# MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – OCTOBER 12, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the Merchantville School District was held on Tuesday, October 12, 2010, at 7:30 p.m., in the Reading Center of the Merchantville School.

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.

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

Members Present: Ms. Perno, Mr. Kabel, Mr. Iannucci, Mrs. Hartson-Stine, Mr. Bohn, Mr. Barnett, Mr. Doran, and Mr. Morrone

Members Absent: Mrs. Engelke

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

No open public comment.

**PRESENTATION**

Dr. John Kellmayer, Superintendent Brooklawn Borough School District, and Mrs. Jeanne Leise, district social work, discussed Inter-district Public School Choice.

*Information shared:*

- The Public School Choice was signed into law on September 10, 2010.
- Districts interested in participating in the program must submit an application to the Department of Education, and indicate the number of students that the district can accept at each grade level.
- Cannot discriminate against applicants.
- The state aid given to a student follows the student to the school they choose to attend.
- The sending districts pay the student's transportation (cap is 20 miles).
- In the entry process, the Choice School must consider the student's IEP needs.
- Choice is different from the Voucher Program.
- Sending districts can only send 7% of their student population to other schools.
- Receiving districts can only add 15% to their student population.

*Specific to Brooklawn's Program:*

- District needed revenue sources, without increasing taxes.
- District applied to be a Choice School about 10 years ago.
- Current aid received per student is approximately $7,900.
- District has not increased school taxes in 10 years.

- With increased funding, administration added many innovative programs and redeveloped their curriculum.
- Made renovations to the gym and auditorium and added a building.
- To provide financial assistance to the town, the district pays for services that are normally provided for free – security checks and trash removal – approximately $100,000 a year.
- District receives state and federal reimbursement for the choice children that qualify for free and reduced breakfast and lunch, and the NCLB (No Child Left Behind) grant funds increased.
- Parents of Choice students are involved parents.
- Dr. Kellmayer described School Choice as a "love/hate" relationship.
- The demographics of the district changed.
- Choice students receive the same consideration for awards, sports team placements, etc.

Brooklawn's administration is exploring the possibility of adding students via a Virtual School Program.

*Merchantville School*

- Current enrollment is 322 students.
- It has been 10 to 12 years since enrollment was this low.
- District has no additional revenue sources.
- Board has discussed School Choice for many years.
- The School Choice Application will be completed and this will be discussed at the next meeting.

Report by the Chief School Administrator on all acts of Violence and Vandalism, will be presented at the next meeting. .

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Send/Receive Issues – No response to emails. Mayor North, representatives from Cherry Hill and the Department of Education personnel are scheduled to meet in November to discuss consolidation.
Mrs. Hartson-Stine attended the Committee for the Future Meeting regarding the combining of towns. No data, facts or figures were shared.

Merchantville School Moving Forward – Committee met and discussed combining classes. A field trip is planned to Logan Township to observe combined classes and the curriculums for same.

There is an alternate funding meeting scheduled for tomorrow.

Unresolved Educational Issues - still pending.

## *COMMITTEES*

*Building and Ground* – Mr. Morrone and Mr. Swanson met with representatives from St. Peter's School's Leagues and Merchantville Little League to establish better communication lines and to review usage of the field information.

*Approve Minutes* – Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mr. Kabel, that the board of education approve the following minutes:

September 14, 2010

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ayes (5) | Noes (3) | Mr. Barnett, Mr. Doran and Mr. Morrone | Motion Carries. |

September 28, 2010

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ayes (7) | Noes (1) | Mrs. Perno | Motion Carries. |

APPROVE 9/14/2010 AND 9/28/2010 MINUTES

## BUSINESS OFFICE

*Approve Financials* – Moved by Mrs. Perno, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the August 2010 Financial Reports.

APPROVE AUGUST FINANCIAL REPORTS

Pursuant to **N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10(c) 3,** I certify that as of August 2010, no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Merchantville Board of Education pursuant to **N.J.S.A. 18A: 22-8.1** and **N.J.S.A. 18A: 22-8.2** and no budgetary line item account has been over-expended in violation of **N.J.A.C. 6:23A-16.10(a) 1.**

In accordance with **N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10 (c) 2**, it is certified that anticipated revenue has not changed for the months ending August 2010.

Approved by unanimous voice vote

APPROVE PAYMENTS

*Payments* – Moved by Mrs. Perno, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the following payment:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| P 9 | Payroll – September | $142,767.79 |
| P 10 | Reimbursement to the state for salaries paid out of grants | $12,651.39 |
| P 11 | Payroll – September | $142,199.92 |
| P 12 | September Bill Run | $154,484.98 |

Approved by unanimous voice vote

# CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

APPROVE 2010-2011 FOR EDUCAT-IONAL SERVICES AND ETC. AS LISTED

*Approve 2010-2011 student placements and special services -*
Moved by Mr. Barnett, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the chief school administrator's and the child study team's recommendations for the following services, as mandated in the student's IEP (Individual Education Plan) or by the State of New Jersey, for the 2010-2011 school year:

- *Placement in various educational programs-*
  *(Including some students with extended school year)*
- *Transportation Services*
- *Occupational, Speech, Physical Therapy, Behavior-Counseling*
- *One-on-one aide*

| ***TUITION OUT NUMBER*** | ***SCHOOL/SETTING*** |
|---|---|
| *# 33* | *Archway with extended school year program* |
| *#82* | *Kingsway* |
| *#101* | *Bankbridge with extended school year program* |
| *#176* | *Bankbridge with extended school year program* |
| *#193* | *Marie J. Katzenbach with extended school year program* |
| *#227* | *Mill Creek School* |
| *#246* | *Rainbow House* |
| *#266* | *Delaware School (Palmyra BOE)* |
| *#267* | *Burlington County Special Services School District with extended school year program* |
| *#268* | *East Mountain Youth Lodge Residential Treatment Program* |
| *#274* | *Pennsauken Middle School (PBOE) with extended school year program* |
| *#282* | *Burlington County Special Services School District with extended school year* |
| *HL #1* | *Pemberton School District* |
| *HL #2* | *Pemberton School District* |
| *HL #3* | *Camden School District* |
| *HL #4* | *Camden School District* |
| *HL #5* | *Pemberton School District* |
| *HL #6* | *Pemberton School District* |
| *SF #1* | *Juvenile Rec. Assessment Center* |
| *SF #2* | *NJ Transitional School* |
| *CS #1* | *Camden Promise* |
| *CS #2* | *Leap Academy University HS* |

*HL – Homeless* *SF – State Facility* *CS – Charter School*

Approved by unanimous voice vote

*Approve the following account transfers* – Moved by Mr. Barnett, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the chief school administrator's recommendation to transfer funds from and to the following account as of 9/30/2010.

| ACCOUNT | AMOUNT | ACCOUNT | AMOUNT |
|---|---|---|---|
| 11 000 100 562<br>Tuition – other school district's – Special education | 10,000.00 | 11 000 100 561<br>Tuition – other school district's<br>Regular education | 10,000.00 |
| 11 000 100 566<br>Tuition – private schools for the handicapped – in the state | 20,000.00 | 11 000 100 561<br>Tuition – other school district's<br>Regular education | 20,000.00 |
| 11 000 100 565<br>Tuition – Special Services School Districts | 21,586.00 | 11 000 100 561<br>Tuition – other school district's<br>Regular education | 21,586.00 |

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE TRANSFERS

Moved by Mr. Barnett, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the chief school administrator's recommendation to hire Kathleen Murphy as the girls' basketball coach for school year 2010-2011, at a stipend rate of $4,239.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE MURPHY AS GIRLS' COACH

Moved by Mr. Barnett, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the chief school administrator's recommendation for the following field trip:

APPROVE FIELD TRIP

| | |
|---|---|
| Cedar Run Wildlife Reserve | 33 students |
| (5th Grade) | 2 teachers |
| October 15, 2010 | 2 chaperons |

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Evaul, community member, asked for the district's tuition and transportation costs.

Lego League Club submitted a "Use of Facilities" and asked for volunteers.

No closed session held.

Moved by Mr. Morrone, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the board of education approve to adjourn this meeting. 9:20 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote

ADJOURN

_____
Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

# MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – OCTOBER 12, 2010