

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
HELD MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2008, AT 6:30 P.M.
GEORGE INNESS ANNEX ATRIUM
141 PARK STREET, MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY

A. The meeting opened at 6:40 p.m. and the following statement was read:

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

1. On October 17, 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 Mr. Kautz 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-(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: Personnel matters covered by the attorney-client privilege; and matter rendered confidential by state or federal law: personnel matters, personnel report, and out-of-district.

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. Barr and approved by a vote of 7-0.

At 6:40 p.m. the Board went into executive session.

C. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Personnel Matters
2. Personnel Report

3. Out-of-District Placements
4. Settlement Agreement to Resolve R.C.'s Educational Program

D. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Mr. Barr moved that the Board shall return from executive session; seconded by Mr. Riddick and approved by a vote of 7-0.

The Board returned to open session at 7:45 p.m.

E. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance occurred at 7:46 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> x </u>	<u> </u>
Staff Members Present	<u> 8 </u>	
Members of the Public	<u> 40 </u>	
Members of the Press	<u> 1 </u>	

G. MINUTES

Mr. Kautz moved to approve the following minutes of the Public Board Meeting held December 1, 2008; seconded by Mr. Riddick and approved by a vote of 6-0-1 Abstained.

H. INTRODUCTIONS AND AWARDS

Dr. Alvarez introduced Dr. Lydia Furnari, who joins the Montclair team as Curriculum Supervisor K-12 in the Department of Instruction.

A former resident of Montclair, Dr. Furnari worked in the district as a music educator and Related Arts Subject Matter Leader from 1988-1998. More recently she was with the Elizabeth Public Schools as Director of Elementary and Secondary Education and as a Principal. Dr. Alvarez welcomed her back to Montclair.

Felice Harrison presented the following awards:

Girls Varsity Soccer Team

Anne Goor
Chris Johnson, Coach
Ingrid Kaplan
Morgan Stith

Bullying Campaign Project

Vivian Arcila
Mathieu Benson
Robert Dixon
Patrick Moore
Kyle Schwab
Arielle Suskin
Nicholas Torres

Diplomatic Corps. – Policy Program

Rachel Bradford
Samuel Flood
Gregory Jamiolkowski
Julian Lucas

I. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Alvarez stated that the district is proud of the efforts of the students in the Diplomatic Corps Program at Seton Hall University. The program is made possible, in part, through the generosity of Josh and Judy Weston. Under the direction of Ms. Liliya Panayev and Mr. Tom Manos, the program explores policy issues on a global level. The four Diplomatic Corps participants presented information about this program to the Board.

Mr. Manos gave a brief history of the Diplomatic Corp. which is a part of the Civics and Government Institute. This program is in its 7th year. It was designed in collaboration with Seton Hall University to expand our small learning community in creating better citizens locally, nationally, and internationally and also to give students another type of learning experience beyond just Montclair High School. Four years ago, this program expanded to work with Farleigh Dickenson University for video conferences. Montclair High is the only high school in the nation that participates in the video conferences.

Ms. Panayev is excited about working with this program. Ms. Panayev introduced:

Rachel Bradford – Ms. Bradford stated that past topics and video conferences have included poverty, women’s health, children’s rights, and terrorism.

Samuel Flood – Mr. Flood spoke on spring lectures which is a new component of the program. There will be lectures on open topics which will be opened to the public and will be related to current events and international relations.

Gregory Jamiolkowski – The students participate in Saturday sessions at Seton Hall which are held at 9 A.M. and features lessons and stimulations.

Julian Lucas – The students are able to speak directly with UN leaders and people throughout the country through the video conferences and experts during lectures.

Dr. Alvarez announced that Montclair was one of the districts that spearheaded a move to realign sports teams across the state to provide for more equity among teams. John Porcelli has worked with the NJSIAA to offer recommendations, which ultimately resulted in the realignment of fall and winter sports teams for the 2009-2010 school year.

Mr. Porcelli updated everyone on a vote at the state level to separate public and non-public Schools for athletics. The fourteen public schools in the NNJIL came together and spearheaded this legislation. The vote was lost by six votes to separate public and non public schools. There are many reasons why public schools do not want to compete against non-public schools, some are because of the enrollment numbers and others are how non-public schools attract students. There is also the issue of recruiting athletes to high schools for athletic purposes.

Mr. Porcelli is on the NJSIAA committee which took a look at this entire issue. Their recommendation is to realign sport teams for the entire state of New Jersey. The district's new conference is called the Super Essex Conference which is comprised of the 32 schools in Essex County.

Dr. Alvarez stated that the Quality Single Accountability Continuum state monitoring visit occurred this past Friday. The Superintendent's office oversaw the QSAC review of documents. Dr. Alvarez thanked Assistant Superintendent Terry Trig-Scales and members of Senior Staff for their contributions in making this assessment run smoothly. On all counts, the district believes it has performed exceedingly well. The state report is expected to be made public this coming April.

We typically present the enrollment report at this meeting. However, due to Mr. Dabney's absence we will postpone our report until January.

J. BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS

First Reading of the following Regulation:

R-5131 Violence and Vandalism Report

Mr. Kautz announced that MFEE granted 128 grant awards. He attended a workshop on legal issues and a vote is in process on moving the school board elections from the spring to November.

Mrs. Lombard stated that the PTA council is working on standardizing school tours.

Mrs. Taylor enjoyed attending the QSAC required training.

Mr. Riddick also attended QSAC required training.

Mr. Barr attended training on school finance.

K. COMMENTS

1. PTA

Helen Fallon – The PTA has been speaking about school tours and is trying to simplify the tours. The PTA council is encouraging the district to plan events for MLK day.

2. MEA

Dennis Murray – Mr. Murray is very proud of the CGI and Diplomatic Corp programs. The MEA will vote on the tentative agreement tomorrow. Mr. Murray had a concern with on-going building problems such as leaking roofs.

L. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – AGENDA ITEMS

Lewis Bruss – 184 Seymoru Ave., Newark, NJ – Discussed the capital problems and wants to help the district get a handle on the building problems.

Michael Scheller – AXA Equitable – Requested that the Board not pass the resolution to approve Lincoln National as their sole 403B provider.

M. RESOLUTIONS - BUSINESS

Mrs. Lombard moved to approve the following resolution:

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 December 2008 in the amount of \$4,295,596.60 and the attached Appropriation Adjustments for the month of November 2008 in the amount of \$286,750.57, 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 \$10,502,976.00 for the month of December 2008, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the attached Budget reports for the month of November 2008, the Secretary's Report for the month of November 2008, and a Treasurer's report for the month of October 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>	_____

N. RESOLUTIONS - GENERAL

1. Other Resolutions

a. Approval of Conference and Travel Expenses

Ms. Grill moved to approve the following resolutions:

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:

Minutes, 12/15/08

<u>Conference</u>	<u>Board Member/ Employee</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Educational Purpose</u>
Attention, Language Process, and Sensorimotor Disorders in Children	Cheryl Starr	\$198.00	Will learn step by step intervention strategies which address attention, language, and sesorimotor skills.
52 Practical Strategies for Aspergers Syndrome, NLD, & Autism	Marli Klar	\$169.00	Will provide the appropriate strategies to utilize to promote social & academic functioning for children with disorders.
	Janice Fowler	\$169.00	
	Ellen Haggerty	\$169.00	
	Christina Sparacino	\$169.00	
	Diane Visscher	\$169.00	
Be the Best You Are Coaches Clinic	Valerie Tauriello	\$100.00	Will enhance knowledge in various aspects of softball.
Notebooks Enhance Science	Louis DeBello	\$70.00	Through writing science can be taught in connection with all other areas without taking extra time, using techniques and strategies that teaches and students will enjoy.
Strengthening Instruction Gifted Students Differentiated Teaching Strategies	Christina Sparacino	\$189.00	Provides practical ways to meet the needs of the gifted students through tiered instruction, flexible grouping, compacting and also effective ways to communicate to parents.
	Jamie Bassett	\$189.00	
	Maureen Verducci	\$189.00	
Units of Study Across the Year	Jennifer Gilman	\$159.00	Will learn new rubrics and assessment structures that can give new direction to writing conferences, small group work and mini lessons.
	Katie Harms	\$159.00	
	Amanda DuMont	\$159.00	
	Robin Alvarado	\$159.00	

Minutes, 12/15/08

Writing Strategies that Work	Barrie Sultan	\$199.00	Will help strengthen K-2 writing skills, management, and organizational ideas for integrating writing throughout the day.
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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.

b. 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>Watchung/5</u>	Arnold/Cuevas	Downtown NYC	Dec. 22, 2008	none

Education Purpose

Students will continue to explore the cultural diversity of the USA by visiting the African Burial Ground, the museum of Native American History

<u>Montclair High/9-12</u>	Schnitzer	Morris County College	Jan. 6, 2009	none
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Education Purpose

DECA Regional Competition

<u>Montclair High/9-12</u>	Shakespear	New York City	Dec. 16, 2008	\$25.00
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Education Purpose

Will visit Cooper-Union to see student work, City Bakery (designing a bakery) and architectural office.

<u>Montclair High/9-12</u>	Ennis	YMCA, Montclair	Dec. 22, 2008	none
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Education Purpose

Community Sing

Minutes, 12/15/08

<u>Glenfield/6-8</u>	Chang	NJ PAC, Newark	Jan. 23, 2009	\$20.00
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Education Purpose
Chinese New Year, Year of the Ox, 2009 culture show

<u>Glenfield/6,7,</u>	Maloy	NJIT-Newark	Jan. 15, 2009	none
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Education Purpose
Participation in the science Olympiad competition

<u>Glenfield/7</u>	Martinez	Mtc. Skating Arena	Dec. 19, 2008	\$5.00
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Education Purpose
Read Your Way, students who read 10 books by December will be able to participate

<u>Glenfield/8</u>	Lofrano	Washington, DC	June 5-6, 2009	\$400.00
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Education Purpose
This trip is a reward for completing Glenfield's RYW program. We will visit various monuments and memorials, including the Holocaust Museum.

<u>Edgemont/5</u>	Lepari	Clary Anderson Arena	Dec. 22, 2008	none
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Education Purpose
Community building, new physical activity in replacement of gym and recess

<u>Rand/4</u>	D'Andrea	Clary Anderson Arena	Dec. 12, 2008	\$2.50
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Education Purpose
Ice skating-Science : Matter and Friction, character Ed./

<u>Rand/4</u>	D'Andrea	Fairview Lake YMCA Newton, NJ	May 28-29, 2009	\$90.00
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Education Purpose
Environmental Science learning extension and character education, team building activities

<u>Northeast/3,4,5</u>	Alday	Imax Theatre, West Nyack New York	Dec. 17, 2008	\$7.00
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Education Purpose
African Adventure 3D-As the school of Global Studies my class is studying Arica. Seeing the movie will enrich their understanding of the continent.

<u>Hillside/5</u>	Frankle	Liberty Science Ctr.	Feb. 23, 2009	\$15.00
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Education Purpose
Science/Social Studies/math./Language Arts

<u>Renaissance/7</u>	Thomas	Jewish Heritage Museum New York City	Dec. 19, 2008	\$5.00
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Education Purpose
Holocaust Studies-meeting hate with humanity

<u>Renaissance/7</u>	Burnnett	Jewish Heritage Museum	Jan. 30, 2009	\$5.00
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Education Purpose
Holocaust Studies

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the field trips are approved in accordance with the New Jersey Department of Education Accountability Regulations.
Seconded by Mr. Kautz and approved by a roll call vote:

- c. Adoption of Board Regulation R-5131 Violence and Vandalism Report

WHEREAS, Board of Education regulations required only one reading before regulations are adopted,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education adopts the Board Regulation R-5131.

Seconded by Mr. Kautz 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>	_____

2. Contract Awards

- a. Professional Services 2008-2009 Fiscal Year – Lincoln National

Mr. Barr moved to approve the following contract awards:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5 states in part "Any purchase, contract or agreement...may be made, negotiated and awarded by the Board of Education by resolution at a public meeting without public advertising for bids...", and

WHEREAS, the nature of these contract awards generally relate to the provision of professional services,

WHEREAS, the Montclair Board of Education has received proposals from various firms providing said professional services,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education, after careful study and due deliberation does hereby appoint Lincoln National as the sole provider of 403B and 457 tax shelter deferred annuity plans at no fee to the district effective January 1, 2009, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education approves the attached plan document and service agreement,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the School Business Administrator shall be authorized to issue contracts to such provider agencies as described above.

- b. Professional Services Supplemental Educational Services, 2008 – 2009 School Year

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5 states in part “ Any purchase, contract or agreement...may be made, negotiated and awarded by the Board of Education by resolution at a public meeting without public advertising for bids...”, and

WHEREAS, the nature of these contract awards generally relate to the provision of professional services, and

WHEREAS, the No Child Left Behind Act requires that supplemental educational services be provided to eligible students in Title 1 schools that have not made Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) for two or more consecutive years, and

WHEREAS, these tutoring services must take place outside the regular school day and must be provided by a vendor approved by the State of New Jersey,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education does hereby appoint the following firms to provide tutoring services for a minimum of 20 hours per student for the 2008-2009 school year at the hourly rates noted below, but not to exceed \$1166.00 per student;

Club Z, Home Tutoring	\$60.00
Community Technical Assistance, Inc.	\$58.00
Convenient Education Services	\$60.00

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the School Business Administrator shall be authorized to issue contracts to such provider agencies as described above.

Seconded by Mrs. Lombard 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. Revised Personnel Report

Mr. Kautz moved to approve the following Revised Personnel Report, Out-Of-District Placements, and Settlement Agreement:

WHEREAS, the Superintendent has recommended that the Board approve the actions contained in the attached Personnel Report.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approves the Personnel Report of December 15, 2008, including the indicated individuals who have been hired under the Emergent Hiring Procedures as required by law.

4. Out-of-District Placements

5. Settlement Agreement

Settlement Agreement to Resolve R.C.'s Educational Program

WHEREAS, the attorney for the Board of Education has forwarded a Settlement Agreement in the matter of E.C. and A.C. on behalf of R.C. vs. the Montclair Board of Education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board Secretary is authorized to execute this Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

Seconded by Mrs. Taylor 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>	_____

O. COMMENTS

1. Board Members

Shelly Lombard wanted to make the public aware that the resolutions and contracts that are approved at the meetings is from money that is already allocated. This does not impact next year's budget or last year's budget.

Tim Barr agrees with Mrs. Lombard's comments.

Rob Kautz wishes everyone Happy Holidays.

Carmen Taylor congratulated the girl's soccer team. Mrs. Taylor enjoys the growth of the CGI program.

Ron Riddick feels that the CGI program is excellent. Mr. Riddick commended Morgan Stith, who is on the girl's soccer team, was named Essex County Player of the Year.

Shirley Grill is glad that the CGI program is present.

John Carlton thanked the senior staff and Mr. Murray for their work done with QSAC. Mr. Carlton thinks that CGI and Diplomatic Corp are terrific programs.

2. Members of the Public

None.

P. ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUTURE DATES

The next meeting of the Board of Education will be held on January 12, 2009, and will open at 5:00 p.m. and go immediately into closed session. The meeting will reconvene in public at approximately 7:30 p.m. in the George Inness Annex Atrium, 141 Park Street.

Q. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:05 p.m. Mr. Barr moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Riddick and approved by a vote of 7-0.