MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – MARCH 24, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the Merchantville Board of Education was held on Tuesday, March 24, 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. Bohn, Mr. Kabel, Mr. Honigfeld, Mrs. Hartson-Stine, Mr. Velten, Mrs. Perno and Mr. Morrone

Members Absent: Mr. Loue and Mr. Doran

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.

Ms. Ford, Centre Street - district's math program, and PILOT Funds.
Mrs. Carfagno, Park Avenue, - mandated Pre-K Program, and the funding sources.
Mr. Wetherspoon, Cedar Avenue - school security.

Ms. Peggy Nicolosi, Camden County Executive Superintendent, addressed the group.

Topics Included:

QSAC

Explained the five components of QSAC

Regionalization and Consolidation of School Districts

Feasibility Studies

Racial mix, programs, test scores, tax rates,
Cost factors, service vendors, grant funds, etc.

Partnerships can cross county lines
Voting and acceptance policies

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

2009-2010 Budget

Preliminary Budget was delivered to the county office on Wednesday, March 18, 2009 and sent to The Retrospect for publication on Friday, March 27, 2009.

Discussion followed on various parts of the budget and other school issues -
Fifth to eighth grade test scores – the ratio of administrator and teachers to students - educational needs of the district's students.

Food Service Proposal

- ♦ Guidelines for proposals are mandated by the Department of Agriculture
- ♦ The current Sodexho Proposal reflects a different posting of the food rebates
- ♦ The district's exposure is the same
- ♦ Anticipated deficit would be budgeted
- ♦ District's surplus funds cover all additional non-budgeted losses

District's Handbook – final draft in process.

Security – No updates.

COMMITTEES

Carroll Will

Proposals were requested from two (2) theater groups.
Summer music program not finalized.

Community Relations

The district's Student Honor Roll was published in the borough's newsletter.

Curriculum and Technology

Installation of projectors continues.
Additional changes/updates, pending budget approval.
Half-day (12:45 p.m.) dismissal for students during the NJ ASK Test Cycle, with in-service programs scheduled for staff members. Students would be required to have a permission slip signed by a parent to be permitted to leave the building.

Moved by Mrs. Hartson-Stine, and seconded by Mr. Honigfeld, that the board of education approve the following schedule change:

For students in Grades 5 through 8 -
Permitted to leave the building at 12:45 p.m. on the days of the NJ ASK Test Cycle – April 28th – 29th – and May 1st, 2009,
Provided that a permission slip signed by a parent is on file
Teachers' in-services scheduled for the afternoon time slots.

Ayes (5) Noes (2) Mr. Bohn and Mr. Kabel Abstain (0)

Motion carries.

PTA – Liaison

Web site is being developed.

Borough Council – Liaison

Use of the basketball courts located at the Borough's Community Center and at the school was discussed.

Ad-Hoc – Teaching

Committee met and they are researching different teaching models.

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

APPROVE MINUTES 2-24-09 AND 3/10/09

February 24, 2009

Ayes (7) Noes (0) Abstain (0) Motion carries.

March 10, 2009

Ayes (6) Noes (0) Abstain (1) Mrs. Perno. Motion carries.

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

APPROVE PAYMENTS

P 41	3/15/09 Payroll	159,824.27
P 42	Tuitions deducted from state aid	5,045.50
P 43	March bill run	261,547.26

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Moved by Mr. Honigfeld, and seconded by Mr. Velten, that the board of education approve the recommendations of the chief school administrator and approve the following transfer of accounts as of 2/28/09:

APPROVE TRANSFERS

11 190 100 610 General supplies	500.00	11 000 261 610 Maintenance - supplies	500.00
11 000 270 513 Student transportation – Jointure agreement	1,500.00	11 000 270 512 Student transportation – Contracted vendor – athletic events	1,500.00

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Distributed: A budget summary, revenue summary report and transfer status report for February 2009.

APPROVE JAN. '09 FINANCIALS

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

MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – MARCH 24, 2009

Board Secretary's Report – Treasurer's Report - Certification
For January 2009

Board Secretary's Report in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of January 2009. 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 January 2009. The Treasurer's Report and Secretary's report are in agreement for the month of January 2009 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.

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Henry Bermann, RSBA March 24, 2009
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

APPROVE NEWELL AS A LONG TERM SUB.

Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mr. Kabel, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator to upgrade the status of Mrs. Tanna Newell to that of a long-term substitute teacher, at the rate of $85.00 per diem, following twenty (20) days of service.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

ENTER CLOSED

Moved by Mr. Velten, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the Board of Education adjourns, by Resolution, into Closed Session, from which the general public is excluded, to discuss the chief school administrator's evaluation. The results of this session will be made public immediately after, or as soon thereafter, as a decision is reached, if permitted by law. 9:20 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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

Members Absent: Mr. Loue and Mr. Doran

Also Present: Ms. Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

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Topics discussed:

CSA'S Evaluation

RETURN TO OPEN

Moved by Mr. Velten and seconded by Mr. Honigfeld, for the board of education to approve to return to open session. 10:00 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE CSA'S EVAL.

Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mr. Velten, for the board of education to accept the Chief School Administrator's evaluation as presented by the personnel committee.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE 3/31/09 MEETING

Moved by Mr. Velten, and seconded by Mr. Bohn, for the board of education to approve to hold a special work session meeting on Tuesday, March 31, 2009 at 8:00 p.m., in room #105.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

AJDOURN

Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mr. Velten, for the board of education to approve to adjourn this meeting. 10:02 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

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