

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BOROUGH OF MORRISVILLE
Morrisville, Pennsylvania

The regular monthly meeting of the Morrisville Board of School Directors was held in the LGI Room located in the Morrisville Middle/Senior High School, 550 West Palmer Street, Morrisville, Pennsylvania on Wednesday, October 28, 2009, after due notice of the meeting had been given as required by law. Mr. Bill Hellmann, President, called the meeting to order at 7:37 pm with the following members present on roll call:

In attendance: Messrs. Buckman, Hellman, Farrell, Radosti, Mrs. Mihok; Mrs. Worob.

Absent: Mrs. Reithmeyer; Mrs. Heater; Mr. Kemp.

Quorum Present.

Also attending this evening's meeting was Dr. Elizabeth Hammond Yonson, Superintendent; Mr. Paul DeAngelo, Business Administrator; Mr. Anthony Gesualdi, Director of Pupil Services; Mr. William Ferrara, Intermediate/Secondary Principal (Gr. 6-12); Ms. Laurie Ruffing, Elementary/Intermediate School Principal (PreK-5); Michael G. Fitzpatrick, Esq., Solicitor; media and MEA representation.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INFORMATION

Student Representative to the Board – Ann Ramierz

Congratulations to the Varsity Soccer Team on their pursuit for the Penn Jersey League title. The team had a sensational season. Brandon Douglas broke the season, career, and school record for scoring goals.

- There was an inoculation held at Morrisville High School on November 11th.
- Picture retake day will be held on November 16th for all students/faculty that did not have their pictures or ID's taken.
- The Student of the Month Breakfast will be held on November 17th honoring students from September and October.
- Report cards will be distributed on November 20th.
- Parent/guardian conferences will be conducted on November 24th. The conferences can be scheduled between 12 noon and 7:30 pm. There will be no drop ins and parents/guardians must have an appointment.
- There will be a Community Pep Rally held in the Morrisville High School gym at 6:00pm on November 25th.
- **THANKSGIVING DAY FESTIVITIES**
The Annual Morrisville Student Loan Breakfast will be held in the H.S. Cafeteria 7:00am to 10:00am. The Annual Thanksgiving Day Football Game vs. Bristol will take place at Bristol at 10:30am.
- A Powder Puff football game was held November 17, at 6:00 pm, at the Robert Morris Field. High school senior, junior, and sophomore girls participated in a series of three individual matches. The game was a result of Angela Walker and Natalie Brown's graduation project to raise money for the CHOPS foundation. A total of \$232 and several children's toys were raised.

1. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Yonson reported on the successful administration of the H1N1 inoculation by the Board of Health. Next week are parent conferences; parents are encouraged to attend.

The MOEF meeting was held today; we discussed Winterfest. This year the school will be opening the doors of the HS to house some of the Winterfest activities. Donations from the community are welcome for the auctions that will be held during the celebration.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Messrs. Farrell and Kemp, with thanks, for their service on the school board.

⇒ Enrollment Report

District Enrollments as of November 13, 2009	
	<u>Student Population</u>
Kindergarten.....	80
Grade 1.....	76
Grade 2.....	79
Grade 3.....	88
Grade 4.....	64
Grade 5.....	60
Grade 6.....	61
Grade 7.....	61
Grade 8.....	58
Grade 9.....	56
Grade 10.....	55
Grade 11.....	68
Grade 12.....	66
Grade 12.....	66
.....	872
	GRANDVIEW323
	INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 4-5124
447
	INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 6-8180
	HIGH SCHOOL 9-12245
425
	TECHNICAL SCHOOL60
	Regular Ed..... 45
	Special Ed 15
	CHARTER SCHOOLS26
	Regular Ed..... 22
	Special Ed 4
	HOME SCHOOLED15
	OUT-OF-DISTRICT59
	Regular Ed..... 10
	Special Ed 49
Total.....	1032-10=1022

(10 students in out-of-district placements are housed in our district and are included only once in the total)

⇒ This week in our Schools

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Nov. 3rd - teachers worked with Ann Peavy literacy coach and Compass Learning to address technology needs
- Nov. 4th - Box Out the Bully Assembly grades K-3 sponsored by PTO Nov. 9th and 10th - End of marking period assessments administered Nov. 10th and 11th - Joe Mills visited classrooms and teachers district wide
- Nov. 11th - Veteran's Day - Elementary Students collected items to send as care packages to deployed troops.
- Nov. 15th - 21st American Education Week - Parents are invited into classroom to observe on assigned days
- Nov. 24th and 25th - Parent/Teacher conferences

UPPER INTERMEDIATE AND HIGH SCHOOL SECONDARY REPORT SEPTEMBER, 2009

Congratulations to the Varsity Soccer Team on their pursuit for the Penn Jersey League title. The team had a sensational season. Brandon Douglas broke the season, career, and school record for scoring goals.

- Staff Development for the faculty was held on November 3rd. Compass Learning, Differentiated Instruction, and Web Locker presentations were held.
- The Parent Advisory Meeting was held on November 10th.
- There was an inoculation held at Morrisville High School on November 11th.
- There was an early dismissal held on November 13th.
- American Education Week was held November 15th to November 21st. "Invite Parents to School Day" is November 17th.
- Picture retake day will be held on November 16th for all students/faculty that did not have their pictures or ID's taken.
- The Student of the Month Breakfast will be held on November 17th honoring students from September and October.
- Report cards will be distributed on November 20th.
- Parent/guardian conferences will be conducted on November 24th. The conferences can be scheduled between 12 noon and 7:30 pm. There will be no drop ins and parents/guardians must have an appointment.
- Schools are closed for Thanksgiving on November 25th, 26th and 27th.
- There will be a Community Pep Rally held in the Morrisville High School gym at 6:00pm on November 25th.
- **THANKSGIVING DAY FESTIVITIES**
The Annual Morrisville Student Loan Breakfast will be held in the H.S. Cafeteria 7:00am to 10:00am. The Annual Thanksgiving Day Football Game vs. Bristol will take place at Bristol at 10:30am.
- The Student of the Month Breakfast will be held on November 27th in the cafeteria at 7:20am. Honored at the breakfast will be students from the months of September and October.

MORRISVILLE SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT REPORTS TO COMMUNITY

First, I would like to congratulate the people of Morrisville for their interest in this past municipal election, and for exercising their rights at the polls. I also congratulate all the candidates for their willingness to participate in the process and for taking an active interest in Morrisville and especially our school district.

With the election over it is time for us to get down to work and do the best we can for everyone. As members of the Morrisville School Board we have a great responsibility and I believe this recent election has helped solidify the direction of the board and its often-stated goal: improve educational quality, upgrade and renovate district facilities and install "best practices" in managing taxpayers' money.

As school board members we recognize our deep responsibility to the children of this district --- provide them with an opportunity to have a great educational experience and enhance their prospects for a successful future.

In the wake of the recent election, we have come to realize, again, that the residents of Morrisville are deeply concerned about rising costs and taxes in every area. You cannot sit on a school board anywhere in Bucks County without thinking of the taxpayers, who fund our school systems.

William Hellmann, President

We are one of the last remaining governing bodies without a huge deficit. Our federal and state governments have huge deficits, due primarily to mismanagement, in my opinion.

I trust that this board, including the two new board members, will continue on a fiscally conservative path, focus on educational improvement, efficiency, and seek out grants and other external sources of revenue.

I congratulate Brenda Worob and Jack Buckman, who have been invaluable members of the school board and Ronald Stout and John DeWilde, who will join us in another month.

I am very optimistic about this new term and believe we all can work together for our common goal, which is the steady improvement of the Morrisville School District.

Thank you.

Bill Hellmann

PUBLIC SESSION

Bill Minder, 423 Crown

Thank you to Mr. Kemp and Farrell. Good luck to new members.

Gayle Haug, 260 Harper

Consider children as well as taxpayers

Damon Miller, 249 W. Franklin

Thank you to Mr. Kemp and Farrell and congratulations to newly elected. Newsletter.

Sharon Hughes, 121 Mercer

Congratulations to all those elected representing School/Borough. Defeasance; newsletter; blog; Winterfest; Carol Sing; Colonial Christmas; Pat Wandling.

Bill Farrell, outgoing Board member.

Mr. Farrell tries to live by a personal code every day. He thanked everyone who elected him in 2006. He has learned a lot about education although he is not a fan of PDE and legislators in this matter. Keep the politics out of education. Money is being invested in our buildings and it's a good start. I am very confident in the Administration and staff. He individually thanked the administrators. He offered his help in the future.

ACTION ITEMS:

2.1. Approval of Minutes

The Board approved a motion to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2009 Monthly Business Meeting of the Board of School Directors, AS AMENDED.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Radosti; passed by a voice vote of 5 ayes; 1 abstention (Mrs. Worob).

Mrs. Mihok asked that in the October 28, 2009 minutes page 3 of 11 bottom of page the word "misinformation" be in quotations to reflect that this is Mrs. Reithmeyer's word.

Mrs. Mihok stated that motion 2.1 on page 4 of 11 "Concerning the last paragraph on page 3 beginning Mr. Kemp and Mrs. Reithmeyer tried to delay the defeasance . . . – Mrs. Reithmeyer commented that this is Mr. Hellmann's opinion." -- I have copies of the January 23 minutes from 2008 page k which states:

"The Board defeated a motion to TABLE item 5.4.1.

Motion to table moved by Mr. Kemp; seconded by Mr. Frankenfield; defeated by a vote of 5 nays; 3 ayes. Members voting aye were Messrs. Kemp and Frankenfield, Mrs. Reithmeyer".

At that time, it was defeated by a motion of 3 for; 5 against tabling it. This was followed by ¾ of a page of discussion. Therefore, this was definitely not your opinion, Mr. Hellmann; these were the facts as they were stated January 23, 2008 and as they appear in the minutes that reflect those statements. So I ask that this be included in the minutes.

Mr. Hellmann stated ---"It is not my opinion, it is a fact Kemp and Reithmeyer tried to delay the defeasance of our expensive debt. On January 23, 2008 Kemp and Reithmeyer voted to table motion 5.4.1 which was to take steps to defease a substantial portion of the 2006 General Obligation Debt. The tabling motion was defeated 5-3. If the debt defeasance was delayed until the next business meeting in February, 2008, it would have cost an approximate extra \$665,000 to defease the debt in March, 2008 due to declining interest rates."

"This town can not afford incompetence on our school board. People's homes are at risk And our children's education is at risk because the more money you waste, the less money for education. Let's put this to bed and move on".

2.2. Approval of Minutes

The Board approved a motion to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2009 Monthly Agenda Meeting of the Board of School Directors.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a voice vote of 5 ayes; 1 abstention (Mrs. Worob).

3. HUMAN RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE Mrs. Mihok

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

District Employees as of November 12, 2009 = 149
 5.....Administrators
 80.....Teachers
 12.....Administrator Support Staff
 17.....Support Staff
 35.....Instructional & Non-Instructional Support Staff

ACTION ITEMS

3.1. Approval, Resignations

The Board approved a motion to approve the acceptance of the following resignations, with regret:

Randee Hilzer	personal care assistant	effective 11/11/09
Kelly Cahill	paraeducator	effective 11/24/09

Moved by Mrs. Mihok; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

3.2. Approval, Leave of Absence

The Board approved a motion to approve a maternity leave of absence for Lauren Lang effective January 15, 2010 until approximately March 1, 2010.

Moved by Mrs. Mihok; seconded by Mrs. Worob; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

3.3. Approval, Appointments

The Board approved a motion to approve the appointments listed below:

Items 3.3.a. to 3.3.f were moved by Mrs. Mihok; seconded by Mr. Hellmann; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

	Individual	Position	Effective	Compensation	Replacing
3.3.a.	Christine Motherwell	LTS Elementary Art Teacher	2 nd semester 2009-2010	Per CBA, B, OB = \$44,686	Mrs. Wendy Craig
3.3.b.	Lisa Colon-Rivera	PCA	11/12/09	Per Group II Salary and Benefits = \$11.52/hour	Randee Hilzer
3.3.c.	Desiree Yonkauskee	PCA	ASAP	Per Group II Salary and Benefits = \$11.52/hour	New Position
3.3.d.	Orick Smith	Boys Varsity Basketball Coach	2009-2010	Per CBA \$3,675	Rich Poland
3.3.e.	Corey Latsch	Elementary Floater Sub	2 nd semester 2009-10	Per Substitute policy \$104/day	Christine Motherwell

A portion of the PCA positions will be funded through Access funds.

3.3.f. Approval, Appointment of Per Diem Substitutes

The Board approved a motion to appoint the following individuals as per diem substitutes for the 2009-2010 school year. Per Policy #429 and Group II Salary and Benefits

Anne Baccari
Virginia Glatzer

Jennifer Berkery
Alan Goldstein

Vydula Gadkari
John Hood

3.4. Approval, Tuition Reimbursements

The Board approved a motion to approve the tuition reimbursement as listed below.

Karen Maziarz	Gratz	3 credits	\$940
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Moved by Mrs. Mihok; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

3.5. Technical School Authority

Mr. Fitzpatrick read a letter from Mr. Buckman in which Mr. Buckman thanked the Board of Directors for appointing him as representative to the Technical School Authority, but with regret, declined the appointment due to a change in the by-laws of the Authority restricting a board member to serve in both capacities.

Approval, Acceptance of Resignation of Representative to Technical School Authority

The Board approved a motion to accept the resignation of Mr. Jack Buckman, with regret, as Morrisville's representative to the Lower Bucks Technical School Authority effective November 18, 2009.

Moved by Mrs. Mihok; seconded by Mrs. Worob; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

Approval, Appointment of Representative to Technical School Authority

The Board approved a motion to appoint Ed Bailey as Morrisville's representative to the Lower Bucks Technical School Authority effective November 18, 2009 to fill the unexpired term of Lou Groves until January 2013.

Moved by Mr. Buckman; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

4. SPECIAL EDUCATION – Mr. Tony Gesualdi

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

ACTION ITEMS:

4.1. Approval, Contract with Katzenbach School for the Deaf

The Board approved a motion to approve agreements (2) with Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf for students' services during the 2009-2010 school year. Compensation for educational services is \$40,362.00 per student.

Application will be made to the state for approved private school status. If approved, this amount could be reduced significantly.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Worob; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

5. BUSINESS OPERATIONS Bill Hellmann, Chairperson

The Finance Committee presents the following items for consideration.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

ACTION ITEMS:

5.1. Approval, Acceptance of Donation

The Board approved a motion to accept the donation of student supplies from Gloria Dei Estates.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

5.2. Approval, Budget Transfers

The Board approved a motion to approve the ordinary and necessary General Fund budget transfers for the 2009-10 School Year in the amount of \$189,051.00.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

5.3. Approval, Calendar for 2010-2011 Budget Process

The Board approved a motion to approve the proposed calendar for the 2010-2011 budget process.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Worob; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BOROUGH OF MORRISVILLE
Morrisville, Pennsylvania

November 18, 2009



Morrisville Borough School District
550 West Palmer Street
Morrisville, PA 19067-2195

BUDGET CALENDAR
2010-2011

November 2009

November 4, 2009	Proposal of Budget Calendar-Finance
November 18, 2009	Board Approval of the Budget Calendar
November 19, 2009	The 2010-2011 Budget requests distributed to Administration from Business Administrator

December 2009

December 7, 2009	Monthly Agenda Meeting
December 17, 2009	Individual Budget Meetings with All Principals and Supervisors
December 18, 2009	All Budget Requests From Principals and Supervisors to Business Administrator for Management Review and Discussion

January 2010

January 12 2010	Administration Review and Compilation of Budget Information
January 13, 2010	Finance Committee Budget Presentation and Discussion
January 27, 2010	Board Approval of the Resolution Indicating Will Not Raise Taxes above Index

February 2010

February 10, 2010	Administration Review of 2010-2011 Budget
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March 2009

March 10, 2010	Administration Review of 2010-2011 Budget
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April 2010

April 14, 2010	Superintendent and Business Administrator Recommends the 2010-2011 Budget – Finance Committee
April 28, 2010	Tentative 2010-2011 Budget Adoption

May 2010

May 12, 2010	Board and Public Response to 2010-2011 Budget – Finance Committee
May 26, 2010	General Fund (Operating) Budget Adoption
	Tax Resolution Adoption Approval
	Proprietary (Food Services) Fund Budget Adoption
	Special Revenue (Athletic) Fund Budget Adoption

5.4. Approval, Proposal from Environmental Connection Inc.

The Board approved a motion to approve the proposed from Environmental Connection Inc. in the amount of \$2,310.00 for bulk sampling and analysis for asbestos abatement design at Grandview Elementary School.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

5.5. 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:

Miscellaneous Disbursement: (10/28/09 – 11/11/09)	\$168,275.13
Athletic Fund (10/26/09 – 11/12/09)	822.00
Cafeteria Fund: (11/30/09)	50,719.77
Accounts Payable (11/19/09)	107,039.84
Capital Projects (10/28/09 – 11/19/09)	352,904.90
Capital Reserve	-0-
Procurement Cards (October 2009)	3,011.30
Payroll & Benefits (October 2009)	<u>808,610.96</u>
TOTAL BILLS	\$1,491,383.90

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Worob; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

6. POLICY COMMITTEE

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mrs. Worob reported that we are currently reviewing policies on teleconferencing, facility usage, record management, retention and destruction.

ACTION ITEMS:

7. LIAISON REPORTS

- a. Lower Bucks County Vocational-Educational School – Mr. Buckman
No meeting was held. At the next meeting we will be addressing special education funding.
- b. Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 – Mrs. Mihok
Mrs. Mihok was ill and did not attend the meeting this month.
- c. Pennsylvania School Boards Association/Legislative – Mrs. Worob
*Mrs. Worob reported that the **House Education Committee conducts hearing on achievement gap issues** - This week the House Education Committee held an informational hearing to discuss the state's education achievement gap. The achievement gap refers to the different levels of academic performance of students from different racial, ethnic and economic backgrounds.*

The House of Representatives convened in Harrisburg for two days this week, and adopted House Resolution 461, which designates the week of Nov. 15 through 21, 2009, as “American Education Week” in Pennsylvania.

Ms. Ruffing reported that parents were welcome to visit the schools this week during American Education Week.

8. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Buckman pointed out that we lost \$200,000 due to tax assessment reductions most of which were high density apartment complexes and businesses. Mr. Hellmann stated we should start challenging some of these reassessments.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Mihok thanked Mr. Farrell for his service and stated that he will be missed.

Mrs. Mihok informed that she will be meeting with Wanda Kartel to experience the traffic concerns from a resident’s perspective; they will work up some recommendations for the traffic.

Future Meetings and Items of Interest

Nov. 26 & 27, 2009 Thanksgiving Observance (District closed)

CHANGE TO MEETING DATES IN DECEMBER 2009

Monday, December 7, 2009..... 7:30 pm – Reorganization of the Board
..... 8:00 pm – Monthly Agenda Meeting

Wednesday, December 16, 2009 6:30 pm – Policy Committee Meeting
..... 7:30 pm – Monthly Business Meeting

Dec. 24, 2009 – Jan. 3, 2010..... Holiday Recess (District closed)

January 4, 2010..... School Reopens

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

10. Adjournment

The Board approved a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm by a voice vote.

William Hellmann, President

Marlys Mihok, Secretary