MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – JANUARY 25, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Merchantville School District was held on Tuesday, January 25, 2011, 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.

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

Members Absent:

Also Present: Mr. Christian Swanson, Chief School Administrator
Mr. William Thompson, BA/Board Secretary
Ms. Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

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

Mrs. Meachum, PTA President, reviewed all upcoming PTA events.

Review of the 2009-2010 students' test scores. – Mr. Swanson, Dr. Roth and Mrs. Leise, reviewed the students' test scores. Each grade level was discussed. Efforts are being made to improve the scores.

- Merchantville's Students' 2010 test scores made AYP (Annual Yearly Progress)
- Overall, the students' test scores were better than in previous years, with the exception of the fifth grade students' scores. This exception could be attributed to the percentage newly enrolled students, and the high population of special educations students
- In grades 3 to 8, Learnia Data is used to drive instruction
- Teachers continue to use Differentiated Instruction to serve students and to meet the needs of the continuum of learners
- During various staff in-service meetings, further training on current educational trends and strategies will be implemented

Mrs. Stacey Kerr, West Chestnut Street and Ms. Lisa Kruczek, Westminster Avenue asked questions about the test scores.

Mrs. Van Sciver, Mr. Waldron, and Mrs. Leise will be taking graduate courses this semester.

Send/ Receive Issues – no updates to report.

Merchantville School Moving Forward – Committees' meetings to be scheduled.

Educational Issues – Parties reached a tentative resolution.

The Department of Education's Representative visited the district last week to discuss the "Choice School Application" submitted. The petitions are under review in Trenton.

COMMITTEES

Buildings and Grounds – Discussed: damaged tree, that was located in the front of the school, was removed - phone vendors were contacted for replacement quotes for both of the district's phone systems – (the internal and the outgoing phone units) - the damaged area of the gym's floor was repaired - the boilers were repaired last week - and a drain issue in the cafeteria was addressed.

APPROVE 12/14/10 MINUTES

MINUTES

Approve December 14, 2010 Minutes – Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education approve the minutes for the December 14, 2010 board meeting.

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

APPROVE PAYMENTS

Payments – – Moved by Mr. Kabel, and seconded by Mr. Bohn, that the board of education approves the following payment:

P 23	12-15-10 Payroll	$142,852.14
P 24	December Bill Run	$473,564.41
P 25	December Bill Run	$13,072.22
P 26	12-23-2010 Payroll	$145,021.86
P 27	January Bill Run	$65,325.47
P 28	Tuition payments deducted from state aid	$28,832.20

APPROVE TRANSFERS

Pgs._____

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Transfers – – Moved by Mr. Kabel, and seconded by Mr. Bohn, that the board of education approve the chief school administrator's recommendation to transfer funds from and to the following accounts effective 12/31/2010.

FROM ACCOUNT	AMOUNT	TO ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
11 000 100 562 Tuition –other districts –	19,635.00	11 000 100 568 Tuition – state	18,750.00

special education –in state		facilities	
		11 000 100 569 Tuition – other – Marie J. Katzenback	885.00

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE 11/10 AND 12/10 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Approve Financials — Moved by Mr. Kabel, and seconded by Mr. Bohn, that the board of education approve the November 2010 and December 2010 Financial Reports.

Pursuant to **N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10(c) 3,** I certify that as of November 2010 and December 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 November 2010 and December 2010.
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Approved by unanimous voice vote.

CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

APPROVE NCLB AMEND. 08-09

Moved by Mrs. Engelke, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the Merchantville Board of Education approve the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator to submit the NCLB Consolidated Amendment for the project period 9/1/2008 – 8/31/2009.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE PARENTAL TRANSP. CONTRACT

Moved by Mrs. Engelke, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the Merchantville Board of Education approve the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator to approve a 2010 – 2011 parental contract for student transportation with details as outlined, to Pennsauken Middle School at a total contract amount of $843.80.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE TO HIRE SNEDDON AS AN AIDE

Moved by Mrs. Engelke, and seconded by Mr. Doran That the Merchantville Board of Education approve the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator and the Child Study Team to hire Ms. Ann Sneddon as a part-time (3 hours per day) classroom aide assigned to the Pre-K program for the remainder of school year 2010 – 2011 at a contracted rate of $12.90 per hour.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Evalt, community member, requested data information on the receipt of the test scores, the distribution to parents and board members.

Mr. Vito Gagliardi, from the Porzio, Bromberg and Newman Law Firm, Morristown, NJ, met with board members and discussion included: fees and data for a demographic study, state applications for send/receive issues, etc.

Ms. Kruczek, Westminster Avenue, questioned discipline problem within "School Choice" schools, and asked for a better understanding of the Brooklawn School District's feelings on "school choice".

ENTER CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Mrs. Perno, and seconded by Mr. Doran, that the board of education adjourn, by Resolution, into Closed Session, from which the general public is excluded, to discuss, personnel, 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. 8:55 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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

Members Absent:

Also Present: Mr. Christian Swanson, Chief School Administrator
Mr. William Thompson, BA/Board Secretary
Ms. Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

Topics Discussed:

Contract Negotiations

Meeting dates

MEA's Committee Members –
Mr. Montufar, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Batterman and Mrs. Papa

Board of Education Committee Members –
Mrs. Hartson-Stine, Mr. Bohn, Mr. Kabel and Mr. Morrone

Budget restraints – 2% cap

Co- pays for health benefits

CSA's Performance Appraisal

Unemployment Compensation Challenges

Employee's request for a change in employment contract - terms, salary, benefits and duties.

Request for a leave under FMLA

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mr. Morrone, that the board of education approve to return to open session. 9:18 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote

MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – JANUARY 25, 2011

APPROVE FMLA FOR RICHARDS

Moved by Mr. Bohn, and seconded by Mr. Morrone, that the board of education approve a medical leave of absence under the Family Medical Leave act for Ms. Elizabeth Richards, a classroom aide, beginning February 2, 2011, for approximately a six (6) week period.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

RETURN TO CLOSED

Moved by Mr. Doran, and seconded by Mr. Barnett, that the board of education adjourn, by Resolution, into Closed Session, from which the general public is excluded, to discuss, personnel, 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. 9:19 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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

Topic Discussed:

CSA's Review

RETURN TO OPEN

Moved by Mr. Doran, and seconded by Mr. Kabel, that the board of education approve to return to open session 9:44 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURN

Moved by Mr. Doran, and seconded by Mr. Kabel, that the board of education approve to adjourn this meeting. 9:45 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

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