

Minutes of the Public Meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education held on March 12, 2015 at the Monroe Township High School. 398

The meeting was called to order by Board President Doug Poye at 6:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Michele Arminio
Mr. Marvin Braverman (left at 9:45 p.m.)

Ms. Jill DeMaio
Mr. Lew Kaufman
Ms. Kathy Kolupanowich
Mr. Thomas Nothstein
Mr. Doug Poye
Mr. Anthony Prezioso (arrived at 6:07 p.m.)
Mr. Steve Riback

JAMESBURG BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT

Mr. Robert Czarneski

STAFF PRESENT

Mr. Dennis Ventrello, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Michael C. Gorski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

STAFF ABSENT

Dr. Dori Alvich, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER PRESENT

Mr. Nicholas Tharney

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER ABSENT

Ms. Cori Haider

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC –128

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

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the Monroe Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted March 6, 2015:

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

CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Township of Monroe hereby moves to go into Closed Session, in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975 (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 through 10:4-21), to discuss the following subject(s):

- Superintendent Search Deliberation Process

The discussion conducted in closed session can be disclosed to the public at such time as the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

A motion was made by Mr. Nothstein and seconded by Mr. Riback that the members of the Board of Education go into closed session. Motion carried with Mr. Kaufman abstaining.

Adjourned to Closed Session at 6:10 p.m.

Returned to Public Meeting at 7:10 p.m.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS' REPORT

Mr. Tharney reported the following; MTHS Media Center hosted a One Book Read on February 19th; several DECA students have qualified for the DECA International Conference in April; some members of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) have advanced to the next level of their competition; one of the FBLA groups has placed third in the nation; the MTHS Wrestling team won the District 20 Championship; the MTHS Girls Basketball Team will be competing in the GMC championship; Ms. Ielpi, Guidance Counselor at MTHS has been nominated for an award for making a difference in students' lives; and Mill Lake students will be participating in a Kicks For A Cause fundraiser with proceeds benefitting a pre-school student at Mill Lake.

Ms. Arminio congratulated Mr. Tharney on receiving an award through the American Legion. Mr. Tharney added that the award was for an oratorical contest relating to the U.S. Constitution, with some emphasis on the duties and obligations of citizens to our government. Mr. Tharney reported that he placed first in the American Legion Post and second in the County.

PRESENTATION AND PUBLIC HEARING OF THE PRELIMINARY 2015-2016 SCHOOL BUDGET

Mr. Gorski and Mr. Ventrello gave a presentation as related to the 2015-2016 Preliminary Budget. The presentation included revenue sources; programs in the budget; state aid; shared services; factors that influence the tax rate; and projected student enrollment increases. Mr. Gorski reported that the budget presentation will be posted on the district website under the 2015/2016 budget tab.

PUBLIC FORUM

Joe Castelluccio 20 Ashley Court - spoke in reference to the State Aid award that Monroe receives. Mr. Castelluccio stated that Monroe students are not receiving their equal share of state funding, and we should be able to get our fair share back. Mr. Castelluccio suggested that a committee should be formed and use the US Constitution 14th Amendment as the driving force to fight for our fair share of funding.

Mark Klein 7 Crenshaw Court - stated that Mr. Castelluccio is correct. Referring to the State Constitution Section 3 Paragraphs 1 & 2 Mr. Klein reported that the taxpayers are paying 97% of the cost of educating our students and in his opinion that is not a free public education. Mr. Klein suggested as he has in the past that Monroe should look into suing the State to get our fair share of funding.

Ira Tessler 11 Elliot Drive - thanked Mr. Gorski and Mr. Ventrello for an excellent presentation this evening. Mr. Tessler inquired if the one-to-one initiative upgrade was considered in the budget. Mr. Gorski responded that there is a lease appropriation in the budget for \$400,000. Mr. Gorski reported that various platforms are being currently researched and discussed.

Manish Balchandani 30 Casselberry Way - inquired about the transfer of funds within the Debt Service. Mr. Gorski explained the transfers of the funds and the difference in Debt Service Funds. Recognizing that the budget is very complex Mr. Gorski stated that he welcomes any questions via email or phone call for further explanation.

Nelsen Chen 4 Ashley Court - complimented Mr. Gorski and the rest of the Board on a nice presentation. Mr. Chen referred to the revenue slide within the presentation and inquired if it indicated any revenue from the MECA program. Mr. Gorski responded no there is nothing in the revenue section pertaining to MECA. Additionally any income from MECA goes to pay back the loan.

Natesan Dhanaseicar 6 Barkley Drive - inquired about the difference in rates from the current Before and After Care School program and the new Falcon Care program. Mr. Gorski responded that a fee structure has not been expressed yet, that information can be expected shortly.

Debbie Palella 15 Louise Lane - inquired if there was something besides suing the State that residents can do to help get Monroe its fair share in State funding. Mr. Gorski expressed that administration and the Board looked at every avenue. Mr. Gorski added that the past Board Attorney advised against suing the State. Mr. Gorski recommended writing to State Legislatures and the Governor to express your frustration.

Manish Balchandani 30 Casselberry Way - inquired if additional tax revenue from the new construction was taken into consideration when forming to budget. Mr. Gorski explained the cost per pupil ratio and the tax levy cap.

Joe Castelluccio 20 Ashley Court - inquired if the district can refinance the bonds. Mr. Gorski responded yes and recently the Board of Education approved resolutions for two prior bond refinances.

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Fara Puglia 6 Sherry Lane – inquired if there is any communication with the zoning office in regards to the issue the district is facing with the new developments and increase of students. Mr. Gorski responded that the Board and administration have a good collaborate relationship with the township.

Mark Klein 7 Crenshaw Court - updated the Board and members of the public with the latest data available for new developments.

Manish Balchandani 30 Casselberry Way – inquired if the school district has any kind of structure to predict what future development will look like. Mr. Poye responded that later this evening there will be a presentation on projected growth.

Mr. Prezioso inquired what items are not covered in the 2% cap. Mr. Gorski responded that everything is covered within the 2% cap and explained the calculation process.

Referring to comments that she has heard from the public, Ms. Arminio stated that it is not only a board members obligation to attend zoning meetings it is a community obligation. Ms. Arminio stressed that the Board of Education is responsible for educating the students that are within the district, the meetings of the township planning & zoning are where things develop. Next, Ms. Arminio thanked the principals, supervisors and administration for doing their best to control the spending within the budget.

Mr. Nothstein thanked Mr. Gorski and Mr. Ventrello for all their hard work in producing this tight budget. Mr. Nothstein inquired about the send/receive agreement with Jamesburg and asked if it is looks like it will meet our anticipated expectations. Mr. Gorski responded that the current agreement is in very much favor of the county office and we very much optimistic that it will pay back the arrearage.

Mr. Riback thanked and complimented Mr. Gorski and Mr. Ventrello on the budget and the sensitivity that was shown to the taxpayers and the needs of our children. Mr. Riback stated that the members of the public that have expressed concerns relating to district growth should take that passion and energy to the state level.

A motion was made by Mr. Nothstein and seconded by Mr. Braverman to approve the resolution listed below regarding the transfer of certain unexpended bond proceeds to fund 40, debt service which was read by Mr. Gorski. Roll Call 9-0-1-0-0. Motion Carried with Mr. Prezioso abstaining. The vote included the Jamesburg Board Member Representative where appropriate.

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY DESIGNATING THE TRANSFER OF CERTAIN UNEXPENDED BOND PROCEEDS TO FUND 40, DEBT SERVICE

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2008, the Board of Education (the “Board of Education”) of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey issued its \$41,900,000 School District Bonds, Series 2008 (the “2008 Bonds”); and

WHEREAS, the 2008 Bonds were issued to finance (a) the additional costs necessary for the construction of a new Monroe High School as previously approved by the voters of the

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Township of Monroe in December 2003; (b) any necessary improvements, upgrades, appurtenances, equipment, furniture and site work; and (c) certain incidental expenses (collectively, the "2008 Project"), and

WHEREAS, the proceeds of the 2008 Bonds were deposited in Fund 36 ("Fund 36") to be used for the 2008 Project; and

WHEREAS, the 2008 Project has been completed and as of December 31, 2014 \$273,036.86 of the proceeds of the 2008 Bonds remained unencumbered and on deposit in Fund 36 (the "Unencumbered 2008 Proceeds"); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education hereby desires to designate the transfer to Fund 40, Debt Service the Unencumbered 2008 Proceeds and any investment earnings thereon from Fund 36; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education hereby desires to close Fund 34 ("Fund 34") and Fund 36.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board Secretary to transfer all remaining Unencumbered 2008 Proceeds and any investment earnings thereon from Fund 36 to offset the tax levy for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

Section 2. The Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board Secretary to close Fund 34 and Fund 36 as such funds have a zero balance.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately March 12, 2015.

A motion was made by Ms. Kolupanowich and seconded by Mr. Nothstein to approve the resolution listed below relating to adoption of the 2015-2016 budget which was read by Mr. Gorski. Roll Call 9-0-1-0-0. Motion carried with Mr. Prezioso abstaining. The vote included the Jamesburg Board Member Representative where appropriate.

Be It Resolved, by the Monroe Township Board of Education that the 2015/16 Tentative General Fund Budget be adopted in the amount of \$103,725,261 and a Tentative General Fund Local Tax Levy in the amount of \$92,308,645 and a Tentative Special Revenue Fund in the amount of \$1,111,993 and a Tentative Debt Service Budget in the amount of \$10,822,666 and a Tentative Debt Service Local Tax Levy in the amount of \$9,863,973. Whereby, the Tentative 2015/16 Budget totals \$115,659,920; and

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

Whereas, such state aid amounts are:

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For 2015/16 the Categorical Special Education Aid is \$2,048,517; and

For 2015/16 the Categorical Security Aid is \$92,501; and

For 2015/16 the Categorical Transportation Aid is \$496,510; and

For 2015/16 the Debt Service Aid is \$679,742; and

For 2015/16 the Other State Aid consisting of:

PARCC Readiness Aid of \$58,980 and

Per Pupil Grant Aid of \$58,980 and

Whereas, the Monroe Township Board of Education has estimated a State Aid amount pursuant to application; and

For 2015/16 the estimated Extraordinary Aid amount is \$214,453, and

Whereas the State's failure to fully fund the School Funding Reform Act of 2008, as well as other factors, has provided insufficient financial support for programs and services contained in the base budget necessitating the application of \$239,989 of unused spending authority to be included in the base budget; and that said needs will be completed by the end of the budget year and will not be deferred or incrementally completed over a longer time, and

Whereas, school district Bylaw #0147, Policy #3440, Policy #4440 and NJAC 6A:23B-1.2(b) provides that the board of education shall establish in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for such travel and expense reimbursement for 2015/16 school year.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Monroe Township Board of Education hereby establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2015/16 school year at the tentative sum of \$158,422, and

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

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

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Poye requested that comments on the MECA program be heard first.

Sandy Effron 110 Turnberry Drive -- stated that he was against the MECA program because it is a money losing program that is not mandated and the money should be used toward K-12 items.

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Mr. Effron added that the public should not subsidize some of their employees and not all citizens with children and need child care.

Sarah Ginter employee - reported that she is currently on a maternity leave and intends to enroll her child in the MECA program when she returns to work. Ms. Ginter stated that the program should not be closed before it has time to flourish financially.

Dawn Kappus employee - thanked the Board for reading the emails that were sent to them regarding the MECA program. Ms. Kappus stressed that continuing to strengthen the relationship between the Board of Education and the MTEA is what is best for the district. Ms. Kappus asked the board to keep MECA opened.

Magdalena Fidura employee - as a parent, teacher and resident of the township Ms. Fidura shared an article referring to the value of a district run child care program. Ms. Fidura asked the Board to support the MECA program.

Sue Voza employee - expressed her concerns regarding the message that the Board will be sending to the community by shutting down a program so valuable to many people and the costs relating to staff absences. Ms. Voza stated the currently eleven teachers are utilizing the program. Ms. Voza asked the board to consider the possible solutions that have been sent to them and keep MECA open.

Jason Walters 5 Saint James Street - asked the Board to make this decision with a little bit of grace and not place a dollar value on MECA but instead consider the value that it brings to the community and employees.

Nelsen Chen 4 Ashley Court - stated that he sympathizes with the problems dual income families are faced with but unfortunately the MECA program is not profitable, it's costing taxpayers money that should be put towards K-12 and therefore it should be closed.

Stacy Blum employee - stated that the parents of MECA students would be open to a tuition increase, snacks and lunch payment options or opening up the program to the community. Ms. Blum asked the Board to consider some of those suggestions.

Ira Tessler 11 Elliot Drive - stated that as a resident who doesn't utilize the MECA program he is in support of the program. Mr. Tessler expressed that it is not always about the money, it is about supporting the staff.

Miriam Lavine 42 Narrows Way - spoke in support of the MECA program and asked the Board to find a way to keep the program.

Joe Castelluccio 20 Ashley Court - speaking not for nor against the MECA program inquired if the board could find a way to make the program work.

Sarah Ginter employee - stated that currently there are seventeen teachers out on maternity leave that may send their child to MECA when they return.

Manish Balchandani 30 Casselberry Way – inquired if there is anything the public can do to help support the teachers in the effort to keep MECA open.

Dominique Walters employee – stated that the MECA program combined with the ECE is profitable and that should be noted and considered.

~~Mr. Poye announced that the Board will now hear comments relating to redistricting.~~

Fortunato Orlando 4 Louise Lane – inquired if there will be a presentation on redistricting this evening. Mr. Poye responded yes a presentation is scheduled after public forum.

Sanjeav Hedge 12 Wedgewood Court - inquired what decision the Board has made after the last redistricting meeting.

Kathy Crowley 56 Spruce Meadows Lane – stated that it was impractical to believe that only 87 kids will be coming out of the development on Spotswood Englishtown Road which will consist of over 400 units. Ms. Crowley expressed her concern that there will be more children and Mill Lake will become overcrowded forcing another redistricting.

Sanjeav Hedge 12 Wedgewood Court - inquired if the public will get another chance to speak this evening. Mr. Poye responded yes.

Debbie Palella 15 Louise Lane - inquired if the redistricting plan has changed since Monday night. Ms. Palella also inquired about the number of families that will be affected by the redistricting. Mr. Poye responded that there will be a presentation shortly and following that the board will be deliberating in public and those answers should be provided.

Sanjeav Hedge 12 Wedgewood Court – stated that he doesn't believe that anyone has considered the social impact the proposed redistricting will have on the students.

Gazala Bohra 1 Mlko Drive – stressed her concern regarding some of the third grade classes remaining at Barclay Brook instead of moving over to Brookside.

Mr. Ventrello stated that one of the revisions in the proposed redistricting plan is that the third grade will not be split between Barclay Brook and Brookside Schools.

Fortunato Orlando 4 Louise Lane – asked what criteria was used in determining what students will be redistricted. Mr. Orlando inquired if there was a way that they can challenge the proposal.

Miriam Lavine 42 Narrows Way – stressed her concerns regarding about her children having to leave the schools they have attended to incoming children from new developments. Ms. Lavine stated that she purchased her home with the knowledge that her children would attend Applegarth and Oak Tree Schools.

A motion was made by Ms. Arminio and second by Mr. Nothstein to suspend public forum until after the Redistricting Presentation. Roll call 9-1-0-0-0 Motion Carried with Mr. Braverman voting no.

A motion was made by Ms. Kolupanowich and seconded by Mr. Nothstein that the members of the Board of Education take a ten minute recess. Motion Carried with Ms. Arminio opposing.

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DISTRICT ENROLLMENT PROJECTION, FACILITY UTILIZATION AND REDISTRICTING PRESENTATION

Mr. Ross Haber, Demographer of Ross Haber Associates presented the Projection, Facility Utilization and Redistricting Study that was concluded in March 2015. The purpose of the study was to provide the Board with information to help with long range planning for the entire school district. Mr. Haber informed the Board and members of the public of the changes that have been made to the report since the Buildings, Grounds and Transportation meeting Monday evening.

Mr. Haber stated that the study indicated that Monroe will see an increase of 2323 non age restricted housing units. It is anticipated that these units will yield a total of 1,866 students. To meet the needs of the community some students from Applegarth and Oak Tree Schools will need to be redistricted to Barclay Brook and Brookside Schools. Additionally, some students from Barclay Brook and Brookside Schools will need to be redistricted to Mill Lake and Woodland Schools.

Mr. Haber indicated that the Attendance Zone Maps will be posted on the district website.

PUBLIC FORUM-

Gautam Ghetia 3 Mlko Drive – stated that he feels that the study indicates an underestimate in the amount of anticipated students.

Manish Balchandani 30 Casselberry Way – referring to the Rutgers Study projection of 0.76 children per household stated that he also feels the study is underestimating the number of students coming from a household.

Fortunato Orlando 4 Louise Lane – stated his dissatisfaction with the study adding that he feels the study is over-conservative.

Chrissy Skurbe 8 Seminole Court – stressed her concern that the revised plan does not indicate that enough students are being taken out of Oak Tree and Applegarth Schools.

Kathy Crowley 56 Spruce Meadows Lane – inquired if the board is planning a referendum or if this is the only plan they are going with. Mr. Poye responded that the possibility of a referendum is not being discussed in connection with the redistricting plan. The redistricting plan is to address the overcrowding at Applegarth and Oak Tree.

Debbie Palella 15 Louise Lane – inquired if the vote on the redistricting plan will be taking place this evening. Mr. Poye responded that the Board will have a discussion on the proposed plan and there may be a motion made this evening.

Miriam Lavine 42 Narrows Way – asked the board to consider the impact on the children when they make the decision regarding the proposed redistricting plan. Ms. Lavine stated that some children will have a forty minute commute. Mr. Gorski responded that according to the Transportation Department no student will be on a bus for an inordinate amount of time with the proposed redistricting plan.

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Gazala Bohra 1 Mlko Drive – suggested that the Board get another demographer or study done before voting on the plan.

Resident of 16 Dominick Drive – stated that she felt the numbers were not correct and asked the board to consider waiting another year before adopting a redistricting plan.

~~Angela Verrios 5 Nicholas Avenue – stressed the importance of familiarity for some students and how changing schools and staff can affect them. Ms. Verrios asked the Board to consider this when making the decision.~~

Marina Todoric 224 federal Road – suggested that it would be easier to place the new students coming into the district in new schools than it is to move the current students to another school.

Lori-Ann Fernandes 24 Cassandra Court – inquired when these anticipated students will be arriving to the district. Mr. Haber responded that the township has advised that they cannot predict when or how many will be received at any given time.

Lisa Cutro 230 Old Forge Road – stated that she feels that the focus is being put on the children coming into the district in the future and not on the current students that are attending the school. Ms. Cutro suggested the Board consider phasing a redistricting plan in.

BOARD DISCUSSION ON DISTRICT ENROLLMENT PROJECTION, FACILITY UTILIZATION AND REDISTRICTING

Mr. Ventrello reported that currently Oak Tree School has classrooms with 28 students while there are empty classrooms in some of the other elementary schools.

Board Members asked Mr. Haber questions regarding the proposed redistricting plan, attendance zones and how he realized the projected student enrollment calculations.

Mr. Poye read a letter from a second grade teacher at Oak Tree regarding the many difficulties classrooms encounter when there are 25-30 students assigned to a class. Mr. Poye stressed that the Board must address the class sizes at the Oak Tree now and bringing in trailers is not a cost effective option.

Ms. Arminio explained that Mr. Haber is not the one building the houses and not responsible for this problem neither is the Board. Ms. Arminio stated that redistricting is not pleasant and no one wants to do this but as a Board they would be remised if they didn't address this now whether the calculations are correct or not.

Mr. Riback stated that safety has to be the main concern and overcrowding can and will create safety issues.

A motion was made by Mr. Poye and seconded by Mr. Kaufman to accept the enrollment Projection, Facility Utilization and Redistricting Study prepared by Ross Haber and Associates dated March 2015 and let it Be Resolved that the Board of Education directs the Superintendent

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and Business Administrator to redistrict the attendance zones in accordance with that report. Roll Call 9-0-1-0-0. Motion Carried with Mr. Czarneski abstaining. Mr. Poye expressed his disappointment in the report and stated that he hoped the plan was more satisfactory specifically with the first grade numbers.

BOARD DISCUSSION RELATIVE TO M.E.C.A. PROGRAM

Ms. Kolupanowich reported that a question was raised by the Oak Tree-Applegarth PTA President regarding her ability to vote on the continuation of the MECA program. Ms. Kolupanowich stated that during a recent PTA meeting a vote was taken concerning the signing of a petition in support of the continuation of the MECA program. Ms. Kolupanowich specified that as a general member of the PTA she did not vote on the motion. Ms. Kolupanowich then consulted the board attorney who advised her that there is no ethical concern with respect to her participation in the vote.

Mr. Braverman stated that approximately two years ago the Board asked administration to make MECA solvent. Mr. Braverman asked Mr. Gorski to bring the Board up to date on that request. Mr. Gorski responded that after nine months of the program the attendance figures were not what they projected and there was a lot of public criticism regarding MECA. The Board then directed Dr. Hamilton to come up with a solvency plan. Administration created another segment known as Early Childhood Enrichment. Mr. Gorski added that when the two segments are blended together they are solvent as a proprietary fund, but separately MECA is not profitable.

A motion was made by Mr. Braverman and seconded by Ms. DeMaio to maintain the MECA program. Mr. Nothstein stated that while the board considers the profitability of MECA they need to keep in mind that they are spending approximately \$70,000 to lease office space for Pupil Personnel Services who were displaced due to the MECA program. Mr. Nothstein added that he feels the program is well run but as a Board they have a responsibility to the taxpayers of Monroe. Mr. Riback reminded the board that increasing revenue was one of the district goals, and the ECE Program has the capability of doing that but is limited with the non-profitable MECA Program. Ms. Kolupanowich stated that the program is an opportunity to offer something to our staff that other districts don't and considering that our salaries are less than surrounding communities this program is an added incentive. Ms. DeMaio added that MECA was intended to be a benefit to district employees and a profit for the district. Mr. Kaufman stated that MECA wasn't designed to make a profit but the costs were intended to cover its costs. Ms. Arminio specified that MECA is not a mandated program and it was formulated to be a self-sustaining program. Additionally, if it closed the costs associated with maintaining it can be directed to serving the needs of the student population. Ms. Arminio reminded the Board that the auditor informed them that the program could not be considered profitable until the loan has been paid off. Mr. Poye reported that he read all the emails and information he received regarding MECA and realizes that the program is of great value to the teachers therefore he put forward the following:

A motion was made by Mr. Poye and seconded by Ms. Kolupanowich to amend Mr. Braverman's motion to continue the MECA segment with a percent increase that is undefined so that it pays its current expenses to end the loan and it is solvent. Roll Call 4-5-1-0-0. Motion did

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not carry with Ms. Arminio, Mr. Kaufman, Mr. Nothstein, Mr. Prezioso and Mr. Riback voting no and Mr. Czarneski abstaining.

Roll Call for the previous motion that was made by Mr. Braverman and seconded by Ms. DeMaio to maintain the MECA program. Roll Call 3-6-1-0-0. Motion did not carry with Ms. Arminio, Mr. Kaufman, Mr. Nothstein, Mr. Poye, Mr. Prezioso and Mr. Riback voting no and Mr. Czarneski abstaining.

A motion was made by Mr. Nothstein and seconded by Ms. Arminio to approve the dissolution of the Monroe Employee Childcare Academy segment at the conclusion of the 2014-2015 school year for reasons of economy, budgetary considerations, restructuring of program components in the Monroe Township School District and for other good cause. The Interim Superintendent and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to take all steps necessary to implement this action of the Board of Education, including, but not limited to, the provision of notice to all affected individuals as soon as practicable. Roll Call 6-2-1-0-1. Motion carried with Ms. DeMaio and Ms. Kolupanowich voting no and Mr. Czarneski abstaining. Mr. Braverman left the meeting prior to the vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Poye and seconded by Ms. Arminio to approve the minutes for the Public Board of Education Meeting held on December 10, 2014. Motion carried with Ms. DeMaio and Mr. Riback abstaining.

A motion was made by Mr. Poye and seconded by Mr. Nothstein to approve the minutes for the Closed Session Meeting held on December 10, 2014. Motion carried with Ms. DeMaio, Mr. Kaufman and Mr. Riback abstaining.

A motion was made by Mr. Poye and seconded by Mr. Nothstein to approve the minutes for the Public Board of Education Organization Meeting held on January 5, 2015. Motion carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Steven Riback, Chairperson of the Personnel Committee reported that the committee met on February 18th where Mr. Ventrello discussed the selection process for the principal at Mill Lake. Mr. Riback stated that the committee also recommended job description changes for the Superintendent of Schools and discussed the possibility of reviving the School Story. Mr. Riback added that the committee also met on March 9th and approved the hiring of fourteen part time paraprofessionals for Oak Tree based upon Mr. Ventrello's recommendation to help alleviate the high class size.

Ms. Kathy Kolupanowich, Vice Chairperson of the Buildings, Grounds & Transportation Committee (BG&T) reported that the BG&T Committee met on March 9th and reviewed and discussed the Redistricting Study.

Ms. Kathy Kolupanowich, Chairperson of the Finance Committee reported that the Finance Committee met on February 18th for the purpose of the MECA program, on February 25th to discussed two residency issues, and on March 2nd to discuss the 2015-2016 Preliminary Budget.

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Ms. Michele Arminio, Chairperson of the Policy Committee reported that the committee met on February 23rd and reviewed several policies which are listed on the agenda for this evening. Ms. Arminio encouraged parents to review the Public Records Policy. Ms. Arminio reminded the public that policy committee meetings are open to the public. Next, Ms. Arminio stated that the full committee with the exception of herself was in agreement of the changes for Policy# 0167 Public Participation in Board Meetings. Ms. Arminio specified that the change states that no participant may speak more than once at each public forum on the same topic at the same meeting. Ms. Arminio disagreed based on her interpretation of the Open Public Meetings Act and also disagrees with item #5 – the presiding officer may interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS

ENROLLMENT

HOME INSTRUCTION

FIRE/LOCKDOWN DRILLS

BOARD ACTION

A motion was made by Mr. Nothstein and seconded by Mr. Kaufman that Board Action Items A – J be approved by consent roll call. Roll Call 9-0-0-0-1. Motion carried with Ms. Arminio, Mr. Nothstein and Mr. Prezioso voting no on Policy # 0167. 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.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mr. Nothstein and seconded by Mr. Kaufman that Personnel Items A-W be approved by consent roll call. Roll Call 9-0-0-0-1. 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.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Gorski read the following statement:

In accordance with the provisions of the School Bond Law (N.J.S.A. 18A:24-1 *et seq.*) and the resolution adopted by the Monroe Township Board of Education, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey (the "Board") on February 11, 2015 relating to the sale of School District Refunding Bonds, Series 2015 of the Board, I hereby report to the Board the result of the sale of said bonds as delineated in the report previously handed out and schedule A.

A motion was made by Mr. Poye and seconded by Mr. Nothstein that Board Action Items A – E be approved by consent roll call. Roll Call 9-0-0-0-1. Motion carried. The vote included the Jamesburg Board Member Representative where appropriate. A copy of the Board Action section of the Business Administrator's Report is attached to the official set of minutes.

OTHER BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS

Mr. Riback reported that he attended the Girls Varsity Basketball game on Tuesday and although they didn't win the championship everyone should be proud of them especially for the sportsmanship they displayed.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Poye commended the administrators on the smooth PARCC Assessments that are occurring this month and stated that the Board appreciates the preparation and support of the Technology staff and classroom teachers that are helping the students with the new style of testing. Mr. Poye share with the Board some excerpts from an article on PARCC written by former Governor of New Jersey Thomas Kean. Mr. Poye expressed the Board's appreciation in Administration specifically the Business Office and Mr. Gorski on achieving an AA- Bond Rating which is the highest obtainable Bond Rating available for a school district. Mr. Gorski informed him that over sixty million dollars in bonds will be refunded which will result in a savings of approximately 3.9 million dollars in over the life of the bonds which is approximately two hundred and fifty thousand dollars a year.

CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Township of Monroe hereby moves to go into Closed Session, in accordance with Sunshine Law, Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975 (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 through 10:4-21), to discuss the following subject(s):

- To discuss student residency matters.
- Student matter.
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

Incident No.	Student No.	School	Student ID
22	2/12/2015	MTMS	82826, 87468
23	2/11/2015	MTMS	84028, 83625, 83032, 83364
24	2/19/2015	HS	82130

Minutes of the Public Meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education held on March 12, 2015 at the Monroe Township High School. 398

25	2/26/2015	MTMS	88784
26	3/3/2015	HS	89577

The discussion conducted in closed session can be disclosed to the public at such time as the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

~~A motion was made by Mr. Prezioso and seconded by Ms. Arminio that the members of the Board of Education go into closed session. Motion carried~~

Adjourned to Closed Session at 12:10 a.m.

Returned to Public Meeting at 12:33 a.m.

PUBLIC FORUM -

Thomas Pietrulewicz 8 Cheryl Lane - asked for clarification that Friday, April 10th will now be a school day due to the extra snow day the district used. Mr. Pietrulewicz expressed his concern that there wouldn't be many students attending school that day and the Board will be addressing the issue at the next meeting.

Patty Lang 74 Macfarlane Circle - expressed her disappointment in Mr. Poye's comments regarding the PARCC Testing. Ms. Lang stated that in her opinion the PARCC is not a good test and it wasn't designed by teachers. Ms. Lang reported that one of the high school students informed her that their AP class has only met for thirty minutes in the last two weeks due to the PARCC Testing. Ms. Lang asked the Board how students are going to past AP Exams when class time is being taken up by PARCC. Ms. Lang suggested that the Board stand up for the teachers, parents and the students and take a stand against the Common Core and the PARCC.

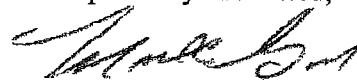
NEXT PUBLIC MEETING

Mr. Poye stated that the next public meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education will convene at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Poye and seconded by Mr. Riback that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried. The public meeting adjourned at 12:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael C. Gorski, CPA
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
423 Buckelew Avenue
Monroe Township, NJ 08831
(732) 521-1500
Fax (732) 521-1628

MICHAEL C. GORSKI, CPA
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary

Vision Statement

“The Monroe Township Board of Education commits itself to all children by preparing them to reach their full potential and to function in a global society through a preeminent education.”

Mission Statement

“The Monroe Public Schools, in collaboration with the members of the community, shall ensure that all children receive an exemplary education by well-trained, committed staff in a safe and orderly environment.”

AGENDA
PUBLIC MEETING & PRELIMINARY BUDGET HEARING
THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2015
6:00 P.M.
MONROE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

(PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES AND PAGERS DURING THE MEETING)
(Recording Board Meetings)*

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Michele Arminio
Mr. Marvin Braverman
Ms. Jill DeMaio
Mr. Lew Kaufman
Ms. Kathy Kolupanowich
Mr. Thomas Nothstein
Mr. Doug Poye
Mr. Anthony Prezioso
Mr. Steven Riback

JAMESBURG BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE **

Mr. Robert Czarneski

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Cori Haider

Mr. Nicholas Tharney

4. STATEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the Monroe Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date; time and place thereof posted March 06, 2015:

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

5. CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Township of Monroe hereby moves to go into Closed Session, in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975 (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 through 10:4-21), to discuss the following subject(s):

- Superintendent Search Deliberation Process

The discussion conducted in closed session can be disclosed to the public at such time as the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

6. STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS' REPORT

7. PRESENTATION AND PUBLIC HEARING OF THE PRELIMINARY 2015-2016 SCHOOL BUDGET

8. PUBLIC FORUM***

9. BOARD DISCUSSION RELATIVE TO M.E.C.A. PROGRAM

10. DISTRICT ENROLLMENT PROJECTION, FACILITY UTILIZATION AND REDISTRICTING PRESENTATION
11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Public Board of Education Meeting, December 10, 2014
Closed Session Meeting, December 10, 2014
Public Board of Education Organization Meeting, January 5, 2015
12. COMMITTEE REPORTS
13. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS

I. ENROLLMENT

	<u>2/28/15</u>	<u>1/31/15</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>2/28/14</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Applegarth School	362	361	+1	350	+12
Barclay Brook	382	380	+2	403	-21
Brookside School	469	469	0	478	- 9
Mill Lake School	396	394	+2	398	- 2
MTMS	1534	1532	+2	1458	+76
Oak Tree	716	700	+16	643	+73
Woodland School	458	458	0	500	-42
Monroe High School	<u>2075</u>	<u>2074*</u>	<u>+1</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>+125</u>
Total Elementary & Secondary	6392	6368	+24	6180	+212

*Reported as 2075 for January enrollment

I. ENROLLMENT (CONT'D)

<i>School</i>	Monroe			Jamesburg		
	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>Difference</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Academy Learning Center	11	11		2	2	
Bridge Academy	1	1				
Center for Lifelong Learn	2	2				
Childrens Center of Monm.	2	3	Plus 1	1	1	
Collier	2	2		1	1	
Eden	3	3		1	1	
Harbor School	1	1				
Hawkswood School	1	1				
Joseph Cappello	2	2				
Lakeview School	2	2				
Mary Dobbins School	1	1				
New Roads Parlin	2	2				
New Roads Somerset	1	1				
Mercer Elementary	1	1				
Mercer High School	4	4				
Morris Union Jointure DCL	1	1				
Newgrange School	3	3				
Newmark High School	1	1				
Princeton Child Develop Inst.	1	1				
Rugby	1	1				
School for Hidden Intellig.	1	1				
Schroth School	2	2				
Shore Center	1	1				
UMDNJ	2	2				
Total	49	50		5	5	

II. HOME INSTRUCTION

No.	School	Grade	Reason	Home Instructor	Date Started	Date Ended
85038	OOD/MTHS	12	CST	Lyons, M. Hardt, S. Mackenzie, Hladek	9/4/2014	
78609	MTHS	11	504	Mazur, Goodman, Chincarini, Tolboom	9/4/2014	
89615	ML	4H	Medical	DeBlasio, Faughnan, Oxford	9/4/2014	
79109	MTMS	8	CST	G. Schnitzer, K. Earl, C. Faughnan	9/4/2014	
88303	BB	1	Medical	Kendall, Pilgrim, Prestridge	9/16/2014	
78774	MTHS	12	504	Neues, Morolda, Ed. Services Commission	9/16/2014	
89423	BES	5	504	Rubenstein	10/10/2014	
83106	MTMS	8	504	L. Alagna, K. Doll, Antioquia, K. Earl, Ostroski	10/13/2014	
78140	MTHS	12	504	Neues, J. Puleio	10/16/2014	
85830	MTHS	11	CST	Olszewski, Deedy, Rose, Romano, Corbisiero	10/1/2014	
89205	ML	1	Medical	S. Comey	11/13/2014	
78394	MTHS	12	504	Ballard, Stapenski, Minter, Corbisiero, Dougherty, D. Schnitzer	12/1/2014	
86525	MTMS	8	504	Crisco	1/6/2015	
83122	MTHS	10	504	Calella, Mazur	9/5/2014	
88002	BES	3	Medical	Bertini	11/24/2014	
87443	MTMS	7	Medical	Rutgers University Behavioral Healthcare, The Children's Hospital	11/21/2014	
78284	MTHS	11	CST	S. Mackenzie, Grimaldi, Ongaro, M. Hardt	1/8/2015	
80664	MTMS	7	Medical	Van Gorden, Consiglio, Kirchner, Firestine, Coppola, Chelton	2/2/2015	
83004	MTMS	8	Medical	Professional Education Services, Inc	2/12/2015	

III. FIRE/LOCKDOWN DRILLS

Applegarth School----- February 25, 2015
 Barclay Brook School ----- February 26, 2015
 Brookside School ----- February 12, 2015
 Mill Lake School ----- February 25, 2015
 Monroe Middle School----- February 4, 2015
 Oak Tree School ----- February 12, 2015
 Woodland School ----- February 10, 2015
 Monroe High School ----- February 18 and 24, 2015

Lockdown Drills

Applegarth School-----	February 25, 2015
Barclay Brook School-----	February 12, 2015
Brookside School -----	February 4, 2015
Mill Lake School -----	February 9, 2015
Monroe Middle School-----	February 23, 2015
Oak Tree School -----	February 20, 2015
Woodland School -----	February 11, 2015
Monroe High School -----	February 10, 2015

IV. PERSONNEL

- A. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Patricia Van Gorden, teacher of Special Education at MTMS effective July 1, 2015.
- B. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of **Ms. Jacqueline Ray**, bus driver in the Transportation Department, effective February 16, 2015.
- C. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of **Mr. Christopher Beagan**, as the head football coach at MTHS effective March 7, 2015.
- D. It is recommended that the Board approve a medical leave of absence to **Ms. Karen O'Connell**, Educational Technology Facilitator for the district, retroactive to February 20, 2015 through February 26, 2015 in accordance with Article 17, Paragraph B.2 in the collective negotiations agreement between the Monroe Township Board of Education and the Monroe Township Education Association covering the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except to the extent of any sick days to which Ms. O'Connell may be entitled.
- E. It is recommended that the Board approve a medical leave of absence to **Ms. Sandra Villegas**, Basic Skills teacher at Mill Lake School, effective February 13, 2015 through March 17, 2015 in accordance with Article 17, Paragraph B.2 in the collective negotiations agreement between the Monroe Township Board of Education and the Monroe Township Education Association covering the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except to the extent of any sick days to which Ms. Villegas may be entitled.
- F. It is recommended that the Monroe Township Board of Education approve an unpaid leave of absence for staff member **Thomas Taylor, Sr.**, mechanic in the Transportation Department, effective retroactively to February 22, 2015 through April 15, 2015. It is further recommended that Mr. Taylor will utilize any remaining sick days, personal days and vacation days he may have available.

- G. It is recommended that the Board approve a medical leave of absence to **Ms. Karen Chu**, Security at Brookside School, effective March 23, 2015 through May 1, 2014 in accordance with Article 17, Paragraph B.2 in the collective negotiations agreement between the Monroe Township Board of Education and the Monroe Township Education Association covering the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except to the extent of any sick days to which Ms. Chu may be entitled.
- H. It is recommended that the Board approve a medical leave of absence to **Ms. Crystal DeVincenzo**, teacher of Special Education at MTMS, effective February 16, 2015 through February 24, 2015 and from February 27, 2015 through March 6, 2015 in accordance with Article 17, Paragraph B.2 in the collective negotiations agreement between the Monroe Township Board of Education and the Monroe Township Education Association covering the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except to the extent of any sick days to which Ms. DeVincenzo may be entitled.
- I. It is recommended that the Board approve a medical leave of absence to **Ms. Margarita Turkish**, School Psychologist at Mill Lake School, effective April 10, 2015 through June 30, 2015 in accordance with Article 17, Paragraph B.2 in the collective negotiations agreement between the Monroe Township Board of Education and the Monroe Township Education Association covering the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except to the extent of any sick days to which Ms. Turkish may be entitled.
- J. It is recommended that the Board approve an extended medical leave of absence to **Ms. Diane Matthews**, security at the High School effective February 28, 2015 through April 15, 2015 in accordance with Article 17, Paragraph B.2 in the collective negotiations agreement between the Monroe Township Board of Education and the Monroe Township Education Association covering the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except to the extent of any sick days to which Ms. Matthews may be entitled.
- K. It is recommended that the Monroe Township Board of Education approve a modification in the date of the military leave of absence, with pay, for teaching staff member **Patrick Nortz**, teacher of Physical Education at Barclay Brook/Oak Tree Schools, for required military training in the U.S. Army for the period from February 20, 2015 through March 14, 2015.
- L. It is recommended that the Board approve an extended maternity leave of absence to **Ms. Karitssa Barry**, District Behavior Specialist, effective April 1, 2015 through April 12, 2015 in accordance with Article 17, Paragraph B.1 in the collective negotiations agreement between the Monroe Township Board of Education and the Monroe Township Education Association covering the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except to the extent of any sick days to which Ms. Barry may be entitled.

- M. It is recommended that the Board approve an extended medical leave of absence to **Ms. Maryse Naman**, Social Worker at the High School, effective April 6, 2015 through June 30, 2015 in accordance with Article 17, Paragraph B.2 in the collective negotiations agreement between the Monroe Township Board of Education and the Monroe Township Education Association covering the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017. It is further recommended that this leave shall be without pay except to the extent of any sick days to which Ms. Naman may be entitled.
- N. It is recommended that the Monroe Township Board of Education approve a leave of absence for teaching staff member Mary Jo Caputo-Giancola effective April 14, 2015 through April 21, 2015. Ms. Caputo-Giancola will utilize 2 paid personal leave days during this leave of absence and the remainder of the leave shall be without pay.
- O. It is recommended that the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence under FMLA to **Ms. Karen O'Connell**, Educational Technology Facilitator for the District, effective May 6, 2015 through May 22, 2015 in accordance with Article 17, Paragraph B.2 in the collective negotiations agreement between the Monroe Township Board of Education and the Monroe Township Education Association covering the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014. Ms. O'Connell is entitled to utilize 3 family illness days (if available) and the remaining days will be counted against her entitlement to unpaid leave pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, 29 U.S.C. §2601.
- P. It is recommended that the Board approve the return to work of **Ms. Barbara Doll**, Human Resource Coordinator, effective February 23, 2015 (half days) and full time effective March 2, 2015.
- Q. It is recommended that the Board approve the return to work of **Ms. Jodi Rubenstein**, Special Education Teacher at the Brookside School, effective April 1, 2015.
- R. It is recommended that the Board of Education approve, retroactively to September 1, 2014, Sandra Barravecchio to the position of secretary at Applegarth Elementary School for the 2014-2015 school year in accordance with the terms and conditions of the relevant collective negotiations agreement between the Monroe Township Board of Education and the Monroe Township Education Association.
- S. It is recommended that the Board approve the following staff for the 7th and 8th grade play at MTMS:
- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------|
| Holly Jarusiewicz | Choreographer | \$1,700 |
| Michael Yoson (substitute teacher) | Asst. Choreographer | \$834 |
- T. It is recommended that the Board approve the following staff for Middle School of the Arts Coordinator for the 2014-2015 school year for a total of 20 hours at the non-instructional rate of \$44.85:
- Robert Howatt, Jr. (modification previously approved for 100% of position)
Christine Viszoki

- U. It is recommended that the Board approve the following certificated staff on the following step on guide:

	Employee	School	Position	Salary Guide	Account No.	Dates	Reason for hire
1	Teresa Schulte	Woodland	Speech and Language Specialist	Step 5 MA \$49,692+\$3,450 pro rated minus 10 days	11-000-216-100-000-098	4/1/15-6/30/15	Leave replacement
2	Samantha Grimaldi	MTMS	TAG substitute	\$77.56 per session	11-130-100-101-000-080	3/13/15-6/30/15	Substitute for TAG After School
3	Eugene Giaquinto	HS	Teacher of Business	Step 5BA \$49,692 pro rated	11-140-100-101-000-070	2/26/15-6/30/15	Change in start date and correction on guide
4	Kristen Skrocki	Brookside	Grade 5 Special Ed.	Step 1 MA \$48,992+\$3450 prorated	11-213-100-101-000-093	3/13/15-4/2/15	Leave replacement – extension of contract
5	Eugene Giaquinto	HS	Teacher of Business	117% of Step 5 BA \$49,692+\$3450	11-140-100-101-000-070	3/4/15-6/30/15	Additional section
6	Christopher Himmelheber	HS	Teacher of Biology	117% of contract	11-140-100-101-000-070	2/12/15-6/30/15	Replacement position Additional section
7	Edgar Esteves	HS	Teacher of Biology	117% of contract	11-140-100-101-000-070	2/12/15-6/30/15	Replacement position Additional section
8	Mark Stranieri	HS	Teacher of Biology	117% of contract	11-140-100-101-000-070	2/12/15-6/30/15	Replacement position Additional section
9	Ryan Tolboom	HS	Science Coordinator	\$7582 pro-rated	11-140-100-101-000-070	3/13/15-6/30/15	Replacement position
10	Deborah DeBoer	HS	Teacher of Special Education	134% of contract	11-140-100-101-000-070	3/10/15-3/19/15	Leave Replacement position
11	Seema Taparia	HS	Teacher of Special Education	117% of contract	11-140-100-101-000-070	3/10/15-3/19/15	Leave Replacement position

12	Ryan Parker	HS	Teacher of Special Education	117% of contract	11-140-100-101-000-070	3/10/15-3/19/15	Leave Replacement position
13	Jovanna Quindess	HS	Teacher of Special Education	117% of contract	11-140-100-101-000-070	3/10/15-3/19/15	Leave Replacement position
14	Nicole Manzano	MTMS	Volunteer Softball Coach			Spring 2015	volunteer

V. It is recommended that the Board approve the following non-certificated staff on the following step on guide:

	Employee	School	Position	Salary Guide	Account No.	Dates	Reason for hire
1	Denise Parascando	Transportation	Bus Driver	Step 2 \$21.85/hr. for 6 hrs./day	11-000-270-160-000-096	3/13/15-6/23/15	Replacement position
2	Jennifer Burkshot	Applegarth	Para – Lunch Spec. Ed.	Step 2 Reg. \$12.81/hr. 2.25/hrs. Step 2 Spec. Ed. \$14.81/hr. 1.5 hrs.	11-190-106-100-000-050 11-213-100-106-000-093	3/13/15-6/23/15	Transfer position
3	Myrna Klein	Applegarth	Para-Lunch	Step 1 Reg. Ed \$12.71/hr. for 2.5 hrs.	11-190-106-100-000-050	3/13/15-6/23/15	Replacement position
4	Maria Bartomeo	MTMS	Spec. Ed. Para	Step 1 Spec. Ed. \$14.71/hr. 3.75 hrs./day	11-213-100-101-000-093	2/10/15-6/23/15	Change in start date
5	Kim Baruto	Oak Tree	Paraprofessional	PD stipend 15 hours – 1 credit \$70 annual	11-213-100-106-000-093 11-190-100-106-000-060	3/12/15-6/23/15	PD stipend
6	Darryle Williams	High School	Custodian	\$20.33/hr. +2 nd shift \$.55 +BS 8 hrs./day	11-000-262-100-000-070	3/2/15-6/30/15	Transfer
7	Frank Ferguson	Applegarth	Custodian	\$20.33/hr. +2 nd shift \$.55 +BS 8 hrs./day	11-000-262-100-000-050	3/2/15-6/30/15	Transfer
8	Peter Klaskin	HS	Security	Step 2 \$21.85/hr. for 8 hrs.	11-000-266-100-000-060	3/13/15-4/15/15	Leave replacement
9	Francesco DeStefano	Brookside	Security	Step 2 \$21.85/hr. for 8 hrs.	11-000-266-100-000-050	3/18/15-4/15/15	Leave replacement

W. It is recommended that the Board approve the following substitutes for the 2014-2015 school year:

Certificated

Fern Oved	Substitute Teacher
Christine Bubnowski	Substitute Teacher
Shari Pica	Substitute Teacher
Carissa Wolkiewicz	Substitute Teacher
Angela O'Donnell	Substitute Teacher
Carol Brenner	Substitute Teacher

Non Certificated

Armana Tariq	Substitute Para
Joseph Nagy	Substitute Para
Jacqueline Liebowitz	Substitute Para
Cristina Toscano	Substitute Para
Shari Cohen	Substitute Para
Laura Jorgensen	Substitute Para
Kathleen D'Onofrio	Substitute Para
Susan Hondo	Substitute Para
Bernard Miller	Substitute Avid Tutor

V. BOARD ACTION

A. Residency Contracts

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 Contracts whose family is under contract for future residency in Monroe Township.

- B. It is recommended that the Board approve the previously submitted list of requests for Staff Professional Development.
- C. It is recommended that the Board approve the previously submitted list of requests for Field Trips.
- D. It is recommended that the Board approve the previously submitted list of Student Teachers for the 2014-2015 school year.
- E. It is recommended that the Board approve the previously submitted list of Student Suspensions for February 2015.
- F. It is recommended that the Board approve the previously submitted 2015-2016 School Calendar.

G. It is recommended that the Board approve the following out of district student placements:

Student No.	School	Start Date	Tuition rate
89704	Childrens Center of Monmouth	3/2/15	\$280.94 per diem \$160 per diem for one-on-one aide

H. It is recommended that the Board approve the following revised job description:

Superintendent of Schools

I. It is recommended that the Board approve the following Bylaw, Policies and Regulations for a first reading:

B167	Public Participation in Board Meetings
P1220	Employment of Chief School Administrator
P 7430	School Safety
R 7430	School Safety
P 7432	Eye Protection
R 7432	Eye Protection Practices
P 8110	Attendance Areas
P 8130	School Organization
P 8140	Pupil Enrollments
R 8140	Enrollment Accounting
P 8210	School Year
P 8310	Public Records
R 8310	Public Records
P 8320	Personnel Records
R 8320	Personnel Records
P 8330	Pupil Records
R 8330	Pupil Records
P 8335	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Acts

J. It is recommended that the Board approve the revised 2014-2015 School Calendar.

14. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS

BOARD ACTION

A. PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

1. It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve Tiny Tots Therapy, Inc., 551 Park Ave. Suite 5, Scotch Plains, NJ 07059 for the following speech services for the 2014-2015 school year at the following rates:

Speech therapy services provided by:

Speech and Language Pathologist/Certificate of Competence (SLP-CCC) \$85.00 per hour:

Speech Language Specialist/Clinical Fellowship Year (SLP-CFY) \$78.00 per hour

School based Speech Therapy evaluation at \$275.00 per evaluation.

2. It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve Stephanie Rahill, Ph.D., NCSP from Georgian Court University to provide six hours of training to our school psychologist for the new Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children-V (WISC-V) assessment for a total cost of \$2,400.

B. BILL LIST

It is recommended that the bills totaling \$8,379,293.31 for February 2015 be ratified by the Board. The bills have been reviewed by the Chairperson of the Finance Committee and certified

C. SECRETARY'S FINANCIAL & CASH REPORT

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 4, Be It Resolved that the Board of Education hereby certifies that it is in receipt of the Financial Reports for February 2015, which indicates that no major accounts or funds have been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the fiscal year in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b). In accordance with N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c) 3, Be It Further Resolved that the Board Secretary certifies that the February 2015 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).

D. TRANSFER #7

It is recommended that members of the Board of Education approve Transfer #7 for Fiscal Year 2014/2015 as previously submitted.

E. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT - RUTGERS

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the previously submitted Memorandum of Agreement between Rutgers University and the Monroe Township Board of Education dated February 25, 2015 at a cost of \$3,570.00, for professional development services. The Board President and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to take all necessary steps to implement this action by the Board of Education.

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

Michael C. Gorski, CPA

Prepared by

March 12, 2015

Meeting Date

15. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

16. OTHER BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS

17. CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Township of Monroe hereby moves to go into Closed Session, in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975 (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 through 10:4-21), to discuss the following subject(s):

- To discuss student residency matters.
- Student matter.
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

Incident No.	Student No.	School	Student ID
22	2/12/2015	MTMS	82826, 87468
23	2/11/2015	MTMS	84028, 83625, 83032, 83364
24	2/19/2015	HS	82130
25	2/26/2015	MTMS	88784
26	3/3/2015	HS	89577

The discussion conducted in closed session can be disclosed to the public at such time as the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

18. PUBLIC FORUM***

19. NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Wednesday, April 15, 2015 7:00 p.m. Monroe Township High School

20. ADJOURNMENT

* Any member of the public may record the proceedings of a public meeting of the Board in a manner that does not interrupt the proceedings, inhibit the conduct of the meeting, or distract Board Members or other observers present at the meeting.

The Board will permit the use of tape recorders, still or movie cameras, or videotape cameras only when notice of such intended use has been given to the Board Secretary one day in advance of the meeting. Any video recording device must be located and operated from inconspicuous locations in the meeting room as determined by the presiding officer of the meeting. The presiding officer may also limit the number of video recording devices if he/she determines the number and position of the video recording devices will be an unnecessary intrusion to the meeting. In this event, preference will be given based on the order in which prior notice requesting to record the meeting was provided to the Board Secretary.

The presiding officer shall determine when any recording device interferes with the conduct of a Board meeting and may order that an interfering device be removed.

** The Jamesburg Representative shall be eligible to vote on only those matters specifically designated in N.J.S.A 18A:38-8.1, as follows:

- (1) Tuition to be charged the sending district by the receiving district and the bill lists or contracts for the purchase, operation or maintenance of facilities, equipment and instructional materials to be used in the education of the pupils of the sending district.
- (2) New capital construction to be utilized by sending district pupils.
- (3) Appointment, transfer or removal of teaching staff members providing services to pupils of the sending district, including any teaching staff member who is a member of the receiving district's central administrative staff; and
- (4) Addition or deletion of curricular and extracurricular programs involving pupils of the sending district.

To the extent the Jamesburg Representative inadvertently votes on any other matter, his vote shall not be counted.

*** Public discussion is confined to this portion of the Agenda unless permission is granted by the Board President prior to the start of the meeting or when the Board is considering a Special Agenda Item that the Board deems appropriate for public participation. Anyone wishing to address the Board is requested to stand and state his/her name and address.