MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
DECEMBER 8, 2015

The Merchantville Board of Education's Regular Meeting was held on Tuesday, December 8, 2015, at 7:30 p.m., in the Merchantville Reading Center. Notice of the meeting was published in *The Retrospect.*

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.

Members Present:	Mr. Vitiello, Mr. Kabel, Mrs. Stocker, Ms. Engelke, Mr. James, Mr. Honigfeld, Mr. Morrone, Mrs. Foster and Mrs. Perno
Members Absent:	
Also Present:	Mr. J. Scott Strong, CSA/Principal Mr. William Thompson, Business Administrator Mr. Leonard Wood, District's Attorney Ms. Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary

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

Mrs. Danielle Bordi, Cedar Avenue, feels there are repeat bullying offenses in the school and the current methods of dealing with these issues is not resolving the problems. Some parents want to support administration and have a voice in this issue.
Ms. Bechtel, West Chestnut Street, questioned administration labeling of the incidents – bullying, taunting, etc.
Mr. Wood, district's attorney, stated that the Bulling Guidelines have certain parameters, and that the district's policy mirrored the state guidelines.
Mrs. Malone, Morris Street, would like to see these incidents handled by a team effort that included parents. Some parents are willing to help create a safe environment for all children. She requested more consistent communication.

Audit Presentation

Mrs. Frances Sperling Feldbaum, CPA Solutions, presented a brief overview of the district's 2014-2015 audit. Some topics mentioned:

- Overall financial view is good
- There was a decrease in cash from the prior year
- There was a audit finding in the cafeteria revenue totaling approximately $40.00+
- At the state level, there was a delay in forwarding data needed to finalize the audit, so the final audit will be accepted by the board in January
- Testing on all internal procedures determined that state guidelines were followed

Buildings and Grounds Meeting Update

- Committee met last week and toured the building to review the bond renovations
- The document referred to as the "contractors' punch list" was used to analyze the Outstanding work – some items are: the drainage in the parking lot, the bathrooms' fixtures – basins, toilets, and sinks, the poor quality of work in the boys' locker room
- There are multiple areas that did not meet the committee's satisfaction
- The architect's drawings should be checked by the clerk of the works – was the work being done according to the drawings?
- MJJ's Construction's proposal of $21,000 to change the bathroom sink setups was not accepted by the board. Products samples and drawings were requested.
- Command Company, the vendor who did all the exterior ground works, is requested payment.

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Recess Into Closed Session – Moved by Perno, and seconded by Engelke, that the board of education adjourn, by Resolution, into Closed Session, from which the general public is excluded, to discuss a student issues matter the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of an individual's privacy. This session is expected to last for approximately 45 minutes. The results of this session may or may not be made public immediately after, or as soon thereafter, as a decision is reached, if permitted by law. 8:27 p.m.
Motion Carried: 9-0

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

Members Absent:

Also Present: Mr. J. Scott Strong, CSA/Principal
Mr. William Thompson, Business Administrator
Mr. Leonard Wood, District's Attorney
Ms. Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary
Mrs. Jeanne Leise, Social Worker and Guidance Counselor
Mrs. Rachel Spahr, School Psychologist

Topic:
Student issues – proper classification
Investigations
Interviews with students
District's Policy
Camden County Dept. of Education's personnel's recommendations
Consequences

Mrs. Leise and Mrs. Spahr left the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. George Bordi entered the closed session meeting.

Discussion continued. Mr. Wood, the district's attorney, communicated the parameters for determining if an incident falls under the HIB guidelines.

Return to Open Session – Moved by Foster, and seconded by Honigfeld, that the board of education approve to return to open session. 9:41 p.m.
Motion carried: 9-0

PARCC Scores Presentation – Moved by Vitiello, and seconded by Honigfeld, to postpone the PARCC Scores Presentation until the January meeting.
Motion Carried: 9-0

Monthly Report
Forwarded to all members. Contact administration with any concerns.

Emergency Drills
Nov 4 - Fire Drill @ 10:31; Nov 23 - Active Shooter @11:30

Moved by James, and seconded by Honigfeld, that the board of education approve Mr. Drew Nolan to serve as a volunteer for the Boys and Girls Basketball teams.
Motion Carried: 9-0

Moved by James, and seconded by Honigfeld, that the board of education approve the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator for attendance at the following Professional Development Workshops:

Attendee	Event	Place of Event	Date	Cost
Melissa Nettleton	Using Guided Math to Strengthen Your Students' Math Proficiency	Voorhees, NJ	Feb 11, 2015	$239
Maggie Hood	Strengthen Your Students' Writing Skills and Significantly Reduce Your Assessment Time by Using Powerful Digital Writing Assessments	Voorhees, NJ	Feb 11, 2015	$239
Alicia Papa	Effectively dealing with disruptive students	Voorhees, NJ	Feb 2, 2015	$239
Michelle Gotti	Guided Reading: Differentiating Reading Instruction Using Small Groups	Voorhees, NJ	Feb 10, 2016	$239

Motion Carried: 9-0

Moved by James, and seconded by Honigfeld, that the board of education approve the following field trip. All funds for this trip are paid through the Marie J. Carroll Foundation unless otherwise noted, and there are no costs incurred by the parents or the school district:

Place	Grade / Students	# Students	# Teachers	# Outside Chaperones	Month	Other Info
Constitution Center and Walking Trip of Philadelphia, PA	5th Gr	40	2	6	May	Class trip

Motion Carried: 9-0

Moved by James, and seconded by Honigfeld, that the board of education approve the following actions regarding the NCLB Grant Funds (No Child Left Behind) for the 2014-2015 school year:

a. To approve the re-allocation of $8,509.08 of the 2014 – 2015 NCLB monies. (This request cannot be handled through the amendment process as the original expenditure was not board approved.) The 2014 – 2015 NCLB monies were encumbered for Google Chrome professional development to be provided by EIRC. The contract was cancelled in October 2015, as the services provided were not meeting staff and administration needs and requirements.

b. To approve for Mrs. Margaret Hood and Mrs. Sherry Iannucci to provide Google Chrome professional development training beginning October 2015 through June 2016, for up to 2 hours per month, at $60 per hour, funded by encumbered NCLB 2014 – 2015 Title II monies.

c. To approve for the Merchantville School District teaching staff to attend Google Chrome professional development training beginning October 2015 through June 2016, for up to 2 hours per month, at $40 per hour, funded by encumbered NCLB 2014 – 2015 Title II monies.

Motion Carried: 9-0

Moved by James and seconded by Honigfeld, that the board of education approve the NCLB Grant Salary Allocation for the 2015-2016 school year: The total fund allocated to the salary line is $62,071.00, and the teacher's salaries that are charged to this account are as follows:

Ms. Janice Brill 67% of FTE - $52,624.00 Read 180 Program
Mrs. Chrisanthi Finn 23% of FTE - $ 9,447.00 Basic Skills Program

Motion Carried: 9-0

Minutes- Moved by Morrone, and seconded by James, that the board of education approve the following minutes: November 24, 2015

Motion Carried: 9-0

Payments – Moved by Engelke, and seconded by Perno, that the board of education approve the following payment for December 2015, and to authorize the business administrator to pay any bills that are due and payable through December 31, 2015. These payments will be presented to the board for approve in January 2016.
Motion Carried: 9-0

P 023 and P 024

2. Approve Financial Reports – Moved by Engelke, and seconded by Perno, that the board of education approve the following October 2015 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 October 2015. 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 October 2015. The Treasurer's Report and Secretary's Report are in agreement for the month of October 2015.

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.

Motion Carried: 9-0

Mr. Morrone, the board president, let the group in acknowledging and thanking Ms. Engelke for her time and devotion to the Merchantville Community through her service on the board. Ms. Engelke was an asset that will be missed.

Moved by James, and seconded by Foster, that the board of education agree to adjourn this meeting.
Motion Carried: 9-0 9:49 p.m.

Loretta Mansolino, Recording Secretary _____