

**Montague Board of Education Meeting  
Regular Meeting  
November 18, 2015**

**Call to Order**

**Roll Call**

	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Tacia Johnson	X	
Gayle Andriac	X	
Tom Bolen	X	
Diane Cole	X	
George Gelderman	X	
Sally Kurtzman	X	
-----		

**Others Present:**

Janice L. Hodge, Chief School Administrator/Principal  
John W. Waycie, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Gary Kraemer, Esq., Interim Board Attorney  
Daniel Perez, Esq., Special Counsel

**Flag Salute**

**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 Middletown Record.**

**Please note, the school's anti-bullying policy and how it applies to all; Board Members, Administration, Teachers, volunteers, parents, and members of the community. We are all to display behavior for the children of our community, so they can learn by example: not harass, intimidate, or bully others, either in person or writing, inclusive of via social media. It was brought to the attention of the Board and Administration, that just prior to a meeting earlier this year, as well as during the meeting, statements were made on social media by those in attendance at the meeting, which not only included insinuations and threats of violence which were both harassing, intimidating, and of course forms of bullying, but these comments were also supported by others in attendance. Therefore, as a safety precaution for the Board Members, Administration, public and students, the presence of the Constable has been requested at the meetings until these threats cease to exist.**

**Presentations: Weather Broadcast- Fourth Grade**

**Approval of Minutes**

**October 28, 2015- Regular Meeting**  
Motion by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mrs. Andriac  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried

**October 28, 2015- Executive Meeting**

Motion by Mrs. Andriac, seconded by Mr. Gelderman

All in Favor

Motion Carried

**Superintendent Report-** Thank you to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade for weather report, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Greek Play was November 3<sup>rd</sup>- excellent talent –thank you Mrs. Fischer, Mr. Runne, Mrs. Varricalli- congratulations to Nate Jenks and Sarah Rush winners in 2015 Anti-Drug poster contest, thank you Mrs. Barcza- MEA pride committee drop/shop on December 11<sup>th</sup>-today was first spirit day red/black- tomorrow dedication of tree In memory of Mr. Finnegan

**Board Committee Reports** -none

**Correspondence** Correspondence from concerned parent about class size. Mrs. Kurtzman Read letter from Mr. Benson

**Liaison updates** – George provided report on High Point meeting. Mrs. Andriac gave Report on Port Jervis meeting

**Open to Public (Any Items):**

As a reminder for all, and as per NJSBA, Board of Education meetings are "a meeting in public, not a meeting of the public. Many people especially parents and community members, misunderstand the nature of a school board meeting. School boards provide leadership for what are typically multi-million dollar corporations. The board has important work to accomplish. And, to do that work, the board needs to be fully engaged around the table. The Open Meetings Act requires that public business be done in public, and that citizens have opportunity to observe, and comment, at every meeting."

Additionally, as per NJSA 2C:33-8, 10:4-12, and as adopted by Montague's Board of Education in Bylaw 0167, please remember the public participation shall be governed by the following rules:

1. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface - by an announcement of his/her name, place of residence, and group affiliation if appropriate;
2. Each statement by a participant shall be limited to 3 minute duration
3. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard;
4. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board Members individually;

**5. The presiding officer may:**

**a. Interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;**

**b. Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;**

**c. Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;**

**d. Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action; and**

**e. Waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or the efficient administration of the Board's business.**

**During this portion of the meeting, the residents are invited to address the Board with any comments or concerns that may be in respect to the operation of their school.**

**Motion to open public comment at 7:40 p.m.**

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mrs. Andriac

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Mrs. Jeskey- student council advisor- today is first school spirit day theme was red and black- December school spirit day will be red and green- student council conducting two drives before the holidays- Season of Hope and a Clothing Drive

Mrs. Bisl- PTA selling wreaths and grave covers- Shop and Drop on December 5<sup>th</sup>- lawsuit update- building walk thru- should have been in September to welcome 7<sup>th</sup> graders, missed opportunity-sports for end of year?-remove bullying section prior to public comment- try to remain positive

Ms. Holstein- we are not a poverty district, we are a B-challenged Board that they approve sports- questioned who was doing policy update

Mr. Henn- Thank you to veterans and fixing flag

Mr. Mannion-questioned ratio teacher/pupil-what steps will be taken by Board due to low enrollment

**Motion to close public comment at 7:52 p.m.**

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mr. Gelderman

All in Favor

Motion Carried

**Committee Action Items** - None

**Unfinished Business** – Board Retreat/Training dates discussed, scheduled for January 12, 2016.

**Administration**

**AD 1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education commence interviewing prospective candidates for the vacant seat on the Board of Education.**

Motion by Mrs. Kurtzman, seconded by Mrs. Andriac  
All in Favor except Ms. Johnson (recused self for all of selection process)  
Motion Carried

Mr. Todd Mitchell and Mrs. Spinapolice interviewed by Board

**Executive Session**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education will recess and proceed to Executive Session to deliberations concerning vacant Board seat. Action may or may not be taken.**

**Motion to open Executive Session at 8:45 p.m.**

Motion by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mr. Bolen  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried

**Motion to close Executive Session at 9:00 p.m.**

Motion by Mrs. Cole, seconded by Mrs. Andriac  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried

**Motion to resume Regular Meeting Agenda at 9:00 p.m.**

Motion by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mr. Bolen  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried

**AD-2 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education vote upon candidates for filling the open Board seat. (Each Board member will be asked to verbally indicate who they vote to be appointed to fill the open Board Seat created by the resignation of former BOE member Debra Osborne. - Mr. Todd Mitchell or Mrs. Linda Spinapolice).**

Motion by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mrs. Andriac  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried

Verbal voting:

Mrs. Kurtzman- Mrs. Spinapolice  
Mrs. Andriac- Mrs. Spinapolice  
Mr. Bolen- Mr. Mitchell  
Mrs. Cole- Mrs. Spinapolice  
Mr. Gelderman- Mr. Mitchell

**Results: Mrs. Spinapolice 3**  
**Mr. Mitchell 2**

**AD-3 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education appoints Linda Spinaoplice as a Board member to fill the unexpired term created by the resignation of former BOE member Debra Osborne.**

Motion by Mrs. Cole ,seconded by Mrs. Andriac  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried

**Oath of Office Administered by Gary Kraemer, Esq., Interim Board Attorney, to the newly appointed Board member Linda Spinapolice**  
(Ms. Johnson no longer recused)

### **Finance/Insurance**

**FI 1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education accept the School Treasurer's Financial Report for the month of September 2015 (FY2016).**

**ATTACHMENT FI 1**

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mr. Gelderman  
Vote 4-2-1 (No- Mrs. Andriac, Mrs. Kurtzman) Mrs. Spinapolice- abstain  
Motion Carried

**FI 2. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education accept the Board Secretary's Financial Report for the month of September 2015 (FY2016).**

**ATTACHMENT FI 2**

Motion by Mrs. Kurtzman, seconded by Mr. Gelderman  
Vote 2-4-1 (No-Ms. Johnson, Mrs. Andriac, Mrs. Cole, Mrs. Kurtzman) (Mrs. Spinapolice- abstain)  
Motion Failed

**FI 3. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education approve the transfers as listed for November 18, 2015.**

**ATTACHMENT FI 3**

Motion by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mrs. Kurtzman  
Vote 2-4-1 (No-Ms. Johnson, Mrs. Andriac, Mrs. Cole, Mrs. Kurtzman) (Mrs. Spinapolice abstain)  
Motion Failed

**FI-3 A BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education reconsider failed resolution FI-3.**

Motion by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mrs. Kurtzman  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried

**FI 3 B. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education approve the transfers as listed for November 18, 2015.** ATTACHMENT FI 3

Motion by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mrs. Andriac  
Vote 4-1-1 (Mrs. Andriac) Yes under protest- Mrs. Kurtzman, Mrs. Cole, Ms. Johnson) (Mrs. Spinapolice-abstain)  
Motion Carried

**FI 4. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education approve the November 18, 2015 Bill List attached and listed below:**

ATTACHMENT FI 4

	<u>Check Numbers</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
Regular Bill List	Regular Bill List	#21769-#21932	\$492,940.07

Motion by Mrs. Kurtzman, seconded by Mrs. Andriac  
Vote 6-0-1 (Mrs. Spinapolice- abstain)  
Motion Carried

**FI 5. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education certifies that pursuant to NJAC 6A: 23A-16.10, as of September 30, 2015 the appropriations section of the budget did not reflect any over expenditures in any of the major accounts or funds, and based upon the appropriation balances reflected and the advice of district officials, we have no reason to doubt that the district has sufficient funds available to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.**

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mr. Gelderman  
Vote 6-0-1 (Mrs. Spinapolice- abstain)  
Motion Carried

**Building/Grounds/Transportation**

**Walk through all areas of the school where both there is work to be done on the building and also where the 5th, 6th, and 7th graders receive any type of instruction**

### **Executive Session**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education will recess and proceed to Executive Session to legal matters: Port Jervis/ High Point/ Montague send/receive, confidential legal matters, and CSA goals (tabled). Following Executive Session, the public will be made aware of when the Board anticipates those matters which can be made public should be resolved. (Action may or may not be taken.)**

#### **Motion to open Executive Session at 10:20 p.m.**

Motion by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mrs. Andriac  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried

#### **Motion to close Executive Session at 11:30 p.m.**

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mrs. Andriac  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried

#### **Motion to resume Regular Meeting Agenda at 11:30 p.m.**

Motion by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mr. Bolen  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried

**FI 6. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education authorizes the Business Administrator to submit a request to the Executive County Superintendent to transfer funds to the General Administration accounts exceeding 10% of the original amount, including prior year encumbrances included in the budget certified for taxes, as required by Title 6A:23A-13.3(f)2(g).**

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mr. Gelderman  
Vote 6-0-1 (Mrs. Spinapolice – abstain)  
Motion Carried

### **Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mr. Gelderman  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried