Montague Township Board of Education Meeting Regular Meeting Minutes August 10, 2020 6:00 pm

I. Call to Order 6:00PM

II. Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Dale Bouma	Х	
Paul Brislin	х	
Jennifer Caramucci	Х	
Danielle Christmann	Х	
Billy Underwood	Х	
Charles Teufert, Vice President	Х	
Glen Plotsky, President	Х	

Others Present:

Timothy Capone - Chief School Administrator Maria Costa – Board Secretary- Remote

III. Flag Salute

- IV. The mission of the Montague Township School District is to provide the best educational experience and opportunities resources allow, in order to realize the potential of every child.
- V. 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.
- VI. Hearing on Contract of Superintendent of Schools

The Board, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b), the "Open Public Meetings Act," shall not publicly discuss personnel matters and shall not respond to comments made by members of the public. Please be aware that the subject of this hearing retains the right of privacy and shall retain all rights regarding defamation and slander according to the laws of New Jersey. The Board shall not be held liable for comments made by members of the public.

Mr. Plotsky motioned to open the public hearing at 6:02pm.

Motion by Jennifer Caramucci, Seconded by Mr. Charles Teufert

All in Favor

Public Comments

Kim Hart:

- Vote yes for the contract to update the building/ programs.
- Last year, agriculture and preschool expansion was added.
- Mr. Capone offered Kim Hart a great opportunity and the support helped her to feel comfortable.
- Montague School benefits with the extension of Mr. Capone's contract approved.

Kelly Edsall

- Thanked the board for their continued hard work.
- There is now an emotional learning program that cultivates our school to a positive learning environment for the children and community.
- Stated Mr. Capone is a very positive and supportive staff leader. He listens to the staff's suggestions, feedback and everyone works together. She is very proud to work at the Montague Township School and thanks Mr. Capone for his leadership style.

John Mannion

- Feels that it is difficult to call in to the meeting and the audio is very bad.
- Stated that there is a conflict when the Montague Township School employees call in during public session to promote the CSA. The board should only accept comments from the public taxpayers. He votes no to Mr. Capone's extension.

Denise Vogel

• Concerned about back to school plans.

Rebecca Dann

• Expressed how much she loves working at Montague; that it is a wonderful workspace Mr. Capone created. Thanked the board and Mr. Capone.

Andrea Conklin

• Responded to the public statement about why employees are calling in supporting the CSA. Mrs. Conklin stated the staff is calling in because the Montague Township School is a great place to work.

Andree Campbell

• Stated she does not agree with the extension of the CSA contract.

Chandler Howard

• Stated she is a staff member at the Montague Township School and received a great deal of support from the CSA/ staff. The programs at Montague Township School are an excellent opportunity for students to grow. She thanked the board and Mr. Capone for creating a great work environment.

Eleanor Murphy

• Stated that she does not agree with the CSA contract extension.

Mr. Plotsky clarified that Mr. Capone is not getting a raise. In fact, the contract difference is \$41,243 less. The 3-year savings on the contract is \$135,531.

Candace Stout

• Shared her own analysis of salary raises comparing the Montague Township District with other districts.

Stephanie Guida

• Stated that the public has to know the truth about the proposed savings of the CSA's contract. She disagrees with the contract savings of \$41,243.

Meghan McElheney

- Stated that she is a new staff member to the district of Montague and cannot believe how great Mr. Capone's leadership is along with the staff.
- Stated it is a great place to work and hopes to work at the Montague Township School for many years to come.

Mr. Plotsky entertained motioned to close public hearing at 6:30pm. Motion Jennifer Caramucci Seconded by Billy Underwood All in Favor

VII. Announcement of Executive Session

VIII. 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 6:41pm Motion Paul Brislin 2nd Jennifer Caramucci All in Favor

Motion to close Executive Session at 7:33pm Motion Jennifer Caramucci 2nd Billy Underwood All in Favor

Motion to reopen Regular Meeting at 7:34pm Motion Paul Brislin 2nd Jennifer Caramucci All in Favor

IX. CSA Report

- Mr. Capone stated that the Board has a copy of the restart and recovery plan.
- The plan is where it is today with the School Leadership team's input.
- The plan includes 100% Virtual or 100% in class and students have access to what they need.
- Based on the latest guidance from the State Department with the requirement that all students must wear masks may impact the number of students coming back.
- Guidance is released on a weekly basis and the plan is adjusted and readjusted based on guidance with the CDC and State Department.
- The in-school Plan available is 5 days a week with a goal and focus, there is no replacement for a teacher in the classroom.
- Both options can serve our community and our parents.
- The most important aspect is this is everchanging due to guidance continuously being released and changed.
- The first day of school with students is September 14 and gives well over a month to identify what the best options will be.

X. SBA Report – None

XI. Correspondence – None

XII. Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the minutes of the July 20, 2020 board meeting.

Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	6
NO								
ABSTAIN	Х							1
ABSENT								

Moved: Jennifer Caramucci

Second by: Danielle Christmann

XIII. 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.

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.

Motion to open public comment at 7:41pm

Motion Paul Brislin 2nd Jennifer Caramucci All in Favor

John Mannion

• Stated the audio is bad this evening and to vote no to Mr. Capone's contract extension.

Christina De Cola

- Speech Therapist at Montague Township School and appreciates the efforts to make the Montague Township School great. She stated working at the school has been the most rewarding experience she has had.
- She stated that unlike any other administrators Mr. Capone is genuinely sincere.
- Mr. Capone has turned all the staff ideas to real resources and programs.
- Mr. Capone's leadership has provided an engaging experience with great growth.

Motion to close public comment at 7:54pm

Motion Billy Underwood 2nd Danielle Christmann All in Favor

XIV. Financial Items

F-1 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve July 21, 2020 thru August 10, 2020 - Bill List attached and listed below:

	Check Numbers	Amount
Regular Bill List	#A:N0730, N0805	
	#A:25702-25739	\$258,396.52

Moved: Jennifer Caramucci

Seconded: Charles Teufert

Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	Х	X	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

F-2 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the Board Secretary's Report (A-148) for the month of June 2020.

Moved: Jen	nifer Carar	nucci			Seconded: Charles Teufert				
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total	
YES	Х	X	X	Х	Х	X	Х	7	
NO									
ABSTAIN									
ABSENT									

F-3 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the Board Secretary's Report (A-149) for the month of June 2020.

Moved: Jen	nifer Carar	nucci		Seconded: Charles Teufert					
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci Christmann Underwood Teufert Plotsky Tot						
YES	Х	X	X	Х	X	X	Х	7	
NO									
ABSTAIN									
ABSENT									

F-4 BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-2.11(c) 3, the Board of Education certify that as of June 30,2020, after review of the Secretary's monthly financial reports for June 30, 2020 (appropriations section), and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, Montague

BOE is in compliance with N.J.A.C 6A:23-2.11 (c) 4 and shall certify in the minutes of the Board each month that no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16:10(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Moved: Jen	nifer Carar	nucci		Seconded: Charles Teufert				
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

F-5 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education request the Executive County Superintendent to approve the attached 2019-2020 Monthly Transfers Worksheet – Detail of Transfers through June 30, 2020.

Moved: Jen	nifer Carar	nucci			Seconded: Charles Teufert			
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	Х	X	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

F-6 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the attached list of line item transfers effective June 30, 2020.

Moved: Jen	nifer Carar	nucci		Seconded: Charles Teufert					
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total	
YES	X	X	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	7	
NO									
ABSTAIN									
ABSENT									

F-7 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the 2020-2021 Food Service Agreement between Port Jervis City School District and Montague Township School District.

> Discussion

• Paul Brislin requested clarification of the Food Service Agreement between Port Jervis City School

District and Montague Township School District pricing.

- Danielle Christmann wanted to know who the agreement was with before. •
- Mr. Capone stated that the prior vendor was coming out of Lafayette. There were issues brought up • with the quality of food and meeting the nutritional guidelines. Port Jervis offers hot and cold and offers proximity that makes sense for the Montague Township School. There haven't been any violations with not meeting the nutritional requirements.
- Jennifer Caramucci stated as a parent, her children do love the current lunches. The healthy option • offered is very important to Mrs. Caramucci.
- Mr. Brislin asked for pricing. Mr. Capone clarified that F8 reflects the charges. •

Moved: Jen	nifer Carar	nucci			Seconded: Charles Teufert			
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES			Х	Х	Х	X	X	5
NO	X							1
ABSTAIN		х						1
ABSENT								

F-8 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the following nutrition program breakfast, lunch, and milk prices for the 2020-2021 School Year:

Item	Full Price
Breakfast	\$2.15
Lunch	\$3.80
Half pint milk	\$0.50

Moved: Jer	nnifer Carar	nucci	Seconded: Charles Teufert					
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	Х	Х	X	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

- **F-9 BE IT RESOLVED,** at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the purchase and installation of iPads and JAMF software management (listed below) to enhance the learning capabilities of the Montague Township School District's Preschool Program. The cost (\$27,572.40) of the purchased items would be covered by the funds received from the Preschool grant.
 - 50 10.2" iPad WiFi 128GB
 - 50 AppleCare + for Schools
 - 2 Lock Charge iC 30 Storage Carts
 - 50 JAMF School management software for macOS, iOS and tvOS lifetime
 - Customer Contract Number: ESCNJ 18/19-67 Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ)
 - Apple Corporate Contract Number: 1062153

> Discussion

- Paul Brislin questioned the reference to grant money in F9 F11, and if there is a guarantee to the grant money.
- Mr. Capone stated as far as today, there is grant money.

Moved: Jennifer Caramucci

Seconded: Charles Teufert

Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

- **F-10 BE IT RESOLVED,** at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the purchase and installation Promethean ActivPanels 86 inch (listed below) to enhance the learning capabilities of the Montague Township School District's Preschool Program. The cost (\$26,764.000) of the purchased items would be covered by the funds received from the Preschool grant.
 - 4 Promethean AP7-B86-NA-1
 - 4 PRM-CBOX Promethean Chromebox
 - Contract Hunterdon County E.S.C BID # HCESC-CAT-19-06
 - Quote 91878675

Moved: Jennifer Caramucci

Seconded: Charles Teufert

Moveu. Jen		nucci			beconaca. C	naries reu	icit	
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

- F-11 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the purchase of Chromebook accidental damage / loss insurance (listed below) to cover possible damages incurred to Chromebooks owned by the Montague Township School District. The cost (\$6,750.00) of the purchased items would be covered by the funds received from the CAREs act grant.
 - Paul Brislin requested clarification of the CARES act grant.
 - 250 Units Covers: Accidental Damage / Loss

Moved: Jer	nnifer Carar	nucci			Secon	nded: Cha	arles Teufer	t
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

- P-1 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education approve the amended and extended employment contract between Timothy C. Capone, Superintendent of Schools, and the Montague Township Board of Education for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2025, as presented in executive session.
 - > Discussion
 - Paul Brislin asked what is the reason to extend the expiration date from 2023 to 2025.
 - Glen Plotsky responded to save \$135,531 over the three years, stability, consistency of management, and implementation of the fiscal plan.
 - This will also benefit the district's strategic plan.

Moved: Gle	en Plotsky				Seco	nded: Jeni	nifer Caram	ucci
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES			Х		Х	Х	Х	4
NO	Х	Х		Х				3
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

P-2 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the resignation of Alvinna Mheiny effective September 16, 2020.

Moved: Gle	en Plotsky				Secon	ded: Jennife	er Caramucci	L
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
NO								
ABSTAIN								

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ABSENT				

P-3 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve Cheyenne McDole as the Confidential Secretary to the Business Administrator (12 month) at an annual rate of \$36,000 (prorated) effective on or about August 12, 2020.

Moved: Gle	en Plotsky				Secon	ded: Jennif	er Caramucci	i
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

P-4 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve Danielle Mott, School Nurse, Step G, BA+15 (\$63,906) for the 2020-2021 school year.

Moved: Gle	en Plotsky				Secon	ded: Jennif	er Caramucc	i
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

P-5 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve Sabrina Morgan, Paraprofessional, Step A, for the 2020-2021 school year.

Moved: Gle	en Plotsky				Secon	ded: Jennif	er Caramucci	
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

P-6 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve Danielle Conklin, Paraprofessional, Step A, for the 2020-2021 school year.

Moved: Gle	n Plotsky				Secon	ded: Jennif	er Caramucci	cci Total 7	
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total	
YES	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	7	
NO									
ABSTAIN									
ABSENT									

P-7 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve Jaci Sanchez, Paraprofessional, Step A, for the 2020-2021 school year.

Moved: Gle	n Plotsky				Secon	ded: Jennif	er Caramucci	
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

P-8 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve Korinn Loriz, Elementary School Teacher/Special Education Teacher, Step A, BA (\$57,751) for the 2020-2021 school year.

Moved: Gle	n Plotsky				Second	led: Jennife	r Caramucci	
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

P-9 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve Devyn Harrell, Elementary School Teacher/Special Education Teacher, Step A, BA (\$57,751) for the 2020-2021 school year.

Moved: Glen Plotsky					Seconded: Jennifer Caramucci				
Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total	
YES	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	7	
NO									
ABSTAIN									
ABSENT									

XV. Action Items

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve a 1st reading of 2230 Control and Communication Channels and Systems. (see attached)

- ▶ Mr. Plotsky Motioned to table the Action Item.
- Jennifer Caramucci seconded.

Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES			Х		Х	Х	Х	4
NO	X	X		Х				3

ABSTAIN				
ABSENT				

XVI. 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.

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.

Motion to open public comment at 8:10pm

Motion Jennifer Caramucci 2nd Paul Brislin All in Favor

Krista Mikulski

- Question about High Point transportation.
- Question about Port Jervis Send/ Receive agreement.

John Mannion

• Believes there should be clarification regarding public comments, Contract Extension.

Eleanor Murphy

• Stated that the school's atmosphere spiraled down.

Stephanie Guida

- Reiterated the CSA contract is not a savings but an increase.
- Stated that the Lafayette Food service uses Sodexo and is the same food service that Atlantic Health System uses.

Andrea Campbell

• Reiterated Board Members' campaign promises.

Rebecca Lehmkuhl

- Reiterated how great it is to be part of the Montague Township District staff.
- Appreciates the board and Mr. Capone.
- She worked in several districts and Mr. Capone is one of the best people she ever worked for. He

genuinely cares about the students that come in and runs the school smoothly.

• Thanked the board and Mr. Capone.

Motion to close public comment at 8:33pm Motion Billy Underwood 2nd Charles Teufert All in Favor

XVI. <u>Unfinished Business</u>

Mr. Capone addressed the goals that the board discussed and the Superintendent goals that will match the goals that the board set.

The goal that the board should have a conversation about is the communication committee. There is a lot of concern about communication. Mr. Capone stated there has been a lot done to get the correct information out. The problem is that there are numerous people circulating incorrect information.

The cost of contract is what they are discussing in today's meeting. Barbara Holstein and this group of people were circulating that Mr. Capone was making \$250,000. Now there are cost of contract comparisons provided to the public and now Stephanie Guida stated this is not the actual savings as she doesn't understand what the budgeted numbers are and what the actual costs are. This is the same conversation had with Barabara Holstein. These individuals intentionally misinform people or do not understand how these things operate.

At the last meeting Tasha De George stated every opinion is valid. Ms. Murphy stated that taxes were increased 14%, This statement is not valid.

There should be discussion as to who should be communicating to the community about the misinformation.

Mr. Capone stated the board needs to determine how people will be accepted to the communications committee and how it will be operated. The question to the board is how will the misinformation be corrected.

Glen Plotsky stated that there are some things the board can't share but he stands by his votes. He asked is there an interest to get the Communications Committee established.

Paul Brislin moved and Jennifer Caramucci seconded to solicit a communcations committee.

All in Favor except by Mr. Underwood.

Paul Brislin motioned that each attached item should be posted with the corresponding agenda when that agenda is posted to the Montague Township School website. Dale Bouma seconded.

Paul Brislin to draft this policy.

Roll Call Bouma Brislin Caramucci (Christmann Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
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YES	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х		5
NO					Х			1
ABSTAIN							Х	1
ABSENT								

Charles Teufert motioned to create a policy committee.

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Jennifer Caramucci

Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	6
NO		Х						1
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

[•] Billy Underwood and Jennifer Caramucci are the chairperson.

XVII. <u>New Business</u>

Mr. Capone addressed the strategic plan.

- As of the completion of this year, all the goals are completed except the Facilities goals.
- The question Mr. Capone asked the board is what are the strategic plans they have in the next 1, 3, 5 years.

XVIII. Adjournment

Motion Billy Underwood 2nd Charles Teufert All in Favor Time of Adjournment: 9:27PM