MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
December 9, 2014

The Merchantville Board of Education's Regular Meeting was held on Tuesday, November 25, 2014, at 7:30 p.m., in The Reading Center located in Merchantville School. Notice of the meeting was published in *The Retrospect.*

Members Present:	Mr. Vitiello, Mr. Kabel, Mrs. Stocker, Ms. Fuentes, Mr. Honigfeld, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Morrone and Ms. Engelke
Members Absent:	Mrs. Perno
Also Present:	Mr. J. Scott Strong, CSA/Principal Ms. Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

The board president led the group in the pledge to the flag of the United States of America.

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 of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted in The Retrospect, Borough Hall, Merchantville School and the Reading Center at Merchantville School.

Mr. Michael Dailey, District's Physical Education Teacher, announced the winners of the contests and distributed the posters to the children. Representatives from the NJ Tobacco Free Alliance distributed gifts to the children. We wish to acknowledge Mrs. Hunter for organizing this contest.

- Contest winners for the *Smoke Out Tobacco Free Poster*: Gr 2 - Lilah Tennant, Gr 3 - Olivia Swann, Gr 4 - Lucy Kerr, Gr 5 - Devon Black, Gr 6 - Bella Rosa Carfagno, Gr 7 - Jacob Goldberg, Gr 8 - Sara Brynn McAuley
- *Always Stay Tobacco Free* Award - Bella Rosa Carfagno

AUDIT PRESENTATION

Mr. William P. St. Clair, CPA and Mr. Joseph Marino, CPA, from St. Clair CPA's P.C., presented the 2013-2014 school audit.

Highlights of Presentation:

Revenue Increased state aid for choice students
Expenses Decreased retirements
The district's Liquidly Ratio is at a very high acceptable ratio
The district's liabilities to equity ratio, for all funds, is positive
Audit of the Internal Controls revealed that we are operating in compliance with DOE procedures
There was one finding – the state reimbursement for the sale of milk products was not correct
This finding represents a very minimal impact on the dollar amount of the reimbursements
Last year's finding was addressed and not a repeat finding.

APPROVE AND ACCEPT 2013 - 2014 SCHOOL AUDIT

Approve and Accept 2013-2014 Audit – Moved by Mr. Kabel, and seconded by Mr. Honigfeld, that the board of education approve and accept the 2013-2014 school audit, as presented by the district's auditors, and approve for same to be forwarded to Camden County DOE.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE CORRECT-IVE ACTION PLAN

Approve the Corrective Action Plan – Moved by Mr. Kabel, and seconded by Mr. Honigfeld, that the board of education approve the corrective action plan to address the audit finding.

Copy of a 2015 calendar and BOE Meeting Dates for consideration and approval in January.
Pgs._____

Re: The Send/Receive Litigation – the judge granted to extend making his decision to 1/15/2015.

Mr. Marvin Gaskill, Community Member, presented his suggestions and recommendations for improving the students' test scores, the delivering of curriculum mandates, and various ideas for improving student behavior.

Education Committee Meeting Update

Committee met tonight.
PARCC Tests – planning so students are ready and comfortable for this new testing program
Upgrading the Internet Service to a dedicated line to expedite the connection process
E-Rate reimbursement will help offset some of the cost of the upgrades

Community Ad Hoc Committee Update

Mr. Morrone and Mr. Vitiello selected and contacted several community members and all agreed to be part of this committee – Three community members have students who attend Merchantville School.
Administration asked Mrs. Batterman and Mrs. Huber to represent the teaching staff

Update on the School Choice Program for the 2015-2016 school year

Discussed the number of choice students that the district will accept in future years
For the next school year, there were 20 applicants for 8 open seats
Those not accepted are on a waiting list

APPROVE LEAVE FOR SNEDDON

Moved by Engelke, and seconded by Fuentes, that the board of education approve a maternity leave for Mrs. Ann Sneddon, a basic skills teacher, beginning February 16, 2015 through the end of the 2014-2015 school year.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE WORKSHOP

Moved by Engelke, and seconded by Fuentes, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator for attendance at the following Professional Development Workshop:

Attendee	Event	Place of Event	Date	Cost
Sandra Taylor	Camden County Music Teachers Workshop	Gloucester Township, NJ	Jan. 27, 2015	0

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Business Office

APPROVE CONTRACT

Approve Contract – Moved by Stocker, and seconded by Honigfeld, that the board of education approve the following contract for the 2014-2015 school year:

Vendor	Services	Dates	Fees	Notes
Pittsgrove BOE Pittsgrove, NJ	GCA Custodial Services	12/1/2014 To 11/30/2015	$14,078.32 Per month Total $98,548.29	Increase in monthly fees (Previously, $13,802.28 per month) Multiyear contract expires next year.

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Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE PAYMENTS

Approve Payment of Bills –Moved by Honigfeld, and seconded by Fuentes, that the board of education approve the bills listed on P 033 and P 034.
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Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Account Transfers – Moved by Morgan, and seconded by Fuentes, that the board of education approve the transfer of funds for June 2014 as listed on: A139, A140, A141, A143 and A 144.

APPROVE TRANSFERS

Amended to: Moved by Morgan, and seconded by Fuentes, that the board of education approve the transfer of funds for November 2014 as listed on: A052.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.
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APPROVE TO VOID AND REISSUE CHECK

Approve to Void and Reissue Ck #2924 – Moved by Fuentes, and seconded by Honigfeld, that the board of education approve to void and reissue check #2924 - $27,188.45 issued to Tequipment Incorporated. One of the Smart Board was damaged and we are waiting for a replacement. A check for all other items was forwarded to the vendor.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. George Fore, Community member and reporter, received the following answers to his questions:
The annual audit is not a replacement for monitoring – there is no additional information on the send/receive Decision other than it was extended until January.
Mr. Fore will contact administration to schedule a "Smart Board" demonstration – Mr. Fore shared his thoughts on Mr. Gaskill's educational recommendations to the board.

Mrs. Karen Foster, Community member and newly elected board member, introduced herself to all present and shared some of her background information.

ENTER CLOSED

Enter Closed – Moved by Vitiello, and seconded by Engelke, that the board of education adjourn, by resolution, into closed session, from which the general public is excluded, to discuss the CSA's Evaluation for the 2013-2014 school year. This session is expected to last for 45 (forty-five) minutes. The results of this session will be made public immediately after, or as soon thereafter, as a decision is reached, if permitted by law. 8:53 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Members Present: Mr. Vitiello, Mr. Kabel, Mrs. Stocker, Ms. Fuentes, Mr. Honigfeld, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Morrone and Ms. Engelke

Members Absent: Mrs. Perno

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Also Present: Mr. J. Scott Strong, CSA/Principal

Topic:
CSA's Evaluation

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Return to Open Session – Moved by Kabel, and seconded by Fuentes, that the board of education approve to return to open session. 9:57 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE CSA'S EVAL.

Approve the CSA's Evaluation for the 2013-2014 School Year – Moved by Kabel, and seconded by Fuentes, that the board of education approve the CSA's Evaluation for the 2013-2014 school year.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURN

Adjourn – Moved by Engelke, and seconded by Kabel, that the board of education approve to adjourn this meeting. 10:02 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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Loretta Mansolino and David Morgan