

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

**Board Meeting** – Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Large Group Instruction Room

Morrisville Middle/Senior High School

7:30 p.m.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BOROUGH OF MORRISVILLE

Morrisville, Pennsylvania

***This meeting was recorded for televising***

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, February 27, 2013, after due notice of this meeting had been given as required by law. Mr. Miller, President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the following members present on roll call:

- Pledge of Allegiance

In attendance: Messrs. Buckman, DeWilde, Parker, Stoneburner, Stout, Miller, Dingle, Worob and Ms. Kartal

*Quorum Present:*

Also attending this evening's meeting was Mr. William Ferrara, Superintendent; Mr. Paul DeAngelo, Business Administrator; Mr. Todd Dupell, Administrative Intern; Mr. Tony Gesualdi, Director of Special Education/Pupil Services; David Truelove, Esq., Solicitor; media, MEA representation, and members of the community.

**ITEMS OF GENERAL INFORMATION**

***Student Representative to the Board – (Morrisville High School)***

***Nick Castillo discussed the following:***

- Congratulations to Ricky Melendez who scored his 1,000 career point at Jenkintown High School. Ricky is the 7th boy in school history to achieve his prestigious individual honor. Ricky has been a starter for the Bulldogs basketball team since his freshman year.
- Congratulations to the following Morrisville High School Athletes who earned All-Bicentennial Athletic League Honors for their Play on the Basketball Court this year.  
Lady Bulldogs Sophomore Delila Mena earned 1st Team Honors and Freshman Denise Sacco earned 2nd Team Honors, Freshman Niasia Boone earned Honorable Mention Honors. The Girls Basketball team will begin their District #1 Playoff run on February 23<sup>rd</sup> at Girard College.

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For the Bulldogs Boys Team Rickey Melendez earned Second Team All League Honors.

The Boys Basketball team will begin their District #1 Playoff run on February 19<sup>th</sup> at Plumstead Christian.

Great job by our Basketball Athletes!

- The Boys Varsity Soccer team is pleased to announce:  
Jesse Hollopetter and Ronnie Fratti were named Honorable Mention to the 2012 Golden Boys Varsity Soccer Team.
- The Girls Varsity Field Hockey team is pleased to announce:  
Delila Mena was named to the Second Team to the 2012 Golden Varsity Field Hockey Team.  
Sydney Knott was named Honorable Mention to the 2012 Golden Varsity Field Hockey Team.
- Congratulations to the Following Bulldog Bowlers for earning All-League Honors:  
Stewart Wilson earned Honorable Mention Honors for the boys.  
The girls' team had the following honors:  
Anna Smolinski earned 1st Team Honors.  
Janine Schuster and Bria Brown earned 2nd team honors.  
Brittany Farmer earned Honorable Mention Honors.  
Anna Smolinski was named The Bicentennial Athletic League Girls Bowler of the Year.  
Congratulations to all the Bowlers!
- Report cards were distributed on February 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Schools will be closed in observance of President's Day on February 18<sup>th</sup>.
- The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade student government will hold a dance on Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. It will be held from 6:30pm to 9:30pm.
- The Student of the Month Breakfast will be held on February 26<sup>th</sup> honoring students for the months of December and January. Congratulations to all the recipients!
- Course selection for the 2012-2013 school year will take during the month of February for the students in grades 8 thru 11.

There was no student representative at tonight's meeting, but Mr. Ferrara stated that he would be giving this report under the Superintendent's report.

***Student Representative to the Board – (Bucks County Technical High School)***

***Tyler Kartal discussed the following:***

- The Parent Booster Club will hold a Coach Bag Bingo and Basket Auction on March 8<sup>th</sup>.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Technical Placement Fair was held on February 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Challenge Day was held on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- The BCTHS Class of 2013 Senior Prom will be held on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at the Merion Hall in Cinnaminson, NJ.
- The Freshman Dance will be held on April 5<sup>th</sup> in the cafeteria.
- The Junior Prom is scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup>.
- The Reading Olympics is scheduled for March 18<sup>th</sup>.

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- Don't forget to purchase your ticket to the 2013 Play, "Working". This production will be held on March 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> and on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased in the main office.
- On May 19<sup>th</sup> the 2013 Courier-Kiwanis Sesame Place Classic will be held at BCTHS.
- Morrisville student, My'Asia Davis won a silver medal in Crime Scene Investigation in the Skills USA Competition.
- At the recent Skills USA District Competition, BCTHS won 25 gold medals, 23 silver medals and 12 bronze medals. Those winning gold medals advance to the State Competition in Hershey, PA to take place on April 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 5<sup>th</sup>.

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



### **Teacher – Elizabeth Glaum-Lathbury – Science Symposium Team**

Students from the Morrisville Middle School's Science Symposium Team discussed their current project "Save Native Pollinators".

Ms. Glaum-Lathbury stated that they have submitted an application for the Governor's Award in Environmental Excellence and they should hear back from them in a few weeks. Ms. Glaum-Lathbury explained that each group sends ten students to the Symposium to be held in Florida, which will be paid for by Wheelabrator, where they present their projects. She also requested that her group be allowed to turn the courtyard at the high school into a pollinator habitat as part of a three year plan. This courtyard can then be used by the teachers and their students as part of a learning experience.

### **MOEF Report – Mr. Dingle**

Mr. Dingle stated that a number of applications have been submitted to their group and they are reviewing these applications.

### **PTO Report – Mr. Dingle**

Mr. Dingle reported on the following:

- Kiss the Pig Event raised \$600 which was donated to the Fire Department and Ambulance Squad.
- Family Fun Night was very successful and well attended. At this event the Book Store was open, and they are discussing how the Scholastic dollars earned will be used.
- Market Day order and pie orders are due, pick up is March 8<sup>th</sup>, and the funds earned will be used to help pay for class trips throughout the year.
- PTO is funding an assembly for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders.
- PTO will be holding another Family Night on March 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Tickets are available for the Harlem Wizards event to be held on March 22<sup>nd</sup> in the High School Gymnasium at 7:00 p.m. Tickets purchased in advance will be

\$10 and tickets purchased at the door will be \$12. Proceeds will benefit the auditorium.

**Tech School – Ms. Kartal**

Ms. Kartal introduced Mr. Haug who is part of the Advisory Council from the Tech School that deal with the buildings and construction. Mr. Haug stated that at their last meeting, the following items were discussed:

- Approval of minutes
- The Tech School will be accepting about 450 ninth graders making the total enrollment around 1500 students.
- He stated that the Tech School is running out of room and they discussed converting other areas into classrooms and the costs involved.
- Day care pre-school program
- Heavy equipment program
- A motion was passed to hire an architect to draw up plans to convert bathrooms into a classroom to determine the costs before going further with these plans.
- Inspection of transformers
- The next meeting will be held on March 4<sup>th</sup>

**Education Committee Report – Mr. Miller**

Mr. Miller stated that the Education Committee met a few weeks ago and the next meeting will be held on March 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the LGI. He stated that the meetings are always held on the second Tuesday of each month. Mr. Miller stated that the following items were discussed at the last meeting:

- Cyber options
- Future plans for the District
- Program of Studies
- Evaluation of Schools as well as for teachers

**Facilities Committee Report – Mr. Stoneburner**

Mr. Parker stated that the committee met on February 7<sup>th</sup>. The next meeting will be on March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. and that this committee always meets on the first Thursday of each month. Mr. Stoneburner stated that the following items were discussed at the last meeting:

- Grandview Garden Project
- Cyber School Lounge Facility
- Auditorium (lighting issues and long term plan to upgrade and use by outside groups)
- Manor Park and M. R. Reiter (RFP, options for these buildings, rental options)
- Moving 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

**Finance Committee Report – Mr. Dingle**

Mr. Dingle stated that the committee met on the 19<sup>th</sup>. He stated that they discussed the following:

- Areas of expense – options and ideas and ways that we can either reduce and/or control expenses
- Areas of revenue – advertising and fundraising
- Groundwork for the financial impact of both ideas and issues that were raised at the Facility Committee Meeting and at the Education Committee Meeting

**Human Resources – Mr. DeWilde**

Mr. DeWilde stated that they discussed the following:

- Administrative Plan for 2013-14
- Group II Contract
- Safety Officer
- Finalized the Confidential Employee Job Description and Agreement

**Joint Borough Council/School Board Committee – Ms. Kartal**

Ms. Kartal stated that the next meeting will be held on March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the LGI and that this committee meets on the first Wednesday of every month. She stated that they discussed the following:

- Safe Routes to School Grant was approved and we received \$9150. They will be forming the Mandatory Advisory Board to oversee this project. The committee will consist of a member from the School Board, Borough Council, Police Borough, community non-parent, a parent and a student.

**Public Relations/Communications Committee – Mr. Miller**

Mr. Miller stated that the members of the committee are himself, Mr. DeWilde and Mr. Dingle. They will be getting together soon and find ways that they can reach out into the community utilizing what we currently have spreading word more about the use of the website and having phone blast information being put on the website.

**1. SUPERINTENDENT’S/ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORTS**

→ **This week in our Schools**

**Mr. Ferrara – Superintendent**

**Superintendent’s Report**

Mr. Ferrara discussed the following:

- 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade PSSA Writing Exams will take place from March 12<sup>th</sup> through March 15<sup>th</sup>.

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- Students in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade have already started working on getting additional support for Math and Reading PSSA's which will be held April 16<sup>th</sup> through April 18<sup>th</sup>.
- The before school reading program for students in grades 3 through 12 began on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Rollins, a retired teacher, will be the instructor of this program. Students in grades 6 – 10 attend the program from 7 a.m. – 7:40 a.m. Students in grades 3 – 5 attend the program from 7:45 a.m. – 8:25 a.m.
- Gym Night will be held on Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. Students in grades 6 – 8 will have their activities during the day, and the high school students will have their activities at night beginning at 6:30 p.m. The elementary students will have a Field Day later in the year.
- Kindergarten registration will be held March 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> at Grandview between 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Students must be 5 years of age before September 1<sup>st</sup> of 2013.
- The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance was held last Friday night. Thanks to Mr. Roberts and the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade student government for a great event.

**Mr. DeAngelo – Business Administrator**

Mr. DeAngelo reported on the following:

- Last week the School Board approved the Preliminary Budget (PDE 2028) and on Thursday we submitted the electronic copy as well as the hard copy to the State, and on Friday we submitted the exceptions.
- Regarding the RFP for Architects, there are eight Architects that submitted proposals, four of which will be set up for interviews.

The Board discussed the exceptions submitted to the State and what would be done if these exceptions are approved.

**Mr. Dupell – Administrative Intern**

Mr. Dupell discussed the following items:

- Elementary report cards were distributed on February 1<sup>st</sup>
- Black History Month activities are coming to a close
- Ramping up test prep lessons for the PSSA's
- Spring Book Fair was very successful
- Valentine's Day parties and PTO Family Night were very successful
- Spring Picture Day took place today
- Links Poster Art Contest is coming on Tuesday
- Kindergarten registration will take place next Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
- Read Across America activities are planned for this Friday
- Safe Route to School Grant activities have begun
- Health screenings are taking place in the elementary school
- The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Play, "Pirates and Princesses" will take place tomorrow night
- The morning Reading Club is up and running

**Mr. Gesualdi – Director of Special Education/Pupil Services**

Mr. Gesualdi discussed the following:

- The Exceptional Kids Workshop, which is partnered with the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, took place last Sunday. The goal of this program is to further connect with our parents.
- Compliance Monitoring in Special Education has been completed and we had no non-compliances. Mr. Gesualdi thanked the parents, teachers, and his staff members for their assistance and cooperation in this process. He stated that we will be receiving a number of commendations.

⇒ **Enrollment Report**

<b>District Enrollments as of February 15, 2013</b>			
<u>Student Population</u>			
Pre-Kindergarten	18		
Kindergarten 56 + 15	71	GRANDVIEW	338
Grade 1	86	INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL (4-5)	<u>155</u>
Grade 2	81		<b>493</b>
Grade 3	82		
Grade 4	81	INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL (6-8)	218
Grade 5	74	HIGH SCHOOL 9-12	<u>202</u>
Grade 6	85		<b>420</b>
Grade 7	66		
Grade 8	67	TECHNICAL SCHOOL	38
Grade 9	54	HOME SCHOOLED	16
Grade 10	60	CHARTER SCHOOLS	39
Grade 11	41	Regular Ed	29
Grade 12	47	Special Ed	10
		OUT OF DISTRICT	65
		Regular Ed	16
		Special Ed	49
<b>TOTAL ENROLLMENT</b>			<b>1071</b>

**Mr. Miller stated that this past Saturday there was an Executive Session at which time they primarily discussed personnel issues and legal issues.**

**Mr. Miller stated that an Executive Session was also held this evening at which time they discussed the same items.**

**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.*

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**2. Approval of Minutes**

*Motions 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3 were moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Kartal, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.*

**2.1** *The Board approved a motion* to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2012 Monthly Agenda Meeting.

**2.2** *The Board approved a motion* to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2012 Monthly Business Meeting.

**2.3** *The Board approved a motion* to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2012 Re-Organization Meeting.

***PUBLIC SESSION #1 (Only items on the agenda to be discussed)***

**Ms. Mihok – (no address given)**

Ms. Mihok discussed the following:

- Motions 5.5 and 5.6 – Ms. Mihok asked for an explanation of the increase in the amount being given to the employees.
- Motion 7.4 – Ms. Mihok asked if Mr. Gesualdi supported half day kindergarten.
- Ms. Mihok thanked Mr. Miller for having water available for the public to drink at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Ferrara commented on Ms. Mihok's question regarding motions 5.5 and 5.6, stating that if we have an early retirement incentive program for some of the MESPA employees we would like to get that into the current negotiations with the opportunity for



some of the MESPA employees to retire, and we would not have to have many of the positions filled, therefore reducing the Human Resources part of our budget. He stated that the amount of money that the Board is being asked to approve would be far less than the people's salary and benefits if they were to remain.

**Mr. Perry – 43 Fairview Avenue**

Mr. Perry discussed the following:

- Student Spotlight – Mr. Perry stated that this is a very positive program which brings out both the students and the parents and hopes that we keep it up.
- Motion 7.4 – Mr. Perry asked that we preserve full day kindergarten

**INFRASTRUCTURE/FINANCE/HUMAN RESOURCES**

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

*Motions 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.5 were moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Worob, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.*

**3.1 Approval, Edmentum/Study Island (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Program)**

*The Board approved a motion to approve the Edmentum/Study Island (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Program) in the amount of \$1120.*

**3.2 Approval, Compass Learning**

*The Board approved a motion to approve Compass Learning in the amount of \$9945.*

**3.3 Approval, Omni Sealcoat**

*The Board approved a motion to approve Omni Sealcoat to repair cracks in the parking lots at the Morrisville High School (2,800 lineal feet) in the amount of \$1820.*

**3.4 Approval, Cafeteria Ceiling Audio System**

*THIS MOTION WAS TABLED. Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. DeWilde, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.*

Mr. Ferrara stated that he has approached Ms. Berry-Johnson with the 21<sup>st</sup> Century who also uses the cafeteria, and they will fund this project. Mr. Ferrara thanked the 21<sup>st</sup> Century for their generosity.

**3.5 Approval, RFP – Fire and Alarm Protection**

*The Board approved a motion to approve an RFP for Fire and Alarm Protection. (Awarded Vendor: Fire and Security Technologies).*

Mr. Buckman asked what this protection is for. Mr. DeAngelo stated that this is the annual inspection approval monitoring, which is a cost per service and it is less than our current provider.

Ms. Kartal asked if motions 3.1 and 3.2 are annual renewals of these programs and Mr. DeAngelo stated that they are renewed annually.

**4. SPECIAL EDUCATION**  
**INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**  
**ACTION ITEMS:**

None at this time.

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

*Motions 5.1 and 5.3 were moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Dingle, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.*

**5.1 Approval, Tuition Reimbursement**

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Carla VanDemark	Reading and Storytelling	Univ. of the Arts	3	\$990

**5.2 Approval, Group II Contract (2013-14/2014-15)**

*THIS MOTION WAS TABLED. Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. DeWilde, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.*

**5.3 Approval, 2013-14 Administrative Plan**

*The Board approved a motion to approve the 2013-14 Administrative Plan.*

Ms. Kartal asked for an explanation of the 2013-14 Administrative Plan. Mr. Ferrara gave an explanation of the plan stating that it involves the hiring of three Deans; one for Grades K-3, one for Grades 4-8, and one for Grades 9-12. He explained their assignments and duties involved. Mr. Ferrara stated that each Dean would receive a \$5000 stipend in addition to their regular salary. He feels that this is the best plan for the students and staff of Morrisville.

Ms. Kartal stated that this plan has been extensively reviewed by the administration, Board members and Human Resource Committee, and everyone has agreed that this would be the best plan for the District. She thanked everyone on the committees for their hard work in coming up with this recommendation.

Mr. DeWilde stated that this is a non-traditional way to do this, but we are not increasing our staff in our budget. We are realigning people into various areas and this plan will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

Mr. Miller stated that since Mr. Harm will not be here next year, this will allow us to start working more towards a permanent structure of our administration.

#### **5.4      Approval, Appointments**

*Motion 5.4 (a through f) were moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. DeWilde, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.*

##### **5.4.a**

***The Board approved a motion*** to approve the following 21<sup>st</sup> Century Hires:

Rachel Whitley	Club Advisor	\$15/hr.
Amanda Elzani	Site Monitor	\$9/hr.
Diane Griffin	Teacher	\$22/hr.
Jack Jones	Site Coordinator	\$20/hr.

Ms. Kartal asked what the duties would be for Mr. Jones. The original motion had Mr. Jones title listed as Truancy Officer and after some discussion, the Board changed the title to read Site Coordinator and Mr. Ferrara explained what his job would involve in this position.

##### **5.4.b**

***The Board approved a motion*** to approve Kathleen Deliman as a long-term substitute (filling in for Jill Osterhout), effective January 11, 2013, at the daily rate of \$239.04.

***The Board approved a motion*** to approve Kevin Ebert as a long-term substitute (filling in for Christy Schmidt), effective April 2, 2013 through June 17, 2013 (57 days) at a salary of \$15,156.87, per SB Policy #429.

Mr. Worob stated that he feels that the daily rate for a long-term substitute position is a lot of money. Mr. Ferrara stated that this rate is per policy and is based on the individual's degree and the amount of time in the position. Mr. Ferrara stated that this money is budgeted and we are currently below budget in this area.

Mr. Dingle asked if there is a flat rate for long-term subs. Mr. Ferrara stated that we have a flat daily rate of \$94.00 for subs, but then it is based on the qualifications of the successful candidate selected to fill the position, and is also part of the MEA Contract.

Mr. Stoneburner asked how someone with a Master's Degree, if chosen for a sub position, is used differently than someone with a lower degree. Mr. Ferrara stated that we do not look at degrees when we hire individuals; we look for the best candidate. Mr. Ferrara stated that we would use that person in the same capacity as if he or she did not have a Master's Degree, and until the Board directs the administration to do something different, we will always select the best candidate. Mr. Stoneburner stated that he doesn't mind spending the money on the best candidate, as long as there is some way to fully utilize that person.

Mr. Gesualdi stated that we cannot discriminate against someone because of their degree and that the hiring of these positions is the framework for the MEA Contract and most teacher contracts. Therefore, we cannot say that a person who has a Master's Degree or a PHD should be doing more complex tasks.

**5.4.c**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the following extra-curricular positions:

Lisa Colon-Rivera	Varsity Softball Head Coach	\$2625
Breanna Jackman	Varsity Softball Asst. Coach	\$1950
Julie Habel	Middle-School Softball Coach	\$1950
Mike Rush	Middle-School Baseball Coach	\$1950

**5.4.d Approval, School Psychologist Intern 2013-14**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the hiring of a School Psychologist Intern for the Pupil Services Department for the 2013-14 school year at a stipend of \$10,000 for 192 days of service.

**5.4.e Approval, AESOP Substitutes**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the following AESOP Substitutes:

Christopher Matsagas	Jennifer Osinski
Pamela Weisgerber	David Sorrentino
Linda Henry	

**5.4.f Approval, Paraprofessionals**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve Alan Benjamin as a Paraprofessional (Title I), effective March 14, 2013, at the hourly rate of \$13.93. (To replace Sandy Buzby)

*The Board approved a motion* to approve Ryan Ruffing as a Paraprofessional, effective April 2, 2013 through the end of the 2012-13 school year, at the hourly rate of \$13.93 (To fill in for Catherine Mihaly)

**5.5 Approval, Rescind Motion**

*The Board approved a motion* to rescind the motion approved at the November 14, 2012 Board Meeting for MESPA-ERIP (Maximum 3 employees - \$15,000 each - not to exceed \$45,000).

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Worob, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

**5.6 Approval, MESPA-ERIP**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve MESPA-ERIP at a maximum of 3 employees at \$25,000 each - not to exceed \$75,000.

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Worob, and passed by a voice vote of 8 ayes and 1 nay (member voting nay was Mr. Buckman).

Mr. Worob stated that as Mr. Ferrara discussed earlier this evening, approval of motions 5.5 and 5.6 would actually save the District money.

Mr. Buckman asked if this has to do with negotiations, why is it being presented to the Board at this time for approval. Mr. Miller stated that we have had previous ERIP's brought to the Board for approval throughout the year. Mr. Buckman stated that he is not voting for motion 5.6 as he feels it should be done as part of the negotiation process.

*Motions 5.7 and 5.8 were moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. DeWilde, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.*

**5.7 Approval, Retirement**

*The Board approved a motion* to accept, with regret, the retirement of Sandra Buzby, effective March 15, 2013.

Mr. Dupell thanked Ms. Buzby for her professionalism and dedication and stated that he appreciates her many years of service. Mr. Miller also thanked Ms. Buzby,

stated that she has always been professional and caring for the students in the District and wished her all the best in her retirement.

**5.8 Approval, Maternity Leave/Child Rearing**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve maternity leave/child rearing for Christy Schmidt effective April 18, 2013 through January 30, 2014.

*The Board approved a motion* to approve maternity leave for Catherine Mihaly effective April 26, 2013 through the end of the 2012-13 school year.

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

*Motions 6.1 through 6.7 were moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Worob, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.*

**6.1 Approval, Class of 2015 Activities Account**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve an Activities Account for the Class of 2015.

**6.2 Approval, Tax Assessment Settlement**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve a Tax Assessment Settlement.

Mr. Truelove stated that he has the details for this Tax Assessment Settlement which will be included as an attachment to the minutes from tonight's meeting.

**6.3 Approval, Budget Transfers**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve budget transfers in the amount of \$5760.

**6.4 Approval, Excess Items**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the excess items.

Mr. Stoneburner asked if the excess items could be listed on the Board report each month so that the public is aware of what item are being excessed. Mr. DeAngelo stated that this information will be listed in the future and stated that the item being excessed this evening is the soccer net that destroyed by a tree during Hurricane Sandy, for which we did get reimbursed by our insurance company.

**6.5 Approval, Treasurer's Report**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the Treasurer's Report.

**6.6 Approval, Investment Report**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the Investment Report.

**6.7 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/General Fund (1/24/13 - 2/27/13)	\$ 302,252.18
Athletic Fund (1/29/13 - 2/22/13)	\$ 3,775.00
Cafeteria Fund (2/22/13)	\$ 47,646.35
Capital Reserve	\$ <u>-0-</u> *
<b>TOTAL BILLS</b>	<b>\$ 353,673.53 *</b>

\*Mr. DeAngelo requested that the amount of **\$1,197.50** be added as a Capital Reserve payment (final payment for playground equipment) to the payment of bills which would bring the total amount of bills to **\$354,871.03**. This addition was approved by all Board members.

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

*Motions 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3 were moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Dingle, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.*

**7.1 Approval, Science Symposium Trip to Florida**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve a Science Symposium Trip to Florida, at no cost to the District.

Mr. Ferrara stated that this is the first time that our District has had the opportunity through the work of both teachers and students to have a trip like this funded through someone else. He thanked Mr. Jones and Ms. Glaum-Lathbury, along with the students, for their hard work to secure the funding for this trip.

Mr. Miller stated that hopefully we can continue to look into other programs to enrich the educational experience here in Morrisville for the students.

**7.2 Approval, 2013-14 IU #22 Program Services and Instructional Materials and Research Services Budget**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the 2013-14 IU #22 Program Services and Instructional Materials and Research Services Budget.

**7.3 Approval, High School Program of Studies**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the High School Program of Studies.

Mr. Miller stated that the Education Committee has been discussing the possibilities of being able to offer Cyber classes as early as next year. He stated that they are not in the current Program of Studies at this point in time, but once it is determined which ones will be offered, the parents will be notified and the students will have the opportunity to select these courses. Mr. Ferrara stated that the administration will be bringing this matter to the Board for approval at the August Board meeting or sooner with the courses to be offered and how we plan to offer those courses.

**7.4 Approval, Full Day vs. Half Day Kindergarten**

*THIS MOTION WAS TABLED. Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. DeWilde, and passed by a voice vote of 8 ayes. Note: Mr. Buckman had stepped out of the meeting for a moment, therefore, he was not in the room at the time of the vote.*

Mr. Miller stated that this it was decided to table this item at this time in order to get feedback from parents regarding the current services as well as future services outside of kindergarten. He stated that it is currently advertised as half-day kindergarten.

Mr. Dupell discussed the surveys that are being sent to parents and stated that one of the surveys is being sent to parents of the students who are presently in a half-day program and how they feel about that program. He stated that the second survey involves if the District did decide to go to a half-day program, how would it impact the parents for the other half of the day and if there would be any interest in some type of care for the remainder of the day.

Mr. Ferrara stated that some of the options that we are looking at for after school care would be where the parents would have to pay for this service if they are interested.



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

**8.1 Approval, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Policy 005, Organization**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Policy 005, Organization.

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Worob, and passed by a voice vote of 8 ayes. NOTE: Mr. Buckman was not in the room at the time of the vote.

Mr. Miller stated that this policy is being revised to remove the stipends from the Treasurer and Secretary positions on the Board.

**9. LIAISON REPORTS**  
**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

***a. Lower Bucks County Vocational-Educational School – Ms. Kartal***

Ms. Kartal discussed the following:

- A meeting was held on February 25<sup>th</sup>
- Motion approving the resolution from Morrisville approving payment of the balance due from the 10-11 school year. Included in this resolution was an agreement that a committee would be formed to review the current Articles of Agreement as well as the funding formula. A committee has since been formed with a representative from each District, and Ms. Kartal is the Chairperson of that committee. The first meeting of this committee will take place this Monday at the Tech School at 6:30 p.m. which is a public meeting.
- Increase to EMS services shop – this is one of the fastest growing services in the Tech School
- Preliminary budget for 13-14 – the first budget meeting will be held on the 28<sup>th</sup>
- Teacher contract negotiations
- The next meeting will be held on March 13<sup>th</sup>

**b. Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 – Mr. Parker**

Mr. Parker discussed the following:

- Meeting was held on February 19<sup>th</sup>
- In addition to the regular business there were presentations on the IU's Programs and Services in the areas of alcohol, drugs and violence prevention. They are also doing prevention programs on bullying and they also did a presentation on Assistive and Adaptive Technology.
- Next month they will be discussing fundraising to help students who cannot afford Assistive and Adaptive Technology who could really benefit from it.

**c. Pennsylvania School Boards Association/Legislative - Mr. Buckman**

Mr. Buckman discussed the following:

- PA School Performance Profile
- Indicators of academic achievement (50% of score)

*Future Meetings and Items of Interest*

The meetings will be held in the LGI  
Wednesday, March 20, 2013.....Monthly Agenda Meeting 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, March 27, 2013.....Monthly Business Meeting 7:30 p.m.

***For Community and District Information  
visit our community website [www.mv.org](http://www.mv.org)  
and Channel 28 on your Local Cable***

**10. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Kartal asked for an update on making donations via the website. Mr. Truelove stated that he is close to getting all of the details together and will advise the Board as soon as he can.

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

None at this time.

***PUBLIC SESSION #2***

**Mrs. Mihok**

Mrs. Mihok discussed the budget and what a 20% increase would do to this town. She discussed the index and the exceptions that we applied for. She congratulated Mr. DeAngelo for getting the deficit down to \$500,000. Ms. Mihok asked Mr. Miller if he sleeps at night.

**Mr. Perry – 43 Fairview Avenue**

Mr. Perry discussed the budget and stated that he is glad that we have found ways to close the gap regarding the deficit. He stated that no one wants to raise taxes but the honeymoon is over because we had five years of taxes that went down and then were flat, but then that we got a reduction in State and Federal funding. Mr. Perry stated that this has put the District in a financially tough spot, despite the Board's efforts to cut costs and reduce expenses, despite achieving a reasonable agreement with the teachers. He stated that the fund balance is pretty much tapped out and we have reached the end of the line. Mr. Perry stated that he feels that it is a sound approach to keep options open at this point for the budget and the Board and administration should continue to work together to close the deficit with no tax increase, without taking budget and revenue options off the table.

Mr. Miller stated that he does sleep at night because he is sitting up here with eight other Board members who put in time and effort and share the responsibilities along with himself in finding ways that they can make sure that they will not have a 20% increase. He stated that he works with the administration and listens to their suggestions and has them give the Board numbers to work off of. Mr. Miller said that it may not be the perfect plan, but we don't know yet. There are options that they haven't even explored and we have until June. Mr. Miller stated that by having a first look at some of the things that he has seen presented, we are looking at a minimal tax increase if the Board approves them. Mr. Miller stated that he is only one vote; the whole Board has to vote on this. Mr. Miller said that if you want to go ahead and start the rumor mills and get everyone in an uproar about a 20% increase he thinks that you will be crying wolf, so he will save you the embarrassment.

**12. Adjournment**

*The Board approved a motion* to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Parker, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

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Damon Miller, President

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Wanda Kartal, Secretary