

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVALE, NEW JERSEY
WORKSESSION MEETING MINUTES
MAY 14, 2018**

The Board of Education of the Borough of Montvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, entered Regular Public Meeting Session on Monday, May 14, 2018 in the Instructional Media Center of Fieldstone Middle School, Spring Valley Road, Montvale NJ. Vice President McGauley-Eichhorn called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. Roll call showed the following to be present: Mrs. Bagdat, Mrs. Baskin, Mr. Carvelli, Mr. DiFiore and Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn. Mr. Rossig arrived at 7:56 p.m. and Mrs. Foley was absent. Also present were Dr. Petersen, Superintendent of Schools and Mrs. Wasserman, Board Secretary/Business Administrator.

Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn 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

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

PRIVATE SESSION

Mrs. Bagdat introduced motion 4.1 as follows, which motion was seconded by Mr. Carvelli 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 & Compensation,
Transfers, Business Administrators Contract
Legal Updates
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 8:27 p.m.

At 8:27 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. McGauley-Eichhorn and Mr. Rossig. Mrs. Foley was not present. Also present were Dr. Petersen, Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Wasserman, Board Secretary/Business Administrator, and no 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 reported that PARCC testing took place and went fine overall. For the first time this year, each school tested all students for PARCC on the same days with Fieldstone completing testing in one week, and Memorial testing taking place the following week. The Next Generation Science Standard Test for 5th and 8th graders will take place in May.

National Teacher Appreciation day takes place in May. To share appreciation, the PTO provided lunch for the staff one day, and Dr. Petersen provided lunch a different day. It is a good time to pause for a moment and recognize all our teachers and staff for all they do.

Upcoming Board events include the completion of the Board self-evaluation and Superintendent Evaluation. Matt Lee from New Jersey School Boards will be leading the upcoming annual Board retreat on June 11. In addition, the Innovation Team and Board Members are invited to the upcoming innovation team visit to Harrington Park on May 30.

Lastly, Dr. Petersen commended the cast and crew of BIG, along with the staff and Pascack Hills directors for an excellent production.

Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn asked Dr. Petersen about the number of PARCC opt outs this year. Dr. Petersen said only a limited number of students opted out of the exam this year.

Enrollment – The district overall total was flat month vs month at 1,001 with Memorial School down one student to 528 and Fieldstone up one student to 473.

HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

No members of the public wished to be heard.

BOARD BUSINESS

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

Minutes - Enclosed are copies of the minutes of the following meetings for review and comment:
April 23, 2018

April 30, 2018

Policy Review – The board received a proposal from New Jersey School Boards for consulting services for a policy manual review and updates. The Board discussed the proposal and agreed to move forward with these services.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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

Employee Contract Renewals – The May 21 agenda will include contract renewals for teaching staff, administrative staff, secretarial staff, and assistant to the librarian.

Interlocal for Speech Services – The upcoming agenda will include the renewal of the district’s interlocal agreement with the River Vale Board of Education to share the costs of a speech teacher for the 2018-19 school year as 70% Montvale and 30% River Vale.

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 4/13 & 4/30 Payrolls; & Wire Transfer for State Health Benefits	\$1,294,966.93
Void Checks #8659 & #8886	-\$798.97

In addition, a list of checks issued May 21, 2018 will be presented on the public meeting agenda.

Appropriation Transfers – Transfers to the 2017-18 school year budget will be presented on the public meeting agenda.

Board Secretary’s and Cash Reports – The financial statements for the month of March 2018 will be presented on the public meeting agenda.

Tax Schedule For Borough of Montvale – The upcoming agenda will include a resolution with a schedule of the monthly tax payments due from the Borough of Montvale for the district’s operating expenses and debt obligations for the 2018-19 school year.

2018-19 Tuition Rates – A resolution will be included on the agenda to set the tuition rates as determined by the budget software program as follows:

Self- Contained Pre-K (half day)	\$15,730
Kindergarten	\$17,504
Grades 1-5	\$15,368
Grades 6-8	\$15,152
Self-Contained LLD	\$89,248

The motion will also include that the tuition for resident students chosen by lottery to participate in the integrated preschool class for the 2018-19 school year will be in the amount of \$2,500.

Mr. Rossig asked why the LLD tuition rate was so much higher than last year. Mrs. Wasserman explained how the calculation works in the state's budget tool. Mrs. Wasserman will investigate if we can adjust the LLD tuition rate to be more in line with prior years.

FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

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

Aramark Renewal – The upcoming agenda will include a resolution to extend the agreement with Aramark for Custodial Services for one year at an increase of 2% for a rate of \$480,164.90.

Advocate Renewal – The upcoming agenda will include a resolution to renew the district's agreement with Advocate for custodian monitoring services in 2018-19 for \$10,176.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No committee reports were shared.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Mrs. Baskin thanked the students from Pascack Hills High School for directing the Fieldstone production of BIG. She shared that it was a terrific experience for all involved.

Mr. DiFiore also commented on the success of the Fieldstone production of BIG saying that it “was great” and thanked and congratulated everyone involved.

Mr. Rossig reiterated the importance of all BOE members completing the Board self-evaluations and Superintendent's evaluation in a timely manner as all these processes must be completed by June 30, 2018.

Mr. Rossig asked the BOE members to consider speaking at the Fieldstone 8th Grade Graduation.

Mr. Carvelli noted that he attended the Fieldstone track meet earlier in the day and it appeared to be a very positive and inclusive environment for all involved. Mrs. Baskin added it is a very supportive and welcoming team.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Wasserman noted petitions are available at the County Clerks office for nominations for the two BOE trustee positions that will be open for January 1, 2019.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Carvelli asked for updates on the Memorial Fields. Dr. Petersen and Mrs. Wasserman shared that they walked the property with the engineers from Maser as they finalize the plans for the paving project.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC

No members of the public wished to be heard.

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 9:35 p.m.
20.1

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Wasserman
Board Secretary