

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC BOARD MEETING  
 HELD MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2008, AT 7:30 P.M.  
 GLENFIELD SCHOOL, 25 MAPLE AVENUE, MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY

A. The meeting opened at 7:30 p.m. and the following statement was read:

Let the minutes reflect that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in the following manner:

On November 12, 2007, notice of this meeting was faxed to the Montclair Times, the Herald and News and the Star-Ledger. The time, date, and location of this meeting were accurately set forth therein.

On this same date a copy of said notice was filed with the Township Clerk and was posted at the public bulletin board in the first floor main hall of the Board of Education Building, 22 Valley Road.

Copies have also been mailed to all persons who have requested same at no cost.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance occurred at 7:31 p.m.

C. ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent
Timothy Barr	<u>  X  </u>	_____
John Carlton	<u>  X  </u>	_____
Shirley Grill	<u>  X  </u>	_____
Robert Kautz	<u>  X  </u>	_____
Shelly Lombard	<u>  X  </u>	_____
Ronald Riddick	<u>  X  </u>	_____
Carmen Taylor	<u>  X  </u>	_____
Staff Members Present	<u>    4    </u>	
Members of the Public	<u>   50   </u>	
Members of the Press	<u>    1    </u>	

D. MINUTES

Mr. Barr moved to approve the following minutes:

1. Public Board meeting held Monday, February 25, 2008

Seconded by Ms. Grill and approved by a vote of 7-0.

E. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Presentation of 2008-2009 Operating Budget

Presented by Dr. Alvarez & Mrs. Sullivan:

Dr. Alvarez stated that he has received many emails and calls from community members to try to come up with a better number for the new budget. The Board has reduced the budget through efficiencies and consolidation of services to an overall budget increase of 4.72 % over last year's budget. This translates to a 5.6 % tax increase, down from the 7.2% increase originally announced.

We have achieved this by streamlining services where appropriate, reallocating staff as accessible, delaying some anticipated expenditures, and introducing cuts which we believe will not impact programs and services in a significant manner.

The Board received word from the state in regards to the four waivers. Three of the waivers were denied, an amount of \$291,928 for special education was approved. The fact that the waivers were not approved forced the Board to move some items from the base budget into a second proposal budget due to CAP restrictions. Some ideas are to cut back on some of the new staff, cutting the current staff (approximately seven teachers), administrative cuts of 3.5 positions, cutting support staff, and food services.

Dr. Alvarez stated that he is proud to present a budget that reflects one of the lowest increases and appropriates the largest fund balance in recent years. We are proud to present a budget that introduces a number of cost-effective enhancements to our educational programs, which will aid in maintaining a competitive edge and preparing students for a global society.

Mrs. Sullivan stated that the process of building the budget actually starts in early November when the Board begins to send out information to principals and department heads and ask for input back from them in preparation of building the budget. We also ask them to speak to school review and PTA's to get input from the school level for the budget.

As always the three board goals are what drive the budget which is improving achievement for all students, reducing overrepresentation of minority youngsters in special education, and infusing technology into the budget. The priorities that go with the Board goals change sometimes from year to year. The Board goals are very broad, the priority in this year's budget is:

- Math program
- Meeting NJ Core Curriculum standards
- Reducing the achievement gap between minority youngest and white youngsters
- Special education
- Cost effective planning
- Safety of students and staff
- To meet enrollment needs from year to year
- Maintain the class size at the levels they are

The total budget for 2008-2009 is \$109,388,884; the total increase is 4.72% over the 2007-2008 budget. The majority of the revenue in the budget is from local taxes. State aid is shown in two areas which are basic state aid and special revenue fund. We are appropriating \$2.4 million out of our surplus to be used as revenue this year which has enabled us to reduce the tax levy. The adult school is a self sustaining program so there is no tax impact. State aid has increased 2% from 2007-2008. The tax levy increase is 5.6% down from the first draft of the budget which was adopted with a 7.2% tax levy increase. We made cuts of \$1,287,750 which includes:

- Six staff added to the first draft of the budget but have been reduced out of this budget
- Four curriculum specialists - elementary school level
- A student assistant counselor - high school level
- An ESL teacher - elementary school level
- 0.8 of a magnet coordinator - elementary school level
- 3 ½ administrative positions
- 1 secretarial position
- 5 personal aides
- A subsidy for the food service program.

Our tax increase is 5.6%, which is one of the lowest we have had since 1999.

The fund balance appropriated is \$2.5 million which will leave us with a 2% fund balance. The balance will be about \$1.8 million. The money that is in fund balance stays there as a reserve in case of an emergency or an unforeseen expense and to also be used as revenue in the following year's budget.

Special education continues to be a large portion of our budget. In 2008-2009 it is projected to be over \$27 million and is approximately 25% of our budget.

The state has a CAP on the increase in the tax levy set at 4%. The 4% CAP would allow us to have a tax levy in 2008-2009 of \$91,680,143. We have requested four

waivers from the state to increase that tax levy which were for special education cost, energy cost, liability insurance costs, and capital outlay. Only one waiver was approved for a portion of what we requested \$291,928, which brings the adjusted CAP to \$91,972,071. Our actual tax levy is \$93,289,952, which means we are \$1,308,881 over CAP. The Board of Education will request the Board of School Estimate to approve two separate budgets, the base budget with the CAP tax levy and a separate proposal of \$1.3 million. The separate proposal which has to contain items that are not mandated by the state or are not required to meet core curriculum standards and are broken out into five categories:

- Student Achievement \$1,047,842
- Artist in residency program – elementary level
- School Security – high school
- Health and Wellness program
- Montclair Parking Authority - \$14,500 to park at Central Office

New additions have been added to the budget in 2008-2009, we added world language instruction at the elementary and middle school level, an instrumental music teacher at the elementary school level, and in technology we are renovating a classroom at Glenfield as well as hardware this is part of the Capital Budget. We added to the area of special education and a middle school a literacy specialist.

Cost per pupil remains slightly higher than the state average but less than many districts in the area that are comparable to us. Of the money we spend we do spend more than the state in instruction, less than the state average in administration, more than the state average in support for classroom instruction, and we spend less in plant.

## 2. Presentation of 2008-2009 Capital Budget

Mrs. Sullivan stated that the Capital Budget uses the same process as the operating budget. The principals and department heads give input into the capital needs for the district for the following year. Board goals are also the same, and the priorities for the Capital plan are to support the superintendent's initiatives, instructional program, provide safe school for the student's and staff, improve building esthetics, quality of service provided, and provide cost effective long term planning.

The capital budget is a five year budget. The approval is only for the following year, the other years shown are for informational planning purposes. The amount being requested for 2008-2009 is \$5,141,200 broken out into these areas.

- Roof replacements at Mt. Hebron, Glenfield, Watchung, Bradford
- Window replacements at Northeast multipurpose room
- Water proofing and masonry work at various schools

- Improvements to the heating and ventilating systems at various schools
- Program improvements are planned for an old woodshop which is planned to be converted to a technology room at Glenfield
- Water damage repairs to one of the classrooms at Nishune
- Floor replacements at Rand
- Auditorium renovations are planned at George Inness and Mt. Hebron for next summer
- Money designated for furniture and equipment (mostly for the Woodman Field House)
- Money for hardware for technology upgrades
- Painting for the gyms at the high school and Bradford gym and some at Central Office
- Plans to regrade and improve the Northeast playground which needs a lot of site improvements and replacement of the equipment that is already there
- Continue to change the security cameras at the High School and George Inness to digital cameras
- Sidewalk improvements outside of Nishune & Mt. Hebron

#### F. BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS

Mrs. Taylor thanked Dr. Alvarez and Mrs. Sullivan for their hard work of trying to fulfill everyone's request for the 2008-2009 school budget. Mrs. Taylor asked that everyone support the budget presented this evening.

Mrs. Lombard stated that the Board wishes that they could meet all of the requests from the public but unfortunately we can never meet them all. This year there are tough economic times, and the Board is trying to do its best.

On the other hand, there are the tax payers in the community whom are concerned and she stated that the Boards first goal is to maintain current services if at all possible. Mrs. Lombard stated that every cut that the Board makes has an impact on somebody's child, and these cuts are never made easily or randomly. She feels that Dr. Alvarez and Mrs. Sullivan have done a very good job this year trying to balance the realities of what we are facing in tough economic times as well as trying to maintain services as best we could.

Mr. Kautz also thanked Dr. Alvarez and Mrs. Sullivan for all of their hard work and would like to thank his fellow members of the Board for everything that they have done to put the budget together. Mr. Kautz said that the cuts were done with a great deal of analysis and thought that the budget was able to be brought down in a dramatic fashion. Please be aware that the state has done a wonderful slight of hand in announcing that we have a 2% increase in state aid. At the same time, most of the state grants that we have enjoyed have been cut dramatically.

Mr. Riddick thanked Dr. Alvarez and Mrs. Sullivan and their staff for the great job they have done in passing this budget. Mr. Riddick stated that the Board works very hard for the children of this community. People move to Montclair because of the excellent school system and we would like to maintain what we have.

Ms. Grill feels that the Board is trying to maintain a system that works for parents who have children in the system and people who do not. Ms. Grill would like to have a dialogue on what the Board should be thinking about? Ms. Grill thinks that everyone needs to think about more than just this budget, but also the nature of the town and whether or not the town is going to bring in other kinds of ratables which will lower the taxes so it changes the vote of tax payers. The state is not going to put anything into this because they have no money and the federal government is not going to put in because they have even less money.

Ms. Grill wants everyone to understand that we all approach this with the same intent which is to have a really fun district for all of the students, a district where we are beginning to close the gap; we are moving closer to showing achievement for all students. Montclair is doing a lot of good things for the students.

Mr. Barr is honored to be a member of the Board and to work with everyone on the Board. The Board is asked to provide guidance to the Superintendent and his staff and he wants to thank Dr. Alvarez and Mrs. Sullivan for the tremendous job they have done with this budget.

Mr. Barr feels the Board seeks the best academic program that the district can provide and needs to ensure fiscal responsibility. Our focus is to make sure that within our means of the district every student in Montclair gets the education that they deserve and merit.

We also ensure that we provide and prepare the students for success as they mature into adulthood. We all care deeply about Montclair, our schools, and our students and we equally share concerns about the escalating taxes. The Board listens to everyone's concerns and then must make very difficult choices about allocating budget dollars for programs. This year is a very challenging time, the state has changed the budget formula, the Township has recently had a property reevaluation, and generally the economy has fallen.

The Board understands that the community is concerned because we are also concerned since we are part of that community. However, the increases in contracts, utilities, and fixed cost have already put us beyond CAP. Overall, this is a modest increase from past years. This budget is in the best interest of the children, so Mr. Barr asked that everyone support the schools and the budget that has been presented.

Mr. Carlton would like to thank all of people who have spoken to the Board members and the administration throughout the course of this year and in understanding that they can not get everything that they want. The Board does not want to give up the intergraded schools or the programs that focus on the achievement gap.

G. COMMENTS

1. PTA

None.

2. MEA

Dennis Murray – MEA President – Mr. Murray does not approve cuts to personnel that directly affect the quality of education provided to students. He understands the process, but would like to see the staff involved in the process. Mr. Murray is pleased with a reduction at Central Office but concerned with the reduction of the student assistant counselor. He feels that the counselor’s that are at the high school are all overworked.

H. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – AGENDA ITEMS

Susan Abraham – Appreciates the great job the Board has done and feels the Board has really listened to everyone. Ms. Abraham feels that everyone wants excellent schools in Montclair and knows the Board does too. She is very happy that the instrumental music teacher is still in budget.

Mara Novak – Feels it is important for the school system to keep challenging & stimulating her daughter and is glad that the new instrumental teacher is still in budget.

Jennifer Chin – Ms. Chin is a volunteer for the Writer’s Room and Health & Wellness program. She would like the budget for the writer’s room to be increased to the previous level. Ms. Chin also supports health & wellness program.

Gail Prusslin – 138 Buckingham Rd. – Supports the instrumental teacher being added to the budget.

Mary Beth Rosenthal – 269 Upper Mountain Ave. – JUMPS is sponsoring coffees to help inform people about the budget. Ms. Rosenthal appreciates everything that the Board has done with all the reductions to budget. She also agrees with Ms. Grill that there should be a constructive dialogue amongst each other.

Paula Kaufman – 656 Ridgewood – Ms. Kaufman has a 9<sup>th</sup> grade student and is concerned that security at the High School be maintained at current levels.

Noel Brogan – 88 South Mountain Ave. – Lived in town for 40 years and wants to know where Montclair stands in the state ranking of schools.

Dr. Alvarez responded that the state does not rank schools, but Montclair does very well in every indicator. Ms. Grill responded that she went to training and spoke to a representative from the State Department of Education who stated that Montclair has met state quality standards.

Alex Zorenin- 77 Buckingham Rd. – Appreciates the effort of the Board but thinks we need to be an innovative school district and should run after school programs and summer programs to bring revenue into the district. Mr. Zorenin suggested the Board should review the new school again so we don't have to spend \$35 million. He also suggested that the town management look at the whole system when they make decisions.

David Herron – 3 Hawthorne Place – Thanked the Board for a budget that is fiscally responsible & supports the schools. He feels it is important to embrace the community and thinks more cuts should be made. Mr. Herron encouraged the Board to take a closer look at the budget.

Dr. Alvarez responded that many people the Board has talked to want us to add to the budget not take away from it.

Ms. Grill responded that Mr. Herron has stated in the past that the achievement gap has not been closed She feels the Board has done a good job in reaching this goal but in order to do this staff needed to be hired.

Carol Schlein – Concerned with the renovation of the wood shop to a technology room and with the amount of money it will cost to do this renovation.

Adel Matar – Mr. Matar feels that people are going to leave town due to the high taxes. He stated that right now 130 houses are for sale. He suggested that the Board install solar panels, cut busing, put the special education students in one place, and feels the town doesn't need a new school. He also suggested that the Board should cut the Chinese language teacher, the new music teacher, and the strength & conditioning teacher.



Mr. Riddick responded to his comment about cutting the strength & conditioning teacher and stated that he is concerned that the students will not be properly trained to use the equipment.

Joyce Michaelson – Ms. Michaelson feels there is a need for year round dialogue on the budget to encourage and explore other ways of funding. She feels that a major problem with the state is their definition of wealth, because Montclair is listed in that category but is not necessarily very wealthy.

Matthew Powell – Mr. Powell has two issues to discuss. The first one is that a student teacher at the high school is teaching class rather than teacher. Second issue is the increase in the special education budget and he wants the Board to try to consolidate services to reduce costs.

Norman Rosenblum – Mr. Rosenblum is co-chair of the special education parent advisory committee and was involved in the special education self assessment. He would like to propose that rather than giving a student a personal aide the Board should think about having an inclusion specialist. This specialist would allow out-of-district children to be included in these classes and the general education students would be taught a little bit more intelligently.

Kevin Kelly – Mr. Kelly thanked the Board and stated that he is pleased to see that the district is committed to special education and music.

Jerry Fried – Stated that he is proud of Montclair's core values and supports the addition of the music instructor.

Dan Landen – 309 Park Street – Mr. Landen stated that he pays \$21,000 in taxes and wants to know if the Board is going forward with new school. Mr. Landen also questioned if the Woodman Fieldhouse is being built? He thanked everyone for all of their hard work and would like them to take the economy into consideration.

Alan Chadrijian – Commends the district for having a system that shuts the heat down after hours. Wants to know what positions are being eliminated in the area of the 3 ½ administrators? What is included in the second proposal?

Jarvis Hawley – Would like to know is there another position that can be eliminated to add back the Student Assistance Counselor position. Mr. Hawley feels that the rankings of schools that are in the newspaper do affect the perception of schools. Mr. Haveley supports the Health & Wellness program. Mr. Hawley would like the Board to reach out to senior citizens who do not have the privileges of PTA or such, but are affected by these taxes.

Cary Africk – 2 Erwin Park – Mr. Africk would like the Board to consider having their meetings in council chambers so that they can be on T.V. and more seating is also available there.

I. RESOLUTIONS

1. Budget Resolutions

Mr. Riddick moved to approve the following Budget Resolutions:

a. Adoption of 2008-2009 Budget

WHEREAS, the Montclair Board of Education has discussed and reviewed the proposed 2008-2009 Budget, and

WHEREAS, New Jersey Statutes Title 18A:7D-27 and the New Jersey State Department of Education prescribe the method, time and format for the submission of a proposed Budget to the County Superintendent of Schools,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education, after careful study and due deliberation, does hereby approve the final FY2008-2009 school district budget (under separate cover) for submission to the Essex County Superintendent:

<u>Levy</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Local</u>	<u>Tax</u>
General Fund	\$105,904,665	\$ 91,972,071	
Separate Proposal	\$ 733,231	\$ 1,308,881	
Special Revenue Fund	\$ <u>2,750,988</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	
<b>Total Base Budget</b>	<b>\$109,388,884</b>	<b>\$ 93,280,952</b>	

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education applied for a Commissioner Tax Levy CAP Waiver Adjustment in the amount of \$867,578 for the FY2008-2009 school budget for capital outlay expenses, special education costs over 40,000, energy and insurance costs, but only the special education waiver was approved in the amount of \$291,928.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education approves a separate proposal to be presented to the Board of School Estimate as per Attachment A, and this separate proposal will result in a permanent increase to the tax levy, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there should be raised an additional one million, three hundred eight, eight hundred eighty-one dollars (\$1,308,881) for General Funds in the same school year (2008-2009). These taxes will be used exclusively to fund the separate proposal specifically for achievement, school security, arts and community based programs. The approval of these taxes will result in a permanent increase to the district tax levy. These proposed additional expenditures are not required by law and are in addition to those necessary to achieve the Core Curriculum Content Standards, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this budget includes a maximum amount allotted for conference and travel of \$125,000.

b. Authorization of School Bonds for Capital Purposes

WHEREAS, the Montclair Board of Education has reviewed the Long Term Capital Needs Plan 2008-2009 through 2011-2012, and

WHEREAS, the Montclair Board of Education does hereby determine, after careful study and due deliberation, that it is necessary to raise funds for roofing replacement at various schools, energy conservation and environmental projects district-wide, site improvements district-wide, furniture and equipment in various schools; technology upgrade and building modifications, and

WHEREAS, the needs identified in the capital plan have also been identified in the District's Long Range Facility Plan, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the total amount estimated to be necessary for said projects for 2008-2009 is \$5,141,200 (attached), plus Section 20 costs of \$205,648 related to the issuance of bonds, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the School Business Administrator is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Montclair Board of School Estimate forthwith.

Seconded by Ms. Grill and approved by a roll call vote:

	A YE	NAY
Timothy Barr	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
John Carlton	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Shirley Grill	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Robert Kautz	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Shelly Lombard	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Ronald Riddick	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Carmen Taylor	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>

2. Monthly Budget Reports and Bills and Claims

Mrs. Taylor moved to approve the following:

RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 (c)3, the Montclair Board of Education certifies that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 (a), and that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2-11 (c) 4, after review of the board secretary's monthly financial reports, in the minutes of the Board each month, the Montclair Board of Education certifies that no major account or fund has been overexpended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 (b), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education approves the attached Bills and Claims for the month of March 2008 in the amount of \$2,692,008.33 and the attached Appropriation Adjustments for the month of February 2008 in the amount of \$22,780, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education does hereby approve the request for tax levy from the Township of Montclair in the amount of \$8,000,000 for the month of Mach 2008, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the attached Budget reports for the month of February 2008, the Secretary’s Report for the month of February 2008, and the Treasurer’s Reports for the month of January 2008.

Seconded by Mr. Riddick and approved by a roll call vote:

	AYE	NAY
Timothy Barr	<u>X</u>	_____
John Carlton	<u>X</u>	_____
Shirley Grill	<u>X</u>	_____
Robert Kautz	<u>X</u>	_____
Shelly Lombard	<u>X</u>	_____
Ronald Riddick	<u>X</u>	_____
Carmen Taylor	<u>X</u>	_____

3. Other Resolutions

Mrs. Lombard moved to approve the following resolutions:

- a. Approval of Essex County Educational Services Commission – IDEA-B Services for School Year 2008-2009

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Montclair has the authority to employ outside agencies to provide necessary and appropriate IDEA-B services for the Non-public students who are classified and are residents of the District, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Essex County Educational Services Commission, in consideration of the making of this contract for the 2008-2009 school year has agreed to be paid hereunder by the District from IDEA funds allocated to non-public students as the maximum and full compensation to provide additional speech services during

the 2008-2009 school year to nonpublic students who are classified and are residents of the District.

- b. Agreement for the Provision of Bedside/Home Instruction for Students Treated at Hospitals or Rehabilitation Facilities

WHEREAS, the Essex County Educational Services Commission has offered to provide home instruction services to Montclair Public School students at an hourly rate of \$40.00 for the 2008-2009 school year from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education award contracts to the Essex County Educational Services Commission for these services and authorizes the Board Secretary to execute the contract.

- c. Contract for Services Under Chapters 192/193, P.L. 1977-School Year 2008-2009

WHEREAS, the Montclair Board of Education has authorized the renewal of this service contract pursuant to Chapters 192 and 193, Laws of 1977, and

WHEREAS, the Commission Direct Services Project will provide these services through a means of delivery identical to that provided by the commission in the past,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education intends to effect a contractual agreement with the Board of Directors of the Essex County Educational Services Commission for the purpose of authorizing the Board of Directors of ECESC to provide the following auxiliary services:

- Compensatory Education
- English as a Second Language
- Home Instruction
- Supplemental Instruction
- Speech – Language

Evaluation and Determination of Eligibility  
to the Eligible Nonpublic School Students

From September 1, 2008, to June 30, 2009, to students who attend non-public schools in Montclair, New Jersey, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:46A-1 et seq, (Public Laws of 1977, Chapters 192 and 193) and the rules and regulations governing the provision of auxiliary services to students in non-public schools. The total allocation for these services shall not exceed the dollar amount allotted under Chapters 192 and 193.

d. Conference and Travel

WHEREAS, New Jersey Administrative Code N.J.A.C. 23 B and board of Education policy require approval of the Board of Education prior to expending Board of Education funds for travel and related expenses, and

WHEREAS, the travel must be directly related to the employee's or Board member's current responsibilities,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following Board members and employees are approved for travel-related reimbursements for an amount up to the estimated cost indicated:

<u>Conference</u>	<u>Board Member/ Employee</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Educational Purpose</u>
How to Create & Deliver Exceptional PowerPoint Presentations	George Glass	\$270.72	Promises to provide numerous methods & tips which can be used in our DOI presentations to staff & public. Will teach Turnkey this information in staff training.
Leadership Development	Frank Alvarez James Paterson	\$262.50 \$1112.50	Opportunity to network and discuss strategic management issues related to on-the-job leadership development, use of teams, and job

rotation initiatives to  
develop future leaders.

40 <sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Reading & Writing	Michele Gorcica	\$195.00	Provides information on the best practices in reading & writing.
Century Star- base User Conference	Nina De Rosa	\$75.00	Teaches about new product updates and discuss star-Base use and share ideas w/ other districts in NJ, CT, PA, and NY. How to use product enhancements, tips and tricks for querying information and tools for creating reports.
Geometers Sketchpad	Felicia Carino, Kimberly Noel Robinson	\$225.00 \$225.00	Incorporate Geometry Software Strategies into our Geometry curriculum.
Statewide Middle School Conference	Alex Anemone Michelle Lofrano Mark Jennings Jill Sack Charles Cobb Cathleen Macysyn	\$60.00 \$109.00 \$109.00 \$109.00 \$109.00 \$109.00	Leadership skills, classroom management, interdisciplinary instruction.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that reimbursement will be made for expenses that are  
in



accordance with Board of Education policy and for which original receipts are submitted to the Business Office.

Seconded by Mrs. Taylor and approved by a roll call vote:

	A YE	N AY
Timothy Barr	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
John Carlton	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Shirley Grill	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Robert Kautz	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Shelly Lombard	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Ronald Riddick	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Carmen Taylor	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>

4. Contract Awards

Mr. Kautz moved to approve the following contract awards:

- a. Award of Contract for Cafeteria Ceiling Replacement at Hillside School in the total amount of \$44,400.00.
- b. Award of Contract for Stage Vent Replacement at Glenfield School to Envirocon in the total amount of \$35,890.00 (base bid of \$32,140 plus alternate #1 for \$3,750).

Seconded by Mrs. Taylor and approved by a roll call vote:

	A YE	N AY
Timothy Barr	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
John Carlton	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Shirley Grill	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Robert Kautz	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Shelly Lombard	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Ronald Riddick	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Carmen Taylor	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>

J. COMMENTS

1. Board Members

Ms. Grill congratulated her colleagues on the Board of School Estimate on a job well done and congratulated Dr. Alvarez for his recognition at Montclair State.

Mr. Kautz thanked everyone for coming tonight and for their input.

Mr. Carlton thanked everyone for coming.

2. Members of the Public

None.

K. ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUTURE MEETING DATES

The next meeting of the Board of Education will be held on April 7, 2008, at 5:00 p.m. in closed session and will open in public at approximately 7:30 p.m. in the Board of Education Building, 22 Valley Road.

L. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:40 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.