

**Morris Plains Board of Education
Public Meeting January 22, 2013 – 7:30 p.m.
Borough School Auditorium**

Call to Order and Reference to the Sunshine Law

In accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975), Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston, Board President, opened the meeting at 7:36pm and read the following: The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Morris Plains School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Board Administrative Offices, sent to the Clerk of the Borough of Morris Plains, the Morris Plains Library, the Daily Record, the Star Ledger, and the Morris News Bee.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Mr. Alan Albin, Mr. Scott Bober, Ms. Lee Connor, Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston, Ms. Lucia Galdi, Mrs. Terri Kaag, Mrs. Maria Manley, Mr. Douglas McCabe (arrived at 7:38pm) and Ms. Denise Rawding

Also present: Dr. Ernest Palestis, Mrs. Kristin Kosky, Ms. Lindsay Vieira and Mr. Sean Dolan
Number of public attending: 75

Hearing of Citizens and/or Delegations - none

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Palestis opened the meeting by honoring Assemblyman Jay Webber with a certificate of appreciation for his contributions. Assemblyman Webber worked with the district on legislation relating to Homeless Shelters. Assemblyman Webber expressed that he was honored and recognized Dr. Palestis and the Board for their work with children. He reiterated that this is the Community of Caring. The legislation included financial responsibility to the home district of a student. Assemblyman Webber mentioned that the Department of Education would be writing the regulations and may reach out to the district. He expressed that this is an example of good things coming from government.

Dr. Palestis continued his report about concerns for the town ratables and their effect it could have on the budget.

Dr. Palestis reviewed how the Action Plans are being reviewed in the Strategic Planning Committees. He also mentioned that the Superintendent Search was moving forward.

Progress of Morris Plains Students Attending Morristown High School

--Morristown High School Staff – Ms. Ethel Minchello, Interim Principal at Morristown High School, presented the Progress Report on our students. The presentation opened with an explanation of the program and a student video. The Director of Guidance at Morristown High School, Leslee Scheckman reviewed a Power Point presentation with the community reflecting the Morris Plains Student Progress and results for the Class of 2012. Mr. Christopher Duvall and Mr. Scott Klepesch, Supervisors from the High School, highlighted curriculum and infrastructure changes as well as answered questions from the community.

Business Administrator's Report - none

Board Committee Status Reports

Finance and Buildings and Grounds – Mr. Douglas McCabe reported that the committee met before the public session. Highlights included vendor updates, transportation, revenue analysis, curriculum program change for Pre-K, School Dude analysis and the MSD tuition.

Curriculum and Instruction- Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston reported that the committee met at 5:00pm today. The committee reviewed Pre-school – 3, Budget, Teach NJ, School Brains, technology, Measure Up, NJIT, American Council on Education, Language Mall Project, Title IX Sports, Orton-Gillingham Program, Collins and Park.

Legislative – no report

Educational Services Commission of Morris County (ESC) – no report

Morris School District – Ms. Lucia Galdi attended her first meeting where school expansion and programs were discussed.

Morris School District Education – Mrs. Terri Kaag attended a meeting concerning raising funds to send students to China.

Personnel – Ms. Lee Connor reported that the committee met before the last meeting but there were some leaves that needed approval tonight.

Policy Updates - Ms. Denise Rawding reported that the committee met tonight to discuss Teacher evaluations , Obama Care changes and other policies.

Liaison Committees (Reports if Available):

- Morris Plains Home and School Association (MPHSA) – no report
- Morris Plains Municipal Alliance Committee (MPMAC) – no report
- Education Foundation of Morris Plains (EFMP) – Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston reminded everyone of the event at the Bretton Woods on February 1, 2013
- Strategic Planning Committees – The Committee met on January 15, 2013 and would be meeting again on March 19, 2013.

Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston read the resolution to the community recognizing School Board Recognition Month in New Jersey.

Correspondence – none

Approval of Minutes

On the motion of Mr. Douglas McCabe, seconded by Mr. Scott Bober, the Board approves the following Minutes:

December 11, 2012 – Public Meeting
December 11, 2012 – Executive Session
January 8, 2013 – Public Meeting
January 8, 2013 – Executive Session

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

Business Items Prepared for Official Action on January 22, 2013:

Personnel (upon the recommendation of the Superintendent)

1. Approve Substitute Teacher

On the motion of Ms. Lee Connor seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, The Board approves Mrs. Laraine Silverman as substitute teacher for the 2012-2013 school year.

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

2. Approve Spanish Teacher (Family Leave Replacement) – Borough School

On the motion of Ms. Lee Connor seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, The Board approves Mrs. Laraine Silverman as Spanish Teacher (Family Leave Replacement), effective February 11, 2013 through March 4, 2013 at a salary of \$49,920.00 (BA, Step 1 - to be prorated). There are no benefits with this position. Mrs. Silverman will substitute on February 7 and 8, 2013

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

3. Approve Home Instructors

On the motion of Ms. Lee Connor seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board approves Laurie Schorno and Jane Hurley-Mead as home instructors for the 2012-2013 school year at an hourly rate of \$33.00.

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

4. Approval of Unpaid Days – ESL/Spanish Teacher

On the motion of Ms. Lee Connor seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board approves 4 (four) unpaid days for Carmita Mongrella, ESL/Spanish Teacher, as follows: January 2, 2013, January 3, 2013, January 4, 2013, and January 7, 2013

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

5. Approval of Unpaid Day – School Media Specialist– Mt. Way School

On the motion of Ms. Lee Connor seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board approves an unpaid day for Sophie Blavet, School Media Specialist at Mountain Way School as follows: January 4, 2013.

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

6. Approval of Four (4) Unpaid Days – Classroom Aide – Borough School

On the motion of Ms. Lee Connor seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board approves Four (4) unpaid days for Laurie Rafuse, Classroom Aide at Borough School as follows: February 8, 2013, February 11, 2013, February 12, 2013 and February 13, 2013

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

7. Approval of Unpaid Day – Classroom Aide– Mt. Way School

On the motion of Ms. Lee Connor seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board approves an unpaid day for Sara Enos, Classroom Aide at Mountain Way School on January 4, 2013

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

8. Approval of Movement on the Guide

On the motion of Ms. Lee Connor seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, The Board approves Movement on the Guide, effective February 1, 2013 for the following teachers:

Staff Member	Previous Col/Step	Previous Salary	New Col./Step	New Salary
Erin Kramer	BA+15, Step 8	\$54,219	BA +30, Step 8	\$55,798
*Laurie Schorno	MA+15, Step 10	\$59,532	MA+30, Step 10	\$61,652

*pending receipt of official transcripts

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

9. Approval of Classroom Aide – Preschool Class – Mountain Way School

On the motion of Ms. Lee Connor seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, The Board approves Caitlin Cosgrove as preschool one-on-one aide (Emergent Hire, pending criminal history background clearance), effective February 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013 from 8:10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (includes ½ hour unpaid lunch) at an hourly rate of \$14.00.

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

B. Finance/Buildings & Grounds/Purchasing/Contracts /Donations

1. Approve Bills and Claims Report/Disbursement Journal

On the motion of Mr. Douglas McCabe seconded by Mr. Scott Bober, the Board approves the attached bills and claims report/disbursement journal dated January 22, 2013 in the amount of \$247,489.00.

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

2. Approve Payroll Distribution

On the motion of Mr. Douglas McCabe seconded by Mr. Scott Bober RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the payroll distribution summarized below and directs that the payroll distribution be attached to and be made part of these Minutes.

Payroll Date	Fund	Amount
1.15.2013	General Fund	\$255,941.64

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

3. Accept Donation from the Morris Plains Home and School Association

On the motion of Mr. Douglas McCabe seconded by Mr. Scott Bober, the Board accepts a donation from the Morris Plains Home and School Association in the amount of \$2,197.11 for the 8th Grade Washington D.C. Trip.

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

4. Approve Board Secretary and Treasurer's Reports For The Period Ending December 31, 2012

On the motion of Mr. Douglas McCabe seconded by Mr. Scott Bober Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the Certification from the Board Secretary that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of NJAS 18A:17-9, further that District Board of Education, after review of the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's monthly financial reports upon consultation with the appropriate district personnel, certifies that no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of NJAS 18A:17-36, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District Board of Education's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year and that therefore it is recommended that the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the period ending December 31, 2012 to be approved.

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

5. Line Item Transfers

On the motion of Mr. Douglas McCabe seconded by Mr. Scott Bober, the Board approves line item transfers dated January 22, 2013 in the amount of \$56,438.05.

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

6. Authorize Disposal of Obsolete/Surplus Property

On the motion of Mr. Douglas McCabe seconded by Mr. Scott Bober, the Board adopts the attached resolution authorizing the disposal of obsolete/surplus property.

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

C. School Board Recognition Month

1. Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming January 2013 as School Board Recognition Month in New Jersey

On the motion of Ms. Lee Connor seconded by Mrs. Terri Kaag, the Board adopts the attached resolution proclaiming January, 2013 as School Board Recognition Month in New Jersey as per New Jersey Governor Chris Christie and New Jersey School Boards Association.

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

D. Programs

1. Approve Integrated Preschool Program – 2013-2014 School Year

On the motion of Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Mr. Scott Bober, the Board approves an Integrated Preschool Program at the Mountain Way School for the 2013-2014 school year from 8:45 a.m. until 1:45 p.m. at a per pupil cost of \$450.00 per month; \$4,500 per year. Transportation will be provided by the district bus.

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

2. Approve Orton-Gillingham (Reading) Professional Development for Staff

On the motion of Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Mr. Scott Bober, the Board approves Orton-Gillingham (Reading) professional development effective March 25 – 28, 2013 at the Borough School. There will be no cost for Morris Plains Staff. Out of district staff will be required to pay \$900.00 for the four days of training.

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

E. Policy

1. Adopt, on Second Reading, Policy 4222B – 10 Month Unaffiliated Employees

On the motion of Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Mr. Scott Bober, the Board adopts, on second reading, the following policy: Policy 4222B – 10 Month Unaffiliated Employees (Aides) Benefits and Compensation

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

F. Workshops/Seminars/Conferences

1. Approval of Professional Development

On the motion of Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Mr. Scott Bober, the Board approves the attached list of requests for professional development and corresponding costs.

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

G. Superintendent's Anti-Bullying Report

1. Accept and Affirm the Superintendent's Anti-Bullying Report

On the motion of Mr. Douglas McCabe seconded by Mrs. Terri Kaag, the Board accepts and affirms the Superintendent's monthly report of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying.

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

Discussion Items:

A. New Business – The Board discussed the Morris School District Presentation and how this process could continue to grow.

B. Old Business - The New Jersey School Board Delegate will be Ms. Lee Connor.

Hearing of Citizens and/or Delegations

The Borough School Principal, Mr. Sean Dolan, reported on student activities which included the transition of Spirit Day and achievement of students.

Executive Session

Motion by Mrs. Terri Kaag seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS: The Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-11, permits the Board of Education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: The Board of Education adjourns to closed session at 9:25pm to discuss: (select one or more)

- 1) a matter rendered confidential by federal or state law;
- 2) a matter in which release of information would impair the right to receive government funds;
- 3) material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy;
- 4) a collective bargaining agreement and/or negotiations related to it;
- 5) a matter involved the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds;
- 6) protection of public safety and property and/or investigations of possible violations or violations of law
- 7) pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation and/or matters of attorney-client privilege;
- 8) specific prospective or current employees unless all who could be adversely affected request an open session;
- 9) deliberation after a public hearing that could result in a civil penalty or other loss;

RESOLVED, the Board may take action at the conclusion of executive session, and be it further, **Resolved**, The minutes of this closed session will be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

Return to Regular Session from Closed Session

On the motion of Mrs. Terri Kaag, seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Education to return to the regular session of the Board of Education meeting from the closed session 9:59pm.

Mr. Alan Albin – yes	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

Adjournment

On the motion of Mrs. Terri Kaag, seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, BE IT RESOLVED that the Morris Plains Board of Education moves to adjourn the meeting at 10:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristin Kosky
Board Secretary