

PREPARING ALL LEARNERS TO EXCEL IN A CHANGING WORLD

Morris Plains Board of Education Minutes of the Public Meeting – January 28, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Borough School Learning Center

District Goals - 2014-2015

1. To create a culture of thinking and learning that promotes student achievement.
2. To provide professional development to ensure the delivery of instruction of the aligned curriculum to the NJCCSS.
3. Continue to implement AchieveNJ in accordance with state regulations; and to successfully implement PARCC testing in grades three through eight.
4. To continue to ensure that the budget provides for the achievement of all students in the district while maintaining fiscal responsibility.
5. Continue to strengthen two-way communication within the district among staff, parents, and members of the school community.

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, 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: Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston, Mr. Anthony Galdi, Ms. Lucia Galdi, Mrs. Terri Kaag, Mrs. Maria Manley and Ms. Denise Rawding

Absent: Mr. Alan Albin, Mr. Scott Bober, and Mr. Francis Foley

Also present: Mr. Mark Maire and Dr. Warren Ceurvels

Number of public attending: 6

Hearing of Citizens and/or Delegations - none

Recognition - EFMP and Ann E. Clark Foundation

--Science Classroom Visitation

Ms. Lee Connor spoke about the support from the Ann E. Clark Foundation. Mr. Kenneth Clark of the Ann E. Clark Foundation gave a brief history of the Foundation.

The Board recessed and toured the Science Classroom. Mrs. Casey Devlin spoke about the upgrades and how they enhanced the curriculum.

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

- No incidences of HIB to report at this time.
- On January 28th, a lockdown drill was conducted at Borough School. Similar to the lockdown drill at Mountain Way last month, the Morris Plains Police Department assisted in the drill. The drill was announced using our new intercom feature. Mr. Kramar utilized his cellphone to access the intercom in the main office.
- Our administration, staff, and technology support staff continue to work hard preparing for the upcoming PARCC assessment. The first round of PARCC assessments are scheduled for early March. As a district, we have provided instructional training for staff in both Math and LAL. We have assigned technology devices for each tested grade level. Students have access to these devices now, so they can get acclimated with the equipment. Lastly, we are in the process of purchasing headphones for test-taking students.
- Schools across the state are creating procedures to address PARCC opt-out requests. To date, Morris Plains has received 2 opt-out requests. We have created protocol to address these requests, which include parent meetings and alternative testing locations.
- Last week, I held my second Superintendent's Parent Roundtable. Thirteen parents attended. The environment was collaborative and supportive. I collected important school-based information, which I shared with the building principals. I also used this opportunity to highlight the chain of command; encouraging parents to be proactive in their communication at the school level.
- CST Audit Update – Mrs. Walsh has received significant data to support her CST/Special Education analysis. She has met with each building principal and the CST. In addition, she has scheduled site visits for both schools this week. She will prepare her analysis and present her findings to the board at a future board meeting.
- Administration has been immersed in budget preparation activities. Budget meetings have been scheduled to address technology, facilities, staffing, and professional development. Focus areas include:
 - Master scheduling and instruction
 - Technology integration
 - Reading and writing programs K-4

Principals will present their budget recommendations to the full board on February 10th.

- January was National School Board Recognition Month. I would like to express to the members of our board and to our community my sincere thanks for the work, talent, and time that each member gives. I have had the pleasure of working with a group of individuals who, collectively, share ideas, debate issues and work very hard to be a supportive and caring unit. I thank each board member for their service and contributions to this wonderful district.
- On Tuesday, January 27th, we used our first snow day of the school year. The weather pattern for the next few weeks projects more frequent storms. We have made a recommendation to revise the 2014-2015 calendar. Specifically, taking back April 13th. Fortunately, the calendar design affords us this opportunity.

Business Administrator's Report – Dr. Warren Ceurvels reported that he is continuing to work on the budget. He will be meeting with the Manager of Plant Services to discuss the budget; he will meet with administration concerning staffing needs for next year; he met with the architects to start the process for the Long Range Facilities Plan and met with the Finance Committee tonight.

Board Committee Status Reports

Finance/Buildings and Grounds – Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston reported on the agenda from the meeting held tonight (see attached).

Curriculum and Instruction – Mrs. Terri Kaag reported that the committee met on January 7, 2015. The committee discussed a new Borough Student master schedule being drafted. In addition, a plan to increase chrome book devices for students is being developed. Lastly, a plan is being developed for the implementation of PAARC testing (see attached).

Legislative – none

Educational Services Commission of Morris County (ESC) – none

Morris School District – none

Personnel – none

Policy Updates – none

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) - none
- Strategic Planning Committees – none

Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston reported that the next Morris County School Boards meeting will be held on January 29, 2015.

Approval of the Board of Education Minutes

On the motion of Mrs. Terri Kaag seconded by Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston, the Board approves the following Minutes:

January 6, 2015 – Regular Meeting.

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

Business Items Prepared for Official Action on January 28, 2015:

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

1. Resignation of Classroom Aide - Borough School

On the motion of Mrs. Terri Kaag seconded by Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston, the Board accepts the resignation of Isis Sarnowski, classroom aide, effective January 28, 2015.

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

2. Approval of Family Leave Replacement for Mrs. Leibrecht, First Grade Teacher

On the motion of Mrs. Terri Kaag seconded by Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston, the Board approves Isis Sarnowski as familyleave replacement for Michelle Leibrecht, First Grade Teacher at the Mountain Way School, effective January 29, 2015 - May 1, 2015, at a salary of \$53,924, BA+30/MA, Step 1) to be prorated. (per diem rate of \$269.62.)

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

3. Approval of Family Leave - Michele Donker, Preschool Teacher at the Mountain Way School

On the motion of Mrs. Terri Kaag seconded by Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston, the Board approves a family leave request from Michele Donker, Preschool Teacher at the Mountain Way School, effective April 3, 2015 as follows:

April 3, 2015 - May 4, 2015 15 Sick Days (paid)

May 5, 2015 - June 30, 2015 Family Leave (unpaid)

Mrs. Donker anticipates returning on September 2, 2015.

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

4. Approval of Movement on the Guide - February 1, 2015

On the motion of Mrs. Terri Kaag seconded by Mrs. Cynthia Fetherston, the Board approves movement on the guide for Monica Pecoraro, effective February 1, 2015 as follows:

Monica Pecoraro - Current Salary - \$57,688 (BA+15, Step II)
Adjusted Salary - Effective February 1, 2015 - \$59,506 (BA+30/MA, Step 11)

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

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

1. Approve Line Item Transfers

On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Ms. Lucia Galdi, the Board approves line item transfers dated January 27, 2015.

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

2. Approve Bills and Claims Report

On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Ms. Lucia Galdi, the Board approves the attached bills and claims report dated January 27, 2015 in the amount of \$727,462.11.

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

3. Approve Payroll Distribution

Motion by Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Ms. Lucia Galdi 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
1/15/2015	General Fund	\$273,729.78

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

4. Approve Board Secretary and Treasurer's Reports For The Period Ending 12/31/14

On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Ms. Lucia Galdi 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 December 31, 2015 to be approved.

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

5. Approval of Authors' Visits - Mountain Way and Borough Schools

On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Ms. Lucia Galdi, the Board approves the following authors and fees as follows:

January 23, 2015	Tara Rossi, Author	Borough School	\$1,500.00
March 13, 2015	Audrey Vernick, Author	Mountain Way School	\$1,250.00

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

6. Approval of Shared Services Agreement with ESC- CST

On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Ms. Lucia Galdi, the Board approves a Shared Services Agreement with Educational Services Commission of Morris County for CST Services, effective July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 in the amount of \$245,550.00.

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

7. Adopt Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program Waiver

On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Ms. Lucia 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 2015-2016 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 2015-2016;

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 2015-2016 school year.

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

C. Home Instruction - The following motion is of a routine nature, noncontroversial, and will be voted on in one motion.

1. Approval of Home Instruction

On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Mr. Anthony Galdi, the Board approves home instruction for student 000181 effective January 22, 2015, at the Borough School up to ten hours per week for 4 weeks at an hourly rate of \$33.00; at a total not to exceed \$1,320.00. Services to be provided by Denise Zalis.

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

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

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

On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Mr. Anthony Galdi, the Board accepts and affirms the Superintendent's monthly report of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying.

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

E. Workshops/Seminars/Conferences - The following motions are of a routine nature, noncontroversial, and will be voted on in one motion.

1. Approval of Professional Development

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

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

F. 2014-2015 School Calendar - The following motions are of a routine nature, noncontroversial, and will be voted on in one motion.

1. Approval to Revise the 2014-2015 Calendar

On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Mr. Anthony Galdi, the Board approves to revise the attached 2014-2015 school calendar as follows: "If snow days are needed, they will be taken as follows: the first day taken will be Monday, April 13, 2015. If additional are needed they will be added to the end of the school year. The school year will not extend beyond June 25th. If more days are needed they will be taken in the following order: February 17, April 10, April 9, April 8, April 7, April 6, 2015."

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

G. School Board Recognition Month- *The following motion is of a routine nature, noncontroversial, and will be voted on in one motion.*

1. Adoption of Resolution - Declaring January, 2015 as School Board Recognition Month

On the motion of Ms. Denise Rawding seconded by Ms. Lucia Galdi, the Board adopts the following resolution declaring January, 2015 as School Board Recognition Month:

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2015 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time that all residents might acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and

WHEREAS, The Morris Plains Board of Education is one of more than 581 local school boards in New Jersey that sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and

WHEREAS, The Morris Plains Board of Education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's local school boards help determine community goals for the education of approximately 1.4 million children in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's 4,800 local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and

WHEREAS, School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Boards of education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the public's expectations for the schools; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation's best in indicators such as high school graduation rates, class size, college entrance exam participation, and Advanced Placement offerings and test scores. Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Morris Plains Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January 2015 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Morris Plains Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staffs toward the improvement of our children's education.

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

Discussion Items:

A. New Business – Mr. Mark Maire asked the Board if they would like their own Chrome Books. For the next meeting, Mrs. Maria Manley suggested that the Board use this portion of the meeting to provide positive comments about the accomplishments of the Board.

B. Old Business- none

Hearing of Citizens and/or Delegations - none

Adjournment

On the motion of Mr. Anthony Galdi, seconded by Mrs. Terri Kaag, BE IT RESOLVED that the Morris Plains Board of Education moves to adjourn the meeting 8:20pm.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Warren S. Ceurvels
Board Secretary