

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
**Board Meeting** – Wednesday, September 20, 2017  
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, September 20, 2017, after due notice of this meeting had been given as required by law. Mr. Miller, President, called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

- Pledge of Allegiance

The following members were present on roll call:

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

Member(s) absent: Mr. Colon

*Quorum Present:*

Also attending this evening's meeting were Mr. Jason Harris, Substitute Superintendent; Colleen Gartland, Substitute Business Manager; Katrina Homel, Esq., Solicitor; MEA representation, and members of the community.

Mr. Miller stated that an Executive Session was held prior to this evening's meeting to discuss a grievance settlement, contract negotiations, and Right to Know requests.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS TO BE VOTED ON AT AGENDA MEETING**

*The School Board has reserved the right to conduct business at any agenda meeting.*

### **PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION ON ITEM A ONLY**

There were no comments from the public regarding Item A.

**A. Approval, Extension of Leave**

***The Board approved a motion*** to approve the extension of the leave of absence for Michael Kopakowski, Superintendent, to October 18, 2017, or sooner once permitted to return.

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Grau, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.

**B. Approval, Create and Post Position of Library Paraprofessional**

***The Board approved a motion*** to create and post the position for a Library Paraprofessional.

Since Item B was added to the agenda, Mr. Miller opened the floor for public comment. There were no comments from the public.

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Gilleo, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.

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

There were no speakers for Public Session #1.

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

**Student Spotlight (to be determined)**

**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 Substitute Superintendent and Substitute Business Manager)
  - Enrollment Report

***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 MOTION*** is in order to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2017 Business Meeting.
  - 2.2** ***A MOTION*** is in order to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2017 Agenda Meeting.
  - 2.3** ***A MOTION*** is in order to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2017 Business Meeting.
  - 2.4** ***A MOTION*** is in order to approve the minutes of the July 26, 2017 Special Business Meeting.

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

**Facilities – Mr. Gilleo**

Mr. Gilleo stated that the committee met last Wednesday and discussed the following:

- Need for new location for Cinderella's Closet
- Need for Porta John's at the high school for use on the weekends when other organizations are using our field
- Outside lights not working in some locations
- Return of tractor rental

- Damage and repair needed to soccer field caused by an ATV and possible installation of a fence along the back of the field to prevent future damage
- A-Field Snack Shacks and how to make them compliant to be properly utilized

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**3.1 Approval, Proposal for Funds for the Grandview Gleaning Garden**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the proposal for funds for the Grandview Gleaning Garden, in an amount not to exceed \$2000.00.

**LIASION REPORTS**

**Morrisville Opportunity Education Foundation/MOEF Report – Ms. Grau**

Ms. Grau stated that the first meeting for this school year was held this evening and they discussed the following:

- EITC Grant Status
- Pay Pal account to accept donations
- MOEF will be in attendance at the Kids Fest on October 21<sup>st</sup>
- The next meeting will be held on October 18<sup>th</sup>

**PTO Report – Ms. Getty**

Ms. Getty discussed the following:

- A Fall Festival is being planned for November 4<sup>th</sup> which will feature a Chili Cook-off

**Joint Borough Council/School Board Report – Mr. Miller**

Mr. Miller stated that the next meeting will be held in November, first Wednesday of the month, in the LGI at 7:30 p.m.

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

Mr. Miller stated that the committee has been reviewing the new website. They will be meeting again in October to go over last minute items.

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

Mr. Miller stated that he has not heard any updates. Mr. Harris stated that we are waiting for the checks to be signed at the County level to be sent to the Borough.

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

**Human Resource Committee – Mr. Gilleo**

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

- Grievance issues
- Contracts

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

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**4.1 Approval, Tuition Reimbursement**

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

| <u>Name</u>       | <u>Course</u>                        | <u>College</u>   | <u>Credits</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Elizabeth Larcher | School Psychology Internship         | Indiana U of PA  | 3              | \$2,125       |
| Kristy Jackowicz  | Special Ed. Systems                  | Holy Family      | 3              | \$1,362       |
| Kristy Jackowicz  | EDSP-575 SES Including Support Needs | Holy Family      | 3              | \$1,362       |
| Natará Nesbitt    | Eng. 102-069                         | Mercer Comm.     | 3              |               |
|                   | Eng. Composition II                  | Mercer Comm.     | 3              | \$ 500        |
| Kelly Mott        | Special Ed. Ethics                   | Penn State       | 3              | \$2,559       |
| Kelly Mott        | Applied Behavioral Analysis          | Penn State       | 3              | \$3,412       |
| Gina Leary        | Reaching Success                     | Pacific Lutheran | 3              | \$ 425        |

**4.2 Approval, Rescind Appointment**

**A MOTION** is in order to rescind the approval and appointment on June 28, 2017 of Darlene Hawkins as a Personal Care Assistant/Paraprofessional, effective 8/30/17.

**4.3 Approval, Revision of Motion**

**A MOTION** is in order to revise the motion (last name only) approved on August 23, 2017, for the appointment of Felicity Wright as a Paraprofessional. Her last name should be changed to Johnson.

**4.4 Approval, Rescind and Reinstate**

**4.4.a A MOTION** is in order to rescind the resignation approved on May 24, 2017 of Christine Sullivan as a Personal Care Assistant/Paraprofessional effective June 15, 2017.

**4.4.b A MOTION** is in order to reinstate the appointment of Christine Sullivan as a Personal Care Assistant/Paraprofessional, effective 9/7/17, at an hourly rate of \$16.29, per MESPA Contract.

**4.5 Approval, School Psychologist Intern**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve Melissa Montgomery as an IU placed School Psychologist Intern to work 2 days per week through December 2017, at no cost to the District.

**4.6 Approval, Transfer**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve and ratify the transfer of Melissa Pilla from a Kindergarten general education paraprofessional to a 6<sup>th</sup> grade general education paraprofessional.

**4.7 Approval, Tenure**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve and grant tenure to temporary professional employee, Stephen Lee, effective 8/25/17, due to successful completion of a three year probationary period.

**4.8 Approval, Abolish Position**

**A MOTION** is in order to abolish the position of Floater Substitute.

**4.9 Approval, Appointment of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Hires under Cohort 9 Grant**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the appointment of the following 21<sup>st</sup> Century hires under the Cohort 9 Grant:

Stephanie Bolduc  
Kyle Greenwood  
Kelly Marlin-Peroni  
Kevin Jones  
Marcy Cohen  
Lisa Castillo  
Robin Jennings  
Kathleen Ridolfino

**4.10 Approval, Appointment to Extracurricular Positions**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the appointment of the following individuals to the Extracurricular positions as listed below, per MEA Contract:

| <b><u>Name</u></b> | <b><u>Position</u></b>               | <b><u>Stipend</u></b> |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Anthony Gencarelli | Middle School Girls Basketball Coach | \$2,300               |
| Anthony Gencarelli | Middle School Boys Basketball Coach  | \$2,300               |
| Kevin Jones        | Co-Ed Varsity Bowling Coach          | \$3,200               |
| Darryl Rogers      | JV Basketball Coach – Boys           | \$2,400               |
| Orick Smith        | Varsity Basketball Coach – Boys      | \$3,700               |

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

**Finance Committee – Mr. Perry**

Mr. Perry stated that the committee met on September 13<sup>th</sup> and discussed the following:

- Grandview Gleaning Garden Funds request
- MOEF (Pay Pal) donation button on website
- Investments and new tools available
- Process for getting new money (bonds, banks, etc.) to complete the work to be done as proposed by Schrader
- Cost savings from upgrades
- The next meeting will be held on October 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the LGI

Mr. Harris stated that at next week's business meeting we will have representatives from PFM regarding our financing options.

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

***At next week's Board meeting Mr. Perry 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 for the disposal of excess items, as presented.

**5.2 Approval, Treasurer's Report**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the Treasurer's Report for the months of July and August 2017.

**5.3 Approval, Investment Report**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the Investment Report for the months of July and August 2017.

**5.4 Approval, Payment of Bills**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve payment of bills as listed below, subject to final audit by the Business Administrator:  
(Numbers to be provided in next week's Business Meeting Agenda)

**5.5 Approval, Donations**

**5.5.a**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve and accept the donation of school supplies from St. John's Lutheran Church. This donation has an approximate value of \$250.

**5.5.b**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve and accept the donation of school supplies from The Birches, an assisted living community in Newtown. This donation has an approximate value of \$250.

**5.5.c**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve and accept the donation of school supplies from Waste Management. This donation has an approximate value of \$300.

**5.5.d**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve and accept the donation of 120 books from the Palmer Farm Community in Yardley, PA.

**5.6 Approval, Settlement Proposal**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve the Settlement Proposal regarding the MEA Grievance and the Morrisville School District, effective 8/16/17.

**5.7 Approval, Attendance at PASA-PSBA School Leadership Conference in Hershey, PA**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve Colleen Gartland to attend the PASA-PSBA School Leadership Conference on October 18 – 20, 2017, in Hershey, PA, at a cost not to exceed \$1500.

**5.8 Approval, Attendance at PASA-PSBA School Leadership Conference in Hershey, PA**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve up to two School Board members to attend the PASA-PSBA School Leadership Conference on October 18-20, 2017, in Hershey, PA, at a cost not to exceed \$1500 per attendee.

Mr. Harris asked any Board members who may be interested in attending this conference to contact him as soon as possible so that the arrangements can be made.

**5.9 Approval, Amendment to Agreement with the Bucks County IU (Ombudsman Alternative School)**

**A MOTION** is in order to approve an amendment to the agreement with the Bucks County IU (Ombudsman Alternative School) as follows:

*2017-18 School Year – From 4 slots to 5 slots @ \$10,561 per slot (Total \$52,805)*



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

**Education Committee – Mr. Miller**

Mr. Miller stated that Education Committee met on the first Thursday of the month in the LGI at 7:00 p.m. and discussing the following:

- The purchase of 210 laptops which are being distributed throughout the school in order to get technology into the classrooms as much as possible
- Possible Visit from Youth Alliance in December
- AVID Research Based Program (Mr. Harris described the program)
- Copier lease/printing issues
- Reviewed class sizes
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Scheduling issues
- Gym doors/curtains
- Library Paraprofessional position
- Mr. Greenwood's (Librarian) Wish list (books) and possible registry on Barnes and Noble
- Cops and Kids Reading Program
- The next meeting will take place on the first Thursday of next month in the LGI at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Getty discussed the new laptops and software needed for the laptops. Mr. Harris stated that he will look into this matter.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**6.1 Approval, Revised 2017-18 Program of Studies**

***A MOTION*** is in order to approve the revised 2017-18 Program of Studies.

**6.2 Approval, Agreement and Waiver of Formal Expulsion Hearing**

***A MOTION*** is in order to approve and accept the agreement and waiver of formal expulsion hearing for Student X, as agreed to and signed by Student X's parent.

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

**Policy Committee Report – Mr. Miller**

Mr. Miller stated that there are Board policies that need to be reviewed so the committee needs to schedule a date and time to begin this review.

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

**ACTION ITEMS:**

None at this time.

**8. OLD BUSINESS**

None at this time.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**



**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Morrisville's Elementary Chorus will be performing at the Veteran's Tour of Honor to be held at Parx Casino on October 2, 2017 beginning at 5:30 p.m.**

## **PUBLIC SESSION #2**

### **Jennifer Perkins – 76 Harrison Avenue**

Ms. Perkins expressed her concerns regarding bullying and safety in our schools.

### **Deborah Alford-Thompson – 563 Wilk Drive**

Ms. Alford-Thompson discussed fighting in our schools.

### **Leseh Lentner – 615 N. Pennsylvania Avenue**

Ms. Lentner stated that more parents need to attend the School Board meetings and having the agenda available for the public to review prior to meetings. She also discussed having anti-bullying programs, making sure that Crossing Guards are available on early dismissal days, and how to make donations to improve auditorium.

Mr. Miller and Mr. Harris discussed anti-bullying programs currently being used and assemblies taking place in the District. Mr. Harris discussed phone blasts, website updates, and mailings that go out to parents keeping them updated on happenings within the Morrisville community. Mr. Harris stated that he will be sure that the Borough is aware of all early dismissals in order to have Crossing Guards available at their various locations. Mr. Harris asked Ms. Perkins and Ms. Alford-Thompson to contact his office to set up an appointment to discuss any issues or concerns they may have.

Several of the Board members discussed safety in our schools and the issues or concerns that some of our parents may have. They asked that the administration be given a chance to address the situation prior to posting negative comments. Each case is taken very seriously and every step is taken to be sure that all policies are followed.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m. This motion was seconded by Ms. Grau, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.

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Damon Miller, President

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Wanda Kartal, Secretary