

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BOROUGH OF MORRISVILLE  
Morrisville, Pennsylvania**

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, October 28, 2009, after due notice of the meeting had been given as required by law. Mr. Bill Hellmann, President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm with the following members present on roll call:

In attendance: Mrs. Mihok; Mr. Buckman; Mrs. Reithmeyer; Mrs. Heater and Mr. Radosti;  
Mr. Hellmann and Mr. Farrell.

Absent: Mrs. Worob; Mr. Kemp.

*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; Mr. William Ferrara, Secondary Principal; Michael G. Fitzpatrick, Esq., Solicitor; and MEA representation.

**ITEMS OF GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Student Representative to the Board – Zach Markgraf**

The blood drive was held on October 5. A pep rally took place to support the football team and the homecoming game on 10/10. Morrisville won the game 6-5. A book fair was held week of October 9 with proceeds to be used to purchase books for the library. Parent Advisory was held on Oct. 13. This month's student form was held at the IU. PSATs were held this month. Soccer team made the Penn Jersey finals. Our marching band will play at the Trenton hockey game.

**1. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Various activities are planned honoring our Veterans during the week. PTO fall fund raiser will benefit school activities. Each elementary teacher received \$50 from the PTO to help build their classroom library. The PTO along with 21<sup>st</sup> Century will provide the "Sane Parenting" program to our families. Dr. Yonson thanked Mrs. Yonkin's culinary class for preparing pumpkin pies which were served at tonight's open house.

*Mr. Walker presented an update on the bond defeasement.*

- ⇒ Enrollment Report
- ⇒ This week in our Schools

| District Enrollments as of October 23, 2009 |  |
|---|--|
|   | <u>Student Population</u>                |
| Kindergarten..... 80                        | GRANDVIEW .....336                       |
| Grade 1 ..... 78                            | INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 4-5 ..... <u>124</u> |
| Grade 2 ..... 79                            | ..... <b>450</b>                         |
| Grade 3 ..... 89                            |  |
| Grade 4 ..... 64                            | INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 6-8 .....183         |
| Grade 5 ..... 60                            | HIGH SCHOOL 9-12 ..... <u>248</u>        |
| Grade 6 ..... 62                            | ..... <b>431</b>                         |
| Grade 7 ..... 61                            |  |
| Grade 8 ..... 60                            | TECHNICAL SCHOOL .....60                 |
| Grade 9 ..... 57                            | HOME SCHOOLED .....15                    |
| Grade 10 ..... 57                           | CHARTER SCHOOLS .....28                  |
| Grade 11 ..... 68                           | Regular Ed..... 22                       |
| Grade 12 ..... <u>66</u>                    | Special Ed ..... 7                       |
| 881   | OUT-OF-DISTRICT .....65                  |
|   | Regular Ed..... 10                       |
|   | Special Ed ..... 55                      |
| <b>Total.....</b>                           | <b>1049-10=1039</b>                      |

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

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

- Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> – Author Pat Brison worked with our K-6 students. Students could purchase autographed books.
- Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Fire Prevention Week – Morrisville Fire Dept. visited grade levels and held its annual poster contest.
- Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> Scholastic Bookfair for students in grade 4<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> – Windy City Players performed The Emperor’s New Clothes (K-3)
- Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> – Walnut Street Theatre performed The Boy Who Cried Bully (4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>)
- Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> – Gloria Dei Estates school supply drop-off
- Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> Scholastic Bookfair at GV
- Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> - Red Ribbon Week begins
- Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> - Anne Peavy (Literacy Coach) will be working with the classroom teachers
- Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> – Halloween Parade begins at 1:15/Celebrations at 2:00 p.m.

**UPPER INTERMEDIATE AND HIGH SCHOOL SECONDARY REPORT SEPTEMBER, 2009**

- A blood drive was held on October 5th. The high school student government sponsored the blood drive and collected 32 pints of blood
- A pep rally was held on October 9<sup>th</sup> in support of our team and homecoming events.
- The homecoming football game vs. Dwight Englewood School was held on October 10<sup>th</sup>. The Homecoming court members are Brandon Douglas, Kyle Kinslow, Zach Markgraf, Anthony Reyes, Patrick Syron, Tanya Argueta, Audrey Howell, Rebeccah Miller, Ann Ramirez, and Angela Walker. The Homecoming King and Queen are Anthony Reyes and Tanya Argueta.
- A book fair was held in the intermediate/high school from October 9<sup>th</sup> through October 16<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds from the book fair will purchase books for the library
- Picture day for underclassmen was held on October 12<sup>th</sup>.
- A parent advisory meeting was held on October 13<sup>th</sup>. There was an open forum with the principal. The meeting was well attended and many ideas were discussed.

- The Student Forum students' meeting was held at the Bucks County IU this month. Our students attended with 18 additional schools. The students serve as a student voice on the county level discussing issues and concerns affecting education.
- PSAT's were held on October 14<sup>th</sup> for juniors and sophomores. PSSA retake tests for seniors will be held on October 26.

## **PUBLIC SESSION**

### **Patricia Manning Doan, 143 Robertson Ave.**

Respect and attitude toward residents. Questions not answered. Status of Reiter and Manor Park. Want what children deserve.

### **Ann Perry, 43 Fairview**

Need parental representation on Board. Campaign literature. PSSA scores. Answer Reiter questions. Morrisville deserves better.

### **Ron Stout, 129 S. Delmorr**

Misinformation during campaign.

### **John Manning, 143 Robertson**

More crossing guards.

### **Bill Minder, 423 Crown**

Tour of building. Test scores. Referendum for school building. Transfer students to Pennsylvania.

### **Sharon Hughes, 121 Mercer**

Board kept promises. Building a new school. Capitol View rent. Renovations. Irresponsible to open Reiter before cleared. Taxes are down; education same. Board is careful with money.

### **Jack Beck, 608 Prospect**

Security firm. No long-term plan. Timeline for enumerator. Collective decision making.

### **Dave Stoneburner, 270 Harper**

Involve community in schools; school board lead the effort; Building usage by community.

### **Damon Miller, 249 W. Franklin**

Spend money on education. Campaign literature.

**Mr. Hellmann read a statement outlining the positive accomplishments the Board has undertaken and achieved during the past year of service.**

*Dr. Yonson advised that she is disappointed in every individual who spoke about politics. This is a business meeting for the school and not the place to be discussing the election.*

*Dr. Yonson stated that no administrator has told an employee that they would lose their job if they put an election poster on their lawn. She explained that an employee dismissal would be a matter for due process and would be approved by the board.*

**At this time Mrs. Reithmeyer read a statement clarifying "misinformation" listed on a flyer handed out prior to the election.**

*Mr. Farrell stated that his time on the board is almost over. He expressed that he is upset that disparaging remarks have been made about him in the past.*

**2.1. Approval of Minutes**

***The Board approved a motion*** to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2009 Monthly Business Meeting of the Board of School Directors.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Radosti; passed by a voice vote of 6 ayes; 1 nay (Mrs. Heater).

*Concerning the last paragraph on page 3 beginning “Mr. Kemp and Mrs. Reithmeyer tried to delay the defeasance . . .” – Mrs. Reithmeyer commented that this is Mr. Hellmann’s opinion.*

*Mr. Hellmann – You tabled those on January 23.*

*Mrs. Reithmeyer – Mr. Hellmann, it’s not the same thing.*

*Mr. Hellmann – No, it’s not.*

**2.2. Approval of Minutes**

***The Board approved a motion*** to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2009 Monthly Business Meeting of the Board of School Directors.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a voice vote of 4 ayes; 2 nays (Mrs. Reithmeyer; Mrs. Heater). Mr. Radosti was out of the room at the time of vote.

**2.3. Approval of Minutes**

***The Board approved a motion*** to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2009 Monthly Agenda Meeting of the Board of School Directors.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a voice vote of 4 ayes; 1 abstention (Mrs. Reithmeyer); 1 nay (Mrs. Heater). Mr. Radosti was out of the room at the time of vote.

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

**INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

District Employees as of October 21, 2009 = 148

5.....Administrators

80.....Teachers

12.....Administrator Support Staff

17.....Support Staff

34.....Instructional & Non-Instructional Support Staff

**ACTION ITEMS**

**3.1. Approval, Resignation**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the acceptance of the resignation, with regret, of Mr. Rich Poland from the position of varsity boys' basketball coach for the 2009-2010 school year.

Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a voice vote of 6 ayes. Mr. Radosti was out of the room at the time of vote.

**3.2. Approval, Sabbatical Leave of Absence**

Sabbatical leave will be in accordance with Article Nine of the current collective bargaining agreement.

*The Board approved a motion* to approve a sabbatical leave for Mrs. Wendy Craig for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of the 2009-2010 school year.

Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a voice vote of 6 ayes. Mr. Radosti was out of the room at the time of vote.

**3.3. Approval, Appointments**

Items 3.3.a to 3.3.g (exclude 3.3.e.) were voted on all at one time. Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a voice vote of 6 ayes. Mr. Radosti was out of the room at the time of vote.

The Board approved a motion to approve the appointments listed below:

|        | <b>Individual</b>  | <b>Position</b>                 | <b>Effective</b> | <b>Compensation</b>   | <b>Replacing</b>                         |
|--------|--|---------------------------------|------------------|---|--|
| 3.3.a. | Randee Hilzer  | Personal Care Assistant         | 10/29/09         | \$12.82/hr. in accordance with Group II Salary and Benefits | New position<br><br>Paid thru IDEA funds |
| 3.3.b  | Jessica Polistina  | Homebound Instructor            | 2009-2010        | \$22/hour per CBA   | On an as needed basis                    |
| 3.3.c. | Traci Coley  | After School Technology Monitor | 2009-2010        | \$22/hour per CBA   | Continuing                               |
| 3.3.d. | Elizabeth Tusina   | PM Detention Monitor            | 2009-2010        | \$14.41/hr.<br>4 hrs/week                                   | Continuing                               |
| 3.3.e. | Voted separately   |                                 |                  |   |  |
| 3.3.f. | <p>As a result of the PA state budget approval, The Board approved a motion to terminate the appointment of Ms. Rorick as a LTS in our Kindergarten program and approve Ms. Rorick's appointment as a full time teacher in the Pre-K program, effective 11/3/09. Compensation will be in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement, placement on the salary schedule in the Bachelor column, step 1 = \$45,597. <i>This appointment is paid for by the PreK Counts Grant.</i></p> <p><i>This position exists as long as the grant continues.</i></p> |                                 |                  |   |  |

|  |                       |                            |           |   |                   |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------|---|-------------------|
| 3.3.g.   | Holly Stevens         | Instructional Paraeducator | 11/3/09   | \$12.82/hr. in accordance with Group II Salary and Benefits | Ms. White         |
| 3.3.e.   | Julie Cooper-Shemelia | Enumerator                 | 2009-2010 | \$8,000   | Paid for by Grant |
| <p>Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.</p> <p><i>Mr. Buckman explained the reasoning for this appointment. The job is to find names listed on the State roster who do not reside in Morrisville Borough. Mr. DeAngelo stated that this person will be bonded.</i></p> |                       |                            |           |   |                   |

**3.3.h. Approval, Appointment of Per Diem Substitutes**

*The Board approved a motion* to appoint the following individuals as per diem substitutes for the 2009-2010 school year. Per Policy #429 and Group II Salary and Benefits

|                       |                     |                    |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Syed Ali              | Rania Assaad        | Bethanne Boggs     |
| Danielle Broadbelt    | Richard Brown       | Michelle Buonomo   |
| Claudia Carr          | Rachel Cook         | Catherine Cush     |
| Kayla Danany          | Adam Daney          | Nicole Dippolito   |
| Laura Falcon          | Judith Feist        | John Hartwick      |
| Randee Hilzer         | Theodore Ives       | Michael Jacobs     |
| Szilvia Deak-Kent     | Zoe Kostis          | Shannon Kurtz      |
| Frederick Kwiatkowski | Kathleen Larson     | Jack Larson        |
| Arthur Laszlo         | Casie Leshner       | Peter Letenauchyn  |
| Andrew Levin          | Ingrid Lovrinic     | Richard Lynes      |
| David Marshall        | Regina Mehler       | Maureen Morlath    |
| David Murphy          | Joan O'Grady        | Rucha Patel        |
| Jennifer Paulino      | Ashley Pavitt       | Rikki Petro        |
| Andrew Pollner        | Susan Rheingans     | Ann Richardson     |
| Joshua Sebastian      | Denise Shahu        | Marianne Silvester |
| Chris Simmons         | Amy Speranza        | Aimee Stercula     |
| Jennifer Stuetz       | Catherine Stumbaugh | Marianne Thompson  |
| Laura Walters-Belove  | Paula Molino-Wolff  | Dominique Yanuzzi  |

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

**3.4. Approval, Tuition Reimbursements**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the 2008-2009 tuition reimbursements as listed below.

| Individual      | Course                     | Institution | Credits | Amount  |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|
| Amy Keeling     | Differentiated Instruction | Gratz       | 3       | \$940   |
| William Ferrara | School Law                 | Arcadia     | 3       | \$1,770 |

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

**3.5. Approval, Return from Leave of Absence**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve Mrs. Michelle McCann's request to return early from her child rearing leave – November 16, 2009.

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

**3.6. Approval, Business Administrator Salary Adjustment:**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve a salary adjustment for Mr. Paul DeAngelo to \$106,080, effective November 18, 2009.

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

*Mr. Hellmann commented that Mr. DeAngelo is doing a great job.*

**BUSINESS OPERATIONS Bill Hellmann, Chairperson**

The Finance Committee presents the following items for consideration.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**4.1. Approval, Resolution Addressing Pennsylvania School Employee Retirement System**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve a Resolution regarding the Pennsylvania School Employees' Retirement System funding (See Addendum A).

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

**4.2. Approval of Grants**

Items 4.2.a. to 4.2.e. were moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

**4.2.a. 2009-2010 Drug Free Schools**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the 2009-2010 Drug Free Schools Grant in the amount of \$3,063.

**4.2.b. 2009-2010 IDEA Funds**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the 2009-2010 IDEA Funds administered by the Bucks County IU#22 allocation of \$229,405.00 less regionally agreed upon service provided to IU (\$4,999.00) for a total of \$224,406.00. *The 2008-2009 IDEA funds were \$217,519 less (\$4,451) = \$213,068.00*

**4.2.c. 2009-2010 IDEA-ARRA Funds**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the 2009-2010 IDEA ARRA administered by the Bucks County IU#22 allocation of \$265,976 less indirect rate of 4% (\$10,639.04) provided to IU for a total of \$255,336.96.

**4.2.d. 2009-2010 Academic Achievement Grant**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the 2009-2010 Academic Achievement Grant in the amount of \$5,000.

**4.2.e. 2009-2010 PreK Counts Grant**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the 2009-2010 PreK Counts Grant in the amount of \$280,800. *This amount covers a program for 180 days and will be pro-rated for the number of days our program is active.*

**4.3. Approval, Budget Transfers**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the ordinary and necessary budget transfers for the 2009-10 school year in the amount of \$94,751.00. Grant transfers -- \$13,140.00 and General Fund transfers -- \$81,611.00 of \$0. Grant transfers are \$42,442.00 and general fund transfers are \$0.

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

**4.4. Environmental Connection Inc.**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the proposal from Environmental Connection Inc. in the amount of \$8,860.00 for Post-Cleaning Testing at M.R. Reiter.

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

*Mrs. Mihok advised that this testing should answer a lot of the questions posed by the audience concerning the opening of Reiter. We will not open the building unless it is safe for the children.*

**4.5. Food Service Prices for 2009-2010**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve Prices for the food service program are as follows:

| 2009-2010.          |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Breakfast .....     | \$1.40 |
| Lunch .....         | \$2.50 |
| Faculty lunch ..... | \$3.75 |

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

**4.6. Approval, Disposal of Excess Items**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the disposal of excess items as presented by administration.



**BOOKS**

| <b><u>Qty.</u></b> | <b><u>Description</u></b>   | <b><u>Location</u></b> |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 7                  | Middle School Math Books    | HS, A-8                |
| 2                  | Heath Health Books          | HS, A-8                |
| 1                  | Set World Book Encyclopedia | HS, A-8                |
| 21                 | English Building Skills     | HS, A-8                |
| 11                 | English Grammar Books       | HS, A-8                |
| 22                 | World Library Books         | HS, A-8                |
| 10                 | Math Connect Books          | HS, A-8                |
| 3                  | Math Concept Books          | HS, A-8                |
| 8                  | Basic Algebra Books         | HS, A-8                |
| 224                | Middle School Math Books    | HS, H-5                |
| 28                 | Math Work Books             | HS, H-5                |

*Books are outdated, no longer used.*

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

**4.7. Approval, Accept Proposal from PFM**

*The Board approved a motion* to accept the proposal from PFM for arbitrage on the 2006 bond issuance.

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

**4.8. Approval, Additional Crossing Guard**

Amended as show below:

*The Board approved a motion* to approve an additional crossing guard at the corner of Grandview and Palmer Streets. ~~Cost to be shared equally between the school district and the Borough.~~

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

*Mr. Buckman wants to do whatever is needed to keep the children safe. He thanked the Morrisville Police for their assistance in this area.*

*The Board discussed who would be paying for this additional guard. Currently we have 9 crossing guard. Four are 100% paid by the district; 5 are paid 1/2 by the Borough. Mr. DeAngelo will contact the Borough to discuss shared payment of this expense.*

**4.9. 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: (9/24/09 – 10/21/09) | \$601,133.10        |
| Athletic Fund (9/24/09 – 10/22/09)               | 4,918.00            |
| Cafeteria Fund: (Sept.)                          | 42,167.13           |
| Accounts Payable (10/29/2009)                    | 354,574.89          |
| Capital Projects (9/24/09 – 10/14/09)            | 1,820,372.76        |
| Capital Reserve                                  | -0-                 |
| Procurement Cards (September 2009)               | 5,381.27            |
| Payroll & Benefits (September 2009)              | <u>1,053,875.57</u> |
| TOTAL BILLS                                      | \$3,882,422.72      |

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

*Mrs. Mihok questioned several of the bills listed for payment. \$165 to Richard’s Flowers – for homecoming; \$65,000 to Pennsbury SD – tuition; \$471 Kistler Minute Man Press – hall passes. Mrs. Mihok suggested we look into using a Borough printer in the future. Mr. Ferrara commented that we have been satisfied with past performance but if the board directs the District in this direction it would be done.*

*Mr. Hellmann advised that the payment made for the bond, because it was defeased, was a savings of \$500,931.00.*

**5. POLICY COMMITTEE**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**5.1. Approval, 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Policy #706.1—Capital Assets**

*The Board approved a motion* to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Policy #706.1 – Capital Assets.

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

**6. LIAISON REPORTS**

- a. Lower Bucks County Vocational-Educational School – Mr. Buckman  
*Mr. Buckman advised that open house will be held tomorrow evening; public welcome. The tech school is looking for input from districts regarding the special education funding. Currently, districts do not pay extra for special needs students. The students at Tech take a test called the NOCTI test which is similar to PSSAs taken in other districts and are excelling in the results.*

