

**Minutes of the Meeting of Board of School Directors
September 28, 2011**

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, September 28, 2011, after due notice of the meeting had been given as required by law. Mr. Bill Hellmann, President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the following members present on roll call:

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

Members absent: Mrs. Mihok and Mrs. Heater.

Quorum Present.

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

ITEMS OF GENERAL INFORMATION

Student Representative to the Board

Dakarai Campbell, student representative, stated that the new school year started with a lot of school spirit and that the student's are ready to learn. Mr. Campbell discussed programs that our students are involved in and sports.

1. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Ferrara stated that things are going to be done a little different this year. After he gives his report, each Administrator will give a report on the current events in their areas.

⇒ **This week in our Schools**

WILLIAM FERRARA - SUPERINTENDENT

- Mr. Ferrara stated that the new school year got off to a good start. As of last week, we had the highest attendance rate that we have had in the last five years.
- Regarding the services to be provided by ARIA Health Care, information will be provided to the Board in their Friday packets. Mr. Profy will be drawing up a Memorandum of Understanding between ARIA and the Morrisville School District for these services. Mr. Ferrara asked the Board for the go ahead to have these services begin in order for the district to begin to receive funds through ACCESS.
- PSSA scores are available and Morrisville has made AYP. Mr. Ferrara credited the staff for their hard work and thanked the students for making the grade.
- Mr. Ferrara stated that the Superintendent's Advisory meeting will be taking place on Wednesday the 12th.

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⇒ This week in our Schools (continued)

PAUL DEANGELO, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

- Mr. DeAngelo stated that at the September 9, 2011 Business Administrator's meeting, it was pointed out that the Act 1 Index was released that day, which is 1.7% for 2012-13, and that we will soon be working on the 2012-13 budget.

LAURIE RUFFING, ELEMENTARY/INTERMEDIATE PRINCIPAL

- Ms. Ruffing stated that on September 9th, Grandview and the Intermediate School had the School Wide Positive Behavior Support student kick off event.
- Back to School Night was held at Grandview on September 13, 2011, at which we had a great turnout.
- On September 14, 2011, Back to School Night was held for the Intermediate School.
- On September 19th through the 23rd students participated in testing.
- As of this Monday, we officially opened our fourth kindergarten classroom at Grandview Elementary School.

DONALD HARM, PRINCIPAL

- Mr. Harm stated that our schools got off to a great start this year.
- He stated that our staff participated in a number of Professional Training Days prior to the students returning to school in September which is essential for the overall benefit of the staff and the students.
- Back to school Night took place at the high school last Thursday, which was highly successful.
- Foresight testing took place from September 12-16 for grades 6-11.

ANTHONY GESUALDI, DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION/PUPIL SERVICES

- Mr. Gesualdi stated that our Life Skills program is up and running and that we are very proud of this program.
- The Read 180 Program has been extended this year and we are looking for great things from this program to help improve our reading scores and PSSA scores.

Mr. Ferrara stated that, through the efforts of Mr. Profy, the School Board members and community support, he was approved and received his Superintendent's Certificate, and is officially Superintendent as of September 19, 2011. Mr. Ferrara thanked everyone for their support.

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⇒ **Enrollment Report**

District Enrollments as of September 19, 2011			
<u>Student Population</u>			
Pre-Kindergarten	18		
Kindergarten	91	GRANDVIEW	348
Grade 1	82	INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL (4-5)	<u>162</u>
Grade 2	81		510
Grade 3	76		
Grade 4	69	INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL (6-8)	191
Grade 5	93	HIGH SCHOOL 9-12	<u>222</u>
Grade 6	67		413
Grade 7	62		
Grade 8	61	TECHNICAL SCHOOL	50
Grade 9	65	HOME SCHOOLED	19
Grade 10	54	CHARTER SCHOOLS	27
Grade 11	45	Regular Ed	20
Grade 12	58	Special Ed	7
		OUT OF DISTRICT	49
		Regular Ed	2
		Special Ed	47
TOTAL ENROLLMENT AS OF SEPTEMBER 2011			1068

PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Bresnen

Mr. Bresnen sincerely apologized to the district and the Board members for the controversy and allegations brought about from any comments he may have made.

Mr. Hellmann stated that they are giving him a second chance, but that no third chances will be given.

Mr. Perry

Mr. Perry questioned the status of the fencing project at Grandview. He thanked the Morrisville PTO for having the Market Day Fall Fundraiser proceeds go towards new playground equipment for the intermediate school. He stated that Market Day has some tasty products and asked everyone to get behind this fundraiser to help out our schools. He thanked those residents that came to the Board meetings to speak their minds regarding the Assistant Football Coach position, and urged all residents to attend the Board meetings to voice their opinions on the wide varieties of issues that are facing the district everyday.

Ms. Haug

Ms. Haug discussed the recent donation made by Waste Management and thanked them for this donation. She announced that there will be a car wash this Saturday from 9 to 1 and that all proceeds will go to the Band, Theatre, Color Guard and Chorus groups. Ms. Haug expressed her disappointment where at the last agenda meeting, the meeting for concerned parents of students

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being transported to the Tech School was separated from the agenda meeting, thereby, preventing her from being able to attend both meetings. She suggested that in the future, meetings be held at separate times so it is possible for residents to attend both meetings if need be.

Mr. Miller

Mr. Miller discussed the future of our school district and reworking the budget and finding creative financial solutions to better our district. He referenced an article from a survivor of the 9-11 tragedy and a quote made by this survivor and how we must also must have a positive attitude and plans for the future if our district is to survive and stated that we cannot afford to forget that whatever happens to us, happens, because we allow it to happen.

Ms. Perry

Ms. Perry informed everyone that there are Zumba classes being held at the Morrisville Library every Wednesday evening beginning at 6:45 p.m.. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Young children are free. Everyone is welcome. She also thanked the PTO for having the Fall Fundraiser go towards playground equipment. She stated that the Market Day fundraiser is a great way to help our school. Ms. Perry also discussed the cuts made in the school district's Aide positions, the benefits these aides have in our schools, and her concerns regarding these cut positions and the effects it has on our children.

ACTION ITEMS:

2. Approval of Minutes

Items 2.1 and 2.2 were moved by Mr. Hellman, seconded by Mr. Worob, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

Mr. Ferrara thanked Ms. McQuillan for a job well done on typing the minutes and getting the Board packet together.

2.2 Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the August 17, 2011 Monthly Agenda Meeting.

2.3 Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the August 24, 2011 Monthly Business Meeting.

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

**3. INFRASTRUCTURE
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

ACTION ITEMS

Items 3.1 and 3.2 were moved by Mr. Hellman, seconded by Mr. Worob, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

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3. INFRASTRUCTURE (continued)
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

ACTION ITEMS

3.1 Approval, Rescind the Pennsbury Rental Van

The Board approved a motion rescinding the Pennsbury Rental Van at the cost o \$65/day for approximately 2 months.

3.2 Approval, Bus Rental from First Student

The Board approved a motion to approve a bus rental from First Student at the cost of \$75/day (2 days a week) for approximately 2 months.

4. SPECIAL EDUCATION
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:
ACTION ITEMS

None at this time.

5. HUMAN RESOURCES
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:
ACTION ITEMS:

Items 5.1 through 5.3 were moved by Mr. Hellmann, seconded by Mr. DeWilde, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

5.1 Approval, Resignations

5.1.a *The Board approved a motion* to accept the resignation of Cindy Schnee as a Personal Care Assistant effective September 8, 2011.

5.1.b *The Board approved a motion* to accept the resignation of Debbie Buttimer as a Learning Support Paraprofessional effective September 1, 2011.

5.1. c *The Board approved a motion* to accept the resignation of Kristin Flowers as a Guidance Counselor effective August 25, 2011.

5.2 Approval, Appointments

5.2.a *The Board approved a motion* to approve 21 Century Hires as follows:

Ken Kelman	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Traci Coley	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Drew King	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Kevin Jones	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour

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5. HUMAN RESOURCES (continued)
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:
ACTION ITEMS:

5.2 Approval, Appointments (continued)

5.2.a *The Board approved a motion* to approve 21 Century Hires as follows:

Gloria Bramble	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Janice Dorland	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Elizabeth Glaum-Lathbury	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour (upon return)
Jeffery McCusker	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Kate McDowell	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Susan Smith	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Jennifer Ansaldo	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Jennifer Prestin	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Genevieve Haney	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Janet Horn	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Valerie Meyers	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Kathy Gabriel	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Marilyn Quattrone	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Joan Reither	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Rosanna Pirraglia	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Tim Mullen	Teacher/Advisor	\$22.00 per hour
Heather Deiner	Site Coordinator	\$17.00 per hour
Kathleen McCormick	Site Coordinator	\$17.00 per hour
Donna Colon	Site Coordinator	\$22.00 per hour
Patti Ebert	Food Program/Advisor	\$17.00 per hour
Beth Tusina	Advisor	\$15.28 per hour
Ted Fletcher	Transportation/Bus Driver	\$15.00 per hour
Maria Woolston	Homework Zone Tutor	\$15.00 per hour
Cassidy Shemelia	Student Site Monitor	\$8.00 per hour
Jessica Martin	Student Site Monitor	\$8.00 per hour
Flora Simpson	Advisor	\$20.00 per hour
Lauryn Gilbride	Family Program Coordinator	\$16.50 per hour
Veronica Miller	Requisition Input	\$20.00 per hour

Substitute/On Call Positions

Christopher Barnes	Site Monitor	\$9.00 per hour
Matthew Pattley	Site Monitor	\$9.00 per hour
Alexander Johnson	Site Monitor	\$9.00 per hour
Dawn Pritchard	Substitute Advisor	\$18.00 per hour

5.2.b *The Board approved a motion* to approve Mara Dubois as a Social Worker at the rate of \$32.00 per hour. She will be hired through Delta T and be funded through ACCESS.

5.2.c *The Board approved a motion* to approve Lisa Colon-Rivera as a Personal Care Assistant at the rate of \$12.35 per hour

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5. HUMAN RESOURCES (continued)
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:
ACTION ITEMS:

5.2 Approval, Appointments (continued)

5.2.d *The Board approved a motion* to approve Corey Latsch as a Long Term Kindergarten Substitute (replacing Gunnett) at a rate of \$94 for the first 15 days and \$239.04 for the remaining days per SB policies 405 and 429.

5.2.e *The Board approved a motion* to approve Katherine Klausner as a Learning Support Paraprofessional at the rate of \$13.52 per hour.

5.2.f *The Board approved a motion* to approve Holly Stevens as a long term Floating Substitute at the rate of \$104 per day.

5.2.g *The Board approved a motion* to approve Skip Woolston as a Secondary Chorus Director at a stipend of \$2000.

5.2.h *The Board approved a motion* to approve Sandra Rainier as a Van Driver upon receipt of district transportation at the rate of \$11.17 per hour.

5.2.i *The Board approved a motion* to approve AESOP substitutes as follows:

Ryan Borusky	Debra Crasnick	Kevin Ebert
Laura Falcon	Theresa Farley	Cynthia Imhof
Theresa Kling Keefer	Sharon Mastrosimone	Amanda Matika
Melissa Pirraglia	Marcy Rednor	Matthew Uhler
Hope Westphal	Maureen Belinski	Linda Filoon
Judith Habersatt	Stina Leibman	Deepa Luitel
Gregory Osborn	Sue Bowden	Szilvia Deak-Kent
Ben Fuller	John Hood	Kaitlynn Jones
Daniel Rein	Karen Rosenfeld	Joshua Sebastian
Angela Shenton		

5.2.j *The Board approved a motion* to approve N. Brycki as a .4 French Teacher at the rate of \$95 per day per School Board Policy.

5.3 Approval, FMLA

The Board approved a motion to approve FMLA for Tracie Galante.

Item 5.4, Approval – Business Administrator’s Contract, was moved to later in the meeting after an Executive Session to discuss this meeting.

Items 5.5 and 5.6 were moved by Mr. Hellman, seconded by Mr. Worob, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

5.5 Approval, Administrator’s Disability Contract

The Board approved a motion to approve the Administrator’s Disability Contract.

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5. HUMAN RESOURCES (continued)
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:
ACTION ITEMS:

5.6 Approval, Tuition Reimbursements

The Board approved a motion to approve tuition reimbursements for the following individuals:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>College/School</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Melissa Bowman	Sticks and Stones (The No Bully Zone)	Augstana College	3	\$370
Melissa Bowman	Gender Matters (How Boys and Girls Learn)	Augstana College	3	\$370

6. BUSINESS OPERATIONS/FINANCE COMMITTEE
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Ivan’s House 2010-11 Audit Report (Informational Only)
This information was provided to the Board members in their Friday packet.

ACTION ITEMS:

Items 6.1 through 6.4 were moved by Mr. Hellmann, seconded by Mr. Buckman, and moved by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

6.1 Approval, 7th and 8th “Grade Cheerleading Account
The Board approved a motion to approve a 7th and 8th grade cheerleading account.

6.2 Approval, Treasurer’s Report
The Board approved a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report for July and August 2011.

6.3 Approval, 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 Disbursements (8/30/11 – 9/21/11)	\$ 138,449.50
Athletic Fund (8/31/11 – 9/10/11)	\$ 3,333.30
Cafeteria Fund	\$ 0
Account Payable (9/29/11)	\$ 354,459.28
Capital Projects	0
Capital Reserve (9/19/11 – 9/22/11)	<u>\$ 149,827.00</u>
TOTAL BILLS	\$ 646,069.08

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**6. BUSINESS OPERATIONS/FINANCE COMMITTEE
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:
ACTION ITEMS: (continued)**

Mr. DeAngelo asked that Check #00012436, payable to Gorecon for the paving project in the amount of \$143,491.00, in the Capital Reserve Account, be held until the Soft Spot Resolution and Maintenance Bond are received from this company. A motion to hold this check was made by Mr. Hellmann, seconded by Mr. Buckman, and passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Hellmann stated that the debt service payment is due on October 1st. Mr. Hellmann reiterated the savings that the District is receiving by utilizing the debt service payment system and, thereby, saving each taxpayer approximately \$600 in tax increases.

Mr. Hellmann referenced an article which appeared in the Courier Times dated August 23, 2011 from a Bristol Borough resident regarding the increase in their taxes. Mr. Hellmann stated that this is what would be happening in Morrisville if it wasn't for the current School Board members. He stated that the current School Board will continue to educate our children, but at a cost the town can afford. This is what they have been doing for four years, and it is what they will continue to do.

6.4 Approval, Excess Items

The Board approved a motion to approve excess items (old magazines).

At this time (8:00 p.m.), the Board meeting was stopped for an Executive Session to discuss Item 5.4 (Approval, Business Administrator's Contract). The meeting resumed at 8:15 p.m.

5.4 Approval, Business Administrator's Contract

The Board approved a motion to approve the Business Administrator's Contract for Paul DeAngelo.

This motion was moved by Mr. Hellmann, seconded by Mr. Buckman, and passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 7 ayes.

Mr. Hellmann thanked Mr. DeAngelo for doing a great job. Mr. DeAngelo thanked the Administration and the School Board for all of their help and support.

**7. EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:
ACTION ITEMS:**

None at this time.

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8. POLICY COMMITTEE
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:
ACTION ITEMS:

None at this time.

9. LIAISON REPORTS
INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- a. Lower Bucks County Vocational-Educational School - Mr. Buckman
Mr. Buckman stated that a meeting was held on Monday evening with only eight school district's present, making it that you had to vote 8 ayes in order to make anything happen. He stated that the question involving the 9th grade had to be postponed until a further date. He discussed the districts that benefit from having their students attend the Tech School and those districts that do not. Mr. Buckman asked Mr. Ferrara if we financially benefit from our 9th grade students attending the Tech School. Mr. Ferrara stated that he feels that our students are better educated at Morrisville, and feels it would be better if they attended the Tech School on a half day basis for the vocational piece. Mr. Buckman asked Mr. Ferrara to come up figures by the next Board meeting on how much we could save by not having our 9th grade students attend Tech School or by only having them attend on a half day basis.
- b. Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 - Mr. DeWilde
Mr. DeWilde discussed several of the initiatives that the IU is presently undertaking such as on-line language learning courses and Health Care Consortium. He stated that the contract for Dr. Galasso was renegotiated and voted in and the teacher's contract was negotiated and settled.
Mr. Ferrara discussed the Cyber School and stated that this would help us tremendously in being able to offer more AP and elective courses.
- c. Pennsylvania School Boards Association/Legislative - Mrs. Mihok
Mrs. Mihok was not present at tonight's meeting; therefore, there was no report.

Future Meetings and Items of Interest

The meetings below will be held in the LGI
Wednesday, October 19, 2011.....Monthly Agenda Meeting
Wednesday, October 26, 2011.....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

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10. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. DeAngelo stated that the DELVAL note will be closing tomorrow. All information regarding this matter will be brought to the October meeting.

Mr. DeWilde stated that he would like the Board to make a formal commitment to accept any fundraising activities that are requested and he would like to know the proper venue to do this.

Mr. Ferrara stated that he will look into the Policy guidelines regarding this matter and have this information available for the October meeting.

Mr. Hellmann stated the Lighting Project is costing the District a lot of money, but the projected electrical savings is more than the cost of the project itself.

11. NEW BUSINESS

The Board approved a motion to accept the donation of (20) book bags with supplies from United Way.

The Board approved a motion to accept the donation of (21) book bags with supplies and lunch boxes from St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann, seconded by Ms. Ruthrauff, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

Mr. Hellmann asked Mr. Profy to discuss the after school day care program which will begin in January, 2012. Mr. Profy stated that KidTime has approached the school district in terms of beginning a child care program at Grandview Elementary for after school dismissal. They will be paying the District a monthly stipend in terms of rent to the District. Mr. Profy stated that a motion will be order to direct the solicitor to begin negotiating a contract with KidTime to cover issues pertaining to the amount of rent, insurance issues, and criminal background checks for all individuals that would be employed by that entity, etc. Since the projected startup date is not until January 2, 2012, Mr. Profy believes it is in the District's best interest to have a formal contract which would be subject to Board ratification and approval at either the October or November Board meeting.

Mr. Ferrara thanked Ms. Ruffing for her efforts in researching the various day care programs available.

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12. Adjournment

The Board approved a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 pm.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann, seconded by Mr. DeWilde, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

William Hellmann, President

Marlys Mihok, Secretary