MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
November 25, 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, Mrs. Perno, Mr. Honigfeld, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Morrone and Ms. Engelke
Members Absent:	Ms. Fuentes
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. and Mrs. Bordi, Parents of Merchantville Students, expressed their concerns about one of their children, who is being bullied - both verbally and physically. Discussion included – timeframe for resolution – student's anxiety issues – repeat offenses – classroom settings – school discipline policies – internal resolution.

Ms. Tkachuk, PTA President, was advised that the district's HIB and Discipline Policies, and the Code of Conduct are listed on the website.

Ms. Rubini – parent of a Merchantville Student, stated that the other children are and have experienced the bulling scenarios by this same student, and that bullying is an ongoing problem that is affecting the everyday atmosphere in the classroom.

Mr. Strong asked that parents communicate more with him. There are procedures to follow, and HIB and bullying issues take time to resolve.

Mrs. Juliano, Parent of a Merchantville Student, inquired about mentoring programs for troubled students. Members of The Big Brother/Big Sisters Program meet with students in fifth and sixth grade.

Mr. Morgan – the information on the finalized reports concerning these incidents followed the mandated timelines. More details and all documentation are in the files.

Other community members voiced concerns and offered advice.

The district received notice from the Camden County DOE verifying that MBOE is not entitled to representation on the Pennsauken BOE.

School and Community Relations Ad Hoc Committee Update

Mr. Vitiello met with Mr. Strong and Mr. Morrone

A process was set in place to reach out to parents, teachers, and community members for participation in this committee. More information will be forwarded.

Extended Day Committee

A committee will be formed to establish the parameters for the use of the 25 additional minutes of instructional time that begins with the 2015-2016 school year.

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Board of Education Reorganization Meeting Date – Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at 7:30 p.m., in the Reading Center.

CSA REPORT

- Curriculum Update
  - Summer 2015 – Science, Technology, Art
    New science state standards were adopted this year.
  - Summer 2016 – Social Studies, Music, World Language
- CSA's Goals 2014-2015
  Emerging trends and outreach to the community
  PARCC Testing preparations
  Establish a platform to move forward with the use of technology
  Set a Mission/Vision and Goal Statement

APPROVE WORK-SHOP

Moved by Kabel, and seconded by Honigfeld, 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
Michelle Gotti	What's New in Children's Books	Cherry Hill, NJ	Jan 30, 2015	$239

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

CONFIRM HIB CASE #1

Moved by Perno, and seconded by Kabel, that the board of education confirm HIB Case #1 for the 2014-2015 school year. (Discussed in closed session on Nov 11, 2014)
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE SALARIES FOR 2014 - 2015

Moved by Honigfeld,, and seconded by Morgan, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the chief school administrator to approve a 2% salary increase for employees no covered under the MEA/BOE Agreement for the 2014-2015 school year:

Leise, Jeanne	Social worker, Guidance counselor Child Study Team Coordinator	$72,348.00
Mansolino, Loretta	Assistant to the Business Administrator Board Secretary	$62,982.00
Martinelli, Sandra	Secretary, Chief School Administrator	$51,621.00

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE WALKING TRIP

Approve Walking Trip – Moved by Engelke, and seconded by Morgan, that the board of education approve the following class trip:

12/2/2014 Walking Trip around Town
Special Education Classes
7 children
3 teacher/aides
0 parents

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE 11/11/14 MINUTES

Approve Minutes- Moved by Morgan, and seconded by Stocker, that the board of education approve the following minutes:

11/11/2014 Regular and Closed Session Minutes

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Rubini questioned why the board members emails and committee assignments were not listed on the district website. The email information was updated, but the current committee assignments were not.

Ms. Tkachuk was told that the district's curriculum is aligned to the Common Core Standards. Curriculum is continually under review and changes, as needed, are made.

The Merchantville BOE/MEA Agreement is ratified by not fully executed. Ms. Chapman, Reporter, was advised that when fully executed the document will be available to the public.

Mr. Iannucci, community member and parent of a MBOE student, thanked all board members for their efforts in the passage of the Bond Referendum. Suggested that there be community notification regarding the extended school day.

ENTER CLOSED SESSION

Enter Closed Session - Moved by Morgan, and seconded by Honigfeld, that the board of education adjourn, by Resolution, into Closed Session, from which the general public is excluded, to discuss the HIB incidents. This session is expected to last for approximately thirty (30) 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. 8:22 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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

Topic:

HIB Incident
Previously released information lacked details
Community communication with board members
Board members requested more details
Parental contact with administration
Teacher notification to administration

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Return to Open Session - Moved by Engelke, and seconded by Morgan, for the board of education to approve to return to open session. 9:00 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURN

Adjournment - Moved by Morgan, and seconded by Perno, for the board of education to approve to adjourn this meeting. 9:01 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary