

**Morris Plains Board of Education
Public Meeting – February 20, 2013- 7:00 p.m.
Borough School Learning Center**

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 7:00pm 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 (arrived at 7:30pm), Mr. Scott Bober, Ms. Lee Connor, Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston, Ms. Lucia Galdi, Mrs. Terri Kaag, Mrs. Maria Manley (arrived at 7:18pm), Mr. Douglas McCabe (arrived at 7:20pm) and Ms. Denise Rawding
Also present: Dr. Ernest Palestis and Mrs. Kristin Kosky
Number of public attending: 2

Hearing of Citizens and/or Delegations - none

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Ernest Palestis

Dr. Palestis updated the Board on the district workshop on February 19, 2013 given by Dr. Silver on The Thoughtful Classroom Teacher Effectiveness Framework. The workshop was the first in a series for the teachers and would be followed by four days of administrative training.

Dr. Palestis reminded the Board that they would be approving the school calendar for 2013-2014 that reflects the Morris School District Calendar and the teacher conference change.

Dr. Palestis reviewed with the Board a draft of correspondence to Assemblymen Jay Webber in regard to the 2% cap difficulties for a district such as Morris Plains. Morris Plains District continues to express concern with the cap since they are in a send and receive tuition with another district.

Discussion – Preliminary School Budget 2013-2014

Dr. Palestis started the discussion of the budget with explaining to the Board that the current projection for revenue and expenses have a difference of \$168,121. He explained that the Morris School District tuition and additional comments followed about the increase. In addition, health benefits costs continue to grow at an estimated 12%-14% increase for next year.

Dr. Palestis and Ms. Kristin Kosky (Business Administrator) discussed with the Board cuts that would get the budget to 2%. A discussion took place in order for the Board to review the cuts. In summary, the Board agreed to the following:

Cuts Everyone Agreed On to Get to CAP of 168,121

- Pre K – 3 (\$100,000)
- \$50,000 from textbooks

- Administration will review and recommend 18K

Possible Cuts That No One Wants to Do, So Will Not Take Place at this time

- Extra Tech Day from Morris School District.
- Non replacement of Retiring Teachers
- Collapse four kindergartens into three first grades

The Board Will Continue to Look at:

- Reduction of Multiple Positions From Full Time to Part Time
- Custodians
- Maintenance and Capital Reserves
- Literacy / Reading Coach

Ms. Kosky reviewed revenue compared to expenses with various scenarios for tax increases and the tax implementation. The board will continue to discuss the tax implication for the community.

Business Items Prepared for Official Action on February 20, 2013:

A. Personnel (upon the recommendation of the Superintendent)

1. Adopt Resolution Re: Termination of Employee - tabled

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board adopts the following resolution:

RESOLVED that the Morris Plains Board of Education hereby terminates the employment contract of Employee #4460, effective April 21, 2013 (60 days from the date that notice of termination is served on Employee #4460 by the Superintendent of Schools).

Roll Call: AA ___ SB ___ LC ___ CF ___ LG ___ TK ___ MM ___ DMc ___ DR ___

2. Approval of Special Education/Co-Teacher – Grade 1 (Family Leave)

On the motion of Ms. Lee Connor seconded by Mr. Maria Manley, the Board approves Sabina Sessa as Special Education/Co-Teacher – Grade 1 (family leave replacement) at the Mountain Way School, effective March 4, 2013 – June 30, 2013 at a per diem rate of \$264.58 per day. (BA+30, Step 1 - \$52,915). There are no benefits with this position.

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. Revised Motion - Movement on the Guide (retroactively)

On the motion of Ms. Lee Connor seconded by Mr. Maria Manley, the Board approves Movement on the Guide retroactively for Scott Curcio, effective September 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. Mr. Curcio's salary and guide placement will be adjusted from MA+15 (\$54,535) to MA+30 (\$56,036). The total amount due to Mr. Curcio for his retro payment is \$1501.00.

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 Substitute Nurse

On the motion of Ms. Lee Connor seconded by Mr. Maria Manley, the Board approves the following substitute nurse: Dorothy Carlson Incledon

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

1. Approval of Professional Services Contract – Silver Strong

On the motion of Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board approves Professional Services Contract for with Silver Strong Professional Services & Associates Professional development on **Thoughtful Classroom Teacher Effectiveness Framework** for district Evaluation in an amount not to exceeding \$19,675.00 including materials. Whereas the board previously approved a workshop on January 8th, 2013 for one day 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

C. School Calendar – 2013-2014

1. Approval of School Calendar – 2013-2014

On the motion of Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board approves the proposed school calendar for the 2013-2014 school year as per the attached.

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. Sixth Grade Fundraiser

1. Approval of 6th Grade Fundraiser – Clothing Drive

On the motion of Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board approves a 6th grade fundraiser proposal as follows:

A clothing drive fundraiser will be held the week of March 5-March 9, 2013 at the Community Center on Jim Fear Drive in Morris Plains. Families will drop off bags of unwanted clothing during that week and weekend. 6th grade student and parent volunteers will help on one week night and on Saturday. A&E Clothing Corporation will pick up the bags on Monday, March 11, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the Community Center. The bags will be weighed and the district will receive 17 cents per pound of clothing. The money will be used towards the 6th grade camping 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

E. Return to Personnel

1. Adopt Resolution Re: Termination of Employee

On the motion of Ms. Lee Connor seconded by Mr. Maria Manley, the Board adopts the following resolution:

RESOLVED that the Morris Plains Board of Education accepts the resignation of Employee #4460 in lieu of termination effective at the end of the school day, today, February 20, 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

Discussion Items:

A. New Business -- There may need to be a Board meeting on March 5, 2013.

B. Old Business - none

Executive Session

Motion by Mr. Scott Bober seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley 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 (if necessary)

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober, seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, **BE IT RESOLVED** by the board of education to return to the regular session of the Board of Education meeting from the closed session 10:44pm.

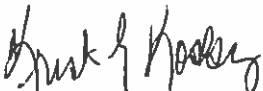
Mr. Alan Albin - yes	Mr. Scott Bober - yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag - yes	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe - yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

Hearing of Citizens and/or Delegations - none

Adjournment

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober, seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Morris Plains Board of Education moves to adjourn the meeting at 10:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Kristin Kosky
Board Secretary