MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES– NOVEMBER 13, 2007

The Regular Meeting of the Merchantville Board of Education was held on Tuesday, November 13,2007, at 7:30 p.m., in the Reading Center of Merchantville School.

Members Present: Mrs. Hartson-Stine, Mr. Honigfeld, Mr. Kabel, Mr. Morrone, Mr. Bohn, Mr. Doran, and Mr. Loue

Members Absent: Mr. Velten

Also Present: Mr. Christian Swanson, Chief School Administrator
Mr. Henry Bermann, RSBA
Mrs. Jean Grubb, SCSSSD Business Official
Mrs. Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

2006-2007 AUDIT PRESENTATION

AUDIT PRESENTATION

Mrs. Frances Sperling, CPA, St. Clair's CPA's, presented a review of the audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, along with the auditor's recommendations.

Discussion on the school year ending June 30, 2007:

- Revenue exceeded expenditures
- The Tuition Reserve Account totaling $43,000 was used to support this year's expenses.
- The district still maintains a Maintenance Reserve Account
- The Food Service Fund's expenses exceeded the revenue
- Funds were transferred from the Warrant/General Account to cover the Food Service deficit.
- Funds from the Warrant/General Account were used to pay for part of the costs to repair the gymnasium walls and floor.

APPROVE AUDIT SYNOPSIS RECOMMEM-DATIONS AND CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mr. Morrone, for the board of education to approve and accept:

The Annual Financial Audit for the fiscal year Ending June 30, 2007
The Synopsis of the Audit
The audit recommendations
The corrective action plan submitted by the board secretary

Unanimously approved.
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Two residents submitted letters of interest for the open seat on the board of education.

No update on the availability of funds to proceed with approval for the Porzio, Bromberg and Newman's Report. Administration is waiting for a Porzio proposal.

Mr. Bohn shared the Accountability Act Event Report Form distributed at a meeting he attended.

COMMITTEES

Buildings and Grounds

Committee met today. Discussion – Quotes on an Energy Audit – to include the boiler controls and upgrades to the boilers, analyses of the efficiency of the windows, fans for the classrooms, etc. Another area in the gym requires repairs, and quotes are needed for budget consideration.

Carroll Will

Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 4, 2007.

Curriculum and technology

To date, the Internet component for the new Science Workbooks is not accessible.

Discipline

Board requested current data on enrollment, detentions, club participations, etc.

Finance

Tentative meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 20, 2007.
Board requested information from Mr. Gerichter, cafeteria consultant, on the status of the cafeteria, to date.

Personnel

Interviews with negotiation candidates will be scheduled.
NJSBA will review the current contract and meet with the board members.
MEA President requested a scatter gram on the NJEA member's salaries and one on the member's benefits.

Policy

Policies/procedures mentioned for: transportation during a school sponsored trip, chaperons on trips, dress code and discipline.

APPROVE TO#258 TO CCEC WHITE HORSE ACADEMY

Moved by Mr. Morrone, and seconded by Mr. Loue, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the chief school administrator and the child study team to approve the placement of TO #258, an eighth grade student, at the Camden County Educational Commission's White Horse Academy. The effective date of the placement was October 31,2007, and the tuition of $17,750.00 per year will be pro-rated. Transportation will be through Camden County Educational Services Commission.
Unanimously approved.

APPROVE TO #242 TO HAMPTON ACADEMY

Moved by Mr. Morrone, and seconded by Mr. Loue, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the chief school administrator and the child study team to approve the placement of TO #242, a returning student, at the Hampton Academy. The effective date of the placement was October 30,2007, and the tuition is $221.50 per day. Transportation will be through Camden County Educational Services Commission
Unanimously approved.

APPROVE STMTS. OF ASSURANCES

Moved by Mr. Morrone, and seconded by Mr. Loue, that the Board of Education approve the submission of Appendix D-1 and D-2, as Statements of Assurances for school year 2006-2007.
Unanimously approved.

APPROVE RIIVERA AS A SUB. TEACHER

Moved by Mr. Morrone, and seconded by Mr. Loue, that the Board of Education approve the reinstatement of Rosa Rivera to the substitute list for school year 2007-2008.
Unanimously approved.

ENTER CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the Board of Education adjourn, by Resolution, into Closed Session, from which the general public is excluded, to discuss potential litigation and the board of education candidates, or any other matter appropriate for this session. The results of this session will be made public immediately after, or as soon thereafter, as a decision is reached, if permitted by law. 9:50 p.m.
Unanimously approved.

Members Present: Mrs. Hartson-Stine, Mr. Honigfeld, Mr. Kabel, Mr. Morrone, Mr. Bohn, Mr. Doran, and Mr. Loue

Members Absent: Mr. Velten

Also Present: Mr. Christian Swanson, Chief School Administrator
Mr. Henry Bermann, RSBA
Mrs. Jean Grubb, SCSSSD Business Official
Mrs. Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

Discussed:

Gifted and Talented Program

Selection challenge for participation
The state mandates that each district have a criterion for selection to this program, and we are in compliance

Board of Education Candidates

Two residents submitted letters of interest
One resident attended the interview session

Mr. Bermann reminded the board members that by statue they could consider reducing membership to seven members.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mr. Morrone, that the board of education to approve to return to open session. 10:15 p.m.
Unanimously approved.

APPOINT PERNO TO OPEN SEAT ON THE BOARD

Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mr. Honigfeld, that the board of education approve to appoint Ms. Jennifer Perno, a resident of Morris Street, to fill the vacant position on the board of education. Ms. Perno's term will end with the next school election in April 2008.
Unanimously approved.

ADJOURN

Moved by Mr. Morrone, and seconded by Mr. Bohn, for the board of education to approve to adjourn this meeting. 10:16 p.m.
Unanimously approved.

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Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary