MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
September 23, 2014

The Merchantville Board of Education's Regular Meeting was held on Tuesday, September 23, 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, Ms. Engelke, and Mr. Honigfeld, Mr. Morgan, and Mr. Morrone
Members Absent:	Ms. Fuentes
Also Present:	Mr. J. Scott Strong, CSA/Principal Mr. William Thompson, Business Administrator 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. Marvin Gaskell, community member, questioned various phases of the bond projects and requested additional information on some of these construction jobs. Mr. Gaskell was advised that building renovations and not student performance are covered in the bond request, and that the students' revised test scores will be presented in January 2015.

Ms. Rubini, Leslie Avenue, expressed concerns about many school and student issue, including: the direction of the school, program changes that affect children, quality of the education being provided, lack of asking for community input and involvement, changes to the 8th grade graduation program, double periods, lack of adequate language programs, the moral of the staff and students, special education process and follow-up, independent survey of recent retirees, etc. Ms. Rubini asked, "where is the board of education going"?

Mr. Morrone responded to several of these concerns.

Mrs. Meachum, Leslie Avenue, was upset with Mr. Morrone's responses to this concerned parent.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Morrone advised that an ad hoc committee composed of parents, community members, and board members will be formed to follow up on the concerns expressed. Administration will reach out to Ms. Rubini.

Mr. Morrone distributed a copy of the board committee structures and the agenda and minutes format to follow to inform all members of the committee's work.

NEW BUSINESS

- Update on the Send/Receive Litigation – Judge Pelios' verdict is due on Oct 17, 2014
- Update on the Bond Referendum – Project Listing and Promotion Events
  The Bond Video was presented to members of Borough Council
- The Board of Education's next meeting will be held in the Auditorium – Oct 14, 2014

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Education Committee Meeting Update:

NJ Ask scores were discussed
The Renaissance Program (a student incentive program) was introduced this year
Administration will advertise for the Cheerleading position
Student Clubs – better description of the purpose and functions of these clubs – information will be placed on the website for parents and community members.

Back-To-School Night was successful and well attended.
Bond Referendum Update – video presented at back to school night
NJASK Scores Update
Reading Curriculum was revised last year and the Writing Curriculum is being revised this year.

APPROVE ANTI BULLYING GRADE

Moved by Stocker, and seconded by Honigfeld, that the board of education approve the New Jersey Department of Education School Self Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, for the 2013-2014 school year. The district's final grade was 71 out of 78.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE COMPREHEN-SIVE GUIDANCE PLAN

Moved by Kabel, and seconded by Perno, that the board of education approve the Comprehensive Guidance Plan for the 2014-2015 school year.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM

Moved by Engelke, and seconded by Morgan, that the board of education continue the School Choice Program for the 2015 – 2016 School year for Merchantville School
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE MINUTES

Approve Minutes – Moved by Perno, and seconded by Honigfeld, that the board of education approve the following minutes:

August 26, 2014 BOE Regular Minutes
Ayes – (5) Noes – (0) Abstain – (3) Mrs. Perno, Ms. Engelke, and Mr. Honigfeld Motion Carries.

September 9, 2014 BOE Regular and Closed Session Minutes
Ayes – (6) Noes – (0) Abstain – (2) Mrs. Stocker and Mr. Vitiello Motion Carries.

APPROVE PAYMENTS

Payment of Bills – Moved by Perno, and seconded by Morgan, that the board of education approve for payment the bills listed on: P 14, P 15, P 17 and P 18.
Pgs._____
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APROVE TRANSFERS

Account Transfers – Moved by Perno, and seconded by Morgan, that the board of education approve the transfer of funds for August 2014 on the attached transfer list.
Pg._____
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE CONTRACTS

Approve Contracts – Moved by Perno, and seconded by Morgan, that the board of education approve the following contracts and/or agreements for the 2014-2015 school year:

Vendor	Service	Dates	Fees	Notes
South Jersey Perinatal Coop. Pennsauken, NJ	Nursing Service to non public school in district	9-2014 To 6-2015	Grant Allocation $27,000.00	Services provided at St. Peter's School Paid by Non Public Grant Funds

Catholic Charities Diocese of Camden Camden, NJ	Family Based Support Services	9-2014 To 6-2015	Grant Allocation $7,200.00	Services provided at St. Peter's School Paid by Non Public Grant Funds
Camden County Educational Service Commission Clementon, NJ	Various Specific Services, as listed	9-2014 To 6-2015	Vary- per service Provided	Handle all the district's transportation needs, and other services on an "as needed basis" Provide services to non public school that is funded through grant funds
Amy Long, Voorhees, NJ	Smart Board Training	Seven (7) sessions throughout the school year	$250.00 per hour	Teacher training- fees will be funded through grant funds
EIRC – Rowan Partnership Mullica Hill, NJ	Coaching For I pads	7 days Throughout the school year	$1,000.00 per day	Teacher training- fees will be funded through grant funds
Bradley-Sciocchetti, Inc Merchantville, NJ	Maintenance Agreement Boilers, Burners and Control Panels	9-2014 To 6-2015	$3,641.00 with special discounted Service rates	Yearly Agreement

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Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE AUGUST FINANCIALS

Approve Financial Reports – Moved by Perno, and seconded by Morgan, that the board of education approve the following August 2014 reports:

Board Secretary Financial, Revenue and Treasurer's Reports

A. Board Secretary's Report in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of August 2014. The Board Secretary certifies that no line item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10 © 3, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year.

B. Treasurer's Report in accordance with 18A:17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of August 2014. The Treasurer's Report and Secretary's Report are in agreement for the month of August 2014.

C. Board Secretary in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16-10 © 2 certifies that there are no changes in anticipated revenue amount or revenue sources.

D. Board of education Certification – pursuant to N.J.A. C. 6A:23A-16.10 © 4 – We certify that after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section), and upon consultations with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major accounts for funds have been over expended in violation of N.J.A. C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

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Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE SODEXHO CONTRACT

Approve Resolution Awarding Food Service Contract to Sodexo Management Inc, - Moved by Mr. Honigfeld, and seconded by Mrs. Perno, that the Merchantville Board of Education approve and award a contract for School Food Service Management to Sodexo Management, Inc., Gaithersburg, Maryland, for the 2014-2015 school year. The attached document lists: the fee for operation costs, per meal management fees, guarantees, requirements, selling prices, etc.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.
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Ms. Rubini, Leslie Avenue, sport teams who use the district's field, need to be reminded that dogs are not permitted on the field and that the drinking alcohol beverages is prohibited.

Mr. Fore, community member and reporter, requested additional information about the financing of the bond, and asked about the district's preventive maintenance plan for the building.

Mrs. Meachum, Leslie Avenue, has concerns about the removal of trash from the district's fields.

ENTER CLOSED

Recess Into Closed Session - Moved by Honigfeld, and seconded by Engelke, that the Board of Education adjourn, by Resolution, into Closed Session, from which the general public is excluded, to discuss matters relating to personnel and the chief school administrator's evaluation. 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. 9:14 p.m.
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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

Members Absent: Ms. Fuentes

Also Present: Mr. J. Scott Strong, CSA/Principal
Mr. William Thompson, Business Administrator
Ms. Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

Topic

Negotiations – Discussion included:
Tentative agreement – ratification vote – increase in instructional time – compensations paid for missed preps and curriculum development – co-curricular stipends – tuition reimbursement – salaries – percentages of raises offered

Mr. Strong, Mr. Thompson and Ms. Mansolino left the meeting. 10:05 p.m.

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

Members Absent: Ms. Fuentes

Topic

CSA's Evaluation

RETURN TO OPEN

Moved by Morgan, and seconded by Perno, that the board of education approve to return to open session. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURN

Moved by Morgan, and seconded by Perno, that the board of education approve to adjourn this meeting. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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Loretta Mansolino and Steve Morrone

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