

MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP BOARD MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2011 AT 7:00 P.M.
IN THE ATRIUM OF THE GEORGE INNESS ANNEX
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 Friday, December 17, 2010 notice of this meeting was faxed to the Montclair Times, the Herald 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 7:08 p.m. *Mrs. Kulwin* 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: *personnel report and out-of-district placements*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said discussion may be 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 4-0.

C. EXECUTIVE SESSION

D. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

At 7:33 p.m. moved that the Board shall return from executive session; seconded by *Mrs. Kulwin* and approved by a vote of 6-0.

E. The Pledge of Allegiance occurred at 7:34 p.m.

F. ROLL CALL

	PRESENT	ABSENT
Angelica Allen-McMillan	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Shirley Grill	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>
Robert Kautz	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Robin Kulwin	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Leslie Larson	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Shelly Lombard	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Deborah Wilson	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Staff Members	<u> 5 </u>	
Members of the Public	<u> 75 </u>	
Members of the Press	<u> 1 </u>	

G. MINUTES

Mrs. Kulwin moved to approve the following minutes:

1. Workshop Board Meeting held on Monday, December 6, 2010
2. Public Board Meeting held on Monday, December 20, 2010

Seconded by *Ms. Larson* and approved by a vote of 6 with 0 abstention on the 12/20/10 minutes; and 5 with 1 abstention on the 12/06/10 minutes.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Enrollment Report

Ms. Felice Harrison presented the highlights of the 2010-2011 District Enrollment Report.

Dr. Alvarez announced that due to the horrific scene in Arizona, the Montclair Public School District will act in harmony with President Obama's request that all public buildings put up their flags in honor of the members of Congress.

I. BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS

1. Second Reading of the following Board Policies:

- a. P-4119.22 Staff Conduct and Dress
- b. P-6146 Graduation Requirements
- c. P-4119.26/4219.26-Staff use of the Internet Social Networks and other forms of Electronic Communications

2. Committee Reports

a. Budget Committee

None.

b. Communications Committee

Mrs. Kulwin spoke about School Action Teams being a way of communication for everyone in the district. She stated that the Board would like to know how the School Action Teams are progressing. She stated that she would also like to hear from parents, teachers, and staff with budget suggestions and if anyone has any suggestions about the budget, they could submit them to any of the schools.

Mrs. Lombard spoke about the Board creating a legislative committee and an energy committee. She stated that the Board is represented by the New Jersey School Boards Association which is a group that the Board is required by law to be a part of and they lobby on behalf of school boards. The legislative committee will be looking at the issue of state aid and the energy committee will be looking at ways that energy could be saved in the district. She added that if there is anyone interested in becoming a part of either of these working groups to email Ms. Larson.

c. Curriculum Committee

Ms. Larson stated that the committee met with the Department of Instruction where they discussed the teachers' resource portal. This tool will be available to teachers some time in the spring. She added that Dr. Hoover has been working with the Business School at Montclair State University and New Jersey Institute of Technology to assist with the business entrepreneurial small learning community at the high school. She added that the committee also discussed the graduation requirements implemented by the State Department of Education.

d. Facilities and Enrollment Advisory Committee

Mr. Kautz stated that they are scheduled to meet with Mrs. Sullivan, Business Administrator, for discussions on energy savings.

e. Personnel Committee

Mrs. Wislon recommended approval of the January 10, 2011 Personnel Report.

f. Special Needs Committee

None.

J. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – AGENDA ITEMS

Sarah Wolman of 117 Christopher Street spoke about the preservation of the full-day Kindergarten program and the idea to implement charging a fee on a sliding scale and offering scholarships for lower income families. She spoke about the preservation of the Bullock Schools’ successful and thriving program and asked the Board to involve Dr. Weller on any discussions prior to making any changes to the Bullock school. She indicated that the Bullock community recognizes that to maintain core items, cuts are inevitable. The Bullock community supports expanding K-5 enrollment, adding self contained special education, paying fees to maintain full-day Kindergarten and courtesy busing provided that an allowance is made for families who cannot afford the fee, and implementing a standard magnet theme fee that could create a magnet fund at each school.

Leslie Masuzzo of 132 Alexander Avenue spoke about a survey that was conducted among Para-Professionals in the district.

K. GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution Re: Approval of School Field Trips

Ms. Larson moved to approve the following resolutions:

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 class work,

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

SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS						
DATE OF TRIP	SCHOOL	GRD	TEACHER	DESTINATION	COST	PURPOSE
3-21-11	Renaissance	7	Korotkin	Metropolitan Opera House, NY	\$10	Attend full dress rehearsal of Conte D’ory. All students in 7 th grade at Renaissance take “Intro to Opera” class. This reinforces curriculum with authentic experience

SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS						
DATE OF TRIP	SCHOOL	GRD	TEACHER	DESTINATION	COST	PURPOSE
2-25-11	Hillside	5	Eckardt	Liberty State Park, Jersey City	\$15	SS: immigration:6.1,6.2 Human Relations: 2.4
1-13-11	Glenfield	6/7/8	Furer	NJIT, Newark	\$25	Participation in the NJIT Regional Tournament of the Science Olympiad competition
1-17-11	Glenfield	6-8	Ward	Bullock School	0	Jazz Band will perform for MLK celebration
2-10-11	Bradford	K-1	Metzinger	Newark Museum Planetarium	0	Students will study the solar system at the planetarium, students will be able to have a hands on experience exploring the planets
1-13-11	MHS	10-12	Orso	NJIT	0	Competition in regional North Jersey section of NJ Science Olympiad
1-15-11	MHS	9-12	Petrigliano	Hightstown HS, Hightstown, NJ	\$20	To compete in the FTC Regional event with the robot the students have designed and built

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

2. Resolution re: Adoption of Policy 4119.22-Staff Conduct and Dress

WHEREAS, The Board of Education must determine and approve the policies necessary to guide the decision-making process governing all activities of the schools. and

WHEREAS, it is reasonable and important that the boards expectations for the standards governing appropriate conduct and dress of staff should be clearly articulated for the orderly operation of the district, therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montclair Board of Education hereby approves those minimum standards for conduct and dress through policy 4119.22.

3. Resolution Re: Adoption of Policy and Regulation 6146-Graduation Requirements

WHEREAS, the State Department of Education, prescribes the minimum contents for courses of study for all public elementary and high schools in the state; and

WHEREAS, the State Department of Education allows local districts to expand upon those minimums and requirements if they so desire; and

WHEREAS, the Montclair Board of Education is required to specify through its policies the minimum requirements for graduation determined appropriate for the students graduating in Montclair; therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montclair Board of Education hereby approves those minimum requirements for graduation through policy and regulation 6146.

4. Resolution Re: Adoption of Policy 4119.26/4219.26 – Staff use of the Internet Social Networks and Other Forms of Electronic Communications

WHEREAS, The Board of Education must determine and approve the policies necessary to guide the decision-making process governing all activities of the schools and

WHEREAS, it is reasonable and important that the boards expectations for the standards governing appropriate use of the internet should be clearly articulated for the orderly operation of the district, therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education hereby approves those minimum standards for staff use of the internet through policy 4119.26/4219.26.

Seconded by *Mr. Kautz* and approved by a roll call vote:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Dr. Allen-McMillan	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Shirley Grill	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>
Robert Kautz	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Robin Kulwin	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Leslie Larson	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Shelly Lombard	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Deborah Wilson	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

L. BUSINESS

1. Resolutions

a. Resolution re: Approval of Conference and Travel Expenses

Ms. Larson 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:

CONFERENCE AND TRAVEL EXPENSES					
<u>CONFERENCE</u>	<u>BOARD MEMBER/ EMPLOYEE</u>	<u>SCHOOL DEPT.</u>	<u>ESTIMATED COST</u>	<u>EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
48 th Annual Conference	Dana Sullivan	Business Office	\$502.50	Annual Conference	Atlantic City, NJ
State Aid and Budget Preparations	Dana Sullivan Andrea DelGuercio	Business Office	\$75.00 \$75.00		Rockaway, NJ
Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages	Vicky Chang Janice Dowd	Nish.	\$1,138.00 \$1,138.00	The grant requires participation in the Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. It is the premier regional conference on language teaching.	Baltimore, MD
Common Core State Standards	Peter Turnamian Drury Thorp	Watchung	\$150.00	Critical to ongoing alignment of curriculum with new State standards.	Somerset, NJ
Consortium VT Colleges	Lauren Cszuka	MHS-Guidance	\$75.00	To increase knowledge base about colleges in the Vermont area to provide	Proctor, VT

CONFERENCE AND TRAVEL EXPENSES					
<u>CONFERENCE</u>	<u>BOARD MEMBER/ EMPLOYEE</u>	<u>SCHOOL DEPT.</u>	<u>ESTIMATED COST</u>	<u>EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
				students with information/and recommendations	
				.	
TECHSPO 2011	Maria Narciso Samantha Morra	C.O. Mt. Heb.	\$304.36 \$225.00	To present the design, construction, and the completion of the Glenfield Learning Commons.	Atlantic City, NJ
Teaching Children with ASDS – Using Video Modeling	Holly Gomes Baheerah Baker	DLC	\$180.00 \$180.00	This conference is beneficial to expand knowledge of video modeling and the various skills that could be taught using this technique	Clark, NJ
Implementing Research-based Strategies in the School Settings	Holly Gomes Brittani Lemoncelli	DLC	\$180.00 \$180.00	This conference will discuss ABA teaching methods that are used in the classroom. It will also discuss effective interventions for strategies for building functional skills for students.	Clark, NJ
Teacher's College February Mini-Institute	Melissa Buttiglieri Abigail H. Ernst Elaine Blafer	Watchung Watchung Watchung	\$600.00 \$600.00 \$600.00	To develop strategies for more effective	Columbia University, NY

CONFERENCE AND TRAVEL EXPENSES					
<u>CONFERENCE</u>	<u>BOARD MEMBER/ EMPLOYEE</u>	<u>SCHOOL DEPT.</u>	<u>ESTIMATED COST</u>	<u>EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
	Kristen Kaelin Grace Ko	Bullock Nishuane	\$600.00 \$600.00	implementation in the classroom.	
Teacher's College Reading and Writing Project	Michele Lowy Barrie Sultan Nami Kuwabara	Bullock Bradford Bullock	\$700.00 \$700.00 \$700.00	To enrich teaching skills and ability to support other teachers to continue with training.	Columbia University, NY
How to Maximize Motivation: Strategies to Improve Learner's Abilities	Sharon Balsamo Valerie Gancarz-Demarco	DLC DLC	\$100.00 \$100.00	This workshop will address strategies to improve learning of students in the autism spectrum via use of motivational variables.	Edison, NJ
Annual NJENU: Education Conference "The World is our Classroom"	Beverly Weitzman	Bullock	\$175.00	Will provide information on rainwater gardens, composting indoors and out, recycling food waste, and project learning tree for green schools	Princeton, NJ
Understanding the NJASK Holistic Scoring Rubric	Lydia Furnari Janine Gregory	DOI	\$75.00 \$75.00	To gain a better understanding of the methods used for scoring student writing samples for proficiency on	West Caldwell, NJ

CONFERENCE AND TRAVEL EXPENSES					
<u>CONFERENCE</u>	<u>BOARD MEMBER/ EMPLOYEE</u>	<u>SCHOOL DEPT.</u>	<u>ESTIMATED COST</u>	<u>EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
				NJASK 3-8.	
ASAP-NJ 25 th Annual Conference	Andrew Evangelista	MHS	\$245.00	To learn new skills , techniques, methodologies, and resources for treating the causes an defects of issues related to mental illness, substance abuse and dependence, family school health sexuality, legal issues, sexting and cyberbullying.	Atlantic City, NJ
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Annual Meeting	Naomi Kirkman James Earle Peter Turnamian Adunni Anderson Barbara Weller Guy Whitlock Joseph Putrino Alex Anemone Charles Miller Frank Alvarez Felice Harrison Leslie Larson Sylvia Bryant Clarence Hoover Angelica Allen-McMillan	Bradford MHS Watchung Edgemont Bullock Mt. Heb. Northeast Glenfield Renaissance Supt. Supt. Office Bd. VP Supt. Office DOI Bd. Member	\$30.00 \$30.00 \$30.00 \$30.00 \$30.00 \$30.00 \$30.00 \$30.00 \$30.00 \$30.00 \$30.00 \$30.00 \$30.00 \$30.00 \$30.00	Community involvement and strengthening commitment to the values of diversity.	Montclair High School
NSTA National Conference	Gary Odolecki Alyson Wasko	MHS Science	\$1,278.00 \$1,278.00	Workshops, presentations, and activities will be	San Francisco, CA

CONFERENCE AND TRAVEL EXPENSES					
<u>CONFERENCE</u>	<u>BOARD MEMBER/ EMPLOYEE</u>	<u>SCHOOL DEPT.</u>	<u>ESTIMATED COST</u>	<u>EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
				used to prepare for and turnkey for new MHS "Stem" small learning communities	

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. Resolution re: Parental Contract for Student Transportation- 2010-2011 School Year – E.P.

WHEREAS, the Montclair Board of Education is desirous of having the parent/legal guardian of (E.P.) transport their child to and from Chapel Hill Academy, Lincoln Park, New Jersey, and

WHEREAS, if the parent/legal guardian fully performs the services required by this contract, the Montclair Board of Education shall pay the parent/legal guardian \$3,960.00 to transport said child as per the attached contract,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education does approve the Parent Contract for such transportation.

Seconded by *Dr. Allen-McMillan* and approved by a roll call vote:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Dr. Allen-McMillan	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Shirley Grill	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>
Robert Kautz	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Robin Kulwin	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Leslie Larson	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Shelly Lombard	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Deborah Wilson	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

2. Resolution re: Approval of the Personnel Report

Ms. Larson moved to approve the following resolution:

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approves the Personnel Report of January 10, 2011, including the indicated individuals who have been hired under the Emergent Hiring Procedures as required by law. *(See Attachment A)*

Seconded by *Dr. Allen-McMillan* and approved by a roll call vote:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Dr. Allen-McMillan	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Shirley Grill	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>
Robert Kautz	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Robin Kulwin	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Leslie Larson	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Shelly Lombard	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Deborah Wilson	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

3. Resolution re: Approval of the Out-of-District Placements

Ms. Larson moved to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Superintendent recommends that the Board approves the actions contained in the attached Out-of-District Placements.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approves the actions attached in the Out-of-District Placements of January 10, 2011. *(See Attachment B-B3)*

Seconded by *Mr. Kautz* and approved by a roll call vote:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Dr. Allen-McMillan	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Shirley Grill	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>
Robert Kautz	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Robin Kulwin	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Leslie Larson	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Shelly Lombard	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Deborah Wilson	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

M. COMMENTS

1. Members of the Public

Chris McGoey of 112 Upper Mountain Avenue, of the Save Our Schools (SOS) committee updated the Board on the support from the community and many are lending their support in behalf of their deep belief in the magnet school system. She stated that they are hearing from people in town that they support keeping all schools open and not just those that their children attend.

Linley Jones of 17 Stevens Street asked questions about the guiding principals for the budget working groups' budget suggestions.

Lyn Selasie of Gates Avenue asked the Board about revenue opportunities, if they studied the ratio of students to staff, and if they considered that closing schools would distract from the magnet theme and leave parents without choices.

Ira Schor of 302 N. Mountain Avenue spoke about the Edgemont community suffering anxieties because of the uncertainty of the schools' closing. He stated that Montclair is capable of providing high quality special education and there could be lots of savings even if just a small number of those students are brought back into the district. He also spoke about the suggestions made toward implementing the *school within a school* concept.

Hellen Fallon and Grace Grund PTA representatives for Renaissance School stated that they hoped that the data that was presented at previous meetings would be considered when the Board makes their decision to close Renaissance School.

Ana Juron of 442 Washington Avenue stated that if the goals are to increase the way special education is delivered in Montclair then the decision to outsource aide's would be counterproductive.

2. Board Members

Mrs. Lombard stated that the budget process has been very stressful because the Board decided to begin the process earlier, and of the working groups began working on their presentations in the summer. Another reason that this has been stressful is because the Board wanted to be more transparent so, instead of small group discussions, everything has been discussed in the open and involved people from the community. Another reason this is stressful is due to the loss in state aid and the anxiety of when and if the district would receive any state aid. She stated that this is an economically difficult environment and she would not like to

see the Board push for a budget increase. It is unrealistic. She indicated that even if state aid is received, the Board will not relax on any decisions. She stated that it is not good leadership for the Board to stagger from one financial crisis to another. If the district receives state aid, the Board still needs to take a step back and develop a district that is sustainable.

Mrs. Larson stated that part of the thorough investigations that are being conducted is for the purpose for long-term plans. They are ongoing plans with cost saving ideas.

Mrs. Wilson stated that what makes the budget process so stressful is being asked to do a job in an area where they are consumers of the very product that they're trying to save. In response to the Save Our Schools (SOS) group's comments, she stated that the Board is also interested in saving the schools and spending responsibly in a sustainable way. The options that had been placed on the table from all of the working groups will be considered and the Board will make the best decision possible.

N. ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUTURE MEETING DATES

The next meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, January 24, 2011 and will open at 7:00 p.m. in public in the Little Theater of the George Innes Annex, 141 Park Street for the presentation of the Budget Working Group.

O. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:07 p.m. *Ms. Larson* moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by *Dr. Allen-McMillan* and approved by a vote of 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Sullivan
Board Secretary