

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MONTVALE, NEW JERSEY  
WORKSESSION MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 5, 2018**

The Board of Education of the Borough of Montvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, entered Regular Public Meeting Session on Monday, February 5, 2018 in the Instructional Media Center of Fieldstone Middle School, Spring Valley Road, Montvale NJ. President Rossig called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Roll call showed the following to be present: Mrs. Bagdat, Mrs. Baskin, Mr. Carvelli, Mr. DiFiore, Mrs. Foley, Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn and Mr. Rossig. No trustees were absent. Also present were Dr. Petersen, Superintendent of Schools and Mrs. Wasserman, Board Secretary/Business Administrator.

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. DiFiore 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 – Employee Stipends, Resignations, Leave Requests,  
Mid-year Evaluations  
Other – 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 8:11 p.m.**

At 8:11 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, Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn and Mr. Rossig. No trustees were absent. 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 reminded all attendees of the William Deresiewicz presentation on February 6, 2018 at Pascack Valley High School. Members of administration attended the state's annual TECHSPO conference on January 25-26 and Mr. Parks gave a very well received presentation. Dr. Petersen held a meeting with the Climate Committee and shared that the next meeting would focus on strategies for improving some of the concern's shared by the committee. Student visitors from China will be spending two days at Fieldstone Middle School on February 7-8, 2018. The Regional Board Retreat will take place on February 13 at Woodcliff Lake Middle School. Administration decided to start an academic strategies group which will be a ten week course that takes place before school two days a week, one day focused on Math and one day focused on ELA. Kindergarten enrollment for September of 2018 is currently at 72 students.

The Innovation Team visited two schools in Westchester on January 31. The first visit was to Scarsdale Public High School and Middle School and the second visit was to the private Rippowam Cisqua School. The committee created a list of action items to do following the visit, noting the biggest takeaway was to work creatively with what you have.

**District Enrollment:** Enrollment at Memorial is 530, up 1 from December, and enrollment at Fieldstone is 474, up 1. Total district enrollment is now 1,004 students.

### **HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS**

No members of the public wished to be heard.

### **OFFICIAL ACTION ITEMS – BOARD BUSINESS**

**Mrs. Bagdat introduced motion 9.1, which motion was seconded by Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn and were unanimously approved.**

#### *FIELDSTONE STUDENT VISITORS*

Motion **RESOLVED**, that there be approved student visitors and their advisors from  
9.1 Connecting USA, to Fieldstone Middle School on February 7 and February 8, 2018.

## 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:

January 8, 2018 Reorganization

January 8, 2018 Worksession

January 22, 2018 Public

## 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

Void Check #8563                      -\$75.00

In addition, a list of checks issued February 12, 2018 will be presented on the public meeting agenda.

**Appropriation Transfers** – The following transfers to the 2017-18 school year budget are recommended:

From	Account	To	Account	Amount	Explanation
11-190-100-610-1-27	Gen Supply Equip / Dis Learn	11-000-261-420-1-63	ContrBuildMaint-MEM	\$8,000	Maint Services
11-190-100-610-1-27	Gen Supply Equip / Dis Learn	12-000-100-730	Equipment Instruction	\$2,200	IEP Equipment
11-000-230-339-1-00	Agcy Risk Mgt/Treas	11-000-230-332-1-40	Admin Purch Serv Audit	\$700	Audit

**Board Secretary's and Cash Reports** – The financial statements for the month of December 2017 are enclosed for review and action at the public meeting.

**Special Education Medicaid Initiative** – As the number of Montvale resident students who are classified and Medicaid eligible is less than 40, the district will again be submitting to the county a request for a waiver. A resolution will be included on the public meeting agenda as required.

**Hunterdon County Education Services Commission Cooperative** – The upcoming agenda will include a motion for the Montvale School District to join the Hunterdon County Education Services Commission Cooperative for the provision and performance of goods and services.

**ESEA Amendment** – A resolution will be included on the public agenda to amend the current 2017-2018 ESEA budget to include rollover funds of \$5,363 from the 2016-2017 school year.

**IDEA Amendment** – A resolution will be included on the public agenda to amend the current 2017-2018 IDEA budget to include rollover funds of \$2,888 and accounts receivable funds of \$5,406 from the 2016-2017 school year.

## **FACILITES AND TRANSPORATION**

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

**Memorial School Asbestos Abatement** – A proposal from Karl Environmental Group in the amount of \$4,500 will be presented for approval at the upcoming public meeting. Karl Environmental’s proposal is for bid specification services for the floor tile asbestos abatement at Memorial Elementary School, in the classrooms and offices of the first and second grade wing that were impacted by water damage from the pipe leak on October 15, 2017.

**Memorial School Paving Project** – A proposal from Maser Consulting P.A. in the amount of \$16,500 will be presented for approval at the upcoming public meeting. Maser’s proposal is for design services, specification preparation, New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) coordination, and bidding services for the paving of the Community Path, Kinder Path, and blacktop areas at the rear of Memorial Elementary School.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

No committee reports were shared at this time.

## **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS**

Mr. Carvelli attended the recent NJSBA Bergen county meeting. The NJSBA President of Bergen County would be happy to visit our board as would our field services representative, Matt Lee. The county meeting focused on school law, benefits, and government relations. The meeting also included a presentation from a Kinnelon extracurricular group called “Girls that Code.”

Mr. DiFiore is representing the Montvale Board on the Borough’s Student Planning Committee. The committee held its first meeting, attendees were Mr. DiFiore, the Montvale Mayor, two council members and a trustee from the Pascack Hills Board of Education. 720 brand new units have been approved to be constructed in Montvale, including 535 rental units. The Board then discussed the importance of planning for this population expansion. Items to be considered are a demographic study, space in the schools, and traffic patterns around school drop-off and dismissal. The construction could result in new students to the district in the next three years.

Mr. Carvelli raised concerns regarding indoor soccer played in the Memorial MPR and recommends the district and MAL consider how to ensure the safety of the athletes.

Mrs. Foley asked questions regarding behavioral situations occurring at MAL athletic events and differentiating between the responsibilities of the district and the MAL.

Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn noted that the community is very concerned about the flu. Dr. Petersen and Mrs. Wasserman shared the district’s efforts to keep the schools clean and safe and the importance of keeping children out of the schools when they are ill.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

No communications were shared.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. DiFiore asked about the DARE/LEAD program at Fieldstone Middle School. Dr. Petersen will follow-up with Montvale Police to learn more about the timing of the program for the school year.

Mr. Carvelli noted the new Aramark custodial supervisor, Victor Da Silva, had begun and administration shared that Mr. Da Silva was off to a good start with the district.

Mr. Rossig asked about installing a weather station at Fieldstone. Dr. Petersen reported that he had looked into it, but it was quite expensive. A less expensive option would be investigated.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Baskin reported concerns she had heard regarding the water temperature in the bathrooms at Memorial. Mrs. Wasserman would review to see if the water comes from a combined faucet .

Mr. Rossig asked who pays the crossing guards. They are paid by the Borough of Montvale.

**HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC**

No members of the public wished to be heard.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**Mrs. McGauley-Eichhorn introduced motion 21.1 as follows, which motion was seconded by Mrs. Foley and passed unanimously.**

Motion           **RESOLVED**, that this meeting be adjourned at 10:26 p.m.  
21.1

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Wasserman  
Board Secretary