

The regular monthly meeting of the Morrisville Board of School Directors was held in the LGI Room located in the Morrisville Intermediate/Senior High School, 550 West Palmer Street, Morrisville, Pennsylvania on Wednesday, February 23, 2011, after due notice of the meeting had been given as required by law. Mr. Bill Hellmann, President, called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm with the following members present on roll call:

In attendance: Messrs. Buckman, DeWilde, Hellmann, Radosti, Worob and Stout, Mrs. Heater, Mrs. Ruthrauff and Mrs. Mihok.

Quorum Present.

Also attending this evening's meeting was Mr. William J. Ferrara, Acting Superintendent; Mr. Paul DeAngelo, Business Administrator; Mr. Tony Gesualdi, Acting Supervisor of Pupil Personnel Services, Mr. Donald E. Harm, Acting Secondary Principal; Ms. Laurie Ruffing, Elementary/Intermediate School Principal, and Thomas J. Profy IV, Esq., Solicitor; media and MEA representation.

Mr. Hellmann acknowledged the recent passing of Mrs. Brenda Worob and thanked her for her service as a member of the Board of Directors.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INFORMATION

Morrisville Opportunity Education Foundation – MOEF – There was no report this evening.

1. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** – Mr. Ferrara acknowledge the members of the Board of School Directors and thanked them for their volunteer service to the District. Mr. Ferrara read the following resolution and presented each member with a Certificate of Appreciation.

School Director Recognition Month

January 2011

WHEREAS, the role of locally elected school officials has served the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and local communities in meeting the needs of public education since the passage of the Free School Act in 1834; and

WHEREAS, these local boards have discharged their responsibilities to public education in a manner which has placed public education in the forefront of our educational systems; and

WHEREAS, locally elected officials have distinguished themselves and their communities in this nonpaid, volunteer public service commitment; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of these men and women should be recognized and appreciated by those who benefit from the workings of our public school system;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association hereby proclaims the month of January as School Director Recognition Month in this commonwealth; and

FURTHER RESOLVE that this proclamation be communicated to all school districts, school officials and local communities in a planned program which brings visibility and awareness of the role of locally elected school officials to the citizenry of this commonwealth.

Vouchers

Mr. Ferrara spoke about the School Voucher Bill currently in the House. He supports the voucher system provided it is equal on both sides. Conditions should be in the best interest of the students. All schools that receive money from the Commonwealth should be subject to PSSAs, Highly Qualified Teachers and the rigors of the public school system.

Cost/Efficiency Issues

Mr. Ferrara advised that Administration has been working with the School Board, the community and the teachers on a variety of ways to make education more efficient in Morrisville. One of the things we are looking at is an early retirement incentive program for our teachers. We value our teachers and what they do for our students and if we can make the salary schedules work more efficiently for our students, we should investigate. We thank the Board for giving us the approval to look at this as a way to cut costs.

⇒ **Enrollment Report**

District Enrollments as of February 14, 2011		
<u>Student Population</u>		
Pre Kindergarten.....	17	
Kindergarten.....	74	GRANDVIEW
Grade 1	78	INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 4-5
Grade 2	78 482
Grade 3	74	
Grade 4	94	INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 6-8
Grade 5	67	HIGH SCHOOL 9-12
Grade 6	60 390
Grade 7	59	
Grade 8	68	TECHNICAL SCHOOL
Grade 9	44	HOME SCHOOLED
Grade 10	45	CHARTER SCHOOLS
Grade 11	55	OUT-OF-DISTRICT
Grade 12	59	
		Total 1025
<i>(3 students in out-of-district placements are housed in our district and are included only once in the total)</i>		

⇒ **This week in our Schools**

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

February is Black History Month

- Feb. 1st–22nd Pasta for Pennies Fundraiser
- Feb. 9th Patti Gill (Literacy Coach) visited IS teachers
- Feb. 11th - Valentine's Day Party @ 2:00 p.m.
- Feb. 15th The Cheese Stands Alone (Elementary Play) 7 p.m. at MHS auditorium
- Feb. 18th Staff In-Service – Schools Closed
- Feb. 21st Schools Closed Presidents’ Day
- Feb. 25th PreK visits Crayola Factory
- Feb. 25th Mobile Ed. Production performs The Spirit to Overcome

Student Representative to the Board – Dakarai Campbell

Mr. Ferrara complimented Dakarai for his contributions to the basketball team.

UPPER INTERMEDIATE AND HIGH SCHOOL SECONDARY REPORT

- Congratulations to the Varsity Cheerleading Squad on placing 2nd in the BAL competition which was held on Saturday, February 5th.
- The Varsity Girls Basketball Team will be participating in the BAL playoffs starting on Tuesday, February 15th.
- Congratulations to our Varsity Basketball Players who received all League Honors for their play this past season. Bravo to all for their hard work and effort on the court this past season.
- For Girls Basketball:
 - Kievanna Lacey received All-League 1st team, Jamihara Chambers received 2nd Team Honors and Katherine Brown and Michele Evans received Honorable Mention. Kievanna Lacey was named BAL Constitution Division Player of the Year and Coach Dave Howell received Coach of the Year honors.
- For Boys Basketball:
 - Kris Shaw received 2nd Team honors and Ricky Melendez received Honorable mention.
- Report cards were distributed on February 4th.
- Course selection for the 2011-2012 school year took place for the students in grades 8 thru 11. Counselors met with all students to arrange their schedules and the course selection has been completed.
- The Student of the Month Breakfast will be held on February 15th honoring students for the months of December and January. Congratulations to all the recipients.
- A staff in-service will be held on February 18th.
- Schools will be closed in observance of President's Day on February 21st.

PUBLIC SESSION

Jon Perry, 43 Fairview Ave.

Budget, voucher bill, special education costs

Sharon Hughes, 121 Mercer Ave.

Somerset tour; welcome to Mr. Worob

Pat Brofman, 129 S. Delmorr Ave.

Commended our teachers for their work

Mr. Hellmann advised that an Executive Session will be held following tonight's meeting.

Routine Action Items

At the meeting of the Board of School Directors on September 22, 2010 the Board of School Directors approved a motion that Agenda meeting action items considered routine will be enacted under one motion unless removed for separate action upon Board request. The purpose of the consolidated motion is to expedite Governing Board action on all consent items, which are not held for discussion. Items that have been held for discussion by the Governing Board will be enacted upon at the time the item is discussed.

2.1. Approval of Minutes

The Board approved a motion to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2011 Monthly Business Meeting (abbreviated).

Moved by Mt. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. DeWilde; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

INFRASTRUCTURE/FINANCE/HUMAN RESOURCES *Mr. Bill Hellmann, Chairperson*

3. INFRASTRUCTURE
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

ACTION ITEMS

Items 3.1 and 3.2 were voted upon in one motion. Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

3.1. Approval, Act 77 Lighting Project Bid

The Board approved a motion to direct the Business Administrator to solicit bids for the lighting project.

3.2. Approval, Alarm System at Manor Park Elementary

The Board approved a motion to approve an alarm system for the Manor Park Elementary School.

3.3. Approval, Change Order for Grandview Elementary Doors

The Board presented a motion to approve a change order for doors at the Grandview Elementary School.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. DeWilde.

MOTION AMENDED AS NOTED:

The Board approved a motion to approve a change order for doors at the Grandview Elementary School for an amount not to exceed \$11,500.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. DeWilde; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

Mrs. Mihok requested an explanation of this request for change order.

Mr. DeAngelo advised that this motion refers to the doorway leading into the court yard to the modulars. This is part of the original base bid and includes 2 sets of doors. This contract belongs to Architectural Windows.

The electrical door was an alternate in the bid. Martel was asked not to install this door. We are expecting a change back in the amount of \$30,000 which included the electrical door and the two pod doors. The electrical door is not part of item 3.3. Mr. Stout commented that this is a lack of communication on work being done in the buildings. Mr. DeAngelo will update the Board on this item at the next meeting.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS
ACTION ITEMS

4.1. Approval, Acceptance of Resignation of Representative to the BCIU#22 Board

The Board approved a motion to accept the resignation of Mrs. Marlys Mihok as representative to the BCIU#22 Board of Directors, effective February 23, 2011.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Worob; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

4.2. Approval, Election/Appointment of Representative to the BCIU#22 Board

Call for Nominations

The Board President requests nominations of candidates to serve as Morrisville's representative to the IU Board of Directors.

Mr. Buckman nominated Mr. DeWilde
There were no other nominations.

Close Nominations

The Board approved a motion to close nominations. Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Radosti; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

Elect/Appoint Representative to Board of Directors

The Board approved a motion to elect/appoint John DeWilde to the unexpired term of Mrs. Mihok effective February 23, 2011 until June 30, 2012 (roll call vote).

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 9 ayes.

Items 4.3, 4.4.a and 4.5 were moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Radosti; passed by a unanimous voice vote.

4.3. Approval, Leave of Absence

In accordance with Article IX of the collective bargaining agreement, child rearing leave shall be granted without pay and benefits of all natures and descriptions.

The Board approved a motion to approve a maternity leave of absence for Tana Gunnett commencing approximately May 27, 2011 and immediately followed by a childrearing leave until the end of the first semester (January 30, 2012) of the 2011-2012 school year.

4.4. Approval, Appointments

4.4.a. Intern for Pupil Personnel Office 2011-2012

This motion was amended as noted below.

The Board approved a motion to approve the hiring of an intern for the Pupil Personnel Office during the 2011-2012 school year. **Cost for services not to exceed \$10,000.**

4.5. Approval, Appointment – 21st Century Hires

The Board approved a motion to approve the hiring of the following individuals for the 21st Century program, effective February 5, 2011.

Orlando Tirado	Student Site Monitor.....	\$8.00/hour
Rosanna Pirraglia	Teacher	\$22.00/hour
Stephanie Greenburg	Tutor	\$18.50/hour

4.4.b. Varsity Football Coach

This item was tabled. Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Radosti; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

5. BUSINESS OPERATIONS/FINANCE
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS
ACTION ITEMS

5.1. Approval, Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 Programs and Services Instructional Materials Budget for 2011-2012

A roll call vote of 9 nays DEFEATED a motion to approve the 2011-2012 Intermediate Unit Operating Budget. This budget covers the costs of operation of the programs and services part of the Intermediate Unit Budget. This includes such services as curriculum development, staff development, and film and video tape rentals. The District's total expenditure to the Intermediate Unit will be \$11,887 representing a decrease of \$181 from the 2010-2011 budget.

This motion was moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Buckman; FAILED by a roll call vote of 9 nays.

Mrs. Mihok commented that this portion of the budget is the only thing that ever decreases at the IU.

Mr. Hellmann advised that this motion is only on the programs and services portion. The entire budget is about \$132,000,000 for 6,000 students (over 300 pages) and they have no incentive to control their spending. They have 1100 employees. The IU needs to be reorganized and restructured. Mr. Hellmann would like to go to the IU and look at their operations.

Mr. Buckman inquired if the District needs these services.

Mr. Ferrara advised that we do use a lot of the IU services. However, he believes that what Mr. Hellmann is looking for is a vote to not approve this motion which will send a statement to the IU on their overall budget.

5.2. Approval, Auditor Contract

The Board approved a motion to approve the Auditor Contract. Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Worob.

This motion was amended

The Board approved a motion to approve the Auditor Contract not to exceed \$20,300 in 2011-12; \$20,800 in 2012-13, \$21,300 in 2013-14. Amended motion moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

Items 5.3 to 5.5 were voted on in one motion. Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Worob; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

5.3. Approval, Treasurer's Report – January 2011

The Board approved a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for January 2011.

5.4. Approval, Investment Report – January 2011

The Board approved a motion to approve the Investment Report for January 2011.

5.5. Approval, PLIGIT Procurement Cards

The Board approved a motion to approve PLIGIT Procurement cards.

Mr. DeAngelo advised that the District explored Citizens Bank for this effort; however, they required too much personal information on the card holder.

5.6. Payment of Bills

The Board approved a motion to approve payment of bills, as listed, subject to final audit by the Business Administrator in the amount of:

Payment of Bills was approved with the exception of check #39364 in the amount of \$150,914 which will be placed into an escrow account.

Miscellaneous Disbursement: (1/26/11 – 2/16/11)	\$723,433.04
Athletic Fund (1/31/11 – 2/15/11)	2,660.00
Cafeteria Fund: (2/28/11)	36,823.50
Accounts Payable (2/24/11)	222,720.49
Capital Projects	-0-
Capital Reserve (2/2/11 – 2/24/11)	158,523.40
Procurement Cards (Jan. 2011)	<u>-(201.06)</u>
TOTAL BILLS	\$1,143,959.37

Mr. DeAngelo confirmed there are no payments to Vitetta or Martel included in the Payment of Bills.

6. EDUCATION/POLICY COMMITTEE
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

ACTION ITEMS

6.1. Approval, Second Reading of Policy #210 -- Medications

The Board approved a motion to approve the second reading of Policy #210 – Medications.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

7. LIAISON REPORTS

- a. Lower Bucks County Vocational-Educational School – Mr. Buckman
The Technical School meeting will be held next week.

Bill Ferrara and Don Harm to attend program and services committee meeting at Tech on funding. Will be meeting with a Business Administrator of another district who is at the ground level of this formula in hopes to unify other districts. On April 5 Superintendents, Business Administrators and School Board Presidents will meet to review formula.

On Feb. 9 Marlys Mihok and Ron Stout provided judging for the Skills USA competition.

- b. Bucks County Intermediate Unit – Mrs. Mihok
At the January meeting WOW students (We Are Outstanding Workers) provided dinner for the board representatives TO honor School Director Recognition month. The economy is also impacting this group as only 2 out of 20 are gainfully employed.

- c. Pennsylvania School Boards Association/Legislative – Mrs. Mihok
Mrs. Mihok shared a legislative handout on SBI she received at the IU meeting with members of the board.

Mrs. Mihok will be attending the legislative conference in April and will report on this at the April meeting.

Future Meetings and Items of Interest

The below meetings will be held in the LGI

March 16, 20117:30 pm – Monthly Agenda Meeting

March 23, 20117:30 pm Monthly Business Meeting of the Board

For Community and District Information
Visit our community website www.mv.org
and Channel 28 on your Local Cable

8. OLD BUSINESS

- Board Retreat
- Safety Briefing for Board Members – *Mr. Ferrara is working with Jack Jones on this issue*
- Mrs. Mihok appointed PSBA Representative on 2/16/11
- Penalties for Abuse of Traffic Rules -- *Mr. Ferrara is working with Jack Jones on this issue*
- Mr. Buckman appointed as Chairperson for Education/Policy Committee on 2/16/11

9. NEW BUSINESS

Request for Outsourcing – *Mr. DeAngelo reported that negotiations are ongoing with support staff (MESPA) employees. We received a proposal from them and informed them that we would be asking the School Board for permission to do an RFP for custodial/secretarial services. The RFP is ready to go and will be placed on our website. Normal timelines are about 3 weeks. At that time we will report back to MESPA and PSEA.*

Since it directly relates to this issue, Mr. Worob read an excerpt from the handout Mrs. Mihok provided earlier in the meeting. "Governor Corbett has indicated that 1 billion or more in state basic education cuts may be coming in his first budget proposal. Opponents of these cuts indicate that cutting state education subsidies for public schools will force school districts to raise school taxes or make cuts in programs for students. There doesn't appear to be enough room under the property tax cap to raise enough local revenue to cover the proposed cuts in state funding."

Salaries and benefits are what we are up against as illustrated in the above paragraph

Mrs. Mihok commented that as a Board member she values our employees, members of MESPA, and the services they provide. As much as we'd like to continue with these employees, it would not be fiscally responsible if we didn't explore the costs of services from another source.

Mr. Hellmann motioned to authorize the Business Manager to go out for proposals.

The Board adjourned for an Executive Session to discuss matters of personnel and litigation.

The following motions are additions to tonight's agenda.

Outsourcing Labor

The Board approved a motion to authorize Administration to look at outsourcing for some of our contracted labor.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Radosti; passed by a voice vote of 7 ayes; 2 abstentions (Mrs. Heater and Mrs. Ruthrauff).

Legal Action

The Board approved a motion to authorize the Solicitor to institute legal action, if necessary, against the Bucks County Technical School to address the funding formula and other issues related thereto.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

MOEF

Mr. Hellmann presented a brochure to Mr. DeAngelo for "Green Power with Meridian" relating to choice for electricity providers. If an individual chooses this avenue, a donation would be given to the foundation. Mr. DeAngelo will place this information on the website for review.

10. Adjournment

The Board approved a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm. Passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

William Hellmann, President

Marlys Mihok, Secretary