

Minutes of the Public Board of Education meeting held on November 17, 2010 at the Monroe Township High School.

The meeting was called to order by Board President Lew Kaufman at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

JAMESBURG BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT

Ms. Patrice Faraone

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Reena Dholakia
Mr. Jonathan Kim

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

STAFF

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

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – 950

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 November 12, 2010:

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

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS

Student Board Member Reena Dholakia spoke about the following events at Applegarth Middle School: Builders' Club Food Drive, conferences and make-up picture day. Ms. Dholakia then spoke about a March of Dimes fundraiser that was the outcome of attendance by six Monroe Township High School students at the FBLA State Leadership Conference.

Student Board Member Jonathan Kim spoke about the following events at Brookside Elementary School: make-up picture day, parent visitation day for American Education Week, and the Holiday Shop. Next, Mr. Kim spoke about the following events at Mill Lake Elementary School: 2nd Annual Astronomy Night, International Food Fest and PTO Holiday Shop. Then, Mr. Kim spoke about the following events at Woodland Elementary School: motivational assembly for 4th graders, coat drive and make-up day for pictures. Finally, Mr. Kim spoke about the PTA meeting and make-up picture day at Oak Tree Elementary School.

2010 HENRY RICKLIS HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL COMMITTEE ESSAY WRITING CONTEST

Henry Ricklis Holocaust Memorial Committee Member Mr. Jay Ellis Brown explained that this year there were 118 essays submitted and there will be ten winners. Mr. Brown then introduced fellow committee member Mr. David Rothman. Mr. Rothman announced the winners of the Holocaust Essay Contest and presented each winner a \$50. gift card from the Henry Ricklis Holocaust Memorial Committee. The winners of the essay contest were Morgan Carlson, Josh Mason, Alexander Cortez, Akul Desail, Stephanie Wu, Kaylee McDonald, Harry Koshock, Roger Esry, Carly Johnson, and Camille Ray. Essays were read that were written by Alexandra Cortez, Akul Desai and Morgan Carlson.. Finally, Mr. Rothman thanked Mr. Matt Defillipis, and Mrs. Bonnie Burke for their effort and hard work in coordinating the contest.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Mr. Kaufman stated that they would be recognizing a great number of students to be recognized for either having gotten perfect scores on NJ Ask or who scored a 5 on their AP exams. Mr. Kaufman then introduced Dr. Hamilton who acknowledged and thanked Laurie McConnell for putting together the information and coordinating all aspects of this recognition presentation. Dr. Hamilton announced all names and he, Mr. Kaufman and Ms. McConnell presented all students in attendance with a certificate. A listing of the students recognized is attached to the official set of minutes.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2009/10 COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Gorski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary introduced Mr. Gerard Stankiewicz, Partner with the auditing firm of Samuel Klein and Company.

Mr. Stankiewicz stated that the Board was in receipt of two reports. Namely, the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010 and the Auditor's Management Report on Administrative Findings – Financial, Compliance and Performance for fiscal year ending June 30, 2010. He explained both reports and stated that there were no recommendations.

A motion was made by Mr. Leary and seconded by Mr. Klein that Members of the Board of Education accept and approve the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and the Auditor's Management Report on Administrative Findings – Financial, Compliance and Performance for fiscal year ending June 30, 2010 as presented. Motion Carried Unanimously. Mr. Stankiewicz publicly commended Mr. Gorski and the financial staff for all their hard work in producing such a report with no comments or recommendations. Mr. Gorski expressed appreciation to the Board of Education for their support and expressed appreciation to associates affiliated with Samuel Klein and Company for their professionalism. Mr. Gorski, also, acknowledged and thanked the financial and accounting staff. The public was invited to ask questions or make comments as related to the aforementioned reports. There were no questions or comments from the public. Motion Carried.

Mr. Leary commended Mr. Stankiewicz for a superb job and made a motion seconded by Ms. Kolupanowich to enter into our record, a copy of the Home News Tribune article, "Auditors: Waste Could Be Pervasive", which appeared on the front page and A4 of the Home News Tribune on November 15, 2010 and emphasizes the absolute need for good audits. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC FORUM – Refer to Transcript 1APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Kolopanowich and seconded by Ms. Leonard to approve the minutes for the Public Board of Education Meeting held on September 29, 2010. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Ms. Kolopanowich and seconded by Mr. Braverman to approve the minutes for the Public Board of Education Meeting held on October 13, 2010. Motion Carried with Mr. Klein and Ms. Leonard abstaining.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Hamilton thanked the teachers and support staff who worked to bring students to a level of proficiency that was recognized tonight. Next, Dr. Hamilton thanked the staff that worked to organize the adult community building tours in honor of American Education Week. Lastly, Dr. Hamilton thanked parents for their e-mails stating he appreciates all their concerns and hopes all issues can be resolved where there is a difference of opinion.

Enrollment

Home Instruction

Fire Drills/Lockdowns

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mr. Braverman and seconded by Ms. Leonard that Personnel Items (A - R) be approved by consent roll call with the following modifications: under Item P, Maria Hughes be removed and position reposted and also that Laura Tessler be moved to Item R to be approved as a per diem substitute teacher and under Item Q, Sran Sternfield remove from agenda as criminal history has not been received. Roll Call – 9 – 0. Motion Carried. 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 Kathy Kolupanowich that Board Action items (A – S) be approved by consent roll call. Roll Call – 9 – 0. Motion Carried. 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.

Ms. Leonard made a motion followed by Mr. Chiarella that Item T be added to read, that read as follows: It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the previously submitted Memorandum of Agreement regard the level 3 grievances involving Laurie Budrewicz Jones and Dawn Fowler each dated October 14, 2010 that the Board President & the Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to take all necessary steps to implement the aforesaid Memorandum of Agreement. Mr. Klein asked what the settlement was and Dr. Hamilton stated that the two teachers would be added to the Praxis repayment that was issued to teachers who took and passed the Praxis as their names were not on the original list and the MTEA would agree that this would not constitute a past practice and the cost would be \$95 for the test and \$50 for the sitting fee. Roll Call – 8 – 1 – 0. Motion Carried with Mr. Klein voting no on principle.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS

A motion was made by Ms. Leonard and seconded by Ms. Kolupanowich that Board Action Items (A – P) be approved by consent roll call. Roll Call – 9 – 0 - Motion Carried. Mr. Tessler was not present for the vote. 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 - NoneCOMMITTEE REPORTSCURRICULUM/CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

Ms. Leonard, Chairperson of the Curriculum/Co-Curricular Activities/Athletics Committee stated the committee met previous Thursday and spoke about EVA project, Weather Bug, youth and municipal government internships, Words Their Way spelling program and Rosetta Stone language program and how it will be implemented.

Mr. Leary mentioned that an article appeared in the front page of November 17th Home News related to the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission and recommends it be read as to gain information as to the scope and the depth of the organization

Mr. Braverman stated that the Policy Committee would be reviewing the policy as related to maintaining verbatim minutes.

OTHER BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS - NoneCLOSED SESSION – None.PUBLIC FORUM

Kristy Skurbe - 8 Seminole Court spoke on behalf of the Oak Tree PTA to thank the Board for the previous motion and approval to close Applegarth Middle School for one year.

Michelle Arminio – 9 Nathaniel St. wanted to verify if Laura Tessler, the paraprofessional approved earlier is related to Board Member Ira Tessler and if so, she wanted to know if this is a conflict of interest. It was responded that Laura Tessler was moved to be approved as a substitute teacher and since this is not a permanent position that there is no conflict of interest and that further Mr. Tessler was not included in the roll call.

Doug Poye, 4 Tamarack Rd. Thanked the entire staff at Barclay Brook Elementary School and at the High School for their participation in the PRCs visit.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Klein and seconded by Mr. Braverman that the meeting be adjourned. Motion Carried Unanimously. The public meeting adjourned at 10:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael C. Gorski".

MICHAEL C. GORSKI, CPA
BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

NOVEMBER 17, 2010

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1 MR. KAUFMAN: The next item is the
2 public forum. This evening we're going to do
3 something a little bit different than has ever been
4 done before with this Board, at least in my tenure
5 here. What we would like to do, because Dr.
6 Hamilton, myself, and many of the other Board
7 members have been getting a lot of e-mails about the
8 topic of the day, which is Applegarth School. So
9 what we would like to do is take a few minutes out
10 to level set and have everyone here pretty much get
11 the same information from the same Board of Ed so
12 there can't be any mis or disinformation. So I'll
13 -- there is a couple of topics that we're going to
14 talk about and the ways and means that we have
15 addressed some of these issues.

16 The first item I'd like to bring up is
17 how did we get to this point with Applegarth
18 regarding the asbestos. In 19 years ago, as you
19 probably know, the building is not the newest
20 building in our fleet. Years ago in 19 -- in the
21 1980's, most of the asbestos in the building related
22 to pipes and that nature were removed as part of a
23 grant program. That Board of Education had an
24 option at the time to either remove the floor tiles
25 or, for lack of a better term, cover it up and just

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1 let it ride. That Board of Ed passed the issue on
2 to this Board of Ed. This Board of Ed has actually
3 two choices. We could do the same, cover up the
4 asbestos tiles, seal them and just let it be, or
5 completely remove the issue once and for all for
6 Applegarth School.

7 With the help of the Buildings and
8 Grounds Committee, we talked about the item, and in
9 last Board meeting we decided that we're going to
10 move forward and completely remove the asbestos from
11 Applegarth School. That process will happen over
12 the summer. As many e-mails that I've gotten were
13 indicating that some of the stuff would be done
14 while students were in school, that's not the case.
15 The asbestos will be removed when not only students
16 will not be present, but staff members and anybody
17 else. The only people in the building will be part
18 of the remediation teams that are certified to do
19 this kind of stuff.

20 At the last Board of Education meeting
21 and I believe the one before that, we also talked
22 about, well, what kind of certifications are we
23 going to get that, you know, the area is now safe
24 for either additional work to be done or students to
25 come back in September. We will have both state and

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1 federal agencies come in, do the testing that they
2 typically do to make sure that all the work is done
3 properly and to code and there's no remaining issues
4 that need to be dealt with, and this Board has
5 unanimously approved to move forward with that to
6 make sure that come September or -- again, I'm not
7 really sure how long the process takes. There's
8 experts that probably will know that better, and
9 we're going to talk more in detail about the
10 mechanics of the asbestos removal process I believe
11 tomorrow at Applegarth School. So anyone wishing to
12 hear about how we're going to do this and the
13 mechanics involved is more than welcome to come
14 tomorrow and we can talk more about that in depth.

15 There was an issue brought up about
16 contractor screening, what will be done to insure
17 the children's safety regarding this issue. To the
18 extent that we are legally capable of doing, the
19 Board of Education will require contractors to
20 provide and make sure that they've done all the
21 proper security screenings that need to be done.
22 There's issues of privacy to make sure that we can't
23 violate the people's privacy. So to the extent that
24 we're allowed to do by our attorneys, we will go to
25 whatever extent is possible and legal for us to

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1 verify that the people that are working in the
2 schools do not have any kind of medical -- I should
3 say issues in their background that needs to be
4 remedied before they start working in the schools.
5 As know, we hire subcontractors all the time, and
6 part of their process they have to go through to be
7 vetted in order to get state contracts so there is a
8 whole lineage of things that a contractor needs to
9 do even to get on the list to be able to bid for
10 jobs. So we want to make sure that whatever they're
11 doing, we'll do whatever it takes to make sure that
12 the area is as safe as we could possibly get it with
13 the contractors that will be coming into the
14 building.

15 Another question that's come up is what
16 sections of the building will be under construction
17 and will the common areas be accessible to the
18 students. Sections of the area that we'll be
19 talking about when you walk into Applegarth
20 School -- and I don't know how many people have been
21 there lately -- there's actually four different
22 sections of the building. They were built in the
23 30's, the 60's, the 70's and the 80's. As soon as
24 you walk into the building, we have the classic
25 building, which as you're facing the building, it's

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1 on the right, which is the 1930's vintage. We also
2 have the 1960's vintage, which is off to the left as
3 soon as you go in the main entrance. Those are the
4 primary areas that we'll be looking for. We'll be
5 doing the tile remediation and getting rid of the
6 tile over the summer.

7 Will students have access to the common
8 areas. Common areas are defined as gym, cafeteria,
9 music room. Students will have access to all of
10 these. Work will be cordoned off so that you won't
11 even be able to see into the areas. You won't be
12 able to gain access to the work areas because it
13 will be sealed off with a wall so you won't be able
14 to get from the main corridor of the building to any
15 of the work areas that would be done in the fall.

16 How long will the trailers -- how long
17 will the students be in the trailers. That's a very
18 interesting question. With the plan that was
19 proposed on October 27, students will be in the
20 trailers until December 10. Now, there was an idea
21 brought before the Board that talks to the
22 possibility of having all the work that we talked
23 about for option 1 being completed in the
24 summertime. That would include the asbestos
25 remediation as well as the cosmetic work of the

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1 painting and the other things that we were looking
2 to do in the September-December time frame. Not
3 speaking for the Board because we could talk about
4 that later. As long as I know that we can make sure
5 that the number 1 priority, which is the removal of
6 the asbestos, and all related matter is going to be
7 taken care of and we don't have to worry about the
8 workers that would be coming into do the painting
9 and the other work, we want to make sure that
10 everybody is not going to have any health risks so I
11 think we could all agree that the number 1 priority
12 is to make sure the asbestos is removed and there
13 will be no other issues regarding that, and then we
14 can start moving forward. If all of this can be
15 accomplished within a 2-month time frame, I
16 personally don't have any issue with that. We can
17 move the students into the main building and school
18 can start as normal in the main part of the
19 building. So I just wanted to speak on that point,
20 and Dr. Hamilton will pick up on that also in a
21 couple of minutes.

22 How many new staff members will be
23 needed to run Applegarth. Well, we're going to be
24 trying not to have any new staff members running
25 Applegarth. We have a principal and a vice

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1 principal over at Oak Tree today. They're right
2 across the street from each other. The model would
3 be able to support -- and Dr. Hamilton talk to that
4 -- about sharing the principal and the vice
5 principal, sharing the staff members that are in the
6 main building. There are other staff members that
7 we can certainly share across the street and with
8 proper scheduling and all of that nature. Dr.
9 Hamilton -- I don't want to steal his thunder --
10 will talk more about staffing, but we're going to,
11 you know, try and not do any adds to staff wherever
12 possible.

13 The last question that I think I have on
14 my to do list -- oh, no, there's a couple more,
15 sorry. How long will the phase 2 process take.
16 Phase 2 as we talked about last meeting is going to
17 be the rest of the renovation work that needs to
18 happen after the cosmetic work of the painting and
19 the classrooms and that nature. We don't have an
20 estimated end date. We know when we would like to
21 start, which would be I believe the summer of 2012,
22 when that work would start, and the reason why we
23 don't really know how long it's going to take is
24 there is a couple of variables that we just don't
25 have. We are expecting to get back from the

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1 engineers a priority list and a dependency list.
2 What that priority list and dependency list will
3 give us is a list of the other things we would like
4 to do and what items are dependent on other things
5 being done. Case in point, if we want to upgrade
6 the HVAC system at Applegarth School, we know that
7 we're going to have to upgrade the electrical
8 service to the building. Makes sense that we should
9 upgrade and put the HVA -- the electrical upgrade in
10 before the HVAC system. Things of that nature. We
11 want to make sure that the things are done in the
12 proper order.

13 We also want to be able to take
14 advantage of any kind of grant money that will be
15 coming up from any resource, whether it's green
16 grant money, whether it's grant money for upgrading
17 the windows to, you know, higher grade windows to
18 seal the building. There's a lot of grant money to
19 be had. We want to make sure that we're going to go
20 after every penny we possibly can to lower that
21 overall bottom line cost. We're going to do this as
22 much as we can in the normal operating budget and
23 try and move forward with all these projects
24 throughout the following years.

25 Again, keep in mind these are all

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1 renovations. The way the school is right now there
2 are no issues that we need to rectify. These are
3 things that we would like to do to raise the bar at
4 Applegarth and not just keep it where it is.

5 Let's see. I believe that's all I have
6 from my list. Dr. Hamilton.

7 DR. HAMILTON: We tried to extract some
8 of the primary concerns from the e-mails that we've
9 received, and so these answers are our attempt to be
10 proactive with responding, and I think I responded
11 to every e-mail we got, but nonetheless, one of the
12 questions that seemed to surface rather a couple of
13 times was what are the budgetary implications, which
14 Mr. Kaufman already spoke about. The potential
15 staffing at Applegarth could be essentially a wash.
16 Reason being with the transition of our 6th grade
17 students into the middle school, that would
18 obviously free up some of those special area
19 teachers. Now, there are some positions, for
20 instance, like a nurse, a secretary, and the
21 building administrator that we would need to do, but
22 because these other schools would have fewer staff
23 members and fewer -- therefore less requirements in
24 terms of the number of people necessary to staff
25 that building, we would be able to shift those

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1 populations, staffing populations around. A nurse
2 would probably have to be hired, however, and
3 there's been some talk about how would we -- would
4 we provide additional security in the building.
5 Well, that's certainly something that we can take
6 through our budget process.

7 The other question that keeps coming up
8 is could the 4th and 5th graders fit in Oak Tree
9 right now after the 6th graders move, and there's a
10 yes and no answer to that. The fact of the matter
11 is from a physical standpoint, yes, they could fit,
12 but the disparity would continue in terms of Oak
13 Tree having larger class sizes, and the current
14 utilization of the art and music rooms, which were
15 not intended to be used for educational space, would
16 have to continue. The goal, frankly, even before my
17 arrival, was to try to create parity between the
18 buildings so that all youngsters, all schools had a
19 similar class size and that they all had access to
20 the same specials and they all had the ideal
21 learning environment. So from a physical
22 standpoint, yes. From an educational perspective,
23 it is not an ideal situation.

24 What is the contingency plan if for some
25 reason students can't go into Applegarth after the

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1 work is done. Well, those students who could be
2 accommodated at Oak Tree would be in a less than
3 ideal situation. Other students would be infused in
4 other classrooms, or we would look at temporary
5 redistricting plan or temporary classroom units that
6 we would have to house in order to make sure we
7 accommodated our students. That would be no
8 different than if something happened and we couldn't
9 utilize Brookside School tomorrow, there was a
10 heating issue or a roofing issue and those students
11 would have to be relocated. We would develop a plan
12 that would provide the most ideal situation
13 possible.

14 How will lunch be provided to students
15 at Applegarth. We have a couple of possibilities.
16 Right now there is a Mustang Cafe that's referred to
17 at Applegarth that could speak -- where students are
18 currently served lunch, and those lunches would
19 continue to be provided in that situation, and this
20 practice would continue.

21 Will students have access to specials
22 like art, music, and PE, and of course, they would
23 have the same sessions that they currently have.

24 Why can't students stay where they are
25 if there is room at Oak Tree, and as I mentioned

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1 before, currently Oak Tree has about 820 students.
2 One hundred five of those students are 6th grade
3 students. When the 6th graders move, that would
4 free up about four classrooms, two of which are art
5 and music. If the current enrollment trends,
6 like -- (end of tape 1) -- our numbers would still
7 be close to 800, close to 800 students. We also
8 have students who are in the K-Wrap program who live
9 in the Oak Tree community but are bused over to
10 Barclay Brook because there isn't room. Well, the
11 plan is to return those students to their home
12 school so they could attend Oak Tree. We also have
13 special ed students who are currently bused over to
14 Brookside because there isn't room in Oak Tree
15 currently, and those students would also be able to
16 move back to their neighborhood school.

17 So I think those are the commonalities
18 that I have prepared to answer tonight.

19 MR. KAUFMAN: The only other, the last
20 question that I want to answer because there was a
21 lot of I guess miscommunication, misunderstanding
22 about the motions that were made at the last Board
23 meeting, and there was a lot of e-mail about this
24 particular topic about, you know, why did the Board,
25 who didn't have a unanimous decision regarding the

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1 option 1 to move forward with all the remediation or
2 the renovation work and a couple of Board members
3 not being present, why would the Board move forward
4 and, you know, not look to revisit this issue. I
5 just want to make sure everybody understands that at
6 the last Board of Education meeting, there were a
7 couple motions that were put on the table, and the
8 one that seems to have caught everybody's ear is
9 this option 1, and you can check the record if you'd
10 like. The Board members that were present all voted
11 unanimously to support option 1 to move forward with
12 the remediation, to move forward. So I just want to
13 clear that up, too, because there was a
14 misunderstanding about that issue, as well, from the
15 last Board of Education meeting.

16 So that being said, we would like to
17 hear from the public. We hoped that we addressed a
18 lot of these issues so if there's any possible way
19 -- if there's new issues that we need to entertain
20 or new topics we need to entertain or really just
21 anything else, please come up, state your name, and
22 you have the standard 3 minutes.

23 MS. SKURBE: Hi, I'm Chrissy Skurbe, 8
24 Seminole Court. I want to start off by saying that
25 over the last 2 years, the Oak Tree PTA -- I'm the

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1 president of the Oak Tree PTA -- and the PTA has
2 worked very hard to support the Board of Education
3 as well as the school budget. Last April, our PTA
4 voted to support the budget. We rallied our troops
5 and our parents. We went all over town gathering
6 support for the school budget. Even though the
7 budget was lost, we developed a great relationship
8 with the Board that we thought. We have invited the
9 Board members to attend our meeting, to our events,
10 and really get to know our parents. I'm really
11 saddened by the recent turn of events that this --
12 because this is making our relationship quickly die.

13 Parents are here tonight asking those
14 Board members who voted yes to move the 4th and 5th
15 graders over to Applegarth during the complete phase
16 1 renovations next year to make a motion and reopen
17 the issue and hear the discussion from all the Board
18 members while they're present.

19 I have a petition here tonight to give
20 to the Board with names of residents all over town,
21 not just the Oak Tree community. Our entire town
22 understands the issue. It is not just the Oak Tree
23 parents.

24 Mr. Klein, unfortunately, I know you
25 were away during the last meeting. I'd like to know

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1 how you feel about the 4th and 5th graders going
2 over to Applegarth during the renovations.
3 Even though it's stated that all of the
4 asbestos will be removed over the summer, we've yet
5 to hear the plan. We've yet to hear what contractor
6 has come in and said that 4 weeks will be enough
7 time to completely remove all the asbestos and test
8 the are air, because the plan is the teachers have
9 to be out of the building on June 30. The new
10 teachers would have to come in in August to set up
11 their classrooms. That's leaving this humongous
12 project 4 weeks. It's not enough time, and that's
13 why I think the Board has not in recent years moved
14 to do this project over the summer. If you've known
15 about the asbestos for all these years, then why
16 hasn't it been taken care of during the summer? Why
17 now? Why, because the plan was to get these
18 students out of the building and have it vacant and
19 then remove the asbestos with no students in the
20 building.
21 Dr. Hamilton, your slide presentation
22 last month said Applegarth was absolutely safe.
23 According to the latest analysis done by the Design
24 Ideas Group that I received from Jerry Tague this
25 week, there may be a hazardous material contained in

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1 the window caulking currently at Applegarth. In the
2 report it also says the air quality can be greatly
3 improved, the fire alarms are not ADA compliant, the
4 boiler and the roof have reached their useful life
5 and need to be replaced, not to mention the students
6 are currently going there say that the water coming
7 out is brown and they're told not to drink from it.
8 Is this a safe environment for our children?

9 MR. KAUFMAN: Thank you, Chrissy.

10 MS. SKURBE: And here is the petition.

11 MR. KAUFMAN: Thank you. Anyone else?

12 MS. SKURBE: Is anybody going to answer
13 my questions?

14 MR. KAUFMAN: What I'd like to do is
15 because there may be questions from other people,
16 I'll open it up to Board members to respond when
17 we're done with all the public questions.

18 MS. ALLO: Hi, my name is Charlene Allo.
19 I live at Gravel Hill Road. I address this question
20 to Mr. Chiarella, and I could be wrong on this so --
21 I believe at the last Board meeting you had voted no
22 for the move, and I'd like to know the reasons why
23 you voted no, and you're also president of the
24 Building and Grounds Committee.

25 MR. CHIARELLA: Chairman.

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1 MS. ALLO: The chairman. If that was
2 one of the reasons why you voted no and if the
3 committee has any notes that they could share with
4 us.

5 Another question, and, Mr. V, I don't
6 want to put you on the spot, but has anybody asked
7 Mr. V what he -- how he felt, what his opinion would
8 be, what -- considering that we entrust him with our
9 children and he's wonderful, how he felt, what the
10 best solution would be for our children.

11 And as Chrissy said, what is the hurry.
12 Our children have been in Oak Tree and it is getting
13 more and more crowded, but I -- I can't speak for
14 everybody, but I've spoken to a lot of parent, and
15 they all feel the same thing. We'd rather our
16 children be a little more crowded and safe than have
17 to go over to that building not knowing what can be.
18 Nobody at the school, nobody sitting here can say
19 that they know right now that it's going to be safe.
20 You can't say that. You don't know, and we don't
21 know, and it may be, but why -- what is the hurry?
22 Why can't you just leave them there another year and
23 have the construction done while our children are
24 not there? It's gone this long. What's the hurry?
25 MR. KAUFMAN: Anyone else?

19

1 MS. ARMINIO: Michelle Arminio on
2 another matter. I'm speaking in regard to the
3 recording of -- I'm sorry -- recording public Board
4 meeting policy 0168, the revision and the revisions
5 to 0168 policy. I would like if someone could table
6 that policy tonight instead of voting on it because
7 I think the language is really not helping
8 transparency. You're actually going backwards.

9 On the first paragraph -- I'm sorry.
10 Let me have the policy here. Where it says the
11 secretary shall provide each Board member with a
12 copy of the minutes no later than 48 hours before
13 the next regular meeting where it is to be approved.
14 Will the public be also -- will those minutes also
15 be available on the web site?

16 MR. KAUFMAN: Mike, want to answer that?

17 MR. GORSKI: The policy refers to the
18 minutes being furnished to the Board in enough time
19 that they have an opportunity to read and accept
20 them without any corrections if necessary prior to
21 being handed them too quickly for the Board
22 meetings. So once the Board takes action on the
23 minutes and accepts them, only then can they be
24 public and put on the record.

25 MS. ARMINIO: That actually is I think

20

1 factually incorrect. The Open Public Meetings Act
2 and the Open Public Records Act says you can provide
3 the minutes as soon as they're available in the form
4 of a draft. Just because they're not voted on does
5 not mean they're not available to the public. So I
6 would ask that that provision would be added, that
7 the public could also see the minutes before they're
8 approved because they have -- the public, the people
9 who spoke at the Board meeting prior to that that
10 are in the meeting have an interest in the accuracy
11 of those minutes, as well, so I would ask that the
12 Board consider allowing that same 48 hours that the
13 minutes be publicized as a draft. Some brave Board
14 member might be able to ask for a resolution on
15 that.

16 Next, I also object to the language that
17 says the Board shall keep reasonably comprehensible
18 minutes. I think that's too vague, and it also in
19 the same paragraph, it says the information
20 sufficient to explain the actions taken. Again,
21 you're getting more vague than less vague. Prior to
22 I think June of this year, all the minutes were
23 provided verbatim. I think that's a great policy.
24 I don't think it needs to be revised. Again, we're
25 seeking more transparency and more accuracy out of

21

1 our government than less so saying reasonably
2 comprehensive minutes and information sufficient to
3 explain the actions is totally too subjective.

4 And let's see what else I've written.

5 It really is I -- and we talked about the accuracy
6 of your financial statements and everything and how
7 important that is. Well, the accuracy of public
8 records and public input and important answers from
9 the Board should be equally as active and should be
10 verbatim and not subjected to either the Board or
11 the superintendent's interpretation, and I'll give
12 you an example. The August 18 minutes where I had
13 gotten up and asked a couple of questions, the
14 questions weren't recorded verbatim, and the answer
15 was that the superintendent answered Miss Arminio's
16 questions. That is not acceptable as a sufficient
17 information for the public for the future. So I
18 would ask that this policy be revised once again and
19 put back to verbatim Board minutes.

20 MR. KAUFMAN: Thanks, Michelle.

21 MS. ARMINIO: Thank you.

22 MR. KAUFMAN: Anyone else?

23 MS. DESAY: Jodie DeSay, 14 Seminole
24 Court. I was just wondering is full-day
25 kindergarten going to go to referendum, and if so,

22

1 if the budget does not pass, will it be enforced,
2 and will this enforcement affect the renovations
3 and/or programs for future grades. Thanks.

4 MR. KAUFMAN: Dr. Hamilton.

5 DR. HAMILTON: The Board approved at the
6 October 27 meeting to place full-day kindergarten as
7 a second question, not a referendum, as a second
8 ballot question. If the second question passes, it
9 will be implemented and will not have any impact on
10 any other part of the budget. So if there was a
11 defeat in the budget, for example, there would not
12 be an allocation in the amount equal to the cost of
13 full-day K. That would have to come from someplace
14 else. We would not be allowed to do that. If it
15 was defeated, there is a specific amount of time,
16 and I'm not entirely sure if it's 2 years or
17 3 years, that that issue cannot be incorporated into
18 the budget later on.

19 MR. KAUFMAN: I think it also has to be
20 articulated that in the event that the second
21 question doesn't pass this year, that doesn't mean
22 full-day kindergarten is not going to come up as an
23 issue again in Monroe Township. I think we may need
24 to wait a couple of years to let dust settle with
25 the economy and then take a visit back again at that

23

1 question to see if it's going to be something that
2 the community can support. I think the decision to
3 put it as a second question is sound because if the
4 community as we see it today truly supports this
5 initiative, then now they can come out and vote for
6 it and support it. So I think it was the best
7 decision that we could make, and like I said, if it
8 doesn't happen this year, we definitely will talk
9 about bringing it back again in a year or 2 or maybe
10 3. We'll see how things go, how badly it's
11 defeated.

12 Anyone else?

13 MS. DAMORE: Lisa Damore, 3 Fallow Way.

14 You asked about or you spoke about where staff would
15 be decreased to compensate for the increased
16 staffing needs that would be needed at Applegarth.
17 We could, you know, listen to all the same or
18 similar issues that we heard in the previous
19 meeting, or we could go with the old adage, where
20 there is a will, there is a way, and as you said,
21 yes, we could do it, we could keep things at Oak
22 Tree. Are there some hitches in the way,
23 absolutely, but there's lots of parents that are
24 already coming to you, to Mr. V, to other
25 administration and parents spending time on this

24

1 issue that could very easily, easily, and, you know,
2 I just urge all of you to simply just simply make it
3 go away, which is in your power by just, you know, I
4 encourage you to just reconsider the decision to
5 keep it the way it is so that we don't have to
6 continue to face these distractions so that our
7 teachers, administrators, and all of you can focus
8 on raising the bar and the performance of academics
9 in our students. That's what we are all here for.

10 And second to that, most of you were not
11 here, but I was here. I was born and raised in
12 Monroe. I then went to college from Monroe, and I
13 chose to move back to Monroe. With that being said,
14 I do know somebody that was here through all of
15 this, and I think he would really be able to share
16 with all of you if he hasn't thus far and as well as
17 with other parents, who probably may not know that
18 he's been around this long, but I was here through
19 some high school media center renovations that were
20 done, and I'm sure if you went back into the
21 archives of the Home News and different papers, but
22 teachers and administrators, it could have been a
23 dog and pony show, it probably was, but I'm sure it
24 won't be too far fetched to what we will face.
25 Should we put young teachers who potentially are

25

1 trying to get pregnant in Applegarth building? I'm
2 just trying to, you know, have some insight as to
3 what we will see going forward, and I do think that
4 what we saw at the high school media center
5 renovations relative to air quality issues that
6 could not be substantiated through any of the
7 testing that was being done. It might be helpful if
8 Mr. V could share some of that because he was around
9 for that, unfortunately, Mr. V. Also, he was around
10 for the Barclay Brook and Brookside, some of those
11 renovations, and those renovations to my
12 recollection -- I do have a son that's in 8th grade
13 as well as a 2nd grader. My -- I do recall that
14 some of those classes were having to be held in -- I
15 know we said we're going to make sure our kids are
16 in ideal situations. We can only make sure based on
17 what's certain, and as I said last time, like when
18 you renovate your kitchen, there are so many
19 unforeseen issues that arise that, you know, I do
20 trust that you're going to do everything you can to
21 be certain that it gets done in the summer, but the
22 reality is the reality, and only so much of that is
23 in your control. So we should share a little bit
24 about where those classes were held and what that
25 looked like just so that we can really think

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1 through. If we have a backup plan, maybe it's
2 better to just go with that plan for 1 year with the
3 backup plan and then move forward so that we can
4 just get back to what we need to do.

5 MR. KAUFMAN: Thank you, Lisa. Anyone
6 else?

7 MR. MATZ: Dean Matz, 5 Trotter. When
8 we talk about the health concerns, the most severe
9 is mesothelioma, which is a very slow, gradual
10 disease leading to death, but it's documented even a
11 single fiber inhaled can lead to small cell tumors
12 and non small cell tumors in these children.

13 When we talk about the class size, I
14 would just like to know do you have research
15 findings that show that a larger class size is not
16 as -- or is more conducive to learning than learning
17 in a trailer with no windows. Is there any such
18 findings from your research?

19 MR. KAUFMAN: I'll address your
20 questions when we're all done because I think there
21 might be other Board members that might want to say
22 some stuff.

23 MR. MATZ: And just one final thought is
24 that there were two schools in New Jersey that were
25 closed down when they had to do remediation. One

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1 was in -- I think they're both -- one was in
2 northern Jersey, the Samuel Donald School; they had
3 a water main break, and they evacuated the school.
4 No one was allowed in until that was totally fixed.
5 And the Martha B. Elementary School in Bloomingdale,
6 New Jersey, which was completely left empty for the
7 summer simply due to the inherent danger of a
8 project like this.

9 MR. KAUFMAN: Thank you, Dean. Next.

10 MS. MARCUS: Jennifer Marcus, 24
11 Carnation Road. I just want to talk about this
12 flyer that I received in my daughter's folder. It
13 came home from school I guess about a week ago.
14 It's regarding the AHERA management plan, and I've
15 been following this pretty closely, and I never
16 heard of the terms AHERA or abatement before a
17 couple months ago so I really didn't know what it
18 was. I read down to the bottom where I saw Jerry
19 Tague's name, and I recognized that it had something
20 to do with this, but I really don't think we're
21 going to have a good turnout tomorrow night at the
22 meeting for this reason that it was printed up like
23 this. I don't think my neighbors know what AHERA is
24 or abatement because I didn't know what it was. I
25 took off a night from work to be here tonight, and

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1 it's very hard for me to be here 2 nights in a row,
2 and I would propose that we explain to people why we
3 need AHERA, what abatement means, because, yes, I
4 did get the phone call, but I don't think people
5 know what abatement actually is, and I would suggest
6 that we have a meeting about this explaining what it
7 is during the day when people have their kids in
8 school and they can come as opposed to 2 nights in a
9 row on a weeknight. People have husbands who work
10 and couldn't be here tonight.

11 MR. KAUFMAN: Thank you. Anyone else?

12 MS. LESTER: My name is Christine
13 Lester. I live at 261 Cranbury-Half Acre Road. My
14 concern is we do not need to do this right now. We
15 can wait a year. My child has really extensive
16 breathing issues. I am not risking this. There are
17 children like him with asthma and other respiratory
18 illnesses. It is not worth it to send them to
19 Applegarth right now during construction. You
20 cannot tell me that that air quality right now is
21 clean. You have -- you are meeting what the
22 grandfathered air quality -- what's the word --
23 standards right now. That's grandfathered in. It
24 is not ADA acceptable right now. It is
25 grandfathered in.

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1 Leave our kids at Oak Tree. If it's
2 overcrowded, put them in trailers. If you need help
3 moving the trailers, we can move them, okay. They
4 have the staff. There's funding there right now.
5 To put the kids in Applegarth right now, you don't
6 have the funding to do the renovations, and what
7 happens if you guys can't finish everything. You're
8 going to put our kids in danger, and I am not
9 willing to have my kids breathing that. There is
10 asbestos, there could be lead paint. That building
11 is how old. There could be mold particles. I am
12 not risking my child being in the hospital all the
13 time because you guys are looking at funding. This
14 is ridiculous.

15 I'm not saying that Applegarth is not
16 going to be needed for a sister school. I
17 understand that overcrowding is going to be an
18 issue, but we can wait one year. You can do
19 whatever renovations you need to do. You can bring
20 all your experts and everything and say everything's
21 all clear. What's one year. If we don't have
22 full-day kindergarten right now and 6th grade is
23 going to the high school, why do we need to push
24 this right now. I am just, I'm really disappointed
25 that you guys aren't looking at the bigger aspect.

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1 I have a child that I go to Children's Hospital 2 or
2 3 times a week, 4, 5, 6 hours because of respiratory
3 issues. To put him in trailers and have them go in
4 and out of the building is ridiculous.

5 Keep them at Oak Tree at least for a
6 year. Fix what you can at Applegarth, and then when
7 we need to open it, we can do it, but at least bring
8 your experts in there to tell me that the air
9 quality is not grandfathered in, that it is like a
10 new school that you could go in there and there's
11 not respiratory issues. Tell me that it's ADA
12 acceptable, not grandfathered in, that the new
13 school you would have to meet these guidelines.
14 This is ridiculous. The high school can be a brand
15 new high school. We're telling our high schoolers
16 that they can have the best school that there is,
17 million dollars classrooms, and we're going to stick
18 our kids in trailers across the street? This is
19 ridiculous. That's all I have to say.

20 MR. FRIEDMAN: Hi, Michelle Friedman,
21 167 Federal Road. Today I met with Mr. Gorski and
22 Mr. Tague, and I asked to see the asbestos
23 management plan, which is required that any parent
24 can view that asbestos management plan under the
25 AHERA Act of 1986. I was very, very disappointed

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1 when I saw the asbestos management plan because it
2 was dated from 1989. It was not within compliance
3 of the act. It did not have a blueprint of the
4 school where the asbestos -- to locate to show us
5 where the asbestos is located. It did not mention
6 where -- if the custodians had been trained in
7 asbestos management, which is a requirement of the
8 act. It didn't have the name of the designated
9 person who's responsible for all the asbestos
10 management. So I'm very concerned because if I
11 can't feel confident as a parent that the asbestos
12 management is being done to code today, how am I to
13 feel confident that the actual remediation will be
14 done to code.

15 MS. THANAWALA: Hamidah Thanawala, 11
16 Eldorado Way. May I please request the Board to
17 start answering everyone's questions because what's
18 happening is I'm losing track of the issues, and I'm
19 not sure if you will cover all the issues. So can
20 you just -- so many issues have come up, and can we
21 get answers so we know in the end if there are any
22 outstanding issues that we need to ask answers for.
23 Thank you.

24 MS. ZARGO: Hi, Maura Zargo, 245 Dey
25 Grove. First of all, I want to say that I support

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1 everything that everybody has said here tonight. I
2 have three children. I have one in Applegarth, two
3 in Oak Tree. Applegarth, I have an 8th grader over
4 there, been there 2 years now. Applegarth, I
5 understand why you all want to help Applegarth.
6 It's an absolute disaster over there. Some days
7 it's hot, some days it's cold; some days it smells,
8 some days it doesn't. You drink the water, you
9 don't drink the water. It's ridiculous really. So
10 I'm behind you a hundred percent, but the fact that
11 you want to take our children, who are all upset --
12 if you ask the teachers, if you ask the staff, if
13 you ask the child study team, if you ask the
14 parents, if you ask the children, themselves -- my
15 son knew that I was coming here tonight and started
16 getting very upset. What do you mean I have to go
17 to Applegarth. Why are they taking me away from Oak
18 Tree. This is my last year in Oak Tree. You know,
19 it's affecting and having a ripple effect so many
20 people I don't even think that anybody here even
21 understands the ripple effect of that. The air
22 safety, I also have a child who suffers from lung
23 issues. I'm going up to Morristown Hospital
24 tomorrow with him. There's no way that you're going
25 to tell me that you're going to do this in 4 weeks,

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1 first of all, and then have the air quality be what
2 it should. It's impossible. It's not going to
3 happen. That raises a real big concern for me as a
4 parent, as a taxpayer. I'm very, very upset about
5 it.

6 The special ed students, all three of my
7 children are special ed students. You mentioned
8 sharing the teachers from side to side, the
9 principals, the vice principals. I am assuming that
10 you're also talking about the child study team. I
11 tried that last year. I had a member of the child
12 study team supporting me over in Applegarth. It was
13 an absolute disaster, and the end result was that
14 she was taken off of my case. And I loved her. She
15 was very upset. I was very upset. My son was very
16 upset because she was a wonderful advocate for us.
17 She was taken off. It does not work. Sharing
18 doesn't work from school to school. Doesn't.

19 The other thing I wanted to know, the
20 specifications that everyone is talking about, if we
21 close the school and we -- what we all are in a
22 thousand support of, closing it for a year, getting
23 Applegarth to where it needs to be, getting these
24 kids back in, because they are overcrowded. My 2nd
25 grader has a classroom of 31 children. I agree.

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1 We're overcrowded over there. But if we close it
2 and make it all safe, is there a difference as far
3 as your specifications if you close the school as
4 opposed to keeping it running and doing the
5 specifications? Are there higher specifications if
6 you close the school that we have to bring them up
7 to, or are they the same if we keep the school
8 running, so to speak, and our kids in little
9 trailers outside than from closing it. That's also
10 a question that I have. That's it. Thank you.

11 One more thing I wanted to say. Busing,
12 how are we going to do that? How are we going to
13 move the kids around? How are we going to -- what
14 are we going to have, two different bus times? We
15 going to have the kids staying on the bus? Oh, no,
16 you have to stay on the bus while your brother
17 filters off, and make sure you don't trip a kid or
18 mess around with a kid as you're walking out down
19 the hall, and, bus driver, you know, please make
20 sure that my son is safe while the others are going
21 past, and if he's got a problem with this one --
22 that's a disaster. Are we starting the schools at
23 one time, then another time, then another time so
24 there's three different schedules going on? I mean,
25 there's so many things that are just completely

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1 idiotic. I really beg you to just look at it.

2 MS. RILEY: Hi, Tracy Riley, 228 Dey

3 Grove Road. This is a very emotional issue for

4 every parent in this room. You are all parents,

5 you're grandparents. Do you really want to send a

6 child to a school that is falling apart actually?

7 First of all, I would rather have my child sit at

8 his desk and eat his lunch, not have gym, not have

9 art, and not have music, and stay at Oak Tree School

10 for another year until the school can be rectified

11 and it can be fixed and then they're ready to move

12 over there.

13 On another issue, I have family and

14 friends who worked for John Mansfield for years.

15 His -- he died, and then 2 years later his wife

16 died. She never smoked a day in her life. She died

17 of lung cancer, and when they did the autopsy, it

18 was because of asbestos. It was because she washed

19 his clothes every year, I mean every day for 10,

20 15 years for as long as he worked there. I don't

21 want to find out 5 to 10 years from now down the

22 year -- I mean down the road that my sons are going

23 to have lung cancer because they got that one fiber

24 or that two fibers in their chest from asbestos.

25 And like it was previously said, the school is very

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1 old. It needs a new roof. There could be mold
2 spores. You get all sorts of diseases from mold
3 spores.

4 So it's just a statement that I wanted
5 to make. I have faith in the Board that they're
6 going to do the right thing eventually. Let's just
7 keep the school closed. Let's get done what's got
8 to get done. Let's get it all cleaned up, and then
9 let's send them over in a year or a year and a half
10 or 2 years or however long it takes. Lets not put
11 the health of our children at risk until we find out
12 down the road all these kids are sick, and then what
13 do we do. Thank you.

14 MR. WEISS: Michael Weiss, 66 Fairway
15 Boulevard. This is my first school board meeting,
16 and I don't really know anyone's names, and I don't
17 mean any disrespect if I don't address you by name.
18 I came down today from Saratoga Springs, New York.
19 I was up there for work. Came down. Obviously,
20 it's an important matter so I wanted to be present
21 for that. I came down here without having an
22 opinion one way or another because I didn't know the
23 facts. I really don't, and I still don't know all
24 the facts, but I have heard some today that make me
25 a little uncomfortable, and what I'm uncomfortable

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1 with is knowing that I wasn't able to make a
2 decision because I didn't have all the facts. I'm
3 curious as to I guess an explanation from the people
4 who voted yes how you were able to do that when
5 apparently we don't even have a management plan for
6 what's already existing in place, and if we don't
7 have a management plan for what's existing and we
8 don't have a blueprint, and I'm pretty sure nobody
9 on the Board can actually state that they know where
10 all the asbestos is, and if that can't be answered,
11 how could you have an opinion that would give you
12 the ability to vote so firmly yes and to put -- I
13 mean, just because you put absolutely in bold
14 capital letters doesn't make it true. So I would
15 just ask that that question be answered. And to
16 follow up on the comment that was made before, I
17 would also ask that tomorrow night, which
18 unfortunately I won't be able to be there, you
19 should answer -- it's funny that certain subjects
20 get answered as the questions get asked, but this
21 one it seems that you want to gather the questions
22 and put yourself at a position of power so that you
23 can answer from your laptops or a script or
24 whatever, so that everybody is on the same page, and
25 I would just ask that, you know, everybody be

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1 treated the same when questions are asked. And then
2 lastly I would just like to thank the gentleman for
3 introducing me to the school board by threatening to
4 have the police escort me out for signs that were on
5 the floor that weren't even mine. So thank you. I
6 appreciate that.

7 MR. KAUFMAN: Anyone else?

8 MS. KRASNOVE: Hi, I'm Risa Krasnove, 8
9 Danielle Lane. First of all, I just wanted to say
10 that there are so many things that are right with
11 the schools in Monroe that make me so proud and
12 happy to send my children to Oak Tree. I have two
13 in Oak Tree, and I have one starting next year, but
14 this I just leaves me shaking my head. I just don't
15 understand how we can be doing this, and, you know,
16 as I'm sitting here listening, and I might be wrong,
17 but I was always under the impression that
18 eventually once the high school opened and everyone
19 was shifted around and, you know, the upper grades
20 in Oak Tree would move to Applegarth, so I'm
21 assuming that since that plan had been put in place
22 several years ago, you were thinking about how
23 you're going to budget for, you know, more staff and
24 a principal and, you know, staffing the school like
25 that, so I'm just wondering if there's money then

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1 that's supposedly there already for something like
2 that, then why can't we take that money, if you're
3 saying we don't need to staff the school with a
4 principal and extra teachers or whatnot, then use it
5 to hire some extra teachers to move them and have
6 them at Oak Tree to alleviate some of the
7 overcrowding because I, you know, I do feel that's a
8 major issues. I mean, I have a son in 1st grade
9 with 28 children in his class. I mean, to me that
10 is -- I'm an educator, myself. I'm an elementary
11 school teacher. That is just not okay, and I know
12 that, you know, the research says it's about the
13 teacher, and I think his teacher is phenomenal. I
14 think she's one of the best teachers I think I've
15 ever seen. But I just -- there's no way, I mean,
16 you know, a guided reading group shouldn't have 7
17 kids. That kind of defeats the purpose of a guided
18 reading group. So, you know, I was thinking maybe I
19 don't know if there's money there, why can't we hire
20 some extra teachers, put them in those four extra
21 classrooms at Oak Tree for a year or 2 until
22 Applegarth is ready.

23 The other concern I had was, you know,
24 not only the students, but the staff. I mean, if
25 you're going to have a cafeteria full of cafeteria

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1 workers cooking food in a school where there's
2 construction going on and breathing in -- I know
3 when I finished my basement, the dust that came up,
4 you know, into the kitchen. I can only imagine
5 what's going to happen in a school where there's
6 construction. So I just think that, you know, I
7 agree with whatever -- what everyone has said so
8 far. I just think that we should keep the kids at
9 Oak Tree for an another year or 2. It's only
10 another year or 2. The overcrowding can be
11 alleviated by using some of the extra funds to hire
12 some, you know, four extra teachers and disperse
13 them among the overcrowded grades and maybe, you
14 know, each class size won't be so big. And that's
15 it.

16 MR. SKURBE: Hi, Matthew Skurbe, 8
17 Seminole Court. I wanted to focus on this concept
18 of being able to run a school without having the
19 administration in the building and having shared
20 administration down the road, and, you know, I find
21 it interesting. I find it actually pretty curious
22 because I'm pretty sure that we have two other
23 situations in town where we do actually need
24 administrators in schools that are right next to
25 each other right down the road. So, Dr. Hamilton, I

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1 was wondering how many nonteaching staff do you have
2 at Brookside and at Woodland. If you could give me
3 that number.

4 MR. KAUFMAN: We'll get all the
5 questions at the end. We're not going to miss a
6 question.

7 MR. SKURBE: Okay. So whatever that
8 number is, it seems to me that if we can do it at
9 Applegarth, we can do it at those other schools, so
10 that seems like an incredible cost savings that we
11 can have for the town. We can just lay all those
12 people off and we save a lot of taxpayer dollars.
13 So, you know, maybe we should explore that further.

14 I say that tongue in cheek knowing that
15 that can't actually work. You need administrators
16 to run a school. What happens when two kids get
17 into a fist fight? Does class just stop and the
18 teacher now has to attend to these two kids that
19 have disrupted the class while Mr. V gets in his car
20 and runs over to try to deal with the situation?
21 And how long does that take? Does that take
22 45 minutes? Does it take a half an hour? What if
23 he's eating lunch? What if he's down the hall, they
24 can't find him?

25 The whole concept is ridiculous. You

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1 obviously need to hire an administration to run a
2 school. You can't have them down the road and just
3 port them over when you think you need them to be
4 there. This will cost more money, and you don't
5 have it in the budget, so where does it come from.
6 I'd like you to answer that question.

7 MS. ROMAN: Caren Roman, 12 Deerfield
8 Drive. I would actually like to start by saying,
9 Mr. Chiarella, Mr. Masters, thank you very much for
10 supporting us and the safety of our children. Mr.
11 Kaufman, in one of the previous meetings, you had
12 indicated -- excuse me -- that the reason that you
13 were not keeping -- that you were not going to close
14 Applegarth was because the costs were significant.
15 What is that cost? I haven't seen it, and I'd like
16 to know specifically what the difference is between
17 doing these renovations, keeping the kids in school
18 versus closing the school and what the differences
19 would be.

20 My second question or point is you have
21 indicated that you're going to do air quality
22 testing. When is that going to take place, and
23 specifically, if those results come back not
24 satisfactory, what's your contingency plan? Where
25 are you going to put the kids? What are you going

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1 to do?

2 Also I'd like to know, I deal with
3 construction in my job. The reality is there are
4 thousands and thousands of unforeseen circumstances
5 that take place. You can't plan them, you can't
6 anticipate them, and they happen, and they come up.
7 So again, you know, one of the things I wanted to
8 ask actually is as a parent, my children wouldn't be
9 going to Applegarth yet. They're too young in Oak
10 Tree, but as a parent, would I be able to come in
11 and do my own air quality survey? No, and I ask
12 this because the reality is if I hire a company, his
13 findings will be different than the schools because
14 when you hire air quality people to come in and test
15 the air quality, whoever hires them, there's going
16 to be a margin there. They're going to give them
17 what they want to some extent unless it's drastic,
18 and that's the honest to God truth because I have
19 done air quality surveys in my building, and it
20 happens, and that's why I ask. As a parent, could I
21 do it.

22 MR. SIMON: Brian Simon, 6 Jeana Court.
23 This question is addressed to Mr. Chiarella. You
24 are the chairman of the building committee? I'd
25 like to know how that position was given to you or

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1 were you -- was it vacant and you just happened to
2 raise your hand for it. If you were elected by this
3 Board, why isn't this Board taking your advice and
4 moving forward? I'd also like to know -- I'm a
5 first time member -- I'm sorry -- first time visitor
6 to a Board meeting. Am I allowed to make a motion,
7 because if the Applegarth School does open next
8 year, I would like to put forth a recommendation
9 that, Dr. Hamilton, you and your staff are now
10 taking up residency at Applegarth. I had the
11 pleasure of attending a presentation with
12 the third grade class today at Oak Tree, and walking
13 around the hallway, I happened to notice at least 11
14 adults wearing name tags and many children walking
15 around, and what one of the other parents had said,
16 I don't see a staff that's able to handle two full
17 grades and be able to protect our children the way
18 they should be. Thank you.

19 DR. WALKER: Hi, my name is Linda
20 Caulkin. I live at 4 Michaela Court. I am in total
21 agreement with everybody's feelings here, and I do
22 recall at one of our meetings -- I'm not sure which
23 one -- Dr. Hamilton, you specifically said if you
24 had a choice, you would like to close Applegarth --
25 I don't believe I was dreaming that, I believe I

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1 heard that. I don't know if anybody else remembers
2 that comment -- because of the problems and the
3 issues that are going on at Applegarth. We do
4 understand that Oak Tree is got way too many
5 students; however, it does seem that it's being
6 handled. Thank goodness you've put in aides. The
7 teachers are dealing with it. I feel my daughter is
8 coming home learning every single day, and she's
9 happy, but by taking this chance, by doing what
10 we're doing with Applegarth now, not knowing what --
11 once you start getting in there and you start
12 digging up things and you're saying asbestos is just
13 in the floor. How do you know it's not in the
14 walls? Again, the school is so old there could be
15 mold. There could be thousands of other things that
16 you don't know of that exist. Worst-case scenario,
17 put the trailers at Oak Tree and let them go and do
18 other things at Oak Tree and keep them out of the
19 school until it's all done and you can prove
20 factually that everything is there safe and sound
21 for not just our children but also for our staff.

22 I ended up by having unfortunately a
23 flood in my townhouse. They wanted to fix it prior
24 to doing mold testing. I ended up by having to pay
25 for that by myself. It took three separate tests to

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1 finally get all the mold remediation taken care of,
2 okay, so one test doesn't just do it. It's two
3 tests or three tests just to make sure. Do you want
4 if it was one of your children or like somebody
5 said, Dr. Hamilton, place yourself in that building.
6 Do you want to take that chance? God forbid, what's
7 going to happen to these kids down the road. It's
8 going to be shock enough for them, you know. Here
9 they are in this beautiful gorgeous school that's
10 got everything to offer them. Put them in trailers
11 over there for the time being. You don't want --
12 you don't want Mr. V. running across the street, God
13 forbid, getting hit by a car dealing with an issue.
14 That's where they belong. Keep them there. Do what
15 you got to do at Applegarth. Get it done with. Do
16 it right, and don't take a chance with what our
17 future is. Thank you very much.

18 MS. TRINKL: I'm going to ask -- I'm
19 sorry.

20 MR. KAUFMAN: Name and address.

21 MS. TRINKL: My name is Anna Trinkl. I
22 live in 7 Kendall Court. Because nobody answer, I'm
23 going to answer something that I know already
24 because I'm being here in every meeting. Everybody
25 knows that the reason because they don't close

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1 Applegarth is because they know if they close it
2 it's not going to bring to code. That's somebody
3 that you have to keep saying what you don't say it.
4 That's the reason. And then but that's not enough
5 reason for me. I say to you it's not enough reason
6 to put both of my kids because you know if the
7 school is closed, we know will not be able to open
8 it, and you can't bring it to code because you
9 almost have to build it again. That's what is
10 angering me, that you just say it. Please say it to
11 them. Then they keep asking the same question again
12 and again and again, and we can be here until 12 at
13 night, and you know that's reason, but that's not
14 enough reason for me. I'm so sorry. I know that
15 many people went through Applegarth and this and
16 that, but nobody told me that they going to do
17 renovation during the time my kids are there, and
18 that's what I can't handle anymore. Thank you.

19 MS. DAMORE: Again, I reiterate, where
20 there is will, there is a way. If we go back to the
21 numbers, forget all the emotions, forget everybody
22 else, there is a way to keep everybody in Oak Tree,
23 and if there isn't a way to keep everybody in Oak
24 Tree, there is a way to keep everybody in every
25 school in this district by just moving a few small

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1 people around in the community to another school
2 because when you do the whole picture, the whole
3 snapshot of the entire district minus the high
4 school, the new high school and the old high school,
5 you're at about 20 to 21 students per class, so
6 there is definitely a way to do it, but the
7 8 percent growth rate, which is approximately the 70
8 something kids that come into Oak Tree every year,
9 an 8 percent growth rate is off the charts. Even
10 according to John Leary's stats that he gave us at
11 the last meeting that the highest we have seen in
12 this district was a 6 percent growth increase since
13 1996, so what that would say to me, and I don't run
14 schools, but if I were running a business, I would
15 say, hey, wait a minute, I need to move resources or
16 I need to move people to another location, that if
17 Oak Tree is getting 8 percent, but you wouldn't move
18 them to an unsafe environment, and you did speak
19 about parity between buildings, that you worked very
20 hard at keeping parity between buildings, and I'm
21 really not trying to create another headache for you
22 because clearly you've plenty to keep you up at
23 night right now; however, there really isn't parity
24 so let's be sure we call a spade a spade. If we
25 look at the Woodland School, and I'd be happy to

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1 have Mr. Layman back, which is why I say this, the
2 Woodland School doesn't have nearly the amount of
3 students, approximately half of what Oak Tree does;
4 however, to my knowledge -- correct me if I'm
5 wrong -- it does have a principal and a vice
6 principal. So if you're not going to take the right
7 path to make this right, then give us Mr. Layman and
8 together he and Mr. V. I guess will have to figure
9 it out, and unfortunately, it will be along with
10 lots of distractions and lots -- (end of tape 2) --
11 but hinder it.

12 MR. POYE: Good evening. My name is
13 Doug Poye. I live at 4 Tamarack Road. I'm a member
14 of one of the adult communities here, and I know
15 you've all been listening tonight and I've been
16 listening tonight, but I'm really wondering if
17 you're hearing what I've been hearing. A lot of
18 questions have been asked. I don't really have a
19 question to ask except the one that I just asked,
20 which is have you heard what the people are saying.
21 I know you've been listening, but have you heard
22 them? What I have heard -- what I have heard is
23 that the decision that was made at the last Board
24 meeting to move the 5th -- the 4th and 5th grades
25 into Applegarth, that that decision is an unpopular

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1 decision. The parents that you've heard from
2 tonight, they come from that district where their
3 students are affected. You can hear the anxiety in
4 their voices. You do not have their confidence, you
5 do not have their support, and I would suggest that
6 you reconsider the decision that you made last month
7 regarding that particular point. Thank you.

8 MS. MARCUS: Jennifer Marcus, 24
9 Carnation Road. I just want to ask if I did say
10 that I really don't feel comfortable sending my
11 daughter to Applegarth School, and I, you know, am
12 just about there where I would say that I cannot
13 send her there. What other options are there for
14 me? Do you have another option? Could she go to
15 another school if I chose to pick her up and move
16 her to one of the other schools? Is that an option
17 for me? Could I do that? And which school could
18 she go to? For any of the parents who would refuse
19 to send their kids to Applegarth because I think you
20 have several people here tonight who will say that
21 they refuse to send their kids to Applegarth. What
22 are our options? Which school should we go to,
23 because we're not going to Applegarth.

24 MR. WOLFSON: Marc Wolfson, 8 Cedar
25 Brook Road. I have no doubt that you have the

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1 interests of the children, the best interests of the
2 children at heart. You're parents, you're
3 grandparents, but apparently, you know, you don't
4 know what you don't know. The asbestos management
5 plan is what, 20 years old, and a couple years ago
6 there was an incident at Applegarth with a desk that
7 was I guess full of asbestos, although it wasn't on
8 the plan. So I would just ask you to reconsider.
9 You don't know when you start doing construction
10 what's going to happen. You don't know where all
11 the asbestos is. Thank you.

12 MS. ARMINIO: Michelle Arminio, 9
13 Nathaniel Street. Actually, this brings me to my
14 first point, but many of the Board members here and
15 some of the parents unfortunately, if this is their
16 first time to Board meetings, the reason for
17 verbatim historic records of Board proceedings is
18 just what happened here tonight, because many of you
19 on this Board, when the high school was being built
20 and there were alternatives thought of about putting
21 an addition on this school, many of you sitting here
22 said absolutely not, we don't want to disrupt the
23 children while they're at school. So when you don't
24 do it for these kids, how could you have used that
25 argument. So it is very, very important that these

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1 records are verbatim because if some of these
2 parents wanted to take the time to go to the Board,
3 there are accurate records of many of you people on
4 this Board saying absolutely not you could not
5 retool the high school while the students were
6 present.

7 MS. THANAWALA: Hamidah Thanawala, 11
8 Eldorado Way. Folks, you have been hearing the same
9 questions over and over again in different forms.
10 There's anxiety there. I as a parent am anxious.
11 My daughter, who's in 6th grade, who is here -- it's
12 9:30 at night -- she wants to know what's happening
13 with her little brother, whether he's going to be
14 going to Applegarth or not, and that's why she's
15 here with me. Can we please start hearing you guys?
16 You know where we are coming from. Can we see where
17 you're coming from? Can we start getting answers,
18 please? Thank you.

19 MR. KAUFMAN: As soon as the public
20 section is done, I'm going to open it up to the
21 Board.

22 MS. THANAWALA: Okay, and then my
23 question is once you open it up to the Board, can I
24 come back and ask questions --

25 MR. KAUFMAN: No.

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1 MS. THANAWALA: -- follow-up questions
2 that I have?

3 MR. KAUFMAN: No.

4 MS. THANAWALA: What's the point then
5 because if you're not covering any of the issues --

6 MR. KAUFMAN: You can wait for the
7 second public forum, which is at the end of the
8 agenda.

9 MS. THANAWALA: But that's not right,
10 I'm sorry, because if you are not addressing all of
11 the questions that have been asked, I would then
12 like to ask a follow-up question so I make sure that
13 you address all the questions that have been asked.

14 MR. KAUFMAN: Then you can ask it at the
15 final public forum at the end.

16 MS. THANAWALA: But in every Board
17 meeting I've come, and you know I've come to almost
18 every Board meeting, you have been answering
19 questions as they've been asked. I don't understand
20 this new form here. Why are you taking this stance,
21 just so that we can't ask you follow-up questions?
22 Is that why you're doing this, because I don't think
23 that's right to all the parents here.

24 MR. KAUFMAN: Thank you.

25 MS. THANAWALA: I would like this to go

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1 on record. Once you give your answers and if I have
2 or any other parents has any follow-up questions, we
3 should be able to ask them from you so that we have
4 all the answers that we need today. Thank you.

5 MR. KAUFMAN: Thank you.

6 MR. WEISS: I have one last quick remark
7 that I would like on record, as well. It's Michael
8 Weiss, 66 Fairway Boulevard. There were questions
9 that you chose to answer that there was back and
10 forth with the person who asked those questions so
11 it seems that it was just the issues you wanted to
12 have back and forth on. It should be a level
13 playing ground.

14 MS. LESTER: Bill Lester, 261
15 Cranbury-Half Acre Road. If by some miracle you are
16 able to get all the asbestos taken care of before
17 the beginning of school, has there been an
18 assessment done as far as the lead paint in the
19 school? Prior to, you know, 1978, everything was
20 made lead based paint. They stopped producing it in
21 1978, but up to almost a decade after that, lead
22 paint was still used because of the fact that it was
23 so, you know, there was so much of it, and the rooms
24 that the kids will be, will they also be around that
25 lead paint, because I'm pretty sure just putting the

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1 paint, you know, a new coat of paint over it isn't
2 going to eliminate the lead issue as far as the
3 school is concerned because they're more susceptible
4 to the lead going in and out of rooms, you know,
5 rubbing their hands on, you know, what's ever
6 painted over the surfaces and stuff. Has anything
7 been done about that or any tests or anything?

8 Also, seems like there's a lot of
9 unanswered questions as far as, you know,
10 constructionwise, but that you're ready to go ahead
11 and get started and get moving right now without
12 having, you know, those answers on some of the
13 construction, which then would change the cost of
14 the money. Now, I'm in construction, as well. I've
15 done a lot of remodeling. I also deal with, you
16 know, a lot of new construction, and no matter how
17 good of a plan you have, it always changes. It
18 always changes. You have a cost estimate of
19 approximately \$9 million or so, 9 or \$10 million for
20 the renovation for the school. What would it cost
21 just to build a new one, knock it down and build a
22 new one?

23 And just to let you know, after all the
24 years with dealing with remodeling, I know what's
25 behind the walls. I know you never know what's in

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1 there until you actually get into it. I now have
2 the effects of having to deal with those issues such
3 as the dust, mold spores and everything like that,
4 and I have to live with that, but I don't want my
5 son to have to live with that because he's more
6 susceptible to it. Thank you.

7 MS. VASSALLO: Ann Vassallo, 16 Whitson
8 Lane. At first I have three children. One went
9 through Applegarth already, I have one in Applegarth
10 now, and I have my son. The desk incident I was not
11 aware of. My daughter was in 8th grade at that
12 point. I did not get any information that there was
13 asbestos in the desk. Now, my question would be is
14 those desks still in the building. Are the children
15 still using the building -- are the children still
16 using the desk, rather.

17 My second point would be how can you --
18 like one of the gentlemen said, you don't know where
19 the asbestos is. You're breaking up walls. I was
20 all for you guys. Ask anybody knows me, when this
21 all came about, I was like I don't have a problem
22 with my son going there just as long as the asbestos
23 was gone, not understanding that you break walls
24 apart, things come out, things were in the desk,
25 things are in the floor, the walls, the ceilings,

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1 the wherever, okay, and as far as the safety issue
2 goes, you're going to have children going in and out
3 of the gym, the library, the cafeteria, wherever in
4 the building. Now you're cutting back on personnel.
5 Who's watching these kids with the workers there?
6 Johnny decides he's going to go take a peak and see
7 what they're doing. Who is there. I work at
8 Applegarth -- Oak Tree, rather. There are hundreds
9 of paras around to make sure the safety of the kids.
10 At lunch they make sure they go to the bathroom,
11 they're come back. Who is going to be watching
12 these children?

13 MR. KAUFMAN: Anyone else? Okay. What
14 I'd like to do --

15 MS. THANAWALA: Hamidah Thanawala, 11
16 Eldorado Way. I'm sorry, I am going to ask my
17 question. I was not going to ask the question just
18 in case you already answered it, but since you're
19 not answering them, let me just ask my question.
20 I've heard everything. I've heard all the parents
21 speak. I've heard all the concerns. What I haven't
22 heard -- and I was there in the last meeting, as
23 well. What I haven't heard from you guys is the
24 reason, the reason -- and I hope you answer it this
25 time -- the reason why you are not going to allow

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1 our kids to stay in Oak Tree this year while you
2 renovate Applegarth and then once the renovation is
3 completely done and we have all the tests from OSHA
4 and everything saying that there is no asbestos in
5 the air, then bring the kids over to safety so there
6 is no health hazard. I'm just looking for that
7 reason. Thank you.

8 MS. HOLMES: Hi, Evie Holmes, 14
9 Mooreland Boulevard. I'm really saddened to hear
10 from some people here on the Board the frustration
11 and the, oh, come on's, when one of our parents
12 comes in and she wants to talk. It's really sad.

13 MR. KLEIN: Why don't you let us answer
14 the question. We're here to --

15 MS. HOLMES: I'm speaking. It is my
16 moment. Respect it.

17 MR. KLEIN: You want to hear answers.
18 You don't give us a chance to answer.

19 MS. HOLMES: Mr. Klein, it is my moment.
20 Please respect that.

21 MR. KAUFMAN: Mr. Klein. Mr. Klein.
22 Mark. Mark.

23 MS. HOLMES: I am a mom, and I am an
24 educator. I'm an educator in the West
25 Windsor-Plainsboro School District, and I have never

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1 seen the line of defense that I see here in Monroe
2 and other school districts. It is almost like an
3 imperial line. It's very sad. We teach our kids.
4 We want them to go out into society, into a global
5 society, and we want to do all these best practices,
6 but what you're doing is not a best practice. There
7 is no collaboration. There is no group work. I
8 don't see that. I see us and you. All I'm asking
9 out of respect is that we work together to come up
10 with a solution for what is your -- what is it --
11 what's best for our children. That's all I'm
12 asking.

13 MR. KLEIN: Mr. President.

14 MR. KAUFMAN: Wait, Mark.

15 MR. WEISS: Michael Weiss, 66 Fairway.

16 My last comment and just to address the gentlemen
17 since you guys aren't addressing us. You just
18 mentioned that we're not letting you answer. We've
19 done nothing but ask to answer, and nobody has cut
20 you off except for your own president.

21 MR. KAUFMAN: I have, that's right. I
22 cut you off.

23 MR. WEISS: You can't address that to
24 us. We've all asked for answers, and I think now
25 we're ready to hear some. So thank you.

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1 MR. KAUFMAN: Anyone else? What I'd
2 like to do now is there were a lot of questions that
3 were asked to the Board. I'm going to open it up to
4 the Board members that were here, who will address
5 themselves one at a time. I'll recognize them.
6 After we've talked to the Board members that are
7 here, Jerry Tague is in the office. I'm going to
8 ask him to address some of the questions regarding
9 the facilities. There are a couple of other staff
10 members that were talked about here tonight. I will
11 not be asking them to address these issues because
12 that's not -- this is not the right and appropriate
13 place for that to happen. The people that need to
14 make the decisions are here, we're sitting in front
15 of you, and Jerry represents the facility as a
16 facilities director can talk to a lot of the history
17 of the things that have been going on throughout the
18 buildings throughout our district.

19 So that being said, the Chair recognizes
20 Mr. Mark Klein.

21 MR. KLEIN: Okay. First of all, the
22 young lady who just spoke that called this a line
23 that is solid with what they want to vote for, what
24 they say, I take offense to. You don't know what
25 goes on in the meetings. You don't know what we

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1 discuss. It is not a line or a rubber stamp line so

2 I take offense to what you said.

3 Now, let's get on to the topic.

4 Somebody brought up before about the population --

5 and please don't take my voice the wrong way. Okay.

6 Let me finish what I have to say, and I think you'll

7 agree with what I have to say. I just want to bring

8 everybody up to date. Somebody, one of the women,

9 had mentioned that where we projected an 8 percent

10 growth in population, in reality in the past it's

11 been 6 percent, so therefore we're basing it on more

12 population what we're going to have. Well, let me

13 -- okay. It's fine. It's fine. Yeah, but let me

14 finish what I'm going to say you're see where I'm

15 going.

16 MR. KAUFMAN: I'm going to ask -- we

17 waited and listened to all of your questions.

18 MR. KLEIN: Just listen to what I have

19 to say and you'll see.

20 MR. KAUFMAN: If you have response, you

21 can wait until the last public forum.

22 MR. KLEIN: Just wait a minute. Wait a

23 minute.

24 MR. KAUFMAN: Mr. Klein.

25 MR. KLEIN: I attend --

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1 MR. KAUFMAN: Mr. Klein. Mr. Klein.

2 MR. KLEIN: -- all of the Township
3 Council meetings.

4 MR. KAUFMAN: Mark, calm down.

5 MR. KLEIN: Okay. I attend all of the
6 Township Council meetings. I am on the Zoning Board
7 in Monroe Township, and I attend the Planning Board
8 meetings. Something that just came up -- are you
9 familiar with COAH, Council for Affordable Housing?
10 That all stems from the Mount Laurel decision by our
11 great Supreme Court. What they are doing is they
12 are forcing affordable housing on all the suburban
13 communities. Well, I sat in on a meeting with our
14 board, the affordable housing board, last week, and
15 there was a developer there that wanted to put in a
16 hundred rental units that would be affordable, not
17 for the elderly, which is what was on the original
18 master plan. It's going to be families. He was
19 trying to tell the board that one family equates to
20 three-quarters of a child for the school system. In
21 reality it's 2.3. So we took 2. He says that of
22 the hundred units, it will bring in \$71,000 to the
23 town. He adds to it no money will go to the Board
24 of Education. So we can wind up with 200 more
25 students just from that one development by itself.

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1 The next -- I see the young lady here
2 shaking her head. The next thing is we've been
3 fortunate here of having over-55 communities. I
4 live in Regency. These are people move in, they're
5 paying high taxes, no children in the schools. It
6 was great for Monroe Township. Those homes are no
7 longer selling. New Jersey State Legislature passed
8 a law last year that if a builder who has been
9 approved for an over-55 community has not taken a
10 deposit, they are allowed to apply to the zoning
11 board to have it changed from an over-55 community
12 to a family community. More children. Okay. So
13 that's what you have as far as your population goes.

14 Now let's talk about Applegarth.

15 MR. KAUFMAN: You'll wait. When you're
16 done, you can make your questions at the end.
17 You'll have the same -- the same ability like I
18 gave, you like I gave you, sir. We waited for
19 everybody's question, we made a note of everybody's
20 question, and we will be able to do it. All you
21 have to do is ask the question when you're done,
22 when we're done at the next public session.

23 MR. KLEIN: The next thing to address,
24 which I had to miss the meeting, the last two
25 meetings because I was traveling with my wife.

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1 She's ill, and we're trying to travel as much as we
2 can, and I missed the meeting. I did read all the
3 literature that was given to us. I also read about
4 a lot of the complaints that the parents had, and I
5 also had some parents call me, and I've spoken to
6 the township. Okay. If all that was to be done was
7 the tile floors, they can be sealed, maybe that
8 would do it and we can do it during the summer. My
9 opinion, and I'm probably not supposed to give my
10 opinion, you asked if I wanted one of my
11 grandchildren in the school when they were working.
12 I hate to say that -- well, I'm happy to say, no,
13 no. I don't want to see -- if we could do the work
14 during the summer, reopen, have it all certified
15 that the air is clean, and we opened it in
16 September, I could go along with it, but if we're
17 going to try to do everything with the kids in the
18 school, I, myself, personally, no.

19 Now, the other thing is that what the
20 understanding is -- I lived in East Brunswick. They
21 closed a school for 1 year because of consultant, a
22 consultant stated that the school population was
23 going to drop, and therefore we didn't need this
24 elementary school. Mind you, they were building
25 townhouses all over the place. The school was

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1 closed for about a year to a year and a half. When
2 we reopened it, we had to bring it up to the
3 standards of that day, so that does create a
4 monetary problem. I'm not saying that that is the
5 reason why they're trying to do what they're doing,
6 but that could be the problem.

7 The other thing would be can you move
8 the temporary classrooms, yeah. It's probably very
9 expensive, and maybe that's the way to do it. I'm
10 concerned -- so when this young lady said that we're
11 just a rubber stamp, no, we're not a rubber stamp,
12 and we want what's best for the kids, and anything
13 that I vote on and any of us vote on, we're doing it
14 for the kids as if they're our own kids. So please
15 don't read it the wrong way, and if it's a -- they
16 are going to have a meeting tomorrow night that will
17 explain everything that's going to go on. If we're
18 able to revote on it once that's done, I would be in
19 favor of that, but please at least give us a chance.
20 Nothing's written in stone yet. Thank you.

21 MR. KAUFMAN: Any other Board members?

22 MR. LEARY: Yes. Since my name was
23 mentioned with regard to growth rates, let's take a
24 look at page 3 of the handout. Enrollment. Look at
25 the Oak Tree School. I'll give you the statistics.

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1 On October 31, 2009, 747 students in Oak Tree;
2 October 31, 2010, 819; increase of 72. You go
3 through that, that's 9.67 percent growth. I rest my
4 case.

5 MR. KAUFMAN: Mr. Leary, do you have any
6 questions? Earlier it was brought up about -- I
7 don't know where the gentleman is. No, it wasn't
8 you. I didn't write his name down -- oh, you're
9 right here. Mr. Leary, there were question was
10 brought up about the cost of building a new school,
11 and I know you did some statistical research on
12 that. Do you want to share it with the public?

13 MR. LEARY: Yes, I'd be more than happy
14 to.

15 MR. KAUFMAN: No, there was a question
16 about a new school, brand new school.

17 MR. LEARY: Contractor came up here and
18 said let's tear down the school and let's build a
19 new one, and I went and did some evaluations. I
20 took the cost per gross foot of Oak Tree, our most
21 recent school, and that was \$326.25 per gross square
22 foot. When you take a look at the four elements of
23 Applegarth, that works out to be 63,000 square feet.
24 That works out to be 20 million plus. Now, if
25 you're going to have to remove the school, it takes

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1 another million and a half demolition costs. In
2 contrast, you take the cost of work that we're
3 proposing to do in the summer plus work that would
4 be a referendum item, and that would add up to
5 roughly \$10 million. Add to that 25 percent for
6 soft costs such as the clearances for sewer, water,
7 all the other things that you have to do, and it
8 always happens, and several times it's been
9 mentioned that when you are in construction, you
10 always have unexpected contingencies, so this
11 25 percent is to take into that. You wind up with
12 \$12 million. It's a difference of \$10 million
13 between revamping Applegarth and demolishing
14 Applegarth.

15 MR. KAUFMAN: Anyone else? Mr.
16 Chiarella.

17 MR. CHIARELLA: There were a number of
18 questions that were directed to me, and I'd like to
19 answer those. I was appointed by the Board
20 President to this position as chairman of buildings
21 grounds and transportation. Sorry I almost
22 swallowed my gum. The reason -- and I want to
23 answer your questions. There were a number of
24 reasons why I voted no. I think there were a lot of
25 questions in my mind that could not be sufficiently

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1 answered where I thought -- where I could feel
2 absolutely 100 percent that the children that would
3 be going to Applegarth, the 4th and 5th grade, would
4 be safe, where every question could be answered
5 unequivocally with a, yes, we have that covered and
6 we're absolutely sure. Because I still had those
7 questions, I had to vote no for that part.

8 There were also questions that I had
9 that, you know, just regarding all of the different
10 pieces of this puzzle and the plan, and the more we
11 kept breaking it down and changing it and moving it,
12 the less in my mind it made sense, and the more
13 pieces that were out there, the less I could stand
14 behind it, myself, and I started to think would I
15 put my children, would I want my children going
16 there with those questions, and I had to say no, and
17 if I couldn't put my children there, I can't put any
18 of your children there.

19 As far as the costs go, I think there
20 are a lot of questions there and a lot of unknowns,
21 and I think if we're going to talk about sharing
22 staff from Oak Tree and bringing them over to
23 Applegarth so that we could save on costs, I think
24 then it's only -- we're only one step away from just
25 making the choice, the smart choice, which would be

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1 to put the kids in Oak Tree, and that's -- those
2 were the reasons.

3 I hope I answered those questions, and
4 for Miss Arminio, I also agree that we should have
5 verbatim minutes, and I just want to say one more
6 thing, and then I'll turn it over to someone else.
7 If the Board members who weren't here would like a
8 chance to vote, I'd be more than happy to make a
9 motion to open that back up so that they have the
10 opportunity to vote. Thank you.

11 MR. KAUFMAN: Anyone else? Mr. Tessler.

12 MR. TESSLER: Yes, I would like to ask
13 Dr. Hamilton for his opinion if he has any change of
14 opinion publicly if he would reopen the issue of
15 closing Applegarth School for 1 year.

16 DR. HAMILTON: From a physical
17 standpoint, Applegarth -- and I've said this before,
18 Oak Tree could certainly accommodate children. From
19 an educational perspective, I have some significant
20 concerns; however, with that said, could we provide
21 a quality educational program at Oak Tree with 800
22 children in it, I would be willing as the
23 superintendent to commit to doing whatever is
24 necessary to make sure that happened; however, it
25 would also require commitment from parents so that

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1 if we ended up with 30 kids in the classroom, if we
2 ended up with 32 kids in the classroom, and we ended
3 up utilizing art and music rooms, we would not be
4 back at this table facing a different kind of issue
5 about why we are in that situation.

6 MR. TESSLER: Okay.

7 MR. KAUFMAN: Anyone else?

8 MR. TESSLER: I'm not done yet.

9 MR. KAUFMAN: Go ahead.

10 MR. TESSLER: I just wanted to make it
11 clear before I say what I'm going to say next is I
12 don't want to be here next October, November, saying
13 there's 30 kids in the class, what are you going to
14 do. So I would like to make a motion to revisit the
15 issue of closing Applegarth for 1 year.

16 MR. CHIARELLA: I'll second that.

17 MR. KAUFMAN: I have a second. Because
18 it's a pretty hot topic, I'm going to ask if we can
19 have a roll call so you can all know who votes which
20 way. We have a --

21 MR. TESSLER: Anymore discussion first
22 actually for Board members?

23 MR. KAUFMAN: Sure.

24 MR. GORSKI: Was that a motion to amend?

25 MR. KAUFMAN: It's a motion to close

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1 Applegarth School for 1 year.

2 A BOARD MEMBER: Whatever the proper
3 terminology is. What's the proper -- is that a
4 motion to rescind?

5 MR. KAUFMAN: Let me make sure I'm
6 clear, we're all clear. Mr. Tessler, I may restate?

7 MR. TESSLER: Yes, you may.

8 MR. KAUFMAN: This is a motion to close
9 Applegarth School for 1 year for renovations.

10 MR. TESSLER: One year for renovations.

11 MR. KAUFMAN: And I have a second from
12 Mr. Chiarella.

13 MR. GORSKI: Can I make a correction in
14 terms of --

15 MR. TESSLER: You can make the
16 correction. Please correct me.

17 MR. GORSKI: Robert's Rules. The motion
18 should be to amend the previous approved motion so
19 that it reflects correct Robert's Rules so we're
20 talking specifically about revamping the plan for
21 construction or renovation at Oak Tree -- I mean at
22 Applegarth. So the motion should be I make a motion
23 that we amend the previously approved motion
24 relative to the renovation plan at Phase 1 for
25 Applegarth.

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1 MR. TESSLER: What he said.

2 MR. KAUFMAN: You have it all?

3 MR. GORSKI: To amend --

4 MR. TESSLER: To amend.

5 MR. GORSKI: -- the previously approved
6 renovation plan for Applegarth School. So
7 essentially, instead of that plan being June through
8 December, it would be June through June, for 1 year.

9 MR. TESSLER: We will need the space in
10 Applegarth the year after, or Oak Tree is going to
11 be busting at the seam. It can't be closed forever.

12 MR. KAUFMAN: Mr. Tessler, if it's all
13 right, Mike is going to read it back, and then we'll
14 have a second on this.

15 MR. GORSKI: The motion is to amend
16 previously approved renovation plan for Applegarth
17 School for 1 year.

18 MR. KAUFMAN: Correct. And do I have a
19 second? Mr. Chiarella. Discussion? Miss Leonard.

20 MS. LEONARD: Since I stepped out to the
21 restroom, could you give me a 2-minute synopsis of
22 what I missed so I could vote intelligently.

23 MR. KAUFMAN: You missed a lot.

24 MS. LEONARD: I gathered. I gathered.

25 MR. KAUFMAN: There was a lot of stuff.

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1 MS. LEONARD: I apologize.

2 MR. KAUFMAN: And I don't know when you
3 left.

4 MS. LEONARD: When nature calls after a
5 cup of coffee and a coke, you got to go when you got
6 to go.

7 MR. KAUFMAN: Don't know how to answer
8 that because don't know what you missed. Didn't see
9 you leave. So what I'm going to do is I'm going to
10 answer a couple more questions if I could since it's
11 -- I'll tell you what. We'll vote on this, and then
12 I'm going to answer some of the other questions that
13 were put out there, and maybe that will answer some
14 of your questions.

15 MS. LEONARD: Mr. Klein had his hand up.

16 MR. KAUFMAN: Well, only if it relates
17 to this motion, Mr. Klein.

18 MR. KLEIN: I'm happy to see that the
19 vote does tonight. A lot of what the parents have
20 said and their concerns rightfully are correct.
21 What we have to understand also is we have a hundred
22 people here. We have 800 -- probably between two
23 schools we probably have 1,400 parents. What I'm
24 concerned with is you understand what the story is
25 as far as having 30 children to a class, but I can

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1 bet your bottom dollar next year at this time the
2 other segment of the population of the school's
3 going to come in raising hell about the 30. The
4 proper thing to do is exactly what we're doing and
5 it's exactly what you want, is to close it based on
6 what I see is going to happen with the population
7 here. With the changes from the state and the
8 changes with affordable housing, we have to have
9 that school ready to go, and where I was hoping that
10 we could do part of it this summer, part of it the
11 following summer and after that, it's not going to
12 work. So I think the proper thing is to close the
13 school, and we're saying a year. We all know that
14 if it takes a little bit longer than a year, so be
15 it, but that school will be perfect before we put
16 one child in that school. Not so bad.

17 MR. LEARY: Call the vote.

18 MR. KAUFMAN: Anyone else? Mr. Tessler.

19 MR. TESSLER: Just one more thing. Just
20 with all the plans we have for Applegarth, it may
21 take more than 1 year to get what we still need done
22 because we are trying not to go out for a bond
23 referendum. We are trying to pay as we go, not go
24 into debt, and do it little by the little, but this
25 asbestos and that will be done, and the window

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1 stuff, that will be absolutely done in a year, but
2 there's still -- I guarantee you probably won't be
3 able to do the boiler in that time and other things
4 will have to come at other times.

5 MR. KAUFMAN: Mr. Leary.

6 MR. LEARY: I thought that 9 million
7 plus was going to be a referendum item.

8 MR. KAUFMAN: I'm going to answer that
9 question. If we're going to stand with the motion
10 that's on the table, then we need to manage to make
11 sure that we can get as much as we possibly can get
12 done in the year; otherwise, if it's left
13 open-ended, it literally could last for years, and
14 if the building is closed for years, if the boilers
15 aren't run, if the -- it will actually degrade
16 exponentially. So in a sense we're talking about
17 bulldozing the building. So as it stands, we're
18 talking about managing to the results that will take
19 us to completion for a 1-year period.

20 MR. LEARY: The only way you can do that
21 is with a referendum and hire a general contractor.

22 MR. KAUFMAN: After that 1-year period,
23 there will be remaining work to be done because we
24 all know there will be remaining work to be done,
25 and we will reopen the school after 1 year, and any

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1 other capital projects that have to be done at that
2 school or other schools we can try and bundle into a
3 referendum so that we can get the entire community
4 to vote on supporting those capital projects, as
5 well, because as much as we -- the thought pattern
6 here, as much as we want to try and get this stuff
7 done for Applegarth, the reality is there will be
8 parts of the town that will say this is an Oak Tree
9 Applegarth problem, it has no affect on me, but at
10 that point in time after that year, if we can bundle
11 other capital projects, then we can, in fact, get
12 the buy-in from the rest of Monroe Township.

13 MR. LEARY: I think we need to go and
14 look at the finances of this thing. Are we going to
15 have a referendum and do the job right and can
16 establish it in 1 year, or are we going to dribble
17 it out and wind up with exactly the rack and ruin
18 that you were describing a few minutes ago.

19 MR. KAUFMAN: I think the best course of
20 action at this point is to try and do because we
21 still don't have the priority list and the
22 dependency list. Without that we still don't know
23 what the line item costs are going to be. After a
24 1-year period, we know the things that we talked
25 about, doing the asbestos remediation, talked about

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1 painting the classrooms, talked about the cosmetic
2 work. Given the fact that we have a little bit more
3 time, if we take the year and be able to do some of
4 the other projects a little bit sooner than later,
5 then when the building opens in a year in the fall
6 of 2012, then all the work won't be done. Again,
7 keep in mind, all the work that we talked about
8 doing for Applegarth School, it's all renovation
9 work. None of this is because the building is
10 decrepit or falling apart. These are all things
11 that we'd like to raise the bar for that school. So
12 if after a year we've gotten to several items that
13 we can afford in our operating budget and being able
14 to make this, now we have two budgets that will be
15 able to support this, this year and the following
16 year. We'll be able to try and do as much as we
17 possibly can, but as long as we all understand that
18 we can't absorb \$9 million worth of stuff on time
19 within that time frame. So as long as we're all in
20 agreement, that's why I'm -- I'm in favor of closing
21 the building for 1 year to get as much as we can get
22 done, done, because we have to keep it in a locked
23 window of 1 year. We don't want to keep that
24 building empty longer than it has to because, like I
25 mentioned before, we're going to -- we could be

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1 faced with having to demolish the entire structure,
2 and we've seen the reports. We've had the due
3 diligence. We've talked about the building and what
4 it's capable, and, Jerry, if you want to talk about
5 some of the other components we talked about
6 earlier, it's -- it will work for us to get the
7 stuff done within a 1-year period of time.

8 We're very concerned. See, the idea
9 here is we're very concerned that we don't want to
10 keep the building closed for too long because it may
11 take many, many years to do all the items, but if we
12 take a year off, then we can get a lot of things
13 done. We're in a very unique position here in
14 Monroe Township at this point in time. We have the
15 ability to have space at our disposal, and there's a
16 lot of districts throughout the state that would
17 love to be able to have the flexibility that we have
18 literally sitting in front of us, okay. We try and
19 make the administration work, too, and I'm going to
20 let you talk about that, but the idea is we want to
21 be able to bring the things back to Oak Tree and
22 Applegarth that were there in the original intent.
23 The original intent was to keep the building open.
24 That was the original plan, to bring up -- to answer
25 one of the other questions earlier. That was plan

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1 number 1. The idea is we want to be able to bring
2 art and music back to their own classrooms so that
3 we don't have to do things on a cart because, you
4 know, we're squeezed on space. So that was the
5 idea, that we can use some of the classrooms that
6 would be open because of the vacation of the 4th and
7 5th graders to be able to bring these kind of
8 programs back to the -- to the way it really needs
9 to be.

10 I'm going to recommend that I'm going to
11 shut up right now, and we'll go ahead and take a
12 vote.

13 DR. HAMILTON: If I may, Mr. Kaufman,
14 just before you take a vote.

15 MR. KAUFMAN: Dr. Hamilton.

16 DR. HAMILTON: I do want to respond to
17 something Mr. Leary said just to be clear. It is
18 impossible, even if the Board decided they wanted
19 to, it would be impossible to get a referendum
20 approved by this time next year. Even if every
21 voter in the town supported it, it would be
22 impossible to get it done. So I just wanted to make
23 sure that everyone was clear about that.

24 MR. KAUFMAN: Anyone else? Any other
25 discussion?

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1 A BOARD MEMBER: Just one quick comment.

2 If we can vote now because I really apologize. I
3 have to work the night shift at work overnight, and
4 I will have to leave after this vote.

5 MR. KAUFMAN: Mr. Gorski, roll call.

6 MR. GORSKI: Okay, the motion --

7 MR. KAUFMAN: The motion on the floor --

8 MR. GORSKI: The motion is to
9 amend previous --

10 A BOARD MEMBER: There's a point of
11 order question on the floor.

12 MR. KAUFMAN: The Chair recognizes
13 former Board member Mr. Joe Homoki.

14 MR. HOMOKI: Joe Homoki, 61 Hoffman
15 Road. I have a feeling how the Board is going to
16 go, but I want to make sure that you do it the right
17 way, and the amendment to that is not the proper way
18 to go. The way to go is the majority -- one of the
19 majority members who voted for it has to reconsider
20 the motion; am I right?

21 MR. KAUFMAN: Ira did.

22 MR. GORSKI: Mr. Homoki, the motion to
23 reconsider has a limited time of duration, and it's
24 usually at the same meeting, which is passed.

25 MR. HOMOKI: You have to vote on

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1 reconsidering first, and then to make it very clear,
2 a motion can be made, and by the way, he cannot make
3 a motion because he was in the minority.

4 MR. LEARY: He was in the majority.

5 MR. TESSLER: I was in the majority last
6 time.

7 MR. GORSKI: That's a motion to
8 reconsider, which can only be made at the same Board
9 meeting. The only motion that can be made now are
10 to rescind or amend, according to Roberts rules.

11 MR. HOMOKI: But the proper -- only the
12 person in the majority can reconsider. That's
13 correct. I'm sure. I'm sure of that.

14 MR. GORSKI: But that's at the same --

15 MR. HOMOKI: I'm not trying to be
16 against it. I'm very much for it. What I'm saying
17 is you want to do it the correct way so that
18 somebody a week from now doesn't come around and
19 start complaining that, hey, you did it the wrong
20 way. That's the only reason I bring this up.

21 A BOARD MEMBER: He was in the majority.

22 MR. HOMOKI: It's very simple. Somebody
23 has to in the majority make the motion.

24 MR. TESSLER: I was in the majority last
25 time, Joe, so I did.

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1 MR. KAUFMAN: He was in the majority.

2 MR. HOMOKI: Okay. Somebody else has to
3 make it was in the majority.

4 A BOARD MEMBER: It doesn't require a
5 majority or --

6 A BOARD MEMBER: He was in the majority.

7 MR. HOMOKI: All right. You make the
8 motion, has to be seconded. You vote on it. Then
9 you have a very clean thing that you're going to
10 vote on, whatever the -- 1 year, year and a half,
11 2 years, whatever you want to do.

12 MR. KAUFMAN: Point of order, Mr.
13 Gorski.

14 MR. GORSKI: I want to be clear. The
15 motion to reconsider, which is the term that you
16 used, your point is accurate that the motion to be
17 reconsidered can only be made by someone who voted
18 in the winning side of the meeting --

19 MR. HOMOKI: That's correct.

20 MR. GORSKI: -- but the motion to
21 reconsider can only be made on the same day which
22 the vote is sought to be reconsidered was taken.
23 That time has expired. The only motions that can be
24 made now are to amend or rescind, and that does not
25 require someone to be in the favor of the last

1 meeting. It just requires a majority of the Board.

2 A BOARD MEMBER: Point of order. That's
3 only Rogers rules. I know the United States
4 government doesn't recognize the time limit on a
5 motion to rescind.

6 MR. KAUFMAN: Well, we govern by
7 Robert's Rules.

8 A BOARD MEMBER: It would really be a
9 motion to rescind and then remotion it.

10 MR. GORSKI: That's right, a clean
11 motion.

12 MR. KAUFMAN: The motion on the floor is
13 to amend. So any other discussion?

14 A BOARD MEMBER: Yes.

15 MR. KAUFMAN: Mr. Braverman.

16 MR. BRAVERMAN: My question is if we
17 close the school, which everybody seems to be in
18 favor of, and the bond referendum fails, what's the
19 alternative?

20 MR. KAUFMAN: Well, the bond referendum
21 failing -- everything that we're talking about here
22 is subject to us being able to be supported -- not
23 the bond referendum, but the regular budget cycle in
24 April. It's not a bond referendum.

25 MR. BRAVERMAN: I think that should be a

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1 part of the motion. I also think that as part of
2 the motion we should have the number of students
3 that might be in each classroom so that we're not
4 hit with this again in October.

5 MR. KAUFMAN: You can't, not right now.
6 Dr. Hamilton, do you want to talk about class sizes
7 and address Marvin's concern?

8 DR. HAMILTON: Well, I would hate to --
9 I don't think it would be appropriate to create a
10 policy relative to class size exclusive to Oak Tree.
11 I hear Mr. Braverman's point, though, very clearly,
12 and perhaps one of the items the Board may want to
13 consider adding to this is amending the motion so
14 that it would be clear that there is an
15 understanding that class sizes at Oak Tree may
16 exceed the average class sizes in comparison to
17 other school buildings.

18 MR. KAUFMAN: So the question is, Mr.
19 Tessler, do you wish that we make the following
20 change to your motion: Motion to amend the
21 previously approved renovation plan to Applegarth
22 School for 1 year and allowing the class size of
23 Applegarth -- of Oak Tree School to exceed the class
24 size average of the rest of the Monroe Township
25 school district.

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1 MR. TESSLER: Read the first part again.

2 There was nothing about closing Applegarth.

3 MR. KAUFMAN: Yeah. Go ahead, Mike.

4 MR. GORSKI: The proposed motion change

5 is to amend the previously approved renovation plan

6 for Applegarth School for 1 year and allow class

7 size to exceed class size averages within the

8 district.

9 MR. TESSLER: Sure.

10 MR. KAUFMAN: Do I have a second? Mr.

11 Chiarella. Any other discussion?

12 A BOARD MEMBER: Point of information.

13 Are there any legal implications for class sizes?

14 DR. HAMILTON: Class sizes are

15 established by the Board policy.

16 A BOARD MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.

17 MR. KAUFMAN: Any other discussion?

18 Roll call.

19 MR. GORSKI: Mr. Leary.

20 MR. LEARY: No.

21 MR. GORSKI: Mr. Tessler.

22 MR. TESSLER: Yes.

23 MR. GORSKI: Miss Faraone. Can she

24 vote? I beg your pardon. Miss Leonard.

25 MS. LEONARD: Yes.

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1 MR. GORSKI: Mr. Braverman.

2 MR. BRAVERMAN: Yes.

3 MR. GORSKI: Mr. Chiarella.

4 MR. CHIARELLA: Yes.

5 MR. GORSKI: Mrs. Kolupanowich.

6 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Yes.

7 MR. GORSKI: Mr. Klein.

8 MR. KLEIN: Yes.

9 MR. GORSKI: Mr. Masters.

10 MR. MASTERS: Yes.

11 MR. GORSKI: Mr. Kaufman.

12 MR. KAUFMAN: Yes.

13 MR. GORSKI: Mr. Board President, the
14 motion to amend previously approved renovation plan
15 for Applegarth School for 1 year and allow class
16 size to exceed class size averages within the
17 district has passed.

18 MR. KAUFMAN: Thank you, Mike. Kathy.

19 MS. LEONARD: I make a motion that in
20 order to support the districtwide reconfiguration
21 plan, it is recommended that members of the Monroe
22 Township Board of Education authorize the
23 districtwide grade level reconfiguration as follows
24 for the 2011/2012 school year: Barclay Brook
25 Elementary School, pre-K to grade 2; Brookside

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1 Elementary School, grade 3 to 5; Mill Lake

2 Elementary School, pre-K -- (end of tape 4) --

3 MR. KAUFMAN: Mr. Chiarella. We're

4 going to do a roll call on this one. Any

5 discussion? Roll call, Mike.

6 MR. GORSKI: Mr. Leary.

7 MR. LEARY: Yes.

8 MR. GORSKI: Mr. Tessler.

9 MR. TESSLER: Yes.

10 MR. GORSKI: Mrs. Leonard.

11 MS. LEONARD: Yes.

12 MR. GORSKI: Mr. Braverman.

13 MR. BRAVERMAN: Yes.

14 MR. GORSKI: Mr. Chiarella.

15 MR. CHIARELLA: Yes.

16 MR. GORSKI: Mrs. Kolupanowich.

17 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Yes.

18 MR. GORSKI: Mr. Klein.

19 MR. KLEIN: Yes.

20 MR. GORSKI: Mr. Masters.

21 MR. MASTERS: Yes.

22 MR. GORSKI: Mr. Kaufman.

23 MR. KAUFMAN: Yes. Did you do Mr.

24 Leary?

25 MR. GORSKI: Yes. Mr. Board President,

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1 the motion passes.

2 MR. KAUFMAN: Thank you, Mike. I'm
3 going to take this opportunity to answer a couple of
4 other questions that came up. Dean, who I saw left
5 a little while ago, he asked about or he made a
6 comment about no windows in trailers. I think we
7 all know, we've been -- some of us have been in the
8 trailers. There's windows in the trailers. It's
9 not a closed box. It's a classroom with things like
10 desks, windows, air conditioning, heat, so that
11 issue doesn't fly.

12 Question about class sizes was brought
13 up. I'm not an educator. I don't even try and
14 profess that I am one, but I think we all can agree
15 that as the class sizes get bigger, teachers have
16 less ability to give that one-on-one attention to
17 students. So I think we can all be in agreement
18 that the quest for the Board of Education in this
19 district is to get the class sizes as low as
20 possible so I don't think it's in our best interests
21 to extend this longer than 1 year. We would like to
22 be able to get down to class sizes, and, again,
23 we're in a very fortunate situation where we can do
24 the renovation work at Applegarth School and provide
25 the space that our kids need to be able to have a

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1 wonderful educational experience in Monroe and have
2 the space to do it.

3 Ken already answered the question about
4 who gets assigned to the chairs of all the
5 committees. That's my job. I do that. Buck stops
6 here.

7 Let's see what else. Busing, moot point
8 for 1 year, but it will be, you know, and do you
9 want to address how it would have been a player so
10 that we can see what it would be like once the, you
11 know, Applegarth School opens.

12 DR. HAMILTON: So you're not interested
13 in that answer. All right. We'll move on.

14 MR. KAUFMAN: No, no, I want you to
15 answer.

16 DR. HAMILTON: The busing situation had
17 we continued to move students across the street
18 wouldn't have been any different than what we
19 currently have in place. It would have added an
20 additional stop for those buses that contained those
21 youngsters that are currently or would be at that
22 point enrolled in grades 4 and 5 so it would not
23 have impacted the bus route at all, actually.

24 MR. KAUFMAN: There was a question that
25 was brought up about moving the trailers across the

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1 street. Again, this follows up to like raw numbers
2 and numbers of students in the school over at Oak
3 Tree. The building was designed for a certain
4 number of students, and once you get above that, you
5 start running into certain things, and one of the
6 things, again, because we have room that we wanted
7 to try and be proactive about, and having the space
8 to do it, we can do this. We don't want to be in a
9 position where we're going to put too many students
10 in one building. We're going to roll the clock back
11 to years ago when we didn't have the trailers over
12 at Brookside and we had students having lunch at
13 10 o'clock in the morning because there's such a
14 high number of students that need to have lunch and
15 a small amount of space given the number of
16 students. You can't have more than a certain number
17 of students in the cafeteria at any one time so you
18 would have students having lunch at maybe 10, 10:30
19 in the morning, and they're there until, I don't
20 know, 3:30, 4 o'clock. So, again, just moving
21 trailers across the street raises the whole
22 population of the school, and the poor facility just
23 won't be able to support it sufficiently, and given
24 the fact that there's a school across the street
25 that tomorrow is going to be a school and is going

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1 to be a school for the whole rest of the year, it's
2 a functioning school, you know, so it doesn't make
3 sense.

4 So let's see what else is on my little
5 question. Renovation. Jerry, can you just take the
6 mic for a minute here. Questions about the asbestos
7 plan, lead paint, that sort of stuff, and anything
8 else that you just want to touch on that may be
9 covered tomorrow night at Applegarth.

10 MR. TAGUE: Sure. The gentleman who
11 with the renovation experience who mentioned that
12 possibility exists that there could be unknown
13 asbestos out there, he's absolutely right. The
14 management plan identifies all known and assumed
15 asbestos containing materials, but as the incident a
16 few years ago with science tables demonstrated,
17 there can be materials that's unknown. So now that
18 the project is being delayed, it will give us the
19 opportunity should an unknown come up that it can be
20 dealt with.

21 As far as lead paint, I'll leave that
22 for Dr. Lynch tomorrow because I really don't have
23 much information on that. He's a certified
24 industrial hygienist consultant with Environmental
25 Safety Management, who will be doing a presentation

1 tomorrow on the health issues related to the
2 renovations over there. He can touch on the lead
3 paint issue as well as the air quality issues.

4 MR. KAUFMAN: Another question, just
5 answer another question that was put up before about
6 hiring these agencies to come in to do the testing
7 on the schools. They're not hired. They're part of
8 the government so you ask them to come in and it's
9 not a paid for opinion. It's an opinion by the
10 state and federal government. Am I right or wrong?

11 MR. TAGUE: Well, the district would be
12 hiring an asbestos professional to prepare bid
13 specifications, and the district would go out to bid
14 for the work after the professional has evaluated
15 the building, come up with a scope of work,
16 identified all the tile, caulking, whatever is left
17 in the building to be dealt with. Part of their
18 responsibility is to oversee the construction or the
19 removal and do air monitoring. What the district
20 did by bringing in Dr. Lynch as a kind of another
21 set of eyes on this, he would have another third
22 party independent person doing testing on air
23 quality.

24 MR. KAUFMAN: And OSHA?

25 MR. TAGUE: OSHA, they do not come out

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1 and do sampling, but it's something that can be
2 requested. It's not part of their standard
3 operating procedure for an asbestos removal project.

4 MR. KAUFMAN: Again, the idea here is
5 that this Board of Education wants to get rid of the
6 problem. We just don't want to cover it up. You
7 know, we can very easily tile over it, paint over
8 it, seal it. At the last Board of Ed meeting, some
9 people actually came up and made that
10 recommendation. I don't think it's the way to go.
11 I think the best thing we can do is get rid of it
12 from the building completely, and that's what we
13 want to try and move forward for. So, you know,
14 giving us, you know, having this year will give us
15 the ability to do possibly more things in the
16 building, and the idea here is once that year is
17 done, you can reevaluate where we are, where we are
18 with funding, reevaluate grant money, what's been
19 available, what's not been available, and then
20 readjust our priorities and dependency lists based
21 on what we got accomplished in that 1 year time.

22 A BOARD MEMBER: Mr. Kaufman.

23 MR. KAUFMAN: Yes.

24 A BOARD MEMBER: I don't know if you're
25 going to address this in the questions, but the

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1 verbatim minute taking, which I think is a good
2 point only because I think to maintain an accurate
3 record, I think that, you know, it's a good thing
4 for us to be doing. I don't know if that cause an
5 additional burden to the -- to do that, but I think
6 it's needed.

7 MR. KAUFMAN: One other question that
8 was brought up, I'm going to let Dr. Hamilton answer
9 this one, about the option of sending your child to
10 another school. Dr. Hamilton.

11 DR. HAMILTON: We do not -- the district
12 does not have an open enrollment policy so that
13 option would not be available to parents, not just
14 in this scenario, but in any scenario. In order to
15 go to a district school, you would have to live in
16 the zones that have been established by the Board of
17 Education and the redistricting plan.

18 MR. KAUFMAN: Let's see. I think I have
19 -- the question about hiring your own personal air
20 quality person, I don't believe that it would be the
21 right thing to do. Again, it's a paid for opinion.
22 Dr. Hamilton, anyone else, Jerry. Where would we
23 stand on hiring your own private air quality
24 evaluator?

25 MR. TAGUE: I guess that would really be

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1 up to the Board if they'd allow somebody to come in.

2 I mean, the air sampling, it's not destructive to

3 the building. It's a little cartridge and filter,

4 and they let it operate in a room for a while, and

5 they take samples, and they send it to a laboratory.

6 MR. KAUFMAN: Do the folks that do that

7 now on a regular basis, the people that we would

8 like hire to do this, I'm assuming that they're all

9 certified by the state to be able to do this.

10 That's what they do. I mean, they have to have some

11 kind of accreditation so we know the gizmos they

12 need to do these tests and the training that they

13 need to do this is all --

14 MR. TAGUE: The labs have to be

15 certified to do the sampling.

16 MR. KAUFMAN: Right, so if the Board was

17 ever to entertain that again with having state and

18 federal agencies coming in here and doing this, if

19 the Board was ever to entertain that, that would be

20 a minimal requirement that they have to be a

21 certificate state --

22 MR. TAGUE: Sure.

23 MR. KAUFMAN: -- provider of this

24 service.

25 MR. TAGUE: I think the question,

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1 though, was the resident wanted to do their own

2 sampling.

3 MR. KAUFMAN: Yeah, that I absolutely --

4 I don't want to speak to the rest of the Board

5 members. They can chime in their own opinions. I

6 don't know if they know how to do this just because

7 they brought the thing that does this. I don't know

8 if they're using it right. So I would feel less,

9 and I don't think any other parents in here would

10 feel better about whether or not they would want to

11 have somebody personally do it. So anyone else want

12 to chime in, Board members?

13 MR. MASTERS: Lou Masters.

14 (Inaudible)

15 MR. TAGUE: The science tables in I

16 think it's rooms 27/28, there was some profanity

17 that had be engraved in the table. The principal

18 asked that they be covered. A carpenter went there

19 to overlay them with plastic laminate, and then he

20 took a belt sander to the table, and the tables,

21 themselves, were not included in the AHERA

22 management plan from the beginning so they were

23 never assumed to be asbestos. One of the employees

24 here, though, who does have training said, you know,

25 I think we might have an issue here, so we did have

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1 it checked, and we had it checked. Lo and behold it
2 does, and because of the sanding that was done,
3 there was a release. So the Board then contracted
4 with an outfit, a cleanup outfit, to come in, do the
5 cleaning, have the air sampling done, et cetera, and
6 confirm that everything was clean. So there's a
7 perfect example of you don't know. Although we have
8 a plan that says this is where it is, it could be,
9 as the gentleman mentioned before, hidden in the
10 wall or buried under the floor.

11 MR. KAUFMAN: Well, given the fact that
12 we have another year, I'm going to assume that the
13 facilities department is going to do everything
14 humanly possible to make sure we identify any other
15 potential sources of asbestos known or unknown
16 wherever we can possibly identify it.

17 Anyone else from the Board?

18 MR. MASTERS: Just a follow-up.

19 MR. KAUFMAN: One second, Lou.

20 MR. MASTERS: The desks are gone?

21 MR. TAGUE: No, they're not. They're
22 still in place, and they're now listed on the map.

23 MR. MASTERS: Okay. Thank you.

24 MR. KAUFMAN: Mark.

25 MR. KLEIN: Just think if we received

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1 our fair share of state aid, this wouldn't even be a
2 topic. You'd be able to build a new school like
3 they do in the title 1 school districts.

4 MR. KAUFMAN: Thank you, Mark.

5 MR. KLEIN: Two hundred thirty-six
6 thousand dollars does nothing for us.

7 MR. KAUFMAN: Anyone else from the
8 Board?

9 MR. KLEIN: Write letters like I do to
10 the governor, to whoever else you can.

11 MR. KAUFMAN: If there's no one else in
12 the Board, we're going to move on with the agenda
13 item number 10, which is the approval of the
14 minutes.

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SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS – NOVEMBER 17, 2010

I. Enrollment

	<u>10/31/10</u>	<u>9/30/10</u>	Increase+ <u>Decrease-</u>	<u>10/31/09</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Applegarth School	862	864	-2	799	+63
Barclay Brook School	489	491	-2	531	-42
Brookside School	681	681	0	670	+11
Mill Lake School	668	667	+1	677	-9
Oak Tree	819	822	-3	747	+72
Woodland School	511	512	-1	512	-1
Monroe High School	<u>1657</u>	<u>1660</u>	<u>-3</u>	<u>1611</u>	<u>+46</u>
Total Elementary & Secondary	5687	5697	-10	5547	140

I. Enrollment (cont'd)

<u>School</u>	Monroe			Jamesburg		
	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Academy Learning Center	13	13		1	1	
Bridge Academy	1	1				
Cambridge	1	1				
Center School	2	2		1	1	
Childrens Center of Monm.	1	1		1	1	
Collier	4	3	Minus 1			
CPC Upper	4	4		1	1	
East Mountain	1	1				
Eden	2	2		1	1	
Harbor School	2	2				
KIVA				1	1	
New Roads Parlin	5	5		1	1	
New Roads Somerset	2	2				
Mercer Elementary	1	1				
Mercer High School	2	2				
Mercer Cty Reg. Day	2	2				
Midland	2	2		1	1	
Millstone WW/Plainsboro	1	1				
Morris Union Jointure DCL	1	1				
Newgrange School	1	1				
Oakwood School	1	1				
Princeton Child Develop Inst.	1	1				
Raritan Valley Academy				1	1	
Rugby	1	1		1	1	
School for Hidden Intellig.	1	1				
Schroth School	1	1				
Spotswood High School				1	1	
UMDNJ	1	1		1	1	
Total	54	53		12	12	

OFFICE OF PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES

October 2010 Home Instruction Report to the Superintendent								
Student#	Reason	Grade	Teachers	School	Start date	End date	Hours per week	
86369	Med	3F	Merlette	ML	9/2/2010	9/28/2010	5	
85233	Med	1	St. Peters Hosp.	BB	9/2/2010	10/18/2010	5	
83474	Med	12	Rose, Lyons	HS	9/2/2010	9/28/2010	10	
85704	Sus	12	Lyons	HS	9/14/2010	9/30/2010	2	
78387	504/Med	8	Somerset Med. Cent.	AMS	10/8/2010		5	
81240	504/Med	7	Cundari,Murphy	AMS	10/12/2010		5	
86402	Med	5	Trent	WL	10/11/2010		5	
80832	Med	7	Earl, Murphy, Kiss	AMS	10/4/2010		5	
50033	SUS	12	Lyons	HS	10/20/2010		2	
86528	MED	3	Quinn	OT	10/22/2010		5	
50129	Med	12	Princeton House	HS	10/18/2010		10	
85835	Med	K	Children's Hosp.	K	10/13/2010		5	
78774	504/Med	8	Weiner	AMS	10/26/2010		5	
83089	504/Med	3	Embrace Kids Found.	ML	9/20/2010		5	
50399	Med	11	New Hope	HS	10/8/2010		10	

II. Home Instruction

III. Fire Drills

Applegarth School ----- October 7 and 13, 2010
 Barclay Brook School----- October 12 and 25, 2010
 Brookside School ----- October 6 and 20, 2010
 Mill Lake School ----- October 21 and 25, 2010
 Oak Tree School ----- October 7 and 18, 2010
 Woodland School ----- October 20 and 22, 2010
 Monroe High School ----- October 5 and 20, 2010

Lockdown

Brookside -----October 25, 2010
 MTHS-----October 28, 2010

IV. Personnel

- A. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of **Ms. Angela Winther**, as a teacher of afterschool TAG Grade 3 Language Arts at Oak Tree School, effective November 17, 2010.
- B. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of **Ms. Gertrude Campo**, Spanish Teacher at the High School, effective November 2, 2010.
- C. It is recommended that the Board approve a medical leave of absence to **Mr. Thomas Taylor**, mechanic in the Transportation Department, retroactive to November 15, 2010 through December 23, 2010. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except for any sick days Mr. Taylor may have available.
- D. It is recommended that the Board approve a medical leave of absence to **Ms. Ronnie Grossman**, Basic Skills teacher at Mill Lake School retroactive to October 21, 2010 through November 12, 2010. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except for any sick days Ms. Grossman may have available.
- E. It is recommended that the Board approve an extended medical leave of absence to **Ms. Dianne Ostroski**, teacher of grade 1 at Oak Tree School, retroactive November 1, 2010 through April 9, 2011. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except for any sick days Ms. Ostroski may have available.
- F. It is recommended that the Board approve an extended medical leave of absence to **Ms. Margaret Cerny**, Special Education teacher at the High School effective November 1, 2010 through November 19, 2010. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except for any sick days Ms. Cerny may have available.
- G. It is recommended that the Board approve a medical leave of absence to **Ms. Wendy Cerbie**, paraprofessional at Mill Lake School, retroactive to September 15, 2010 through October 15, 2010. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except for any sick days Ms. Cerbie may have available.
- H. It is recommended that the Board approve a maternity leave of absence to **Ms. Reeshemah Zielinski**, secretary in the Personnel Office, effective January 3, 2011 through June 30, 2011. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except for any sick days Ms. Zielinski is entitled to utilize.

- I. It is recommended that the Board approve a maternity leave of absence to **Ms. Jennifer D. Fischer**, teacher of grade 6 at Woodland School, effective January 3, 2011 through June 30, 2011. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except for any sick days Ms. Fischer is entitled to utilize.
- J. It is recommended that the Board approve a medical leave of absence to **Ms. Karen Hellriegel**, Bus Driver in the Transportation Department, retroactive to November 8, 2010 through December 1, 2010. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except for any sick days Ms. Hellriegel may have available.
- K. It is recommended that the Board approve a modification in the maternity leave of absence of **Ms. Jennifer Smits**, teacher of grade 2 at Barclay Brook School, effective December 6, 2010 through April 25, 2011. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except for any sick days Ms. Smits is entitled to utilize.
- L. It is recommended that the Board approve the following advisory positions for volunteer clubs at the High School for the 2010-2011 school year:

Film Appreciation volunteer	Joe Rooney
Ex Amino volunteer	Tina Lambiase
The Lyceum volunteer	Ben Petersen

- M. It is recommended the Board approve the following personnel as substitutes in the Saturday Academy for the 2010-2011 school year:

Judy Firestine
Patricia Van Gorden

- N. It is recommended the Board approve the following personnel as teachers and/or substitutes for the After School Basic Skills Program effective 11/18/10-6/30/11:

Teachers

Brookside – Language Art/Math (account no. 11-120-100-101-000-020)

Carly Grob

Teresa Gregorio

Woodland (account. no. 11-120-100-101-000-030)

Courtney Newick
Deborah DeBoer

Substitutes

Jeanine Morse (all elementary schools)

Brookside(account no. 11-120-100-101-000-020)
Marisol Cruz

Oak Tree (account no. 11-120-100-101-000-060)
Melissa DelRocco
Ben Howroyd
Adrienne Previtera
Carmela Iadevaia
Casserly Shea
Denise Cassili
Susan Berman
Ania Shanholtzer
Mary Mancini

Barclay Brook (account no. 11-120-100-101-000-010)
Ashley Pepe
Marisa Leston
Ashlee Torres
Jackie Winters
Melissa Cortina
Amy Anderson
Patricia Dinsmore

- O. It is recommended that the Board approve the following Applegarth personnel for the Annual Team Vega Social on Wednesday, December 1st, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the non instructional rate of \$44.85/hr (account no. 11-130-100-101-000-050):

Irene Curran
Nancy Markwell
Rachel Van Horn
Kyleen Lauretta
Patricia Van Gorden
Ruthann Papanestor
Scott Weiner
Karen Antozzeski

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

Employee	Position	School	Salary Guide	Dates	Account No.	Reason for hire
Warren Lay	Lead Custodian	Barclay Brook	8 hours day \$18.74/hr +After 3 (\$51) +BS (\$750 yr)+Lead premium (\$1.00)	11/18/10-6/30/11	11-000-262-100-000-010	Transfer position
Andrew Rodriguez	Personal Para	Applegarth	Step 1 \$11.93/hr 6.75/hrs day	10/15/10-11/12/10	11-190-100-106-000-050	Extension of contract
Darlene Rossano	Para	Applegarth	\$70 annual stipend 1 credit	9/27/10-6/30/11	11-213-100-106-000-093	Professional development stipend
Cindy Ferguson	Para	Oak Tree	\$70 annual stipend 1 credit	9/27/10-6/30/11	11-190-100-106-000-060	Professional development stipend
Michelle Glessman	Para	Barclay Brook	\$70 annual stipend 1 credit	10/15/10-6/30/11	11-213-100-106-000-093	Professional development stipend
Mia McCabe	Para	Oak Tree	Step 1 Reg. Ed. \$11.93 hr for 3.0hrs/day	11/8/10-6/30/11	11-190-100-106-000-060	Para due to large class size
Kimberly Barbuto	Para	Oak Tree	Step 1 Reg. Ed. \$11.93 hr for 3.0hrs/day	11/8/10-6/30/11	11-190-100-106-000-060	Para due to large class size
Michelle Delaney	Para	Oak Tree	Step 1 Reg. Ed. \$11.93 hr for 3.0hrs/day	11/8/10-6/30/11	11-190-100-106-000-060	Para due to large class size
Maria Hughes	Para	Oak Tree	Step 3 Reg. Ed. \$12.13 hr for 3.0hrs/day	11/8/10-11/17/10	11-190-100-106-000-060	Para due to large class size
Mary Loschiavo	Para	Oak Tree	Step 1 Reg. Ed. \$11.93 hr for 3.0hrs/day	11/8/10-6/30/11	11-190-100-106-000-060	Para due to large class size RIF recall
Sandra Barravechio	Para	Oak Tree	Step 1 Reg. Ed. \$11.93 hr for 3.0hrs/day	11/8/10-6/30/11	11-190-100-106-000-060	Para due to large class size
Frances Yoffredo	Para	Oak Tree	Step 1 Reg. Ed. \$11.93 hr for 3.0hrs/day	11/18/10-6/30/11	11-190-100-106-000-060	Para due to large class size
Sarah Ann Plenzo	Para	Oak Tree	Step 1 Reg. Ed. \$11.93 hr for 3.0hrs/day	11/18/10-6/30/11	11-190-100-106-000-060	Para due to large class size
Jean Martin	Para	Oak Tree	Step 1 Reg. Ed. \$11.93 hr for 3.0hrs/day	11/18/10-6/30/11	11-190-100-106-000-060	Para due to large class size
Nancy Tagliaferro	Para	Oak Tree	Step 1 Reg. Ed. \$11.93 hr	11/18/10-6/30/11	11-190-100-106-000-060	Para due to large class size

			for 3.0hrs/day			
Laura Tessler	Para	Oak Tree	Step 1 Reg. Ed. \$11.93 hr for 3.0hrs/day	11/18/10-6/30/11	11-190-100-106-000-060	Para due to large class size
Carlos Terrones	Custodian	Oak Tree	Boiler License \$750.00 yr	retro to 9/18/10-6/30/11	11-000-262-100-000-050	Salary adjustment
Linda Boone	Accounts Payable 50% Payroll 50%	Business Office	\$69,707 + \$900 base + 20 years longevity \$2000	11/18/10-6/30/11	11-000-251-100-098	Transfer to new position

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

Employee	Position	School	Salary Guide	Dates	Account No.	Reason for hire
Dawn Graziano	Grade 6	Brookside	\$1405 15 years longevity	12/3/10-6/30/11	11-130-100-101-000-020	Longevity
John Murphy	Assistant Winter Track	MTHS	Step 3 \$5880	2010-2011 school year	11-402-100-100-000-098	Correction in stipend amount
James Cernansky	Assistant Principal	MTHS	\$104,562 pro rated	11-000-240-103-000-098	1/3/11-6/30/11	Correction in start date
Jena Rose	TOH	MTHS	117% of step 8A BA \$60,198	11-213-100-101-000-093	10/11/10-11/19/10	Additional section – leave replacement
Deborah DeBoer	TOH	MTHS	117% of step 11BA+15 \$76,609+ \$1750	11-213-100-101-000-093	10/11/10-11/19/10	Additional section – leave replacement
Amy Farell	TOH	MTHS	117% of step 4BA \$46,608	11-213-100-101-000-093	10/11/10-11/19/10	Additional section – leave replacement
Denise DiMeola	TOH	MTHS	117% of step 2BA \$46,158	11-213-100-101-000-093	10/11/10-11/19/10	Additional section – leave replacement
Jovanna Quindes	TOH	MTHS	117% of step 8A BA \$60,198	11-213-100-101-000-093	10/11/10-11/19/10	Additional section – leave replacement
Joseph Eurell	TOH	MTHS	Step 1 MA \$46,003 +\$3450 prorated	11-213-100-101-000-093	Retroactive to 10/1/10-6/30/11	Placed on step on guide – received certificate

Christina Addeo	Grade 1	Oak Tree	Step 1 MA \$46,003 + \$3450 prorated	11-120-100- 101-000-060	11/9/10- 4/15/11	Extension of leave replacement contract
Manjit Sran	Math Lead Teacher	MTHS	MTEA hourly rate \$53.87 up to 10 hours per month for 12 months	11-140-100- 101-000-070	11/18/10- 6/30/11	New position
Kristin Miller	Math Lead Teacher	PreK-6	MTEA hourly rate \$53.87 up to 10 hours per month for 12 months	11-110-100- 101-000-010 (50%) 11-120-100- 101-000-010 (50%)	11/18/10- 6/30/11	New position
Laurie Pike	Math Lead Teacher	PreK-6	MTEA hourly rate \$53.87 up to 10 hours per month for 12 months	11-120-100- 101-000-020 (75%) 11-130-100- 101-000-030 (25%)	11/18/10- 6/30/11	New position
Maria Steffero	Math Lead Teacher	Applegarth	MTEA hourly rate \$53.87 up to 10 hours per month for 12 months	11-130-100- 101-000-050	11/18/10- 6/30/11	New position
Ben Howroyd	After School TAG	Oak Tree	\$77.56 per session	11-120-100- 101-000-060	11/18/10- 6/30/11	After School position
Shanda Scott	Teacher coach Impact Grant	District	Step 3 MA 70% of \$46,358 +\$3450 prorated	20-293-100- 101-000-098	11/18/10- 6/30/11	Impact Grant
Laura Pontrella	Kindergarten	Barclay Brook	Step 1 BA \$46,003 pro rated	11-110-100- 101-000- 010	1/1/11- 6/30/11	Leave replacement for M.C.
Kyle Reed	Grade 2	Barclay Brook	Step 1 BA \$46,003 pro rated	11-120-100- 101-000- 010	12/1/10 4/26/11	Leave replacement for J.S.
Stacey Limbach	Reading Specialist	Barclay Brook	Step 1 MA \$46003 +\$3450 prorated	11-120-100- 101-000-010	11/29/10- 2/25/11	Leave Replacement for S.B.
Jaclyn Varacallo	Impact Grant Math Praxis Tutor	District	Hourly supplemental \$53.87/hr for a total of 80 hours	20-293-100- 101-000-098	11/18/10- 6/30/11	Impact Grant

Sherri Fatovic	Impact Grant Language Arts Praxis Tutor	District	Hourly supplemental \$53.87/hr for a total of 40 hours	20-293-100- 101-000-098	11/18/10- 6/30/11	Impact Grant
Melissa Mazur	Spanish Teacher	MTHS	\$85/day	11-140-100- 101-000-070	Retroactive 11/8/10- 11/17/10	Leave replacement extension of contract
Melissa Mazur	Spanish Teacher	MTHS	Step 1 BA \$46,003 prorated	11-140-100- 101-000-070	11/18/10- 6/30/11	Replacement position
Renata MacKenzie	AHSA Language Arts	MTHS	Hourly instructional \$53.87/hr for approximately 16 hours	11-140-100- 101-000-070	11/29/10- 12/20/10 and 3/4/11- 4/14/11	Testing instruction
Manjit Sran	AHSA-Math	MTHS	Hourly instructional \$53.87/hr for approximately 16 hours	11-140-100- 101-000-070	11/29/10- 12/20/10 and 3/4/11- 4/14/11	Testing instruction

- R. It is recommended that the Board approve the attached list of substitutes for the 2010-2011 school year:

Certificated

Doreen Esposito	Substitute Teacher
Brian Mick	Substitute Teacher
Stacy DePalma	Substitute Teacher
Ernestine Blackledge	Substitute Teacher
Elisa Cohen	Substitute Teacher
Jennifer O'Connell	Substitute Teacher
Brooke Mosesman	Substitute Teacher
Marissa Becker	Substitute Teacher
Scott Messinger	Substitute Teacher/Avid Tutor
Alexis Mendoza	Substitute Teacher/Avid Tutor
Carre Tringali	Substitute Teacher/Avid Tutor
Sean Field	Avid Tutor
Vanessa Bowden	Substitute Teacher/Saturday Academy

Non certificated

Jaclyn Spoleti	Avid Tutor
Alicia Devito	Substitute Paraprofessional
Frances Yofreddo	Substitute Paraprofessional
Margaret Burke	Substitute Paraprofessional
Lisa Cannata	Substitute Paraprofessional
Andrew Rodriguez	Substitute Paraprofessional
Debra Garner	Substitute Paraprofessional
Attilio DeMarco	Substitute Computer Technician

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 request for Field Trips.
- C. It is recommended that the Board approve the attached list of Student Teacher Placements.
- D. It is recommended that the Board accept the attached list of Student Suspensions for the month of September 2010.

E. 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.

- F. It is recommended that the Board approve HighScope Educational Research Foundation to provide staff training for the following seventeen staff members for twenty days for a total of \$53,295 to be funded through the ARRA grant:

Pre-School Teachers

Barbara Hirsch – Mill Lake
Paula D’Angelo – Mill Lake
Katherine Pedersen – Barclay Brook
Ashlee Torres – Barclay Brook
Melissa Chow – Oak Tree

Speech Therapist

Jodi Liebov – Barclay Brook
Noreen Clifford – Barclay Brook
Halice Rubin – Mill Lake
Kate Towlen – Oak Tree and High School

Child Study Team

Diane Allinder Mill Lake
Debi Conklin – Mill Lake and Woodland
Maureen Sutter – Barclay Brook
Kim Wasnesky – Barclay Brook and Brookside
Kathy Majewski – Oak Tree
Emily Raphel – Oak Tree and Applegarth

Marie Pepe – Supervisor
Marietta Ruela - Director

- G. It is recommended that the Board approve the Operational Procedures' Handbook for District Channel 28 PEC Central Television Station.
- H. It is recommended that the Board approve the following modification in the student placement:

Student No.	School	Per Diem Rate	Dates
82580	Harbor School	Rate change for Teacher assistant from \$147.71 to \$152.44	9/7/10-6/30/11

- I. It is recommended that the Board approve the following curriculum for the 2010-2011 school year:

Latin I
 Language Arts I
 Honors Language Arts I
 Honors Spanish IV

- J. **Violence, Vandalism, and Substance Abuse** In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46, the Annual District Report and the Incident Listing for Violence, Vandalism, and Substance Abuse is being presented for public review.

- K. It is recommended that the Board approve the correction of the submission of the IDEA funds which were erroneously called the ARRA funds in the September 15, 2010 Board Agenda:

IDEA B – Basic \$911,350.00
 IDEA B – Preschool \$ 43,757.00

- L. It is recommended that the Board approve the readoption of the following Policies and Regulations:

Policy 4111	Creating Positions
Policy 4124	Employment Contract
Policy 4125	Employment of Support Staff Members
Policy 4146	Non-Renewal of Non-tenured Support Staff
Regulation 4146	Non-Renewal of Non-tenured Support Staff
Policy 4160	Physical Examination
Regulation 4160	Physical Examination
Policy 4218	Substance Abuse
Regulation 4218	Substance Abuse
Policy 4220	Evaluation of Support Staff Members
Policy 4230	Outside Activities

Regulation 4230	Outside Activities
Policy 4233	Political Activities
Regulation 4233	Political Activities
Regulation 4240	Employee Training
Policy 4321	Acceptable Use of Computer Network(s)
Computers and Staff	Resources by Support

- M. It is recommended that the Board approve the revisions of the following policies and regulations:

Policy 168	Recording Minutes
Policy 2431.4	Concussion Testing and Return-To-Play
Policy 4130	Assignment and Transfer
Regulation 4220	Evaluation of Support Staff Members
Policy 4240	Employee Training

- N. It is recommended that the Board approve the following classes, instructors and salaries for the Adult Education 2010-2011 Winter session:

Instructor	Class	Dates	Total Salary
Rochelle Kapel	Full Body Exercise	11/30-3/10	\$780.00

- O. It is recommended that the Board approve Phil Hossler to provide training on Concussion in the Spotlight to the district nurses at the December 3, 2010 in-service for a fee of \$185.00.
- P. It is recommended that the Board approve a Praxis Review/Prep Course, Registration fee, and testing fee for science and/or social studies for up to 24 teachers (grades 6-8) for the Highly Qualified Teachers for the Middle School transition for a total cost not to exceed \$9,000, to be taken from the ARRA Grant Funds. Reimbursement will only be made to teachers who sign up for the course, attend all review sessions, and take and pass the March 13, 2011 Praxis II test.
- Q. It is recommended that the Board approve **Ms. Bonnie Burke**, Supervisor of Social Studies and Science, as the District's Chemical Hygiene Officer.
- R. It is recommended that the Board approve Home Instruction through EVA for the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year for a total of 2 hours per subject, per week, per student (as per Pupil Personnel Services) at the MTEA hourly instructional rate (\$53,87), instruction provided by the following teachers:

Dr. George Pangalos – Science and Mathematics
Ms. Adele Fennessy – Language Arts

S. **2010-2011 Violence/Substance Abuse/Estimated
Violence/Vandalism Costs** previously reported for the period
9/1/10 through 11/15/10 -----\$136.46

<u>District</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Incident</u>	<u>Cost to</u>
	10/14/10	MTHS	terroristic threat	
	10/19/10	MTHS	Damage to property	\$48.84
	10/22/10	MTHS	fight	
	11/8/10	MTHS	damage to bus seat	\$87.62

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS – NOVEMBER 17, 2010

BOARD ACTION

A. BILL LIST

It is recommended that the bills totaling \$10,967,951.49 for September 2010 be ratified by the Board. The bills have been reviewed by the Chairperson of the Finance Committee and certified by the Board Secretary.

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

It is recommended that the bills totaling \$747,792.21 for September 2010 be ratified by the Board. The bills have been reviewed by the Chairperson of the Finance Committee and certified by the Board Secretary.

C. BILL LIST–NEW HIGH SCHOOL (BOND SERIES 2008)

It is recommended that the bills totaling \$328,834.68 for September 2010 be ratified by the Board. The bills have been reviewed by the Chairperson of the Finance Committee and certified by the Board Secretary.

D. 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 September 2010, 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 September 2010 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).

E. TRANSFER #3

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve Transfer #3 as presented for fiscal year 2010/11. A copy is attached hereto.

F. PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

1. It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve Cambridge School for the following changes in services and fees for the 2010-2011 fiscal year: Social Thinking at \$125.00 per session, Speech and Language at \$135.00 per session, and Occupational Therapy at \$135.00 per session.
2. It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve UMDNJ to provide home instruction for students who are in-patient for the 2010-2011 fiscal year at the rate of \$55.00 per hour.
3. It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve Penta Hearing Care to complete CAP (Central Auditory Processing) testing at a fee of \$445.00 per test and complete Audio Evaluation for \$145.000 per evaluation for the 2010-2011 fiscal year.
4. It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve Somerset Medical Center to provide home instruction for our students who are hospitalized for a fee of \$47.00 per hour for fiscal year 2010-2011.
5. It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve Professional Education Services to provide home instruction for our students who are hospitalized for a fee of \$53.87 per hour for fiscal year 2010-2011.
6. It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve Summit Oaks Hospital to provide home instruction for our students who are in in-patient treatment for a fee of \$36.00 per hour for fiscal year 2010-2011.

G. Donation

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education acknowledge receipt of and accept a check in the amount of \$250.00 as a gift to the Board of Education from the Jewish Congregation of Concordia..

H. PUPIL TRANSPORTATION

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve the attached schedule of "Transportation Jointures Other Districts - Change" for student transportation. Please refer to the attached analysis for supplemental information.

I. PUPIL TRANSPORTATION

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve the attached schedule of "District Routes Joint Agreements" for student transportation. Please refer to the attached analysis for supplemental information.

J. GRANT ACCEPTANCE

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education acknowledge the Memorandum of Understanding between the New Jersey Agricultural Society and the Brookside Elementary School for a grant of \$500 to fund the school garden project and further to acknowledge receipt of and accept a check in the amount of \$375.00 towards this grant. The balance will be paid on March 15, 2011 if the terms agreed upon in the contract are met. Please refer to attached document for supplemental information.

K. 403(b) PLAN PROVIDERS

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education acknowledge and approve the following “403(b) Plan Providers”:

AXA Equitable 403(b),
First Investors 403(b),
MetLife 403(b),
Oppenheimer Funds 403(b),
T-Rowe Price 403(b), and
Valic 403(b),

L. 457(b) PLAN PROVIDERS

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education acknowledge and approve the following “457(b) Plan Providers”:

AXA Equitable 457(b) and
Valic 457(b).

M. BENECARD - #4 AMENDMENT TO MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT - BENECARD SERVICES, INC.

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve the attached “FOURTH AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE FIXED RATE INSURED PRESCRIPTION DRUG MANAGEMENT SERVICES” between the Monroe Township Board of Education and Benecard Services, Inc.

N. BENECARD - #5 AMENDMENT TO MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT - BENECARD SERVICES, INC.

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve the attached “FIFTH AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE FIXED RATE INSURED PRESCRIPTION DRUG MANAGEMENT SERVICES” between the Monroe Township Board of Education and Benecard Services, Inc.

O. TRAVEL EXPENDITURE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Board of Education is required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12 to adopt policy and approve travel expenditures by district employees and board members using local, State, or Federal funds to ensure that travel is educationally necessary and fiscally prudent; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that the training and informational programs sponsored by New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA) and set forth below are directly related to and within the scope of board members' and employees duties; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that the training and informational programs sponsored by NJSBA and set forth below are directly related to and within the scope of the listed job title's current responsibilities and the board's professional development plan; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that participation in the NJSBA training and informational programs requires school district travel expenditures and that this travel is critical to the instructional needs of the district and/or furthers the efficient operation of the district; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that the school district travel expenditures to NJSBA programs are in compliance with State travel guidelines as established by the Department of the Treasury and within the guidelines established by the Federal Office of Management and Budget; except as superseded by conflicting provision of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education finds that a mileage reimbursement rate equal to that of the State of New Jersey mileage reimbursement rate is a reasonable rate; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that participation in the NJSBA training and informational programs are in compliance with the District policy on travel; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the attendance of the listed number of school board members and district employees at the listed NJSBA training and informational programs, and the costs of attendance including all registration fees, and statutorily authorized travel expenditures, provided that such expenditures are within the annual maximum travel expenditure amount; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Monroe Township Board of Education authorizes in advance, as required by statute, attendance at the following NJSBA training programs and informational events:

Staff/Board Member	Date(s) of Program	Date	Tolls & Mileage Reimbursement (Estimated)
Board Members			
Ira Tessler	Governance IV – Legal Update	11/20	

P. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES THROUGH STATE AGENCY

WHEREAS, Title 18A: 18A-10 provides that, a board of education, without advertising for bids, or after having rejected all bids obtained pursuant to advertising therefore, by resolution may purchase any goods or services pursuant to a contract or contracts for such goods or services entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property; and

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Board of Education desires to authorize Michael C. Gorski, Purchasing Agent to make any and all purchases necessary to meet the needs of the school district; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Monroe Township Board of Education hereby authorizes Michael C. Gorski, Purchasing Agent to make purchases of goods and services entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property utilizing Commercial Interiors Direct, Inc. under State Contract# A-65751 to provide labor and materials to complete installation of carpet tiles for the Monroe Township High School Performing Arts Center.

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

MICHAEL C. GORSKI, CPA
Prepared by

NOVEMBER 17, 2010
Meeting Date