

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BOROUGH OF MORRISVILLE
Morrisville, Pennsylvania

The regular monthly meeting of the Morrisville Board of School Directors was held in the Auditorium located in the Morrisville Middle/Senior High School, 550 West Palmer Street, Morrisville, Pennsylvania on Wednesday, August 26, 2009, after due notice of the meeting had been given as required by law. Mr. Bill Hellmann, President, called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm with the following members present on roll call:

In attendance: Mrs. Mihok; Mr. Buckman; Mr. Kemp; Mrs. Reithmeyer; Mr. Radosti; Mr. Hellmann and Mr. Farrell. Mrs. Heater and Mrs. Worob were not in attendance.

Quorum Present.

Also attending this evening's meeting was Dr. Elizabeth Hammond Yonson, Superintendent; Mr. Paul DeAngelo, Business Administrator; Mr. Anthony Gesualdi, Director of Pupil Services; Ms. Laurie Ruffing, Acting Elementary Principal; Mr. William Ferrara, Secondary Principal; Michael G. Fitzpatrick, Esq., Solicitor; MEA representation, and media.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INFORMATION

Student Representative to the Board

1. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Yonson reported that we are working to have the buildings ready for opening day. Tomorrow the new staff members will be oriented, including a tour of Summerseat and the community. All staff will report on September 1st.

Angelo Rago reported an update on the current renovations.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INFORMATION

Student Representative to the Board

1. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- ⇒ Enrollment Report
- ⇒ This week in our Schools

District Enrollments as of August 20, 2009

Elementary Students	444
Kindergarten	76 + 4 pending (as of 8/26/09)
Secondary 6-12	404
Technical School.....	60
Home Schooled.....	15
Out-of-District Placements	no count available
Total	
(students in out-of-district placements are housed in our district and are included only once in the total)	
New Enrollments.....	no count
Withdraws.....	no count

PUBLIC SESSION

The Board adjourned for an executive session 7:45 PM TO 9:00 PM.

Ron Stout, 129 S. Delmorr

Donated Mr. Worob's book to Board/Library; What are other's plans?

Gayle Haug, 260 Harper

Respond to MRR closing. Per pupil cost.

Jon Perry, 43 Fairview

Newspaper article; Ms. Ruffing's status.

Jack Beck, 608 Prospect

Separation of grade 4 & 5; MRR insurance obligations. Enumerator qualifications.
Financing other options.

Diane Hughes

ASAP Camp. Windows & Upgrades. Student intern at library.

Sharon Hughes, 121 Mercer

Thank you for renovations & lowering taxes. Budget works. Number of employees

Damon Miller, 249 W. Franklin

ASAP Program. Courier Times article. Questions on MRR. Voters discouraged.

Mr. DeAngelo reported that the fund balance for 08-09 as adopted by the board was expected to be 1.6 million. Depending on the audits I think our fund balance will be closer to 2.7 million. In 2010-11 the state may reduce funding. This also could also happen in 09-10 which could force us to reopen our budget and force consequences of cutting state funded programs. We have a lot more work to do; however, we are probably a year ahead of other schools to go through this process and become more efficient without affecting the educational process. The administration's goal is to educate the students.

Mr. Hellmann advised that a new elementary school would result in a \$2,200 tax increase for the average household. A new K-12 would increase taxes by \$3,300.

Mr. Fitzpatrick advised that the questions from the Reiter hearing are being worked on and drafts have been prepared. We should have answers before January.

Mr. DeAngelo will review the cost per student quoted in the newspaper.

Mr. Hellmann projected that had the new school been built the tax bills would be an additional \$1,650 per household and possibly higher.

Mrs. Mihok informed that at a recent meeting of the historic society a question was asked what is being done to heat MRR this winter. Mr. DeAngelo stated that Vitetta is doing a study on MRR

and MP. In the meantime, we are looking at options for the building and are currently airing the building on a regular basis. 70% of the insurance claim has been paid and if the building does not reopen we do not have to pay the money back. Current options are: buy the modulars; add to Grandview; put money into MRR and use MP for students or administration. We should have enough money to keep MRR; however, there are pre-existing conditions at Reiter that are at issue. Spending \$4 million to fix it up does not guarantee fixing possible mold problems, etc. from the pre-existing issues.

The following remarks were between Mrs. Mihok and Mrs. Reithmeyer relating to a letter Mrs. Mihok stated she had received.

Mrs. Mihok stated "Mrs. Reithmeyer sent all of us a letter in the beginning of the summer. I know I received it so I figured every other board member got it as well."

Mrs. Reithmeyer responded "All of the letters I sent out were personally addressed. There were 10 of them and none of them went to you. If it was in your mailbox it was by somebody other than me. All the letters I sent out were personally addressed and signed and stamped."

Mrs. Mihok continued "Well, I received a letter in my mailbox with your signature on it so I'm going to assume that it came from you."

Mrs. Reithmeyer remarked "Then it should have had a name and address at the top of the letter."

Mrs. Mihok added "As well it did. At that time you had stated that we had used all of the \$7 million for renovations and that we don't have anything left over for Grandview. I wanted to state that the Grandview windows are on their way and they are going to be just as wonderful as the state-of-art windows that are being installed right now in the High School."

"As far as the defeasement for our tax reduction goes, when I got on this board in December 07, my very first meeting, our Business Manager, Mrs. Reba Dunford, confronted us within a week of us getting on the board with a 21-mill increase in our budget. Not only did we take that 21-mill increase down to zero, we reduced it an additional 18.7-mills for a total of 39.7 mills. That's not just all defeasement." This decrease was not all related to the defeasement. This did not affect our capital budget or education. We have no empty promises; we have fulfilled all of them.

Dr. Yonson explained the layout for the Intermediate School (grade 4 & 5). Unfortunately, due to the construction going on it has been an unsafe situation to have visitors to the areas. The younger students will be kept separate as much as possible. Mr. Ferrara advised what the lunch schedules will be.

Mr. Farrell talked about the financing of the bond to build the new school. Changes to the original plans were made and the building would not have been what was originally expected for the cost originally quoted. Lack of maintenance over the years is responsible for the renovations that are currently taking place. Mr. Hellmann advised the cost of defeasement would have been approximately \$1,000,000 for the entire bond issue if it was defeased after the May, 2007 primary when Mr. Perry lost as a pro-new school candidate. This is when the debt should have been defeased. The current board defeased the debt at the end of January, 2008. Mr. Kemp and Mrs. Reithmeyer tried to delay the defeasance until March, 2008. The cost would have been an extra \$665,000 on top of the \$ 2.4 million in March, 2008 due to declining interest rates. If Mr. Kemp and Mrs. Reithmeyer were successful in delaying the defeasance until now, the cost would be approximately \$ 4,000,000. In order to save money, the incoming board chose to defease the debt as soon as possible.

ACTION ITEMS:

2.1. Approval of Minutes

The Board approved a motion to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2009 Monthly Business Meeting of the Board of School Directors.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Reithmeyer; passed by voice vote of 7 ayes.

2.2. Approval of Minutes

The Board approved a motion to approve the minutes of the July 29, 2009 Special Meeting of the Board of School Directors, as corrected.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Farrell. Passed by a voice vote of 5 ayes; 2 abstentions (Mr. Kemp and Mrs. Reithmeyer).

Correction to last page -- \$60/evening. Mrs. Mihok. Total cost of this service will not exceed \$3,000. The official minutes will be changed to reflect this correction.

3. HUMAN RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE Mrs. Robin Reithmeyer,
Chairperson

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

ACTION ITEMS

3. Approval, Appointments

3.1. Approval, Resignation

The Board approved a motion to approve the acceptance of the resignation, with regret, of Ms. Sue Woodruff from the position of elementary teacher, effective August 26, 2009.

Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Radosti; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

3.2. Approval, Tenure Eligibility

The Following individuals are eligible for a Professional Contract/Tenure, having received satisfactory evaluations and having served three years under a Temporary Professional Contract.

<u>Individual</u>	<u>Date of Tenure</u>
Kristin Baranoski	9/6/09
Dennis Rodgers	9/6/09

The Board approved a motion to approve the above individuals for tenure and to direct the Administration to issue a Professional Employee Contract.

Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

3.3. Approval, Tuition Reimbursement

The Board approved a motion to approve the following tuition reimbursement.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>College/School</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sandra Sims	Classroom Management	Gratz College	3	\$940

Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Radosti; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

3.4. Appointments

3.4.a. Approval, Appointment of Elementary Principal/Grant Administrator

The Board approved a motion to approve the appointment of Ms. Laurie Ruffing to the position of Elementary Principal for the 2009-2010 salary of \$75,000 and to the position of Grant Administrator for the 2009-2010 salary of \$10,000 in accordance with the Act 93 Administrator Agreement, effective August 26, 2009.

Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Farrell passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

Mr. Hellmann questioned the wording on the “grant administrator” portion of this motion. After a brief discussion, Mr. Fitzpatrick advised that if the need for a grant administrator goes away, so does the stipend related to that purpose.

The Board approved a motion to approve the appointments listed:

	Individual	Position	Effective	Compensation	Vacancy
3.4.b.	Kate White	Instructional SE Paraeducator	9/1/09	\$12.82/hr. In accordance with group II salary and benefits	Karen Rue
Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Farrell passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.					
3.4.c.	Tana Gunnett	Kindergarten Teacher	9/1/09	\$48,671, M, OB in accordance with CBA	Diane Woodruff
Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Farrell passed by a roll call vote of 4 ayes; 3 nays (Mr. Hellmann, Mr. Radosti and Mrs. Mihok).					
<i>Mr. Hellmann advised he is not for the hiring of more teachers. He would like to see a high school teacher share the duties at the elementary level. This is our 4th Kindergarten teacher and school boards are not obligated to offer Kindergarten programs.</i>					
3.4.d.	Laura Dyer	Third Grade	9/1/09	\$44,686, B, OB per CBA	Laurie Ruffing
Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Kemp passed by a roll call vote of 4 ayes; 3 nays (Mr. Hellmann, Mr. Radosti and Mrs. Mihok).					
<i>Mr. Hellmann has a person in mind to fill this position and would like to re-advertise. Mrs. Reithmeyer advised that this position needs to be filled for the opening of school.</i>					

3.4.e.	Corey Latsch	LTS Grade 4	9/1/09 – 2/1/10 or until leave affecting vacancy terminates	\$44,686, B, OB in accordance with CBA	Summer Branche
Items 3.4.e. through 3.4.k. were moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a voice vote of 6 ayes; 1 nay (Mr. Radosti).					
3.4.f.	Tarisa Rorick	LTS Grade K	9/1/09 – 2/1/10 or until leave affecting vacancy terminates	\$94/day for 1 st 15 days; 16 th day = \$45,597 B, 1 in accordance with CBA	Michelle McCann
3.4.g.	Catherine Tomaszewski	Instructional SE Paraeducator	9/1/09	\$12.82/hr. In accordance with group II salary and benefits	New ES class

3.4.h.	Dennis Cox	Intermediate School LS Teacher	9/1/09	\$43,791, B, OA per CBA	Jessica Polistina
3.4.i.	Lauren Bischoff	Elementary Teacher	9/1/09	\$43,791, B, OA per CBA	Sue Woodruff
3.4.j.	Sarah Roby	LTS Grade 2	9/1/09 – 2/1/10 or until leave affecting vacancy terminates	\$94/day for 1 st 15 days; 16 th day = placement on salary schedule in accordance with CBA – B, OA = \$43,791	Jill Osterhout
3.4.k.	See attached names Addendum A	Per Diem Subs	09-10	Per policy #428 and Group II Salary & Benefits	These are yearly appointments

3.5. Approval, Mentors for Teacher Induction

The Board approved a motion to appoint the individuals listed below as mentors for the Teacher Induction Program during the 2009-2010 school year. Compensation in accordance with collective bargaining agreement is \$750.

- Assunta Deliman for.....Genevieve Kannengieszer
- John Eriksson for.....Patrick Dougherty
- Mary Mela forCarla VanDeMark
- Lynn Palumbo for.....Dennis Cox
- Sue Stetler for.....Summer Branche
- Sue Stetler for.....Richard Sabol
- Erica Poland for.....Todd DuPell
- Erica Poland for.....Meredith Robson
- Megan Burgoyne forTana Gunnett
- Kristin Baranoski for.....Gina Leary
- Dale Hollerbach for.....Kelly Marlin-Peroni
- Pat Young.....Laura Bodley
- Lisa Leedom.....Lauren Bischoff
- Kim Connell.....Shaun McGinty
- Cindy Garritt for.....Laura Dyer
- Kim Worrell for.....Amy Keeling (1/2 year)
- Christie Nemeth for.....Vicki Lelli (1/2 year)

Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Kemp passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

Mr. Ferrara advised that this is part of the statewide induction program.

4. BUSINESS OPERATIONS *Bill Hellmann, Chairperson*

The Finance Committee presents the following items for consideration.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

4.1. Donation-Athletic Department

The Board approved a motion to approve the donation of (1) Golf Cart to Morrisville School District.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

This donation is made because of a liability issue.

4.2. Change Order- Synergy Environmental, Inc.

The Board approved a motion to approve change order number 1 Soil Sample Collection and Additional Reporting in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a voice vote of 6 ayes; 1 abstention (Mrs. Reithmeyer).

4.3. Approval, Community Revitalization Assistance Program Grant-Enumerator

The Board approved a motion to approve the hiring of an enumerator to establish correct and accurate income averages for the Morrisville School District in the amount of \$8,000.00. The School District received payment of \$8,000.00 from the Community Revitalization Assistance Program Grant on August 19, 2009.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

Mr. Buckman would like this person to be a full time employee who is held accountable to the District. The Board should interview for this position. Mr. DeAngelo suggested a bond be held on this position. Mr. Buckman advised a collective effort by Mr. Hellmann and Mrs. Worob is responsible for this grant. This issue has been talked about for years.

4.4. Approval, Disposal of Excess Items

4.4.1. Approval, Disposal of Window Treatments Middle Senior High School

The Board approved a motion to approve the disposal of the window treatments from the Middle Senior High School due to the window replacement project. The window treatments will be removed by the window contractor.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

Approval, Disposal of Excess Items

The Board approved a motion to approve the disposal of
One Martin Yale Signature Machine, Model #911, Serial #3023 (obsolete)

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

4.5. Approval, Fund Balance - General Fund

The Board approved a motion to approve the Business Administration payments from the General Fund's Fund Balance until the approval of the State Budget.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

Mr. Hellmann discussed the status of the state budget and his worry for the budget next year.

4.6. Budget Transfers

The Board approved a motion to approve the ordinary and necessary budget transfers of \$714,960.32. Grant transfers are \$0 and general fund transfers are \$714,960.32.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

Mr. DeAngelo stated this is for the 2008-09 school year.

4.7. Approval of Title I Program for 2009-2010

The Board approved a motion to approve the Title I program for 2009-2010:

- a. Improving Basic Programs in the amount of \$171,510
- b. ARRA Supplement in the amount of 85,675

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

4.8. 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 Disbursement: (6/25/09 – 8/19/09)	\$983,859.55
Athletic Fund	-0-
Cafeteria Fund: (June 2009)	20,980.53
Accounts Payable (8/27/09)	363,187.07
Capital Projects (6/23/09 – 8/27/09)	309,628.16
Capital Reserve	-0-
Procurement Cards (June/July 2009)	11,157.29
Payroll & Benefits (June/July 2009)	<u>2,346,201.57</u>

TOTAL BILLS \$4,035,014.17

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

Mr. DeAngelo advised we have collected \$2.5 million in real estate collections.

In order to realize the 2% discount, taxes are due August 31..

5. POLICY COMMITTEE

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

No information was discussed.

6. LIAISON REPORTS

- a. Lower Bucks County Vocational-Educational School – Mr. Buckman
Jason Appleby was honored by the House of Representatives as number one in the country in Skills USA Competition. He received \$90,000 in scholarship money and \$45,000 for the Tech School. This award was by Harley Davidson and Yamaha for motorcycle repair.
- b. Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 – Mrs. Mihok
No report this evening.
- c. Pennsylvania School Boards Association/Legislative – Mrs. Worob
No report this evening.

7. OLD BUSINESS

8. NEW BUSINESS

Student Discipline Hearing

As a result of a June student discipline hearing, Mr. Fitzpatrick presented the following motion.

The Board approved a motion to expel student JB for one year in accordance with 24§ Section 13-318 22 PA School Code Section 12.6 in accordance with school board policies and parents of student be properly notified.

Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

PSERS Resolution

Mr. DeAngelo advised the Board he would like to present a resolution regarding the PSERS spending to be placed on the September Board for approval.

Newspaper Article on Parks and Spending

Mrs. Mihok presented the board with a copy of a recent newspaper article related to spending by the Park Commission. The Board discussed drafting a letter to the Parks and Recreation Board. Dr. Yonson was directed to draft this letter for the Board to review before mailing.

Express Scripts

Ms. Ruffing advised that Express Scripts has provided a multiple of school supplies for use by the students and thanked them for their generosity.

Future Meetings and Items of Interest

Tuesday, September 1, 2009.....First day for teachers
Tuesday, September 8, 2009.....First day for students
Wednesday, September 9, 2009.....6:30 pm – Infrastructure/Facilities Committee
.....7:00 pm – Finance Committee
Tuesday, September 15, 2009.....7:00 pm – Back-to-School Night Grades K-3
Wednesday, September 16, 2009.....6:30 pm -- Education Committee
.....7:00 pm – Human Resources/Negotiations Committee
.....7:30 pm – Monthly Agenda Meeting
Thursday, September 17, 20097:00 pm – Back-to-School Night Grades 4-5
Tuesday, September 22, 2009.....7:00 pm – Back-to-School Night Grades 6-12
Wednesday, September 23, 2009.....6:30 pm – Policy Committee
.....7:30 pm – Monthly Agenda Meeting

For Community and District Information
Visit our community website www.mtv.org
and Channel 28 on your Local Cable

9. Adjournment

The Board approved a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 pm.

William Hellmann, President

Marlys Mihok, Secretary