

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
**Special Business/Board Meeting** – Wednesday, January 6, 2016  
Large Group Instruction Room  
Morrisville Middle/Senior High School

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BOROUGH OF MORRISVILLE  
Morrisville, Pennsylvania

*This meeting was recorded for televising*

The special business/board 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, January 6, 2016, after due notice of this meeting had been given as required by law. This meeting began at 7:30 p.m.

In attendance: Messrs. Colon, Dingle, Gilleo, Perry, Worob, Stoneburner, Miller and Ms. Getty, Ms. Grau and Ms. Kartal

*Quorum Present:*

Also attending this evening's meeting were Mr. Michael Kopakowski, Superintendent; Mr. Michael Braun, Business Administrator; David Truelove, Esq., Solicitor; media.

Mr. Miller stated that an Executive Session will take place following this evening's meeting to discuss Human Resources.

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

There were no speakers for Public Session #1.

**FINANCIAL/BUSINESS**  
**INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- Proposed Preliminary Budget Presentation

Mr. Braun gave a brief presentation on the proposed 2016-17 preliminary budget.

Mr. Braun stated that the District will be saving money in the 16-17 school year with the changes in the medical costs through the Consortium.

Mr. Stoneburner questioned the increase in the Special Education budget by \$570,000. Mr. Braun stated that he was being conservative in this area and hopefully by the time we get through the budget process the budget in this area will go down. Mr. Braun stated that the IU has not yet provided us with their costs for us to utilize their programs, and once we have this information that number should reduce. Mr. Braun stated that the same situation applies in the Tech School budget area as he has no idea how many students we will have attending the Tech School, so he again is being conservative in this area.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Mr. Miller stated that there are two motions, as listed below, for which the Board must choose which one they would like to vote on. If the first motion is approved, the second motion would not be necessary.

*A motion* to adopt a Resolution, in the form presented at this meeting, which authorizes making the proposed Preliminary 2016-17 Budget available for public inspection and authorizes advertisement of the intent of the School District to adopt the Preliminary 2016-17 Budget.

OR

*A motion* to adopt a Resolution, in the form presented at this meeting, providing that the Board of School Directors will not, for the 2016-17 fiscal year, increase the rate of the School District's real estate tax, or any other tax for the support of public education, by an amount that exceeds the applicable Act 1 Index, which is 2.8%.

Mr. Miller explained the process involved and options available for each motion. Mr. Truelove explained that the first motion gives the District more flexibility

*The Board approved a motion* to adopt a Resolution, in the form presented at this meeting, which authorizes making the proposed Preliminary 2016-17 Budget available for public inspection and authorizes advertisement of the intent of the School District to adopt the Preliminary 2016-17 Budget.

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Perry, and passed by a roll call vote of 8 ayes and 1 nay. Member voting nay was Mr. Stoneburner.

Mr. Perry stated that he supports this motion because he likes the idea of the District having more flexibility, and with no approval of the State Budget at this time, there is too much uncertainty to go with the second motion.

Mr. Miller stated that in regards to seeking exceptions, the District did seek exceptions but did not take them for the 2015-16 school year and remained at the Act 1 Index; 2014-15 school year we did seek and took the exceptions; 2013-14 school year we did seek the exceptions and stayed below the index; and in 2012-13 school year there was no tax increase.

Mr. Miller stated that all Board members should review the 16-17 budget as each version becomes available in order to find ways to reduce the expenditures and hopefully we'll have an increase in revenue.

Since Motion #1 passed, there was no need for motion #2.

### **OLD BUSINESS (if needed)**

Mr. Perry asked what the process will now be since Motion #1 was approved regarding the 16-17 proposed preliminary budget. Mr. Miller stated that it will be made available to the public for review. Mr. Truelove stated that the Board will be given, for review, a copy of the advertisement and notice for the public, and the resolution approved this evening will be given to Mr. Miller and Ms. Kartal for their signatures. Mr. Miller stated that our preliminary budget will be voted on at the January 27<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS (if needed)**

Mr. Miller stated that he received an email from Darletta Berry-Johnson stating that the Morrisville School District was awarded the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cohort 8 Grant for the next three years in the amount of \$399,600 for year one, two and three. A posting has been released on our website and it will be forwarded to the newspapers as well. Mr. Miller explained that this is funding for Grades 2-12 for after-school programs. He will be meeting with Darletta tomorrow and more information will follow.

Mr. Miller asked Mr. Braun to have a copy of the Preliminary 16-17 budget placed at Grandview, at the high school front office, at the Intermediate School office, and also on the website.

Mr. Stoneburner invited everyone to take a tour with the Facilities Committee of the new cafeteria area for the younger students in the library on Wednesday, January 13, 2016. Mr. Miller asked Mr. Kopakowski to send out a phone blast with this information.

***PUBLIC SESSION #2***

There were no speakers for Public Session #2.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Kartal, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes. The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

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Damon Miller, President

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Wanda Kartal, Secretary