

**Morris Plains Board of Education
Public Meeting – April 23, 2013 – 7:30p.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 7:30pm 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. Scott Bober, Ms. Lee Connor, Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston, Ms. Lucia Galdi, Mrs. Terri Kaag, Mrs. Maria Manley, Mr. Douglas McCabe and Ms. Denise Rawding

Absent: Mr. Alan Albin

Also present: Dr. Ernest Palestis, Mrs. Kristin Kosky, Ms. Linday Vieira and Mr. Sean Dolan

Number of public attending: 30

Item Prepared for Official Action on April 23, 2013:

A. Personnel

1. Appointment of Superintendent/Child Study Team Supervisor

On the motion of Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding the Board approves a contract with Mr. Mark Maire, Superintendent of Schools/Child Study Team Supervisor, effective June 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016 at the following salaries: 2013-2014 - \$140,000; 2014-2015 - \$142,500; 2015-2016 - \$145,000. The Superintendent's base salary is based upon the salary cap set forth in current State regulations. This contract was reviewed and approved by the Morris County Department of Education Office on April 4, 2013.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	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

Introduction of Mr. Mark Maire, Superintendent/CST Supervisor

******* Refreshment Break*******

Hearing of Citizens and/or Delegations - none

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Ernest Palestis – Dr. Palestis welcomed everyone to the meeting and mentioned how great it was to see everyone tonight. He congratulated Mr. Mark Maire for being appointed the new Superintendent of the Morris Plains School District. Dr. Palestis commented that he sees Mr. Maire as being a great success in Morris Plains. Dr. Palestis summarized to the community that Morris Plains is the best kept secret around. He expressed that Mr. Maire is a great match for Morris Plains.

Dr. Palestis reported that the Strategic Planning Committee would be reporting to the community tonight. The Committee has done a lot of work and the Board would be reviewing their recommendations.

Dr. Palestis reported to the Board that there were no bullying incidents to report.

Business Administrator's Report – Ms. Kristin Kosky reported that the Art/Music room project was being closed out for payment after review by the architect.

The telephone system project was moving forward and equipment would be arriving in the next couple of weeks. The Security System would be installed on June 3, 2013 and the project would take 4-6 weeks to complete.

Tonight, the Board would move forward to approve the summer projects that include the roof, site improvements and the public address system. In addition, Ms. Kosky announced that the copiers had been installed and new enhancements were being reviewed.

Strategic Plan Presentation – The Strategic Planning Committee Chairperson, Mr. Scott Bober, was introduced to present to the community the highlights of the four action committees which included the following presentations:

- Student Achievement – Ms. Danielle Mastrogiovanni
- Technology – Ms. Denise Rawding
- Communications – Ms. Stephanie Crowley
- Finance – Mr. Scott Bober

The Technology Plan was reviewed by Mr. Scott Curcio. The plan would be up for approval tonight. He acknowledged the committee members.

Board President, Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston, acknowledged the attendance of Mr. Bernard Braggs from the New Jersey School Boards Association.

Board Committee Status Reports

Finance/Buildings and Grounds – Mr. Douglas McCabe reported that the committee had met before the meeting tonight and discussed the Morris School District tuition costs, projects, energy audit and the budget.

Curriculum and Instruction – Ms. Denise Rawding reported that the committee met and that the Instructional Council is already working on guidelines for assessments. The committee reviewed the Mango Language program, Morris Plains Performance Report, Technology Plan, AEOSP, Choice School and the effect on the student count. The District would like to maintain an average of 20 students per class.

Legislative – Ms. Lee Connor reported that the Delegate Assembly would be held May 18, 2013. The Board will be reviewing two resolutions, Superintendent Caps and Security.

Educational Services Commission of Morris County (ESC) – none

Morris School District- Ms. Lucia Galdi reported that the Morris School District is switching back to block time scheduling at the High School.

Personnel – Ms. Lee Connor reported that the committee reviewed leave replacements that would be up for approval tonight. In addition, the committee reviewed the status of observations and evaluations.

Policy Updates – Ms. Denise Rawding is working on a deletion of policies. The committee is reviewing attendance, AED and the aide policy.

Liaison Committees (Reports if Available):

--**Morris Plains Home and School Association (MPHSA)** – Mrs. Sheryl McNichol reported to the Board that the big fundraiser on April 19, 2013 was a huge success and raised \$13,000. She thanked everyone for their support. Mrs. McNichol also communicated to the Board that the Box Top program netted another \$1400. Lastly, the MPHSA will be hosting the Teacher Appreciation Luncheons on June 5 and 6, 2013 at each school.

--**Morris Plains Municipal Alliance Committee (MPMAC)** – no report

--**Education Foundation of Morris Plains (EFMP)** – Ms. Suzanne Schafer Skalski mentioned the exciting fundraising and matching grant opportunity the Foundation has worked on. The Foundation received a matching grant from the Clark Foundation of \$10,000 and from Colgate of \$400. The Foundation would like to discuss grant writing opportunities with the Board.

--**Strategic Planning Committees** – see above

Correspondence - none

Approval of Minutes

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober, seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board approves the following Minutes:

April 9, 2013 – Public and Executive Session.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	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 April 23, 2013:

A. Personnel (upon the recommendation of the Superintendent)

1. Resignation of Interim Superintendent/Child Study Team Supervisor

On the motion of Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board accepts the resignation of Dr. Ernest Palestis as Interim Superintendent of Schools/Child Study Team Supervisor, effective May 31, 2013.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	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. Approval of Child Study Team Consultant/Transition

On the motion of Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board appoints Dr. Ernest Palestis as Child Study Team Consultant/Transition at a per diem rate of \$557.70 (time sheets) effective June 1 through June 24, 2013.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	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. Approval of Family Leave – Amended Motion – Mrs. LaBoy

On the motion of Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding the Board amends a family leave request for Mrs. Maria LaBoy, First Grade Teacher at Mountain Way School as follows:

March 2, 2013 – May 14, 2013 – Sick Days (paid)
 May 15, 2013 – June 30, 2013 – NJ Family Leave Act (unpaid)

Mrs. Laboy intends to return to her teaching position on September 1, 2013.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	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 Request for Payment for Administrator in Charge – 8th Grade Trip to Washington, D.C.

On the motion of Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board approves Edward Frankosky as Administrator in charge for the 8th Grade trip to Washington, D.C. on April 10, 11, 12, 2013 at a total cost of \$300.00 (\$100.00 per day x 3 days).

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	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. Scott Bober seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board approves the attached bills and claims report/disbursement journal dated April 23, 2013 in the amount of \$601,416.45.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	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. Scott Bober seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley 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
4/15/2013	General Fund	\$254,041.16

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	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 Board Secretary and Treasurer’s Reports For The Period Ending March 31, 2013

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley 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 March 31, 2013 to be approved.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	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
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4. Approve Line Item Transfers

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board approves line item transfers dated April 23, 2013 in the amount of \$13,558.00 and state approved transfer report.

Mr. Alan Albin - absent	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. Approve Author's Day Speaker and Payment

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board approves payment of \$1,500 (transportation included) to author Patricia Lakin who will be guest speaker for two presentations at Mountain Way School and two presentations at Borough School on May 10, 2013 for Author's Day. Fee will be paid from the Morris Plains Board of Education Student Activity Account.

Mr. Alan Albin - absent	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 the AHERA Three Year Re-Inspection for Morris Plains School District

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board approves the submission of the AHERA Three Year Re- Inspection Report performed by AERO Environmental Services for the Borough and Mountain Way Schools. A Letter of Assurance will be sent to the New Jersey Department of Health & Senior Services as required by the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), EPA promulgated the "Asbestos in Schools Rule" (40 CFR Part 763, Subpart E).

Mr. Alan Albin - absent	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 Professional Services Contract - Silver Strong

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board approves the Professional Services Contract with Silver Strong & Associates for professional development for principals and administrators to introduce The **Thoughtful Classroom Teacher Effectiveness Framework** training in an amount not to exceed \$7,400 including materials.

Mr. Alan Albin - absent	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 to Submit for Request of Proposal New Jersey Clean Energy Audit

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, Be it Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Morris Plains Board of Education authorizes the advertising of a request for proposals for the NJ Board of Public Utilities' Local Government Audit Program. The firm selected will work with TRC Energy Services to ensure all requirements of the Program are met.

Mr. Alan Albin - absent	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 to Submit 2013-2014 Capital Projects to the Department of Education and Advertise for Bids.

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, Be it RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Morris Plains Board of Education, in the County of

Morris, New Jersey authorizes Parette Somjen Architects to submit all necessary plans and documentation to the Department of Education concerning the following projects:

- Borough School Roof Project.
- Site Improvements for Borough School and Mountain Way School.
- Public Address Communication System

This submission will serve as an application to the Office of School Facilities and it will be an amendment to the district's Long Range Facilities Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, these projects were approved in the 2013-2014 Budget in Other Capital Projects General Fund.

Whereas the Morris Plains Board of Education authorizes the Business Administrator to advertise for bids in accordance with Public School Contracts Law

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	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. Technology Plan - 2013-2016

1. Approve Morris Plains School District Technology Plan 2013-2016

On the motion of Mr. Douglas McCabe seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board approves Morris Plains School District Technology Plan for the 2013-2016 school years as per the attached.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	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. Workshops/Seminars/Conferences

1. Approval of Professional Development

On the motion of Mr. Douglas McCabe seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board approves the attached list of requests for professional development and corresponding costs.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	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. Superintendent's Anti-Bullying Report

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

On the motion of Mrs. Terri Kaag seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board accepts and affirms the Superintendent's monthly report of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	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. Field Trip

1. Approve Field Trip – Battle of the Books

On the motion of Mrs. Terri Kaag seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board approves a field trip to the Gould School, North Caldwell, NJ on Wednesday, June 5, 2013 for the purpose of participating in the Battle of the Books Competition. The competition which was originally scheduled to take place at Borough School has been moved to North Caldwell School. 5th and 6th Grade students need to be transported, and our district bus is not able to transport due to a conflict with daily route schedules. A Wilkerson bus will be needed at a cost of \$309.75.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
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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 – Mr. Scott Bober mentioned this was his last meeting before Dr. Palestis would be leaving. He acknowledged Dr. Palestis for his service and felt that the taxpayers were grateful for the attention Dr. Palestis gave to the budget, staffing and technology upgrades. Mr. Bober personally thanked Dr. Palestis for his input and coaching while he was on the Board.

B. Old Business - Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston stated that the Strategic Plan would be approved at the next Board meeting.

Motion by Mr. Scott Bober seconded by Ms. Lee Connor to approve the following resolution:

Executive Session

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 9:20pm 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 – absent	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 Ms. Denise Rawding, 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 at 11:00pm.

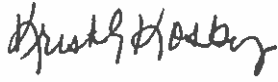
Mr. Alan Albin – absent	Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Ms. Lee Connor - yes
Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston – yes	Mrs. Terri Kaag – yes	Mrs. Maria Manley – yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi - yes	Mr. Douglas McCabe – yes	Ms. Denise Rawding - yes

Hearing of Citizens and/or Delegations - none

Adjournment

On the motion of Mr. Douglas McCabe, seconded by Mr Scott Bober, BE IT RESOLVED that the Morris Plains Board of Education moves to adjourn the meeting 11:01pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristin Kosky
Board Secretary