

**Morris Plains Board of Education
Public Meeting February 26, 2013 – 7:30 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 7:30pm 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: Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston, Ms. Lucia Galdi, Mrs. Terri Kaag, Mrs. Maria Manley, Mr. Douglas McCabe (arrived at 7:35pm) and Ms. Denise Rawding

Absent: Mr. Alan Albin, Mr. Scott Bober and Ms. Lee Connor

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

Number of public attending: 2

Hearing of Citizens and/or Delegations - none

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Palestis discussed how we are working on the budget and reviewing possible options prior to receiving state aid. The Board will approve a preliminary budget at the next meeting on March 5, 2013 after receipt of state aid.

Dr. Palestis mentioned that in the Board package, the Board received information on school improvement teams that would be approved this evening. This is required for the new teacher evaluation process.

Dr. Palestis concluded his report with the Bullying report that reflected no incidents on tonight's resolution.

Business Administrator's Report – Mrs. Kristin Kosky reported to the Board that the district is working on the budget and a report would be given at the next meeting on March 5, 2013. Also, the district filed an extraordinary aid application for additional funds for special education.

Board Committee Status Reports

Finance and Buildings and Grounds – Mr. Douglas McCabe reported that the committee reviewed maintenance projects, Art/Music Room, signs and capital projects.

Curriculum and Instruction - no report

Legislative – no report

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

Morris School District – Ms. Lucia Galdi reported to the Board that the last meeting of the Morris School District was about recognition of students.

Personnel – Mrs. Terri Kaag reported that the committee met on February 25, 2013 and reviewed staffing.

Policy Updates – Ms. Denise Rawding reported that the committee met and would be proposing a second reading of Policies 9100 and 4000.

Liaison Committees (Reports if Available)

- Morris Plains Home and School Association (MPHSA) - none
- Morris Plains Municipal Alliance Committee (MPMAC) - none
- Education Foundation of Morris Plains (EFMP) – Representative Ms. Susan Schaefer

Skalski reported to the Board on the success of the Taste of Excellence at the Bretton Woods on February 1, 2013. The Foundation raised \$8,690 at the event and would be receiving a matching grant for \$8,690. This would bring their fund raising efforts to \$17,380 for science equipment. This is very close to their goal for the project. This grant would include microscopes, storage cabinets and computers.

--Strategic Planning Committees – Dr. Palestis reported that the information gathered by the committees has been sent to New Jersey School Boards.

Correspondence - none

Approval of Minutes

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

- February 12, 2013 – Public Session
- February 12, 2013 – Executive Session
- February 20, 2013 – Public Session
- February 20, 2013 – Executive Session

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	Mr. Scott Bober – absent	Ms. Lee Connor - absent
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 February 26, 2013

A. Personnel

1. Approve Substitute Custodian

On the motion of Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, The Board approves the following substitute custodian for the 2012-2013 school year at an hourly rate of \$12.50.

Mohamed Aboushelbaia

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	Mr. Scott Bober – absent	Ms. Lee Connor - absent
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 Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board approves the attached bills and claims report/disbursement journal dated February 26, 2013 in the amount of \$235,901.37.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	Mr. Scott Bober – absent	Ms. Lee Connor - absent
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 Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding **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
2.15.2013	General Fund	\$265,814.51

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	Mr. Scott Bober – absent	Ms. Lee Connor - absent
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 January 31, 2013

On the motion of Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding **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 January 31, 2013 to be approved.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	Mr. Scott Bober – absent	Ms. Lee Connor - absent
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. Line Item Transfers

On the motion of Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding, the Board approves line item transfers dated January 31, 2013 in the amount of \$13,550.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	Mr. Scott Bober – absent	Ms. Lee Connor - absent
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. Adopt a Resolution Curtailing all Non-Essential General Fund Spending

Motion by Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Ms. Denise Rawding the board approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has a responsibility to exercise fiscal prudence and to protect its limited surplus, be it

RESOLVED, effective immediately all non-essential general fund spending be curtailed, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, costs associated with health, safety, required maintenance, IEPs, as well as any functions or projects scheduled or budgeted for prior to adoption of this resolution be excluded from the moratorium on spending.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	Mr. Scott Bober – absent	Ms. Lee Connor - absent
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 Improvement Team/Common Core Implementation Team

1. Approval to Establish School Improvement Team/Common Core Implementation Team

1. On the motion of Mr. Douglas McCabe seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board approves the establishment of a School Improvement Team/Common Core Implementation Team for the 2013-2014 school year as follows:

Mountain Way School

Lindsay Vieira
Patti Anders
Sophie Blavet
Karen Penkoski

Borough School

Sean Dolan
Scott Curcio
Laurie Schorno
Denise Zalis
Lisa DiStefano
Alison Porter
Jessica Hendershot

CST Representative

Debbie McNally

Superintendent

Dr. Ernest Palestis

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	Mr. Scott Bober – absent	Ms. Lee Connor - absent
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. Special Education

1. Approval to Rescind a Motion Approving an Out of District Placement

On the motion of Mrs. Terri Kaag seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board rescinds a previously approved motion for an out of district placement for student 000092 at the Alexander Hamilton School, 24 Mill Street, Morristown, NJ 07960 effective January 2, 2013 through February 8, 2013 at a program cost of \$7,327.40. The student’s placement terminated February 8, 2013.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	Mr. Scott Bober – absent	Ms. Lee Connor - absent
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 an Out of District Placement

On the motion of Mrs. Terri Kaag seconded by Mrs. Maria Manley, the Board approves an out of district placement for student 000092 at Chancellor Outreach at Kinnelon, the Stony Brook School, 118 Boonton Avenue, Kinnelon, NJ 07405, effective February 27, 2013, through June, 2013 at a program cost of \$23,560.00 (\$310/day x 76 days).Transportation not included; to be bid through Educational Services Commission.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	Mr. Scott Bober – absent	Ms. Lee Connor - absent
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. Maria Manley seconded by Ms. Lucia Galdi, the Board accepts and affirms the Superintendent’s monthly report of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	Mr. Scott Bober – absent	Ms. Lee Connor - absent
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 a yearbook advertisement. An announcement was made for an additional meeting on March 5, 2013.

B. Old Business - The Board requested additional follow up from the Morris School District meeting.

Hearing of Citizens and/or Delegations - none

Executive Session

Motion by Mrs. Maria Manley seconded by Mr. Douglas McCabe 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 8:45pm 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 – absent	Ms. Lee Connor - absent
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

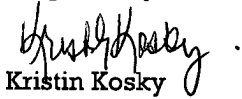
On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding, seconded by Mr. Douglas McCabe, **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Education to return to the regular session of the Board of Education meeting from the closed session 9:29pm.

Mr. Alan Albin – absent	Mr. Scott Bober – absent	Ms. Lee Connor - absent
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 Ms. Denise Rawding, seconded by Mr. Douglas McCabe, **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Morris Plains Board of Education moves to adjourn the meeting at 9:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,


 Kristin Kosky
 Board Secretary

