

## PREPARING ALL LEARNERS TO EXCEL IN A CHANGING WORLD

Morris Plains Board of Education  
Public Meeting – February 9, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.  
Borough School Learning Center

### District Goals 2015-2016

1. Improve student performance for ALL students through an intense focus on enhancing the teaching and instructional experience throughout the district; continuing to support the district's initiatives in 21st century learning, technology integration and Writer's Workshop.
2. Effectively utilize newsletters, social media, parent forums, parent workshops, and the school and district websites to keep the community informed about news, events, achievements, and initiatives underway in our district and schools.
3. Identify and implement programs and interventions designed to support the social and emotional needs of our students.
4. Analyze short and long-term facility needs, recognizing items that need immediate action, while maintaining fiscal responsibility. Develop a Long-Range Facility Plan with a projected five year action plan.

### 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. Maria Manley, President, opened the meeting at 7:02pm 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, Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston, Ms. Anthony Galdi, Mrs. Terri Kaag, Mrs. Maria Manley and Mr. Kenneth Wilbur

**Absent:** Mr. Francis Foley, Ms. Lucia Galdi and Ms. Denise Rawding

**Also present:** Mr. Mark Maire and Ms. Amy Barkman

**Number of public attending:**

Hearing of Citizens and/or Delegations - none

### Presentations

★ 6th Grade Skits

**Big and Little Buddies Digital Citizenship** - Mrs. Peslak, Mrs. Rafuse and Mr. Wilson

**Cyber Safety** - written and performed by Emily Hyman, Mir Vyas, Sam Lewis, Ava Stallone and Caitlyn Wagner

**Don't Skip Ads** - written and performed by Tyler Inserra, Benjamin Bergeron, Alex Rocca,

★ **State of Education - Morris Plains School District Administration**

**Superintendent's Report** – Mr. Mark Maire reported the following:

1. We had no incidences of HIB to report.
2. Last week, I facilitated my second Parent Forum meeting. The event was well-attended (20 parents). During the meeting I collected valuable feedback, which I shared with the building principals. In addition, I highlighted the following items:
  - a. Budget
  - b. Instructional goals
  - c. Communication tools
  - d. PARCC
  - e. Security
3. Last week, the Health Department made an unannounced visit to audit our health records at Borough School. Results revealed 100% compliance. Congratulations Deb!
4. The second edition of the District Newsletter was shared with parents on Monday. We have received nice feedback from the community on this communication tool. We plan to publish two more editions before the end of the school year.
5. I will be presenting at the MSD board of education meeting on March 14th. I will use this opportunity to highlight our programs, initiatives, student performance, and 8th grade data.
6. Schools will be closed for students February 15th and 16th. Teachers will report to school on February 16th to participate in a staff development workshop.

**Business Administrator's Report** - Ms. Amy Barkman reported the following:

1. We are waiting for office space figures from the realtor.
2. The contract for electrostatic painting of the blue lockers was approved.
3. Thank you to those of you who have submitted your online Ethics forms.
4. There are currently two custodians out on Worker's Compensation.
5. The CST flooring will be replaced over Spring Break.

**Correspondence** - none

**Board of Education Minutes**

**1. Approval of the Board of Education Minutes**

On the motion of Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston seconded by Mr. Anthony Galdi, the Board approves the following Minutes: Public and Executive Session - January 26, 2016.

Mr. Scott Bober – abstain	Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - yes	Mr. Francis Foley – absent
Mrs. Terri Kaag - abstain	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes	Mr. Anthony Galdi - yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi – yes (via	Ms. Denise Rawding - absent	Mr. Kenneth Wilbur - yes

**Business Items Prepared for Official Action on February 9, 2016:**

**A. Personnel (upon the recommendation of the Superintendent) - *The following motions are of a routine nature, non-controversial, and will be voted on in one motion.***

***Note: Employment of personnel contained in these resolutions in this section are provisional, contingent upon a criminal record check in compliance with P.L.1986, C.116 and approval of the submission of the "Application for Emergent Hire."***

**1. Approval of Basketball Official and Rate Per Game - 2015-2016**

On the motion of Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston seconded by Mr. Anthony Galdi, the Board approves Richard Watrous as basketball official for the 2015-2016 school year at a rate of \$57.00 per game.

Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - yes	Mr. Francis Foley – absent
Mrs. Terri Kaag - yes	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes	Mr. Anthony Galdi - yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi – yes (via speakerphone 9:10pm-9:12pm)	Ms. Denise Rawding - absent	Mr. Kenneth Wilbur - yes

**2. Approval of Substitutes - 2015-2016**

On the motion of Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston seconded by Mr. Anthony Galdi, the Board approves the following substitutes for the 2015-2016 school year:

- Alexandra Ross - Substitute Teacher (County Substitute Certificate)
- Nicholas Swiontkowski - Substitute Custodian (\$12.50 per hour)
- Alison Paulus (County Substitute Certificate)

Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - yes	Mr. Francis Foley – absent
Mrs. Terri Kaag - yes	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes	Mr. Anthony Galdi - yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi – yes (via speakerphone 9:10pm-9:12pm)	Ms. Denise Rawding - absent	Mr. Kenneth Wilbur - yes

**3. Approval of a Family Leave Extension - Grade 6 - LAL Teacher**

On the motion of Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston seconded by Mr. Anthony Galdi, the Board approves a family leave extension for Lauren Degnan, 6th Grade LAL Teacher at the Borough School as follows:

February 10, 2016 - May 4, 2016

NJ Family Leave Act (unpaid)

Mrs. Degnan intends to return on May 5, 2016.

Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - yes	Mr. Francis Foley – absent
Mrs. Terri Kaag - yes	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes	Mr. Anthony Galdi - yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi – yes (via speakerphone 9:10pm-9:12pm)	Ms. Denise Rawding - absent	Mr. Kenneth Wilbur - yes

**4. Approval to Extend Family Leave Replacement - Grade 6 - LAL Teacher**



effective May 2, 2016 through June 30, 2016 at a salary of \$51,230 (BA, Step 1) to be prorated. There are no benefits associated with this position.

Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - yes	Mr. Francis Foley – absent
Mrs. Terri Kaag - yes	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes	Mr. Anthony Galdi - yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi – yes (via speakerphone 9:10pm-9:12pm)	Ms. Denise Rawding - absent	Mr. Kenneth Wilbur - yes

**9. Approval to Accept Resignation - Classroom Aide - Mountain Way School**

On the motion of Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston seconded by Mr. Anthony Galdi, the Board accepts the resignation of Sheri Votapek, Classroom Aide at the Mountain Way School, effective March 11, 2016.

Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - yes	Mr. Francis Foley – absent
Mrs. Terri Kaag - yes	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes	Mr. Anthony Galdi - yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi – yes (via speakerphone 9:10pm-9:12pm)	Ms. Denise Rawding - absent	Mr. Kenneth Wilbur - yes

**10. Approval of Kindergarten Teacher (Family Leave Replacement) - Mountain Way School**

On the motion of Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston seconded by Mr. Anthony Galdi, the Board approves Sherri Votapek as Kindergarten Teacher (Family Leave Replacement - Mrs. Dalton) effective March 14, 2016 through June 30, 2016 at a salary of \$51,230 (BA, Step 1) to be prorated. There are no benefits associated with this position.

Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - yes	Mr. Francis Foley – absent
Mrs. Terri Kaag - yes	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes	Mr. Anthony Galdi - yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi – yes (via speakerphone 9:10pm-9:12pm)	Ms. Denise Rawding - absent	Mr. Kenneth Wilbur - yes

**11. Approval to Amend Date of Return (Family Leave) - Mrs. LaBoy - Mountain Way School**

On the motion of Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston seconded by Mr. Anthony Galdi, the Board approves to amend the return date for Mrs. Laboy (Family Leave) Kindergarten Teacher at the Mountain Way School, from May 1, 2016 to April 18, 2016.

Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - yes	Mr. Francis Foley – absent
Mrs. Terri Kaag - yes	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes	Mr. Anthony Galdi - yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi – yes (via speakerphone 9:10pm-9:12pm)	Ms. Denise Rawding - absent	Mr. Kenneth Wilbur - yes

**12. Approval to Amend Last Day for Salvatore Morelli (Family Leave Replacement) - Mrs. LaBoy - Mountain Way School**

On the motion of Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston seconded by Mr. Anthony Galdi, the Board approves to amend the last day for Salvatore Morelli, Family Leave Replacement for Mrs. Laboy, Kindergarten Teacher at the Mountain Way School, from April 29, 2016 to April 15, 2016.

Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - yes	Mr. Francis Foley – absent
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Mrs. Terri Kaag - yes	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes	Mr. Anthony Galdi - yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi – yes (via speakerphone 9:10pm-9:12pm)	Ms. Denise Rawding - absent	Mr. Kenneth Wilbur - yes

**B. Finance/Buildings & Grounds/Purchasing/Contracts - *The following motions are of a routine nature, non-controversial, and will be voted on in one motion.***

**1. Approve Bills and Claims Report**

On the motion of Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston seconded by Mr. Anthony Galdi, the Board approves the attached bills and claims report dated February 9, 2016 in the amount of \$375,832.82

Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - abstain	Mr. Francis Foley – absent
Mrs. Terri Kaag - yes	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes	Mr. Anthony Galdi - abstain
Ms. Lucia Galdi – yes (via speakerphone 9:10pm-9:12pm)	Ms. Denise Rawding - absent	Mr. Kenneth Wilbur - yes

**2. Approve Payroll Distribution**

On the motion of Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston seconded by Mr. Anthony Galdi, the Board approves the payroll distribution summarized below and directs that the payroll distribution be attached to and made part of these minutes

Payroll Date	Fund	Amount
1/30/16	General	\$306,288.45

Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - yes	Mr. Francis Foley – absent
Mrs. Terri Kaag - yes	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes	Mr. Anthony Galdi - yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi – yes (via speakerphone 9:10pm-9:12pm)	Ms. Denise Rawding - absent	Mr. Kenneth Wilbur - yes

**3. Approve Line Item Transfers**

On the motion of Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston seconded by Mr. Anthony Galdi, the Board approves line item transfers dated February 9, 2016.

Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - yes	Mr. Francis Foley – absent
Mrs. Terri Kaag - yes	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes	Mr. Anthony Galdi - yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi – yes (via speakerphone 9:10pm-9:12pm)	Ms. Denise Rawding - absent	Mr. Kenneth Wilbur - yes

**4. Adopt Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program Waiver**

On the motion of Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston seconded by Mr. Anthony Galdi, the Board adopts the following resolution:

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(b)2 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2016-2017 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Morris Plains Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than forty Medicaid eligible classified students per the Special Education Medicaid Initiative 2016-2017;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Morris Plains Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Morris an appropriate waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 for the 2016-2017 school year.

Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - yes	Mr. Francis Foley – absent
Mrs. Terri Kaag - yes	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes	Mr. Anthony Galdi - yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi – yes (via speakerphone 9:10pm-9:12pm)	Ms. Denise Rawding - absent	Mr. Kenneth Wilbur - yes

**5. Approval to Renew Agreement with Prevention Specialist, Inc.-Employee Drug Testing Calendar Year 2016**

On the motion of Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston seconded by Mr. Anthony Galdi, the Board approves a renewal contract with Prevention Specialists, Inc., 208 Monmouth Road, Suite 2, New Jersey, Suite 2 for employee drug testing for the calendar year. The annual fee is \$275.00 plus \$68.00 for drug testing and \$39.00 per test for alcohol testing with additional testing available as needed.

Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - yes	Mr. Francis Foley – absent
Mrs. Terri Kaag - yes	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes	Mr. Anthony Galdi - yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi – yes (via speakerphone 9:10pm-9:12pm)	Ms. Denise Rawding - absent	Mr. Kenneth Wilbur - yes

**C. Superintendent's Anti-Bullying Report - *The following motion is of a routine nature, non-controversial, and will be voted on in one motion.***

No incidences of HIB were reported.

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

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

Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - yes	Mr. Francis Foley – absent
Mrs. Terri Kaag - yes	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes	Mr. Anthony Galdi - yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi – absent	Ms. Denise Rawding - absent	Mr. Kenneth Wilbur - yes

**D. Workshops/Seminars/Conferences - *The following motion is of a routine nature, non-controversial, and will be voted on in one motion.***

**1. Approval of Professional Development**

On the motion of Mrs. Terri Kaag seconded by Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston, the Board approves the following list of requests for professional development and corresponding costs:

**Professional Development – Request for Approval as per Accountability Regulations –  
February 9, 2016**

Staff Member	Date	Workshop	Mileage	Fee	Sub	Total
Wayne Looney	2/22/2016	NJAHPERD Convention, Long Branch NJ	\$ 45.28	\$ 95.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 240.28

Mr. Scott Bober – yes	Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston - yes	Mr. Francis Foley – absent
Mrs. Terri Kaag - yes	Mrs. Maria Manley - yes	Mr. Anthony Galdi - yes
Ms. Lucia Galdi – absent	Ms. Denise Rawding - absent	Mr. Kenneth Wilbur - yes

**Discussion Items:**

- **New Business**
  - a. March 22nd Board Meeting may be rescheduled.
  - b. A discussion on the referendum took place
  - c. Mrs. Maria Manley commented that she would like to see stronger arts programs.
- **Old Business - none**

**Hearing of Citizens and/or Delegations - none**

**Adjournment**

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober, seconded by Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston, BE IT RESOLVED that the Morris Plains Board of Education moves to adjourn the meeting at 9:53pm.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Ms. Amy Barkman  
Board Secretary