

**Montague Township Board of Education Meeting
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2020
6:00 pm**

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

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

Others Present:

Timothy Capone - Chief School Administrator
Maria Costa – Board Secretary

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. Announcement of Executive Session

VII. 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 pm (Technology Issue)

Motion _____ 2nd _____ All in Favor/Opposed (Technology Issue)

Motion to close Executive Session at 7:06pm
Motion Paul Brislin 2nd Charles Teufert
All in Favor

Motion to reopen Regular Meeting at 7:07pm
Motion Charles Teufert 2nd Dale Bouma
All in Favor

VIII. CSA Report

- Mr. Capone received a request from Krista Mikulski who asked about the High Point Late run. Made a statement that a number of students ride that bus and concerned about the fiscal issues, that was discussed as a potential cost of savings. At her request, Mr. Capone/ team counted the number of students that ride that bus.
- Mr. Capone stated that \$16,000 is the total amount for that run, number of students that ride that bus daily are 2.6- less than 3 students a day on the late run bus.
- Paul Brislin asked for clarification about the calculation.
- Mr. Capone stated that students sign in daily to get on the bus from Fall – June which equaled less than 3 students a day that ride the late bus.
- At the last meeting, Mr. Capone stated that 73% of Montague Township School at Highpoint has D's and F's. Mr. Capone asked the public is this a sign of success?
- July 24, 2017- Mr. Capone met with the Montague Parents for change where they voiced the concern that he was specifically hired to break the High Point agreement. He assured the group he supports choice, its never been an option to take off High Point as an option.
- From that meeting, he was given a list from Tasha DeGeorge with influential people in town where she made derogatory comments about certain people.
- Mr. Capone stated that the problem is heresay.
- He stated we should all be pro Montague. This group wants to provide fewer high school options that lead to fewer program options, with an increase in tuition which increases the burden on the taxpayers.
- He addressed the issue with communication that his team updates Facebook, twitter and the newspaper so they have accurate information on what is happening in the district instead of heresay that is not supported by facts.
- At the last meeting there was a number of votes that caused concern. Three years ago, when Mr. Capone started, the Board said it was a board of whole. Every board member has access to all information at the same time. All board members can freely participate in the discussion, voice concern at the same time that is done publicly. This is done so there is transparency as a board.
- Stated at the last meeting there was three members, without a discussion, voted not to renew all of our staff of 2020 – 2021.
- For transparency reasons, Mr. Capone asked for rationale on why we would not renew the staff.
 - They casted a vote no without a justification
 - Asked these board members, without bringing the staff back, how would the school be staffed for the school year 2020 – 2021.

Mr. Capone gave the board members the opportunity to share their reasoning behind voting No.

Dale Bouma

- Did not agree with services from the special needs vendor as we already have those services here therefore it is a waste of money.
- Part of their job is Ethics- protect the school personnel. Mr. Bouma stated they were never told anything else about the missing two staff members from the list except they were gone.

Paul Brislin

- Heresay of two people that were terminated that they found out they were terminated after the Board agenda came out.
- Heresay they were somewhat surprised to find out they weren't renewed.
- Paul Brislin felt that when an employer does that to an employee, it is inappropriate to let the person find out through the grapevine.

- Mr. Brislin stated that nothing was communicated to Paul publicly prior to that meeting that led him to believe these two employees would be terminated.

- For the record, Mr. Brislin stated he did not have any dissatisfaction with the teaching and administration staff. It was a vote consistent with the code of ethics and saw no other option in order to support the two people that were terminated.

- Mrs. Christmann will continue to support all the staff at the Montague School including those teachers reappointed and those teachers missing from that list. It was her understanding from the last meeting that there wasn't going to be any staff or programs cut.

- Mr. Plotsky stated Mrs. Christmann mentioned cut and Mr. Brislin mentioned terminated. He stated that it is not true to those individuals mentioned. They were not renewed. There is a difference.

- Mr. Capone's response
 - Mr. Capone stated he encouraged the board members to ask questions for information. Because they are not asking questions for information, they are making decisions on heresay.

 - Mr. Capone stated that this is a seven member board that because it is a whole of a board, the board gets the same information at the same time. The board gets the opportunity to have the same discussion at the same time. He understands there is a learning curve to coming onto a school board. This is the reason there was ethics training the first night they were on board along with an executive session bringing you up to speed with what is going on in the district. This is for transparency reasons for the board members. The public should have the same understanding as to what is each person's position was and what it is being decided and discussed.
 - At tonight's meeting, the last thing to cover, is the strategic plan which is from a timeframe standpoint

 - July 1- June 30. The Strategic plan was set by the board that was in place on July 1 and sets the goal , priorities, so they can execute over the course of the year.

 - In this strategic plan, the board accomplished what was set out to do and more.

 - Your job as new board members is finish out the year as far as goals were set.

 - Now setting objectives moving forward for student staff community moving forward into next year.

- Kathy Helewa- A board member’s job is policy, budget, and setting goals along with measuring they are accomplished.
- The current Strategic plan that we are finishing out is facilities, replace tractor – upgrades in the Perk bathrooms, PreK fencing, added new signage, 100% of this building used for classrooms, sealed the roof, and set up the agriculture classroom.
- Technology – contract that will save us money , save 57K from 3 year period increase speed 5X as we have, new phone service.
- From a staffing perspective, last year added a full time speech therapist.
 - Provided APA training for pre k and paraprofessionals
 - Handle With Care, deescalate and restraint training
 - Instructional– replaced math curriculum, added financial literacy to Social Studies, institute standard based report cards in grade 3 and 4.
 - Professional Development Standpoint- made benchmark for our groups and for our students.
- Two items to be addressed communication where we get information on. Mr. Capone called out fake news on number of things reported, alleged mold, report back, no citation.
 - Eye wash station installed that was mandatory.
- There was a case of alleged assault promoted by the NJ Herald occurring, this case has been dismissed.
 - All cases brought by the people in the community have been dismissed.
- Mr. Capone stated it is important to look at what is the school district’s focus and how the district is meeting the needs of the students and supporting the staff.
- Montague was selected last year to present at the NJ School Boards because of the positive changes.
- Mr. Capone is hopeful that with the creation of the new strategic plan and having these seven board members work collaboratively on what to accomplish; there will be success moving forward.

IX. SBA Report

X. Correspondence

XI. Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the minutes of the May 13, 2020 board meeting.

Moved: Paul Brislin

Seconded: Charles Teufert

Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7

NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

XII. 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 7:37 pm

Motion Dale Bouma 2nd Jennifer Caramucci

All in Favor

John Mannion

- Suggested to vote down F14, F19, F20, F21, F22, F24

Ellie Murphy

- Addressed F19 and stated to leave the library where it was instead of redesigning a room.
- Addressed F20, questioned if there is a surveillance system in place and to improve what is there.
- Stated to spend money on the High Point Late Bus instead of the library renovation.

Mike Rathbur

- Stated daughter graduated with a high GPA from High Point.
- Addressed comment about students going to High Point getting D's and F's. Believes it is a reflection of Montague School not preparing students for a NJ High School.
- Addressed the concern about the robo call that went out the night prior.
- Stated the board members are Mr. Capone's boss.

Krista Mikulski

- Stated thank you for the research regarding the High Point Late Bus and responded how important it is to the student's life.

Michelle Visco

- Stated she is a Teacher at the Montague Township School since 2006.
- The teaching staff has been very dedicated to providing the best education at Montague. Over the years, they showed how much they cared of the wellbeing of the student and families. The action taken at the last board meeting regarding the 4-3 vote of our contract has caused a feeling of uncertainty.

Motion to close public comment at 7:59pm.

Motion Billy Underwood 2nd Charles Teufert

All In Favor

Mr. Plotsky responds to public comments:

- The surveillance system that Mr. Mannion and Mrs. Murphy inquired about is a benefit because it covers the entire school and connects directly to the State Police.
- In re: to the English Program, the district upgraded the Math Program in the past and now the English Program will be upgraded.
- The attorney is a specialist in send/ receive applications and were chosen so they do things correctly.
- In response to Mr. Rathbun’s daughter high GPA At High Point: Unfortunately for ¾ of the students that go to High Point from Montague, this is not their experience and that is where the data is pulled.
- Mr. Teufert responded to Mr. Rathbun’s public comment that the students at Sussex Tech have more positive data than the students going to High Point therefore students are being prepared well to go to NJ High School.

Motion is made by Paul Brislin to not do block voting.

Moved: Paul Brislin

Seconded: Danielle Christmann

Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X		X	X	X		5
NO			X				X	2
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

XIII. Action Items

A-1 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve a 2nd reading of School Policy 9322 (Public and Executive Sessions, Virtual). (see attached)

- Discussion
 - Mr. Plotsky stated there was no discussion of the policy at the first meeting and believes that some of the policy is problematic.
 - Mr. Capone stated that nobody has made any recommendations at this point.
 - Mr. Teufert stated it will be difficult to have a virtual meeting and Executive Session.
 - Mr. Brislin stated he was told that a policy was needed in order to have a 100% virtual meeting.
 - Mr. Plotsky does not like the fact the policy holds the President accountable regarding who does or does not have to attend.

- He has a concern that there is a personnel or legal matters, if they can't have executive session, they will not be able to get information.
- Mr. Brislin will like the President to research what other organizations in the State of NJ have in place regarding Executive Session/ Virtual Board Meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Plotsky to table A-1 and revisit at the next board meeting on June 22.

Moved: Glen Plotsky

Seconded: Paul Brislin

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

A-2 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve all Job Descriptions for Montague Township School District. (see attached)

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Charles Teufert

Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES	X		X		X	X	X	5
NO								
ABSTAIN		X		X				2
ABSENT								

➤ **Discussion**

- Paul Brislin asked that all board members reviewed the job descriptions.
- Mr. Capone stated that if your not comfortable to make the vote you can abstain.

A-3 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Township Board of Education re-adopt and approve any action taken during the Emergency Meeting of the Board on Wednesday, May 13, 2020.

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Charles Teufert

Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES		X	X		X	X	X	5
NO								
ABSTAIN	X			X				2
ABSENT								

➤ **Discussion**

- Mr. Plotsky stated that whenever there is an emergency visit, the board revisits just in case there is a challenge, business is still done.

- Mr. Brislin stated he did review the minutes and approved them because he didn't see any changes to what happened in the last meeting.
- Mr. Capone stated this is a protection procedurally to protect the board.

XIV. Financial Items

F-1 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve May 12, 2020 thru June 8, 2020 - Bill List attached and listed below:

	Check Numbers	Amount
Regular Bill List	#A:N0515, N0529, N0601, A:25593-A:25627	\$682,678.87
Lunch Program	F: N1723	\$3,610.65

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Charles Teufert

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

ALL IN FAVOR>

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

- Discussion
 - Paul Brislin thanked Mr. Capone for implementing that a signature by Renee or Eric be on the report.

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Charles Teufert

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

F-3 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Treasurer of School Monies Report (A-149) for the month of April 2020. (Attachment)

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Charles Teufert

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

F-4 BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-2.11(c) 3, the Montague Township Board of Education certify that as of April 30,2020, after review of the Secretary’s monthly financial reports for April 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: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Jennifer Caramucci

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

F-5 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the attached list of line item transfers effective April 30, 2020. (Attachment)

Moved: Paul Brislin

Seconded: Dale Bouma

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

F-6 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township

Board of Education approve adopting the Temporary Optional 403B Retirement Plan Changes in the CARES Act checklist for those affected by the Coronavirus and who qualify under the CARES Act. (Attachment)

Moved: Jennifer Caramucci

Seconded: Dale Bouma

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

F-7 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the following individuals or firms in their respective positions for the 2020-2021 school year: (Attachment)

F-7A Paul Brislin motioned to exclude the first four vendors. Bottom vendors vote.
Danielle Christmann Seconded

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

Paul Brislin motioned to table the first four vendors until there are other bids brought to the board.

Dale Bouma Seconded

➤ Discussion

- Mr. Plotsky – In regards to Architect and the Auditor, nobody else ever bid.
- Board Attorney and Special Project board attorney. The Special Project board attorney are specific to the send/ receive issue and know best in that area of the law.
- Board Attorney- Comegno Law Group has a stellar reputation services more school boards than other firm in the State of NJ.
- Mr. Capone stated looking at the consistency you want to create and do not what to disrupt relationships without a purpose. He asked to not table it.

Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES		X		X				2
NO	X		X		X	X	X	5
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

F7-B Motion to vote on the first four vendors.

Moved: Glen Plotsky

Seconded: Billy Underwood

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

District Architect	Parette Somjen Architects
Board Attorney	Comegno Law Group
Board Attorney (Special Project)	Porzio
Board Auditor	Nisivoccia
Accounting/Personnel Software Provider	CDK Systems
Payroll Computer Service Provider	R&L DataCenters, Inc.
Risk Management Consultant	Treadstone Risk Management LLC
Dental Insurance Broker	Treadstone Risk Management LLC
Student Information/Food Service Data Service	Realtime Information Technology
E-rate Consultatant	e2e Exchange, LLC,
Purchasing and The Right to Know Service	Educational Data Services Inc
Water Operator	Bill Grenville
Group Disability Insurance Broker	Prudential
Cleaning company	Jan-pro of Northern NJ
Voluntary Tax Shelter Annuity Provider(403b)	Axa Equitable

F-8 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Business Administrator to advertise for bids, when legally necessary, for supplies, equipment and/or services for the 2020/2021 school year, and to authorize entering into agreements through the New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program, Morris County Educational Services Commission, Sussex County Educational Services Commission and Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission when in the best interest of the Montague Township Public School.

- Discussion
 - Mr. Brislin will like clarification as to the way it sounds the contracts will not have to be approved by the board prior to the contracts becoming final.
 - Mr. Plotsky confirmed Mr. Brislin’s understanding is incorrect and explained there is a process where the contract is not final without it going to the Board.

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Billy Underwood

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

ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

F-9 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:21-2 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.3 (a) permit a Board of Education to establish and/or deposit into certain reserve accounts at year end, and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permit a board of education to transfer anticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by board resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Montague Township Board of Education wishes to deposit anticipated current year surplus into a Capital Reserve account at year end, and

WHEREAS, the Montague Township Board of Education has determined that up to \$1,300,000 may be available for such purpose of transfer;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Montague Township Board of Education that it hereby authorizes the district’s School Business Administrator to make this transfer consistent with all applicable laws and regulations with all applicable laws and regulations.

- Discussion
 - Mr. Brislin asked or clarification.
 - For F9,F10, F11, Mr. Capone explained that this allows to make better decisions at closeout where the board can best use the money.
 - The BA makes recommendation by forecasting.
 - Mr. Brislin wanted clarification that the spending authority is with the Board of Education.
 - Mr. Plotsky confirmed the spending authority and assignment is with the Board of Education.

Moved: Jennifer Caramucci

Seconded: Dale Bouma

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

F-10 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.3 (b) permit a Board of Education to establish and/or deposit into certain reserve accounts at year end, and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permit a board of education to transfer anticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by board resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Montague Township Board of Education wishes to deposit anticipated current year surplus into a Maintenance Reserve account at year end, and

WHEREAS, the Montague Township Board of Education has determined that up to \$400,000 may be available for such purpose of transfer;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Montague Township Board of Education that it hereby authorizes the district’s School Business Administrator to make this transfer consistent with all applicable laws and regulations with all applicable laws and regulations.

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Paul Brislin

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

F-11 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.4 permit a Board of Education to establish and/or deposit into certain reserve accounts at year end, and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permit a board of education to transfer anticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by board resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Montague Township Board of Education wishes to deposit anticipated current year surplus into a Tuition Reserve account at year end, and

WHEREAS, the Montague Township Board of Education has determined that up to \$300,000 may be available for such purpose of transfer;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Montague Township Board of Education that it hereby authorizes the district’s School Business Administrator to make this transfer consistent with all applicable laws and regulations with all applicable laws and regulations.

Moved: Jennifer Caramucci

Seconded: Danielle Christmann

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

F-12 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the State Treasurer, in consultation with the Governor and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:34-7 and N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (b) has increased the bid threshold amount for school districts which do not have a Qualified Purchasing Agent , from \$29,000 to \$32,000, effective July 1, 2020;

WHEREAS, the Montague Township Board of Education would like to take advantage of the maximum statutory bid threshold amount of \$32,000 for school districts who do not have a qualified purchasing agent;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Montague Township Board of Education, establishes and sets the bid threshold amount of \$32,000 for the Board of Education, and further authorizes Erkan Gumustekin award contracts, in full accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (a), for those purchases that do not exceed in the aggregate the newly established bid threshold amount.

- Discussion
 - Paul Brislin requested clarification that the BA does not have spending authority.
 - Mr. Plotsky confirmed he cannot spend but doesn't have to put out to bid.

Moved: Charles Teufert

Seconded: Dale Bouma

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

F-13 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Montague Township Board of Education approve to appoint Erkan Gumustekin, Business Administrator for the Montague Township Board of Education 2020-2021 school year, as Public Agency Compliance Officer for purchasing and liaison official with the authority to

recommend the appropriate corrections to the district's contracting procedures as required by the NJ Division of Contract Compliance and Equal Opportunity Office

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Billy Underwood

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

F-14 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Montague Township Board of Education approve to appoint the Superintendent as claims auditor for the 2020-2021 school year to approve checks and emergency account transfers during the month that cannot wait for the board meeting. Such checks will appear on the bills list and transfers will be confirmed by the board at the next regular meeting.

- Discussion
 - Paul Brislin asked for clarification.
 - Mr. Plotsky explained that if there is a situation prior to the board meeting that a check needs approval.
 - Mr. Capone explained it is a fail safe when something comes up. This is for emergency purpose.
 - Mr. Brislin requested to table until the next meeting.

Moved: Jennifer Caramucci

Seconded: Billy Underwood

Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES			X		X	X	X	4
NO		X						1
ABSTAIN	X			X				2
ABSENT								

F-15 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the chart of accounts for the budgetary process and authorizes the Superintendent and the Business Administrator to implement the 2020-2021 budget and to commit funds within budgetary limitations pursuant to the policies and regulations of the State Board and Montague Township Board of Education.

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Billy Underwood

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

ABSENT								
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F-16 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Montague Township Board of Education approve to authorize the Business Administrator to make regular payments of such standard bills as Health & Dental Benefits, Utilities, Board's Share of Social Security, Pensions, Unemployment Tax, Salaries, Tuition, Transportation and Cafeteria expense bills, for the 2020-2021 school year.

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Danielle Christmann

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

F-17 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education authorize payroll deductions for tax sheltered annuities and other depositories authorized by the staff with Equitable and Prudential for the 2020-2021 school year.

Moved: Jennifer Caramucci

Seconded: Billy Underwood

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

F-18 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Montague Township Board of Education approve to the attached requisition for taxes for the Montague Township for the 2020-2021 school year. (Attachment)

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Billy Underwood

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

F-19 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey authorizes Parette Somjen Architects to submit all necessary plans and paperwork to the Department of Education concerning the “Interior Improvements at Montague Township School” to serve as an application to the office of School Facilities and an amendment to the District’s Long Range Facility Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Montague Township Board of Education is NOT seeking State funding but will fund the Project through the District’s General Account.

Moved: Jennifer Caramucci

Seconded: Dale Bouma

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

F-20 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the purchase and installation of a Panasonic closed circuit television (CCTV) surveillance system (Hardware and Software) by RFP Solutions, Inc.’s for the Montague Township School District under State Contract No. 89980. The cost of the purchase and installation would be which is in the 2019-20 budget is \$46,706.00. Part of the cost will be offset by a safety grant the school applied for through NJ School insurance group. (see attached)

- Discussion
 - Mrs. Christmann will like to motion to table so she can get more information.
 - Mr. Brislin asked if it was possible that the State of NJ reduce the anticipated state aid and asked if this surveillance system can wait until the board finds out if the state will cut the aid
 - Mr. Plotsky stated that if you wait 2 ½ months, there will not be time to have the system installed.
 - Mr. Teufert explained that this is from the 2019 – 2020 budget.
 - Mr. Brislin asked how much the safety grant is.
 - The BA stated it is \$2500.
 - Mr. Plotsky explained that they received a discount of \$2500 for this project. It would cost money to do nothing.
 - Mr. Bouma asked if \$46,706.00 will be lowered.
 - The BA confirmed the amount is including the safety grant.

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Jennifer Caramucci

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

F-21 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the purchase and adoption of K-8 American Reading Company Core Program at a cost of \$147,750 which includes materials, software, and professional development. (see attached)

- Discussion
 - Charles Teufert asked when was the last curriculum purchased? The current curriculum did not envision online learning.
 - Mr. Capone believes it is 12/ 13. You can roll out electronic use immediately.

Moved: Jennifer Caramucci

Seconded: Dale Bouma

Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES			X	X	X	X	X	5
NO	X	X						2
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

F-22 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the First Student Transportation 2020 – 2021 Renewal Agreement at a CPI 1.7 of the current 2019-2020 contract with First Student at a total cost of \$1,476.80 per day. Tier Number Tier Number Routes Tiered Cost Increase/Decrease Adjustment Cost 2019-02 M-2, HP-2 \$384.40 \$0.95 2019-03 M-3, PJ-1 \$351.40 \$0.95 2019-04 M-4, TC-2 \$370.50 \$0.95 2019-05 M-5, TC-1 \$370.50 \$0.95 (Attachment)

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Billy Underwood

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

F-23 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the 2019-2020 attached list of out-of-district regular & special education placements as of June 8, 202

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Billy Underwood

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

ABSENT								
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F-24 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve an Agreement for Legal Services – Solicitor with Porzio, Bromberg, & Newman, P.C. in accordance with the 2019 – 2020 fiscal year Agreement at the hourly rate of \$365.00 per hour for senior attorneys, \$255.00 per hour for all associate attorneys, and \$145.00 per hour for paralegals. This agreement will be in effect from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020. (Attachment)

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Danielle Christmann

Roll Call	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Underwood	Teufert	Plotsky	Total
YES			X		X	X	X	4
NO	X	X						2
ABSTAIN				X				1
ABSENT								

F-25 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the quote for employee’s dental coverage obtained by Treadstone Risk Management LLC underwritten by Delta Dental for the 2020-2021 school year. (attachment)

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Billy Underwood

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

Motion by Glen Plotsky - 5 minute recess, BOE to be back at 9:15pm

Motion by Jennifer Caramucci 2nd Paul Brislin

All in Favor

XV. 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 reopen public comment based on earlier vote at 9:29pm. (Technical difficulties)

John Mannion

- Thanked the board members to be independent thinkers.

Krista Mikulski

- Commented that it is necessary to figure out how to do the Board of Education meeting virtually.

Danielle Conklin

- On Behalf of the Montague PTA Executive Board, presented the check in the amount of \$354 to the Montague Township Board of Education donated to purchase yearbooks for all the 8th graders.
- The PTA also donated payment for the T-shirts designed by 8th graders.

Rebecca Lehmkuhl

- Thanked the Montague Board of Education for their hard work.
- Felt hurt by the last meeting vote (voted NO on the hiring of the staff).
- The Montague Township School has an excellent staff that works hard.
- The board members that voted no made the staff feel unappreciated.

Danielle Christmann

- **Stated that there is an excellent staff at Montague Township school.**

Linda Willeford

- Saddened and hurt by the board members voting no.
- Grateful to work with a devoted group of educators, positive role models.
- Stated that the staff is all a Montague family.

Kelly Edsall

- Expressed appreciation for staff, child study team, and Mr Capone.
- Stated they work very effectively together.
- Stated that it is her 2nd year in the school district, miss being in the building with students and staff.

Christina DeNicola

- Speech therapist at the Montague Township School. She thanked all of the members, administration, PTA, coworkers, parents and teachers for a warm welcome.
- She had a great experience and felt confident because of an open line of communication with the administration and board of education.
- She also was involved in building the cross country team at Montague.
- The administration allowed her to attend a conference to further support all of the students literacy.

Kim Hart

- Employed by Montague School for 19 years.
- Thanked all the board members that voted yes to staff members contract and special ed student vote.
- At the last board meeting, comment was made about making the paraprofessional position should be part time and take benefits from a paraprofessional.
- Paraprofessional support the most talented and needy children and are critical.

Danielle La Starza

- Thanked the Board of Education that support the staff at the Montague Township School.
- Stated that she never worked with a group of professionals talented with expertise.
- Stated Mr. Capone is an excellent leader that supports the staff and community by creating opportunities that the students at the Montague Township School never had before.

Eileen Murphy

- Thanked the three board members for their no vote that really matters, block Mr. Capone for taxing the community 14 ½ % more.
- Thanked Mr. Underwood for being absent, if it weren't for him being absent, the taxpayers would be paying for the 14 ½% increase.

Mr. Plotsky

- Responded to Mrs. Murphy that the number 14 ½% increase is incorrect.

Mrs. Caramucci

- Responded to Mrs. Murphy that 14 ½% increase in taxes is not a fact.

Danielle Christmann

- Commented that she never mentioned to take paraprofessional hours and benefits away.
- She asked a single question as to Why are we are hiring paraprofessional with benefits.

Andrea Conklin

- Answer the question why you should give paraprofessionals benefits.
- Her last job was a revolving door of paraprofessionals. It is hard to get a routine when a new paraprofessional is being trained. Kids need stability.
- Paraprofessionals are all here for the kids and everyone should all focus on the kids.

Rebecca Dann

- Thank you for an opportunity to teach another year at Montague Township School and thanked the BOE for their hard work.

Chandler Howard

- Thanked the Board of Education for renewing her contract.
- She is excited to come to work every day at the school.

Andree Campbell

- Stated that there was an unprofessional all call, to the citizens and parents of the community.

Rachel Van Gordon

- Thanked the board for renewing the contract. Stated the staff is fantastic and goes above and beyond for the kids.
- It is her first year teaching and received a very warm welcome.
- Excited about the agriculture program and the soccer program was a highlight of the year for her.
- Expressed gratitude and thanks to the Board Members.

Denise Vogel

- Concerned as a retired special ed teacher and child study team member. Recently the district returned special need children to the Montague Township School. Concerned that use of fully trained Crisis interventionist specialist have been overlooked in the past.
- Concerned there is a psychologist on staff but not a trained cognitive behavioralist.
- Asked the board members to ensure each child safety before bringing a special education student back to the district.

Motion to close public comment at 10:18pm

Motion Billy Underwood 2nd Dale Bouma
All in Favor

XVI. Unfinished Business – None

XVII. New Business

Mr. Plotsky entertained motion to accept \$364 for yearbooks and T-shirts for 8th graders by the PTA.

Motion by Paul Brislin 2nd Charles Teufert

Moved: Paul Brislin

Seconded: Charles Teufert

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

- Mr. Capone stated that New Business for the board is to look from a strategic planning standpoint.
- This is the time frame to state what items the board of education will want accomplished next year.

All in Favor

XVIII. 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 10:21pm.

Motion Jennifer Caramucci 2nd Paul Brislin
All in Favor

Motion to close Executive Session at 11:18pm
Motion Dale Bouma 2nd Billy Underwood
All in Favor

Motion to reopen Regular Meeting at 11:18pm
Motion Dale Bouma 2nd Billy Underwood
All in Favor

XIX. Adjournment

Motion Billy Underwood 2nd Dale Bouma
All in Favor
Time of Adjournment: **11:19pm**