MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

November 19, 2020

I, Elliot Honigfeld, President, call this meeting to order under the Open Public Meeting Act at 5:30 p.m. Sunshine List: The Merchantville Board of Education meeting is called to order. The board of education is in compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, entitled the "Open Public Meetings Act," Board of Education located at 130 S. Centre Street, Merchantville, New Jersey, and advertised in The Retrospect, Borough Hall, Merchantville School and the Reading Center at Merchantville School.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

Members Present	Members Absent	Also Present
Mr. Carcanague	Mr. Licata	Mr. J. Scott Strong, CSA
Mr. Honigfeld	Mr. Nussbaum	Mr. Greg Gontowski, Business Administrator
Mrs. Perno	Mrs. Stocker	
Mr. Iannucci		
Mrs. Aaron		
Mrs. Geddes		

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT I

- Anthony Perno – Asked if action will be taken at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion of Programming for Merchantville School for upcoming weeks.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT II

- Denise Wackes 214 St. James Ave. Merchantville -asked what remote school will look like.
- Anthony Perno 3 E. Cedar Ave Merchantville - Read statement made by northeast governors and expressed the benefits to in school learning and to consider not closing the school.
- Maggie Hood 1 Crofton Drive West Deptford – Expressed concerns about how teacher exposure to students with Covid was handled.
- Brett Lovelidge 113 Lexington Ave. Merchantville - Commented about trusting science relating to Covid.
- Dino Pinto 128 Springfield Merchantville – Expressed that schools are not a hot spot for Covid transmission.
- Stephanie Broccoli w120 Plymouth Place Merchantville - Expressed schools are not a high risk area.

- Gerardina Turan 213 N. Centre St. Merchantville – Expressed concern of students activities outside of school.

Adjourn Meeting

Adjourn Moved by Carcanague seconded by Perno that the board of education approve to adjourn this meeting at 6:28 p.m.

Motion carried 6-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

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Greg Gontowski

MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

November 24, 2020

I, Elliot Honigfeld, President, call this meeting to order under the Open Public Meeting Act at 7:31 p.m. Sunshine List: The Merchantville Board of Education meeting is called to order. The board of education is in compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, entitled the "Open Public Meetings Act," Board of Education located at 130 S. Centre Street, Merchantville, New Jersey, and advertised in The Retrospect, Borough Hall, Merchantville School and the Reading Center at Merchantville School.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

Members Present	Members Absent	Also Present
Mr. Carcanague		Mr. J. Scott Strong, CSA
Mr. Honigfeld		Mr. Greg Gontowski, Business Administrator
Mr. Nussbaum		
Mrs. Perno		
Mr. Licata		
Mr. Iannucci		
Mrs. Aaron		
Mrs. Geddes		
Mrs. Stocker		

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT I – None

Approval Minutes

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Moved by Nussbaum and seconded by Perno for the board of education to approve the following board minutes:

- Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes – October 27, 2020

Vote: To approve minutes
Board Voted All in Favor *Iannucci – Abstained

New Business

NEW BUSINESS

- Goal #2 Update – Improve opportunities for community engagement by hosting three meetings that focus on issues in the school community.
- Re-Organization Meeting Date (Wed, Jan 6, 2021)
- School Board Election Update
- Governance Training – Reminder to complete by December 31, 2020
- School Choice Update
  - 6 graduating 8th graders for School Choice
  - 32 total choice students in 20-21

Communication

COMMUNICATIONS – None

MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

November 24, 2020

Committee Updates

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- Policy and Community Engagement – Update on Nov 12 Forum
- Education Committee
- Finance: Planning and Utilization
- Personnel Committee
- Facility Committee
- Haddon Heights - Update
- Negotiations Update

CSA Report

CSA REPORT

- October Drills
  - Communication Test of Internal System – Sept 18
  - Fire Drills – Sept 21 at 8:45 & Sept 22 at 8:45 (Different cohorts)
- Use of Facility Report November 2020 – December 2020

CSA RECOMMENDATIONS

Motioned by Perno, seconded by Carcanague that the Merchantville Board of Education approve Items 1 and 4.

Alyssa Maziarz – Family Medical Leave

1. That the Board of Education approve the Family Medical Leave Act for Alyssa Maziarz from November 23, 2020 – December 23, 2020. Sick days utilized leading up to that date November 9 – 20, 2020.

Rachel Nemerofsky – Matermity/Family Leave

2. That the Board of Education approve to extend the maternity leave of Rachel Nemerofsky until March 15, 2021 as covered by the Family Medical Leave Act. (Originally scheduled to return on December 21, 2020).

Hilary Urena – Matermity/Family Leave

3. That the Board of Education approve to extend the maternity leave of Hillary Urena until December 14, 2020 as covered by the Family Medical Leave Act. (Originally schedule to return on November 20, 2020)

Abbie Wence – 12/23/20 to 3/15/21 MA Step

4. That the Board of Education approve Abbie Wence from December 23, 2020 to March 15, 2021 at MA Step 1. (19-20 MEA contract information - $65,987 for the full year: Currently in the position now until December 23, 2020)

Roll Call Vote: Voting Yes: Aaron, Carcanague, Geddes, Iannucci, Licata, Nussbaum, Perno, Stocker and Honigfeld.

Motion carried 9-0-0

Business Office Recommendations

Motioned by Stocker, seconded by Aaron that the Merchantville Board of Education approve Items A thru E.

Financial and Transfers Reports

A. Monthly Reports

The Budget Summary and Revenue Summary for the month of September 2020 **(Attachment A1 and A2).**

B. Transfer of Funds

The attached transfer list, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, for the month of September 2020 **(Attachment B1)**.

C. Financial Reports

1. Board Secretary's Report in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of September 2020. The Board Secretary certifies that no line item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A – 16.10 (c) 3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. **(Attachment C1).**

2. Treasurer's Report in accordance with 18A:17-36 and 18A:17-9 for the month of September 2020. The Treasurer's Report and Secretary's report are in agreement for the month of September 2020. **(Attachment C2).**

3. Board Secretary in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (c) 2 certifies that there are no changes in anticipated revenue amounts or revenue sources.

4. Board of Education Certification – pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (c) 4 We certify that after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major accounts or fund has 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.

Warrants

D. Warrants

The attached bill lists:

- October 2020 payroll **(Attachment D1)**
- September through November 2020 warrants **(Attachment D2)**

Warrants – BA to Continue Payment of All Bills thru Next BOE Meeting

E. Warrants

Approval of the Business Administrator to continue payment of all bills through until the next Board of Education meeting. The bill lists for those payments will be submitted at the next Board of Education meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Voting Yes: Aaron, Carcanague, Geddes, Iannucci, Licata, Nussbaum, Perno, Stocker and Honigfeld.

Motion carried 9-0-0

Motioned by Geddes seconded by Nusbaum that the Merchantville Board of Education approve Item F.

F. Budget Calendar
To approve the 2021-2022 budget calendar **(Attachment F1)**.

Roll Call Vote: Voting Yes: Aaron, Carcanague, Geddes, Iannucci, Licata, Nussbaum, Perno, Stocker and Honigfeld.

Motion carried 9-0-0

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT II

- Melissa Tkachuk – 12 Stanley Street Merchantville

  - Asked how far off the cost of settling the contact is.

- Antisha Meisner – 119 N. Centre St. Merchantivlle

  - Asked about the building not being made ADA complaint and the status with OCR.

- Stephanie Broccoli - 120 Plymouth Place Merchantville

  - Thanked the board for the presentation about the negotiations status.

  - Asked if teachers will be teaching from home or the school while remote.

- Judyan McCarthy - 106 Browning Road Merchantville

  – Expressed concern about how to know if the numbers presented were accurate.

- Ingrid Juliano - 210 Browning Road Merchantville

  – Expressed that she feels community members are not comfortable expressing concerns regarding contract and posters about the contract.

  - Also question how a raise should be expected at a time like this and how did we get to be one of the highest paid districts.

- Sherry Iannucci – 62 W. Walnut Ave. Merchantcille

  - Thanked Mr. Strong for feeling staff should be home during a pandemic.

- Expressed that the board is using taxpayers money to fight against settling the contract by paying a fact finder.

• Ann Allen – 131 Browning Road Merchantville

- Made various comments relating to education and negotiations.

Executive Session

Executive Session - None

Adjourn Meeting

Adjourn Moved by Aaron seconded by Perno that the board of education approve to adjourn this meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Motion carried 9-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

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Greg Gontowski