

**Montague Township Board of Education Meeting  
Regular Meeting Agenda  
August 10, 2022 - 6:30 p.m.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** at \_\_\_\_\_

2. **ROLL CALL**

	Present	Absent
Barbara Holstein, President		
Denise Bogle, Vice President		
Paul Brislin		
Andree Campbell		
Danielle Christmann		
Tasha DeGeorge		
Michael Zernhelt		

Others Present:	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
James Andriac - Acting CSA	_____	_____
Carl Morelli, SBA/BS	_____	_____
Joseph Garcia, Esq. – Board Atty.	_____	_____

3. **FLAG SALUTE - FOLLOWED BY A MOMENT OF SILENCE OR PRAYER**

4. **MISSION STATEMENT** - The mission of the Montague Township School District is to provide the best educational experience and opportunities to realize the potential of every child.

5. **LEGAL NOTICE** - In accordance with the New Jersey Sunshine Law, a legal notice of this meeting has been posted on the official bulletin board at the school and advertised in the New Jersey Herald and the Sunday New Jersey Herald.

6. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education recess and proceed to executive session to discuss personnel matters and legal issues. Action may or may not be taken.

Motion to open Executive Session at \_\_\_\_ Motion \_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_ All in Favor/Opposed \_\_\_\_

Motion to close Executive Session at \_\_\_\_ Motion \_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_ All in Favor/Opposed \_\_\_\_

Motion to reopen Regular Meeting at \_\_\_\_ Motion \_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_ All in Favor/Opposed \_\_\_\_

7. **CSA REPORT**

8. **SBA REPORT** - Joe LaBarbara will be giving a presentation regarding his Future Farmers of America Grant and how our students can participate in it.

9. **BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

**11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Regular Minutes and Executive Minutes of the June 29, 2022 Special Meeting.

Moved:	Seconded:			Discussion:				
Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
YES								
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Regular Meeting Minutes and the Executive Minutes of July 13, 2022.

Moved:	Seconded:			Discussion:				
Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
YES								
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**12. PUBLIC SESSION – AGENDA ITEMS**

Public comment is invited on all matters pertaining to the school district. All participants shall be permitted four (4) minutes to speak and shall state their name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate. The board uses the public comment as an opportunity to listen to Citizen concerns, but please be aware that not all issues brought to a board meeting will be resolved this evening.

Motion to open Public Comment at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.  
 Motion \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ All in Favor \_\_\_\_/Opposed \_\_\_\_\_

Motion to close Public Comment at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.  
 Motion \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ All in Favor \_\_\_\_/Opposed \_\_\_\_\_

**13. FINANCE AND INSURANCE**

**F-1 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the July 14, 2022 through August 10, 2022 Bills List attached and listed below:

Fund 10	\$ 248,746.55
Fund 11	\$ 394,321.53
Fund 20	\$ 13,833.79
Fund 60	\$ 61,043.43
Grand Total	\$ 717,945.30

<b>Moved:</b>		<b>Seconded:</b>			<b>Discussion:</b>			
<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**F-2 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoint James Andriac, Acting Superintendent, as Claims Auditor for the 2022-2023 school year to approve checks and emergency account transfers during the month that cannot wait for the board meeting.

<b>Moved:</b>		<b>Seconded:</b>			<b>Discussion:</b>			
<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**F-3 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the substitute nurse pay rate of \$200.00 per day for the 2022-23SY.

<b>Moved:</b>		<b>Seconded:</b>			<b>Discussion:</b>			
<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**F-4 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Agreement between Educational Specialized Associates, LLC and the Montague Board of Education commencing September 1, 2022 until June 30, 2023.

<b>Moved:</b>		<b>Seconded:</b>			<b>Discussion:</b>			
<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**F-5 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Tuition Contracts between the Sussex County Educational Services Commission and the Montague Township BOE for the following students to attend Northern Hills Academy for the 2022-2023 School Year commencing September 6, 2022.

Student ID#	Tuition Amount	Paraprofessional	Add't Therapy	Total
7601787301	\$52,375.00	\$28,210.00	\$2,055.00 (1)	\$82,640.00
6347937694	\$59,400.00	N/A	N/A	\$59,400.00
2454617903	\$52,375.00	N/A	N/A	\$52,375.00
8590606188	\$52,375.00	\$28,210.00	\$6,165.00 (3)	\$86,750.00
4951539647	\$59,400.00	\$29,415.00	N/A	\$88,815.00
8647176929	\$59,400.00	\$28,210.00	\$2,055.00 (1)	\$89,665.00

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**Discussion:**

Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**F-6 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Tuition Contract Agreement between the Montague Board of Education and the Sussex Vocational Board of Education for the 2022-2023 school year commencing September 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022 at an estimated cost per pupil of \$2,362.00.

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**Discussion:**

Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**F-7 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the nutrition program for full price breakfast of \$2.75 and full price lunch of \$4.00 for the 2022-2023 school year.

Moved:	Seconded:			Discussion:				
Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**F-8 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education, approve the following resolution Opposing the Proposed Increases to the School Employees Health Benefits Program

**WHEREAS**, the School Employees Health Benefits Program (SEHBP), governed by *N.J.S.A. 52:14-17.46 et seq.*, offers medical, prescription drug, and dental coverage to participating school district employees, retirees, and eligible dependents; and

**WHEREAS**, all SEHBP plans are self-funded, meaning that the money paid out for benefits comes directly from an SEHBP fund supplied by participating local employers and member premiums; and

**WHEREAS**, the Division of Pensions and Benefits is responsible for the daily administrative activities of the SEHBP, the School Employees Health Benefits Commission is the executive organization responsible for overseeing the SEHBP; and

**WHEREAS**, the School Employees Health Benefits Commission, comprised of state officials, union representatives and a representative of the New Jersey School Boards Association, annually considers the calendar year premium levels for the Local Education Employee Group of the SEHBP based on recommendations found in the Rate Setting Recommendation Analysis of the Local Education Employee Group; and

**WHEREAS**, the School Employees' Health Benefits Plan Design Committee has the responsibility for and authority over the various plans and components of the plans, including for medical benefits, prescription benefits, dental, vision, and any other health care benefits, offered and administered by the SEHBP; and

**WHEREAS**, existing law requires three members of the School Employees' Health Benefits Plan Design Committee to be appointed by the Governor as representatives of public employers (i.e., local school districts) whose employees are enrolled in the program, but currently all such representatives are state-level appointees;

**WHEREAS**, the recommended rate changes for medical and prescription drug coverage for the Active 2023 Local Education Employer Group is 15.1%, which includes a 15.3% increase for active employees enrolled in NJ DIRECT 10/15 and a 14.9% increase for active employees enrolled in the NJ Educators Health Plan (NJEHP); and

**WHEREAS**, such proposed exorbitant rate increases will fall upon the local property taxpayer, as well as school employees, at a time where there is record inflation; and

**WHEREAS**, since employees enrolled the NJEHP pay a percentage of salary toward their health benefits per P.L.2020, c.44, commonly referred to as “Chapter 44”, any increase in NJEHP premiums will fall almost entirely upon local boards of education, placing a severe strain on their budgets; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed premium increase for most active employees will take thousands more out of their paychecks annually and lead to huge costs for local school districts that will translate into higher property tax bills for struggling families; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Montague Township Board of Education in the county of Sussex call upon the School Employees Health Benefits Commission to reconsider the rate increase and strike a rate increase that is appropriate in the current economic conditions; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education in the county of Sussex urge the Legislature to adopt legislation expanding the composition of the School Employees Health Benefits Commission and the School Employees’ Health Benefits Plan Design Committee to include additional representatives from local school district management; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education in the county of Sussex urge the Legislature and executive branch to examine the impact that “Chapter 44” has had on school district budgets and to adopt legislation that will reverse any of its negative consequences and provide relief to those districts; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Murphy, State Treasurer Muoio, Senate President Scutari, Assembly Speaker Coughlin, Senator Steve Oroho, Assembly Representatives Parker Space and Hal Wirths and the New Jersey School Boards Association.

<b>Moved:</b>	<b>Seconded:</b>			<b>Discussion:</b>				
<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**14. PERSONNEL**

**P-1 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the annual stipend of \$600.00 for Black Seal License to David Miller, Jason Saavedra and Tabatha-lynn Hall per the MEA Agreement.

<b>Moved:</b>	<b>Seconded:</b>			<b>Discussion:</b>				
<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**P-2 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve **Chandler Smith and Ashley Bongiorno**, to be club advisors for Sunny Seeds with a \$1,000 stipend each per the MEA Agreement.

Moved:	Seconded:			Discussion:				
Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
YES								
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**P-3 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve **Devyn Harrell**, as a soccer coach for the soccer club with a \$1,000 stipend per the MEA Agreement.

Moved:	Seconded:			Discussion:				
Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
YES								
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**P-4 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve **Kelsey Cole**, Occupational Therapist, \$65,000 (MA+30 - Step A), pending background check, with a start date of August 31, 2022 for the 2022-2023 school year.

Moved:	Seconded:			Discussion:				
Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
YES								
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**P-5 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve **Sheridan Kapuscinski**, Special Education Teacher, \$60,000 (BA - Step A), pending background check, with a start date of August 31, 2022 for the 2022-2023 school year.

Moved:	Seconded:			Discussion:				
Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
YES								
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**P-6 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoint **Anna Cortiana** as Supervisor of Student Services, \$85,000 per annum, with a start date of August 12, 2022.

	<b>Moved:</b>			<b>Seconded:</b>			<b>Discussion:</b>	
<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**P-7 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoint **Anna Cortiana** as the School Safety Specialist, without any increase to salary, for the 2022-2023 school year.

	<b>Moved:</b>			<b>Seconded:</b>			<b>Discussion:</b>	
<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**P-8 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the salary increase of **Ashley Bongiorno**, Teacher, to \$63,000.00 (BA+15 - Step B).

	<b>Moved:</b>			<b>Seconded:</b>			<b>Discussion:</b>	
<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**P-9 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve **Kaisha Schenk** as part-time paraprofessional, at \$20.19 per hour, pending background check, if needed, for the 2022-2023 school year.

	<b>Moved:</b>			<b>Seconded:</b>			<b>Discussion:</b>	
<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**P-10 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education accept the resignation of **Employee ID#10027167** effective August 30, 2022.

Moved:		Seconded:			Discussion:			
Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
YES								
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**P-11 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoint **Allison Worzel**, school nurse, without any increase to salary, to be School District Wellness Committee Coordinator.

Moved:		Seconded:			Discussion:			
Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
YES								
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

## 15. TRANSPORTATION

**T-1 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve **JAMES CICALESE** as Transportation Coordinator/Bus Driver, salary of \$50,000.00, pending background check (if needed), with a start date of August 11, 2022, for the 2022-2023 school year.

Moved:		Seconded:			Discussion:			
Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
YES								
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**T-2 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the use of **June Williams** as a Transportation Consultant to assist the new Transportation Coordinator for an hourly rate of \$100.00 not to exceed \$5,000.00 for the 2022-2023 school year.

Moved:		Seconded:			Discussion:			
Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
YES								
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**16. CURRICULUM AND CHILD STUDY TEAM**

**C-1 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Behavioral Health Clinician/Social Worker job description.

<b>Moved:</b>		<b>Seconded:</b>			<b>Discussion:</b>			
<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**C-2 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve **Samatha Frost**, as Behavioral Health Clinician/Social Worker, \$67,000.00 (MA+30 - Step B), with a start date of August 31, 2022, for the 2022-2023 school year.

<b>Moved:</b>		<b>Seconded:</b>			<b>Discussion:</b>			
<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**17. GRANTS**

**G-1 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve to join the ARP HCY II Consortium.

<b>Moved:</b>		<b>Seconded:</b>			<b>Discussion:</b>			
<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**18. ADMINISTRATION**

**A-1 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education accept donations from Escape Powersports Plus Back to School Hauler School Supply Drive.

<b>Moved:</b>		<b>Seconded:</b>			<b>Discussion:</b>			
<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Brislin	Campbell	Christmann	DeGeorge	Holstein	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>								
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**19. PUBLIC SESSION**

Public comment is invited on all matters pertaining to the school district. All participants shall be permitted four (4) minutes to speak and shall state their name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate.

The board uses the public comment as an opportunity to listen to Citizen concerns, but please be aware that not all issues brought to a board meeting will be resolved this evening.

Motion to open Public Comment at \_\_\_\_ Motion \_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_ All in Favor/Opposed \_\_\_\_

Motion to close Public Comment at \_\_\_\_ Motion \_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_ All in Favor/Opposed \_\_\_\_

**20. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**21. NEW BUSINESS**

**22. EXECUTIVE SESSION, IF NECESSARY:**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education recess and proceed to executive session to discuss personnel matters and legal issues. Action may or may not be taken.

Motion to open Executive Session at \_\_\_\_ Motion \_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_ All in Favor/Opposed \_\_\_\_

Motion to close Executive Session at \_\_\_\_ Motion \_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_ All in Favor/Opposed \_\_\_\_

Motion to reopen Regular Meeting at \_\_\_\_ Motion \_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_ All in Favor/Opposed \_\_\_\_

**23. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion \_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_ All in Favor/Opposed \_\_\_\_ Time of Adjournment: \_\_\_\_