

**Montague Board of Education Meeting**  
**Organization Meeting Minutes**  
**January 8, 2021**  
**5:00 pm**

Aldijana Reckovic, Board Secretary, called the meeting to order at 5:00pm

Aldijana Reckovic requested those present to join her in the salute to our Flag.

Aldijana Reckovic read the following Mission Statement

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.

Aldijana Reckovic read the following announcement of this meeting

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.

Aldijana Reckovic read the official results of the annual school election.:

**Montague Township Board of Education Members**

**Vote for Two (2)**  
**Three Year Terms**

<b>Candidates</b>	<b>Total Votes</b>	<b>Percentage Votes</b>
Barbara J. Holstein	1,153	34.01
Lauren Zitone	604	17.82
Denise A. Bogle	1,216	35.87
Charles E. Teufert	395	11.65
Write- In	22	.65

Aldijana Reckovic administered the oath of office to the newly elected Board members

- Denise Bogle
- Barbara Holstein

Aldijana Reckovic conducted a roll Call.

	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Denise Bogle	X	
Dale Bouma	X	
Paul Brislin	X	
Jennifer Caramucci	X	
Danielle Christmann	X	
Barbara Holstein	X	
Glen Plotsky	X	

Others Present:

Timothy Capone - Chief School Administrator  
 Aldijana Reckovic - Board Secretary

Aldijana Reckovic opened the floor for nominations for the position of Board of Education President.

Glen Plotsky moved, to nominate Glen Plotsky seconded by Jennifer Caramucci for the position of Board of Education President.

Denise Bogle moved to nominate Barbara Holstein seconded by Dale Bouma for the position of the Board of Education President.

Hearing no other nominations, Aldijana Reckovic entertained the motion to close nominations for Board President. Jennifer Caramucci moved, seconded by Dale Bouma.

Aldijana Reckovic conducted a roll call vote for the position of Board of Education President:

<b>Roll Call</b>	<b>Bogle</b>	<b>Bouma</b>	<b>Brislin</b>	<b>Caramucci</b>	<b>Christmann</b>	<b>Holstein</b>	<b>Plotsky</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Plotsky</b>				X			X	2
<b>Holstein</b>	X	X			X	X		4
<b>ABSTAIN</b>			X					1

Ms. Holstein assumed the chair.

Ms. Holstein entertained nominations for the position of First Vice-President

Danielle Christmann moved to nominate Denise Bogle, seconded by Dale Bouma for the position of Vice President.

Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Plotsky moved to close nominations for Vice President, Danielle Christmann, seconded.

Ms. Holstein requested a roll call vote for the Board of Education Vice-President.

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

**A-1 BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoints Aldijana Reckovic, Board Secretary whose term of office shall coincide with the life of the Board.

**Discission:**

- Ms. Bogle questioned the term with the life of the board?
- Mr. Plotsky responded it means until December 31, 2021
- Ms. Bogle stated she wants it to read to the current contract
- Mr. Plotsky stated the board secretary position is an appointed position, that the board appoints.
- Ms. Holstein questioned Mr. Capone, why would it not read thru June 30?
- Mr. Capone responded the appointments are for the life of the board, this is a new board, so these are the appointments that you make for this year.

**Moved: Glen Plotsky**

**Seconded: Jennifer Caramucci**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	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 appoints Erkan Gumustekin, School Business Administrator whose term of office shall coincide with the life of the Board.

**Discission:**

- Mr. Brislin stated didn't we approve the contract in June?
- Mr. Plotsky again reiterates that was the employment contract, this is for the appointment.

Moved: Glen Plotsky

Seconded: Jennifer Caramucci

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

A-3 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoints School Business Administrator, Erkan Gumustekin, to be designated as the Investment Officer of Records whose term of office shall coincide with the life of the Board

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Jennifer Caramucci

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

A-4 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoints Ms. Bogle as alternate Board Secretary, in the absence of the Board Secretary, for emergency purposes, whose terms of office shall coincide with the life of the Board.

**Discussion:**

- Ms. Caramucci stated to Ms. Holstein that is not how it reads, there is a blank space.
- Mr. Plotsky stated you must ask for Nominations for alternate Board Secretary.
- Mr. Plotsky and Ms. Caramucci informed the board members, of what the alternate Board Secretary does in the absence of the Board Secretary.

Mr. Bouma moved to nominate Ms. Bogle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Danielle Christmann  
Hearing no other Nominations.

Moved: Glen Plotsky

Seconded: Jennifer Caramucci

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**A-5 BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoints Erkan Gumustekin to be designated as the district’s Right to Know Officer, whose term of office shall coincide with the life of the Board.

**Moved: Dale Bouma**

**Seconded: Jennifer Caramucci**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
<b>YES</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**A-6 BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoints Erkan Gumustekin to be designated as the district’s Purchasing Agent, whose term of office shall coincide with the life of the Board.

**Moved: Glen Plotsky**

**Seconded: Dale Bouma**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
<b>YES</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**A-7 BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoints Erkan Gumustekin to be designated as the district’s Integrated Pest Management Coordinator, whose term of office shall coincide with the life of the Board.

**Moved: Dale Bouma**

**Seconded: Jennifer Caramucci**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
<b>YES</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**A-8 BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoints Aldijana Reckovic to be designated as the district’s Custodian of Records (as required under the Open Public Records Act), whose term of office shall coincide with the life of the Board.

**Moved: Glen Plotsky**

**Seconded: Dale Bouma**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**A-9 BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoints Rene E. Metzgar as the Treasurer of School Monies, whose term of office shall coincide with the life of the Board.

**Moved: Dale Bouma**

**Seconded: Denise Bogle**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**A-10 BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoints Timothy C. Capone as the district’s ADA officer.

**Moved: Jennifer Caramucci**

**Seconded: Dale Bouma**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**A-11 BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoints Timothy C. Capone as the district’s Affirmative Action Officer.

**Moved: Dale Bouma**

**Seconded: Jennifer Caramucci**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**AMENDED A12 - A13**

**A-12 BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoints Danielle LaStarza as the district’s Homeless Liaison this **Appointment does not include a stipend and or additional compensation**

**Discussion:**

- Mr. Brislin stated he wants to amend the motion to say this is without a stipend.
  - Mr. Capone stated this is not a stipend position
- Ms. Caramucci amend motion to include this is not a stipend position  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Dale Bouma

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**A-13 BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoints Danielle LaStarza as the district’s 504 officer **This position does not include a stipend or other additional compensation**

**Discussion:**

- Mr. Brislin stated he wants to amend the motion to say this is without a stipend.
- Mr. Capone again states this is not a stipend position.

**Moved: Glen Plotsky**

**Seconded: Danielle Christmann**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**TABLED A14 - A15**

**A-14 BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoints Danielle LaStarza as the district’s Truancy Officer.

**Discussion:**

- Mr. Brislin stated to amend the motion to say this is without a stipend.
- Mr. Capone stated he does not recommend that, table for the next meeting, to RICE that Individual and talk about it in executive session so you can take monies away from them.
- Dale Bouma amended his motion 2<sup>nd</sup>: Danielle Christmann

**Moved: Dale Bouma**

**Seconded: Danielle Christmann**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X		6
NO							X	1
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**A-15 BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoints Danielle LaStarza as the district’s Residency Officer.

**Moved: Dale Bouma**

**Seconded: Paul Brislin**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X		6
NO							X	1
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**Amended**

**A-16 BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoints **Barbara Holstein** Delegate and **Denise Bogle** Alternate to the New Jersey School Boards Association whose terms shall coincide with the life of the Board.

Mr. Plotsky nominates himself and Denise Bogle as alternate 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jennifer Caramucci

Mr. Brislin nominates Barbara Holstein Delegate and Denise Bogle as alternate 2<sup>nd</sup> Dale Bouma

**Mr. Plotsky amended A-16 to read the appointees names.**

**Voice vote: ALL IN FAVOR FOR THE AMENMENT OF A-16**

**Moved: Glen Plotsky**

**Seconded: Paul Brislin**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
Plotsky				X				1
Holstein	X	X	X		X	X		5
ABSTAIN							X	1

**Board has 3-minute recess**

**Moved: Jennifer Caramucci 2<sup>nd</sup>: Dale Bouma**

**Mr. Capone stated to, Ms. Holstein you need to ask all in favor.**

**Voice vote: all in favor**

**Reopen meeting**

**Moved: Dale Bouma 2<sup>nd</sup>: Paul Brislin**

**Mr. Capone stated to, Ms. Holstein you need to ask all in favor**

**Voice vote: all in favor**



**A-17 WHEREAS**, the Montague Board of Education desires to establish procedures for authorized signatures to be placed on the various categories of checks issued by the Board:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the signatures of the Board President, School Business Administrator, and the Treasurer of School Monies shall be required on checks issued in payment of bills; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the signature of the Board President and the Treasurer of School Monies and the original signature of the School Business Administrator, Chief School Administrator shall be required on Bill Lists; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the signature of the Treasurer of School Monies shall be required on all checks issued on the Payroll Agency Account.

**AMENDED**

<b>Account</b>	<b>Signor 1</b>	<b>Signor 2</b>	<b>Signor 3</b>	<b>Bank</b>
<b>Summer Savings</b>	Erkan Gumustekin	Melinda Bellis	Rene Metzgar	Provident Bank
<b>Trust &amp; Agency</b>	Erkan Gumustekin	Melinda Bellis	Rene Metzgar	Provident Bank
<b>Payroll</b>	Erkan Gumustekin	Melinda Bellis	Rene Metzgar	Provident Bank
<b>General Fund</b>	Erkan Gumustekin	Barbara Holstein	Rene Metzgar	Provident Bank
<b>Student Council</b>	Erkan Gumustekin	Melinda Bellis	Rene Metzgar	Provident Bank
<b>Unemployment</b>	Erkan Gumustekin	Melinda Bellis	-	Provident Bank
<b>Lunch Program</b>	Erkan Gumustekin	Melinda Bellis	Rene Metzgar	Provident Bank
<b>Capital Reserve</b>	Erkan Gumustekin	Barbara Holstein	Rene Metzgar	Provident Bank
<b>Flexible Spending</b>	Erkan Gumustekin	Rene Metzgar	-	Provident Bank
<b>Dureler Fund</b>	Erkan Gumustekin	Rene Metzgar	-	Provident Bank

**Discussion:**

- Mr. Capone stated it needs to be amended to read the board president.
- Ms. Holstein reads it to state Barbara Holstein.

Moved: Paul Brislin

Seconded: Dale Bouma

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**AMENDED**

**A-18 BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education appoints President **Barbara Holstein** (or in their absence, Vice-President **Denise Bogle**) together with Timothy C. Capone, Superintendent and Erkan Gumustekin, School Business Administrator, to be authorized to sign the payroll summary sheets prepared semi-monthly.

**Discussion:**

- Mr. Capone kindly stated to Ms. Holstein she needs to read it with the Vice -Presidents name as well.
- Ms. Holstein again reads A-18 to reflect Vice-Presidents name.

Moved: Glen Plotsky

Seconded: Dale Bouma

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**AMENDED**

**A-19 BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Township Board of Education names the **New Jersey Herald** be designated as the official newspaper and, **Sunday New Jersey Herald** will be designated as the official alternate newspaper.

**Discussion:**

- Mr. Brislin stated it should be New Jersey Herald and Sunday New Jersey Herald  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Danielle Christmann
- Mr. Plotsky asked Mr. Brislin, if he is making a motion to put New Jersey Herald and Sunday New Jersey Herald?
- Mr. Plotsky stated the correct way for the board members, to vote on the two newspapers proposed by Mr. Brislin.
- Mr. Capone asked what the alternatives are.
- Ms. Holstein responded the discussion is with the board members, not with you Mr. Capone.
- Mr. Plotsky stated Mr. Capone is a non-voting board member.
- Mr. Capone stated that when we look at the accuracy or inaccuracy of the reporting of the NJ Herald, we continuously see that things are reported inaccurately or through ignorance. It is not reputable, articles printed do not represent facts.

- Ms. Holstein stated to Mr. Capone, you are a non-voting board member, This discussion is limited to how we are legal advertising are advertisements for the school district we are not critiquing any of the reporters or any of the other affiliations or detail of the newspaper. I ask you to limit your comments on how we are paying for the newspaper how we deal with advising in the paper.
- Mr. Plotsky motioned to have the Star-Ledger be the official or the alternate newspaper.

**Moved: Dale Bouma**

**Seconded: Paul Brislin**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X		X	X		5
NO				X			X	2
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**AMENDED**

**A-20** That the Board of Education approves the following dates for public meetings:

Designation of Meetings (18A:10-6)

WHEREAS the Open Public Meetings Act requires the Board of Education to provide notice of regularly scheduled meetings within seven days following the Annual Organization Meeting of the Board and, WHEREAS the Board of Education of the Township of Montague establish the following notice of regularly scheduled meetings be adopted and held in the Montague Township School **gymnasium**.

**Notice of Public Meetings for Montague Board of Education  
475 Route 206  
Montague, NJ 07827  
6:30 pm**

<b>January 13, 2021 Wednesday</b>	<b>January 25, 2021</b>
<b>February 8, 2021</b>	<b>February 22, 2021</b>
<b>March 8, 2021</b>	<b>March 22, 2021 Adoption &amp; Filing of Budget (Tentative)</b>
<b>April 12, 2021</b>	<b>April 26, 2021 Public Budget Hearing (Tentative)</b>
<b>May 10, 2021</b>	<b>May 24, 2021</b>
<b>June 14, 2021</b>	<b>June 28, 2021</b>
<b>July 12, 2021</b>	<b>July 26, 2021</b>
<b>August 9, 2021</b>	<b>August 23, 2021</b>
<b>September 13, 2021</b>	<b>September 27, 2021</b>
<b>October 11, 2021 Legal holiday</b>	<b>October 25, 2021</b>
<b>November 8, 2021</b>	<b>November 22, 2021</b>
<b>December 6, 2021</b>	<b>December 20, 2021</b>

**January 3, 2022 Organization Meeting**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the aforesaid notice of regularly scheduled meetings be posted in the Montague Township School on the community bulletin board located outside the front office at 475 US Route 206, Montague, NJ 07827 and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the aforesaid notice of regularly scheduled meetings be filed at with the Montague Township Clerk and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Special Public Meetings where official action is taken will be scheduled as needed in compliance with New Jersey Sunshine Law. Closed Executive Sessions with the public excluded for the purpose of discussing personnel, legal matters, negotiations, or any other exception as defined in N.J.S.A 10:4-12 will be authorized as needed by resolution during public meetings or by special notice.

Discussion:

- Ms. Bogle stated to move the meetings to the gym and change the meeting dates.
- The board has a detail discussion about the meeting dates, and everyone’s availability.
- Mr. Capone stated the Administration has no agenda items for a January 13 meeting, because we just had a meeting. What is so urgent that we are going to have a meeting in three days?
- Ms. Holstein responded she needs to sit down with Mr. Capone to come up with the agenda.

**Moved: Dale Bouma**

**Seconded: Glen Plotsky**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**A-21** That all existing bylaws, policies and regulations, curriculums, textbooks, contracts, and agreements as established by act and practice of previous Boards of Education are to remain in force and effect until such time as the present Board necessitates change by way of resolution.

**Moved: Dale Bouma**

**Seconded: Denise Bogle**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**AMENDED TO A-22**

**A-22** That the Board approve participation with the Sussex County Educational Services Commission for the 2021/2022 school year.

Mr. Plotsky motioned to amend A-23 to be numbered as A-22

2<sup>nd</sup>: Dale Bouma

Voice vote: all in favor

Moved: Dale Bouma

Seconded: Denise Bogle

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**XIII. Correspondence**

- None

**XIV. Approval of Minutes**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the minutes of December 28, 2020.

Moved: Glen Plotsky

Seconded: Dale Bouma

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

Ms. Holstein moves **to amend the agenda** to add Other Business in the agenda for tonight  
2<sup>nd</sup> Denise Bogle

**Discussion:**

- Ms. Holstein stated she did her own research, and this is not new business but other business.

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X		X	X		5

<b>NO</b>							X	1
<b>ABSTAIN</b>				X				1
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**Ms. Holstein motioned to get RFP for food services  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Denise Bogle**

**Discussion:**

- Mr. Plotsky stated to Ms. Holstein didn't you just said that you cannot raise new business at this meeting?
- Ms. Holstein responded this is just a request for proposal, I'm not proposing new business.
- Mr. Plotsky stated you are authorizing or directing for proposal it is essentially an action item, it is new business.
- Ms. Christmann asked what is an **RFP**?

-Ms. Holstein responded it is a request for proposal, I'm introducing this is to address the community's concerns regarding our food service program and to see what other options are out there and to be able to present those options at the next board meeting for the community.

- Ms. Caramucci responded so, you're requesting this is not new business, but you want proposals by Wednesday?
- Ms. Bogle stated we will get them.
- Mr. Capone stated he does not recommend this to the board, the proper procedure is to have a conversation if this is something you would like to pursue and then you give that direction and from there, we would talk about the logistics implications were. Then you would have the correct information, and you might consider an RFP. Ms. Christmann at the last meeting we had a conversation for us to have our own kitchen, which would give us more control to pick the foods. This is a complete 180, to go mid-year and get an RFP.
- Ms. Holstein responded we need to come up with a long-range plan for the cafeteria , this is a short-term plan. Our parents are not happy with the food services.
- Mr. Plotsky stated he is very concerned with the new board members and without their training are micromanaging the district and is a direct violation.
- Ms. Holstein responded I am not violating any code of ethics. There is nothing unethical about my proposal.
- Ms. Bogle stated there is nothing unethical about this proposal. Let's stop playing around and do the job.

<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	<b>Total</b>
<b>YES</b>	X	X	X		X	X		5

<b>NO</b>				X			X	2
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**Ms. Holstein motioned go out to proposal for new board attorneys’ services for Montague School Board.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Denise Bogle**

<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	<b>Total</b>
<b>YES</b>	X	X	X		X	X		5
<b>NO</b>				X			X	2
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**Ms. Holstein motioned to move the annual school budget and school board member election to the month of April, being April 2021.**

**Discussion:**

- Mr. Capone stated before any board members vote on that, do you know the implications on doing that?
- Ms. Christmann asked what are the implications?
- Mr. Capone stated there is a whole list, two new board members coming in tonight and doing all these motions and having most of the board go along with them without any discussions or proper information.
- Ms. Holstein stated the township and other school districts are doing the same. If you read the New Jersey Herald, there is an article on it.
- Ms. Caramucci stated she would like more information on this so she can make an educated vote.
- Ms. Holstein stated this gives the rights to the people of this town to vote on the school budget.
- Ms. Caramucci responded she does not feel personally prepared since this is the first time, she is hearing of it, I need to see the information for myself before changing anything.
- Ms. Holstein stated before Chris Christie changed it in 2012, it was always the voters who always approved the school budget.
- Ms. Bogle stated we can email the board members the information before the next meeting.
- **(1<sup>ST</sup> Suggestion)** Ms. Bogle motioned amend to table for the next meeting, so the board members have the proper information before voting on it. 2<sup>ND</sup>: Dale Bouma.
- **Mr. Plotsky asked to amend to table until the January 25<sup>th</sup> meeting**  
**Voice vote: all in favor**

**(1<sup>st</sup> suggestion)**

**Ms. Holstein motioned to direct the law firm Porizio and other law firms that go along with that law firm to provide the board a detailed legal status update between High Point and Montague and to provide a detailed plan to withdraw these lawsuits and maintain a the send receive with High Point Regional High School.**

**2<sup>ND</sup>: Denise Bogle**

**Discussion:**

- Mr. Plotsky stated to request an attorney for executive session, so you can learn about litigations makes perfect sense to me. Tonight, start from the position with zero knowledge, the litigations should be withdrawn, I think you need information, then follow thru with your second half of the motion and direction you want to go with.
- Ms. Holstein stated she wants both plans in front of her, so she can make an educated decision.
- **Ms. Holstein motioned to amend her motion.**

**Ms. Holstein motioned to direct the law firm Porizio to provide the board a detailed status update on both legal cases that currently exists between High Point Regional High School and Montague School district.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Denise Bogle**

<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	<b>Total</b>
<b>YES</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**(2nd suggestion)**

**Ms. Holstein motioned to request Porizio law firm which represents Montague School to provide a detailed plan to withdraw these lawsuits and maintain the send receive with High Point Regional High School.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Denise Bogle**

**Discussion:**

- Mr. Plotsky reiterates the board should first have the status update from Porizio law firm, before moving forward with this motion.
- Ms. Holstein stated she would like both plans in front of us, so when we sit down most of us are well aware what is going on, so we have what the legal plan of what these lawsuits are to have it withdrawn and to maintain the full send receive with High Point.
- Mr. Capone stated you have made a predetermination without seeing any of the information. I think that there's the financial piece on the one side, this is the decision you're making having



never sat and reviewed any of the information with the board or hearing from your legal counsel. The ethics training is going to be eye-opening, as far as what this board is responsible for.

- Ms. Holstein stated we are the school board and each one of else votes on a resolution, and I think that you are wrong. I am sorry that it does not go along with your agenda, but this is what I want.
- Mr. Capone responded my job is meeting the goals of the board, you are supposed to create goals, things you would like to accomplish. I think it is very concerning that without any of the information and having not reviewed all these items you have motioned. I will caution you on the ethical conduct here.
- Ms. Caramucci stated this does not sit well with me, I do not see how you can ask for a plan without the information.
- Ms. Holstein responded this school board has gone backwards for the last three years, and Mr. Capone is constantly going backwards.
- Mr. Bouma suggested to include outcomes.
- **Ms. Holstein motioned to amend her motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Denise Bogle.**

**Ms. Holstein motioned to request Porizio law firm which represents Montague School to provide a detailed plan to include outcomes that may include withdraw of the lawsuits and maintain a full send receive with High Point Regional High School.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Denise Bogle**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Caramucci	Christmann	Holstein	Plotsky	Total
YES	X	X	X		X	X		5
NO				X			X	2
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**Mr. Plotsky moved to take a 3-minute recess**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Ms. Caramucci**

**Voice vote: all in favor**

**Mr. Plotsky moved to reopen meeting**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Ms. Caramucci**

**Voice vote: all in favor**

**X.V. 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 7:15pm**

Motion Dale Bouma 2<sup>nd</sup> Danielle Christmann

Voice vote: All in Favor

- **Krista Mikulski 2 Elm Court:** Congratulated new board members, how powerful the voice of the people is when we come together. We made this election happen. We fought too hard to get to High Point, to have newcomers come to Montague to try and destroy it. Tim, you came into this town you made promises to the board to get us back to Port Jervis and you did not listen to the people. When are our kids going to come back to School?
- **Andree Cambell 111 Armstrong Rd:** Congratulated new board members, its apparent by the overwhelming vote in November that this town no longer is interested with our kids going to Port Jervis.
- **Stephanie Guida 105 Autumn Dr:** Congratulated new board members, feels like Mr. Plotsky's knowledge and patience with the new board members is appreciated and because he is the only person in the room who is a lawyer. I did research and USDA and the free and reduced lunch there is nothing that prevents you from delivering food under the grab and go program. Many staff members have expressed they want to help, and you should let them help out. Nobody has to have a merv 13 filters, it is only recommended.

**Motion to close public comment at 7:24pm**

Motion Dale Bouma 2<sup>nd</sup> Danielle Christmann

Voice vote: All in Favor

- Ms. Holstein stated we are going to be looking at the continuing of food delivery, and a reopening plan.

**XVI. Adjournment Motion : Paul Brislin 2nd Dale Bouma**

**Voice vote: All in Favor**

**Time of Adjournment: 7:25**

Respectfully Submitted,

Aldijana Reckovic  
Board Secretary