

**Montague Township Board of Education Meeting
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2022 - 6:30 p.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER at 6:32 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent
Barbara Holstein, President	x	
Denise Bogle, Vice President	x	
Paul Brislin	x	
Danielle Christmann		x
Krista Mikulski	x	
Glen Plotsky	x (via zoom)	

Others Present:	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
John Nittolo - Acting CSA	X	_____
Carl Morelli, SBA/BS	X	_____
Joseph Garcia, Esq. – Board Atty.	X via zoom	_____

3. FLAG SALUTE

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

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

6. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Motion to open Executive Session at 6:37 p.m.
 Motion Paul Brislin 2nd Denise Bogle Voice Vote: All in Favor

Motion to close Executive Session at 7:33 p.m.
 Motion Barbara Holstein 2nd Paul Brislin Voice Vote: All in Favor

Motion to reopen Regular Meeting at 7:33 p.m.
 Motion Glen Plotsky 2nd Denise Bogle Voice Vote: All in Favor

8. CSA REPORT - John Nittolo, Acting CSA - One HIB investigation - unfounded which will be voted on at the next meeting. The optional mask mandate for bussing started today. Participated in the Summer Think Tank in Sussex County and met with the founder of the Writing Out Loud program. Questionnaire was sent to staff regarding the Summer Learning Acceleration Program - 4 week summer program, 4 hours a day (not the Extended School Year Program) this is for any child that our staff feels would benefit from during the summer. Transportation will be provided. This is part of the 2nd and 3rd round of the CARES Act funding. Paid through federal grant. Holding meetings with all staff regarding LINK IT. Monitor growth of students from beginning of year to end of year. Staff is using data to help children

exceed in the classroom. New sound system installed. Four classrooms also received a new sound system. Paid for by CARES Act. Calendar discussion in new business. Whenever we run a security drill at the school the DOE now requires written notification be sent to all parents. It is Read Across America week. Discussed busing issues. We have buses but we have a shortage of bus drivers. Sometimes we do combined buses or we do double runs. We also have the mini bus running too. We are in the best position we can be in. All delays are announced and sent by the Transportation Coordinator. All-call has not been used for that. Emails have been sent. No children are being marked late.

9. SBA REPORT - Carl Morelli, BA - Due to Governor Murphy's postponement of his budget address NJDOE updated their budget approval calendar so our budget approval will be on our March 14, 2022 meeting and not at tonight's meeting. We will have State aid figures on March 10, 2022 which will allow me to work on budget. Prior to March 14, 2022, I plan on putting out a survey to the parents for their input on the budget in areas of concern, improvement or money should be spent on or shouldn't be spent on. Discuss with administration. Survey would be open to all taxpayers. Discussed the best way to send survey. Barbara suggested having a special meeting prior to March 14. Effective today our staff payroll portal began today. Starting next year all tax information will be available as well on the portal. Roof replacement company, TREMCO, that the project is on track to move forward and supplies have been ordered. Set to begin the project right after the last day of school (end of June) with the completion before the start of the school year. Before the HVAC project begins an electrical upgrade is needed. Should have an idea of electrical cost at the March 14th meeting. Today at 4PM was our deadline for petitions for the BOE election. We have 6 petitions. Four (4) petitions for the 3 year term and 2 petitions for the 1 year unexpired term. Board members will be given a copy of the budget minus the State aid figures sometime before March 10, 2022. Will finalize over the weekend after State aid figures are posted.

10. BOARD OF THE WHOLE COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS - Mask optional, looking at transportation program, looking at cost benefit analysis regarding owning buses. Reaching out to NJ School Boards for establishing Board goals. Benefit at looking at buses is the late start time for kids. Mr. Andriac thanked Bill VonHollen and Aubrey VonHollen for the new flag they donated to the school and was put up today by Aubrey and a few other students.

11. CORRESPONDENCE - Correspondence from Ms. Taylor regarding the HP Celebration Concert in which Montague students participated in.

12. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Regular Meeting Minutes and the Executive Minutes of January 10, 2022.

Moved: Paul Brislin

Seconded: Barbara Holstein

Discussion:

Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
YES	x	x		x		x	4
NO							
ABSTAIN					x		1
ABSENT			x				1

BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Regular Meeting Minutes and the Executive Minutes of January 24, 2022.

Moved: Barbara Holstein		Seconded: Paul Brislin				Discussion:	
Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
YES	x	x		x		x	4
NO							
ABSTAIN					x		1
ABSENT			x				1

13. PUBLIC SESSION – AGENDA ITEMS

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

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

Motion to open Public Comment at 8:12 p.m.

Motion Denise Bogle 2nd Paul Brislin Voice Vote: All in Favor

Danielle Conklin, 68 Clove Rd., Montague, NJ - Transportation Coordinator, called in to talk about bussing issues and communication.

Mike Zernhelt, River Rd., Montague, NJ - Reinstate putting flag up and down every day for school

Motion to close Public Comment at 8:17 p.m.

Motion Denise Bogle 2nd Paul Brislin Voice Vote: All in Favor

14. ADMINISTRATION

A-1 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Contract for Services between Best Choice Home Care and Montague Township School District beginning February 24, 2022 and concluding June 13, 2022.

Moved: Denise Bogle Seconded: Paul Brislin Discussion: This is a nursing service to provide a substitute nurse in case our nurse is out. We do not pay unless we use them.

Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
YES	x	x		x	x	x	5
NO							
ABSTAIN							
ABSENT			x				1

A-2 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Clinical Staffing Agreement - Schools between Home Care Therapies LLC dba Horizon Healthcare Staffing along with Horizon Staffing Resources and Montague Township School District beginning February 22, 2022.

Moved: Paul Brislin Seconded: Denise Bogle Discussion: This is another nursing service. We don't pay unless we use them.

Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
YES	x	x		x	x	x	5
NO							
ABSTAIN							
ABSENT			x				1

A-3 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve a Special Education Medicaid Initiative FY 2023 (SEMI) participation waiver.

Moved: Denise Bogle Seconded: Paul Brislin Discussion:

Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
YES	x	x		x	x	x	5
NO							
ABSTAIN							
ABSENT			x				1

15. PERSONNEL

P-1 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve The Hooked on Fishing-Not on Drugs Program sponsored by the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife Fishing Club - Bait Buddies (team name) with Carl Ferriere as club advisor, (pending background check, if needed) with a \$1,000 stipend (prorated) for the 2021-2022 school year and \$1,000 stipend for the 2022-2023 school year.

Moved: Denise Bogle Seconded: Glen Plotsky Discussion: Ms. Milkulski questioned why the fishing club advisor is getting a stipend but not Ms. Dawson, Special Ed Coordinator who also deserves one. Working on getting Ms. Dawson a stipend.

Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
YES	x	x		x	x	x	5
NO							
ABSTAIN							
ABSENT			x				1

16. POLICIES

PL-1 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education review the Anti-Hazing Policy (#5541). (First Reading)

Moved: Paul Brislin Seconded: Denise Bogle Discussion: This policy will apply to all grades

Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
YES	x	x		x	x	x	5
NO							
ABSTAIN							
ABSENT			x				1

17. TRANSPORTATION

T-1 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Vernon Choice School Application for Transportation Services for the 2022-2023 school year.

Moved: Barbara Holstein Seconded: Denise Bogle Discussion: This is basically when we have a child out of the district for choice school program. This is a record for transportation that a Montague child is attending out of district school.

Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
YES	x	x		x	x	x	5
NO							
ABSTAIN							
ABSENT			x				1

T-2 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Transportation Services Agreement between the Northern Region Educational Services Commission (“NRESC”) and the Montague Board of Education/Public Schools (“Montague BOE”) with a start date of January 31, 2022 through June 2022.

Route #	School	Contractor	# of Students	Est. Cost per route -(incl. surcharge)
2322	Windsor School	R & May Transportation	1	\$36,000 + \$1,440.00

Moved: Denise Bogle Seconded: Glen Plotsky Discussion: What is the \$1,440 surcharge for? It is a yearly surcharge.

Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
YES	x	x		x		x	4
NO					x		1
ABSTAIN							
ABSENT			x				1

18. FINANCE

F-1 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve January 25, 2022 thru February 28, 2022 - Bill List attached and listed below:

Fund 10	\$ 76,024.00
Fund 11	\$ 922,164.67
Fund 20	\$ 101,059.98
Fund 60	\$ 4,355.41
Grand Total	\$1,103,604.06

Moved: Paul Brislin Seconded: Barbara Holstein Discussion: Mr. Brislin had a question for a charge and Ms. Holstein said it was for a consultation.

Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
YES	x	x		x	x	x	5
NO							
ABSTAIN							
ABSENT			x				1

F-2 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Business Secretary’s Report (A-148) and the Treasurer of the School’s Monies Report (A-149) for the month of November, 2021. They are both in agreement.

Moved: Denise Bogle Seconded: Glen Plotsky Discussion:

Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
YES	x	x		x	x	x	5
NO							
ABSTAIN							
ABSENT			x				1

19. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

BG-1 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the MEA’S and PTA’S Request for Use of Facilities or Grounds for the following: Cafeteria, gymnasium and bathroom usage to host a “Meet the Candidate(s) Night” on Wednesday, March 23, 2022 from 6PM to 8PM (4PM to set up).

Moved: Barbara Holstein Seconded: Denise Bogle Discussion: Barbara Holstein thanked the MEA and PTA for doing this. **Mr. Brislin** suggested that it be available via zoom.

Roll Call	Bogle	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
YES	x	x		x	x	x	5
NO							
ABSTAIN							
ABSENT			x				1

20. PUBLIC SESSION

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Motion to open Public Comment at 8:36 p.m.

Motion Denise Bogle 2nd Paul Brislin Voice Vote: All in Favor

Motion to close Public Comment at 8:37 p.m.

Motion Denise Bogle 2nd Glen Plotsky Voice Vote: All in Favor

21. NEW BUSINESS - Calendar discussion - 3 calendars presented to the 2022-23 school year

22. ADJOURNMENT

Motion Paul Brislin 2nd Glen Plotsky Voice Vote: All in Favor

Time of Adjournment: 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Morelli

CARL MORELLI, Board Secretary