

**Montague Township Board of Education Meeting  
Regular Action Meeting Minutes  
May 1, 2024**

1. **CALL TO ORDER at 6:30 p.m.**
2. **OATH OF OFFICE - Michael Bussow, Board Secretary administered the oath of office to the newly elected Board member, Lisa D'Amore**
3. **Michael Bussow, Board Secretary will read letter from Executive County Superintendent**
4. **ROLL CALL**

	Present	Absent
Andree Campbell, President	x	
Michael Zernhelt, Vice President	x	
Christopher Bell	x	
Paul Brislin	x	
Tasha DeGeorge	x	
Jaime Johnson	x	
Lisa D'Amore	x	

Others Present:	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
James Andriac - Acting CSA	x	_____
Michael Bussow, SBA/BS	x	_____
Joseph Garcia, Esq.	x Remote	_____
Dana Berry, Adm. Asst. to Bd Sec.	x	_____

5. **FLAG SALUTE - FOLLOWED BY A MOMENT OF SILENCE OR PRAYER**
6. **MISSION STATEMENT - The mission of the Montague Township School District is to provide the best educational experience and opportunities to realize the potential of every child.**
7. **LEGAL NOTICE - 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 Sunday New Jersey Herald.**
8. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

Motion to open Executive Session at 6:37 p.m.  
 Motion: Michael Zernhelt                      2nd: Christopher Bell                      Voice Vote: All in Favor

Motion to close Executive Session at 7:07 p.m.  
 Motion: Michael Zernhelt                      2nd: Christopher Bell                      Voice Vote: All in Favor

Motion to reopen Regular Meeting at 7:07 p.m.  
 Motion: Tasha DeGeorge                      2nd Michael Zernhelt                      Voice Vote: All in Favor



Moved: Michael Zernhelt                      Seconded: Jaime Johnson                      Roll call on to increase the total budget to \$12,731,547.00. Ms. DeGeorge wanted clarification on the \$209,150 that since we didn't use it in 2021 that we are using it now and Mr. Bussow said yes

Roll Call	Bell	Brislin	Campbell	D'Amore	DeGeorge	Johnson	Zernhelt	Total
YES	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

Roll call is to approve the amended budget

Roll Call	Bell	Brislin	Campbell	D'Amore	DeGeorge	Johnson	Zernhelt	Total
YES	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

Andree Campbell asked for a motion to consolidate F-2 and F-3

Moved: Tasha DeGeorge                      Seconded: Jaime Johnson

**F-2 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Tuition Contract dated December 4, 2023 between the Montague Board of Education and Lakeland Andover School for Student ID#100563 for the 2023-2024 school year commencing December 7, 2023 (total number billable days will be 117), with a tentative per diem tuition rate of the school year of \$38,025.00.

**F-3 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Joint Transportation Agreement - To and From School, between High Point Regional High School and the Montague Township Board of Education for Student ID#100563 for the 2023-2024 school year commencing January 2, 2024 through June 30, 2024, with a total per diem cost of \$12,075.00.

Roll Call	Bell	Brislin	Campbell	D'Amore	DeGeorge	Johnson	Zernhelt	Total
YES	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**13. PERSONNEL**

**Andree Campbell asked for a motion to consolidate P-1 through P-2**  
**Moved: Christopher Bell      Seconded: Tasha DeGeorge**

**P-1 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, the Montague Township Board of Education appoint **PRISCILLA ORTIZ** as the Director of Early Childhood Education, without any increase to salary, for the 2023-2024 school year.

**P-2 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education accept the resignation of **Employee #10870665** effective June 30, 2024.

Roll Call	Bell	Brislin	Campbell	D'Amore	DeGeorge	Johnson	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	7
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**14. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

**BG-1 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve Montague’s Got Talent Club’s request for Use of Facilities or Grounds for the following: Gymnasium and bathroom usage for their Talent Show on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6PM.

**Moved: Paul Brislin      Seconded: Tasha DeGeorge**

Roll Call	Bell	Brislin	Campbell	D'Amore	DeGeorge	Johnson	Zernhelt	Total
<b>YES</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	7
<b>NO</b>								
<b>ABSTAIN</b>								
<b>ABSENT</b>								

**15. ADMINISTRATION**

**Andree Campbell asked for a motion to consolidate A-1 and A-3**

**Moved: Christopher Bell      Seconded: Jaime Johnson      Discussion: Mr. Bell asked what time the graduations are?** Mr. Andriac said he will let them know.

**A-1 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the Request to Establish a Special Education Program or Service.

**A-2 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the following dates:

- Tuesday, June 11, 2024 for Preschool Graduation (time TBD)
- Thursday, June 13, 2024 for 8th Grade Graduation (time TBD)

**A-3 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the following field trips:

GRADE	DESTINATION	COST
Kindergarten	Sussex County Fairgrounds - Agricultural Learning Center	\$102.00 (transportation provided)
3rd-8th Grade	Skylands Stadium - Education Day	\$484.00 (transportation provided)

Roll Call	Bell	Brislin	Campbell	D'Amore	DeGeorge	Johnson	Zernhelt	Total
YES	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	7
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT								

**16. LIAISON REPORTS**

- High Point - Tasha DeGeorge - Nothing to report
- Montague PTA - Michael Zernhelt - Tricky Tray is June 1.
- Sussex County Charter/Tech School - Andree Campbell - Nothing to report
- School Board Association - Andree Campbell - hasn't had the opportunity to attend one yet

**17. PUBLIC SESSION**

**Public comment is invited on all matters pertaining to the school district. All participants shall be permitted four (4) minutes to speak and shall state their name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate. The board uses the public comment as an opportunity to listen to Citizen concerns, but please be aware that not all issues brought to a board meeting will be resolved this evening.**

Motion to open Public Comment at 8:34 p.m.  
 Motion Tasha DeGeorge                      2<sup>nd</sup> Christopher Bell                      Voice Vote: All in Favor

Motion to close Public Comment at 8:34 p.m.  
 Motion Andree Campbell                      2<sup>nd</sup> Paul Brislin                      Voice Vote: All in Favor

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Paul Brislin                      2<sup>nd</sup> Christopher Bell                      Voice Vote: All in Favor  
 Time of Adjournment: 8:35 p.m.

Next meeting: May 8, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dana Berry*

DANA BERRY  
 Administrative Assistant to the Board Secretary