# MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – FEBRUARY 10, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the Merchantville Board of Education was held on Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 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 The Community Library.

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

Members Absent: Mr. Velten,

Also Present: Mr. Christian Swanson, Chief School Administrator
Mr. Henry Bermann, RSBA
Ms. Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

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

Mrs. Carfagno, Park Avenue, shared the dates of the PTA's upcoming events.

Mr. Weatherspoon, West Cedar Avenue, told of a security incident involving his daughter and another student, and requested that administration address the daytime security of the school's doors.

Mr. Conway, Greenleigh Court, verbalized about responsibilities and security at PTA sponsored functions and the district's policies and procedure regarding these functions. Also, the distribution of the district's handbook was discussed.

Pending: Board's Goals and Objectives -Personal Illness and Injury –
Policy #4151.1 - District's Handbook

APPOINT WOOD AS ATTORNEY

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education approve to engage Mr. Leonard Wood, as the district's attorney.
Discussion.

Ayes (5) Noes (3) Abstain (0) Motion carries.

APPROVE WOOD TO ATTEND ONE MEETING THRU APRIL 2009

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve for the newly appointed attorney, Mr. Leonard Wood, to attend one (1) board meeting per month, with a retainer fee of $3,600, and an hourly billing rate of $135.00.
No action.

Discussion followed.

*Amended to:* Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve for the newly appointed attorney, Mr. Leonard Wood, to be contracted to attend one board meeting a month for the months of February, March and April 2009, at a pro-rated rate of $300.00 per meeting, and an hourly billing rate of $135.00.
Ayes (6) Noes (2) Abstain (0) Motion carries.

**BUDGET AND ELECTION INFORMATION**
Moved by Mr. Doran, seconded by Mr. Loue, that the board of education approve to set the following tentative times, dates, rates, etc., pending the delivery of additional budget and election information from the State of New Jersey.

To set, **Monday, March 2, 2009,** at 4:00 *p.m.*, in the Merchantville Business Office, as the deadline for filing a petition to run for a seat on the board of education.

APPROVE BUDGET AND ELECTION DATA

To set, Wednesday, **March 11, 2009*, at 1:00 p.m.***, in the Merchantville Business Office as the date, time and place for the drawing of names for positions on the ballot.

To confirm that, **Tuesday, April 21, 2008**, is the election date, with voting hours *of 2 to 9 p.m.*, in the Reading Center at Merchantville School and Public Library.

To establish hourly rates of: $10.00 per hour for poll workers, and $12.50 per hour for the two election judges

To approve to hold a Public Hearing on the Budget between Monday, March 30,2009 and Thursday, April 2, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. *Exact date to be determined later.*

To set, **Tuesday, April 28, 2009,** as the date for The Reorganization of the Board of Education.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

***COMMITTEES***
*Building and Grounds*
Tentative meeting set for 2/19/09 – security of doors – budget requests

*Community Relations*
PTA link to the district's web site – meeting with computer staff to update and revise district's web page – submission of student activities to the Borough for publication in the Newsletter.

*Curriculum and Technology*
2009-2010 computer budget – parental notification system – posting of student's grades on line for parental access.

*Finance*
Committee met prior to this meeting. Budgeted lines discussed – salaries, benefits, and tuition-out projected costs.

*Planning and High School*
Held for closed.

*Policy*
Committee to meet on 2/27/09 at 6:30 p.m.

*PHS – Liaison*
PHS's security procedures.

*PTA – Liaison*
Fund raising events – parental pick up of children during inclement weather

*Borough Council – Liaison*
Borough purchased the PNC Bank Building for $1.2 million dollars.

*Ad-Hoc – Teaching*
Contact information for members is needed to schedule a meeting.

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

APPROVE PAYMENTS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| P 31 | Tuitions deducted from state aid payments | 5,045.50 |
| P 33 | 1-15 payroll | 150,068.91 |
| P 34 | 1-29 payroll & tuitions deducted from state aid | 155,376.61 |

Approved by unanimous voice vote.
Pgs._____

Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mr. Honigfeld, that the board of education approve the recommendations of the chief school administrator and approve the following transfer of accounts as of 1/31/09:

APPROVE TRANSFERS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 11 000 100 565 Tuitions- County Spec. Servs. | 18333.00 | 11 000 100 568 Tuition –state facilities | 18333.00 |
| 11 000 219 320 Support staff- purchase of services | 150.00 | 11 00 219 104 Support – salary line | 150.00 |
| 11 190 100 610 General Supplies | 130.00 | 11 190 100 320 Regular purchase of services | 130.00 |

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

A budget summary, revenue summary report and transfer status report was given to all members.

## CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Moved by Mr. Honigfeld, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the Merchantville Board of Education approve the attached "Assurance Statement" to comply with Part B of the IDEA and N.J.A.C. 6A: 14-1.1(b).
Approved by unanimous voice vote.
Pg._____

Moved by Mr. Morrone, 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, send/receive litigation, 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. 8:50 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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

Members Absent: Mr. Velten

Also Present: Mr. Christian Swanson, Chief School Administrator
Mr. Henry Bermann, RSBA
Ms. Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

*Topics Discussed:*

County notification of the availability of funds for feasibility studies

District mergers and consolidations

Send/receive agreements

Documentation of correspondence

District's security and liability concerns

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education to approve to return to open session. 9:43 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURN

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education to approve to adjourn this meeting. 9:44 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

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