

The regular monthly 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 Wednesday, November 17, 2010, after due notice of the meeting had been given as required by law. Mr. Bill Hellmann, President, called the meeting to order at 7:37 pm with the following members present on roll call:

In attendance: Messrs. Buckman, Hellmann, DeWilde, Radosti and Stout, and Mrs. Mihok (arrived at 7:57 pm).

Absent: Mrs. Worob and Mrs. Heater were ill this evening.

*Quorum Present.*

Also attending this evening's meeting were Mr. William J. Ferrara, Acting Superintendent; Mr. Paul DeAngelo, Business Administrator; Mr. Donald E. Harm, Acting Secondary Principal; and Thomas Profy, IV, Esq., Solicitor; media and MEA representation.

### **ITEMS OF GENERAL INFORMATION**

Student Representative to the Board – Dakari Campbell

#### **UPPER INTERMEDIATE AND HIGH SCHOOL SECONDARY REPORT**

- Winners of the Halloween Contest:  
Jenna Kownacky, Maddie McLaughlin, Mr. Dennis Rodgers
- Congratulations to the Morrisville High School Varsity Soccer Team for winning the Penn Jersey League Championship Game on Thursday, October 28, 2010. This is the soccer program's first championship in the history of school. The Bulldogs beat International Christian School (*Philadelphia*) by the score of 2 to 1. The score was 0 - 0 at the half. International Christian scored the first goal of the game early in the second half. The Bulldogs rallied to tie the game midway into the second period. With less than fifteen minutes left in the game Morrisville scored its second goal of the game. Strong defensive play allowed the Bulldogs to clinch the victory. Once Again, Congratulations to Coach Sean Haines and the entire Morrisville Varsity Soccer Team.
- The Varsity Football team will be playing for the District #1 Single A Football Championship versus Calvary Christian on Friday November 12th.
- Picture retake day will be held on November 16<sup>th</sup> for all students/faculty that did not have their pictures or ID's taken.
- The Student of the Month Breakfast will be held on November 16<sup>th</sup> honoring students from September and October.
- The Leadership Academy will host its third speaker on Tuesday, November 16, 2010. Ms. Rhonda Davis, Morrisville Borough Councilwoman, will share her leadership experiences with the students.
- There will be a Community Pep Rally held in the Morrisville High School gym at 6:00pm on November 24<sup>th</sup>.
- **THANKSGIVING DAY FESTIVITIES**  
The Annual Morrisville Student Loan Breakfast will be held in the H.S. Cafeteria 7:00am to 10:00am. The Annual Thanksgiving Day Football Game vs. Bristol will take place at Morrisville at 10:30am.

#### **Morrisville Opportunity Education Foundation – MOEF**

Mrs. Gayle Haug reported that MOEF met today. Morrisville SD was paid \$4,837 to fund the Odyssey of the Mind program and the coaches will attend training on Saturday. Recently, the foundation received \$500 from Metz. MOEF will host a silent auction at the December 4<sup>th</sup> Winterfest Celebration.

Mrs. Haug recently provided the information below from the October 27, 2010 meeting.

Oct 27, 2010 Report for Monthly School Board Meeting

As reported at the last SB meeting, the Morrisville Opportunity Educational Foundation (also known as MOEF) received a \$6,200 donation from Waste Management on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010. The donation was made in conjunction with the PA Educational Improvement Tax Credit program. It is earmarked for the specific educational programs designated by MOEF in their application to the Tax Credit Division of the PA Dept of Economic Development. The approved earmarked programs include Odyssey of the Mind, Virtual Field Trips, Lego Education, and Chinese 360.

Since the last meeting MOEF has prepared a report for the board (that was included in each board members' packet) containing more specific information about the PA Educational Improvement Tax Credit programs that MOEF would like to begin this fall.

Odyssey of the Mind is the first program we would like to implement. Plans are in place to start this program afterschool for the fifth grade. The program needs to begin as soon as possible in order for the participants to prepare for the Odyssey of the Mind competitions held in March of 2011. Two teachers have applied to be coach and assistant coach and are ready to begin.

An estimated budget has been submitted to the board as part of the packet they received. MOEF is prepared to gift up to the full budgeted figure of \$4,837.00 for the program to the school district at this time. The district will need to track the costs associated with the program and will report them to MOEF periodically. Budgeted overages will be returned to MOEF and budgeted shortfalls will be funded by MOEF at a future date should the need arise. Tracking the costs is essential as MOEF is required to report the costs as part of the PA EITC program.

Other programs MOEF would like to implement this fall include the LEGO Education Competition and Virtual Field Trips. Both of these programs are currently being researched for expense and implementation after school as well as during the school day. The LEGO Education Competition would

enhance the existing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant funded, Building and Design Club, to include participation in LEGO competitions. Virtual Field Trips is a computer based program providing virtual field trips on various topics. MOEF is currently researching the cost of obtaining two or more software licenses to be utilized at the district's two school building.

This coming December 4th the foundation will be holding its second annual Silent Auction during the WinterFest festivities being held at Morrisville High School from 11:30AM to 4:30PM. This portion of the Winterfest activities is being sponsored by the 21st Century grant program. We are very grateful to the 21st Century grant program for including us in the activities at the school. Please join MOEF and 21st Century Grant program for a fun time on the 4th of December.

The Morrisville Opportunity Educational Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization established to enhance the Morrisville School district's curriculum and extracurricular activities with privately-funded enrichment programs. The foundation works closely with the Morrisville School District, faculty, students and businesses to achieve this objective.

The foundation is in dire need of new members. Our meetings are generally held on the third Wednesday of the month at the Morrisville High School. We have recently changed our meeting time from 3:30PM to 5:00PM. Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00PM at Morrisville High School. If you are interested in becoming a member please attend the next meeting. Please contact me at 215-919-6836 with any questions.

## 1. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

*Mr. Ferrara advised that this week we had a change in the transportation to the Technical School. A phone blast went out informing families of the change on Friday and again on Sunday. Unfortunately, no time was on the phone blast and he apologized for that omission. However, the time for student pickup has not changed. Of course we are concerned about safety. On both days Mr. May reported there were 46 students on the bus in the morning. The bus is designed for 54 students with a row of capacity for 2 students and a row of 3. We will continue to monitor the situation and parents are encouraged to contact either myself or Mr. DeAngelo with concerns.*

- Staff development for the faculty was held on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Workshops were held

Minutes of the Meeting of Board of School Directors  
November 17, 2010

- on Data Analysis, Technology and The Art and Science of Teaching by Robert Marzano.
- The Superintendent’s Advisory Meeting was held on November 9<sup>th</sup>. The meeting focused on the 2010 PSSA results.
- Staff Development for the faculty will be held on November 12<sup>th</sup>. A workshop was held on the book, The Art and Science of Teaching. Teachers working on grading.
- American Education Week was held November 14<sup>th</sup> to November 20<sup>th</sup>. “Invite Parents to School Day” is November 16<sup>th</sup>. Parents visited classrooms.
- Report cards will be distributed on November 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Parent/guardian conferences will be conducted on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. The conferences can be scheduled between 12 noon and 7:30 pm. There will be no drop-ins and parents/guardians must have an appointment. Information will be on the website. Parents may call or email the teachers.
- Schools are closed for Thanksgiving on November 25<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>.
- The Morrisville Yardley Rotary donated 90 dictionaries to the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students at Grandview Elementary School.

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

- Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> No school – Election Day
- Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> – Patti Gill (Literacy coach) with Intermediate Teachers
- Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> – End of the Marking Period Assessments
- Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> – End of the 1<sup>st</sup> MP
- Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> – Veteran’s Day School Closed
- Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> – Staff In-Service
- Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> American Education Week
- Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> – Parents visit the classrooms between 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
- Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> – Patti Gill (Literacy Coach) with Intermediate Teachers
- Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> No EAP Tutoring/Homework Zone or After School Clubs
- Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> Picture Retake Day
- Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> – 11:30 dismissal (Parent Conferences)
- Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> – No school for students (Parent Conferences)
- Nov 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving Observance

**District Enrollments as of November 10, 2010**

Student Population

Pre Kindergarten.....	18	
Kindergarten.....	73	GRANDVIEW .....
Grade 1 .....	82	INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 4-5 .....
Grade 2 .....	79	..... <b>482</b>
Grade 3 .....	74	
Grade 4 .....	91	INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 6-8 .....
Grade 5 .....	65	HIGH SCHOOL 9-12 .....
Grade 6 .....	61	..... <b>409</b>
Grade 7 .....	59	
Grade 8 .....	68	TECHNICAL SCHOOL .....
Grade 9 .....	52	HOME SCHOOLED .....
Grade 10 .....	55	CHARTER SCHOOLS .....
Grade 11 .....	53	OUT-OF-DISTRICT .....
Grade 12 .....	61	.....54

**Total.....1037-6=1031**

*(6 students in out-of-district placements are housed in our district and are included only once in the total)*

## **PUBLIC SESSION**

Tonight's public session brought Borough residents to the podium to voice concerns relative to two issues.

### **Busing students to the Technical School**

Jake Wilson, 24 E. Post Rd.  
Robert Fox, 102 Bank St.  
Wanda Kartal, 109 Grandview Ave.  
Theodore Parke, 109 Grandview Ave.  
Trevon Alexander, 387 Plaza Blvd.  
Bill Farrell, 347 N. PA Ave.

### **Track and Field Club Formation**

Kevin McCleave, 585 Wilk Dr.  
Anne Marie Rivera, 491 Plaza Blvd.  
Kevin McCleave, Jr., 585 Wilk Dr.  
Mary Singleton, 583 Wilk Dr.  
Trevon Alexander, 387 Plaza Blvd.  
Bill Farrell, 347 N. PA Ave.  
Casandra Gainey, 515 Woodland  
Taquay Crowley, 21 W. Phila.  
Kievanna Lacey, 498 Plaza Blvd.  
Cassandra Martinez, 581 Carlisle

Gayle Haug, 260 Harper expressed concerns relating to the grouping of agenda items.

### **Routine Action Items**

*At the meeting of the Board of School Directors on September 22, 2010 the Board of School Directors approved a motion that Agenda meeting action items considered routine will be enacted under one motion unless removed for separate action upon Board request. The purpose of the consolidated motion is to expedite Governing Board action on all consent items, which are not held for discussion. Items that have been held for discussion by the Governing Board will be enacted upon at the time the item is discussed.*

## **ACTION ITEMS**

**INFRASTRUCTURE/FINANCE/HUMAN RESOURCES**     *Mr. Bill Hellmann,*  
*Chairperson*

### **2. HUMAN RESOURCES** **INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Mr. Hellmann moved to approve items 2.1 to 4.5 inclusive.

*Mr. DeWilde suggested that since the Board plans to vote motions in a "group" format that the Board's plan for grouping be listed on the agenda prior to voting so that the public may be better able to following the Board's action.*

*Mr. Buckman commented that motions are grouped at the Technical School meetings and Mrs. Mihok commented that the same practice is done at the BCIU meetings.*

*Mr. Hellmann decided to group motions for voting by the categories under which they are listed.*

Items 2.1 through 2.5 were moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Radosti and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

**2.1. Approval, Appointment of Long Term Substitute Special Education Teacher**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the appointment of Amanda Burrows as a long term substitute special education teacher, effective approximately December 14, 2010. Compensation for this appointment will be \$94/day as per District policy #429 for the first 20 consecutive days of service. On the 21<sup>st</sup> consecutive day placement will be in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement in B column at step OA = \$44,820.00.

**2.2. Approval, Appointment of Long Term Substitute Secondary Guidance Counselor**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the appointment of Krista Schick as a long term substitute secondary guidance counselor, effective approximately December 17, 2010 until August 29, 2011. Compensation for this appointment will be \$94/day as per District policy #429 for the first 20 consecutive days of service. On the 21<sup>st</sup> consecutive day placement will be in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement in M column at step OA = \$48,819.

**2.3. Approval, Appointment of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Staff**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the below listed individuals to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Staff for the 2010-2011 school year.

Emily Musella .....	Student Site Monitor .....	\$8.00/hour
Cassandra Andujar .....	Student Site Monitor .....	\$8.00/hour
Carla VanDeMark .....	Homework Zone Teacher .....	\$22.00/hour
Pat Young .....	Teacher .....	\$22.00/hour
Ana Ramirez .....	Club Advisor .....	\$14.50/hour
Patrick O'Brien .....	Site Monitor .....	\$9.00/hour
Tim Mullen .....	Club Advisor/Teacher .....	\$22.00/hour
Meghan Simbeck .....	Homework Zone Teacher .....	\$22.00/hour

**2.4. Approval, Acting Confidential Administrative Assistant to the Acting Superintendent**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve Barbara Bucuy as Acting Confidential Administrative Assistant to the Acting Superintendent at a salary of \$17.42/hour. Benefits to be determined. This appointment is retroactive to September 22, 2010.

**2.5. Approval, Appointment of Per Diem Substitutes**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the appointment of the listed per diem substitutes in accordance with the District substitute policy #429.

Laurie Ann Nieves	Thomas Harsha	Ben Fuller
Michael Guido	Jeanne Moattari	Andrew Alborn
Janine Blickley	Steve Guinan	Dara Johnston

**3. BUSINESS OPERATIONS/FINANCE**  
**INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Mr. Hellmann moved to approve items 3.1 through 3.8; seconded by DeWilde; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

**3.1. Approval, 2011 Calendar Listing for School Board Agenda/Business Meetings**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the 2011 calendar listing for school board agenda/business meetings.

**3.2. Approval, 2011-2012 Budget Calendar**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the 2010-2011 budget calendar.

**3.3. Approval, Alio Intelligence**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve Alio Intelligence Software at the cost of \$2,400.

**3.4. Approval, Quotation for Sidewalk and Curbs at Grandview Elementary**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the quotation from Tim South for installation of a sidewalk and curb with a monolithic pour at Grandview Elementary in the amount of \$8,000.

**3.5. Approval, Treasurer's Report – October 2010**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the Treasurer's Report for October 2010.

**3.6. Approval, Investment Report – October 2010**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the Investment Report for October 2010.

**3.7. Approval, Acceptance of Donation**

*The Board approved a motion* to accept the donation of two (2) DVD players from InfoBase Learning for the Grandview Library.

**3.8. 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: (10/27/10 – 11/10/10)	\$142,397.48
Athletic Fund (10/26/10 – 11/1/10)	1,246.00
Cafeteria Fund: (October 2010)	47,495.56
Accounts Payable (10/18/10)	172,088.74
Capital Projects (10/18/10)	4,762.34
Capital Reserve (11/18/2010)	58,655.44
Procurement Cards (October 2010)	786.71
TOTAL BILLS	\$427,432.27

**4. POLICY COMMITTEE**  
**INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS**  
**ACTION ITEMS**

Mr. Hellmann moved items 4.1 – 4.6; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

**4.1. Approval, Second Reading of Policy #614 – Payroll Authorization**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the second reading of policy #614 – Payroll Authorization.

**4.2. Approval, Second Reading of Policy #616 – Payment of Claims**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the second reading of policy #616 – Payment of Claims.

**4.3. Approval, Second Reading of Policy #008 – Organization**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the second reading of policy #008 – Organization.

**4.4. Approval, Policy #610 – Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve policy #610 – Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation.

**4.5. Approval, Policy #611 – Purchases Budgeted**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve policy #611 – Purchases Budgeted.

**The following motion is an addition to tonight's agenda**

**4.6. Approval, Policy #126 – Class Size**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the first reading of policy #126 – Class Size.

**5. LIAISON REPORTS**

- a. Lower Bucks County Vocational-Educational School – Mr. Buckman  
*The next meeting at the Technical School is scheduled for Nov. 22 in the Board meeting room. Mr. Buckman suggested that the District look into the busing situation.*

*Mr. Ferrara advised that he will be contacting the bus company tomorrow to explore alternatives for transportation. This will not change the situation for tomorrow morning, but perhaps a change can be made for Friday. If not, he will be on the bus on Friday.*

- b. Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 – Mrs. Mihok  
*Last night the IU meeting was held at Tawanka School in Feasterville. A tour was given of the state of the art facility. Eleven out of 13 representatives were present. Currently, Neshaminy, Pennridge, New Hope-Solebury and Pennsbury districts are negotiating contracts. Since these districts have used their exceptions to the index of 1.4, one or more of these districts will be forced to go to referendum.*

*Mrs. Mihok offered detailed information regarding the IU meeting and the impact on pension changes (See Addendum A)*

- c. Pennsylvania School Boards Association/Legislative – Mrs. Worob  
*Mr. Hellmann reported that the House and Senate passed the pension law. However, this is still a problem. The funding is not fixed; it is just stretched out over a period of time. This is a serious problem that the District cannot afford. We are looking at an increase of 5% to 28%. Consequently, to fund the pension, taxes will go up. The District needs to get payroll in order.*

*Mr. DeAngelo reported that he and Mr. Ferrara attended a meeting at Lehigh University today with panel members of PASA, PSBA, PASBO and PSEA. Every district and the state are facing financial issues, as well as the possibility of losing the Accountability Block Grant funding. I questioned the basic education funding formula and was told that it probably will not be changed for the funding formula but you can count on the adequacy target not being met by the state. The school district is prepared to do what is necessary and follow the 5-year budget model. Since the calendar is approved, the budget process begins tomorrow.*

*Future Meetings and Items of Interest*

November 25 & 26, 2010 .....	Thanksgiving Observance (schools closed)
December 6, 2010 .....	6:45 pm -- Infrastructure/Finance/Human Resource Committee meets in G-Hall Conference Room 7:30 pm – Re-Organization of the School Board in LGI 8:00 pm – Monthly Agenda Meeting in LGI
December 15, 2010 .....	7:00 pm Education/Policy Committee ..... 7:30 pm Monthly Business Meeting of the Board

***For Community and District Information***  
***Visit our community website [www.mv.org](http://www.mv.org)***  
***and Channel 28 on your Local Cable***

**6. OLD BUSINESS**

Mrs. Mihok supplied members of the board with information relating to the Red Cedar property.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

*Mrs. Mihok read a letter to the School Board relating to the availability of a seat on the Board. This letter is attached as Addendum B.*

*Mr. DeWilde requested more information on the recent request that the district sign-off on a track team. Mr. Ferrara explained that as long as the district would have no liability he would be willing to approve this request. Mr. Profy will look into the district's liability issue. Mr. Buckman and Mr. Radosti also offered supported based on the findings of Mr. Profy.*

**Appointment of Board Member**

No comments were expressed by the public.

*Mr. Hellmann moved* to open nominations to appoint a member to the vacant Board Director's seat.

Seconded by Mr. DeWilde; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

*Mr. Hellmann nominated Yvonne Ruthrauff*; seconded by Mr. DeWilde. No other nominations were voiced.

*Mr. Hellmann moved* to close nominations; seconded by Mr. Radosti; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

*Mr. Hellmann moved* to appoint Yvonne Ruthrauff to the vacant School Board Director's position; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

Mrs. Mihok stated this appointment would be until the term of Mrs. Reithmeyer's office runs out.

**At this point in the meeting, the audio portion of the recording failed.**

*Mr. Hellmann reminded Ms. Ruthrauff to complete the swearing in process.*

*Mrs. Ruthrauff was in the audience and introduced herself to the public.*

**8. Adjournment**

*The Board approved a motion* to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm. Passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

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William Hellmann, President

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Marlys Mihok, Secretary

## **ADDENDUM A**

To: Bucks County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors  
From: John Brady  
Date: November 16, 2010

The Pennsylvania House returned to session on November 15, 2010. Today's session in the House is "non-voting". The Senate is currently scheduled for a non-voting session for Wednesday of this week. The legislative session is over on November 30, 2010.

The House was to return to session after the election, but the speaker called off any and all voting. The reason given was that there were not enough votes to pass the controversial pension reform bill, House Bill 2497. The controversy arose after the Senate passed an amendment to the bill which would create a new "fiscal office" to oversee budget requests. Certain House Democrats contend that the addition of the fiscal office to the pension bill renders the bill unconstitutional. House Democrat rank-and-file legislators protested the cancellation of the session and the decision not to vote on the pension bill. State House Speaker Keith McCall relented and agreed to hold a one-day voting session yesterday, November 15 to address several pieces of legislation that have been approved by the Senate, including the pension reform bill. If the Senate would not return for session, the only way to finally pass the bill was by a House vote of concurrence to the Senate-amended version. This is precisely what happened. By a vote of 165-31, the House agreed to the Senate version. In its current form, House Bill 2497 does not alter the "defined benefit" status of the pension. The new law would take effect on January 1, 2011. I had attached to the October 2010 Board Report a summary of the major elements of HB 2497 as concurred on by the House. There were neither amendments nor changes to the Senate-passed bill, and, the summary is correct. The Governor is expected to sign the bill into law.

### Long Term Fiscal Impact of Pension Changes

- According to the Public Employee Retirement Commission (PERC) the combined effect of the changes made by House Bill 2497 to PSERS and SERS will result in \$2.859 billion in employer costs savings through FY 2043-2044. Specifically, \$1.382 billion in savings to PSERS and \$1.477 billion in savings to SERS.
- Assuming that 55% of PSERS and 50% of SERS employer costs accrue to the General Fund, savings to the General Fund are estimated to amount to \$1.499 billion. Assuming that 50% of the SERS employer-costs accrue to other state funds, such as the Motor License Fund, savings to the other funds are estimated to amount to \$738.5 million. School districts will realize the remainder of the PSERS savings which are estimated to amount to \$621.9 million.
- Additionally, PERC provided information in its actuarial note showing the cost containment and benefit reduction changes made by the Senate Finance Committee in the current version of the bill save \$32.979 billion in employer costs when compared to the version passed by the House of Representatives in June.

### Short Term Fiscal Impact of Pension Changes

- The changes made by House Bill 2497, which re-amortize PSERS and SERS actuarial accrued liabilities, will increase the asset smoothing for PSERS, and impose collars on employer contribution rates, defer current liabilities, result in reduced employer contribution rates in the short-term and avoid the projected employer contribution rate spike.

The House also voted 171-24 Monday to override the Governor's veto of House Bill 101, an omnibus education bill. The Senate has vowed to not return for a "lame duck" session. However, the Senate may consider voting on it Wednesday, despite its repeated pledge to vote no more on substantive bills. We will provide an analysis of HB 101 if a veto override is successful.

In Pennsylvania, the aftermath of the November 2 General Election, the GOP showed big gains for the Republican Party in the State House. Losses by no less than 11 Democrats, including current House Majority Leader Todd Eachus, were enough to turn over control of the House to Republicans by a majority of at least 111-92. The State Senate continues its 30-20 split in favor of the Republican Party. Adding to the turnover in the House, Attorney General Tom Corbett (R) defeated Allegheny County executive Dan Onorato (D) in the race for governor. Corbett won 63 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties, with 54.5% of the vote. So, beginning in January, Pennsylvania is back to where it was during the Ridge administration with the office of the Governor, the House and the Senate under the control of one political party.

The Governor-elect won on a platform of fiscal restraint, a promise not to enact any new taxes and a promise to create jobs. Part of Mr. Corbett's plan is to privatize the state's liquor store system. Representative Turzai, current Republican Whip in the House, projects this proposed change would bring \$2 billion in licensing revenue with liquor tax revenues of \$375 million. There is no reported projection of the savings from cutting the jobs of those currently working in state liquor stores.

What is evident is there is at least a \$2 billion shortfall with the absence of the federal money. This shortfall is further magnified by a debt of approximately \$3 billion borrowed from the federal government to pay unemployment compensation. The new Administration will need to ask for a \$27 billion budget plan which could call for cutting \$1 billion spent this year, and then cut another billion dollars plus, or sell off some of the state's assets by June 30, 2011.

\$1.8 billion in General Fund revenue were reported to be collected in October. This amount was \$57.3 million, or 3.2 percent, less than anticipated. October corporation tax revenue of \$130.8 million was \$11.5 million above estimate. Year-to-date corporation tax collections total \$720.8 million, which is \$62.4 million, or 9.5 percent, above estimate. Sales tax receipts totaled \$712.9 million for October, \$2 million above estimate. Year-to-date sales tax collections total \$2.8 billion, which is \$44.5 million, or 1.6 percent, more than anticipated. However, Personal income tax (PIT) revenue in October was \$696 million, \$43.8 million below estimate. This brings year-to-date PIT collections to \$2.9 billion, which is \$55.3 million, or 1.9 percent, below estimate.

There won't be much of an effort for the new administration to reduce funding for most public education programs. The Administration inherits automatic cuts in revenue caused by the expiration of the federal stimulus dollars. The loss of \$650 million in Federal revenue used to supplant state funding for basic education and special education over the last two years will bring the level of state funding for education back to where it was in 2007-08. While Act I continues to regulate the level of property tax increases for most public schools, local boards of public education will be the ones to make other major education cuts, unless they are successful in the referendum process.

The education platform of the new Administration is heavy on support of "School Choice" and for Charter Schools. It also addresses "accountability" and a revised evaluation system for teachers. Included are:

- **Promoting Flexible Funding for Schools and Students** – The Governor-elect will begin to cut the strings from Harrisburg, giving greater flexibility to districts and schools to direct resources to best achieve students learning. His plan will:

## **ADDENDUM B**

*November 17<sup>th</sup>. 2010*

*Morrisville Borough School District  
550 W. Palmer Street  
Morrisville, Pa. 19067*

*Dear School Board Members and Others Concerned.*

*Today at 12:02pm until 12:04pm I had a conversation with Robin Reithmeyer after I called her at her place of employment, Vibroplating, Inc. I identified myself and told her that the Morrisville School Board had received applications from interested parties to fill her School Board position and that we intended to vote to fill her seat tonight. I then continued to state that, according to the Courier Times article, Robin may still want to retain her elected school board position. According to the article Mrs. Reithmeyer had not decided if she intended to fight to retain her elected school board seat.*

*Mrs. Reithmeyer cut me off in mid sentence saying, and I quote..."I find it amusing that after 13 months you are finally reaching out to me. I spoke with Dr. Vonson every single month. Goodbye Marlys." I then heard the phone go to a dial tone.*

*I am now more certain than ever that the Morrisville School Board needs to fill the seat left unoccupied by Mrs. Reithmeyer since October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009. It is my opinion that Robin Reithmeyer never attended another Morrisville School Board meeting after the November 2009 general election because the results did not favor the candidates that Robin supported by displaying their lawn signs on her property.*

*Our community faces another school board election next spring. I believe that the Stop the School Platform that ran four years ago had the right idea. Of the six candidates, we had three women and three men, three Republicans and three Democrats and represented all four Wards in Morrisville Borough. I call that bipartisan. We are all here for the purpose of educating the children at a price our community can afford.*

*Sincerely,*

*Marlys Mihok, Secretary  
Borough of Morrisville School District  
550 W. Palmer Street  
Morrisville, Pa. 19067  
[mmihok@mv.org](mailto:mmihok@mv.org)*