

**Montague Board of Education Meeting
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 3, 2019
6:00 pm**

Mr. Plotsky called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Jennifer Caramucci	X	
Diane Cole	X	
Sally Kurtzman	X	
Glen Plotsky, President	X	
Linda Spinapolice, Vice President	X	
Charles Teufert	X	

Others Present:

Timothy Capone - Chief School Administrator
Kelly Schoch – Board Secretary

Mr. Plotsky moved to re-swear in Mr. Underwood, seconded by Mrs. Caramucci. All were in favor.

Swearing in of new Board Member Bill Underwood.

Flag Salute

Mr. Plotsky led those present in a salute to our flag.

Mr. Plotsky read the following mission statement and notice of this meeting:

The mission of the Montague School District is to provide the best educational experience and opportunities resources allow, in order to realize the potential of every child.

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 Times Herald Record.

Executive Session

Mr. Teufert moved, seconded by Mrs. Spinapolice, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education recess and proceed to executive session to discuss personnel matters and legal issues. Action may or may not be taken.

Voice vote: All were in favor.

The closed Executive Session commenced at 6:06 PM.

Mr. Teufert moved, seconded by Mrs. Caramucci, that the Board close Executive Session at 6:57 PM.

Voice vote: All were in favor.

Mrs. Caramucci moved, seconded by Mr. Teufert, that the Board re-open the Regular Meeting at 6:57 PM.

Voice vote: All were in favor.

CSA Report

Mr. Capone discussed the following topics:

- Montague Township School will be expanding the volunteer run extracurricular program from PK to 4th grade to PK to 8th grade.
- Montague Township School will officially offer free full-day preschool for 3 and 4-year olds to residents of Montague. This program will necessitate the hiring for various positions, such as a Director, Teachers, Paraprofessionals and Aides.
- The May budget was changed because of state aid being cut, plus tuition cost rising from our current send / receive agreements. This is one reason why we look at other choices for our students. Finding other send / receive options will benefit families in the school district in addition to the whole community.

SBA Report

- Mrs. Schoch requested the Board to amend the High Point Late Run Bus route to have only two stops. One stop at Montague Township School and a second at Montague Town Hall.

Correspondence- No correspondence.

Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the minutes of August 20, 2019.

Moved by: Mr. Teufert

Seconded by: Mrs. Kurtzman

Roll Call	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolic	Teufert	Underwood	Total
YES	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

Public Session

Public comment is invited on all matters pertaining to the school district. All participants shall be permitted three (3) minutes to speak and shall state their name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate.

Board meetings are a meeting of the Board conducted in public, NOT a meeting of the public conducted in the presence of the Board.

The Board uses the public comment period 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; rather, the Board will, in appropriate cases, delegate the authority to investigate the matter to the Superintendent or his designee.

Please let the record reflect that the BOE does not endorse your comments nor will the BOE be held liable for comments you make about a staff member, or other person, which the staff member, or other person, may consider defamatory and/or libelous, as that individual retains all rights to pursue any legal remedies against you.

Mr. Teufert moved, seconded by Mrs. Caramucci to open public comment at 7:08 PM.
Voice vote: All were in favor

John Mannion, of Chubby Lane, requested to have Mr. John Nittolo come to a Board of Education meeting to speak publicly and put to rest speculation. Mr. Mannion also stated he asked the Green Township Board of Education president about Mr. Nittolo and was told they would not speak about it due to the confidentiality of the issue. Mr. Mannion feels this is morally not right.

Tacia Johnson, of Coss Lane, stated that when she was president of the Montague Township School Board of Education, all members were given information right away in order to be able to have an informed vote. Information to the public was determined by law. Stated there was a BOE member who did not adhere to board ethics. Mrs. Johnson feels that Mr. Plotsky should step down as president of the BOE.

Dana Berry, of Durol Drive, on behalf of the Montague Township School PTA was donating a bench for the front of the school.

John Mannion, of Chubby Lane, claims the comment made by Mr. Teufert was insulting to the public. Also claims he was asked to run for BOE membership. Restated we don't have money.

Mr. Capone stated that for months Mr. Mannion and Mr. Eric Obernauer have been working together to create a story. Mr. Capone also stated firmly that the "Pass the Trash" laws do not allow hiring of individuals who would pose a risk to students. Mr. Capone stated that John Mannion and Eric Obernauer have failed to provide any facts to substantiate their claims. Mr. Capone explained that the school is in transition and the increase costs are caused by the High Point Regional High School excessively costly send / receive agreement, however budgets are always in flux. Mr. Capone said the district always addresses cost concerns. The district has added services and programs while also increasing savings. Mr. Capone informed the meeting that increasing the High School sending options will increase savings. Mr. Capone referenced an article by Mr. Eric Obernauer that had a major error in facts regarding our district, when in fact

we have streamlined our spending and improved our school. Mr. Capone asked the public to look at the actual facts.

Doris Mannion, of Chubby Lane, stated she asks questions but does not receive the answers she is looking for so instead relies on news articles. She stated she just wants answers.

John Mannion, of Chubby Lane, stated we have a \$300,000 position with no job description. He also stated there are limits to the townships money and the district is forcing people to move. He then offered to sell his house to Mr. Capone.

Hearing no further public comments, Mrs. Caramucci moved, seconded by Mr. Teufert to close public comment at 7:24 PM.

Voice vote: All were in favor.

Administrative Items

Mr. Plotsky moved to block vote A-1 and A2. All were in favor.

A-1 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the second reading of Policy 5811.

Moved by: Mr. Teufert

Seconded by: Mrs. Spinapolic

Roll Call	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolic	Teufert	Underwood	Total
YES	x		x	x	X	x	x	6
NO		x						1
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

A-2 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve PK-8 Extracurricular Activities staffed by approved volunteers.

Moved by: Mr. Teufert

Seconded by: Mrs. Spinapolic

Roll Call	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolic	Teufert	Underwood	Total
YES	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

Mr. Plotsky moved to block vote A-3 and A-8. All were in favor.

A-3 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve student contract 01-19-20.

Moved by: Mr. Teufert

Seconded by: Mrs. Caramucci

Roll Call	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolic	Teufert	Underwood	Total
YES	x		x	x	X	x	x	6
NO		x						1
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

A-4 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve student contract 02-19-20.

Moved by: Mr. Teufert

Seconded by: Mrs. Caramucci

Roll Call	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolice	Teufert	Underwood	Total
YES	x		x	x	X	x	x	6
NO		x						1
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

A-5 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve student contract 03-19-20.

Moved by: Mr. Teufert

Seconded by: Mrs. Caramucci

Roll Call	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolice	Teufert	Underwood	Total
YES	x		x	x	X	x	x	6
NO		x						1
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

A-6 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve student contract 04-19-20.

Moved by: Mr. Teufert

Seconded by: Mrs. Caramucci

Roll Call	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolice	Teufert	Underwood	Total
YES	x		x	x	X	x	x	6
NO		x						1
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

A-7 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the 2019-2020 Montague Township School Parent Involvement Policy.

Moved by: Mr. Teufert

Seconded by: Mrs. Caramucci

Roll Call	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolice	Teufert	Underwood	Total
YES	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

A-8 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the second reading of Policy 6172.3 Title 1 Improving the Academic Achievement and Parent and Family Engagement.

Moved by: Mr. Teufert

Seconded by: Mrs. Caramucci

Roll Call	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolice	Teufert	Underwood	Total
YES	x	X	x	x	X	x	x	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

Personnel Items

Mr. Plotsky request to block vote P-1 through P-5. All were in favor.

Mr. Plotsky stated that due to the approval of the PEA grant being granted just today, September 3, 2019, there is no job description yet.

P-1 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education accept the resignation of Victoria Pauciello, Teacher, effective immediately.

Moved by: Mr. Teufert

Seconded by: Mrs. Spinapolice

Roll Call	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolice	Teufert	Underwood	Total
YES	x	x	x	x	X	x	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

P-2 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the hiring of Melissa Martinique, Preschool-3, Teacher of Reading, Teacher of Students with Disabilities, effective 2019-2020 School Year at an annual rate of \$56,001 BA (Step A).

Moved by: Mr. Teufert

Seconded by: Mrs. Spinapolice

Roll Call	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolice	Teufert	Underwood	Total
YES	x		x	x	X	x	x	6
NO								
ABSTAIN		x						1
ABSENT								

P-3 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education rescind the offer of employment to Jessie Vaughan, Bus Driver/Custodian effective immediately.

Moved by: Mr. Teufert

Seconded by: Mrs. Caramucci

Roll Call	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolice	Teufert	Underwood	Total
YES		X	x	X	X	x	x	7
NO								
ABSTAIN	x							
ABSENT								

P-4 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve John Nittolo as the Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment/Director of Early Childhood Education.

Moved by: Mr. Teufert

Seconded by: Mrs. Spinapolice

Roll Call	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolice	Teufert	Underwood	Total
YES	x		x	X	X	x	x	6
NO		x						1
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

P-5 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the hiring of the following positions for the 2019-2020 School Year according to Schedule F of the MEA Contract:

- Rebecca Dann, LEGO Club Advisor
- Rebecca Lehmkuhl, Engineering Club Advisor
- Jody Taylor, Bell Choir Advisor

Clancey Lane, Theater Club Advisor
 Carl Ferriere, Fishing Club Advisor
 Nancy Wright, Sunny Seed Advisor (.5)
 Stacey Blasdell, Sunny Seed Advisor (.5)
 Kelly Edsall, Sunny Seed Advisor (Volunteer)
 Melissa Neamand, Yearbook
 Chandler Howard, Flag Football
 Rachel Van Gordon, Soccer
 Brent Runne, Cross Country
 Brent Runne, Boys Basketball
 Carl Ferriere, Girls Basketball

Moved by: Mr. Teufert

Seconded by: Mrs. Spinapolice

Roll Call	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolice	Teufert	Underwood	Total
YES	x	x	x	X	X	x	x	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

Financial Items

Mr. Plotsky requested the Board Block Vote Motions F-1 through F-5. All were in favor.

F-1 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the August 21, 2019 thru September 3, 2019 - Bill List attached and listed below:

	Check Numbers	Amount
Regular Bill List	A: N0830-N0831 A:25039-25084	\$ 502,021.65
Lunch Program	N1771	\$ 6,648.35

F-2 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the Tuition Contract between Sussex County Educational Services and the Montague School for student # 2454617903 for the 2019-2020 School year commencing on September 5, 2019 for 180 billable days. The Board of Education of Montague Township shall pay the tuition \$ 48,873.

F-3 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the Tuition Contract between Sussex County Educational Services and the Montague School for student # 6347937694 for the 2019-2020 School year commencing on September 5, 2019 for 180 billable days. The Board of Education of Montague Township shall pay the tuition \$ 55.425 and pay the tuition for paraprofessional in amount of \$26,326.

F-4 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the Tuition Contract Agreement for Regular and Special Education students between the Montague Township School and the Sussex Vocational Board of Education for the 2019-2020 School year, September 2019- June 2020 for \$95,761 which equals the estimated cost per pupil of \$2,227 (estimated daily enrollment – 43 students).

F-5 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education the approve following staff members to attend the indicated workshops conducted by New Jersey Association of School Business Officials.

Attendee(s)	Workshop/Location	Date	Cost
Erkan Gumustekin	Int. NJASBO, NJDOE How to Read the Board Secretary Report	9/19/2019	\$50 Plus: OMB Mileage / Tolls
Erkan Gumustekin	Legislative and Legal Update/WDA/Janus/Earned Sick Leave Rockaway, NJ	09/24/2019	\$00 Plus: OMB Mileage / Tolls
Erkan Gumustekin Alvinna Mheiny	Office of State Comptroller/State Reports Rockaway, NJ	10/8/2019	\$200 Plus: OMB Mileage / Tolls
Erkan Gumustekin	Records Retention Rockaway, NJ	11/14/2019	\$50 Plus: OMB Mileage / Tolls

Moved by: Mr. Teufert

Seconded by: Mrs. Caramucci

Roll Call	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolic	Teufert	Underwood	Total
YES	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

XIV Unfinished Business- No unfinished business.

XV New Business

F-6 BE IT RESOLVED, the Montague Township School approve the JanPro cleaning contract for the 2019-2020 school year.

Moved by: Mr. Plotsky

Seconded by: Mrs. Caramucci

Roll Call	Underwood	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolic	Teufert	Total
YES		x		x	x	x	X	5
NO								
ABSTAIN	X		x					2
ABSENT								

A-9 BE IT RESOLVED, the Montague Township School approve the High Point Late Run to have only two stops, one at Montague Township School and the second at Montague Town Hall.

Moved by: Mr. Plotsky

Seconded by: Mrs. Caramucci

Roll Call	Underwood	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolic	Teufert	Total
YES	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								

ABSENT								
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A-10 BE IT RESOLVED, the Montague Township School approve the gift of a bench for the front of Montague Township School by the Parent Teacher Association.

Moved by: Mr. Plotsky

Seconded by: Mrs. Caramucci

Roll Call	Underwood	Caramucci	Cole	Kurtzman	Plotsky	Spinapolicc	Teufert	Total
YES			x	x	x	x	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN	x	x						1
ABSENT								

Mrs. Cole wished to commend the PTA for their outstanding programs and contributions to the school.

Mrs. Caramucci informed the Board of future PTA events such as the Mum Sale and Yankee Candle Sale. She also inform the Board that PTA tripled its revenue last year and it all went back to the students and school.

Mrs. Kurtzman asked if the school was protected from ransomware attack and was inform that we are.

Mrs. Cole found mistakes in the agenda she wished would be corrected. Mr. Teufert suggested having a checklist for the agenda.

Adjournment

Mr. Teufert moved, seconded by Mrs. Caramucci that the Board adjourns its meeting at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Schoch
Board Secretary