

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVALE, NEW JERSEY**

**REGULAR PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 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, March 13, 2017 in the Instructional Media Center of Fieldstone Middle School, Spring Valley Road, Montvale NJ. President Rossig called the meeting to order at 7:40 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

Mr. Carvelli introduced motion 4.1 as follows, which motion was seconded by Mr. DiFiore 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, Retirements, Resignations, Employee Stipends
Legal

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 8:07 p.m.

At 8:07 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 15 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 noted that as of the snow day on March 14, two days would have been used and school will be held on Monday April 17 and Friday May 26. Kindergarten enrollment for the fall of 2017 currently stands at 94 students.

Enrollment - Memorial currently has 516 students, the same as last month. Fieldstone has 481 students, one less than in the prior month. The district total is now 997 vs 998 last month.

Presentation - Mrs. Walker and Mr. Pelligrino and 6 eighth grade students presented on the Fieldstone Middle School Advisory Program. The goal of Advisory is to promote positive behavior and character education. Mr. Pelligrino noted that Advisory aligns with the district's three Strategic Goals: (1) Student Success, (2) Climate & Culture, (3) Global & Community Partnership. Fieldstone school students at some point are likely to face struggles so it is critical that we as a district understand the struggles and help work through them. Advisory programs are common throughout the nation and they promote social and emotional health, study skills, and academic learning. Mrs. Walker shared that the overall concept of is to have a sense of trust, have the ability to speak your mind, and overall feel safe. The student presenters reviewed some of Fieldstone's Advisory Themes: **Citizenship, Achievement, Respect, Empathy, Strength**. The students shared how they think about topics brought up in Advisory and that it pushes students to think further than the classroom, and they felt encouraged to give their opinions. Thank you to the student presenters: Sameer Aggroia, Larissa Aquaviva, Alex Boyajian, Valentina Cannao, Avelina Cerdeira, and Sean McNeice

Following the students, Mrs. Walker and Mr. Pelligrino shared that Advisory can accomplish a positive climate, a sense of belonging, and a feeling of trust. It can also reduce at risk behavior with regards to smoking, alcohol, and drug abuse. This is the second year of the program. Going forward, the program will continue to be refined. Some considerations are to further embed Advisory in the academic program and to have community service projects. The Board then discussed Advisory with Mr. Pelligrino and Mrs. Walker and thanked them for the efforts.

HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

No members of the public wished to be heard.

BOARD BUSINESS

Mr. Carvelli introduced motions 8.1 through 8.4, which motions were seconded by Mr. DiFiore and were unanimously approved.

MINUTES

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

February 6, 2017
February 13, 2017

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.

CUSTODIAL/MAINTENANCE

CALENDAR 2017-18, APPENDIX “A”

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be approved the 2017-18 employment calendar
8.3 for custodial and maintenance personnel as listed on Appendix “A”.

CLERICAL/OFFICE PERSONNEL

CALENDAR 2017-18, APPENDIX “A-1”

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be approved the 2017-18 employment calendar
8.4 for clerical/office personnel as listed on Appendix “A-1”.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Baskin introduced motions 9.1 through 9.9, which motions were seconded by Mrs. Bagdat. 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
9.1 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
Lauren Petro	Substitute Teacher	3/14/17-6/30/17
Lauren Petro	Substitute Teaching Assistant	3/14/17-6/30/17

MCC PROGRAM STAFF

Motion **RESOLVED**, that the following be approved as staff for the Montvale Child Care
9.2 Program for the period March 14, 2017 through June 30, 2017 with compensation as noted, subject to Chapter 116, P.L. 1986:

Erin O’Neill	MCC Teacher Aide	\$10/hr.
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RETIREMENT

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be accepted, with appreciation and regret, the
9.3 resignation for retirement purposes of Sarah Montemarano, Spanish Teacher at Memorial School, effective July 1, 2017.

RESIGNATIONS

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be accepted the resignation of Eileen Mulroe, Memorial
9.4 School Assistant to the Nurse, effective July 1, 2017.

ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION

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

Name	Compensation	Dates	Responsibility
Andrea Riotto	\$100 / month	January 1, 2017 – June 30, 2017	Assisting Special Needs Student in Bathroom

COMPENSATION FOR LOST PREP TIME

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

Donna Simon	February 10, 2017	20.00
Whitney Rubin	March 2, 2017	20.00
Lindsey Jachens	February 3, 2017	20.00
Joan Merwede	February 3, 2017	20.00
Maureen McLaughlin	February 3, 2017	20.00
Jennifer Tilley	February 3, 2017	20.00
Clarisse Nicol	February 3, 2017	20.00
Haley Schrek	February 3, 2017	20.00
Bonnie Faiella	February 3, 2017	20.00
Patrice Edelstein	February 3, 2017	20.00
Deborah Katz	February 3, 2017	20.00
Amy Hasenecz	February 3, 2017	20.00
Laurie D’Amaro	February 3, 2017	20.00
Marlene Wynkoop	February 3, 2017	20.00
Katherine Walker	February 3, 2017	20.00
Jodi Levy	February 3, 2017	20.00
Diana Polifroni	January 27, 2017	20.00
Justin Jasper	January 25, 2017	20.00
Michelle Kania	January 23, 2017	20.00
Carol Pittarelli	February 23, 2017	20.00
Jack Sherick	February 24, 2017	20.00
Lisa DiCairano	February 24, 2017	20.00
Matt Doherty	February 27, 2017	20.00
Amy Leon	February 24, 2017	20.00
Whitney Rubin	October 24, 2016	20.00
Whitney Rubin	October 25, 2016	20.00
Whitney Rubin	November 15, 2016	20.00
Whitney Rubin	January 25, 2017	20.00

Carol Pittarelli	March 1, 2017	20.00
Anthony Aliprantis	February 24, 2017	20.00

CHAPERONES - MODEL UN TRIP

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be approved payment to Amy Hennessy and Richard Jopp for chaperoning the Model UN trip to New York, on March 30 through April 1, 2017, at the rate as per Board/MEA Contract.

EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL

Motion **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)
3/29/17	Jachens, Lindsey	Teaching Vocabulary in Meaningful and Powerful Ways, K-8	\$7.09
3/13/17	Damion, Nicole	Helping the Struggling Learner	\$125.00
3/14/17	McLoughlin, Jackie	Social Work Ethics	\$55.00
4/18/17	McLoughlin, Jackie	Cultural Competency	\$55.00
3/28/17	Polifroni, Diana	Educate 2B-Tools for Engaged Learning & Living	\$219.00

MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS AND YOUTH ART MONTH

Motion **WHEREAS**, the study of music contributes to young people's development through heightened skills in listening, reading, self-expression, and creativity, and

WHEREAS, music education in the schools includes a broad range of types of music and active musical experiences, and

WHEREAS, music and other art significantly enhance the morale and quality of the school environment, and

WHEREAS, the study of music prepares students with the necessary tools for a lifelong understanding and appreciation for all styles of music, and

WHEREAS, March is also Youth Art Month and is so recognized by a variety of activities in the schools, and

WHEREAS, Youth Art Month has been observed nationally since 1961 and has gained wide acceptance; and

WHEREAS, children are our most priceless asset and childhood is the time to develop interests, skills, and aptitudes that will last a lifetime, and

WHEREAS, the importance of art in education is recognized as being necessary for the full development of all children,

WHEREAS, it is the stated objective of the public school to prepare children for a productive role in our society;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Borough of Montvale endorses the observance of Music In Our Schools Month and Youth Art Month as opportunities to support the purposes and practices of music and art education and encourages teachers, parents, students, and all citizens to participate, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montvale Board of Education re-dedicates itself to the maintenance of the music and art education programs in the Montvale School District, which is relevant to the needs of the children placed in its care and which will reach and positively influence each individual child.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Mrs Bagdat introduced motions 10.1 through 10.10, 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 amount of \$1,486,911.05 as follows:

General Fund

Appendix "B"	Book Transfers for February Payrolls and Wire Transfer for State Health Benefits	\$1,244,477.54
Appendix "B-1"	Checks #7539-7615	\$242,433.51

APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS

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

From	Account	To	Account	Amount	Explanation	Effective Month
11-130-100-101-1-01	Teach Salary 6-8	11-000-291-299-1-44	Retiree Sick Days	\$12,400	Retiree Payout / Sick Days	January

From	Account	To	Account	Amount	Explanation	Effective Month
11-000-100-566-5-00	Tuition Private School	11-000-100-565	Tuition – BCSS	\$4,000	PY Tuition Adjustment	February
11-000-219-390-5-00	Diag/Eval/Neuro/Psych	11-000-213-300-1-00	Health Prof Services	\$6,000	504 Plan Services	February
11-000-221-320-1-34	Curriculum Services	11-000-221-320-1-35	Purchase Curriculum	\$200	PV Annual Fee	February
11-000-221-104-1-05	Curr Study/Salary	11-000-223-104-1-05	PD Salary	\$500	PD Presenter Fees	February
11-000-221-104-1-05	Curr Study/Salary	11-000-223-320-1-40	Consultants	\$1,500	IDE PD Day	February
11-000-230-530-1-00	Comm/Postage	11-000-230-339-1-00	Agcy Ris/Audit/Treas	\$3,500	Asbestos Testing	February
11-000-240-580-3-00	Travel Prin	11-000-240-610-3-11	Prin Off Supplies-MS	\$550	Office Supplies	February
11-000-251-600-1-51	Bus Off Supplies	11-000-251-890-1-44	Misc Exp Bus Off Travel	\$525	Prof Dev	February
11-000-261-610-4-62	Maint FMS	11-000-261-420-1-62	Maint FMS	\$1,000	Fieldstone Maintenance	February
11-000-261-610-4-62	Maint FMS	11-000-261-420-4-62	Maint Serv FMS	\$1,000	Fieldstone Maintenance	February
11-000-261-100-1-01	Salary Maint	11-000-262-100-1-02	OT Custodial	\$1,000	Custodial OT	February
11-000-261-610-4-63	Maint MS	11-000-262-610-4-46	Janitorial Supplies	\$3,000	General Cust Supplies	February
11-000-263-610-4-62	Grounds Upkeep	11-000-263-420-4-62	Grounds	\$2,000	Grounds Supplies	February
11-000-263-610-4-62	Grounds Upkeep	11-000-263-420-4-63	Grounds	\$1,000	Grounds Supplies	February
11-000-263-610-4-63	Grounds Upkeep	11-000-263-420-4-63	Grounds	\$1,000	Grounds Supplies	February
11-000-291-290-1-00	MSA/MCA Disability	11-000-291-241-1-44	PERS	\$25	Annual Pers Bill	February
11-000-291-290-1-00	MSA/MCA Disability	11-000-291-290-1-44	Other Benefits	\$285	Employee State Fee	February
11-000-291-280-1-48	Tuition Reimbursement	11-000-291-270-1-13	Health/Dental/Vision	\$3,000	Employee Vision	February
11-213-100-500-1-48	PD Res Center	11-213-100-610-2-11	Resource Ctr FMS	\$150	Supplies	February
12-000-400-334-1-40	Arch/Enginner	12-000-400-390	Other Purchased	\$525	Abatement Work	February

BOARD RECERTIFICATION - DECEMBER

Motion 10.3 **RESOLVED**, that the Montvale Board of Education approve the following reports as of December 31, 2016: The Board Secretary Report and The Cash Report.

Motion 10.4 **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.

BOARD CERTIFICATION - JANUARY

Motion 10.5 **RESOLVED**, that the Montvale Board of Education approve the following reports as of January 31, 2017: The Board Secretary Report and The Cash Report.

Motion 10.6 **RESOLVED**, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 [c]4, the Montvale Board of Education certifies that as of January 31, 2017, 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.

DONATION – LOGEE’S PLANTS FOR HOME AND GARDEN

Motion 10.7 **RESOLVED**, that there be accepted with appreciation the donation of four plants for use in the Life Science Classes at Fieldstone Middle School, with a value of \$75.75,

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

DONATION-MONTVALE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Motion 10.8 **RESOLVED**, that there be accepted with appreciation the following grant from the Montvale Educational Foundation:

Authentic-based Social Studies: The International Middle School
Model UN Conference, in the amount of \$1,000.00,
MEF grant number **PNG #383**,
Requested by Mrs. Hennessy and Mr. Jopp,

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

2017-2018 PROPOSED BUDGET

Motion 10.9 **RESOLVED**, that there be approved for County Review and subsequent publication in the legal advertisement budget statement format, including notice of the public hearing on the budget to be held on Monday, April 24, 2017 at 8:00 p.m., the following Tentative Proposed Budget for the 2017-18 school year:

Current Expense	\$16,815,005
Federal Grants	\$286,676
<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>\$624,222</u>
Total	\$17,725,903

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the amount to be raised by local property taxes for the 2017-18 school year be \$15,495,446 for current expense and \$594,222 for debt service; and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Board as required by N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, acknowledges the maximum travel allowance for the 2016-17 school year was \$47,628 of which \$25,803 has been expended as of March 9th and hereby establishes \$82,880 as the maximum travel expenditure for the 2017-18 school year.

NCLB AMENDMENT

Motion **RESOLVED**, that on behalf of the district, the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to submit an NCLB Amended Application for Fiscal Year 2017 and accept the grant award of these funds upon the subsequent approval by the New Jersey Department of Education:
10.10

NCLB Title	Original Amount	Rollover Amount	Amended Amount
Title IA	\$134,644	\$21,503	\$156,147
Title III-Immigrant	\$3,061	\$5,232	\$8,293

POLICY COMMITTEE

Mr. DiFiore introduced motion 11.1, which motion was seconded by Mrs. Bagdat and was unanimously approved.

BOARD POLICIES

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be approved the following new and revised
11.1 Policies/Regulations as a 1st reading:
5125 Student Records (Revised policy)
5118.2 Foster Care and Educational Stability (New policy)
5120 Assessment of Individual Needs (Revised policy)
9322 Public and Private Sessions (Revised policy)
9323 Worksession Meetings (Revised policy)
6171.4 Special Education (entire policy was revised)

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

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

LEAD IN DRINKING WATER TESTING

Motion **RESOLVED**, that the proposal from Karl Environmental Group for Lead in
12.1 Drinking Water testing services at Fieldstone Middle School and Memorial Elementary School per N.J.A.C. 6A:26 Education Facilities, be approved. The fee estimate for this work is not to exceed \$6,930, which includes Sampling Planning; Preparation; Analytical Data Review; Reporting; Site Inspection; Plumbing System Review; Outlet Inventory; Diagrams; First and Second Drinking Water Sampling, Analysis, and Documentation.

LONG RANGE FACILITIES PLAN AMENDMENT

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be approved the submission of amendments to the
12.2 district’s Long Range Facilities Plan to include Boiler System replacements at Fieldstone Middle School for \$500,000 and Memorial Elementary School for \$750,000.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Committee – Mrs. Baskin and Mrs. Foley – The committee met earlier tonight with Mr. Parks and Dr. Petersen about a number of new educational initiatives in the district to enhance student achievement. The committee also discussed 21st Century Learning environments and curriculum writing summer projects, particularly in math. Mrs. Baskin requested a discussion on the frequency of parent/teacher interactions regarding student achievement and that the district consider an on-line student publication of Fieldstone work.

Policy Committee – Mrs. Baskin and Mrs. Foley – The committee met last week and discussed the policies on tonight’s agenda for first reading. The committee is also considering services to assist with policy as exemplified by the recent presentation to the Board by Straus Esmay and the upcoming presentation by School Boards.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Mr. Rossig brought up the meaningfulness of homework as a topic for the Board and administration to continue to look at. Mrs. Baskin added to consider the grading of homework in consideration of emotional well-being of students. Dr. Petersen will look into surveying administration, staff, parents, and students to gather feedback on thoughts about homework.

COMMUNICATIONS

No communications were shared

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Bagdat left the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Dr. Petersen pointed out the parking lot lights are all working and LED replacements were very bright. The Board expressed its thanks to Mr. Marshall for fixing the lights.

Mr. Carvelli asked about interest in MSI. Dr. Petersen will obtain a registration number from Mr. Pelligrino but noted there seems to be more interest from students in the younger vs the older grades.

Mr. Carvelli asked two questions regarding the recent power outage at Fieldstone, first about when the fallen tree would be removed and second about ensuring all the phone and cable wires were at an appropriate height. Mrs. Wasserman will follow up.

Mr. DiFiore asked about the continued tree removals on Spring Valley Road which Mrs Foley was able to share was to remove dead trees.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed

HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC

No members of the public wished to be heard.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

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

Motion **RESOLVED**, that this meeting be adjourned at 9:46 p.m.
21.1

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Wasserman
Board Secretary