MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – AUGUST 12, 2008

The Regular Meeting of the Merchantville Board of Education was held on Tuesday, August 12, 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. Velten, Mrs. Hartson-Stine, Mr. Morrone, Mrs. Perno, Mr. Doran, Mr. Kabel and Mr. Honigfeld

Members Absent:

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

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

Mrs. Carfagno, Park Avenue, informed the board that Mrs. Ana Conway is the new PTA President, and that the group's first meeting is scheduled for August 28, 2008.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Jeanne Leise, school social worker, has submitted a request to take a class at Rowan University.

Ms. Gail Ford, a community member, submitted a letter requesting further information on the district's school tax rate, and administration responded.

INTERVIEWS

Mr. Leonard Wood and Mr. Wade, Attorneys

ENTER CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Mr. Velten, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education adjourn, by Resolution, into Closed Session, from which the general public is excluded, to hold an attorney interview session, 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. 7:50 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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

Members Absent:

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

Discussed:
Attendance at Board Meetings
Retainer Fee and Hourly Rates
Client Access
Location of practice

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Moved by Mr. Velten, and seconded by Mrs. Hartson-Stine, that the board of education approve to return to open session. 8:50 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Discussion continued regarding the need to hire of an additional attorney.

Electrical contractor who toured the building did not submit a proposal.

Camden Catholic High School's representatives did not submit any paperwork regarding the use of/and changes to the district's athletic field.

Auditorium Update – PTA will continue to attempt to raise funds – contractors are working on the auditorium.

To meet the QSAC requirements, the board members reviewed and discussed the code of ethics listed below.

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

a. I will uphold and 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.

b. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing.

The board president reviewed the mandated board member training and board attendance requirements with all members, and referred members to the NJSBA website for information concerning seminars.

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

June 24, 2008

Ayes (6) Noes (0) Abstain (3) Mr. Doran, Mr. Kabel and Mr. Velten Motion carries.

APPROVE 6/24/2008 AND 07/08/2008 MINUTES

July 8, 2008

Ayes (8) Noes (0) Abstain (1) Mr. Kabel Motion carries.

COMMITTEES

Curriculum and Technology

Parental Notification System and SASI link - yearly charges, contract language, set-up fees, maintenance, consulting and support were discussed.

APPROVE PURCHASE OF COMMUNI-CATION SYSTEM

Moved by Mr. Honigfeld, and seconded by Mr. Velten, that the board of education approve the purchase of Blackboard Connect Communication System with a $2,500 contract fee for the first year, and a $1,500 contract fee for the second year.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Public Relations

A copy of the school newsletter was distributed to each member.

APPROVE PAYMENTS

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

P 75	June Bill Run	41,310.45
P 77	Bank Charge	37.00
P 1 – new school year	July Bill Run	156,993.83

Approved by unanimous voice vote.
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APPROVE TRAVEL REQUESTS

Moved by Mr. Doran, and seconded by Mr. Velten, 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
Mansolino, Loretta Leise, Jeanne	8/6/08	Clementon, NJ	QSAC Learning Event	Requirements Personnel	$20.00	1
DiMatteo, Rose Leise, Jeanne	8/21/08	Clementon, NJ	QSAC Learning Event	Fiscal Requirements	$20.00	1

Approved by unanimous voice vote

APPROVE TRANSFERS

Moved by Mr. Doran, and seconded by Mr. Velten, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, and approve the following transfers effective June 2008.

11 190 100 610 General Supplies	121.62	11 190 100 320 Purchase – educational services	121.62

11 000 100 562 Tuition –Special – other LEA	1415.00	11 000 100 569 Tuition – other- Katzenbach School	1415.00
11 000 230 890 General Adm. – misc. expenditures	125.00	11 000 230 585 General Adm. – Travel out of district	125.00
11 000 230 339 General Adm. – purchase of services	278.00	11 000 230 610 General Adm. - supplies	278.00
11 000 100 562 Tuition – Special – other LEA	325.00	11 000 240 600 School Adm. – supplies	325.00

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE ARCHWAY RESOL-UTION REGARDING MEALS

Moved by Mr. Doran, and seconded by Mr. Velten, that the board of education approve the following resolution to permit Archway Schools to continue providing meals and not collect co-payments from parents and guardians.

Be it resolved that the Merchantville Board of Education does not require the Archway Schools to charge students for reduced and/or paid meals provided as part of their educational program in compliance with the NJ Department of Agriculture's Child Nutrition Program regulations.

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE GAS JOINTURE WITH PTSD

Moved by Mr. Doran, and seconded by Mr. Velten, that the board of education approve to participate in the Pittsgrove Township School District Natural Gas Jointure for the 2008-2009 school year.

Approved by unanimous voice vote

APPROVE TELEPHONE REIMB.

Moved by Mr. Doran, and seconded by Mr. Velten, that the board of education approve telephone reimbursements for the 2008-2009 school year for the following employees:

Mr. Christian Swanson	$780.00
Mrs. Rose DiMatteo	$384.00

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE JUNE FINANCIAL REPORTS

Moved by Mr. Kabel, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve and accept the:

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

Board Secretary's Report in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of June 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 March 2008. The Treasurer's Report and Secretary's report are in agreement for the month of June 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.

APPROVE JUNE 2008 REPORTS

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.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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Henry Bermann, RSBA

CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the chief school administrator to renew Doctor Robert Lehrer, as the district's contracted psychologist for the 2008-2009 school year. Mr. Lehrer will work approximately 6 days per month, at a fee of $285.00 per diem.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE DOCTOR LEHRER'S CONTRACT FOR 08-09 SY

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the chief school administrator to renew Mr. John Bonaccorso, as the district's Band and Choir Coordinator for the 2008-2009 school year. Mr. Bonaccorso will be paid an additional salary (charged to the co-curricular salary line) in the amount of $7,532.
Ayes (8) Noes (1) Mr. Honigfeld Abstain (0) Motion carries.

APPROVE BONACCORSO BAND AND CHOIR STIPEND

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the chief school administrator to renew Mr. Odelio Lopez, as a part-time (20% of FTE) intermittent school repairman for the school year 2008-2009 at a rate of $15.60 per hour, and to authorize additional work hours for Saturday, on an "as need" basis.
Approved by unanimous voice vote

APPROVE TO REHIRE LOPEZ FOR 2008-2009 SY

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the chief school administrator to establish the following hourly/daily rates for the 2008-2009 school year:

SET PAY RATES FOR 2008-2009 SY

Substitute Teachers	$80.00 per day
Long-term substitute teachers	$85.00 per day
(Following 20 consecutive work days)	
Substitute Aides	$ 9.00 per hour

Substitute Nurses	$30.00 per hour
Home bound instructors	$32.00 per hour

Approved by unanimous voice vote

APPROVE SUMMER WORK FOR PHELPS

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the chief school administrator for hourly summer work for Mrs. Deborah Phelps, school guidance counselor, approximate earnings of $3,667.
Approved by unanimous voice vote

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the chief school administrator to renew the contract with Heartland Rehabilitation Services to provide the following services for the 2008-2009 school year:

APPROVE TO RENEW HEARTLAND CONTRACT

Occupational Therapy	$ 84.14 per hour	Five (5) hrs. per week
Speech Language Therapy	$106.08 per hour	Six (6) hrs. per week
Speech Language Therapy	$160.52 per hour (Homebound rate)	One (1) hr. per week
Physical Therapy	$129.66 per hour	Three (3) hrs. per hour

Approved by unanimous voice vote
Contracts on file in the business office.

APPROVE BRILL'S 2008-2009 SALARY

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the chief school administrator and approve the additional education credits earned by Mrs. Janice Brill. Mrs. Brill's placement on the salary guide for the 2008-2009 will be a BA +30 on a Step 8, with a salary of $55,655, effective September 1, 2008.
Approved by unanimous voice vote

APPROVE SUBS

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the addition of Linda Behlau, Barbara Carfagno, and Tanna Newell to the Substitute List for the 2008 - 2009 school year pending full completion of all necessary documentation.
Approved by unanimous voice vote

APPROVE SUBMISSION OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE SERVICE PLAN

Moved by Mr. Kabel, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the submission of the district's English Language Services Three-Year Plan for 2008-2011 to the County Office of Education and the state Bureau of Bilingual/ESL
Approved by unanimous voice vote

APPROVE ACTION ON VARIOUS POLICIES

Moved by Mr. Kabel, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the first reading or the revision of the following policies:

Policy #3327	Relations With Vendors	Revision
Policy #3541.3	Non School Use of District Vehicles	Revision
Policy #3541.32	District Owned Vehicles	First Reading

Policy #4112.8 Nepotism First Reading

Policy #9272 Pay to Play First Reading

Approved by unanimous voice vote

CANCEL 8/26/2008 BOARD MEETING

Moved by Mr. Doran, and seconded by Mr. Honigfeld, that the board of education approve to cancel the August 26, 2008 board meeting.
Approved by unanimous voice vote

APPROVE PAYMENTS

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

P 2	7-15-08 payroll	$15,115.99
P 3	7-31-08 payroll	$16,871.69

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Approved by unanimous voice vote

APPROVE 2008-2009 SALARIES

Moved by Mr. Doran, and seconded by Mr. Honigfeld, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator to reappoint support staff as outlined for school year 2008-2009.

Sandra Martinelli	$36,460 – 10 months 3,646 – 1 mo. summer work
Rose DiMatteo	$30,495 – 12 months
Loretta Mansolino	$40,034 – 12 months
Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary	$ 4,880 –12 months

Roll call vote:
Ayes (8) Noes (1) Mr. Velten Abstain (0) Motion carries.

ENTER CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Mrs. Hartson-Stine, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the Board of Education adjourns, by Resolution, into Closed Session, from which the general public is excluded, to discuss, personnel, litigation, and the CSA's contract, 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. 9:40 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote

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

Members Absent:

Also Present: Mr. Christian Swanson, Chief School Administrator
Mr. Henry Bermann, RSBA/Board Secretary

Mrs. Jean Grubb, SCSSSD Official
Ms. Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

Discussed:

- Hiring of a long-term substitute teacher
- Retirement clause of the MEA/NJEA Contract
- Shared services meeting
- CSA's Contract
  - Review by County Supervisor
  - Review by district's attorney for compliance with new state regulations

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Moved by Mr. Doran, and seconded by Mr. Honigfeld, that the board of education to approve to return to open session. 9:55 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote

ADJOURN

Moved by Mr. Loue, and seconded by Mr. Velten, that the board of education to approve to adjourn this meeting. 9: 56 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote

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Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – AUGUST 12, 2008