

**Montague Board of Education Meeting  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
March 20, 2017**

**Call to Order**

**Roll Call**

	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Tacia Johnson	X	
Diane Cole	X	
Gayle Andriac	X	
Sally Kurtzman		X
Emma Masset	X	
Glen Plotsky		X
Linda Spinapolice	X	

Others Present:

- Robert Walker – Interim Chief School Administrator
- Tina Palecek – Business Administrator/Board Secretary
- Gary Kraemer – School 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 appropriate 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. On a number of occasions, it was brought to the attention of the Board and Administration, prior to a meeting, as well as during meetings, 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. Additionally, since 2015 there have been ongoing reports of continual harassment at meetings and on school grounds. 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:**

Mark Hagerman from H.T. Lyons presented an overview of what action had been taken to fix the emergency heating issue that closed school. Mrs. Spinapolice thanked Mr. Hagerman, Bob Walker, Tina Palecek, and H.T. Lyons for their work and timely and efficient handling of the emergency.

**Announcement of Executive Session**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education recess and proceed to executive session to interview CSA candidates and discuss personnel matters. Action may or may not be taken.**

Motion to open Executive Session at 6:26 p.m.  
Motion Gayle Andriac 2<sup>nd</sup> Linda Spinapolice

All in Favor – No opposed  
Motion carried

Motion to close Executive Session at 8:10 p.m.  
Motion Diane Cole 2<sup>nd</sup> Linda Spinapolice  
All in Favor – No Opposed  
Motion carried

### **Recognition**

None

### **Presentation**

Aflac Insurance presentation was made to the Board of Education. It was determined they should meet with the MEA to determine if there was staff interested. Robert Walker cautioned the Board that adding Aflac would add more work to the Board Office.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Approval of Re-Organization, January 3, 2017 Attachment BA10  
Motion Gayle Andriac 2<sup>nd</sup> Diane Cole  
In favor: Tacia Johnson, Gayle Andriac, Diane Cole, Linda Spinapolice  
Abstained: Emma Masset  
Motion carried.

Approval of Special Meeting, January 30, 2017 Attachment BA11  
Motion Linda Spinapolice 2<sup>nd</sup> Diane Cole  
In favor: Tacia Johnson, Gayle Andriac, Diane Cole, Linda Spinapolice  
Against: Emma Masset  
Motion carried.

Approval of Workshop Meeting, February 7, 2017 Attachment BA12  
Motion Diane Cole 2<sup>nd</sup> Linda Spinapolice  
In favor: Gayle Andriac, Diane Cole, Linda Spinapolice  
Against: Tacia Johnson  
Abstained: Emma Masset  
Motion carried.

### **CSA Report**

Robert Walker discussed an incident that occurred recently at the school involving an obscene gesture. Tacia Johnson questioned the appropriateness of discussing the incident before it was discussed in Executive Session because of the potential legal impact. Gary Kraemer stated that since it happened in public it could be discussed in public.

At a basketball game, a community member was alleged to have given another community member an obscene gesture. The event was reported to the CSA and he along with the Assistant Principal addressed the matter with the individual. The individual was told to stop any activity that could be construed as an obscene gesture or it would be possible for legal action to be taken. A letter was also sent to the individual to memorialize the conversation. Additionally, the school's insurance broker was notified of the event as was the NJ State Police. The additional notification was done to ensure the school's liability was reduced and demonstrate the school's commitment to maintaining a safe environment for all students.

Mr. Walker also reported that Dr. S. Ripley of High Point Regional High School had requested a 5:30pm late bus for Montague students. Diane Cole and Linda Spinapolice both stated that a 5:30pm late bus was supposed to be in place already. The Business Administrator will look into after-school busing and report back to the Board.

### **SBA Report**

Budget

Lead Water Testing (attachment BA8)

PTA Mother Son Dance March 25, 2017

### **Committee Reports**

### **Correspondence**

### **Liaison Report**

Gayle Andriac is no longer able to be the Liaison to Port Jervis due to personal schedule conflicts. Linda Spinapolice said she would try to be the liaison for the Board.

### **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 9322.1, 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 9:37p.m.**

Motion Gayle Andriac 2<sup>nd</sup> Linda Spinapolice  
All in Favor – No opposed  
Motion carried

Lorie Jeskey, Pre-school teacher at Montague School. Mrs. Jeskey told the Board that the preschool children were recently featured on TV – Classroom Close-Up. The program can be seen on classroomcloseup.org. The children were very excited. There will be a Cubs Club “red carpet event” to celebrate being on TV.

George Gelderman, Montague students participated in Spelling Bee against schools in Pennsylvania and New York and one of Montague’s students placed third – great job! Mr. Gelderman reminded Board that agendas need to be posted on website.

**Motion to close public comment at 9:40 p.m.**

Motion Gayle Andriac 2<sup>nd</sup> Diane Cole  
All in Favor – No Opposed

**Committee Action Items**

**Finance & Insurance**

**FI-1- BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Board of Education approve the tentative 2017-2018 School Budget and submission to the County Department of Education for their review and approval. ATTACHMENT BA-1

Motion Gayle Andriac 2<sup>nd</sup> Linda Spinapolice  
In favor: Tacia Johnson, Gayle Andriac, Diane Cole, Linda Spinapolice, Emma Masset  
Abstained: None  
Motion carried.

**FI-2- BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Board of Education approve the March 20, 2017 Bill attached and listed below:

	ATTACHMENT BA-2
Check Numbers	Amount

Regular Bill List	#2372-23136	\$ 679,083.29
Lunch Program List	#1648-1650	\$ 16,018.45

Motion Gayle Andriac 2<sup>nd</sup> Diane Cole

In favor: Tacia Johnson, Gayle Andriac, Diane Cole (recused herself from check 23077), Linda Spinapolice, Emma Masset

Abstained: None

Motion carried.

**FI-3 - BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Board of Education approve the Treasurer's Report for August 2016. ATTACHMENT BA-3

Motion Diane Cole 2<sup>nd</sup> Gayle Andriac

In favor: Tacia Johnson, Gayle Andriac, Diane Cole, Linda Spinapolice, Emma Masset

Abstained: None

Motion carried.

**FI-4 - BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Board of Education approve the Treasurer's Report for September 2016. ATTACHMENT BA-4

Motion Diane Cole 2<sup>nd</sup> Gayle Andriac

In favor: Tacia Johnson, Gayle Andriac, Diane Cole, Linda Spinapolice, Emma Masset

Abstained: None

Motion carried.

**FI-5 - BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Board of Education approve the Treasurer's Report for October 2016. ATTACHMENT BA-5

Motion Diane Cole 2<sup>nd</sup> Gayle Andriac

In favor: Tacia Johnson, Gayle Andriac, Diane Cole, Linda Spinapolice, Emma Masset

Abstained: None

Motion carried.

**FI-6 - BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Board of Education approve the Treasurer's Report for November 2016. ATTACHMENT BA-6

Motion Diane Cole 2<sup>nd</sup> Gayle Andriac

In favor: Tacia Johnson, Gayle Andriac, Diane Cole, Linda Spinapolice, Emma Masset

Abstained: None

Motion carried.

**FI-7 - BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Board of Education approve the quote received from Panoramic Window & Door Systems, Inc. for the repair of windows in classroom 92. The quote of \$6,800.00 includes the removal/repair of two courses of brick and the repointing of exterior brick.

Approval dependent on receiving start and finish dates from contractor.

ATTACHMENT BA-7

Motion Linda Spinapolice 2<sup>nd</sup> Gayle Andriac

In favor: Tacia Johnson, Gayle Andriac, Diane Cole, Linda Spinapolice, Emma Masset

Abstained: None

Motion carried.

**P1 - BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Board of Education approve the School Psychologist/Counselor to become a certified therapy dog handler including the completion of all therapy certifications for her dog (fundamental obedience, basic obedience, and therapy dog class training)

**Motion to table** this resolution pending costs to train dog and owner, Emma Masset 2<sup>nd</sup> Gayle Andriac  
In favor: Tacia Johnson, Gayle Andriac, Diane Cole, Linda Spinapolice, Emma Masset  
Abstained: None  
Motion carried.

**P2 - BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Board of Education approve the entering into contract with Northern Hills Behaviorist for student #9606712446 at a cost not to exceed \$700.00  
Motion Emma Masset 2<sup>nd</sup> Diane Cole  
In favor: Tacia Johnson, Gayle Andriac, Diane Cole, Linda Spinapolice, Emma Masset  
Abstained: None  
Motion carried.

**P3 - BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Board of Education approve Montague Township School's enrollment in Child Assault Prevention Program, CAP, at no cost to Montague pending approval of our letter of need.  
Motion Diane Cole 2<sup>nd</sup> Gayle Andriac  
In favor: Tacia Johnson, Gayle Andriac, Diane Cole, Linda Spinapolice, Emma Masset  
Abstained: None  
Motion carried.

**BGT1 - BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montague Board of Education approve Montague Little League #230-20-266410 to use the Montague School Gym, Cafeteria, and one classroom (near the gym) on Saturday, May 27, 2017, for a Pro-Wrestling Fundraiser.

**Motion to table** this resolution pending clarification of facility use, insurance needs, parking, and security needs Emma Masset 2<sup>nd</sup> Gayle Andriac

In favor: Tacia Johnson, Gayle Andriac, Diane Cole, Linda Spinapolice, Emma Masset  
Abstained: None  
Motion carried.

### **Unfinished Business**

School Nurse's sick days was discussed and concern was expressed that the action taken by the Board of Education at the last meeting set a precedence that was not supported by the Board. Robert Walker presented a signed document by the President of the Montague Education Association acknowledging the Board's approval to allow the CSA to seek sick day donations set no precedence.

### **New Business**

**Executive Session:**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education recess and proceed to executive session to discuss personnel matters including CSA, donation of sick time/contract/policy; legal matters including High Point, Port Jervis, Montague, Negotiations, and Rice Notices. Action may or may not be taken**

Motion to open Executive Session at 10:27 p.m.  
Motion Gayle Andriac 2<sup>nd</sup> Emma Masset  
All in favor – no opposed  
Motion carried.

Motion to close Executive Session at 12:37 a.m.  
Motion Gayle Andriac 2<sup>nd</sup> Linda Spinapolic  
All in Favor – no opposed  
Motion carried

**Adjournment**

Motion Linda Spinapolic 2<sup>nd</sup> Gayle Andriac  
All in Favor - No Oppose  
Motion Carried