

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVALE, NEW JERSEY**

**WORKSESSION MEETING MINUTES
MAY 15, 2017**

The Board of Education of the Borough of Montvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, entered Worksession Public Meeting Session on Monday, May 15, 2017 in the Instructional Media Center of Fieldstone Middle School, Spring Valley Road, Montvale NJ. President Rossig called the meeting to order at 6:24 p.m. Roll call showed the following to be present: Mrs. Bagdat, Mrs. Baskin, Mr. Carvelli, Mr. DiFiore and Mr. Rossig. Mrs. Foley and Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn were absent. Also present were Dr. Petersen, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Wasserman, Board Secretary/Business Administrator; and one member 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.

ANNUAL BOARD RETREAT

Board Self Evaluation: NJ School Boards Association Field Representative Mr. Matt Lee met with the Board to review the results of the self-evaluation submissions. Overall the Board continues to be high functioning with results very close among the members. The self-evaluation revealed that Finance is the area where the board believes they have the most to learn.

Goals: The Board and Mr. Lee discussed the 2016-2017 goals and reviewed how the Board had done relative to their goals. The Board and Mr. Lee then discussed what goals should be set for both the District and the Board for the 2017-18 school year. Based on the discussions, Mr. Lee will prepare a draft for Board review, revision and then adoption of goals for the 2017-18 school year.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Petersen reported that the PARCC testing for the district was complete and that the testing process went smoothly, thanks to the administrators, guidance counselors, technology department, and staff. The Fieldstone school musical, "In Search of the Perfect Superhero" was great and everyone seemed to enjoy the performance. Fieldstone's 3Rs day is taking place May 17 and everyone is looking forward to the day. Dr. Petersen expressed his appreciation to the PTO and MEF for all their efforts to bring 3Rs days to the students.

District Enrollment: Memorial’s student enrollment increased by 5 students to 521 while Fieldstone remained flat at 481. The overall district enrollment increased to 1,002.

HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

No members of the public wished to be heard.

BOARD BUSINESS

Minutes - Copies of the minutes of the following meetings were available for review and comment:
 April 3, 2017
 April 24, 2017

EDUCATION COMMITTEE - ACTION

Mrs. Bagdat introduced motion 9.1, which motion was seconded by Mrs. Baskin. On a roll call vote, all members present voted Aye.

SUBSTITUTES

Motion **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
Worthington, Ashley	Substitute Teacher	05/16/17 – 6/30/17
Worthington, Ashley	Substitute Teaching Assistant	05/16/17 – 6/30/17
Meehan, Margaret	Substitute Teaching Assistant	05/12/17 – 6/30/17

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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

Dental Plan Renewal – It is recommended that the Board approve renewal of the contract with Delta Dental for the 2017-18 school year to participate in the PPO Plus Premier Plan with a decrease in premiums as follows:

<u>Coverage Type</u>	<u>2016-2017 Rate</u>	<u>2017-2018 Rate</u>
Single coverage	\$50.15/month	\$47.33/month
Two party	\$94.05/month	\$88.75/month
Three party +	\$168.83/month	\$159.32/month

Employee Contract Renewals – The May 22 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 2017-18 school year as 70% Montvale and 30% River Vale.

Establishment of LLD Class at Fieldstone – The May 22 agenda will include a resolution to establish a new LLD class at Fieldstone beginning with the 2017-18 school year.

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 April Payroll & Wire Transfer for State health Benefits	\$1,228,532.33
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Student Activities Fund

Checks #2124-2143	\$17,853.72
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In addition, a list of checks issued May 22, 2017 will be presented on the public meeting agenda.

Board Secretary's and Cash Reports – The upcoming agenda will include a resolution to recertify the financial statements for the month of March 2017.

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 2017-18 school year.

2017-18 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)	\$13,599
Kindergarten	\$17,835
Grades 1-5	\$15,667
Grades 6-8	\$15,229
Self-Contained LLD	\$31,634

The motion will also include that the tuition for resident students chosen by lottery to participate in the integrated preschool class for the 2017-18 school year will be in the amount of \$2,500;

Donations – The upcoming agenda will include motions to accept a \$1,000 grant from Orange & Rockland and a \$2,000 grant from Sustainable Jersey for Schools funded by the PSEG Foundation, and three grants from the MEF in the amounts of \$12,151.45 for Inquiry Based Learner Active Technology - Scientific Sensors and Probeware for the Ever Changing World; \$15,000 for Books and Reading Nooks - Expanding Libraries in K-1 Classrooms; and \$1,000 for the MEF Ruth Levy Scholarship.

Professional Services Contract – The upcoming agenda will include a motion to hire Gravity Goldberg LLC to provide Literacy Professional Development during the 2017-18 school year for up to \$27,000.

Disposals and/or sales of Textbooks and Obsolete Items – The upcoming agenda will include motions to sell or dispose textbooks and items no longer in use by the district.

FACILITIES 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 a rate of \$470,749.91.

Edvocate Renewal – The upcoming agenda will include a resolution to renew the district’s agreement with Edvocate for custodian monitoring services in 2017-18 for \$9,984.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Mr. Carvelli shared that he had the opportunity to read in a Kindergarten class and it was a great experience, the students were very interactive and a pleasure to be with.

Mr. Carvelli also shared that the Kindergarten Grandparents day was a happy experience for all.

Mr. Carvelli requested the administration take a look at some of the older plaques hanging around the schools and determine their relevance.

Mrs. Bagdat left the meeting at 9:17 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

None at this time

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Petersen discussed the possibility of renovations to the Fieldstone gymnasium this summer with financial support from the MAL and PTO.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. DiFiore questioned if a plant sale held at Memorial May 13 was approved via use of facilities. It was.

Mrs. Baskin requested a discussion at an upcoming Curriculum committee meeting on the topic of parent-teacher conferences, noting they had become optional in first grade.

HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC

No members of the public wished to be heard.

PRIVATE SESSION

Mrs. Baskin introduced motion 19.1 as follows, which motion was seconded by Mr. Carvelli and passed unanimously at 9:38 p.m.

Motion 19.1 **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:

Superintendent's Report of Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying
Personnel – New Hires, Compensation & Stipends, Transfers

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 10:34 p.m. the Board returned to public session. Roll call showed the following to be present: Mrs. Baskin, Mr. Carvelli, Mr. DiFiore, and Mr. Rossig. Mrs. Bagdat, Mrs. Foley, 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

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

Motion 21.1 **RESOLVED**, that this meeting be adjourned at 10:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Wasserman
Board Secretary