# MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – NOVEMBER 11, 2008

The Regular Meeting of the Merchantville Board of Education was held on Tuesday, November 11, 2008, at 7:30 p.m., in The Reading Center at Merchantville School.

The board president, Mr. Steve Morrone, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., at which time the following statement was read:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the rights of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Merchantville Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted in the Retrospect, The Courier Post, Borough Hall, and Community Library.

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

Members Absent: Mr. Doran

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

The board president let the group in the pledge to the flag.

Mrs. Barbara Carfagno, Park Avenue, PTA Representative, talked about a dress code survey. The PTA's next meeting is November 17, 2008.

Administration received several emails from parents praising the Soccer and the Field Hockey Coach.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Auditorium Project –November 14, 2008 – Ribbon-cutting ceremony

Still Pending: Revisions to Policy #5142 – Pupil Safety

Board of Education Goals and Objectives for the 2008-2009 school year

The district attorney is reviewing Personal Illness and Injury Policy #4151.1

Profanity issue Mr. Swanson distributed a memo to all board members.

## NEW BUSINESS

QSAC Requirement 18A: 12-24.1 Code of Ethics for School Board Members

a. I will uphold an enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the state Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.

Board President read this ethic code and discussion followed.

Copies of the district's 2007-2008 audit were distributed. The auditors will present the audit at the November 25, 2008 board meeting.

## *COMMITTEES*

*Curriculum and Technology*

Parental Notification System and SASI link

Training scheduled for this week

Student updates continue

There is no official school policy concerning staff responding to emails.

Administration will look into resolving a complaint registered about accessing online software at home.

*Buildings and Grounds*

The district will pay Pennoni Associates bills covering air quality reports.

*Community Relations*

A copy of The Merchantville School Handbook was forwarded to administration for review.

APPROVE PAYMENTS

## BUSINESS OFFICE

Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education approve the following payments:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| P 17 | Payroll 10-31 | 147,808.55 |
| P 18 | Tuition deducted from state aid payment | 1985.50 |
| Manual Check | Pennoni Associates | $1,810.00 |

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Pg. _____

APPROVE TRAVEL REQUESTS

Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education approve the following travel request:

| Name | Date | Location | Event | Purpose | Amount | Code |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Batterman, Caren | 12/8/2008 | Cherry Hill, NJ | Sensory Integration & Sensory Processing Disorder | Seminar | $175.00 | 1 |

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

## CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

APPROVE NOLTE AS A SUBSTITUTE AIDE

Moved by Mr. Honigfeld, and seconded by Mr. Loue, that the board of education approve the addition of Ms. Virginia Nolte to the substitute/non instructional aide list for the 2008-2009 school year.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE CURRICULUMS

Moved by Mr. Honigfeld, and seconded by Mr. Loue, that the board of education formally adopt the previously presented revised World Language, Health, and Physical Education Curriculums.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

ENTER CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Mr. Honigfeld, and seconded by Mr. Loue, that the Board of Education adjourns, by Resolution, into Closed Session, from which the general public is excluded, to discuss contract issues, 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. 8:07 p. m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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

Members Absent: Mr. Doran

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

*Topics Discussed:*

*Regionalization/Consolidation*

- The Department of Education's model size districts: Pre-K to 12
  With a student t body of 5000
- Executive Business Administrators must submit recommendations/plans to the Department of Education by March 15, 2010.
- Plans and meetings held by other school districts.

Mr. Bermann and Mrs. Grubb attended seminars on Regionalization/Consolidation of New Jersey School District at the NJSBA Convention

- NJ Send/Receive cases were discussed at the seminars
- During next year's budget process, the state intends to reduce school aid given to "small" districts
- Paperwork distributed will be sent to Merchantville Board Members and administrator

*CSA's Contract*

- The attorney is working on the inquirers forwarded for review

*Retirements – MEA/BOE Agreement*

- The attorney is reviewing the new Department of Education regulations covering retirement offers

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mr. Velten, that the board of education to approve to return to open session. 8:31 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURN

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mrs. Hartson-Stine, that the board of education to approve to adjourn this meeting. 8:32 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

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