

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MONTVALE, NEW JERSEY**

**WORKSESSION MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 5, 2017**

The Board of Education of the Borough of Montvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, entered Worksession Public Meeting Session on Monday, June 5, 2017 in the Instructional Media Center of Fieldstone Middle School, Spring Valley Road, Montvale NJ. President Rossig called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Roll call showed the following to be present: Mrs. Bagdat, Mrs. Baskin, Mr. Carvelli, Mrs. Foley and Mr. Rossig. Mr. DiFiore and Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn were 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 led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. He then welcomed the public and invited them to sign the attendance sheet, if they so choose. He announced that no smoking is allowed and that pre-approval of audio or video recording by the public is required.

**PRIVATE SESSION**

**Mr. Carvelli 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  
Personnel – New Hires, Re-employment, Employee Stipends,  
Clinicians/Therapists; Employee Compensation, Summer Work;  
Superintendent's Contract and Merit Goals; Student/Teacher Intern, Salary  
Guide Advancement

**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 8:13 p.m.**

At 8:13 p.m. the Board returned to public session. Roll call showed the following to be present: Mrs. Bagdat, Mrs. Baskin, Mr. Carvelli, Mrs. Foley and Mr. Rossig. Mr. DiFiore and Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn were absent. Also present were Dr. Petersen, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Wasserman, Board Secretary/Business Administrator; and three 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 choose. He announced that no smoking is allowed and that pre-approval of audio or video recording by the public is required.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Petersen began his report with highlights of the recent 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Washington DC, sharing that it was truly an authentic learning opportunity. The Memorial third and fourth grade Cadet Band Concert was a great performance and well attended. The Montvale Senior Citizen's also had an opportunity to experience events in the schools as they held their monthly meeting at Fieldstone on June 1. Over 60 senior citizens were in attendance and they enjoyed performances by the Fieldstone Chorus and Band, as well as a presentation on the State of the District by Dr. Petersen. 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students took the NJ ASK Science exam on May 31.

Looking ahead, Kindergarten enrollment currently stands at 100 students. The Board meeting on June 12 will honor student and staff achievements. A number of end of year events will occur through the end of school on June 22 and the staff and students look forward to an exciting end to a fabulous school year.

**District Enrollment:** Memorial's student enrollment decreased by 2 students to 519; Fieldstone enrollment also decreased by 4 students to 477. Total district enrollment declined to 996 from 1,002.

**Presentation:** Christina Gouraige, Supervisor of Special Services, presented to the Board on Inclusive Education. Mrs. Gouraige gave a background on special education and how students are evaluated and how students get IEPs. It is critical to educate all students in the least restrictive environment (LRE) through both inclusion and inclusive practices. Mrs. Gouraige stressed that all students are "our" children and the district must all collaborate and work together. Collaboration is already happening between special education and general education teachers throughout the schools. Teachers are cohesive and collaborative and partnering on leveled literacy intervention program. We are excited that next year, multiple grade levels will have full day collaborative models in place and Fieldstone is moving forward with PLCs (Professional Learning Communities) where teachers can discuss curriculum. Mrs. Gouraige also highlighted the SEPAC committee (Special Education Parent Advisory Committee) which meets twice a year. All our students are a collaboration between parents and teachers, to address the needs of all students. Montvale students are not General Ed, not Special Ed, but simply Our Students. Mrs. Gouraige answered questions from the Board members.

## HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

No members of the public wished to be heard.

*Mrs. Foley made a motion to modify the agenda and move the "Hearing From The Public" section next. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carvelli and was unanimously approved.*

## HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC

Councilwoman Elizabeth Gloeggler invited everyone to upcoming town council meetings, in particular the next meeting where two third graders would be present as they won "Mayor for the Day." Mrs. Gloeggler also shared the efforts going on around the content for the local Montvale television statement.

## BOARD BUSINESS

**Minutes** - Copies of the minutes of the following meetings were available for review and comment:

May 15, 2017

May 22, 2017

**Staff and Student Recognitions** – Student Award Winners, Retirees, and the Teachers of the Year have been invited to next week's meeting for recognition at 8:00 p.m.

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The board discussed and approved placement on the upcoming Board agenda of the following:

**Shared Services Agreement** – A resolution will be included on the public agenda to continue a shared services agreement with Region V to provide services as needed by the Child Study Team and/or for other student evaluations for the 2017-2018 school year.

**Clinician's List 2017-2018** – The agenda will include a resolution to accept the Clinician's List for the 2017-2018 school year.

**Three Year District Technology Plan 2017-2020** – The agenda will include a resolution to approve the Three Year District Technology Plan 2017-2020.

**Bilingual/ESL Three-Year Program Plan 2017-2020** – The agenda will include a resolution to approve the Bilingual/ESL Three-Year Program Plan 2017-2020.

**Teacher Mentor Plan 2017-2020** – The agenda will include a resolution to approve the Teacher Mentor Plan 2017-2020.

**Professional Development Plan 2017-2020** – The agenda will include a resolution to approve the Professional Development Plan 2017-2020.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

The board discussed and approved placement on the upcoming Board agenda of the following:

**Voucher Payments** – The following voucher checks have been processed:

### General Fund

Book Transfers for May Payrolls & Wire Transfers for State Health Benefits; and principal and Interest Payment on Bonds	\$1,659,101.35
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### Student Activities

Checks #2162-2165	\$9,795.45
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In addition, a list of checks issued June 12, 2017 will be presented on the public meeting agenda.

**Board Secretary's and Cash Reports** – The financial statements for the month of April 2017 will be available for review and action at the public meeting.

**Awarded Contracts** – Legislation under PL 2015, Chapter 47, requires Boards to include a resolution reporting awarded contracts for the period July 1 through June 30<sup>th</sup>. A list of contracts will be compiled and included on the public agenda for action.

**Capital Reserve** – As has been our practice in past years, a resolution will be included on the agenda of June 26<sup>th</sup> to allocate a portion of any remaining funds from the 2016-17 school year budget to capital reserves for future building projects and major repairs.

**Year End Financials** – As has been our practice in past years, it will be recommended that the Board authorize the payment of bills at year end (June 30) subject to review by the finance committee, to be ratified at the next business meeting. It is also recommended that the Superintendent be authorized to approve year-end transfers in both the current expense budget and the student activities account, to be ratified at the August business meeting.

## FACILITIES COMMITTEE:

The board discussed and approved placement on the upcoming Board agenda of the following:

**Security Access System** – A resolution will be included on the public agenda to award a contract for the new security access system included in the 2017-18 budget.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

There had not been recent committee meetings, and therefore there were no committee reports.

## BOARD MEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Mr. Carvelli attended the Super Hearts Walk and Family Run Day run by a Montvale family to raise funds and awareness for The Children's Heart Foundation which focuses on congenital heart defects. Mr. Carvelli shared that it was a great community event.

Mrs. Bagdat shared that a Montvale K8 graduate, now a junior at Pascack Hills, received the PV Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

## COMMUNICATIONS

None at this time

## OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Rossig reminded everyone to complete their Superintendent Evaluation forms.

Dr. Petersen shared that the MSI program had 45 students enrolled. Registration historically has ramped up during the month of June.

## NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Rossig will represent the board as a speaker at the upcoming Fieldstone 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation on June 21. This is the 50<sup>th</sup> class to graduate from Fieldstone.

## PRIVATE SESSION

**Mrs. Foley introduced motion 18.1 as follows, which motion was seconded by Mr. Bagdat and passed unanimously at 9:11 p.m.**

Motion 18.1      **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 reconvene in Executive Session, now therefore

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

Personnel – Superintendent's Contract

**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 10:11 p.m. the Board returned to public session. Roll call showed the following to be present: Mrs. Bagdat , Mrs. Baskin, Mr. Carvelli, Mrs. Foley, and Mr. Rossig. Mr. DiFiore and Mrs.

McGauley-Eichhorn were absent. Also present were Dr. Petersen, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Wasserman, Board Secretary/Business Administrator; and no members of the public.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

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

Motion 20.1      **RESOLVED**, that this meeting be adjourned at 10:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Wasserman  
Board Secretary