

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MONTVALE, NEW JERSEY**

**REGULAR PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 13, 2017**

The Board of Education of the Borough of Montvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, entered Regular Public Meeting Session on Monday, February 17, 2017 in the Instructional Media Center of Fieldstone Middle School, Spring Valley Road, Montvale NJ. President Rossig called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m. Roll call showed the following to be present: Mrs. Bagdat, Mrs. Baskin, Mr. Carvelli, Mr. DiFiore, Mrs. Foley, and Mr. Rossig. Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn was absent. Also present were Dr. Petersen, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Wasserman, Board Secretary/Business Administrator; and no members of the public.

Mr. Rossig read the **Open Public Meetings announcement** as follows:

"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 interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Board of Education of the Borough of Montvale has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted by Borough Hall/Montvale Public Library, the Board Secretary's Office, posted on the district web site, and such notice given to *THE RIDGEWOOD NEWS* and *THE RECORD*."

**COMMENTS BY THE BOARD PRESIDENT**

Mr. Rossig announced that no smoking is allowed and that pre-approval of audio or video recording by the public is required.

**PRIVATE SESSION**

**Mrs. Baskin introduced motion 4.1 as follows, which motion was seconded by Mrs. Foley and was unanimously approved.**

Motion 4.1        **WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act and the Montvale Board of Education reserve the right within the constraints of State Law to sit in Private Executive Session, and

**WHEREAS**, there now exists a need for this Board of Education to meet in Executive Session, now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Montvale Board of Education recess into Executive Session to discuss exempt matters as follows:

Superintendent's Report of Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying;  
and Affirmative Action Hearing  
Personnel – Retirement, Employee Stipends, Leave Request, Health Benefits

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the public will be informed

1. When the Board reconvenes to the Regular Meeting business portion of this meeting this evening; or
2. At a later date, undetermined at this time.

## RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION at 8:11 p.m.

At 8:11 p.m. the Board returned to public session. Roll call showed the following to be present: Mrs. Bagdat, Mrs. Baskin, Mr. Carvelli, Mr. DiFiore, Mrs. Foley and Mr. Rossig. Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn was absent. Also present were Dr. Petersen, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Wasserman, Board Secretary/Business Administrator; and 4 members of the public. The Board President restated the open public meetings announcement and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed the public and invited them to sign the attendance sheet, if they so chose. He announced that no smoking is allowed and that pre-approval of audio or video recording by the public is required.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Petersen highlighted a few recent events in the school district including the first snow day of the year on February 9, 2016. The day went smoothly and the news was well received when announced at the Memorial Winter Carnival the evening before. Kindergarten enrollment is currently 90 students, and we expect more students to register before school starts in September. Upcoming events include the following: 100th day of school on 2/14/17; Jump Rope for Heart and Hoops for Heart at Memorial and Fieldstone on 2/17/17; Mid-Winter Recess on 2/20-21/17.

Dr. Petersen explained the new SWVL robots in the District funded by an MEF grant and showed a video presentation on the SWVL robots by Mr. Parks. In the video, Mr. Parks explained to the staff how the SWVL robots work and the benefits of trying it out. Thanks again to the MEF for the grant to purchase these items.

**Enrollment** - Memorial currently has 516 students as compared to 514 last month. Fieldstone has 482 students, one less than in the prior month. The district total is now 998 vs 999 last month.

## HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

No members of the public wished to be heard.

## BOARD BUSINESS

**Mr. DiFiore introduced motions 8.1 through 8.3, which motions were seconded by Mrs. Baskin and were unanimously approved.**

### *MINUTES*

Motion 8.1 **RESOLVED**, that there be accepted, as written, the minutes of the following meetings:

January 4, 2017 Reorganization  
January 4, 2017 Worksession  
January 16, 2017 Public

### *HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, BULLYING*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be affirmed the Superintendent of School's decisions

8.2 and resulting consequences, if any, in response to reported acts of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying as itemized in executive session.

*SPECIAL EDUCATION MEDICAID INITIATIVE (SEMI) PROGRAM WAIVER*

Motion 8.3 **WHEREAS**, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 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 2017-18 school year, and

**WHEREAS**, the Montvale Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Bergen an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for the 2017-18 school year.

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**Mrs. Baskin introduced motions 9.1 through 9.11, which motions were seconded by Mrs. Foley. On a roll call vote, all members present voted Aye.**

*RETIREMENT*

Motion 9.1 **RESOLVED**, that there be accepted, with appreciation and regret, the resignation for retirement purposes of Jodi Levy, Kindergarten Teacher, effective July 1, 2017.

*LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE / LEAVE REPLACEMENT*

Motion 9.2 **RESOLVED**, that there be approved employment of Anna Gurevich as long-term Substitute / Leave Replacement Guidance Counselor for the period March 24, 2017 through June 30, 2017; and

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED**, that Ms. Gurevich be approved for two shadow days with compensation at the daily rate of \$85.00.

*SUBSTITUTES*

Motion 9.3 **RESOLVED**, that there be approved employment to the below list of individuals, as Substitutes, subject to Chapter 116, P.L. 1986, in the Montvale Public Schools during the 2016-17 school year with compensation at the Board approved rate:

Name	Position	Effective Dates
Bonnie Guttman	Substitute Teacher	02/14/17 – 6/30/17
Bonnie Guttman	Substitute Teaching Assistant	02/14/17 – 6/30/17
Maria Riba-Slutsky	Substitute Teacher	02/14/17 – 6/30/17
Maria Riba-Slutsky	Substitute Teaching Assistant	02/14/17 – 6/30/17

*FIELDSTONE LUNCH AIDE - EMPLOYMENT*

Motion 9.4 **RESOLVED**, that there be approved employment of Haig Yeranossian as Fieldstone Middle School Lunchroom Aide, subject to Chapter 116, P.L.1986, in

the Montvale Public Schools for the period February 14, 2017 through June 30, 2017, with compensation at \$20.50 per day.

*LEAVE WITHOUT PAY*

Motion 9.5 **RESOLVED**, that there be approved a three day unpaid leave of absence for personal reasons to Joan Merwede on January 18, 19, 20, 2017.

Motion 9.6 **RESOLVED**, that there be approved a two day unpaid leave of absence for personal reasons to Janet Halder on March 2 & 3, 2017.

Motion 9.7 **RESOLVED**, that there be approved an unpaid leave of absence for personal reasons to Lisa Rudd from March 1, 2017 to April 30, 2017.

*ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION*

Motion 9.8 **RESOLVED**, that there be additional compensation awards for the following responsibilities:

Name	Compensation	Dates	Responsibility
Jason Feather	Contractual hourly rate, not to exceed 10 hours	December 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017	Security camera installations
Peter Valois	Contractual hourly rate, not to exceed 20 hours	December 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017	Security camera installations

*SALARY GUIDE ADVANCEMENTS*

Motion 9.9 **RESOLVED**, that there be approved advancement on the salary guide for the following, under the provisions of the Board/MEA Agreement:

Effective: September 1, 2017:

Karen Matesic advances from MA+15 to MA + 30

Patricia Pizzuta advances from MA to MA+15

*COMPENSATION FOR LOST PREP TIME*

Motion 9.10 **RESOLVED**, that there be approved compensation to the following for loss of preparation periods with compensation as per the Board/MEA Agreement:

Matt Doherty	January 11, 2017	\$ 20.00
John McGinley	January 13, 2017	20.00
Carol Pittarelli	December 13, 2016	20.00
Lauren Dauria	January 10, 2017	20.00
Kate Overgaard	January 10, 2017	20.00
Whitney Rubin	January 25, 2017	20.00
Jack Sherick	January 13, 2017	20.00
Karen Doran	January 13, 2017	20.00
Jessica Gutierrez	December 21, 2016	20.00
Jodi Levy	December 21, 2016	20.00
Maureen McLaughlin	December 21, 2016	20.00
Amy Hasenecz	December 21, 2016	20.00
Joan Bain	January 19, 2017	20.00

Clarisse Nicol	January 19, 2017	20.00
Marlene Wynkoop	January 19, 2017	20.00
Patrice Edelstein	January 19, 2017	20.00
Bonnie Faiella	January 19, 2017	20.00
Lindsey Jachens	January 19, 2017	20.00
Amy Leon	January 19, 2017	20.00
Karen Miles	January 23, 2017	20.00
Matthew Doherty	January 23, 2017	20.00
Jack Sherick	January 23, 2017	20.00
Janice Raimondi	January 27, 2017	20.00
Matthew Doherty	January 30, 2017	20.00
Jack Sherick	January 30, 2017	20.00
Sara DeLange	January 27, 2017	20.00
Lauren Dauria	February 3, 2017	20.00

**EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL**

Motion 9.11 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Education is required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12 to adopt policy and approve travel expenditures by district employees and board members using local, State, or Federal funds to ensure that travel is educationally necessary and fiscally prudent; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education acknowledges that on-going professional development is critical to the instructional needs of the district or may further the efficient operation of the school district, and providing said training may require travel expenses;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board authorize employee and Board Member attendance in informational programs directly related to, and within the scope of the listed job title’s current responsibilities, and/or training opportunities as follows with payment of expenses, if applicable, based on the federal travel regulations provided that such expenses are within the annual maximum travel expenditure amount:

Date	Employee	Workshop	Cost (Not to Exceed)
3/4/17	McGauley-Eichhorn, Debra	NJSBA/I-STEAM U.S. Army Career Day	\$189
11/15/16	Jasper, Justin	Visit to Calhoun School	\$78.43
3/17/17	Bores, Joyce Gardner, Cindy Guertin, Danielle	Strategies for Supporting Learning in Children with Down Syndrome	(\$25 ea.) \$75
3/17/17	Pizzuta, Patricia	Strategies for Supporting Learning in Children with Down Syndrome	\$25
REVISED 11/4/16  12/1/16, 12/5/16, 1/4/17	Pittarelli, Carol	Conquer Mathematics  Revised request – location of workshops was changed and an additional workshop date was added. Request was originally approved on 8/22/16	\$66.80

3/18/17 or 3/31/17	Wasserman, Andrea	NJSBA / Analyzing & Constructing Salary Guides	\$227
3/18/17 or 3/31/17	Carvelli, John	NJSBA / Analyzing & Constructing Salary Guides	\$227
3/18/17 or 3/31/17	DiFiore, Ernie	NJSBA / Analyzing & Constructing Salary Guides	\$227
2/16/17	Petersen, Darren	Shifting Demographics & Finances in New Jersey	\$22.17
3/2/17	Petersen, Darren	Being a Kid in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	\$18.39

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

**Mrs Bagdat introduced motions 10.1 through 10.7, which motions were seconded by Mrs. Foley. On a roll call vote, all members present voted Aye.**

*VOUCHER PAYMENTS*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be approved/ratified for payment vouchers in the total  
10.1 amount of \$2,922,169.09 as follows:

**General Fund**

Appendix "A" Checks #7368 and Book \$1,307,301.62  
Transfers for December Payroll; and  
Wire Transfer for State Health Benefits

Appendix "A-1" Book Transfers for January \$1,254,149.75  
Payroll; and Wire Transfer  
for State Health Benefits

Appendix "A-2" Checks #7464-7538 \$357,597.00

**Student Activities Fund**

Appendix "A-3" Checks #2094-2112 \$3,120.72

*APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be approved line item appropriation transfers to the  
10.2 2016-17 budget as follows:

From	Account	To	Account	Amount	Explanation
11-000-217-320-5-00	Extraord Serv Purch	11-000-216-320-1-00	Speech Serv Purch	\$80,000	Transfer expense from ABA to OT/PT
11-000-218-580-1-11	Guidance Travel/PD	11-000-218-610-3-00	Guid Gen Supplies - MS	\$50	Supplies
11-000-222-300-3-00	Library Software/Maint	11-000-222-600-2-00	Othr Lib Materials - FMS	\$100	Supplies
11-000-221-600-3-00	Prof Books Mags MS	11-000-223-600-1-00	Instr Staff Trng Suppls	\$80	Supplies
11-000-230-590-1-44	Insurance/Fidelity Bond	11-000-230-332-1-40	Admin Services	\$50	Audit Expense
11-000-230-600-1-42	Supt Off Supplies	11-000-230-610-1-43	Bd Mtg Materials	\$80	Supplies
11-000-291-270-1-13	Health/Dental/Vision	11-000-291-210-1-44	Disability Insurance	\$1,885	Disability Insurance
11-213-100-610-5-52	New Equip/Resource	11-213-100-610-3-11	Resource Ctr - MS	\$50	Supplies
11-000-291-290-1-44	Other Benefits	11-000-291-299-1-44	Retiree Sick Days	\$15,000	Realign Account

**BOARD CERTIFICATION**

Motion 10.3 **RESOLVED**, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 [c]4, the Montvale Board of Education certifies that as of December 31, 2016, after review of the Board Secretary's monthly financial reports [appropriations section], and upon consultation with the appropriate district official, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

The reports of the Board Secretary including cash receipts, and the report of the student activities fund for the month of December 2016 are attached as appendix "B" to the minutes of this meeting.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT  
AUDITOR SERVICES**

Motion 10.4 **RESOLVED**, that there be approved a contract for auditing services with T.M. Vrabel and Associates for the 2017-18 school year inclusive of the audit as of 6/30/17 in the amount of \$14,000 and the following hourly rates to apply for additional services if needed:

Officer R.M.A.	\$110/hr.
Manager	\$90/hr.
Supervisor Accountant	\$75/hr.
Other Staff Members	\$62/hr.

**CONTRACT RENEWAL  
EDUCATIONAL DATA SERVICES, INC.**

Motion 10.5 **RESOLVED**, that there be approved renewal of the contract with Educational Data Services, Inc., for the licensing and maintenance fee for school supplies, and Right to Know Services, for the 2017-2018 school year at a cost of \$3,140.

**DONATION – VERILUX, INC.**

Motion 10.6 **RESOLVED**, that there be accepted with appreciation a donation of eighteen 4 packs of full spectrum LED lights, item code L17T8VLX4 for use in Fieldstone room 126,

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board Secretary send a letter of thanks on behalf of the Board for this generous donation.

**CLINICIAN**

Motion 10.7 **RESOLVED**, that Dr. Justin K. Paltrowitz be approved to provide psychiatric services as required for the 2016-17 school year at the Region II rate of \$550/evaluation.

**FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

**Mr. Carvelli introduced motions 11.1 through 11.3, which motions were seconded by Mrs. Bagdat. On a roll call vote, all members present voted Aye.**

*FIELDSTONE ROOF PROJECT CHANGE ORDERS*

- Motion 11.1      **RESOLVED**, that there be approved the following change order to the contract with Safeway Contracting for the partial roof replacement project at Fieldstone Middle School. LAN Associates has verified that these changes are necessary based upon the need to rectify unforeseen conditions uncovered during construction pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-4.9:
- CO #001 – Contractor shall replace the reglet flashing along the east side of the low roof areas #5 and #6 and the three exposed sides of the chimney for the amount of \$3,180. Contractor shall also repair the roof deck, where deteriorated, above the corridor outside the Girl’s Locker Room for the amount of \$2,016. The total contract value will be increased by \$5,196; the new total contract sum is \$481,146.

*MEMORIAL ROOF PROJECT DOE SUBMISSION*

- Motion 11.2      **RESOLVED**, that there be approved the submission of the Roof Replacement (Rear Wing) at Memorial Elementary School, State Project #3330-030-17-1000 by LAN Associates to the State of New Jersey, Department of Education. The Board will not be seeking state funding for this project as part of the submission. This project is listed in the District’s Long Range Facilities Plan.

*MEMORIAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CEILING ASBESTOS ABATEMENT*

- Motion 11.3      **RESOLVED**, that the proposal from Karl Environmental Group in the amount of \$4,400 for project preparation costs and \$1,125 for project management services, for a total cost of \$5,525 be accepted for the management of the asbestos abatement at Memorial Elementary School, in the hallway of the wing containing rooms 110-115.

**BOARD MEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS**

Mrs. Baskin highlighted the PTO Winter Carnival, noting it was well attended and it was nice it was on a family night so the students did not have any homework. People also enjoyed when the snow day was announced. She expressed her thanks on behalf of the Board to the PTO for organizing the event.

Mr. Rossig commented that the Regional BOE meeting held in Woodcliff Lake was great. It included presentations by all the regional curriculum directors where they each posed a question to the group, definitely planted a seed for board members to think about. Mr. Parks presentation was excellent and we were very proud of him. The evening was thought provoking with its homework discussion, is it relevant, is it worthwhile, is it busy work? Mr. Rossig would like to add a discussion of homework to the education/technology committee meeting agenda. Considerations - teacher coordination, homework free designated weekends, etc. It was also nice to interact with colleagues from other regional school districts. Mrs. Baskin reiterated the success of the night as well as highlighted the discussion on the grading of homework. Dr. Petersen shared that the district superintendents will further the conversation.



## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance, Facilities, and Transportation Committee met this evening. Mr. Carvelli and Mr. DiFiore highlighted the discussion that took place on the budget process. They were pleased with the inclusive budget process that is underway for the 2017-18 school year and believe it will be a good planning tool to build on throughout the year.

Mr. Rossig requested Mrs. Wasserman give an update to the board later this year sharing her observations during her first year and plans going forward.

## COMMUNICATIONS

No communications were shared

## OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Petersen will be setting up a policy committee to discuss special education policies and the board meeting policy that addresses speaking time in the public comment section of the board agendas.

## NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

## HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC

Councilwoman Elizabeth Gloeggler, of Montvale, provided some updates on borough happenings including budget planning and traffic pattern planning. She recommends members of the community check the borough website for meeting dates and times.

## MOTION TO ADJOURN

**Mrs. Bagdat introduced motion 20.1 as follows, which motion was seconded by Mr. DiFiore and passed unanimously.**

Motion **RESOLVED**, that this meeting be adjourned at 8:53 p.m.  
20.1

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Wasserman  
Board Secretary