

**Montague Board of Education Meeting
Regular Meeting
October 28, 2015**

Call to Order

Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Tacia Johnson	X	
Gayle Andriac	X	
Tom Bolen	X(late 7:05))	
Diane Cole	X	
George Gelderman	X	
Sally Kurtzman	X	
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Others Present:

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

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.

Presentation: Archery Demonstration (in gym)- Mrs. Wright

Approval of Minutes

**September 23, 2015- Regular Meeting
September 23, 2015- Executive Meeting
September 29, 2015- Special Meeting
September 29, 2015- Executive Meeting**

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

PARCC - Mrs. Higbie gave update. Scores have not been released to PARCC Individual schools yet. The state schools have been released. PARCC scores are expected before the end of December. NJASK and PARCC scores do not correlate to each other. Information is available on Mrs. Higbie school web page.

Superintendent Report

Thank you to Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Higbie. It should be noted that the procedures followed in the presentation are the same as when in class. Safety is of the upmost priority.

This week is Red Ribbon week, which was started in 1988 due to the loss of a DEA agent. There are different items each day. The Municipal Alliance Grant Provides funds for the various activities.

The 6th grade Greek play is scheduled for Tuesday November 3rd, at 7pm all Board members are invited.

On the Student Council bulletin board, which is directly across the hall, there are pictures of the members planting flowers around the DPW plow.

Board Committee Reports Mr. Bolen- Building/Grounds/transportation
Mrs. Kurtzman- Personnel
Mr. Gelderman- Curriculum
Mrs. Cole- Policy

Correspondence – three letters received expressing interest for vacant seat

Liaison updates Mr. Gelderman- High Point 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 7:52 p.m.

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

Mrs. Jeskey- MEA President informed all that Marie Cassaletto was chosen as the Sussex County Support Person of the Year, she will compete with other County winners for State Support Person of the Year. She also thanked the Board for putting Basketball program on the agenda and hoped that soon the Spring Sports would also be there.

Mrs. Olenick- Congratulated Mrs. Cassaletto. Asked the number of Montague 11th/12th grade students at High Point. Wondered what was going to be offered, why are there problems now? Montague is teaching to tests. Heard, from her children, that 4th and 6th graders do not go to the Media Center because of the 7th grade students.

Mrs. Bisl- Art club update-last year 60 this year 80, very important to have different activities for students. PTA has funded lockers/chrome books/Ipads- items Board should be funding. Don't buy microphones before supporting sports. Port Jervis has covered 2012 transition at their meetings

Ms. DeGeorge- Allowing food in gym would make it much easier for Holiday party Concerned about previous comment made by Board member about cutting teachers

Ms. Holstein- BGT 3- Business administrator could handle, why attorney? Will public see new policies. Why talk about cutting teachers, district was failing back in 2000, now near the top which happens when you put money into teachers and staff

Mrs. Olenick- doesn't see how microphones would help if Greek festival held in gym. Policy is policy. Class sizes are big because we have 7th graders. Ethics complaints take money away from the kids.

Mrs. Bisl- would like answer if you will have more sports, e.g. archery/track

Ms. DeGeorge- everything is blamed on 7th grade, they don't go to library

Mrs. Olenick- 7th grade comment was based on what my children said. Sports- there wasn't any last year

Motion to close public comment at 8:15 p.m.

Motion Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mr. Gelderman

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Committee Action Items

Unfinished Business – Mr. Gelderman questioned statues of NJSBA training/retreat. Mr. Waycie to contact Robynn Meehan to coordinate.

Administration

AD 1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education approve the Tuition Contract Agreement for the 2015-2016 school year with the Sussex County Vocational Board of Education at a tuition cost of \$2,100 per student, total tentative cost of \$155,400.

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mr. Gelderman

Vote 5-1 (Mrs. Cole-no)

Motion Carried

AD- 2 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education approve the submission the 2015-2016 QSAC Statement of Assurance.

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mr. Gelderman

All in Favor

Motion Carried

AD 3. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education approve the Tuition Contract Agreement for (AD) for the 2015-2016 school year with the Lakeland-Andover School at a tuition cost of \$51,330.

Motion by Mrs. Kurtzman, seconded by Mr. Bolen

Vote 6-0

Motion Carried

AD 4. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education approve the 2015-2016 school year Special Education Tuition Contract with Northern Hills Academy for HF at a cost of \$76,041.

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mrs. Kurtzman

Vote 6-0

Motion Carried

AD 5. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education accept the resignation of Deborah Osborne with deep regret and appreciation for all she has done in the past years.

Motion by Mrs. Cole, seconded by Mr. Gelderman

All in Favor

Motion Carried

AD 6. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education nominates Linda Spinapolice, Emma Massett and Todd Mitchell for vacant seat on the Board of Education and request they join us at the next Board Meeting, November 18th, for interviews.

Motion by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mrs. Kurtzman

All in Favor

Motion Carried

AD 7. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education close the nominations For the vacant seat on the Board of Education.

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mr. Gelderman

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Personnel

P 1. BE IT RESOLVED that the Montague Board of Education approve Carl Ferriere and Brent Runne as basketball coaches for the 2015-2016 nine week (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) intramural basketball program for 5th, 6th and 7th grades commencing in January 2016, at a stipend of \$775 each per the MEA contract.

Motion by Mrs. Andriac, seconded by Mrs. Kurtzman

Vote 6-0

Motion Carried

Finance/Insurance

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

ATTACHMENT FI 1

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mrs. Kurtzman
Vote 6-0
Motion Carried

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

ATTACHMENT FI 2

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mr. Gelderman
Vote 6-0
Motion Carried

FI 3. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education approve the October 28, 2015 Bill List attached and listed below:

ATTACHMENT FI 3

	<u>Check Numbers</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Regular Bill List	#21769-#21869	\$624,050.76
Lunch Program	#1613-#1617	\$11,139.27

Motion Mrs. Kurtzman, seconded by Mr. Bolen
Vote 6-0
Motion Carried

FI 4. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education certifies that pursuant to NJAC 6A: 23A-16.10, as of August 31, 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 Mrs. Kurtzman, seconded by Mr. Gelderman
Vote 6-0
Motion Carried

Building, Grounds and Transportation

BGT 1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education reject all bids received on October 6, 2015 for window replacement in rooms 92, 93, 94, 95 96 and 97 since all exceeded the budgeted amount.

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mrs. Cole
Vote 6-0
Motion Carried

BGT 2. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education approve Parettee-Somjen to negotiate on behalf of the Board of Education with previous bidder(s) for window replacement in rooms 92, 93, 94, 95 96 and 97.

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mrs. Kurtzman
Vote 6-0
Motion carried

~~**BGT 3. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education that Gary Kraemer, Esq. correspond and coordinate as necessary with the previous bidder(s) during the negotiating process.**~~

Motion to strike BGT 3 by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mrs. Andriac
All in Favor
Motion Carried

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 and confidential legal matters. Personnel: 2014/2015 CSA Evaluation and 2014/2015 BS Evaluation. 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 9:05 p.m.

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

Motion to close Executive Session at 10:06 p.m.

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

Motion to resume Regular Meeting Agenda at 10:06 p.m.

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

AD 7. BE IT RESOLVED that the Montague Board of Education approve the release of the following resolution that was approved in Executive Session on September 29, 2015:

BE IT RESOLVED that counsel shall amend the Superior Court action presently naming High Point as the sole defendant to add as defendants the Commissioner of Education for the State of New Jersey and any necessary representatives thereof; Cherie Adams, Esq.; and Adams, Gutierrez, and Lattiboudere.

Motion by George Gelderman, 2nd by Tom Bolen

Roll Call:

Ayes – GA, SK, DC, GG, TB, TJ

Nays – None

Motion carries 6:0

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mrs. Kurtzman

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting at 10:09 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mr. Gelderman

All in Favor

Motion Carried