

**Montague Board of Education Meeting  
Workshop Meeting Minutes  
March 7, 2017**

**Call to Order**

**Roll Call**

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

**Others Present:**

- √-Robert Walker – Interim Chief School Administrator
- √-Tina Palecek – Business Administrator/Board Secretary
- √-Gary Kraemer – Board Attorney – arrived at scheduled time of 7:00pm

**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 to 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 in the past, 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. Additionally, since last year, there have been ongoing reports of continual harassment, the most recent of which occurred during a workshop meeting. 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.**

**Recognition**

Madison Rush – Student of the Year

**Presentation**

None

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes will be presented at the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 14, 2017

**CSA Report**

Superintendent Walker will present at the Regular Meeting scheduled for March 14, 2017

**SBA/BA Report**

SBA/BA report will be presented at the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 14, 2017

### **Board Committee Reports**

Finance/Insurance – Chair Emma Masset  
Negotiation – Chair Tacia Johnson  
Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation – Chair Linda Spinapolice  
Curriculum – Chair Linda Spinapolice  
Personnel – Chair Sally Kurtzman  
Policy – Chair Glen Plotsky  
Ad Hoc – Chair Glen Plotsky

### **Correspondence**

Correspondence will be presented at the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 14, 2017

### **Liaison Report**

Liaison report will be presented at the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 as needed

### **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 NJSBA 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 6:14p.m.**

Motion by Emma Masset 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sally Kurtzman  
All in Favor – None Opposed  
Motion Carried

**Motion to close public comment at 6:14p.m.**

Motion by Emma Masset 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gayle Andriac  
All in Favor – None Opposed  
Motion Carried

**Committee Action Items**

Action will be taken as necessary at the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 14, 2017

**Unfinished Business:**

**Transportation** – Linda Spinaplice reported - 2017-2018 bus routes must not overlap. There is a lot of duplication that appears to be costing the district additional money. The School Business Administrator and Superintendent will review routes during spring break.

Governor also approved alternate licensing route for school bus drivers. Hopefully this will help everyone get enough bus drivers.

**Budget** – Emma Masset praised the decision to move the Board of Education out of the trailer; this will save a lot of money in electric.

Mrs. Masset also repeated her request for RFPs for Architect to allow professionals to go over this building with a fine-toothed comb and identify areas of need.

Tina Palecek – reported some percentages on the tentative budget are much higher or lower due to moving staff to correct budget lines. Being in correct lines will help reduce transfers during the school year.

**LRFP** – Linda Spinaplice reported working on long range facility plan with Mrs. Palecek and Mr. Walker. Currently looking at

**New Business:**

Superintendent Walker presented to the Board information regarding Sussex County Child Assault Prevention Program (CAPP) (Attachment CSA-1). This is a grant where we can get 100% reimbursed. Last year 3,000 students in Sussex County were helped with this grant to stop child abuse. This will be voted on at the next regular meeting.

Lead Testing – Gary Kraemer communicated to the Board that Lead testing needed to be completed. Mrs. Palecek, gave update on action already in progress regarding that matter. Mr. Grinelli already contacted and testing scheduled to begin March 28, 2017 in accordance with all governing regulations.

**Executive Session**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education recess and proceed to executive session to review and discuss negotiations, personnel, CSA search, and legal issues. Action will not be taken.**

Motion to open Executive Session at 6:45p.m.  
Motion by Gayle Andriac 2<sup>nd</sup> by Emma Masset  
All in Favor – None Opposed  
Motion carried

Motion to close Executive Session at 8:12p.m.  
Motion Emma Masset 2<sup>nd</sup> Linda Spinapolic  
All in Favor – None Opposed  
Motion Carried

Motion to resume Regular Meeting Minutes at 8:12p.m.  
Motion by Sally Kurtzman 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda Spinapolic  
All in Favor - None Opposed  
Motion carried

Prior to adjournment, Board Attorney, Gary Kraemer addressed the Board of Education regarding Rice Notices.

Mr. Kraemer communicated some individuals have had concern regarding the Rice notices dated February 8, 2017. There has been a lot of discussion lately regarding Rice notices and although there is a recent case that conveys the need to Rice notice an employee anytime his/her name is mentioned, Mr. Kraemer does not take that view. He advised the Board that only when discussion of an employee can adversely affect employment should an employee receive a Rice notice.

### **Adjournment**

Motion Emma Masset 2<sup>nd</sup> Sally Kurtzman at 8:15pm  
All in Favor – None Oppose  
Motion carried