

**Morris Plains Board of Education
Public Meeting – October 16, 2012
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. Lee Connor, Board President, opened the meeting at 6:36pm 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, Mrs. Lee Connor, Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston (arrive at 7:40pm), Mrs. Maria Manley (arrived at 7:23pm), Mr. Wayne Marek, Mr. Douglas McCabe (arrive at 7:00pm) and Ms. Denise Rawding

Absent: Mrs. Terri Kaag

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

Number of public attending: 4

Executive Session

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober, seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education to recess this public meeting and enter into closed session at 6:37pm, where the public will be excluded, for the purpose of discussing personnel items which come within the provisions of NJSA 10:4-12, Chap. 231 of P.L. 1975. The matters discussed in closed session will be disclosed to the public when circumstances permit.

Return to Regular Session from Closed Session (if necessary)

On the motion of Mr. Douglas McCabe, 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 7:30pm.

Hearing of Citizens and/or Delegations - Dr. Palestis introduced the auditor from Nisivoccia, Ms. Valerie Dolan, to explain the annual audit to the Board and the Community. Ms. Dolan explained to the public about the reserves available for district use this year and next year. Ms. Dolan went on to let the Community know that revenues are stable and the district is doing a great job controlling expenses. The district has worked hard on Property Tax Relief for the residents. This year, the district had a reduction in special revenue funding due to prior year funding of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA Grants). The district refinanced debt until 2023 at 4.5% which helps the district's finances. In addition, the Food Services Operation broke even. Ms. Dolan stated that there were no recommendations included in this audit. If the district was to get a letter grade, it would be an "A". We are always looking to improve things in the audit process for the district.

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Ernest Palestis

--Enrollment

Dr. Palestis announced that the teachers will be setting up websites to be used by parents and students. He mentioned that he is continuing to walk through the schools and view the new technology and lesson plans.

The Board will be planning a retreat in January. A date needs to be determined. The current available dates are January 5th, 12th, 19th or 26th.

Correspondence - None

Board Committee Status Reports

Finance & Buildings and Grounds – Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston reported that the committee met on October 3, 2012. The meeting was a paperless meeting and the committee reviewed open projects and new projects including the Art Room, Roof repairs and work orders. Reports from the October 9, 2012 meeting were reviewed that included M-1 – Comprehensive Maintenance Reports and final grants for NCLB and IDEA. The committee reviewed other areas including telephones, solar energy, Clean Energy Audit, nursing, E-rate, School Brains, YMCA, MSD and the Bio Security Plan. The next committee meeting is November 27, 2012.

Curriculum and Instruction - The committee met and discussed the following: School Brains, Core Curriculum Standards, Student Achievement, Technology programs and Bench Marking. In addition, the committee reviewed the Library, 6th Grade Camping Trip, Gifted and Talented and the Laptop Loaner Program. Policy 1314 will be approved today for Use of Bulletin Boards, Signs and the Website as well as Soliciting Funds.

Legislative – Mr. Wayne Marek reported that there was no committee report. The next meeting is November 13, 2012 and the following one would be held in May.

Educational Services Commission of Morris County (ESC) – Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston reported that a meeting was held in October 3, 2012. The topics for discussions were transportation, Co-op Educational Services, Park Lake School, Teach NJ and how Educational Services can help the district.

Morris School District – Mr. Alan Albin attended two meetings and a retreat on September 24, 2012. Some of the topics discussed were School Climate, Rutgers Workshop, MS Workshop, and Interactive Programs. The district is working on HIB Student Climate Feedback, teacher greet students at the door and take attendance in every class and October 16, 2012 Freshman Night. Facility projects were also discussed. The curriculum discussion included trainers, a committee for closing the gap, lights for the football field and an architect firm for a study.

Personnel – Mrs. Lee Connor reported that a committee meeting was held on October 2, 2012. The committee discussed the MSD Send and Receive Agreement, Teach NJ and job descriptions.

Policy Updates – Ms. Denise Rawding reported about the Policy updates to be included in tonight's meeting.

Liaison Committees (Reports if Available)

--Morris Plains Home and School Association (MPHSA) - none

--Morris Plains Municipal Alliance Committee (MPMAC) – Mr. Scott Bober reported that he was aware of a Father/Son event being planned.

--Education Foundation of Morris Plains (EFMP) – Ms. Suzanne Schafer Skalski was very happy to report a positive start to the year. The Foundation were continuing to work on

the Science Lab project and some other projects that will be announced shortly. The Foundation will be organizing an event called "New Taste" on February 8, 2013 at the Bretton Woods. Dr. Palestis thanked the Education Foundation for their continued support.

--Strategic Planning Committees -- Mr. Scott Bober reminded the community that the New Jersey School Board assisted the district with the planning last year. We are regrouping, with the help of a new field representative, the four committees that were set up during the planning weekend.

Dr. Palestis introduced Mr. Peter Gentile, Special Education Teacher/Reading Specialist to the Board and the community. We are very happy that Mr. Gentile will be joining us.

Approval of the Board of Education Minutes

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

Executive Session October 9, 2012
Public Meeting October 9, 2012

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

Business Items Prepared for Official Action on October 16, 2012:

A. Personnel (upon the recommendation of the Superintendent)

1. Approval of Merit Stipends

On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, In accordance with NJAC 6A:23-3.1 and the terms of the Superintendent’s contract, the Morris Plains Board of Education approved, on September 18, 2012, two (2) Qualitative Criteria for Merit Stipends for the 2011-2012 school year, at 2.5% for each criteria; and asserted that these goals have been achieved. Whereas the Executive County Superintendent authorizes the payment of the stipends as of October 3, 2012; Be it resolved that the Morris Plains Board of Education approves the payment of this stipend for \$7,250.

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

2. Approval of Substitutes – 2012-2013

On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board approves the following substitutes for the 2012-2013 school year:

- Jaclyn Sokol
- Ann Marie DeLorenza
- Maura Romanowski
- Lisa Morris
- Peter Gentile

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

3. Approval of Special Education Teacher – Mountain Way School

On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board approves Peter Gentile (emergent hire, pending criminal history background clearance) as special education

teacher at the Mountain Way School, effective October 15, 2012, at a salary of \$57,753.00 (MA+45, Step 2-3), to be prorated.

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

B. Finance/Buildings & Grounds/Purchasing/Contracts

1. Approve Bills and Claims Report

On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board approves the attached bills and claims report dated October 16, 2012 in the amount of \$62,996.79.

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

2. Annual Audit – Acceptance and Audit and Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for 2011-2012

On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Morris Plains School District Board of Education accept the annual audit, Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of Finances and Management(CAFR) report for the district accounts for fiscal year 2011/2012. Be it resolved: that the school business administrator is directed to file copies of this audit with the New Jersey Department of Education via the County Office and the offices for National Recognized Municipal Securities Information Repository as required by the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (since the district has outstanding debt services bonds).

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

B. Superintendent’s Anti-Bullying Report

There were no bullying referrals to report this month.

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

On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board accepts and affirms the Superintendent’s monthly report of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying.

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

D. Special Education

1. Reapproval of Out of District Placement – 2012-2013

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board reapproves an out of district placement for student 000362 at Sage Day, 215 Hill Street, Boonton, NJ 07005 to include a change in tuition. The student attended sixteen (16) in September totaling \$4,292.80. The student has returned to Morristown High School, effective September 18, 2012.

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

E. Nursing Services Plan

1. Approval of Nursing Services Plan – 2012-2013

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board approves the Nursing Services Plan for the Morris Plains School District for the 2012-2013 school year.

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

F. Policy

1. Approval of Policy 1314(A) Soliciting Funds From and by Students/School Personnel (First Reading)

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board approves, on first reading, Policy 1314(A) Soliciting Funds From and by Students/School Personnel.

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

2. Approval of Policy 1314(B) Use of School Sign, Web Site, and Bulletin Boards (First Reading)

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board approves, on first reading, Policy 1314(B) Use of School Sign, Web Site, and Bulletin Boards.

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

3. Adoption of Policy 2415.04 – Title I – Parent Involvement (Second Reading)

On the motion of Mr. Scott Bober seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board adopts, on second reading, Policy #2415.04 – Title I, Parental Involvement, as per State mandates.

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

G. Workshops/Seminars/Conferences

1. Approve Professional Development

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

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

H. Laptop Loan Program

1. Establishment of a Faculty Laptop Loan Program

On the motion of Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board approves the establishment of a Faculty Laptop Loan Program for the 2012-2013 school year.

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

I Fundraisers – 6th Grade Camping Trip

1. Approval of 6th Grade Fund Raisers for the Camping Trip to Fairview Lakes YMCA

On the motion of Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board approves the following Fundraisers for the Camping Trip by the 6th Grade Parents and the board will accept a donation check from the proceeds from each fundraiser.

a. Scrip Fundraiser – Orders for gift cards will be taken and submitted to Scrip Company, then the cards will be distributed. The gift cards include popular retailers such as iTunes, Kohl’s, Stop and Shop, Amazon.com, movies, Wal-Mart, Home Depot and Barnes & Noble. The web site is: <http://www.glscrip.com>. Flyers will be created and distributed through backpack mail to notify families of the process and sale. Details will also be included on the district web site and MPHSA news blasts.

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

b. Holiday Pie Sale - Working with Baker’s Perfection in Rockaway, NJ., pies would be purchased for \$7.50 and sold at the suggested price of \$12.00. Pre-orders would be taken. Sales would be in November and possibly December, (if it is successful in November.) The web site is: <http://www.bakersperfection.biz/>. Flyers will be created and distributed through backpack mail to notify families of the donation process and sale. Details will also be included on the district web site and MPHSA news blasts.

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

c. Fleece Blanket Sale - Stadium type 50” x 60” maroon blankets with a MPS white logo in the corner will be purchased for \$14.00 and sold for \$25.00/\$30.00, Flyers will be created and distributed through backpack mail to notify families of the donation process and sale. Details will also be included on the district web site and MPHSA news blasts.

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

Discussion Items:

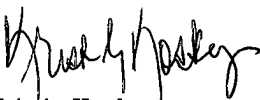
- A. New Business** – Dr. Palestis reminded the Board that in November we have a revised meeting schedule. The Executive Session would be after the Board meeting and Committee meetings before.
- B. Old Business** - old

Hearing of Citizens and/or Delegations - none

Adjournment

On the motion of Mr. Douglas McCabe, seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, BE IT RESOLVED that the Morris Plains Board of Education moves to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,


 Kristin Kosky
 Board Secretary