

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BOROUGH OF MORRISVILLE
Morrisville, Pennsylvania

AGENDA MEETING OF BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Wednesday, April 9, 2008
Large Group Instruction Room
Morrisville Middle/Senior High School -- 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the LGI room at the Morrisville Middle/Senior High School, 550 W. Palmer Street, Morrisville, Pennsylvania.

Board members present:

Mr. Kemp, Mr. Hellmann, Mr. Farrell, Mrs. Reithmeyer, Mr. Radosti and Mrs. Worob. Mrs. Mihok arrived at 7:42 p.m.

Board members absent:

Mrs. Heater and Mr. Frankenfield.

Quorum Present:

Also attending this evening's meeting was Dr. Elizabeth Hammond Yonson, Superintendent; Mrs. Reba Dunford, Business Administrator; Mrs. Melanie Gehrens, Secondary Principal; Mrs. Karen Huggins, Elementary Principal; Mrs. Kimberly Myers, Supervisor of Pupil Personnel Services/School Psychologist; William Ferrara, Secondary Principal.

At this time, Dr. Yonson went through the items listed on the agenda for the April 23, 2008 Board meeting for the Board's information. The items were as follows:

CALL MEETING TO ORDER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL
INTRODUCTION OF OTHERS PRESENT

ITEMS OF GENERAL INFORMATION

Student Representatives to the Board:
Enrollment Report

1. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
 - ⇒ 21st Century Service Learning Project
 - ⇒ Update on Cable Television Station – Chris Barone
 - ⇒ This week in our Schools

PUBLIC SESSION

RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS

ACTION ITEMS

2. Approval of Minutes

- 2.1. January 2, 2008 Special Meeting
- 2.2. January 9, 2008 Monthly Agenda Meeting
- 2.3. January 30, 2008 Special Meeting
- 2.4. February 13, 2008 Monthly Agenda Meeting
- 2.5. March 12, 2008 Monthly Agenda Meeting
- 2.6. March 26, 2008 Monthly Business Meeting
- 2.7. April 9, 2008 Monthly Agenda Meeting

3. HUMAN RESOURCES

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

ACTION ITEMS

- 3.1. Approval, Resignations
- 3.2. Resignation of Thomas J. Kelly, Esq.
- 3.3. Approval, Appointment of Solicitor
- 3.4. Approval, Appointments
 - 3.4.a. Full Time Paraprofessional (one-on-one)
 - 3.4.b. Assistant Softball Coach
 - 3.4.c. Per Diem Substitute
 - 3.4.d. Full Time ESL Teacher
- 3.5. Acceptance of Retirements
- 3.6. Approval, Tuition Reimbursements

4. BUSINESS OPERATIONS/FINANCE COMMITTEE

INFORMATION ITEMS

- ⇒ Re-Registration of Students

ACTION ITEMS

- 4.1. Approval, Agreement Interquest Detection Canines of Eastern PA
- 4.2. Approval, Bucks County Comprehensive Technical School 2008-2009 Budget
- 4.3. Approval, Payment of Bills
- 4.4. Approval, Motion to request the Business Administrator to request proposals for property and casualty insurance
- 4.5. Approval, Boiler Cleaning Bid
- 4.6. Approval, Grass and Snow Bid
- 4.7. Approval, Transportation Bid
- 4.8. Approval, Trash Removal Bid
- 4.9. Approval, Electrical Bid
- 4.10. Approval, Fire Alarm and Suppression Bid
- 4.11. Approval, Plumbing Bid
- 4.12. Approval, Budget Transfers
- 4.13. Approval, Forgiveness of Real Estate Tax lien
- 4.14. Approval, Donation

Mrs. Dunford asked that a motion be added to approve the Business Administrator to go out for bids for three fresh air intake cooking hoods for the kitchen.

Regarding the update on the cable television station under Section #1, Mrs. Worob suggested that we involve students in this effort and also suggested a permanent schedule on when (days and times) the board meetings will be played on this channel.

5. SPECIAL EDUCATION

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

ACTION ITEMS:

- 5.1. Approval, Agreement with Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 for Special Education Services
- 5.2. Approval, Special Education Assurance
- 5.3. Approval, Special Education Litigation

Dr. Yonson stated that an Executive Session will be held following tonight's meeting to discuss the Special Education litigation.

Dr. Yonson stated that at a previous Board meeting, Mr. Farrell had requested that a representative from PDE attend a Board meeting to answer several questions he had. Dr. Yonson has contacted a representative from PDE and would like this representative to be present at the agenda meeting in May and asked all Board members to forward to her any questions or concerns they may have to send to this representative so that she could bring any facts or figures to this meeting. Dr. Yonson also stated that Mrs. Myers, Supervisor of Pupil Personnel/School Psychologist, has spoken to a representative from the PA Department of Special Education, and this representative would also like to come to the next agenda meeting or to a special meeting of the Board to give a presentation to the Board on special education issues.

6. LIAISON REPORTS

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- a. Lower Bucks County Vocational-Educational School
- b. Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22
- c. Pennsylvania School Boards Association/Legislative

7. OLD BUSINESS

8. NEW BUSINESS

9. ADJOURNMENT

At this time, Dr. Yonson asked any Board members if they would like to add anything to the agenda for the April 23, 2008 Board meeting.

Mr. Kemp asked if an approval of any of the feasibility study bids could be added to the agenda. Mr. Hellmann stated that the lowest bid has already been shot down at a previous Board meeting, but Mr. Kemp stated that he would still like to get the facilities study done and would like to see this item up for approval. Dr. Yonson stated that the Board previously voted to go out for bid, and if the Board is not going to do a feasibility study, the firms who did bid should be notified. After further discussion, it was decided to add a motion to the April 28, 2008 agenda to either accept or reject the bids for the feasibility study and, if accepted, a committee will be formed to review these bids.

Marlys Mihok stated that it has come to her attention that we have several apartment complexes that are within the Morrisville Borough whose property descriptions are not in line with the property descriptions that our tax office has on file. The number of units are not being properly reported, therefore, the owners are not paying the correct tax amounts. Mrs. Mihok requested that a motion be added to the agenda asking the solicitor to look at these assessments.

Mr. Hellmann asked that a motion be added to have the health insurance agent look into the other employee benefits such as life insurance, disability, etc.

Mr. Hellmann asked that a motion be added to hire a new solicitor.

Two budgets workshops were scheduled for May 7th and May 21st.

Mr. Hellmann stated that he will be going to the Bucks County Technical High School to review their cost sharing documents. Mrs. Mihok requested to go along with Mr. Hellmann and he also suggested that Mrs. Heater join them.

Dr. Yonson stated the Board Retreat will take place on April 30th beginning at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC SESSION

No one signed up to speak at the public session.

Mr. Hellmann read a statement regarding the feasibility study and the reasons why he is against this study being done. (see Addendum A)

Mr. Kemp expressed his concerns with the unsafe conditions at our elementary schools and his desire to have the feasibility study done. Mr. Kemp questioned a meeting held at one of the Board members homes recently which excluded himself, Mrs. Reithmeyer and Mr. Radosti. It was denied that this was an official meeting of Board members and that at no one time was a quorum present. Mrs. Reithmeyer stated that meetings such as this are unethical and immoral. Mr. Kemp asked what happened to the openness of the Sunshine Act that was promised.

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The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

William Hellmann, President

Marlys Mihok, Secretary

Transcribed by Karen McQuillan

