

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
HELD MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2008
141 PARK STREET, MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY

A. STATEMENTS

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

1. On October 23, 2008 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.
2. 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.
3. Copies have also been mailed to all persons who have requested same at no cost.

B. RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:40 p.m. Mr. Carlton moved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b), the Montclair Board of Education may exclude the public from that portion of a public meeting at which the Board discusses any of the matters described at N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b) (1) – (9);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education shall forthwith enter into closed session to discuss the following matters concerning: out-of-district placements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said discussion maybe disclosed to the public when the reasons for discussing and acting upon it in closed session no longer exist.

Seconded by Mr. Kautz and approved by a vote of 6-0.

C. EXECUTIVE SESSION

D. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Mr. Riddick moved that the Board shall return from executive session; seconded by Ms. Grill and approved by a vote of 6-0.

The Board returned to open session at 7:31 p.m.

E. The Pledge of Allegiance occurred at 7:32 p.m.

F. ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent
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> </u>	<u> x </u>
Staff Members	<u> 6 </u>	
Members of the Public	<u> 20 </u>	
Members of the Press	<u> 1 </u>	

G. MINUTES

Mr. Riddick moved to approve the minutes of the Public Board Meeting held Monday, November 17, 2008; seconded by Mrs. Lombard and approved by a vote of 6-0.

H. INTRODUCTIONS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Alvarez acknowledged the passing of Carol Scantlebury a teacher at Glenfield School who dedicated her life to the Montclair Public School District for the past 34 years. He added that during that time she had worked as a special education teacher at Glenfield, a varsity coach for the girl's softball team at one point, and cheerleader coach. He concluded that Mrs. Scantlebury will be missed for her curricular and extracurricular contributions, as well as a dedicated staff member. The Board had a moment of silence in honor of Carol Scantlebury.

1. 2008 Allstate Black History Month Young Writers' Contest
Winners

Ms. Felice Harrison and Mr. James Acquavia presented certificates to two Montclair High School students Ellen Shakespear and Justin Meretab for their participation in the 2008 Black History Month Young Writer's Contest.

2. MHS Student Coalition

Rachel Bradford reported on athletics by stating that the fall football season has ended and the winter sports are underway with try-outs for basketball, hockey, and fencing. She added that there will be a meeting regarding the winter pep rally.

Maddie Feder reported on the social justice activities by stating that red ribbons were distributed in honor of World AIDS Day, the Animal Rights club has been collecting food and supplies for PAWS, and the GSA has been making posters to begin a “grass roots” campaign to stop the use of homophobic slurs at the high school.

I. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

1. 2008-2009 Montclair Public School District Goals

Dr. Alvarez presented the 2008-2009 Montclair Public School District Goals which were introduced at *State of the Schools* on November 20, 2008. Three goals have been a focus for some time and achievements have been realized. Math was the district’s main focus in the past, an area which produced the largest test score gap between minority and non-minority students and youngsters were not performing as well as expected. Over the last couple of years, the district has made great progress and is narrowing the achievement gap. He stated that all students are achieving at a higher level in math and scores are impressive when compared to other districts. He indicated that the goal is to continue to do the good work that has been done in math but not to lose track of what is going on in other areas to gain academic achievement across the board.

He continued that the new focus will be on writing. He explained that this is a very challenging area because it permeates all disciplines. Writing has become a part of the math curriculum as well; now students are being asked to write about math.

Dr. Alvarez noted that the district values using differentiating instruction and performance assessment concentrating on this teaching style in professional development sessions for staff. Including all areas of curricula with a particular emphasis on writing and using differentiated instruction and data analyses to inform instruction is the basis for the first new goal:

To improve academic achievement for all students through the use of *differentiated instruction* and *performance assessment* to address diverse learning needs.

The former second goal had focused on the overrepresentation of African American males in Special Education. Dr. Alvarez stated that the district felt it was important to look at other areas such as the STARS and SAIL programs. The new goal will be a priority across all programs. This goal is an outgrowth of the Special Education goal:

To continue to achieve *equity* and improve *efficiency* in all programs and services in an effort to serve all students more effectively.

The new third goal consists of levels of communication and community engagement. The new goal is stated as such:

To promote community engagement in examining implications and needs related to *emerging educational issues*.

Community involvement is requested in broader ways such as school funding issues and communication issues.

Dr. Alvarez asked the Board to approve the three goals. Dr. Alvarez stated that the principals will begin working with their school reviews and PTA's to develop action plans that will address measurable school level goals for the coming year.

Dr. Alvarez informed the Board that discussions are taking place in the community such as reviewing the magnet school system and how it is preserved, school funding issues, adjusting to issues that are coming from the State Department of Education and State regulations, and having a community group to talk about the new school.

He said this is an excellent opportunity for the community group to examine the use of the new school and also address the following questions:

1. Will the District move Renaissance as planned? Does it make sense to do that?
2. Does location impact the Renaissance program?
3. Does distance impact accessibility for the students to travel to other places in the community?
4. When the new elementary school comes on board, has the district thought about class size?
5. Has the district thought about creating extra space to bring special education youngsters back into the district?
6. How is transportation affected if school opening times are adjusted?

He informed the Board that the New School is scheduled for completion in September of 2010. He stated that by next September, he would like to have recommendations on any of the discussion items to the Board.

7. 2008 NJ Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC)

Dr. Alvarez presented information about the 2008 NJ Quality Single Accountability Continuum which he stated is the new state monitoring act replacing the Quality Annual Assurance Report. He stated that the District is observed along 5 different areas such as instruction and programs, personnel, fiscal management, operations managements, and governance. An internal committee renewed hundreds of indicators to come up with a score in those areas. He indicated that the State Department of Education will visit with the District on December 12th to review and discuss some of the data and programs and they will score the District in those areas. If the District's score is over 80% it would be able to continue forward with no further action and if it is below 80% an action plan will need to be developed. He stated that he thinks that the District is at a good point and that data can be documented on what is being done in the District. So, this evening the District asked the Board to approve the submission of this document to the New Jersey State Department of Education.

J. BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS

Ms. Grill stated that she attended the Academic Subcommittee meeting and discussions about AYP results were very positive and that progress has been made at the elementary level. She noted that the literary coaches and the math coaches are two factors that were identified as making a difference.

Mr. Barr stated that he had also attended the Academic Subcommittee meeting and indicated that they discussed ways to assist students that need extra help with one-on-one time as an adjunct to the curriculum.

Mr. Kautz reported that the New Jersey Supreme Court has remanded back to the lower courts Governor Corzine's administration's bid to have school funding formula declared constitutional.

Mr. Carlton stated that he is looking forward to the task force to review how the District preserves its school system for the coming century.

K. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – AGENDA ITEMS

Jennifer Chen of 16 Stonehenge Road asked if the Board was thinking of not moving Renaissance school into the Rand school and continuing with the lease arrangement.

Dr. Alvarez responded that the plan is to move Renaissance school. He added that what happens when this move takes place and how this distance effects student's access to the different places is being discussed. When considering the topic of critical numbers and masses, the question to discuss is if an increase from 240 students to 350 students would change the program and what it represents. He added that the original plan will continue unless otherwise discussed.

Ms. Chen stated that she is currently a writer's room coach at the elementary level for special education and main stream classrooms. She feels that schools cannot afford to lose this program and that this program could use the funding support from the Board.

L. GENERAL

1. Resolutions

a. Resolution re: Approval of 2008-2009 Montclair Public School District Goals

Mr. Riddick moved to approve the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, the Montclair Board of Education has discussed the goals for the district for the 2008-2009 school year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education approves the following district goals:

WHEREAS, to improve academic achievement for all students through the use of *differentiated instruction* and *performance assessment* to address diverse learning needs,

WHEREAS, to continue to achieve *equity* and improve *efficiency* in all programs and services in an effort to serve all students more effectively, and

WHEREAS, to promote community engagement in examining implications and needs related to *emerging educational issues*.

b. Resolution re: Approval and Submission of 2008 NJ Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC), District Performance Review

WHEREAS, QSAC is the New Jersey Department of Education's system of accountability which was adopted by the New Jersey Legislature in September, 2005.

WHEREAS, QSAC provides for the evaluation of all school districts at least every three years in "five key components of district effectiveness" which are: instruction and programs, personnel, fiscal management, operations management, and governance.

WHEREAS, QSAC requires an evaluation of each district's "capacity and effectiveness" in each of these five areas.

WHEREAS, the QSAC comprehensive review involves a performance assessment by a district committee, a statement of assurance signed by the chief school administrator and approved by the board of education, verification by the executive county superintendent, review by the Commissioner of Education, and placement at the appropriate point on the performance continuum.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education approves the submission of the statement of assurance and the 3 Year Comprehensive District Performance Review to the Executive County Superintendent of the New Jersey Department of Education.

c. Resolution re: New Jersey Proficiency Assessment of State Standards (NJ PASS) Grades 9&10

WHEREAS, the current Terra Nova assessment for grades 9 & 10 uses norms from 1998 and,

WHEREAS, forms must be updated every ten years and therefore a new assessment must be purchased.

WHEREAS, a committee comprised of the Department of Instruction members and high school supervisors reviewed several publishers' new assessments to select an assessment aligned with the NJCCCS and our curriculum and,

WHEREAS, the committee has recommended that the NJ PASS 9 & 10 by Riverside Publishing be purchased.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education approves the purchase and administration of the NJ PASS 9 & 10 for use beginning in the spring 2009.

d. Resolution re: Approval of School Field Trips

WHEREAS, The New Jersey Department of Education Accountability Regulations require approval of all school related field trips by the Board of Education and

WHEREAS, the field trip must be directly related to instruction and classwork.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following field trips are approved:

<u>School/Grade</u>	<u>Teacher(s)</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Cost</u>
<u>Glenfield/8</u>	McCarthy	Montclair HS	12-9-08	\$3.00
Education Purpose Part of social studies curriculum is the study of US government and constitution				
<u>Glenfield/6-7-8</u>	Kitts	NJPAC	1-29-09	\$16.00
Education Purpose To see a dance performance at NJPAC "All that Dance"				
<u>Glenfield/7</u>	Scribner	Boston, Mass	6-10/6-11-09	\$250.00
Education Purpose "Read Your Way" is an incentive trip for students who read 25 book throughout the year				
<u>Glenfield/7</u>	Schwartz	Watchung/Edgemont	12-23-08	none
Education Purpose Writing Assignment: Elementary students wrote letter to Middle School students and they will read responses together.				
<u>Mt. Hebron/6-7-8</u>	LaRosa	Montclair HS	12-9-08	none
Education Purpose To meet with other middle schools and debate current issues				
<u>Montclair HS/9-12</u>	Fyfe	Willowbrook Mall	12-11-08	\$10.00
Education Purpose Life Skills, communication skills and social skills				
<u>Montclair HS/10-12</u>	Portas	Dolan DNA Learning Ctr. Cold Spring Harbor New York	12-3-08	none
Education Purpose Students will be doing DNA research at one of the premier research facilities in the country				
<u>Montclair HS/9-12</u>	Fyfe	NYC Rockefeller Ctr	12-16-08	\$5.00
Education Purpose Work on Life Skills, communications and social skills				
<u>Montclair HS/10-12</u>	Lubitz	Washington, DC	4-1/4-3-09	\$350.00
Education Purpose Union station, Howard University, Crowns at Arena Stage, Tour of the Capitol Building, Tour of the monuments, American Art Museum, American History Museum, Arlington Cemetery and University of Maryland tour.				

<u>Bradford/K</u>	Klimik	Montclair SU	12-3-08	\$7.00
Education Purpose See Nutcracker Ballet				
<u>Bradford/K</u>	Wozniak	Valley Regency	12-10-08	none
Education Purpose Annual Lions Club Holiday Luncheon for special education students				
<u>Hillside/5</u>	Eckardt	Ellis Island	2-20-09	\$15.00
Education Purpose SS-Immigration: 6.1,6.2,6.4,6.5,6.6,, Human Relations: 2.4, Language Arts: 3.4, 3.5				
<u>Hillside/3-5</u>	Philips	Valley Regency	12-10-08	none
Education Purpose Annual Lions Club Holiday Luncheon for Special Education Students				
<u>Northeast/3-4-5</u>	Landau	Valley Regency Clifton, NJ	12-10-08	none
Education Purpose Annual Lions Club Holiday Luncheon for Special Ed. Students				
<u>DLC/K</u>	Bomes	Valley Regency	12-10-08	none
Education Purpose Annual Lions Club Holiday Luncheon for Special Ed. Students				
<u>Watchung/K-1</u>	Marcham	Valley Regency	12-10-08	none
Education Purpose Annual Lions Club Holiday Luncheon for Special Ed Students				

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the field trips are approved in accordance with the New Jersey Department of Education Accountability Regulations.

- e. Resolution re: Study Island – Standards Mastery and NJ ASK/HSPA Preparation

WHEREAS, this web-based, self-paced program consists of lessons, questions, answers and explanations that address the specific skills contained in the content standards,

WHEREAS, Glenfield and Mt. Hebron Middle Schools through the individual school unified plans seek approval to purchase Study Island to supplement the language arts and math curriculum for all students.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education approves the purchase and implementation of Study Island at Glenfield and Mt. Hebron Middle Schools.

- f. Resolution re: Approval of the Updated ESL Curriculum, 2008-2011, Grades K-12

WHEREAS, the recommended curriculum has been updated by the staff of the Montclair School District, is aligned with the New Jersey Department of Education Core Curriculum Content Standards, 2004, and now also with the World Class Instructional Design and Assessment Standards (WIDA) under the NCLB mandate.

WHEREAS, Title 18A (NJSA) requires New Jersey Boards of Education to adopt courses of study for children between the ages of 5 and 20, and

WHEREAS, this curriculum is developmentally appropriate, inclusive and challenging.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montclair Board of Education approves the adoption of the Updated ESL Curriculum, Grades K-12.

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

	Nay	Aye
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	_____	_____ (ABSENT)

M. BUSINESS

1. Contract Awards

- a. Resolution re: Award of Contract for Video Surveillance and Access Control systems at the High School

Mr. Kautz moved to approve the following resolutions:

Topic: Supplies, equipment and services anticipated to be in excess of \$29,000 are subject to the bidding requirements of New Jersey Statutes 18A:18A-4 or are to be purchased under a State of New Jersey contract through the provisions of N.J.S. 18A:18A-10.

Background Information: In accordance with Public School Contract Law, specifications were prepared for the Board of Education by Richard Rigolo, Architect for the Montclair Board of Education, advertised, and sealed bids received on November 20, 2008, for Video Surveillance and Access Control Systems at the High School. Thirty-three (33) companies received copies of the bid and three (3) bids were received (see Attachment A).

Superintendent's Recommendations: It is my recommendation that the Montclair Board of Education accept the recommendation of Board's Architect, Richard Rigolo, AIA, and award a contract for the base bid for Video Surveillance and Access Control Systems at the High School to Open Systems Integrators, 207D Woodward Road, Manalapan, New Jersey, 07726, in the total amount of \$207,444.

2. Change Orders

a. Approval of Change Order #2 and #3 for Roof Replacement at Watchung School

Topic: Supplies, equipment and services anticipated to be in excess of \$29,000 are subject to the bidding requirements of New Jersey Statutes 18A:18A-4 or are to be purchased under a State of New Jersey contract through the provisions of N.J.S. 18A:18A-10.

Background Information: In accordance with Public School Contract Law, specifications were prepared for the Board of Education by Richard Rigolo, Architect for the Montclair Board of Education, advertised, and sealed bids received on April 30, 2008, for Roof Replacement at Watchung School. The contract was awarded to Kraft Roofing, Inc., 21 Lauren Lane, Sussex, New Jersey, 07461, in the total amount of \$163,650.00.

Superintendent's Recommendations: It is my recommendation that the Montclair Board of Education approve change orders #2 and #3 in the total credit amount of -\$7,955.80 as follows:

C/O #2 - Credit to Board for Replacing Books	\$195.80
C/O #3 - Credit to Board for Skylight Work	<u>\$7,760.00</u>
Total	\$7,955.80

b. Resolution re: Change Order #13 for Woodman Field House Renovations

WHEREAS, supplies, equipment and services anticipated to be in excess of \$29,000 are subject to the bidding requirements of New Jersey Statutes 18A:18A-4 or are to be purchased under a State of New Jersey contract through the provisions of N.J.S. 18A:18A-10, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Public School Contract Law, specifications were prepared for the Board of Education by The Biber Partnership, Architect for the Montclair Board of Education, advertised, and sealed bids received on March 15, 2007, for Woodman Field House Renovations. The contract was awarded to Jeral Construction Services, 320 Belleville Avenue, Bloomfield, New Jersey, 07003, in the total amount of \$3,999,250.00 (base bid of \$3,152,650.00 plus 6 Alternates).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education approve change order #13 in the amount of \$45,161.79 as follows:

Relocated Vent Stack	\$1,141.24
Training Room Utilities	\$12,872.99

Credit for Masonry Flashing	(\$740.00)
Repair Attic Exhaust Fan	\$5,538.58
Replace Vent Stack in 1-31A	\$1,185.12
Railing at Ramp to Field	\$1,849.00
Ground to Domestic Water Line	\$1,317.99
Dedicated Outlet in Room 1-21A	\$1,035.00
Credit for Pride Wall	(\$4,500.00)
Removal of Existing Excess Fill from Driveway	\$7,500.00
Add Railing below Stair at Fitness Center	\$1,478.00
Various Sitework Changes	\$13,183.87
Ornamental Fence	\$3,300.00
<hr/>	
Total Amount of this change order:	\$45,161.79

Seconded by Mrs. Lombard approved by a roll call vote:

	Nay	Aye
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	_____	_____ (ABSENT)

3. Approval of Conference and Travel Requests

Mr. Barr moved to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, New Jersey Administrative Code N.J.A.C. 23B 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</u> <u>Employee</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Educational Purpose</u>
How to be an	Nina DeRosa	\$148.00	Better communication skills to enhance workplace interactions.
Outstanding Communicator	Maryann Wasko	\$138.00	

Building a “First Class” Kindergarten Program	Jeannette Williams	\$160.00	This conference will provide new ideas and best practices for Kindergarten classrooms.
16 th Annual Transition Conference	Joyce R. Hobbs	\$50.00	This conference will assist in transition planning and assistive technology evaluations.
Ensuing Quality CTE Programs	Joanne Petrigliano	\$64.00	To obtain information for the Perkins grant.
Arts Education Series	Joanne Petrigliano	\$795.00	These 5 workshops will focus on the NJCCCS visual and performing arts secondary education initiative.

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 Ms. Grill approved by a roll call vote:

	Nay	Aye
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	_____	_____ (ABSENT)

4. Out-Of-District Placements

Mr. Kautz moved to approve the Out-of-District Placements

Seconded by Mrs. Lombard approved by a roll call vote:

	Nay	Aye
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	_____	_____ (ABSENT)

N. COMMENTS

1. Board Members

Mrs. Lombard stated that she is proud that the District has made progress with some of the pre-existing goals. She noted that work that has not been completed is now encapsulated in some of the new goals and that the new goals have been well drafted. She stated that she is particularly pleased with the communication and community engagement goal.

Mr. Kautz stated that his comments parallel Mrs. Lombard's comments with regards to the school goal of communication and community engagement. He added that this is a very ambitious schedule that the District is setting and if there are any discussions of redesign in place, the District should begin that sooner than later. With regards to moving Renaissance, he noted that the plans should be carefully thought through since the District wants the community's cooperation. He concluded that in harmony with one of the new district's goals, writing must be emphasized. He shares the concern for the cutbacks that were made to the Writer's Room program but also supports budgetary restraints.

Mr. Riddick echoed statements made about the communications and community engagement goal. He encouraged the parents to get engaged in this goal to bring more diversity into the process and support to their children's academic careers.

Ms. Grill stated that she was grateful to see members of the Board of School Estimate present at the meeting. She exclaimed that Montclair has a legacy of having one of the only integrated school districts in the country.

Mr. Barr stated that along the lines of continuing education and early childhood education, Montclair is fortunate as a community to have a fine Pre-K program. He pointed out that over the last 10 years the Montclair Pre-K have educated over 2200 students and this year alone they are providing 45% of the enrolled families with tuition assistance totaling \$620,000 in scholarship funds. The other fact that people can understand and remember is that all children are accepted on a first come first serve basis without regard to their family's financial circumstances. He added that children are never turned away due to difficulty in paying tuition. He noted that this is an outstanding community resource- one that not enough credit has been given. He reminded all that it is important to support the Pre-K.

Mr. Carlton stated that as the District goes through the process of restating values in Montclair, he thinks that this being done terrifically. He indicated that the community has been very involved in the integrated school system in Montclair and has supported the diversity and differentiating instruction that the District has been pushing toward.

2. Members of the Public

Gail Prusslin of 138 Buckingham Road asked questions about the time-line and process for hiring the new principal at Montclair High School and if the video surveillance purchase is a new purchase or a replacement.

Dr. Alvarez replied that the position for the new principal has been advertised and about 70 applicants had applied. He added that those resumes are being carefully reviewed and at this point reopening the search may be necessary. He concluded that information will go out to the parents prior to the holiday explaining what the process would be.

Mrs. Sullivan replied that the video surveillance system is a replacement of the current system. This system is much better and is digitally hooked up to the District's system to assure tighter security at the high School. About 100 cameras are going to be placed in the high school in the main building. She indicated that access controls will be placed on the outside doors to lock and unlock during the changing of classes and teachers will be able to access these doors with cards as opposed to keys to promote better security at the high school. She continued that this project has been in plans for a couple of years and that future plans are to extend this to the George Inness Annex as well.

Mary Beth Rosenthal of 269 Upper Mountain Avenue stated that on behalf of the PTA Council they are looking forward to working with Mr. Riddick on increasing African American and any parental involvement in the schools. She also stated to the Board of School Estimate members that the PTA Council as well as the Board is ready and willing to discuss priorities.

Rich Murnick of 141 Gordonhurst Avenue agreed with Mr. Riddick's comments about parental involvement. He stated that Mr. Barr's comments regarding the Pre-K were excellent and that he agreed that the Pre-K has done a great job and would like to see them continue in their efforts. He commended the Board of Education on the process for choosing Naomi Kirkman for principal at Bradford School.

O. ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUTURE MEETING DATES

The next meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, December 15, 2008. The meeting will open in public at 6:30.p.m. The Board will go immediately into executive session and reconvene in public at approximately 7:30 p.m. in the Atrium of the George Innes Annex, 141 Park Street.

P. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:40p.m. Ms. Grill moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Kautz and approved by a vote of 6-0.