

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BOROUGH OF MORRISVILLE
Morrisville, Pennsylvania

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Work Session – Wednesday, August 15, 2012
Large Group Instruction Room
Morrisville Intermediate/Senior High School
7:30 p.m.

This meeting was recorded for televising

The regular monthly agenda 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 August 15, 2012, after due notice of the meeting had been given as required by law. Mr. DeWilde, President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. DeWilde appointed Mr. DeAngelo as Temporary Recording Secretary for tonight's meeting.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present on roll call:

Messrs. Buckman, DeWilde, Stoneburner, Stout, Worob

Member absent: Messrs. Parker, Miller and Ms. Kartal

Mr. Ferrara stated that the three Board members who are not present had contacted him to let him know that they would not be able to attend.

Quorum Present:

Also attending this evening's meeting was Mr. William Ferrara, Superintendent; Mr. Paul DeAngelo, Business Administrator; Mr. Donald Harm, Secondary Principal; Mr. Tony Gesualdi, Director of Special Education/Pupil Services; Thomas Profy, IV, Esq., Solicitor; media, MEA representatives and members of the community.

New Board Member Swearing In

New Board member, Mr. Daniel Dingle, was sworn in by the Honorable Judge Burns.

Student Spotlight – Links Poster Contest Winners

Morrisville Opportunity Education Foundation – MOEF

PTO Report

Superintendent/Administrator’s Reports

School District/Borough Committee Reports

PUBLIC SESSION

There were no speakers for Public Session.

INFRASTRUCTURE/FINANCIAL/HUMAN RESOURCES

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Board action is requested to approve the purchase of two (2) warmers for Food Service at the High School (Fund 51).
2. Board action is requested to approve the playground at the Intermediate School.
3. Board action is requested to approve the post modular ground repairs at Grandview.

Mr. Donovan, Food Service Manager, explained that at the end of the last school year, we were told by the Bucks County Board of Health that our two food warmers, as they currently stand, are in-serviceable. He discussed this with Mr. Lastichen and they came up with two options, the first to replace the sealed gaskets around the doors because the doors are not sealing properly to hold the proper temperature which would cost \$727.20 for all eight doors. He stated that these doors were replaced about 4 years ago for about \$2000. Mr. Donovan stated that we also received three quotes for brand new warmers, because a lot of the equipment in the kitchen is the original equipment and it has been failing us as of late and they felt that the warmers may not be far behind. He stated that the gaskets may be a short term fix and the purchase of new warmers would be a long term fix. They looked at replacing the gaskets and then at the three quotes for new warmers. The quotes were as follows: 1) U. S. Food Service \$3395.44; 2) Tri-State Equipment Company \$3990; and 3) Singer Equipment Company \$4306.64. Mr. Donovan stated that it is mostly Mr. Lastichen’s opinion on whether or not the gaskets will hold up, but these are our options.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Board action is requested to approve a Contracted Medical Professional to work with the ACCESS Program.

HUMAN RESOURCES

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Board action is requested to approve the following appointments:
 - a. AESOP Substitutes
 - b. Van Driver
 - c. Administrative Intern
 - d. .4 Art Teacher
 - e. Long Term Substitute Teachers
 - f. Floating Substitutes
 - g. 21st Century Hires
 - h. Accounts Payable position
 - i. 7th and 8th Grade Cheerleading Coach
 - j. School Nurse
2. Board action is requested to approve the following resignations:
 - a. Elementary Principal
 - b. School Nurse
3. Board action is requested to approve FMLA/Childrearing.
4. Board action is requested to approve the Act 93 Disability Contract.
5. Board action is requested to approve the allowance of limited overtime during the accounting transition.
6. Board action is requested to approve tenure.
7. Board action is requested to approve the employment agreement with Julie Shemelia – Access Coordinator.
8. Board action is requested to approve tuition reimbursements.
9. Board action is requested to approve the Group II Contract.

Mr. Ferrara stated that regarding Item 2b, our School Nurse recently resigned, the position was posted yesterday and it comes down next Tuesday, and Mr. Gesualdi will be conducting interviews hopefully in time to make a recommendation for the School Board meeting next Wednesday night. Mr. Ferrara stated that we have had a lot of assistance from neighboring School Districts in giving us applicants which has been a big help.

Mr. Ferrara stated that everyone understands what the Administrative Intern position is. He stated that we are looking to have an Administrative Intern in place by the beginning of the school year and Mr. Harm will oversee the elementary school students in Grades K-6, and then, at the Board's leisure, if they would like to hire or post for an Elementary Principal position during the school year, the Administrative Intern position would end at the time of the hiring of the new Elementary Principal. Mr. Ferrara stated that the administration had this recommendation due to the fact that they believe, as does the School Board, that hiring an Elementary Principal, as would a Secondary Principal, be a very important decision and we would want to get the best candidate to fill that position. Therefore, having an Intern and Mr. Harm serve in the capacity as an Advisor for Elementary, would give us the opportunity to have a better pool of candidates. Mr. Ferrara stated that most of the hiring for elementary and/or secondary principals has happened already as school districts fill their needs early on, so therefore, we want the best candidate as possible.

Mr. Ferrara stated that they have conducted interviews for the Intern position, and they will have a recommendation for the School Board by the next meeting.

Mr. DeAngelo asked Mary Hendershot of the Accounting Department to discuss Item 1h. Ms. Hendershot stated that they have conducted 7 interviews, but they would like to repost the position as an Accounting Office Assistant, rather than as an Accounts Payable position. Ms. Hendershot stated that they have re-written the job description and passed copies out to the Board members. Ms. Hendershot stated that the way the job was originally posted, it had a detailed list of the duties and she feels that the way it is re-written, it doesn't give details of what we are looking for, but it does say that we are looking for someone with accounting and accounts payable experience. She stated that after reposting this position, they would like to hold more interviews. Ms. Hendershot stated that this reposting is for a full time position. Mr. DeAngelo stated that when they asked the Board to post this position the first time, they asked for a part time accounts payable position and now they want it posted as a full time position in order to get a better volume of qualified candidates. Mr. DeAngelo stated that he will be getting back to the Board in September about the reorganization of the whole Business Office and the Accounting Department and his recommendations. Mr. Stoneburner suggested that the job description be changed from stating that they must have the clearances to read that they must be able to acquire the required clearances.

Regarding Item 2a, Mr. Ferrara stated that Ms. Ruffing, our Elementary Principal, has accepted a position at another School District.

Mr. Gesualdi stated that the position for Julie Shemelia is primarily for the ACCESS Program that we operate. He stated that we have seen over the last three years since we have taken it over a substantial increase in the amount of money that we have been able to bring in, which adds to revenues and helps defray the cost of Special Education. In addition to this service, Ms. Shemelia also serves as additional backup in the Special Education Department.

Mr. Gesualdi stated that under Special Education, Item #1, we are asking for approval for the Contracted services that we have to have for a physician to approve the ACCESS applications for each of our students. He stated that we have been fortunate enough to have ARIA through our outreach program to provide these services, but every year we come to the Board for approval for these services. Mr. Ferrara stated that prior to this agreement with ARIA, we were paying \$2000 to have this service done, and now we are receiving this service at no cost to the District.

FINANCIAL/BUSINESS

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- 21st Century 2011-12 Audit Report

FINANCIAL/BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Board action is requested to approve the following Grants for 2012-13:
 - a. Title I
 - b. Title II
 - c. Title III
 - d. ABG
 - e. Pre-K Counts
 - f. Cohort 5 (Year Three)
 - g. Cohort 6 (Year One and Two)
 - h. Cohort 6a (Year One)
2. Board action is requested to approve the Title I Agreement with IU #22 – Holy Trinity Services.
3. Board action is requested to approve the Pre-K Agreement with P. Miiller.
4. Board action is requested to approve the contract with A&L Doors for security doors.
5. Board action is requested to approve the contract with Paul Risk for installation of the frames and hardware for the security doors.
6. Board action is requested to approve the contract with 3 Sigma for card reader.
7. Board action is requested to approve the contract with J. Aspromonti Concrete for masonry.
8. Board action is requested to approve excess items.
9. Board action is requested to approve the Treasurer’s Report.
10. Board action is requested to approve the Investment Report.
11. Board action is requested to approve the IDEA 2012-13 Agreement.
12. Board action is requested to approve the Food Service Pricing for 2012-13.
13. Board action is requested to approve the Trainer Contract.
14. Board action is requested to approve Payment of Bills.

Mr. Ferrara referred to Item #11, and stated that it should state that the Agreement is with the Bucks County IU.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

ACTION ITEMS:

None at this time.

POLICY COMMITTEE

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Board action is requested to approve the 1st Reading of revised Policy #103, Non-Discrimination in School and Classroom Practices

OLD BUSINESS

- Prepayment for IBX Amount
- RFP – Custodial Bid

NEW BUSINESS

- Appointment of Vice President (vacancy by Marone)
 1. Nomination(s) of Vice President
 2. Motion to Close Nomination(s) of Vice President
 3. Motion to elect Vice President (roll call)
- Rebate check from IBX

Mr. Stoneburner referred to Item #2 under Infrastructure and asked what the Board will actually be approving. Mr. Ferrara stated that the Board will be approving a playground for the Intermediate School, which will be located outside by Room H2. At this time, Mr. Ferrara stated that we have \$10,000 in donations to be used for the playground. Mr. Ferrara that the Board will be approving the use of these funds, and eventually after a couple of years, we will have a state of the art playground. Mr. Stoneburner asked if Mr. Lastichen has been schooled in and certified as a playground person. Mr. Stoneburner asked if there is any part of the playground that we can do as a community project, a Boy Scout project, or some other way we can get it done that will cost us very little, but going, of course, by the rules and under Mr. Lastichen's guidance. Mr. DeAngelo stated that it is permissible because it was done as a Boy Scout project in another district. Mr. Stoneburner asked if we have any type of a blueprint or design for the playground. Mr. DeAngelo stated that two weeks ago they put in the Friday packet the concept of the playground; pulling out the old equipment and trying to put some of that equipment back in, putting up the foundation, mulching it, etc. Mr. DeAngelo stated that they have quotes on most of this work, but they didn't want to proceed without Board approval. Once the playground is approved, they will come back to the Board with the quotes for approval. Mr. Stoneburner asked if the playground is likely to be enclosed or surrounded by any kind of fencing

or security. Mr. DeAngelo stated that the reason the playground at Grandview is fenced in is because of the closeness to the street. Mr. DeAngelo stated that they talked briefly about fencing the new playground, but they are not sure at this time.

Mr. Stoneburner asked if we have any idea of what the cost or what the scope of work is going to be to recondition the ground where the modulars were at Grandview. Mr. DeAngelo stated that we do have a price from the gentleman who installed our sidewalk which is \$4950, which would be to move all of the rock and also build a stone walkway along the side of the building. Mr. DeAngelo stated that the administration is asking permission to go out and see whether we can just stone the entire area, rather than removing the stone that is there, etc. Mr. Stoneburner asked about the concept of stoning, paving and putting back the basketball court. Mr. Ferrara stated that they did discuss this and one of the topics of discussion was to take the existing parking lot and make that the basketball courts, and then use the stone area as the parking area. Mr. Ferrara stated that one of the things that we have to be careful about is that when they were doing the parking lot last year, Mr. Seward from the Borough, said that if we go above and beyond X amount of square feet and you are making a non-permeable surface, you have to get all of these people in to say you do this, this and this and get all kinds of permits. Mr. Ferrara stated that the Board needs to have a discussion next week of what they want it to look like and how they are going to use this area. Mr. Buckman stated that he would like to see grass there and is not crazy about having the basketball court because they have had problems with people playing basketball there, but it was mostly with the modular's; but since the modular's aren't there any longer, maybe we could try it and if it doesn't work we can take them down. Mr. Stout asked if anyone has looked into the liability with anyone playing basketball at Grandview after school hours. Mr. Ferrara stated that there are no trespassing signs up at all of our buildings, and there is assumed risk and stated that Mr. Profy could speak better on our liability. Mr. Ferrara stated that a lot of other school districts have that same situation. Mr. Ferrara stated that the only issue they had last year with the basketball hoops was how close they were to the modular classrooms and some issues with some people about policing issues. Mr. Ferrara stated that he would not feel comfortable making a statement saying that every person who used that facility was an issue. Mr. Worob stated that he does not feel that it is a good idea to mix basketball courts with Lexus' and Mercedes'. Mr. Profy stated that he will get back to Mr. Stout next week regarding our liability. Mr. DeAngelo that the quote we have for \$4950 would include top soil, seeding, and removal of the rock to put it back in the condition to what it looked like before the modular's were put there. Mr. Stoneburner asked for a copy of the quote and Mr. DeAngelo stated that a copy would be placed in the Friday packet.

Mr. Buckman asked how the progress was going on the security doors. Mr. DeAngelo stated that at next week's meeting the administration will be asking the Board to ratify the agreements and the only way, with the time restraints, to have it done by the start of school was to get the work done. Mr. DeAngelo stated that we have 4 sets of doors; the security frames are up with the glass, the doors are coming next week, the wiring for the alarm system and the electric to the doors is being worked on, and the card readers were installed today. Mr. DeAngelo stated that we did run into a problem today with the saw cutting into the nurse's suite. Instead of having one cinderblock wall, there are two cinderblock walls which they do not want to cut through. Therefore, for any secondary student that would have to go to the Nurse, a teacher would have to notify the Nurse or the aide at the station by the doors to give that student access through the doors to the Nurse's office.

Mr. DeWilde stated that he would like to hold an Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. next Wednesday prior to the Board meeting to discuss legal, personnel, and collective bargaining items. All Board members who were present this evening stated that they would be able to be in attendance at this Executive Session. Mr. DeWilde stated that he would inform the three Board members who were not at tonight's meeting about the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DeWilde made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. This motion was seconded by Mr. Worob, and passed by a unanimous voice vote.

John DeWilde, President

Wanda Kartal, Secretary