MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES - OCTOBER 14, 2008

The Regular Meeting of the Merchantville Board of Education was held on Tuesday, October 14, 2008, at 7:30 p.m. in Room #105 of the 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, Mrs. Perno and Mrs. Hartson-Stine

Members Absent: Mr. Velten and Mr. Doran

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

Mr. and Mrs. Zeiders, Browning Road, Mr. and Mrs. Reiss, West Chestnut Avenue, and Mr. Yarnall, Springfield Avenue, spoke about the Student Council eligibility policy. The Policy Committee will meet with administration regarding this issue.

The Public Hearing on the district incidents of Violence and Vandalism will be held on October 28, 2008, as required.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

UPDATES:

No information was received from the Camden Catholic High School's representatives regarding the use of/and changes to the district's athletic field.

Auditorium Project - Ribbon Cutting Ceremony is scheduled for November 14, 2008.

The list of expenditures that to be paid with the $47,676.00 received from the Marie J. Carroll Will was distributed.

Revisions to Policy #5142 – Pupil Safety – are being reviewed by staff and administration.

The contents of the District's Hand Book were discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

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

g. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the school, which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals, or the school. In all other matters, I will

provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its school.

h. I will vote to appoint the best-qualified personnel available, after consideration of the chief school administrator.

Mr. Morrone read and discussed the above ethic codes.

Mr. Morrone is preparing a draft of the Board of Education Goals and Objectives for the 2008-2009 school year.

Moved by Mr. Honigfeld, and seconded by Mr. Loue, that the board of education approve the following minutes:

APPROVE MINUTES 09-09-2008 AND 09-23-2008

September 9, 2008

Ayes (6)	Noes (0)	Abstain (1)	Mr. Morrone	Motion carried.

September 23, 2008

Ayes (5)	Noes (0)	Abstain (2)	Mrs. Hartson-Stine and Mrs. Perno	Motion carried.

COMMITTEES

Curriculum and Technology
Update:

Parental Notification System and SASI link
Student information is ready to be transmitted to the Parental Notification System Vendor.

Buildings and Grounds
Update:

Cement work around the building is complete.
Repairing and painting of the flagpole is complete.

Finance
Cafeteria Operations:
Prior to the start of the meeting, the committee met, and discussed the possibility of making changes to the preparation and distribution of student breakfasts and the brown bag lunches offered on early dismissal days to attempt to lower the district's losses. Merchantville staff would handle these duties. In a few months, a report will be submitted to the board.

Curriculum and Technology

Teacher in-service was held on Friday, October 10, 2008.

Topics Discussed:

Inter-local Agreement with the Merchantville Police Department
Procedures for various security incidents were reviewed

BUSINESS OFFICE

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

APPROVE PAYMENTS

P 11	Manual checks	12,397.12
P 12	September Payroll	148,803.66
P 13	September Payroll	147,708.36
P 14	Deductions from state aid and inter-fund transfer	338.90

Approved by unanimous voice vote.
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APPROVE TRAVEL REQUESTS

Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mr. Honigfeld, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the chief school administrator, and approve the following travel requests.

Name	Date	Location	Event	Purpose	Amount	Code
Leise, Jeanne	10/20/2008	East Windsor, NJ	Workshop School Social Workers	Presentation on Social Workers and School Leadership	$170.00	1
Mansolino, Loretta	11/13/2008 1/14/2009 2/11/2009 3/11/2009 4/8/2009 6/10/2009	Pine Hill, NJ	CCAFSBO County Meetings	Business officials updates and information sessions	$105.00 Total	1

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE TRANSFERS

Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mr. Honigfeld, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the chief school administrator and approve the following transfers effective September 30, 2008

11 190 100 610 General supplies	100.00	11 000 216 00 General supplies – speech and language	100.00
11 190 100 610 General supplies	200.00	11 204 100 610 General supplies – learning & language	200.00

11 000 251 600 Business office - supplies	25.00	11 000 251 592 Business office – other expenses	25.00

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

ACCEPT DONATIONS

Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mr. Honigfeld, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the chief school administrator and accept the donated supplies valued at $1108.98, as listed. This donation was part of a program sponsored by Office Max and titled "A Day Made Better".

In addition, it is recommended that the board of education approve the $25.00 donation made by Mr. Kevin North for the old field hockey nets.

Approved by unanimous voice vote.
List of donated supplies on file.

The August 2008 Revenue Summary was distributed.

ACCEPT AUGUST 2008 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mr. Honigfeld, that the board of education approve and accept the:

Board Secretary's Report – Treasurer's Report - Certification
For August 2008

Board Secretary's Report in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of August 2008. The Board Secretary certifies that no line item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23-2.11 (a) 3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Treasurer's Report in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of August 2008. The Treasurer's Report and Secretary's report are in agreement for the month of August 2008 Board Secretary in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A: 23 - 2.11 (a) 2 certifies that there are no changes in anticipated revenue amounts or revenue sources.

Board of Education Certification – pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A: 23 – 2.11 (a) 4, we certify that after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major accounts or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23 – 2.11 (a) 3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

_____ _____
Henry Bermann, RSBA Date
Approved by unanimous voice vote.
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APPROVE TO VOID CK #45145

Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mr. Honigfeld, that the board of education approve to void and not reissue the following check.

#45145 9/22/08 $519.97

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE SAFETY BUS SERVS. TRANSP. CONTRACT

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education approve to renew the transportation contract with Safety Bus Service, Inc., Pennsauken, New Jersey, for the 2008-2009 school year. This contract covers the transporting of Merchantville students to/from Pennsauken High School. The contract totals $38,321.85, and the details follow:

Route #1	$106.45 per diem	$19,160.93
Route #2	$106.45 per diem	$19,160.92

Approved by unanimous voice vote.
FYI – Last year's contracted amount was $37,245.46.

APPROVE CHANGES TO MEA/ BOE AGRMT.

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education approve the attached changes to the MEA/BOE Agreement dated 2008-2011:

Date on the first page - September 26, 2008
Salary guides listed as Appendix A-1, A-2, A-3 and Appendix B

Approved by unanimous voice vote.
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Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the chief school administrator to reappoint the following employees for the 2008-2009 school year. All salaries and steps reflect the data in the revised 2008-2011 MEA/Board Agreement approved in motion #2 listed above. – Not moved -

APPROVE TO SET SALARIES FOR 2008 - 2009 SY

Amended to: Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the chief school administrator to set the employees' salaries for the 2008-2009 school year. All salaries and steps reflect the data in the revised 2008-2011 MEA/Board Agreement.

Approved by unanimous voice vote.
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APPROVE ACTION TO VARIOUS POLICIES

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education approve the action listed on the attached policies.

4119.21	Conflict of Interest	1st R
4119.22	Conduct and Dress	1st R
4119.23	Employee Substance Abuse	1st R
4121	Substitute Teachers	1st R
4122	Student Teachers/Interns	1st R
4123	Classroom Aides (Paraprofessionals)	1st R

4132/4131.1	Staff Development; In-service Education/Visitation/Conferences	1st R
4138 (4038)	Non-school Employment	1st R
4138.2 (4134)	Private Tutoring	1st R
4147	Employee Safety	1st R
4151	Attendance Patterns	1st R
4151.1 (4051.1)	Personal Illness and Injury	1st R
4152.6	*Leave of Absence without Pay*	*Not Needed by this district*

Approved by unanimous voice vote.
Copies on file.

Mr. Bermann left the meeting.

APPROVE SUB

CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Moved by Mrs. Perno, and seconded by Mr. Loue, that the Merchantville Board of Education approve the reinstatement of Daniel Quaintance to our Substitute List for school year 2008 - 2009.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Moved by Mrs. Perno, and seconded by Mr. Loue, that the Board of Education approve the following Field Trips:

APPROVE FIELD TRIPS

Round Valley Youth Center - 30 Students
(Naturalist Club Trip) - 2 Teacher
October 4 & 5, 2008 - 4 Chaperons

Conte's Farm - 42 Students
(Kindergarten Field Trip) - 4 Teacher
October 20, 2008 - 4 Chaperons

Fairview Lake YMCA Camp - 33 Students
(8th Grade Environmental Trip) - 4 Teacher
December 03- Dec. 05, 2008 - 2 Chaperons

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE SUB

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education approve the addition of Mr. Len Strelsin to the substitute list for the 2008-2009 school year.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPORVE NCLB FUNDS AS LISTED

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education approve the submission of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) Consolidated Application (NCLB-2009), and accept the funds as allocated in the following programs:

Our district allocations for each program area are listed below:

Title	LEA Allocation	Private Schools – non publics	Total Allocation
Title I	90,479		90,479
Title II (A)	13,414	14,035	27,449
Title II (D)	348	403	751
Title III	2,112	235	2,347
Title IV	942	1,097	2,039
TOTAL	**107,295**	**15,770**	**123,065**

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE IDEIA 2009 FUNDS AS LISTED

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education approve the submission of the appropriate basic and pre-school applications (IDEIA – 2009), and to accept the funds following approval, as outlined:

Title	LEA Allocation	Private Schools – non publics	Total Allocation
Basic	107,733	38,903	146,636
Pre- School	5,647		5,647
TOTAL	**113,380**	**38,903**	**152,283**

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE APPENDIX DI AND D2

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education approve the submission of Appendix D-1 and D-2, as Statements of Assurances for school year 2007-2008.

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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ENTER CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Mrs. Hartson-Stine, and seconded by Mr. Honigfeld, that the Board of Education adjourns, by Resolution, into Closed Session, from which the general public is excluded, to discuss, personnel, negotiations, 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. 9:03 p.m.

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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

Members Absent: Mr. Velten and Mr. Doran

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

Topics Discussed:

- Buy-out offer for the district's TPAF members
- CSA's Contract
  Meeting scheduled for next week
- Shared Services
  Meeting cancelled and must be rescheduled

  Additional partners

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mrs. Hartson-Stine, that the board of education approve to return to open session. 9:10 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Morrone and members of the board and administration who attended the meeting with the new County Executive Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Peggy Nicolosi, shared some of the information from that meeting.

- The state's definition of an "ideal" district will consist of an approximate student body of 5,000 students
- District's servicing under 5,000 students, should attempt to find a partner district
- County lines are not barriers to partnerships
- It is the state's intention not to close any existing school buildings
- Resident's school tax rates should not go up with any merger/consolidation/regionalization plans
- Many members of the audience expressed their concerns to the state's plans for existing school districts.
- Ms. Nicolosi must submit a draft of a county plan related to the consolidation/regionalization/rmerger of the county districts to the Department of Education in 2010.

ADJOURN

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education to approve to adjourn this meeting. 9:28 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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Recording Secretary

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