

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BOROUGH OF MORRISVILLE  
Morrisville, Pennsylvania

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
Work Session–Wednesday, September 16, 2015  
Large Group Instruction Room  
Morrisville Intermediate/Senior High School

***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 September 16, 2015, after due notice of the meeting had been given as required by law. Mr. Miller, President, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Miller made a motion to appoint Mr. Michael Braun as Recording Secretary for tonight's meeting. This motion was seconded by Mr. Gilleo and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.

*The following members were present:*

Messrs. Colon, Dingle, Gilleo, Perry, Stoneburner, Miller and Ms. Kartal and Ms. Reithmeyer

*Members absent:* Mr. Worob

*Quorum Present:*

Also attending this evening's meeting was Mr. Michael Kopakowski, Superintendent; Mr. Michael Braun, Business Administrator; Mr. David Truelove, Esq.; media, MEA representatives and members of the community.

Mr. Miller stated that no Executive Session was held prior to this evening's agenda meeting due to a ceremony that was held outside in front of the high school commemorating the efforts of the Morrisville Aviators, who planted two trees on both sides of the driveway entrance which signified Morrisville being a certified Audubon Bird Town.

Mr. Miller stated that the following areas will be covered at next week's Business Meeting:

**Student Spotlight (To be determined)**

**Presentation** – Fran Orlando from the Bucks County Community College will give a brief presentation regarding the Art Mobile.

**Reports**

- **Student Representatives to the Board**
- **Bucks County Technical High School**

**ITEMS OF GENERAL INFORMATION**

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

- This week in our Schools (Reports from Superintendent and Administration)
- Enrollment Report

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

There were no speakers for Public Session #1.

**Morrisville Opportunity Education Foundation/MOEF Report – Mr. Dingle**

Mr. Dingle stated that he was not able to attend the meeting due to being tied up in traffic on Route #1. Mr. Kopakowski and Mr. Braun were in attendance at the MOEF meeting and they stated that the following items were discussed:

- Looked at formulas for allocation of funds
- Follow up on completed projects from 14-15 school year
- Draft of MOEF brochure
- MOEF's participation in Kids Fest to take place on October 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Proposed policy that would permit attendance and voting via text and Skype
- \$500 Grant for MOEF to re-due some of our stringed instruments

**PTO Report – Mr. Dingle**

Mr. Dingle stated that he has not received a PTO report at this time.

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

Ms. Kartal stated that there is nothing to report at this time because the meeting was cancelled. The next meeting will be held on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

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

Mr. Miller stated that the committee met and discussed the following:

- Development of another newsletter (Mr. Miller asked the committee members to please forward committee information to him that they would like placed in the newsletter)

Mr. Miller thanked the administration for sending out letters to the parents in the beginning of the school year with updated information regarding changes to policies.

**Bucks County Intermediate Unit Report – Ms. Kartal**

Ms. Kartal stated that a meeting was held last evening at which they discussed the following:

- Teacher's contract was voted in unanimously by all districts
- Dr. Galasso's last official day was yesterday as a full-time employee. Dr. Galasso will remain with the IU for approximately 6 months as a consultant. His replacement is Mark Hoffman.
- Head Start was officially taken over by the IU at the beginning of this school year

**PSBA/Legislative Report – Mr. Perry**

Mr. Perry discussed the following:

- State Budget (77 days past deadline)

**M. R. Reiter Repurposing Report – Mr. Miller**

Mr. Miller stated that there is no news from the Borough Council regarding any grants, etc.

*Mr. Miller stated that the following motions will be on the agenda at next week's Business Meeting for approval:*

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**2. Approval of Minutes**

**2.1.a** A **MOTION** is in order to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2015 regular monthly business meeting.

**2.1.b** A **MOTION** is in order to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2015 regular monthly business meeting.

**2.1.c** A **MOTION** is in order to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2015 regular monthly agenda meeting.

**2.1.d** A **MOTION** is in order to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2015 regular monthly business meeting.

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

**Facilities Committee – Mr. Stoneburner**

Mr. Stoneburner stated that a meeting was held on September 9<sup>th</sup> at which they discussed the following:

- Manor Park and the potential use of part of the building by the Senior Center
- Condition of Manor Park
- Explore ideas for use of Manor Park by other groups, etc.
- New lunchroom for the lower grades at the Intermediate/High School building
- Lighting issues with scoreboard at the A-Field
- The next meeting will be held on October 14<sup>th</sup>
- The November meeting has been moved to November 10<sup>th</sup> because of the holidays

Mr. Miller stated that he spoke to several staff members and Ms. Palumbo, and they all stated that the use of the Great White area is working out well for the lunch area for our lower grades at the Intermediate/High School. Mr. Miller thanked Metz and the staff members for helping to make this transition as smooth as possible.

Mr. Stoneburner stated that the Grandview Garden area is growing in well.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

None at this time.

**4. HUMAN RESOURCES**  
**INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Human Resource Committee – Mr. Dingle**

Mr. Dingle stated that the committee met at the end of August, and they are continuing their talks with MESPA Support Group. It was a very productive meeting and the talks are going well. They will be meeting again later this week.

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

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**4.1 Approval, Appointments - Winter Coaches**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the appointment of the individuals listed below as Winter Coaches for the 2015-16 school year per MEA Contract:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>STIPEND</b>
<i>Orick Smith</i>	<i>Varsity Boys Basketball Head Coach</i>	<i>\$3,675</i>
<i>Kyle Miller</i>	<i>Varsity Boys Basketball Asst. Coach</i>	<i>\$2,325</i>
<i>Dave Howell</i>	<i>Varsity Girls Basketball Head Coach</i>	<i>\$3,450</i>
<i>Tanya Argueta</i>	<i>Varsity Girls Basketball Asst. Coach</i>	<i>\$2,175</i>
<i>Kevin Jones</i>	<i>Co-Ed Varsity Bowling</i>	<i>\$2,625</i>

**4.2 Approval, Appointments – Paraprofessionals**

**4.2.a**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_ as a Paraprofessional, at the hourly rate of \$14.14, effective September 24, 2015.

**4.2.b**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_ as a Paraprofessional, at the hourly rate of \$14.14, effective September 24, 2015.

**4.2.c**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_ as a Paraprofessional, at the hourly rate of \$14.14, effective September 24, 2015.

**4.3 Approval, Appointment – Long Term Substitute**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_ as a long-term substitute (filling in for Meredith Wiley), effective October 26, 2015, per MEA Contract.

**4.4 Approval, Appointment – Athletic Department Intern**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the appointment of Pete Vincent as the Athletic Department Intern, effective September 24, 2015, at no cost to the district.

**4.5 Approval, Mentor**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the appointment of Christy Schmidt as mentor to Kelly Mott at a stipend of \$750, per MEA Contract.

**4.6 Approval, Tuition Reimbursement**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve tuition reimbursement as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>College/Univ.</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Megan Mason	Neurodiversity – A New approach to students with special needs	Learners Edge	3	\$399.00
Megan Mason	Raise The Bar – Positive interventions for students who challenge us	Learners Edge	3	\$399.00
Cheri Tabit	Neurodiversity – A New approach to students with special needs	Learners Edge	3	\$399.00
Cheri Tabit	Raise The Bar – Positive interventions for students who challenge us	Learners Edge	3	\$399.00

Mr. Kopakowski stated that the previously advertised Math position has been re-advertised, and we've added that posting to the Penn Link website, along with the PA School Board Association platform, so hopefully at the next meeting we'll be able to recommend a Math Teacher if we can get the right candidate.

Mr. Miller stated that the stipends listed in Item 4.1 on the agenda will be updated for next week's meeting to coincide with the new MEA Contract.

**5. BUSINESS OPERATIONS/FINANCE COMMITTEE  
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- **Finance Report (Informational Item)**  
Numbers to be provided in next week's Business Meeting Agenda

**Finance Committee – Mr. Dingle**

Mr. Dingle stated that the committee met on the 9<sup>th</sup> and they discussed the following items:

- Recap of our current financial situation as presented by the Business Office
- How long we have been without a State Budget and concerns about whether or not we have the finances to weather the storm
- Collection of delinquent taxes and the possible use of Portnoff Law Associates, Attorneys at Law, for tax delinquent recovery work

Mr. Dingle stated that we are in a good financial situation at this time, all things considered, and he thanked Mr. Braun and the Business Office for getting things cleaned up and keeping the Board well informed and presenting everything in a way so we can see where we are on a regular basis.

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

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**5.1 Approval, Disposal of Excess Items**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the disposal of the following excess items:

- **Play kitchen from Pre-K classroom**
- **1 Computer Desk**
- **1 Bookshelf**
- **4 Yellow Student Chairs**
- **1 Smart Board Roll Cart**
- **1 Overhead Projector**
- **2 Small Blue Student Chairs**
- **1 Wood Teacher Table**
- **8 Science Tubs**

**5.2 Approval, Right to Know Officer**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the appointment of Mike Braun as the Right to Know Officer for the 2015-16 school year.

**5.3 Approval, Acceptance of Donations**

**5.3.a**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve and accept the donation of book bags, lunch bags, and various school supplies from St. John's Lutheran Church in Yardley, PA.

**5.3.b**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve and accept the donation of two gift cards (total value \$600) from Kerry Carven, Manager of Community Affairs and Colleen Flanagan, Customer Service Manager, at BJ's Wholesale Club, through BJ's Adopt-A-School Program.

**5.4 Approval, Treasurer's Report**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the Treasurer's Report.

**5.5 Approval, Investment Report**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the Investment Report.

**5.6 Approval, Payment of Bills**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve payments of bills as listed below, subject to final audit by the Business Administrator:

(Numbers to be provided in next week's Business Meeting Agenda)

Ms. Reithmeyer asked if the Excess Items listed in Item 5.1 are no longer useful and if any of them need to be replaced. Mr. Kopakowski stated that none of the items need to be replaced at this time.

Ms. Reithmeyer asked for further information regarding Item 5.3.a. Mr. Kopakowski read a list of the items donated by St. John's Lutheran Church in Yardley, PA.

Mr. Perry thanked St. John's and BJ's for their kind donations.

**6. EDUCATION COMMITTEE**  
**INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Education Committee – Mr. Miller**

Mr. Miller stated that the committee met on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and they discussed the following:

- The next meeting will be held on October 1<sup>st</sup> in the LGI at 7:00 p.m.
- Blended learning environment for our high school students utilizing APEX
- Eight period day and how it seems to be working
- Student moral and how it seems to be improving and how Mr. Kopakowski, with his open-door policy for the students, should be commended and recognized for his efforts which has caused this improvement.
- Holding Graduation outside
- Positive feedback on the new cell phone policy
- Started to develop and determine some sort of direction for tasks that we would like to accomplish regarding education for this year and next year (specials for elementary students, blended learning, 8 period day, etc.)
- Possible re-registration to prove residency

**ACTION ITEMS:**

None at this time.

**7. POLICY COMMITTEE**  
**INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Policy Committee Report – Mr. Miller**

Mr. Miller stated that the committee discussed policies regarding cell phone use, attendance and lateness. These updated procedures/policies were read to the students on the first day of school at the beginning of each class. Mr. Kopakowski stated that it is an on-going process in reviewing all policies, and they are currently reviewing the 200 section. Mr. Miller stated that they are currently in the process of ironing out the process of clearances for volunteers in the School District, as well as those who work in the School District. Mr. Truelove and the Board members discussed requirements and clearances for volunteers.



**ACTION ITEMS:**

None at this time.

**8. OLD BUSINESS (if needed)**

There was no old business.

**9. NEW BUSINESS (if needed)**

There was no new business.

## **PUBLIC SESSION #2**

**Maurice Johnson – 570 Wilk Drive Morrisville, PA**

Mr. Johnson discussed Child Abuse Clearances and Item 4.3 on the agenda regarding the Long-Term Substitute position.

**Kevin Jones**

Mr. Jones discussed clearances required for outside contractors.

*Ms. Kartal reminded everyone that the 5<sup>th</sup> All Years' Reunion for Morrisville will take place on October 3, 2015 at Grandview Elementary School from 1-5 pm. Anyone interested can contact Wanda Kartal at [allunionsreunion@yahoo.com](mailto:allunionsreunion@yahoo.com).*

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. This motion was seconded by Mr. Colon, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.

---

Damon Miller, President

---

Wanda Kartal, Secretary