Montague Township Board of Education Meeting Special Meeting Minutes January 24, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER at 7:01 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent
Barbara Holstein, President	Х	
Michael Zernhelt, Vice President	Х	
Christopher Bell	Х	
Paul Brislin	х	
Andree Campbell	Х	
Tasha DeGeorge	Х	
Jaime Johnson	Х	

Others Present:	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
James Andriac - Acting Superintendent	X	
Michael Bussow, SBA/BS	x_	
Joseph Garcia, Esq. – Board Atty.	X	

3. FLAG SALUTE - FOLLOWED BY A MOMENT OF SILENCE OR PRAYER

- 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. PRESENTATIONS Ms. Holstein stated that we have 2 presentations tonight. One for our audit by Ardito & Company and one by Kelly Mitchell for the Board's ethics training. Ms. Holstein stated that the ethics training normally would have been done over the summer but the NJ School Boards was a little short staffed so we are doing it now. Ethics training is required annually and will have to be done after the ReOrg meeting in May or sometime in the summer.
 - 1) Anthony Ardito, partner of Ardito & Company LLC presented the audit presentation to the Board. Ms. Holstein stated that this is the most thorough report that she has ever seen and is glad for the change in the auditors and is very pleased with the audit report. Mr. Bussow thanked Mr. Ardito and expressed how easy it was working with him and appreciates the findings that he had to help our office move forward. Mr. Brislin echoed Ms. Holstein's thoughts and thanked Mr. Ardito for being one of the most thorough presentations that he has sat through.
 - 2) Kelly Mitchell, NJSBA Representative presented the yearly Board Ethics Training to the Board Members.

Mr. Andriac read a letter from the school nurse regarding the Glasses to Classes program that was held today. In summary ... Out of 271 students that attended the program 54 of them were able to get glasses.

7. ADMINISTRATION

A-1 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education accept the annual audit prepared by Ardito & Company, LLC for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 and approve the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) prepared by Michael Bussow, SBA/BS.

Moved: Christopher Bell Seconded: Michael Zernhelt Discussion: Ms. Holstein just wanted to reiterate that this was very pleased with the audit. Mr. Brislin asked if he votes for this resolution without reviewing the book does this commit him in any way to endorsing the contents of a book he hasn't reviewed yet? Mr. Bussow stated that this is only the Corrective Action Plan and are only the steps that will be taken to correct the audit and Mr. Bussow listed as the responsible person and Mr. Andriac stated that a lot of the things have already been corrected.

Roll Call	Bell	Brislin	Campbell	DeGeorge	Holstein	Johnson	Zernhelt	Total
YES	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

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

Motion to open Executive Session at 8:34 p.m.

Motion Paul Brislin 2nd Andree Campbell Voice Vote: All in Favor

Motion to close Executive Session at 9:03 p.m.

Motion Andree Campbell 2nd Paul Brislin Voice Vote:All in Favor

Motion to reopen Regular Meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Motion Tasha DeGeorge 2nd Christopher Bell Voice Vote: All in Favor

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion Andree Campbell 2nd: Tasha DeGeorge Voice Vote: All in Favor

Time of Adjournment: 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Berry

DANA BERRY

Administrative Assistant to the Board Secretary