

**Montague Township Board of Education Meeting  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
January 10, 2022 - 6:30 pm**

**1. CALL TO ORDER at 6:30 p.m.**

**2. ROLL CALL**

	Present	Absent
Barbara Holstein, President	x	
Denise Bogle, Vice President	x	
Dale Bouma		x
Paul Brislin	x	
Danielle Christmann	x	
Krista Mikulski	x	
Glen Plotsky	x	

Others Present:

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
John Nittolo- Acting CSA	___x___	_____
Carolyn Joseph – Interim SBA/BS	_____	___x___
Joseph Garcia – Board Attorney	___x (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 6:32 p.m.

Motion Denise Bogle 2<sup>nd</sup> Glen Plotsky Voice Vote: All in Favor

Motion to close Executive Session at 7:48 p.m.

Motion Denise Bogle 2<sup>nd</sup> Glen Plotsky Voice Vote: All in Favor

Motion to reopen Regular Meeting at 7:49 p.m.

Motion Denise Bogle 2<sup>nd</sup> Danielle Christmann Voice Vote: All in Favor

**7. PRESENTATION** by Kyle Sweppenhiser, North Jersey Roofing Advisor of Tremco Roofing Incorporated, for the roof project.

**8. CSA REPORT** - John Nittolo, Acting CSA. Recognized November to December Student of the Month. The winter night concert will be Thursday, January 27, 2022, daytime concert for students will be Friday, January 28, 2022. School is closed for students on Monday, January 17, 2022 for MKL day but it is a full PD for staff. January 26, 2022 our 8th grade students will be

visiting HP for their tour. Regarding food ordering, if we shut down or go virtual we still have to order breakfast and lunch because we have to order food a week in advance. We get charged \$3.75 for each lunch and \$2.50+ for breakfast. We do not get reimbursed for food not used. Thank you for the roof presentation. Puzzle club started today by Mrs. Berry and Mrs. Frost with about 25 students in attendance. It was nice to see them working together building puzzles.

**9. SBA REPORT - None**

**10. BOARD OF THE WHOLE COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS** - Barbara Holstein spoke about making a notice that Mr. Bouma has not been to 3 consecutive meetings and due to Board policies (9114?) the Board needs to consider directing Mr. Garcia to notify Mr. Bouma that the Board will be discussing his absences at the next meeting, January 24, 2022. No resolution necessary.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE - None**

**12. 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 open public comment at 8:26 p.m.

Motion Paul Brislin                      2<sup>nd</sup> Denise Bogle                                      Voice Vote: All in Favor

Sunny Ruiz, 6 Grandview Terrace, Montague, NJ. Concern about the roof and safety for children. Barbara Holstein explained that the roof structure is safe. The materials of the roof have been damaged due to water damage.

Motion to close public comment at 8:29 p.m.

Motion Glen Plotsky                      2<sup>nd</sup> Danielle Christmann                                      Voice Vote: All in Favor

**13. ADMINISTRATION**

**A-1 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education accept the annual audit prepared by Nisivoccia for the physical year ending June 30, 2021.

**Moved: Paul Brislin                      Seconded: Denise Bogle                                      Discussion:Barbara Holstein** stated that the auditor did a very good presentation.

<b>Roll Call</b>	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
<b>YES</b>	x		x	x	x	x	x	6
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>		x						1

**A-2 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the Corrective Action Plan prepared by Carolyn B. Joseph, Interim SBA/BS.

**Moved: Denise Bogle      Seconded: Barbara Holstein      Discussion:** Denise Bogle said the plan was very thorough, concise and addressed all issues discussed at the last meeting. Barbara Holstein agreed.

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
<b>YES</b>	x		x	x	x	x	x	6
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>		x						x

**14. PERSONNEL**

**P-1 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve **CARL MORELLI** as School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, pending background check, effective January 11, 2022 through June 30, 2022 at an annual rate of \$100,000.00 prorated, pending County approval.

**Moved: Paul Brislin      Seconded: Denise Bogle      Discussion:** John Nittolo stated that County approval was received prior to the meeting so it is not pending approval. Joseph Garcia, Esq., stated it could read as written. Ms. Miluski asked when we would have to inquire about having to have to look for a new BA/BS. Mr. Nittolo stated we would know prior to the end of the school year. Ms. Holstein asked what notice would Mr. Morelli has to provide to the Board if he chose to leave? Mr. Morelli would have to notify the Board by May 15, 2022.

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
<b>YES</b>	x		x	x	x	x	x	6
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>		x						1

**P-2 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the job description of **SPECIAL EDUCATION BUILDING COORDINATOR**.

**Moved: Denise Bogle      Seconded: Barbara Holstein      Discussion:** Ms. Mikulski thanked Mr. Nittolo for having this position. Barbara Holstein stated that the job descriptions presented are doing an excellent documentation of filling in the holes and rebuilding the programs at the schools.

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
<b>YES</b>	x		x	x	x	x	x	6
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>		x						1

**P-3 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve **ANNA DAWSON** as Special Education Building Coordinator, pending background check, if needed, for the 2021-2022 school year.

**Moved: Glen Plotsky                      Seconded: Paul Brislin                      Discussion: Ms. Bogle thanked Ms. Dawson for fulfilling the position. Ms. Holstein stated that she too appreciates all Ms. Dawson is doing for the school.**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
<b>YES</b>	x		x	x	x	x	x	6
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>		x						1

**P-4 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve **KAISHA SCHENK** as part-time preschool aide at \$19.41 per hour, pending background check, for the 2021-2022 school year.

**Moved: Denise Bogle                      Seconded: Danielle Christmann                      Discussion:**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
<b>YES</b>	x		x	x	x	x	x	6
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>		x						1

**15. BUILDING AND GROUNDS - MOTION TO AMEND**

**B-1 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the roof project presented by Kyle Sweppenhiser, North Jersey Roofing Advisor of Tremco Roofing Incorporated not to exceed \$878,700.00.

**Moved: Paul Brislin                      Seconded: Barbara Holstein                      Discussion:**

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
<b>YES</b>	x		x	x	x	x	x	6
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>		x						1

**16. POLICIES**

**PL-1 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education review Policy 9311 – Protocol for School Exclusion for Individuals (Students and Staff) Identified as In-School Close Contacts of COVID 19.

**Moved: Paul Brislin                      Seconded: Barbara Holstein                      Discussion:** John Nittolo read policy in full. Legal discussion in Executive meeting. Barbara Holstein stated that the lunches and problems with closing and ordering lunches is another factor for this policy. Helps keeps healthy kids in school. Denise Bogle agrees with policy. Danielle Christmann said that it is extremely important to keep kids in school but that there are other things at this time that she is not 100% comfortable with.

Roll Call	Bogle	Bouma	Brislin	Christmann	Mikulski	Plotsky	Holstein	Total
<b>YES</b>	x		x		x		x	4
<b>NO</b>				x		x		2
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>		x						1

**17. 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.**

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Motion to open public comment at 8:46 p.m.

Motion Denise Bogle 2nd Glen Plotsky

Voice Vote: All in Favor

Sunny Ruiz, 6 Grandview Terrace, Montague, NJ. What is the protocol for students who get COVID outside the school district? Mr. Nittolo stated that students would be afforded virtual learning but would not afford them the ability to self-select on quarantine. Policy addresses school close contact. It is very difficult for schools to contact trace outside school. Joseph Garcia, Esq., stated that the school does not have the ability to look at the data for outside school close contacts. Ms. Ruiz asked how many days is quarantine? Mr. Nittolo stated that the school would offer up to 10 days of virtual instruction and if you are asymptomatic you can return to school after 5 days with no test and symptoms.

Motion to close public comment at 8:53 p.m.

Motion Glen Plotsky 2nd Paul Brislin

Voice Vote: All in Favor

**18. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - NONE**

**19. NEW BUSINESS - NONE**

**20. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Barbara Holstein 2nd Paul Brislin

Voice Vote: All in Favor

Time of Adjournment: 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Carl Morelli*

CARL MORELLI, Board Secretary

Being signed on behalf of Carolyn Joseph was the Business Administrator/Board Secretary of the January 10, 2022 BOE Meeting.