

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MONTVALE, NEW JERSEY  
REGULAR PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 17, 2018**

The Board of Education of the Borough of Montvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, entered Regular Public Meeting Session on Monday, December 17, 2018 in the Instructional Media Center of Fieldstone Middle School, Spring Valley Road, Montvale NJ. President Rossig called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. Roll call showed the following to be present: Mrs. Bagdat, Mrs. Baskin, Mr. Carvelli, Mr. DiFiore, and Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn and Mr. Rossig. Mrs. Foley 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. McGauley-Eichhorn introduced motion 4.1 as follows, which motion was seconded by Mrs. Baskin 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, Employee Stipends, Resignation,  
MEA Negotiations

**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 8:02 p.m.**

At 8:02 p.m. the Board returned to public session. Roll call showed the following to be present: Mrs. Bagdat, Mrs. Baskin, Mr. Carvelli, Mr. DiFiore, and Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn and Mr. Rossig. Mrs. Foley was absent. Also present were Dr. Petersen, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Wasserman, Board Secretary/Business Administrator; and 10 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**

**Superintendent's Report** – Dr. Petersen congratulated all the participants in the Winter Concerts that took place at both Fieldstone and Memorial last week. The concerts were excellent. Dr. Petersen thanked Mr. Quaranto and Mrs. Feather for another successful concert and congratulated Mr. Niezter on conducting his first concert at Fieldstone.

Dr. Petersen also wished everyone a great winter break and health and happiness in the New Year.

### **Demographic Study Presentation by Dr. Petersen**

Dr. Petersen reviewed the demographic study of the projected enrollment for the Montvale Pre K-8 school district conducted by Whitehall Associates. The Borough is also doing a demographic study for the entire Borough of Montvale. The study includes enrollment predictions through 2023-2024 looking at population growth with the increased number of housing units in the Borough. The study estimates student population will increase to 1090 students by 2023-2024 based on current and proposed developments being completed, compared to current enrollment of 968 students. Dr. Petersen reviewed considerations for using this data and planning for the future.

### **Enrollment:**

Memorial enrollment remained flat at 520 students while Fieldstone's enrollment declined by one student to 448 students. Total district enrollment for December is 968 students, one less than then 969 in November.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **“Seventh Grade Rocket Projects”**

by Mr. Jason Simodejka

Mr. Simodejka, Industrial Arts teacher, worked with the seventh grade students during the first trimester to build water bottle rockets. Mr. Simodejka introduced Jason, a seventh grade student, to share his experience with the project. The class started with paper rockets and worked up to the water bottle rockets. The student shared that it was great to collaborate with other students and also an opportunity to learn CAD software to work with the 3D printer. It was a great and fun experience. A video was shared showing the rocket launches.

## Eagle Scout Proposal – Outdoor Classroom at Fieldstone Middle School

by Sean Kerns

Sean Kearns, a Montvale Boy Scout, presented to the Board a proposal for his Eagle Scout project to build an outdoor classroom in the rear of Fieldstone Middle School. The property will be 15x15 square foot paver area, with benches for the students and a teacher's podium. Sean's goal is to start fundraising once all approvals have been granted and to begin the construction in the spring with a goal to complete the project before the new school year.

### HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

No members of the public wished to be heard.

### BOARD BUSINESS

**Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn introduced motions 9.1 through 9.2, which motions were seconded by Mrs. Bagdat. On a roll call vote, all members present voted Aye.**

#### *MINUTES*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be accepted, as written, the minutes of the following  
9.1 meetings:  
November 12, 2018  
November 19, 2018

#### *HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, BULLYING*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be affirmed the Superintendent of School's decisions  
9.2 and resulting consequences, if any, in response to reported acts of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying as itemized in executive session.

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**Mrs. Bagdat introduced motion 10.1 through 10.14 which motions were seconded by Mr. DiFiore. On a roll call vote, all members present voted Aye.**

#### *SUBSTITUTES*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be approved employment to the below list of individuals  
10.1 as Substitutes, subject to Chapter 116, P.L. 1986 in the Montvale Public Schools during the 2018-19 school year, with compensation at the Board approved rate, the following individuals:

Name	Position	Effective Dates
White, Jennifer	Substitute Teacher	12/18/18-6/30/19
White, Jennifer	Substitute Teaching Assistant	12/18/18-6/30/19

#### *CONTRACT REVISION – LITERACY COACH*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be approved a revised contract award to Julie-Anne Walsh,  
10.2 Literacy Coach, from part-time 0.50 to part-time 0.60 effective September 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 in accordance with the MEA/Board Agreement, subject to revision upon ratification/approval of a successor Agreement.

*RESIGNATION - TEACHING ASSISTANT*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be accepted, the resignation of Evelyn Cordova, Teaching  
10.3 Assistant, effective December 20, 2018.

*RESIGNATION - TEACHING ASSISTANT*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be accepted, the resignation of Monique Cohen, Teaching  
10.4 Assistant, effective December 11, 2018.

*LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE / FIELDSTONE RESOURCE TEACHER*

10.5 **RESOLVED**, that there be approved employment of Emily Tie as long-term Substitute / Leave Replacement for Fieldstone Middle School Resource Teacher for the period December 3, 2018 through March 15, 2019; subject to Chapter 116, P.L. 1986 in the Montvale Public Schools during the 2018-19 school year, with compensation at: Day 1 thru 29 - \$97.75/day; Day 30 and after – BA, Step 1, per diem rate, subject to revision upon ratification/approval of a successor Agreement.

*LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE / FMS SPEECH TEACHER*

10.6 **RESOLVED**, that there be approved employment of Jennifer White as long-term Substitute / Leave Replacement for Fieldstone Middle School Speech Teacher for the period March 11, 2019, through June 30, 2019; subject to Chapter 116, P.L. 1986 in the Montvale Public Schools during the 2018-19 school year, with compensation at: Day 1 thru 29 - \$97.75/day; Day 30 and after – BA, Step 1, per diem rate, subject to revision upon ratification/approval of a successor Agreement.

*CHAPERONES – FIELDSTONE WINTER CONCERT*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be approved compensation to the following list of staff  
10.7 members to be chaperones for the Fieldstone Middle School 2018 winter concert as per the Board/MEA Agreement, subject to revision upon ratification/approval of a successor Agreement.

Alex Austin	Donna Simon
Ed Haase	Sara DeLange

*JOB DESCRIPTION – CLERICAL ASSISTANT*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be accepted, the job description for Clerical Assistant.  
10.8

*LUNCH AIDES – MEMORIAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be approved new hourly rates for the following list of  
10.9 Memorial School Lunchroom Aides for the period of January 2, 2019 through June 30, 2019:

Name	Rate
Leslie Braunstein	\$ 14.15/hr.
Debbie Hughes	\$ 15.55/hr.
Kristin Librino	\$ 13.25/hr.
Joyce Priestner	\$ 13.25/hr.
Kristen Rothschild	\$ 13.25/hr.
Janice Scheidel	\$ 13.25/hr.
Debbie Stefanelli	\$ 19.40/hr.
Linda Zurich	\$ 16.05/hr.

Hasmig Yetamian	\$ 13.00/hr.
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**STAFF AS LUNCH AIDES - FIELDSTONE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be approved employment of Delia Durango as  
 10.10 Fieldstone Middle School lunch aide for the period of December 18, 2018 through  
 June 30, 2019 with compensation of \$30/period

**COMPENSATION FOR LOST PREP TIME**

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

Name	Dates	Per Session Comp
Alvarez, Lindsay	December 13, 2018	\$ 20.00
Bain, Joan	December 3 & 10, 2018	\$ 40.00
Basirico, Angela	December 3, 2018	\$ 20.00
Carcich, Lauren	November 16 & 30, 2018	\$ 40.00
Cummings, Chelsea	November 30, 2018	\$ 20.00
D'Amaro, Laurie	December 3, 2018	\$ 20.00
Delli Santi, Julianne	October 26, 2018	\$ 20.00
Diore, Kristian	October 29, 2018 & December 3, 2018	\$ 40.00
Edelstein, Patrice	November 16, 2018; December 3, 4 & 10, 2018	\$ 80.00
Faiella, Bonnie	November 29, 2018	\$ 20.00
Freeman, James	November 14, 2018	\$ 20.00
Gonzalez, Darlene	November 21, 2018; December 4, 2018	\$ 40.00
Gutierrez, Jessica	December 6 & 11, 2018	\$ 40.00
Hasse, Edward	November 30, 2018; December 4, 2018	\$ 40.00
Jachens, Lindsey	December 3, 2018	\$ 20.00
Kantrowitz, Karen	November 14, 2018	\$ 20.00
Katz, Debbie	December 3 & 10, 2018	\$ 40.00
LoPresti, Adam	November 14, 2018	\$ 20.00
Matesic, Karen	December 3, 2018	\$ 20.00
McLaughlin, Maureen	November 29, 2018; December 10 & 13, 2018	\$ 60.00
Megaro, Nicole	November 1 & 30, 2018; December 4, 2018	\$ 60.00
Neville, Lisa	December 3, 2018	\$ 20.00
Nicol, Clarisse	November 29, 2018	\$ 20.00
Pittarelli, Carol	November 14, 2018	\$ 20.00
Rhatigan, Kellie	November 14, 2018	\$ 20.00
Ripston, Erica	December 3 & 11, 2018	\$ 40.00
Rudd, Lisa	Nov 29, 2018; Dec. 7 2018	\$ 40.00
Scirocco, Briann	December 13, 2018	\$ 20.00
Walker, Katherine	October 24, 2018; December 3, 2018	\$ 40.00
Wynkoop, Marlene	November 16 & 29, 2018;	\$120.00

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be approved the following days of unpaid leave for  
 10.12 Margaret Meehan, General Secretary at Memorial Elementary School: December  
 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 2018.

**FIELD TRIP DESTINATION**

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be approved the following location as a destination  
 10.13 for educational field trips during the 2018-2019 school year:  
 Palisades Mall Escape Room, West Nyack, NY

**EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL**

Motion **WHEREAS**, the Board of Education is required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12  
 10.14 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)
12/13/18	Diore, Kristian	Mindful Practices for those Who Give Us the Most: Educators!	\$0.00
11/29/18	McCormack, Gina	Bergen County Principal & Supervisors Assoc. Meeting	\$0.00
12/4/18	McCormack, Gina	NWEA/MAP Assessment Training	\$0.00
2/13/18	Walker, Debra	Mindful Practices for Those Who Give the Most	\$2.73
11/15/18	Walker, Debra	SEL and Executive Function	\$2.73
11/14/18	Walker, Debra	Guidance Articulation PVHS	\$0.00
10/22/18	Walker, Debra	SEL & Conflict Resolution	\$2.73
12/6/18	Petersen, Darren	Innovation Team Visit to Warwick, NY Schools	\$12.09
12/4/18	Petersen, Darren	MAP - NWEA - Randolph, NJ	\$19.53

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Mr. Carvelli introduced motions 11.1 through 11.7, which motions were seconded by  
 Mrs. Bagdat 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

11.1 amount of \$3,041,278.70 as follows:

**General Fund**

Appendix "A"	Check #009138 & Book	\$1,274,265.35
	Transfers for October Payroll and Wire	
	Transfer for State Health Benefits	
Appendix "A-1"	Checks #010430-010519	\$256,592.81
Appendix "A-2"	Check #009329 & Book	1,471,648.84
	Transfers for November Payroll, State Health	
	Benefits and Transfer for P&I for Bonds	

**Student Activities Fund**

Appendix "A-3"	Checks #2487-2504	\$11,771.70
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*APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be approved line item appropriation transfers to the  
 11.2 2018-19 budget as follows:

To	Account	From	Account	Amount	Explanation
11-000-263-420-030-05	Grounds Purch Serv MES	11-000-263-420-020-05	Grounds Purch Serv FMS	\$3,000	Reallocate Expenses
11-000-261-420-020-05	Clean, Repair, Maint FMS	12-000-400-450-030-00	Construction Serv - MES	\$30,000	Reverse Transfer #1015
11-000-230-890-010-00	Misc Expenditures	11-000-230-610-010-00	Supt Office Supplies	\$500	Advertising Expenses
11-401-100-500-020-02	Co Curric Reg Fees FMS	11-401-100-600-020-02	Co Curric Supplies FMS	\$75	Robotics Fee
20-520-200-580-030-00	Title IIA Prof Dev MES	20-520-200-320-020-00	Title IIA Purch Prof Serv FMS	\$10	Reallocate Expenses
20-520-200-580-030-00	Title IIA Prof Dev MES	20-520-200-320-030-00	Title IIA Purch Prof Serv MES	\$1,565	Reallocate Expenses
20-530-100-600-030-00	Title III Imm Supplies MES	na	na	\$2,885	Title III Rollover
11-000-263-610-030-05	Grounds Supplies MES	11-000-263-420-020-05	Grounds Purch Serv FMS	\$750	Snowblower Purchase

*BOARD CERTIFICATION – OCTOBER 2018 (Motions 11.3 and 11.4)*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that the Montvale Board of Education approve the following  
 11.3 reports as of October 31, 2018: The Board Secretary Report and The Cash Report, attached as Appendix "B" to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion **RESOLVED**, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 [c]4, the Montvale Board of  
 11.4 Education certifies that as of October 31, 2018, 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.

*EMPLOYEE BENEFITS/FLEXIBLE SPENDING PLANS - AFLAC*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that AFLAC be authorized to provide flexible spending plans  
 11.5 through payroll deductions for Montvale Board of Education employees at no cost to the Board for the period February 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020.

*ESEA AMENDMENT*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that on behalf of the district, the Superintendent of Schools be  
 11.6 authorized to submit an ESEA Amended Application to the New Jersey Department of Education for Fiscal Year 2019 for Title III Immigrant to transfer funds.

*OUT-OF-DISTRICT CONTRACTS – 2018-19*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that the Montvale Board of Education approves Special Education  
11.7 out-of-district placements and contracted tuition and aide costs for the 2018-19  
school year as follows:

<b>Out-of-District School</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Tuition July-June 2018-19</b>	<b>Aide</b>	<b>State Student ID#</b>
Northern Valley Regional High School District	Valley Program	\$48,762.37	NA	9563167077

**FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**Mr. DiFiore introduced motions 12.1 through 12.2, which motions were seconded by Mrs. Bagdat. On a roll call vote, all members present voted Aye.**

*MEMORIAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ROOFING PROJECT*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that the proposal from FKA Architects in the amount of \$13,900 for  
12.1 planning, construction design, bidding and construction administration be accepted  
for the roofing project at Memorial Elementary School including the roof over the  
MPR (multi-purpose room).

*DISTRICT LONG RANGE FACILITIES PLAN PROJECT*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that the proposal from FKA Architects in the amount of \$16,400 for  
12.2 the development and update of the district’s comprehensive Long Range Facilities  
Plan, including a Boiler System Feasibility Study, be accepted.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The policy committee met earlier this evening, on 12/17/18. New Jersey School Boards completed the review of the district policies and presented a new updated policy manual. The first reading of all the revised policies will take place in January. The committee reported that it appears New Jersey School Boards did a very thorough and detailed job.

**BOARD MEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS**

Mr. Carvelli shared that the Fieldstone and Memorial winter concerts were both phenomenal.

Mr. DiFiore applauded Mr. Nietzer for getting to know the students and conducting three different bands during his first concert at the Montvale School District.

Mrs. Bagdat shared that she attended Chief Abrams clap out on his last day of service Friday December 14. It was a very nice event. The new chief will be sworn in on January 7 at 7pm. The BOE will have the annual reorganization meeting that same night at 8pm.

Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn noted a communication was released to the community regarding the Montvale Summer Institute and it is great the district is advertising this summer opportunity at a time when parents are starting to think about summer plans for their children.



## **COMMUNICATIONS**

No communications were shared.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

The Board reviewed an updated calendar proposal for 2019-2020.

Mr. Carvelli asked about parent teacher conferences this past November. Dr. Petersen reported the conferences went as planned.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was shared.

## **HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC**

The teaching staff in attendance at the meeting agreed that moving the parent teacher conference dates to November seemed to make sense from a scheduling and discussion perspective.

## **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**Mrs. Bagdat introduced motion 21.1 as follows, which motion was seconded by Mr. DiFiore and passed unanimously.**

Motion           **RESOLVED**, that this meeting be adjourned at 9:29 p.m.  
21.1

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Wasserman  
Board Secretary