little gift from the  
17 state?

18 MR. HOLLIDAY: If I'm interpreting your  
19 question correctly, Mr. Kaufman, when was I  
20 notified?

21 MR. KAUFMAN: Correct.

22 MR. HOLLIDAY: I was notified 2 days  
23 after the governor gave his address, which I believe  
24 was March 16. I was notified on March 18.

25 MR. KAUFMAN: Okay. My point being is

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1 members of the public have to understand one thing.  
2 The budget is a living document. It's not a  
3 milestone that's locked at any given point in time.  
4 So anything that we would have published on the web  
5 site, in paper, in print, the day before this  
6 information came out would already be wrong. As we  
7 start here this evening, you know, the Board members  
8 had an inkling that this was coming, but certainly  
9 the people in the audience didn't see this coming.  
10 I know a lot of people have attended the budget  
11 presentations that we've been doing throughout the  
12 town, and this hasn't come up. Trust me, we would  
13 have done it, you know, had we, you know, thought it  
14 was that relevant. The bottom line is this is a  
15 living document. The numbers are constantly  
16 changing positively and negatively, so keep that in  
17 mind when, you know, information comes out on any  
18 school budget. It doesn't have to be Monroe, it's  
19 anywhere or any budget anywhere, even in a  
20 corporation. It's a snapshot in time at that  
21 moment. That's the only thing I wanted to say.

22 MS. ANTELIS: Mr. Holliday.

23 MR. HOLLIDAY: Wayne Holliday speaking.  
24 I have to concur with Mr. Kaufman and many other  
25 members of the Board of Education. Certainly in the

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1 26 or so budgets that I've placed together -- and  
2 again, never partisan -- but certainly when Governor  
3 McGreevey indicated -- former, excuse me -- former  
4 Governor McGreevey indicated that we would not  
5 receive our last state aid payment for the month of  
6 June, that was challenging and somewhat unheard of,  
7 and then when former Governor Corzine indicated that  
8 we would not receive the last two state aids in  
9 June, that was even more challenging and appalling;  
10 however, as the old saying goes, never say never.  
11 Did I ever think that any governor would say I am  
12 cutting off your state aid payments in February, go  
13 it on your own, RIF teachers if you have to, stop  
14 buying supplies, you make it. We promised you the  
15 money, but we're broke, we can't give you the money,  
16 so go on your own. I never thought that would  
17 happen, but it did. This district now receives in  
18 operating aid \$238,000. Mr. --

19 MR. LEARY: Less \$67,000.

20 MS. ANTELIS: Less \$66,000, yeah.

21 MR. HOLLIDAY: That is very, very  
22 challenging in terms of external funding sources.

23 MS. ANTELIS: Mr. Klein.

24 MR. KLEIN: Originally, we were told  
25 that the amount of money held back from the state

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1 was going to be 15 percent of what they give us in  
2 aid, which would have been fair for all school  
3 districts, so if you're receiving a hundred million,  
4 it's going to cost you 15 million. That's what we  
5 were prepared to do, and all of a sudden we're told  
6 it's 5 percent of your operating budget. It's a  
7 different story. In our case, it's 95 percent. The  
8 inner city, 4 percent, 6 percent on hundreds of  
9 millions of dollars. That's not fair. I've written  
10 many articles in the Home News -- some of you have  
11 read them -- and my ideas about righting this is to  
12 light a match under you, get angry. Finally with  
13 this budget, the public portion, people are finally  
14 said enough is enough, we're now going to contact  
15 the legislature, we're going to contact the  
16 governor. Well, heck, we should have done that  
17 right after the Abbott decision was made and put  
18 into law. We have to -- what's being done now is --  
19 it's terrible. It's not fair to the suburban  
20 communities, and it's about time that people have to  
21 stand up and fight for what's right, and this is the  
22 time. Thank you.

23 MS. ANTELIS: Please state your name.

24 MR. ROCHE: Robert Roche, 18 Muirfield  
25 Boulevard. I've heard a lot of gnashing of teeth

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1 about the cut from the state, but I haven't seen  
2 where this Board has done anything to really reduce  
3 the expenses. When you look at the 2008/2009  
4 budget, the tax levy was roughly \$70 million;  
5 2009/2010 it was roughly 73 and a half. So  
6 basically the tax levy from the people was  
7 \$3 million; \$3 and a half million about. It went up  
8 \$7 million. The difference between 2010/2011 and  
9 2009/2010, was 7 million -- is \$7 million. So in  
10 essence, what you have done is you've taken the  
11 money that the state took away and are getting it  
12 from the residents of Monroe. So I don't see why  
13 you're doing so much complaining. I think you ought  
14 to be taking some -- looking at some expenses that  
15 can be eliminated, which were -- at the budget  
16 meeting there was a gal who listed a variety of  
17 reasons, areas, rather. I think in a hundred  
18 million dollars budget there's fat. I don't care  
19 where it is, there's fat.

20 MS. ANTELIS: I just want to respond to  
21 you about the woman who came up. She really didn't  
22 know what she was looking at. She stood in front of  
23 us and said why don't you cut this child study thing  
24 that's costing you a couple of million dollars.  
25 Well, you know what that child study thing is?

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1 That's a child study team that looks at special  
2 education children and makes sure that their  
3 education is the proper one that we're giving them,  
4 and by law we cannot cut that. She really --  
5 another man is posting things that's going around  
6 the internet because he's claiming we have five  
7 directors of guidance. We don't have five  
8 directors. The way the state makes us list things  
9 under -- what is it called, GAAP, the old -- it  
10 makes it look like. It's not. You say that we  
11 haven't cut. Well, when Dr. Hamilton came here a  
12 year and a half ago, we cut two administrative  
13 positions. No one told us we had to. We just did  
14 it because we didn't see the need for it anymore.  
15 Dr. Hamilton looked over. He actually let go a  
16 couple of other people. Mr. Holliday for years has  
17 been taking money and putting it aside. Well, when  
18 it was time to do the roof here, we didn't ask you  
19 for the money. He had the money. He went out to  
20 bid. We're going to do another roof, and you know  
21 what, we're going to do the same thing. We're not  
22 asking the taxpayers because we've been diligent,  
23 okay. Why we're whining, we're whining because we  
24 have to make a tax increase. I don't want to give  
25 the people here a tax increase. None of us here get

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1 paid. I work for the township. I don't make a lot  
2 of money. I'm going to get a tax increase. I'm not  
3 exempt like anybody else, okay. We have been  
4 trying. That's why we're whining. We don't find it  
5 fair. When they took the \$5 million from us, they  
6 didn't take it from us, they took it from all the  
7 taxpayers. In order for us to even get the budget  
8 to be flat that there be no tax increase, about  
9 what, \$8 million out of the budget. Well, let me  
10 tell you where that's going to happen. We're going  
11 to have massive layoffs. We'd have no choice, and  
12 we've already let go 22 people. We'd have to end  
13 programs that this Board has fought so hard year  
14 after year. Yes, we are spending money. We're  
15 spending it on our children. We're spending it on  
16 programs. We're spending it on special education.  
17 We have a new program that actually targets children  
18 who we all say, oh, they're fine, they'll get by.  
19 Well, guess what, this program is going to bring  
20 them up a notch.

21 The voters have to make a decision. We  
22 either want a great education in this town, or we  
23 just want to be an adequate district, and that's  
24 what this vote is going to tell us.

25 MR. ROCHE: Thank you.

42

1 MS. ANTELIS: Mr. Kaufman.

2 MR. KAUFMAN: Obviously, a lot of people  
3 can see that the dynamic in the district is kind of  
4 even changing just from when we started the Board  
5 meeting tonight. Keep a couple of things in mind.  
6 As we've gone out throughout this -- as we've gone  
7 out throughout this community doing our Board  
8 presentations, clearly, people come to Monroe  
9 because they have certain expectations whether  
10 you're buying a home or you're living in a  
11 retirement community. If you live in a retirement  
12 community that has a very plush clubhouse and may  
13 have a golf course, it may have a media center, it  
14 may have a lot of things that is there when you  
15 decided to buy that district. It was part of the  
16 package. When you came into Monroe, the people that  
17 moved here, came to Monroe because they chose the  
18 package. They chose believe it or not the low  
19 taxes. I mean, we're second lowest to Cranbury, and  
20 Cranbury sends their kids out to high school, and  
21 they don't have paid fire or paid ambulance. So,  
22 you know, my ROI on tax money is pretty high in  
23 Monroe, and I think that's why a lot of people come  
24 to Monroe, because in my mind, you kind of get a lot  
25 for your money. We have a well respected school

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1 district. We have a school district that has things  
2 that we offer that people come to Monroe for, like  
3 special education. What makes us a little bit more  
4 unique is because of things like that. It does cost  
5 us a little bit more per child to educate our kids,  
6 but the programs that we have in Monroe are worth  
7 having, and people are coming here because we have  
8 them.

9 So this is a choices issue. It's not a  
10 governor issue. It's not a Monroe Township Board of  
11 Education issue. This is a choices issue. If the  
12 people of Monroe like what they have bought into  
13 when they came here, which is the total package,  
14 then we need to support our educational programs  
15 because a lot of seniors in our community are  
16 beneficiaries of our educational programs, whether  
17 it's adult ed or the facilities that they use here  
18 at the building. Everybody in this community uses  
19 the resources in one way, shape, or form. Just  
20 drive by the high school on the weekend. I defy you  
21 to find a parking space on a Saturday night. I can  
22 assure you they are not students parking in the  
23 parking lot. I know my Friday night, gone.

24 So the bottom line is, Tuesday you  
25 decide what you want from Monroe Township local

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1 taxes. What's decided then will be carried forward  
2 to the Board of Education and the Town Council. We  
3 will balance our budget, and we will decide what  
4 needs to stay and what needs to go. It's not  
5 personal. It's business.

6 MS. ANTELIS: Mr. Leary.

7 MR. LEARY: Just to give a factoid on  
8 this situation. Our nearest comparable is North  
9 Brunswick. Eleven percent of the students in North  
10 Brunswick are special education students. We have a  
11 superior program. We've got 16 percent. I've heard  
12 numerous people come to me and said I left Bay Ridge  
13 in Brooklyn and I came directly here because I know  
14 my handicapped children will be well taken care of.

15 Now, when you go and have an Individual  
16 Education Plan that has to be put together by a  
17 child study team, all of these things are mandated  
18 by legislation that goes all the way back to 1974,  
19 and when you have a special education process, it is  
20 a costly process. You're talking about a ratio of 1  
21 teacher per every six students, and depending on  
22 what the Individual Education Program requires, you  
23 may have to have an individual aid for those  
24 children, but we provide superior service, and, yes,  
25 it may be a little more costly, but it also provides

1 for the quality of life of this community. People  
2 want to come here for, yes, taxes, yes, low crime,  
3 but they also want to take care of their children,  
4 whatever God gave them. If they are geniuses, hey,  
5 we got plenty of gifted programs, but, hey, if  
6 they're developmentally delayed, this is the best  
7 place to go in Central New Jersey.

8 MS. ANTELIS: Anyone else? Seeing no  
9 one, the next scheduled public Board of Education  
10 will commence on Wednesday, May 5, at 6 p.m. and the  
11 regular meeting at 7 p.m. Motion to adjourn.

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1. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS – APRIL 14, 2010

**I. Enrollment**

	<u>3/31/10</u>	<u>2/28/10</u>	Increase+ Decrease-	<u>3/31/09</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Applegarth School	806	805	+1	810	-4
Barclay Brook School	544	538	+6	521	+23
Brookside School	670	670	0	686	-16
Mill Lake School	679	678	+1	661	+18
Oak Tree	752	758	-6	679	+73
Woodland School	517	516	+1	506	+11
Monroe High School	<u>1608</u>	<u>1607</u>	<u>+1</u>	<u>1554</u>	<u>+54</u>
<b>Total Elementary &amp; Secondary</b>	<b>5576</b>	<b>5572</b>	<b>+4</b>	<b>5417</b>	<b>159</b>

**I. Enrollment Cont'd**

<b>School</b>	<b>Monroe</b>			<b>Jamesburg</b>		
	<b>Feb.</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Feb.</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Academy Learning Center	14	14		1	1	
Cambridge	1	1				
Center School	2	2		1	1	
Childrens Center of Monm.	1	1		1	1	
Collier	1	1	+1 and -1	1	1	
CPC Lower	1	1				
CPC Upper	4	4		2	2	
East Mountain	2	1	Minus 1			
Eden	2	2		1	1	
Harbor School	2	2				
KIVA	0	0		0	0	
New Roads Parlin	5	5		1	1	
New Roads Somerset	1	1				
Kidspeace	1	1				
Lamberts Mills Academy	1	1				
Mercer Elementary	1	1				
Mercer Cty Jr./Sr.	2	2		1	1	
Mercer Cty Reg. Day	3	3				
Midland	2	2		1	1	
Millstone WW/Plainsboro	1	1				
Morris Union Jointure DCL	1	1				
Newgrange School	1	1				
Oakwood School	1	1				
Raritan Valley Academy				1	1	
Rugby	2	2				
Schroth School	1	1				
Spotswood High School				1	1	
UMDNJ	1	1		1	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>53</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	

## II. Home Instruction

Student #	Reason	Grade	Teachers	School	Start date	End date	Hour per week
83089	504	2	Beresky	ML	9/8/2009		5
79109	IEP	3	Mertz	HS	9/8/2009		10
50129	Med	11	Tolboom	HS	11/11/2009	2/19/2010	2
78674	504	7	Earl, Weiner	AMS	10/5/2009		10
50436	Med/504	10	Weiner, Ongaro, Drust	HS	11/10/2009		10
50414	Med/IEP	11	Minter, Ogin, O'Leary	MTHS	10/21/2009		10
85140	Med/504	11	Lyons	HS	10/26/2009		2
49987	Med	11	Romano,Simmonds,Rose,	HS	11/7/2009		10
83443	Med	12	Latwis,Hladek,Butler,Platt	HS	10/27/2009		10
40540	Med	12	Basile,DiMeola,Harris	HS	12/1/2009		10
85758	Med	7	sinischalchi,Mumpower, Burd	AMS	1/21/2010	3/18/2010	10
81791	Med	3	Villegas	BS	2/2/2010	3/17/2010	5
70079	Med	12	Ielpi, Drust	HS	2/2/2010		4
78277	Med	6	Fischer	WL	1/21/2010	2/3/2010	5
84037	Med	10	Beagan,Olszewski,latwis,Romano	HS	1/11/2010		10
82696	Med	7	Mcgrath, Murphy	AMS	1/21/2010		7
50129	Med	11	Abruzze, Roche	HS	2/9/2010		4
78911	IEP	9	Weinstein	HS	2/9/2010		2
50399	Med	10	Lustgarten,Quindes,Simmons,Latwis, Ballard	HS	2/25/2010	3/8/2010	10
81849	Med	12	Rose, Simmons	HS	3/1/2010	4/6/2010	4
50556	Med	9	Moralda,Papernoster,Gold,Lyons	HS	2/24/2010		10
70343	IEP/Med	11	Latwis, Cardone	HS	2/23/2010		10
70105	Adm	12	Latwis, Hardt	HS	3/25/2010		10
32189	ADM	10	Romano, McDonald,Latwis, Quindes	HS	3/24/2010		10
82148	SUS	10	LoBello	HS	3/22/2010		2
81555	ADM	10	Olszewski,Marmorek,Fennessey,Weinstein	HS	3/10/2010		10
81637	MED	8	Wall, Murphy	AMS	2/2/2010	3/10/2010	5
78431	SUS	6	Heefner	WL	3/4/2010	3/18/2010	10
70206	MED	11	R. Hardt,Rose,Benjamin,M. Hardt	HS	3/4/2010		10
85873	SUS	10	Simmonds,Olszewski,Latwis	HS	3/4/2010		12
40538	SUS	12	Hardt,Latwis,Lyons	HS	3/15/2010		12
50018	MED	11	R. Hardt, S. Wall, D. Schnitzer, R. Tolboom	HS	3/3/2010	3/17/2010	10

### III. Fire Drills

Applegarth School -----	March 8 and 9, 2010
Barclay Brook School-----	March 11 and 18, 2010
Brookside School -----	March 8 and 16, 2010
Mill Lake School -----	March 8 and 10, 2010
Oak Tree School -----	March 18 and 19, 2010
Woodland School -----	March 9 and 18, 2010
Monroe High School -----	March 10 and 24, 2010

### IV. Personnel

- A. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation, due to retirement, of **Mr. Wayne Holliday**, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, effective at the close of business on June 30, 2010.
- B. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of **Ms. Jennifer Campbell**, Language Arts teacher at Applegarth Middle School, effective July 1, 2010.
- C. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of **Ms. Angela Paoluccio**, paraprofessional at Mill Lake School, effective April 28, 2010.
- D. It is recommended that the Board approve the return to work of **Ms. Jan Maher**, Language Arts teacher at Applegarth School, effective April 28, 2010.
- E. It is recommended that the Board approve a maternity leave of absence to **Ms. Catherine Chang**, French teacher at Applegarth School, effective September 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except for any sick days Ms. Chang is entitled to be paid.
- F. It is recommended that the Board approve a modification in the maternity leave of absence to **Ms. Samantha Sheenan**, Special Education teacher at Applegarth School from April 14, 2010 to April 12, 2010 through June 30, 2010.
- G. It is recommended that the Board approve an extended medical leave of absence to **Ms. Stacy Fleischer**, Physical Education teacher at Barclay Brook/Oak Tree, effective April 6, 2010 through April 9, 2010. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except for any sick days Ms. Fleisher may have available.
- H. It is recommended that the Board approve an extended medical leave of absence to **Ms. Cheryl Campanaro**, paraprofessional at Woodland School, effective April 12, 2010 through April 16, 2010. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except for any sick days Ms. Campanaro may have available.

- I. It is recommended that the Board approve an extended medical leave of absence to **Ms. Leonora Prainito**, Bus Driver in the Transportation Department, retroactive to March 31, 2010 through April 30, 2010. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except for any sick days Ms. Prainito may have available.
- J. It is recommended that the Board rescind the leave of absence under NJFLA to **Ms. Jeanette Zollo**, Bus Driver in the Transportation Department from February 1, 2010 through April 30, 2010.
- K. It is recommended that the Board approve the following non-certificated personnel for an additional \$1.00 per hour degree differential per the MTEA negotiated agreement retroactive to July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010:

Amy Pole	Applegarth
Donna Plichta	MTHS
Theresa Madreperla	MTHS

- L. It is recommended that the Board approve the following non-certificated personnel for an additional \$1.00 per hour degree differential per the MTEA negotiated agreement retroactive to September 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010:

Wendy Blank	Brookside
Lauraine Santoro	MTHS
Sandra Micciulla	Applegarth
Virginia Ullrich	Applegarth
Janet Garavente	Mill Lake
Robert Certo	MTHS
Francine Wilden	Brookside

- M. It is recommended that the Board approve the following personnel for the Applegarth School Play for the 2009-2010 school year:

Theresa Anthony	Costume Design	\$600
Alan Bosoy	Pit Orchestra	\$600
James Capes	Orchestra Musician	\$600
Christopher Gow	Orchestra Musician	\$600
Martin Griffin	Pit Orchestra	\$600
Rhonna Griffin	Back Stage Set Coordinator	\$600
Joyce Kay	Asst. Musical Director/ Conductor/Pianist	\$900
Elizabeth Penner	Costume Coordinator	\$600
Liat Perelman	Choreographer	\$2,000
David Rattner	Pit Orchestra	\$600
Nina Schmetterer	Sound Design	\$900

- N. It is recommended that the Board approve the following personnel (pending enrollment) for the Saturday Academy effective May 1, 2010 through July 31, 2010 (excluding May 29, and July 3): for a total of 12 Saturdays, account FUND 20 (ARRA) Program Coordinator \$300 per diem, Teachers/Nurses hourly instructional supplemental \$51.82, Para/Secretary Step on guide, custodian step on guide:

Scott Madreperla                      Program Coordinator

TEACHERS

Tom Donovan	Maria Steffero
Christopher Thumm	George Pangalos
Abbe Lustgarten	Scott Wall
Renata MacKenzie	Lindsay Steuber
Michelle Ballard	Nathan Grosshandler
Adele Fennessy	Nicole Marzouk
Michael Wall	

NURSES

Catherine Lestingi – Cycle 1  
MaryAnn Procopio – Cycle 2  
Stacy Fretta – Substitute

SECRETARIES

Debra VanLiew – Cycle 1  
Linda Savino – Cycle 2  
Arlene Baum – Substitute

SECURITY - Rotational

Chester McNeil	Steven Naumik
Diane Matthews	Robert Certo
Norma Jo Bomba	

CUSTODIANS – On a Rotational Basis

Connie Sharar	Frank Ferguson
David Simone	Edward Butkiewicz
Leslaw Lenczyk	Anthony Fusco
Mary Sconiers	Anna Cabanski
Rosalie Lidzbarski	Mark Lobo
Martha Belmont	Bettina Rupinski
James Culver	Susan Matusiak

TECHNOLOGY

Chris Gross – Cycle 1  
Michael Evans – Cycle 2

- O. It is recommended that the Board approve the following certificated personnel for the 2009-2010 school year:

<b>Employee</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Teacher's Salary Guide</b>	<b>Account No.</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Reason for hire</b>
Barbara Panfile	Teacher of the Handicapped	MTHS	Step 11 BA 117%	11-213-100-101-000-093	4/6/10-6/30/10	additional section for leave replacement
Brian Latwis	Teacher of the Handicapped	MTHS	Step 8 MA 117%	11-213-100-101-000-093	4/6/10-6/30/10	additional section for leave replacement
Michelle Ballard	Teacher of the Handicapped	MTHS	Step 6 BA 117%	11-213-100-101-000-093	4/6/10-6/30/10	additional section for leave replacement
Michael O'Connor	Teacher of Physical Ed.	Oak Tree	103% of Step 11 BA	11-120-100-101-000-060	9/1/09-6/30/10	Increase in contract Additional Class due to increased enrollment

- P. It is recommended that the Board approve the following non-certificated personnel for the 2009-2010 school year:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Salary Guide</b>	<b>Account No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Reason for Hire</b>
Beverly Mazza	Paraprofessional	Brookside	6.75/day total hours \$1.00 for toilet assistance for 4.5 hours/day	11-213-100-106-000-093	2/26/10-6/30/10	Modification in salary guide

- Q. It is recommended that the Board approve the attached list of substitute for the 2009-2010 school year:

**Certificated**

Murray Rubin	Substitute Teacher
Teresa Podlaski	Substitute Teacher
Heather Cavanagh	Substitute Teacher
Nancy Schieda	Substitute Teacher
Michael Mattia	Substitute Teacher

**Non Certificated**

Ann Marie Vassallo	Substitute Paraprofessional
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**V. Board Action**

- A. It is recommended that the Board approve the attached list of requests for Staff Professional Development.
- B. It is recommended that the Board approve the attached list of requests for Field Trips.
- C. It is recommended that the Board approve the attached list of Student Suspensions for the month of March 2010.
- D. It is recommended that the Board approve the following Policy for a first reading:

Policy 6660 Student Activity Fund

- E. It is recommended that the Board approve the following revised or readopted Policies and Regulations:

Reg. 3321	Acceptable Use of Computer Networks/Computers and Resources By Teaching Staff Members
Reg. 4321	Acceptable Use of Computer Networks/Computers and Resources By Support Staff Members
Policy 5512.02	Cyber Bullying
Policy 3211	Code of Ethics
Policy 3212	Attendance
Reg. 3212	Professional Staff Attendance Review and Improvement Plan
Policy 3214	Conflict of Interest
Policy 3217	Use of Corporal Punishment
Policy 3218	Substance Abuse
Reg. 3218	Substance Abuse
Policy 3230	Outside Activities
Reg. 3230	Outside Activities

Policy 3231	Outside Employment at Athletic Coach
Policy 3233	Political Activities
Policy 3244	In-Service Training
Reg.3244	In-Service Training
Policy 3245	Research Projects by Staff Members
Policy 3270	Professional Responsibilities
Reg.3270	Lesson Plans and Plan Books
Policy 3280	Liability for Pupil Welfare
Reg.3280	Liability for Pupil Welfare

F. It is recommended that the Board approve the District’s Technology Plan for the 2010-2013 school years.

G. **2009-2010 Violence/Substance Abuse/Estimated Violence/Vandalism Costs** previously reported for the period 7/1/09 through 4/14/10: .....\$76.50

<b>Date</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Incident</b>	<b>Cost to District</b>
3/26/10	MTHS	substance abuse	

H. **MCESC Representative Term**

Attached is the annual resolution from the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission regarding the selection of Monroe Township School District’s representative to the Commission for the 2010-2011 school year. The Board may select someone from the Board of Education as the district’s representative.

2. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS – APRIL 14, 2010

BOARD ACTION

A. BID AUTHORIZATION – MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR WORK FOR VARIOUS TRADES: TIME AND MATERIAL RATES

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education authorize Wayne Holliday, Business Administrator/Board Secretary and Qualified Purchasing Agent to advertise for and solicit bids for maintenance and repair work for various trades regarding time and material rates. This bid when awarded by members of the Board of Education will be encumbered against the 2010/11 budget.

B. STATE CONTRACT PURCHASES

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education authorize Wayne Holliday, Business Administrator/Board Secretary and Qualified Purchasing Agent to purchase library furniture for the new Monroe Township High School from Brodart Furniture under NJ State Contract #A66905, Brodart Computer Furniture under NJ State Contract #A62171, Krueger International (KI) Non-Modular Furniture under NJ State Contract #A71476, and Global Industries Office Furniture under NJ State Contract #A69980.

C. TRANSFER #10

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve Transfer #10 as presented for fiscal year 2009/10. A copy is attached hereto.

D. PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

1. It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve Professional Educational Services, Inc. to provide home instruction for students who are hospitalized for a fee of \$51.82 per hour for fiscal year 2009/2010.

2. It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve Kathy Ferejohn to sign at the High School graduation for a fee of \$250.

E. INSURANCE BROKER OF RECORD

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education appoint G. R. Murray Insurance Company as the Board's insurance broker of record for fiscal year 2010/11. The firm of G. R. Murray is not paid a commission or a fee by the Board of Education.

F. RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT FOR EXTRAORDINARY UNSPECIFIABLE SERVICES FOR A FIXED ASSETS INVENTORY

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(a) (2) provides that a board of education may award a contract for 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, Monroe Township Board of Education requires the services of an appraisal firm to perform and update a fixed assets inventory; and

WHEREAS, the need for expertise, extensive training and proven reputation is essential and the performance of the services could not be reasonably described by written specifications; and

WHEREAS, American Appraisal Associates agreed to work with staff to provide the development of detailed property records to support the capital asset reporting requirements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34 (GASB 34); and

WHEREAS, American Appraisal Associates will provide an updated capital assets record to assist in regard to (a.) achieving property accountability and stewardship of assets, and (b.) to obtain a valuation of assets in compliance with the requirements of GAAP, GASB 34, and GAAFR; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Monroe Township Board of Education that it hereby awards a contract in the amount of \$11,200 to American Appraisal Associates in accordance with its written proposal, a copy of which is annexed hereto and incorporated herein.

G. IDEA PART B PRESCHOOL BUDGET

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve the enclosed revised 09/10 IDEA Part B Pre-School budget and staff.

H. IDEA PART B BASIC

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve the enclosed revised 09/10 IDEA Part B Basic budget and staff.

I. TITLE I, PART A: IMPROVING BASIC PROGRAMS OPERATED BY LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve the enclosed revised 09/10 Title I, Part A: Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Education Agencies budget and staff.

J. TITLE II, PART A: TEACHER AND PRINCIPAL TRAINING AND RECRUITING FUND

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve the enclosed revised 09/10 Title II, Part A: Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund budget and staff.

K. TITLE II, PART D: ENHANCING EDUCATION THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve the enclosed revised 09/10 Title II, Part D: Enhancing Education through Technology budget.

L. TITLE IV: SAFE AND DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES ACT

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve the enclosed revised 09/10 Title IV: Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act budget.

M. BID AUTHORIZATION – PAPER

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education authorize Wayne Holliday, Board Secretary/Business Administrator and Qualified Purchasing Agent to advertise for and solicit bids for paper. This bid when awarded by members of the Board of Education will be encumbered against the 2010/11 budget.

N. TRAVEL AND REIMBURSEMENT

In accordance with the resolution adopted by members of the Board of Education on April 2, 2009, entitled: “ADOPTION OF THE 2009/10 ANNUAL SCHOOL BUDGET”, members of the Board of Education established the school district travel maximum for the 2009/10 school year at the sum of \$170,346. Therefore, it is recommended that Members of the Board of Education acknowledge that as of March 31, 2010, \$127,760 has been spent.

O. CODE OF ETHICS

It is recommended that members of the Monroe Township Board of Education acknowledge receipt of and acceptance of the New Jersey School Boards Association Code of Ethics.

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

WAYNE HOLLIDAY  
Prepared by

April 14, 2010  
Meeting Date