

**Montague Board of Education Meeting
Workshop Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2017**

Call to Order

Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Glen Plotsky, President	X	
Diane Cole, Vice President	X	
Gayle Andriac	X	
Sally Kurtzman	X	
Emma Masset	X	
Tacia Johnson	X	
Linda Spinapolice	X	

Others Present:

- X-Robert Walker – Interim Chief School Administrator
- X-Tina Palecek – Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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.

Announcement of Executive Session

Meeting Agenda indicated there would not be an Executive Session at this meeting.

Motion to add Executive Session to this meeting

Motion by Tacia Johnson 2nd by Diane Cole

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Tacia Johnson, Diane Cole, Sally Kurtzman, Emma Masset, Linda Spinapolice

Nays: Glen Plotsky

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

Recognition

Any/all recognition to take place at Regular Meeting on June 13, 2017

Presentation

None scheduled

Approval of Minutes

President Plotsky checked the attendance at the present meeting with those listed on the presented minutes to ensure sufficient members were present who could vote; enough were present. Tacia Johnson stopped a vote because this is a workshop meeting and not vote should be taken.

There was additional discussion on audio recordings as requested by OPRA. There was a question regarding a missing recording of a meeting when the auditors gave their presentation and additional discussion regarding who and how access to audio recordings.

There were several communications from Ms. Johnson and Mrs. Spinapolicie that the missing audio recording of the February 7, 2017 was purposefully destroyed. Mrs. Palecek attempted to clarify that there was no purposeful destruction of any audio and the missing audio does have Board of Education approved minutes for the meeting in question.

CSA Report

Graduation Update, Mr. Walker asked for a list of Board of Education members who would be attending

Field Day was June 2, 2017. Well organized and appeared to be enjoyed

QSAC – Report: We did not pass Instruction and Program, Fiscal Management, or Governance. Need 80% to pass.

Governance was listed as the worst – we scored 24%, Fiscal Management 52% and Instruction and Program 54%. Part of the reason was 6-months without someone in the business office. At the request of Mrs. Spinapolicie, Mr. Walker will be sending out the report to the full-board for the regular meeting.

Ms. Johnson questioned the appropriateness of sending out the QSAC report just yet. Ms. Johnson questioned the correctness of the report and some potential legal issues considering who generated the report from the State. Need more Board discussion before posting. Mr. Plotsky suggested that Mr. Walker distribute the QSAC with Mr. Walker's Corrective Action Plan and schedule time to discuss at the next meeting.

Board Resolution for accepting Plan of Correction

State Mandated Policy Changes:

Special Education

Need to adopt at next meeting to remain in compliance.

SBA Report

SBA/BA report will be presented at the Regular Meeting on June 13, 2017

Committee Reports

Finance & Insurance

Student Accident Insurance policy and Liability Insurance, July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018, Board will take action at next meeting.

Personnel, Mrs. Kurtzman – we met on May 11, 2017. The list is below includes items that cannot be discussed until next week. The SBA/BS can be discussed as can any provisional employment positions.

Advertise for LDTC for 2017-2018 – due to a RIF we can hire creating a full team
Full-time Spanish Teacher K-8

Summer Employees (attached memo from Tina Palecek)

Memo outlining what summer help will do for example: Cleaning, parking lot, doing floors, general prep-work. New people will be paid \$15/hour, returning will be at previous rates.

Superintendent evaluation – the Board requested Mr. Walker complete his evaluation on online by June 30, 2017.

Confidential employee salaries – have been Riced for next week

Discussion on School Business Administrator/Board Secretary contract, the County did not approve suggested salary made by Personnel Committee. The recommendations made by the County were fair and acceptable.

Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation

Discussion of RFP received by EI Associates

Long range facility's plan

Negotiations

MEA has requested two meeting dates from Board

June 7, 12, 14, 15, 19, 20, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, 2017

Dates chosen: June 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, and 28, 2017

Curriculum

K-8 Spanish Curriculum, Mr. Walker reiterated the need for K-8 Spanish curriculum. General conversation regarding the validity of Rosetta Stone v. having a dedicated World Language teacher was had among Board members. Mrs. Cole inquired about Mr. Walker's progress regarding about talking about an Ad Hoc committee and/or placement of 7th and 8th grade students going to a different school, example Lafayette or Kittatinny as part of the Board goals. Mr. Walker said he started discussion, but stopped to allow the new Chief School Administrator/Principal the opportunity to take up this project.

Policy

Mr. Walker discussed the need to adopt the special education policy changes to remain in compliance.

Correspondence

Email from Dr. Scott Ripley regarding the classification and out-of-district placement of a 9th grade student. This placement was questioned on June 1, 2017 because no communication had taken place prior to the SBA/BS receiving notification of a future tuition bill.

Liaison Report

Non-voting Member PJCS D report will be presented at the Regular Meeting on June 13, 2017

Public Session

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 9322, 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 Emma Masset 2nd by Diane Cole

All in Favor

None Opposed

Motion Carried

Christine Bisl, Coss Lane, she participated in the last walk-thru of the building. She remembers because both attorneys were here and it was costing money for them to walk the building. She questioned the minutes being posted on the website and what the time-frame is for agendas to be posted.

She also requested a teacher be hired for K-8 Language program; the younger they start the better.

George Gelderman, Deerfield. Spanish is taught at Kittatinny by marking period cycle which is similar to how other K-8 schools do it too.

Questioned the resignation of Ms. Johnson that took place at the May 2, 2017 meeting, her letter was read at that time. Can you explain how the decision was made, her resignation letter was read and then her letter of rescinding that resignation was read - the board attorney said it didn't have to be accepted to be effective, but the public wasn't interviewed for interested parties from the community.

Also the May 9, 2017 meeting, upset by a pretty obvious ploy to demean and harm Mr. Walker's reputation. Also, the one Board member continually asking "how do I vote Bob"

Art Henn, River Road – Where are the microphones. Keep Port Jervis in mind, it's an excellent school for our Grades 7 & 8 plus free tuition for college.

George Gelderman, Deerfield, If memory serves didn't the Board purchase a sound system?

Motion to close public comment at 7:47 p.m.

Motion Gayle Andriac 2nd Emma Masset

All in Favor

No Opposed

Motion Carried

Committee Action Items

Action items will be reported at the Regular Meeting on June 13, 2017

Unfinished Business

New Business

Executive Session:

None scheduled

Adjournment

Motion _____ 2nd _____ All in Favor/Oppose