

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BOROUGH OF MORRISVILLE  
Morrisville, Pennsylvania

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
**Work Session**—Wednesday, June 19, 2013  
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 June 19, 2013, after due notice of the meeting had been given as required by law. Mr. Miller, President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Miller made a motion to appoint Mr. Paul DeAngelo as the Recording Secretary for tonight's meeting. This motion was seconded by Mr. DeWilde, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

**ROLL CALL**

*The following members were present on roll call:*

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

*Quorum Present:*

Also attending this evening's meeting was Mr. William Ferrara, Superintendent; Mr. Paul DeAngelo, Business Administrator; Mr. Donald Harm, Educational Advisor for Administration; Mr. Anthony Gesualdi, Director of Special Education and Pupil Services; David Truelove, Esq., Solicitor; media, MEA representatives and members of the community.

Mr. Miller stated that we have a new recording device set up for this evening's meeting. It is a new camera which is tied directly into our sound system, and he encouraged everyone to speak directly into their microphones.

Mr. Miller stated that an Executive Session was held prior to this evening's meeting at which time they discussed matters of personnel and real estate.

### **Student Spotlight (Will be done at the Business Meeting)**

- America's Homecoming Queen Award Winner, Juliana Manning – Presentation of Award
- Gary Grundtisch – Recognition of Heroism

### **Morrisville Opportunity Education Foundation – MOEF – Mr. Dingle**

Mr. Dingle reported that MOEF had their meeting earlier today, which will be the last meeting until they resume again in September. At the meeting they discussed:

- The Youth Leadership Academy that is run by the Lower Bucks County Chamber of Commerce.
- Looking to push forward support for the Achieve 3000.

### **PTO Report – Mr. Dingle**

Mr. Dingle reported on the success of Field Day which took place a few weeks ago. He stated that the PTO will have two checks next week; one for the Playground Fund and one for the Auditorium Fund.

### **Joint Borough Council/School Board Report – Ms. Kartal**

Ms. Kartal stated that the last meeting was held on June 5<sup>th</sup> and they discussed the following:

- Review of walking routes and a list was created for any areas that need signs, crosswalks, etc. A list will be provided to the Board members and the summer crew will begin to work on these areas.
- School zone process
- The next meeting will be held in August at which time the Resource Guide will be completed and will be sent to the parents and children in September.
- The speed limit reminder will be removed for the summer, but will be replaced before school starts.

### **Public Relations/Communications Report – Mr. Miller**

Mr. Miller stated that they still have some information that needs to be posted on the website in regards to award winners and the graduation ceremony. The first day of school for the 13-14 school year has been posted along with the full school calendar for the 13-14 school year. Regarding the bronze award that the District received through US News and World Report, we are looking for ways to help promote this throughout the community.

The following areas will be covered at the Business Meeting:

**Superintendent/Administrator's Reports**

**Enrollment Report**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION ITEMS:**

January 16, 2013 Monthly Agenda Meeting

January 23, 2013 Monthly Business Meeting

## **PUBLIC SESSION #1 (Agenda Items Only)**

**Marlys Mihok**

Ms. Mihok discussed the rental of Manor Park, which is an item on the agenda this evening under Facilities. She also mentioned the lawsuit involving Board members and the rental of Manor Park to Head Start.

Mr. Truelove responded to Ms. Mihok regarding the lawsuit and Manor Park, and he stated that they have a court order and he will get copies of that order to everyone named on the lawsuit.

**FACILITIES/INFRASTRUCTURE**

• **Proposal – Rental of Manor Park by Acting Naturally**

Wendy McBride, Founding Director of Acting Naturally, discussed the proposal they submitted regarding the rental of Manor Park. The Board members discussed with Ms. McBride how and when the facilities would be used, and any costs for heating, cooling and electricity. Mr. Miller stated that they need to investigate the matter further, explore the options, and check into zoning and code issues before the Board can make a decision. The Board suggested the possibility of using our auditorium, but Ms. McBride stated that they need a permanent place where they can leave their stored items and have access to the area at all times.

Mr. DeAngelo stated that none of the costs that would be incurred for upgrading and for the usage of Manor Park are included in the 13-14 budget.

**Facilities Committee – Mr. Stoneburner**

Mr. Stoneburner stated that the meeting was held on June 13<sup>th</sup> and they discussed the following:

- Acting Naturally proposal regarding the rental of Manor Park
- Roof maintenance
- Grandview Rock Garden and possible resources for use of a small tractor and landscape rake, concrete slabs being used as a play area during inclement weather
- Painting of the auditorium

- Sound, lighting and seat cushions in the auditorium
- Summer crew work schedule and projects
- No meeting will be held in July as advertised; they will meet again in August and the possibility of moving the meetings from Thursdays to Wednesdays was discussed.
- Security ideas

Mr. Stoneburner also discussed the following:

- Received an update on the uses for M. R. Reiter, but he hasn't had a chance to review it yet.
- Work done on the athletic fields behind the high school by the Little League Teams

Mr. Truelove gave an update on their review of the M. R. Reiter property. He suggested that at the next Facility Committee meeting, his partner, Jeff D'Amico, attend the meeting and discuss with the committee and those present the details in the report received on M. R. Reiter and answer any concerns or questions.

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE**

##### **INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

##### **ACTION ITEMS:**

None at this time.

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

##### **Human Resources Committee – Mr. DeWilde**

Mr. DeWilde stated that no meetings were held, therefore, there was no report.

***At next week's Board meeting Mr. DeWilde stated that the following items will be on the agenda under the Human Resource Section:***

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

##### **ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Approval, Furloughs (3.6 Professional Employees)
2. Approval, Recalls for 2013-14 school year
3. Approval, Appointments
  - a) Part-time (2 Hour) Nurse's Aide
  - b) Nurse Aide
  - c) Fall Coaches
  - d) Department Coordinators
  - e) Extra-curricular Activities Coordinators
  - f) Paraprofessionals for the 2013-14 school year
  - g) Personal Care Assistants for the 2013-14 school year
  - h) Floaters for the 2013-14 school year
  - i) 21<sup>st</sup> Century Hires

4. Approval, District Furlough Date (July 15<sup>th</sup>)
5. Approval, Special Education Advisors, Inc., effective July 1, 2013
6. Approval, Elimination of Facilities Position
7. Approval, Tuition Reimbursement
8. Approval, Resignation

Mr. Buckman asked if the Board members will be given the number of Paraprofessionals, Personal Care Assistants and Floaters that are listed to be approved. Mr. Ferrara stated that the Board will receive a listing of the names of individuals to be approved and that they are the current employees who are coming to the Board for approval to be rehired. Additional paraprofessional positions have been posted to meet our class size administration regulations, but they will be on the agenda at a future meeting for approval.

Regarding the approval of Special Education Advisors, Inc. (Item #5), Mr. Ferrara stated that Mr. Gesualdi will be moving from a District employee to an independent contractor, and the administration has worked with Mr. Truelove to make sure that all of the i's are dotted and the t's are crossed regarding this move. Mr. Buckman thanked the people that worked out this agreement stating he feels that it would be a tragedy to this District to lose Mr. Gesualdi.

#### **BUSINESS OPERATIONS/FINANCE**

- 2013-14 Budget Presentation  
Mr. DeAngelo gave a presentation on the 2013-14 budget.

Mr. Miller thanked Mr. DeAngelo, the administration, the Board members and everyone involved for coming up with a budget in which we aren't relying on the Fund Balance.

#### **Finance Committee – Mr. Dingle**

Mr. Dingle reported on items discussed both at the May and June Finance Committee meetings as follows:

- Exploring the option of having a tax rebate incentive plan for seniors

Mr. Dingle explained in detail where we are at this time regarding the option of having a tax rebate incentive plan for seniors. Mr. Buckman stated that we had this program many years ago, stopped it for financial reasons, and was told that we could not start it again and the State would look down on us if we did try to start it again. Mr. Buckman stated that we should not get the hopes up of the voters and use this as an election tool. Mr. Miller stated that Mr. Truelove has looked into this and we are currently checking to see if it is feasible and that it is not being used for political reasons.

**At next week's Board meeting Mr. Dingle stated that the following items will be on the agenda under the Business Operations/Finance Section:**

**BUSINESS OPERATIONS/FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Approval, 2013-14 Final General Fund Budget (\$17,504,284 – millage rate 180.314)
2. Approval, 2013-14 Final Millage Rate Resolution (180.314)
3. Approval, 2013-14 Final Homestead Millage (\$198.71, Max \$1,102.02)
4. Approval, Installment Date Resolution
5. Approval, 2013-14 Final Food Service Budget (\$469,585)
6. Approval, 2013-14 Final Capital Project Budget (\$150,100)
7. Approval, 2013-14 Final Athletic Budget (\$20,000)
8. Approval, Property and Casualty Insurance, Workers Comp, Student Accident, Board Bonding and Legal as follows:
 

<u>Willis Company</u>	<u>2012-13</u>	<u>2013-14</u>	
Workers Comp	\$56,086	57,653	Old Republic
Property Insurance	\$33,405	38,337	Indemnity Insurance Co.
Property Deductible	\$ 7,074	8,376	Indemnity Insurance Co.
Auto Insurance	\$ 11,124	12,235	Indemnity Insurance Co.
Boiler & Machinery	\$ 4,187	4,584	Hartford Steam Boiler
Umbrella Policy	\$ 11,034	12,138	Old Republic
Errors & Omissions	\$ 10,831	12,636	Old Republic
Student Accident	<u>\$ 7,500</u>	<u>7,700</u>	Ace American-Activ. Acct.
Total	\$141,241	\$152,659	
9. Approval, Fund Balance Dedication Categories
  - \* Non-spendable
  - \* Restricted for Capital
  - \* Committed
  - \* Unassigned
10. Approval, PNC Bank and PLGIT for 2013-14
11. Approval, Establishment of a Middle School Basketball Account
12. Approval, Tax Refund Tax Parcel #24-011-009 (2007-08) \$680.94
13. Approval, Ordinary and Necessary Payments during the months of June and July by the Business Administrator
14. Approval, Excess Items
15. Approval, End of Year Budget Transfers per School Code, Section 68
16. Approval, Transfer of \$1,950 from the Class of 2013 Account to Yearbook Account
17. Approval, Healthcare Consortium Management Trustee
18. Approval, Appointment of Treasurer to the Board of School Directors through June 30, 2014
19. Approval, Treasurer's Report
20. Approval, Investment Report
21. Approval, Payment of Bills

## **EDUCATION**

### **Education Committee – Mr. Miller**

Mr. Miller stated that the committee met on June 11<sup>th</sup> and the next meeting will take place on August 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Miller stated that at the June 11<sup>th</sup> meeting they discussed the following:

- Breakdown of Algebra classes to provide a better foundation for students to be successful
- Pros and cons of cyber option as well as the merge option
- Staffing

Mr. Ferrara gave a brief history of how the District has handled students participating in sports based on the grades they received and discussed moving to PIAA Standards for the 2013-14 school year.

Mr. Dingle stated that while he would like to see us support the coaches and their efforts, our primary mission should be to see that the students are successful, and we should leave it as it is now. The Board members discussed the pros and cons of changing to PIAA Standards. It was decided that it would be placed on the agenda for next week's meeting for a Board vote.

***At next week's Board meeting Mr. Miller stated that the following items will be on the agenda under the Education Section and Policy Section:***

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

### **INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

None at this time.

## **POLICY COMMITTEE**

### **INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Approval, Second Reading of Policy #702 (Gifts, Grants and Donations)
2. Approval, Second Reading of Policy #237 (Electronic Devices)
3. Approval, Second Reading of Policy #815 (Acceptable Use of Electronic Devices)
4. Approval, First Reading of Policy #008 (Organization Chart)

## **LIAISON REPORTS**

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

**a. Bucks County Technical School – Ms. Kartal**

Ms. Kartal discussed the following:

- Teachers Contract was settled
- At the next meeting they will be discussing the Morrisville and Bristol request for additional representation on the Joint Board
- The Tech School had a Field Review by the Bureau of Career and Technical Education in April, and the report was given to the Board members last month. All requirements were met with no deficiencies found or corrections required.
- They received a Senate proclamation for participating in the Lower Bucks Chamber of Commerce for the last 50 years
- The Construction Trades technical side had been working the last two years to obtain new accreditation, which was awarded last month.
- Graduation ceremony was held on Monday night for the Class of 2013 and her son was a part of that graduating class.
- She thanked her colleagues for allowing her to serve as the Joint Board Representative, which allowed her to hand her own son his diploma at the graduation ceremony.
- Funding Committee

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

No report

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

Mr. Buckman discussed the following:

- Prevailing Wage Reform
- Common Core Chapter 4 Proposal

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- Appointment of an IU Representative from the School Board

Mr. DeWilde volunteered to take over this position and he will be appointed at next week's business meeting.



**NEW BUSINESS**

**PUBLIC SESSION #2**

**Marlys Mihok**

Ms. Mihok discussed the 2013-14 budget, rental of Manor Park, residency, and graduate numbers vs. the budget.

Mr. Miller discussed the tax increase and the graduate numbers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m. This motion was seconded by Mr. DeWilde, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

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Damon Miller, President

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Wanda Kartal, Secretary