MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES - APRIL 14, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the Merchantville School District was held on Tuesday, April 14, 2009, 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 The Community Library.

Members Present: Mr. Loue, Mr. Kabel, Mr. Honigfeld, Mrs. Perno, Mrs. Hartson-Stine (8:05 p.m.), and Mr. Morrone

Members Absent: Mr. Doran, Mr. Bohn, and Mr. Velten

Also Present: Mr. Christian Swanson, Chief School Administrator
Mr. Henry Bermann, RSBA
Mr. Leonard Wood, District's Attorney
Ms. Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

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

Mr. Wetherspoon, Cedar Avenue, was advised that school security issues would be discussed in closed session.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Students' test scores - presentation to committee and a summary to the board to follow.

APPROVE DISTRICT'S HANDBOOK

Moved by Mrs. Perno, and seconded by Mr. Honigfeld, for the board of education to approve the District's Handbook for publication and distribution, with updates and revisions following the April 28, 2009 Reorganization of the Board.
Ayes (4) Noes (1) Abstain (1) Mr. Kabel Motion carries.

COMMITTEES

Finance

RE: Merchantville Food Service Proposal
Sodexho (the district's current vendor) was the only proposer
Three (3) vendors declined to propose – Chartwells, Aramark And Nutri-Serv

Sodexho's current contract is being updated and revised for board approval.

Planning and High School

The state funding for feasibility studies is limited.

Policy
The wording regarding unnatural hair coloring in the dress code policy and/or procedure should be reviewed.
Ad-Hoc – Teaching
Communication among members continues.

BUSINESS OFFICE

APPROVE PAYMENT

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

P 44	March 31, 2009 Payroll	$151,601.93

Approved by unanimous voice vote.
Pg._____

APPROVE TRAVEL REQUEST

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

Montufar, James	5/14/09	Cherry Hill, NJ	Understanding and Effectively Managing…. Classroom	$225.00 Seminar

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE REVENUE ADJUST.

Moved by Mr. Honigfeld, and seconded by Mr. Loue, that the board of education approve the following adjustment to the submitted 2009-2010 budget, a revenue account adjustment.

Decrease Account #	Increase Account #	Amount
Extraordinary Aid	Budgeted Operating Fund Balance	6971.00

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE DIVIDEND CHECKS

Moved by Mr. Honigfeld, and seconded by Mr. Loue, that the board of education approve to accept Utica National Insurance Group's dividend checks, as follows:

$7,827.04 and $677.48 (Reference: Commercial Package Policy)
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

APPROVE SPEESE AND CALZAR-ETTO AS SUBS

Moved by Mrs. Perno, and seconded by Mr. Kabel, that the Merchantville Board of Education approve Kathleen Speese and Frances Calzaretto to the approved substitute teacher's list for the 2008- 2009 school year.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.
Pgs._____

APPROVE CALENDAR CHANGE

Moved by Mrs. Perno, and seconded by Mr. Kabel, that the Board of Education approve the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator to revise the school year 2008 – 2009 calendar to reflect the last day for students as June 18th and the last day for teachers as June 19th. Graduation is set for June 17, 2009 (Wednesday).
Approved by unanimous voice vote.
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APPROVE FIELD TRIPS

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

Brandywine Museum	- 32 Students
(4th Grade Art-A-Facts Field Trip)	- 3 Teachers
April 29, 2009	- 6 Chaperons
Liberty Bell / Ellis Island	- 40 Students
(6th Grade Field Trip)	- 2 Teachers
May 4, 2009	- 6 Chaperons
Ritz Theatre / Cinderella	- 49 Students
(Kindergarten Art-A-Facts Field Trip)	- 4 Teachers
May 15, 2009	- 4 Chaperons
Franklin Institute	- 7 Students
(Mr. Montufar's Field Trip)	- 1 Teachers
May 19, 2009	- 1 Chaperons
Historical Tour of Philadelphia	- 34 Students
(5th Grade Field Trip)	- 2 Teachers
May 4, 2009	- 8 Chaperons

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE TO #254 AND TO # 193 PLACEMENTS

Moved by Mrs. Perno, and seconded by Mr. Kabel, that the board of education approve the chief school administrator recommendation for the following placements, and to provide transportation for these students through the Camden County Educational Services Commission.

Tuition-out No.	Placement	Estimated Start Date	Estimated Pro-rated Tuition	Transportation
#254	Booker T. Washington, Pennsauken, NJ	4/15/09	$4,280.	Yes

#193	Marie J. Katzenbach Trenton, NJ	4/17/09	$18,014.	Yes

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE IDEIA GRANT ACCEPT.

Moved by Mrs. Perno, and seconded by Mr. Kabel, that the board of education approve Fiscal year 2009 Grant Acceptance Certification for IDEIA

Basic	$150,984
Preschool	$ 6,293

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

ENTER CLOSED

Moved by Mr. Morrone, 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, personnel, contracts, 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. 7:58 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Members Present: Mr. Loue, Mr. Kabel, Mr. Honigfeld, Mrs. Perno, Mrs. Hartson-Stine (8:05 p.m.), and Mr. Morrone

Members Absent: Mr. Doran, Mr. Bohn, and Mr. Velten

Also Present: Mr. Christian Swanson, Chief School Administrator
Mr. Henry Bermann, RSBA
Mr. Leonard Wood, District's Attorney
Ms. Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

TOPICS:

Discussed Building and Grounds Assessment Presented by The district's architects. State funding is being explored.

Prior litigation
Terms and conditions of settlement.

Mr. Swanson left at 8:20 p.m.

Employment Agreement
Statutory requirements – benefits – % of FTE (full-time equivalent)
County approval of contract – start date, duties and responsibilities, etc.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education to approve to return to open session. 8:43 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Discussion – Network equipment package to support the district's software program.

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education to approve to adjourn this meeting. 8:44 p.m. ADJOURN
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

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