

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Board Meeting – Wednesday, March 27, 2013

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, March 27, 2013, after due notice of this meeting had been given as required by law. Mr. Miller, President, called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. with the following members present on roll call:

- Pledge of Allegiance

In attendance: Messrs. Buckman, Parker, Stoneburner, Stout, Miller, Dingle, and Ms. Kartal

Members absent: Messrs. DeWilde and Worob

Mr. Miller stated that Mr. DeWilde contacted him stating that he would not be able to make tonight's meeting. Mr. Stout stated that Mr. Worob is sick.

Quorum Present:

Also attending this evening's meeting was Mr. William Ferrara, Superintendent; Mr. Paul DeAngelo, Business Administrator; Mr. Don Harm, Educational Advisor for Administration; Mr. Tony Gesualdi, Director of Special Education/Pupil Services; David Truelove, Esq., Solicitor; media, MEA representation, and members of the community.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Chorus Director, Shelley Zuckerman

Members of the chorus, conducted by Ms. Zuckerman, sang several songs this evening.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INFORMATION

Student Representative to the Board – (Morrisville High School)

There was no student representative from the High School present at tonight's meeting, therefore Mr. Ferrara reported on the following:

- The Bucks County Links sponsored an Art contest. Many parents came to see our students' work. The winners of the art contest are:

Category II Grades 4-6

First Place	Taryn Wright	Grade 6	Bicycle
Second Place	Giffin Kemp	Grade 6	\$25 gift card

Category III Grades 7-9

First Place	Brynne Brown	Grade 7	Digital Camera
Second Place	Dylan Campos	Grade 7	\$25 gift card

Category IV Grades 10-12

First Place	Wanda Badilla	Grade 10	\$100 gift card
Second Place	Jairon Campos	Grade 10	\$25 gift card

The bicycles were donated by Walmart, Levittown. The other prizes were donated by the Bucks County Chapter of the Links, Inc. Thank you to Mrs. Craig and Ms. Klockner for completing this project with their classes. A special thank you to Mr. Jones for bringing "The Bulldog" to the event.

- FBLA members attended the PA Computer Fair on March 1st. They are Brittany Williams, Devon Crist, and Nicole Smith.
- Gym Night was held on March 15th. The middle school students started the event during an assembly on Friday afternoon. Enthusiasm and energy abounded in the gym. The Gold Team was the winner of this year's Gym Night.
- School spirit overflowed in the gymnasium when the following competitions were hosted by the Morrisville School District:
 - The BAL Cheerleading Championship on March 2nd. Congratulations to The Varsity Cheerleading Squad. The Squad placed second in the Bicentennial Athletic League Championship Competition and showed great talent and enthusiasm as they performed their routine. Congratulations again to the squad and Coach Kate Howell on a job well done!
 - The Lower Bucks Cheerleading Championship for Middle School Cheerleaders. was held on March 13th. Congratulations to the Middle School cheerleaders who placed 2nd in the small school division. Kudos to Ms Rorick for a job well done!
- PSSA testing for math and reading will be held March 13th to March 15th.
- Spring break starts on March 29th.

***Student Representative to the Board – (Bucks County Technical High School)
My’Asia Davis discussed the following:***

- Reading Olympics has been rescheduled for April 24th at BCTHS. Approximately 14 schools will be involved in this competition.
- BCTHS will hold a paper shredding day on Saturday, April 20th in the main parking lot from 9 am until noon. The event is sponsored by Bucks First Federal Credit Union and is open to the community.
- We will hold our 12th annual “Beyond the Books” program on April 17th. Veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Cold War, Iraq and Afghanistan will speak to our students during social studies classes.
- Sophomores in Mr. Kochersperger’s Welding and Fabrication Technology class recently received their OSHA certifications.
- The SkillsUSA State Competitions will be held April 3 – 5 at Hershey, PA. Those students who win a gold medal will then compete nationally in Kansas City, Missouri.
- Our Future Farmers of America (FFA) Chapter will be holding their annual plant sale May 1-3.
- April and May are busy months for proms and dances. Senior prom will be held on April 19th, junior prom on April 26th, the sophomore ring dance on May 10th, and the freshman dance on April 5th.
- SADD Prom Promise activities, including a ghost-out and car crash reenactment, will take place on April 18th, the day before senior prom.
- BCTHS will once again be hosting the Courier-Kiwanis Sesame Place Classic on May 19th. This 5K run benefits high school students throughout all of Bucks County.

1. SUPERINTENDENT’S/ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORTS

→ **This week in our Schools**

Mr. Ferrara – Superintendent

Superintendent’s Report

Mr. Ferrara discussed the following:

- Monitoring took place today of our Title I, Title II and Title III Grants. Title I is used to improve reading comprehension, Title II is used to reduce class sizes, and Title III Grant addresses the English language learners. He thanked everyone who worked on this project.
- COHORT 6A Internships – Today was the second day of this program where approximately 6 of our sophomores are placed in 6 areas of business. They attend each area for 2 days and then move onto another and receive experience in various areas for career possibilities.

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- PSSA testing will begin April 9th for 3rd grade students, April 15th for 4th and 5th grade students, and April 16th for students in grades 4 through 8. This information will be posted on the website.
- Congratulations to Mr. Dingle and the rest of the PTO volunteers for an excellent program with Harlem Wizards.
- A meeting was held last night at the Tech School and Ms. Kartal, Mr. Miller and Mr. Ferrara. Ms. Kartal did an excellent job in leading the conversation among the 6 sending districts in an effort to come up with a plan that makes having our students from each district attend the Tech School in a fair and equal balance.
- Cyber classes – last week a representative from the IU came to Morrisville and presented a program on areas we can use.
- On behalf of the students, faculty, staff and administration, Mr. Ferrara wished everyone a safe and happy Spring recess.

Mr. DeAngelo – Business Administrator

Mr. DeAngelo reported on the following:

- We continue to make strides in the 2013-14 budget. Mr. DeAngelo suggested last week the possibility of having a budget meeting and suggested that it be added to the agenda next month at which time he will give a power point presentation to show everyone where we are.
- With regard to the audit of the Title I, II and III Grants, Mr. DeAngelo stated that Ms. Leedom did an excellent job. He thanked Ms. Leedom, Mr. Dupell, Ms. Darletta Berry-Johnson, Ronnie Miller, Joe Myat and everyone involved for their help with the audit and involvement with this program.

Mr. Don Harm – Educational Advisor for Administration

Mr. Harm discussed the following items:

- Read Across America with Dr. Seuss took place
- Kindergarten registration took place
- Spring pictures have been taken
- Links Art Contest took place
- Art Goes to School Lessons K-5
- Fantastic Forces in Science Assembly
- Ms. Craig is in talks with Artists in residency programs regarding a mural for elementary library
- 5th grade completed PSSA Writing
- PSSA Math and Reading will take place April 8th through the 19th

Mr. Gesualdi – Director of Special Education/Pupil Services

Mr. Gesualdi stated that he had nothing to report at this time.

MOEF Report – Mr. Dingle

Mr. Dingle stated that MOEF got together last week and reported on the following:

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- A number of applications were received from teachers and all were approved which help to offset the costs of educational trips

PTO Report – Mr. Dingle

Mr. Dingle reported on the following:

- Fundraisers
- Harlem Wizards Basketball Event – Approximately 600 people attended this event bringing the community together. It was a great fundraiser and MOEF thanked everyone who volunteered and everyone who came out to enjoy the event.
- Laps for Learning Program to take place on April 26th. Money raised from this event will be used offset the cost of field trips.
- Barnes and Noble Night will be held on April 30th. The jazz band will be performing and they will also hold a “Name the Frappachino Contest”.
- Art Goes to School Program

Education Committee Report – Mr. Miller

Mr. Miller stated that the Education Committee met a few weeks ago and the next meeting will be held on April 9th. He stated that the meetings are always held on the second Tuesday of each month. Mr. Miller stated that the following items were discussed at the last meeting:

- Homework policy and how much homework would count towards a students grade
- Options for the future of the District such as cyber classes and the pros and cons. Handouts were given to the committee members to review and they will be looking into this matter again at the meeting on April 9th.
- Merge with Pennsbury – this discussion will continue at the meeting in April.

Facilities Committee Report – Mr. Stoneburner

Mr. Parker stated that the committee met on March 7th. Mr. Stoneburner stated that the following items were discussed at the last meeting:

- Grandview Garden Project
- Auditorium – where we would like to go with this project
- Ideas and thoughts regarding our buildings
- Athletic Field projects
- Ideas for alternative uses for Manor Park and M. R. Reiter
- RFP for moving forward with M. R. Reiter and our options
- Keeping up with the ideas generated by the Education Committee involving any facility ramifications
- The next meeting will be held on the first Thursday of April at 7:30 p.m. in the LGI

Mr. Miller asked Mr. Truelove to discuss any updates regarding M. R. Reiter and Manor Park. Mr. Truelove stated that he was asked to look into any technical aspects of M. R. Reiter. They are working with a company to do a title search, mainly to find out the age

of the lot and the area since it is connected to the Somerset property and to find out if there are any restrictions on the property. Once this is determined he will be able to advise the Board on some of the options available. Mr. Truelove stated that they have also requested from the Borough an updated zoning map in order to do a parallel review of not only what the private deed restrictions may be, but also what the public zoning aspects and restrictions might be. At that point, if it seems to be appropriate, we can move forward with the RFP.

Finance Committee Report – Mr. Dingle

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

- Line by line review of the budget looking for opportunities to reduce costs
- The next meeting will be held on April 16th

Human Resource Report – Mr. DeWilde

Mr. DeWilde was not present at tonight's meeting, therefore there was no report.

Joint Borough Council/School Board Committee – Ms. Kartal

Ms. Kartal stated that a meeting took place on March 6th in the LGI and the following items were discussed:

- Establishment of the Advisory Board which is a requirement of the Safety Grant we received. Several individuals have been signed up, but they are still looking for a community non-parent person from the Borough, as well as one additional parent/child volunteer for Ward 1. Ms. Kartal asked that anyone interested to please email her at wkartal@mv.org.
- The next meeting will take place on April 3rd

Mr. DeAngelo stated that we received 25% of the Safety Grant money this week.

Policy Committee Report

Nothing to report.

Public Relations/Communications Committee – Mr. Miller

Mr. Miller stated a survey was put out on the website regarding school colors and logos. He has received some feedback from the survey. The survey will be open through next Friday, April 5th. He stated that the purpose of this survey is to create unified shades for our school colors of blue and gold and also to choose a logo.

⇒ **Enrollment Report**

District Enrollments as of March 19, 2013			
<u>Student Population</u>			
Pre-Kindergarten	17		
Kindergarten 56 + 13	69	GRANDVIEW	334
Grade 1	87	INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL (4-5)	<u>152</u>
Grade 2	79		486
Grade 3	82		
Grade 4	80	INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL (6-8)	218
Grade 5	72	HIGH SCHOOL 9-12	<u>197</u>
Grade 6	87		415
Grade 7	66		
Grade 8	65	TECHNICAL SCHOOL	38
Grade 9	52	HOME SCHOOLED	16
Grade 10	59	CHARTER SCHOOLS	40
Grade 11	40	Regular Ed	29
Grade 12	46	Special Ed	11
		OUT OF DISTRICT	62
		Regular Ed	15
		Special Ed	47
TOTAL ENROLLMENT			1057

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:

2. Approval of Minutes

Motions 2.1 and 2.2 were moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Parker, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

2.1 *The Board approved a motion* to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2012 Monthly Agenda Meeting.

2.2 *The Board approved a motion* to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2012 Monthly Business Meeting.

PUBLIC SESSION #1 (Only items on the agenda to be discussed)

There were no speakers for Public Session #1.

INFRASTRUCTURE/FINANCE/HUMAN RESOURCES

3. INFRASTRUCTURE
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:
ACTION ITEMS:

Motions 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 were moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Stoneburner, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

3.1 Approval, 2013-14 Transportation RFP

The Board approved a motion to approve the 2013-14 Transportation RFP.

Mr. DeAngelo stated that the bids were open on Monday for transportation for 2013-14, and based on the opening, First Student who was transporting our students last year, is the lowest responsible bidder in the amount of \$97,945.65. The price includes Shuttle #1 and Shuttle #2, but Shuttle #2 is currently being handled by Delaware Valley High School, so this shuttle

run has to be removed from the bid. We also will be using First Student for our class trips and athletics.

3.2 **Approval, 2013-14 Trash and Recycling RFP**

The Board approved a motion to approve the 2013-14 Trash and Recycling RFP.

Mr. DeAngelo stated that our prior trash and recycling contractor was Waste Management, but Republic out bid them, and the total cost will be \$17, 532.00.

3.3 **Approval, 2013-14 Landscaping and Snow Removal RFP**

The Board approved a motion to approve the 2013-14 Landscaping and Snow Removal RFP.

Mr. DeAngelo stated that this RFP was put out as a combined package for a bid, but then it was decided to put this bid out as a combined package and as separate packages. We received only one bid from the original RFP put out as the combined package from our current contractor with no changes to last years prices. Mr. DeAngelo asked the Board if they still want the separate RFP's to go out at this time or if they would like to approve the motion this evening from the bid received. This motion was not on the original agenda, but it was decided to add it to tonight's agenda for approval since the opportunity was put out there and no one else responded. Mr. Stoneburner asked if it is part of the RFP to have the grass cut on Saturdays, which may be scaring off some of the companies from bidding. Mr. Ferrara stated that it is not part of the RFP, but he has requested that the grass be cut on Saturdays due to the fact that we have some students who are allergic and the fact that it is hard to teach when the mowers are outside during school hours.

Mr. Miller asked if we are usually under or over budget in regards to landscaping costs. Mr. DeAngelo stated that he will put together an analysis of these costs and include it in the Friday packet to the Board members.

Mr. DeAngelo read off the various costs of snow removal and landscaping for the Board's information.

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

Motions 4.1 and 4.4 were moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Parker, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

4.1 Approval, Tuition Reimbursement

The Board approved a motion to approve tuition reimbursement for the following individuals:

Name	Course	College	Credits	Amount
Julie Habel	Galaxies, Planets and Stars	Univ. of LaVern	3	\$315
Julie Habel	Bullying	Univ. of LaVern	3	\$315
Julie Habel	Difficult Parents	Univ. of LaVern	3	\$315
Laura Sonnentag	Teaching & Writing & Lang. Arts	Cabrini	3	\$1380
Laura Sonnentag	Current Issues in Education	Cabrini	3	\$1380
Michelle Riley	Cooperative Discipline	Gratz	3	\$1020
Michelle Riley	The Bully Proof Classroom	Gratz	3	\$1020

4.2 Approval, Appointments

4.2.a *The Board approved a motion to approve the following 21st Century hires:*

Niver Mitchell	Site Monitor	\$9/hr.
Laura Dyer	Teacher	\$22/hr.

Ms. Kartal asked for an explanation of Site Monitor. Mr. Ferrara stated that a Site Monitor is a student who is assigned to a site to oversee the program.

4.2.b *The Board approved a motion to approve the following AESOP*

Substitutes:
Shekira Bradwell
Nia Ferguson
Andrew Martin

4.3 Approval, FMLA/Maternity Leave

The Board approved a motion to approve FMLA/Maternity leave for Michelle McCann, effective June 14, 2013.

The Board approved a motion to approve FMLA/Maternity leave for Genevieve Kannengieszer, effective August 26, 2013 through November 15, 2013.

4.4 **Approval, Resignation**

The Board approved a motion to accept, with regret, the resignation of Catherine Howell as Varsity Cheerleading Coach, effective March 14, 2013.

Mr. Miller stated that Mrs. Howell has always been an effective Coach and he thanked her for her time and dedication to the program and said that she will be missed.

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

5.1 **Approval, Healthcare Consortium**

The Board approved a motion to approve participation in the Healthcare Consortium and authorize the Administration to execute all necessary documents.

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Dingle, and passed by a roll call vote of 5 ayes and 2 nays. Members voting aye were Messrs. Parker, Stoneburner, Miller and Dingle, and Ms. Kartal. Members voting nay were Messrs. Buckman and Stout.

Mr. Buckman stated that information was received from the GEM Group. He also wanted to make the public aware that when you agree to this Consortium, the teachers get equal representation and get 50% of the vote and the School Board gets 50% of the vote. Mr. Buckman questions whether this is a good policy and he feels that our administration should have a bigger say over the plan.

Mr. Truelove stated that we still have the collective bargaining agreement obligation through the balance of this contract, so no matter what happens we are locked into that. He stated that if Morrisville decides to participate, the number of participants in this program will be upwards of eight or nine thousand. Mr. Truelove stated that it will be easier for everyone to have the uniformity of contracts in terms of healthcare, which may reduce everyone tremendously. He stated that you do have options to withdraw after a period of time, but there are penalties if you do.

Mr. Miller stated that there are cost savings. Mr. DeAngelo stated that for 2013-14, for the fully insured plan, we are looking at an 18% increase this year. By joining the Consortium, we are looking at a break even for 12 months of insurance. Mr. DeAngelo explained the possibility of having a 13th payment and what could possibly cause this.

Mr. Miller stated that his understanding of the 50% vote by the teachers would only involve what type of plan we are going to use. Mr. DeAngelo stated that the bigger the Consortium gets, the more costs can be controlled.

Rebecca Malamis, Director of Human Resources at the Bucks County IU, was in attendance this evening and discussed the Consortium. She addressed Mr. Buckman's concerns about the ability to negotiate premium shares with the teachers. She stated that the language that is in our participation agreement makes it clear that the Board still retains that right as a Board and we will still be negotiating directly with the union on whatever our premium share contributions are. Ms. Malamis stated that if we have all of our documents approved and signed by April 1st, we will be guaranteed a seat at the table as a Trustee, and PSEA would also get one seat at the table.

5.2 **Approval, Group II Contract**

The Board approved a motion to approve the Group II Contract with a 1.5% raise each year for this two year agreement, with a total of four (4) days added as time off (2 days each year).

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Kartal, and passed by a roll call vote of 5 ayes and 2 nays. Members voting aye were Messrs. Parker, Stoneburner, Miller and Dingle, and Ms. Kartal. Members voting nay were Messrs. Buckman and Stout.

5.3 **Approval, 2013-14 Schedule of Contracted Costs Agreement with IU #22**

The Board approved a motion to approve the 2013-14 Schedule of Contracted Costs Agreement with IU #22 in the amount of \$1,331,586.00.

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Parker, and passed by a voice vote of 6 ayes and 1 nay. Member voting nay was Mr. Buckman.

Mr. DeAngelo stated that for the year 2013-14, the IU added IDEA payments into the schedule of contracted costs. For 2012-13, the program costs were \$1,148,567. If we were to separate the costs, last years would have been \$1,081,994 for a reduction of \$66,573 from the previous year.

5. BUSINESS OPERATIONS/FINANCE COMMITTEE (continued)
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:
ACTION ITEMS (continued):

Motions 5.4 through 5.9 were moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Dingle, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

5.4 Approval, Corrective Action – Auditor General Responses
The Board approved a motion to approve the corrective action for the Auditor General Responses.

5.5 Approval, Budget Transfers
The Board approved a motion to approve budget transfers in the amount of \$144,870.46 (General Fund \$93,333.32 and Grants \$51,537.14).

Ms. Kartal asked for clarification of the budget transfers. Mr. DeAngelo stated that he will put this information in the Friday packet. He explained that the \$144,870.46 is to move money from ERIP and now we are putting into Secondary and Elementary where the actual expenditures are. He stated that in February we did budget transfers moving money from COHORT 6A and we had already included 6A as part of the increased budget that we received when we were awarded 6A. So now we just have to move it back out of the budget and put it into the regular expenditures.

5.6 Approval, Excess Items
There were no excess items to approve at this time.

5.7 Approval, Treasurer’s Report
The Board approved a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report.

5.8 Approval, Investment Report
The Board approved a motion to approve the Investment Report.

5.9 Approval, 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/General Fund (3/1/13 – 3/20/13)	\$ 672,891.28
Athletic Fund (3/7/13 – 3/21/13)	\$ 1,800.00
Cafeteria Fund (3/21/13)	\$ 41,877.09
Capital Reserve (3/8/13 – 3/15/13)	\$ <u>10,000.00</u>
TOTAL BILLS	\$ 726,568.37

6. EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE
INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Announce Graduation Date
Mr. Ferrara announced that Graduation Date will be June 14, 2013.

ACTION ITEMS:

6.1 Approval, Half-Day Kindergarten for the 2013-14 School Year
The Board approved a motion to approve half-day Kindergarten for the 2013-14 school year.

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Stoneburner, and passed by a roll call vote of 5 ayes and 2 nays. Members voting aye were Messrs. Buckman, Stoneburner, Stout, Miller and Dingle. Members voting nay were Ms. Kartal and Mr. Parker.

As requested last week, Mr. Ferrara distributed to the Board members a copy of a full day schedule for kindergarten and a half day schedule for kindergarten. Mr. Ferrara read this schedule aloud for the public to be aware of the schedules. He stated that by looking at these schedules, you can see that direct instruction is pretty comparable in both the full day and half day schedules.

Mr. Ferrara stated that when the students registered for kindergarten this year, there was an educational screening tool used, and the students that did not perform well on this screening will be offered a placement in the Kindergarten Plus Program which will be 1 to 1-1/2 hours longer than the half-day kindergarten program. The focus of this Kindergarten Plus Program will be in math and reading.

Mr. Dingle stated that while there is no organized art or music in kindergarten, he wants to be sure that they will be incorporated into the curriculum in some form. Mr. Ferrara confirmed that this will be done.

The Board discussed the length of day for a half-day kindergarten program, which would be approximately 2 hours and 50 minutes, and how the schedule will fit into that time frame. Mr. Ferrara stated that we will be revisiting our kindergarten, 1st grade and 2nd grade curriculum to have them focus on math and reading.

Ms. Kartal asked if recess would be included in half-day kindergarten. Mr. Ferrara confirmed that recess would be included in the half-day kindergarten schedule.

Ms. Kartal stated that it is very difficult to vote on this when we really don't have a clear picture of a half-day schedule. Ms. Kartal asked for the dollar amount of half-day kindergarten vs. full day kindergarten. Mr. DeAngelo stated that within the budget, if there was a change from full day to half day, the teachers who currently work in the full day program could bump into the positions that are available for the people who are out for the entire year. He stated that on average, we have had three teachers out for FMLA issues, and these teachers would fill these roles, reducing the total cost by about \$200,000 in substitute labor costs. Mr. DeAngelo stated that in the Friday packet last week, the Board members were provided with an update on the 2013-14 budget, and we added a \$200,000 line item in the event that we went with a full-day kindergarten program. If we choose to go with a half-day program, we can remove the \$200,000 and our budget would be close to being balanced based on some of the other decisions that are below that line.

6.2 **Approval, Attendance at Bucks County Technical High School for the 2013-14 School Year**

The Board approved a motion to approve sending 12 ninth-grade students to attend the Bucks County Technical High School for the 2013-14 school year.

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Kartal, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

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

7.1 **Approval, 2nd Reading of Policy 005, Organization**

The Board approved a motion to approve the 2nd Reading of Policy 005, Organization.

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Dingle, and passed by a voice vote of 7 ayes.

Mr. Miller stated that this policy is being revised to remove the stipends from the Treasurer and Secretary positions on the Board.

8. LIAISON REPORTS
INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

a. Lower Bucks County Vocational-Educational School – Ms. Kartal

Ms. Kartal discussed the following:

- A meeting was held on Monday night of this week at which time they announced that graduation for Tech students will take place on June 17th.
- Last month they voted in an additional teacher to increase EMS services. The teacher that they placed decided not to continue in the position. They had a just as qualified second candidate, and that person was voted in to replace the first candidate.
- A Funding Committee meeting was held last night to discuss the funding formula. They will be meeting again on April 29th at 6:30 p.m. to come back to go over different formula options.
- Morrisville will be submitting a resolution to request equal representation on the Tech Board, which now is 3 seats for each District except for Morrisville and Bristol Borough who only have one seat.
- They discussed a unanimous vote option.

b. Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 – Mr. Parker

Mr. Parker was unable to attend the meeting, therefore, there was no report.

c. Pennsylvania School Boards Association/Legislative - Mr. Buckman

Mr. Buckman discussed the following:

- PDE files request for NCLB waiver. This is posted on PDE's website.
- PDE states that it has been working on initiatives in these three areas for several years and will include these new areas:
 1. College and career ready expectations for all students.
 2. Improved state and district accountability for all students (new scoring system, new performance targets, closing achievement gaps and turning around lowest performing school, building capacity for school improvement, new "N" number for increased accountability)
 3. Supporting effective instruction and leadership.

Mr. Ferrara discussed the new rubrics for teacher evaluations and stated that they will be in place next year. He stated that the PA Performance will replace AYP and each school will receive a grade which will count for 15% of the teachers overall evaluation. Mr. Ferrara stated that the accountability stakes have been raised significantly, and this administration and MEA totally support the initiative. It is designed to improve student achievement by having Principals, Superintendents and teacher evaluations tied to student achievement.

Future Meetings and Items of Interest

The meetings will be held in the LGI
Wednesday, April 17, 2013.....Monthly Agenda Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24, 2013.....Monthly Business Meeting 7:30 p.m.

*For Community and District Information
visit our community website www.mv.org
and Channel 28 on your Local Cable*

9. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Ferrara asked Mr. Truelove to look into the possibility of having fundraising through the website. Mr. Truelove stated that we are actively looking into this.

Mr. DeAngelo stated that we had the electricians in to check out the auditorium, and they were able to bypass the control panels. They confirmed that it is very old. Mr. DeAngelo stated that we will be receiving a bill from the electricians for the work that was performed, but that it should be very minimal.

In regards to roofing, Mr. DeAngelo stated that Mr. Lastichen requested that Tremco come out to look at E Hall, which has notoriously had a leak in it. We went to Tremco a month ago on those proposals and they aren't willing to move on the total inspection so this is still an outstanding issue that he wanted the Board to be aware of. Mr. DeAngelo stated that they

did come before and fixed the leak in the cafeteria and we will get some numbers from them to see what it might cost.

Ms. Kartal asked if the Board members could get an update on the auditorium fund. Mr. DeAngelo stated that he will get this information out to the Board.

Ms. Haug, who was in the audience, came forward and stated that there is a \$1000 that was given to the PABS fund about a year and a half ago from the Morrisville Presbyterian Church. This money was donated towards the auditorium fund, and she needs to know the logistics of how to get it to us. Mr. DeAngelo stated that it could be placed on the April agenda to accept this donation.

Mr. Stoneburner asked if we have made any progress on the sound system for the cafeteria. Mr. Miller stated that we are waiting for a third bid. A demonstration of a sound system is going to be set up to be used at the upcoming play by Pro Line.

Mr. Miller stated that he did happen to see the lighting in the auditorium and all but a few lights facing the stage in the ceiling have burned out and have not been replaced. He stated that there is uplighting in the auditorium and Mr. Lastichen found bulbs for this area and replaced them, and the lighting adds dimension to the theatre and really brings it to life. Mr. Miller stated that these lights really show that the walls need to be painted, and asked if this painting could be done during the summer.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Truelove read Resolution #2013 (attachment to the minutes) that the Morrisville School District will be submitting to the Tech School.

A motion to approve the adoption of this resolution to then be sent to the sending districts for their approval was moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Buckman, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

Mr. DeAngelo stated that we received a request from a taxpayer concerning a delinquent tax matter which was sent to the Board members for their information. Mr. Miller stated that a motion needs to be made and approved to accept their payment, which to his understanding, includes the penalty that the tax bill states is to be paid after a certain time because this payment is in full but it does not include any future penalties because of the lateness of the submission.

Therefore, Mr. Miller made a motion to accept the payment of the delinquent taxes with the penalties and any interest accrued through March 27, 2013. This motion was seconded by Mr. Buckman and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

Mr. Buckman asked if this is different from the normal procedure where it should go to the County Tax Claims Bureau. Mr. DeAngelo stated that this would be an exception if the Board chose to do it, but payment would still go to our Tax Collector. Mr. Truelove stated that this process is probably quicker than it would be to go through the normal procedure and gets the money sooner to the District. Mr. Miller stated that the taxpayer is stating that they mailed the payment in November, but it was never received. The check is still outstanding in the taxpayers account, but it was never returned to them. Mr. DeAngelo stated that they have been the owner of this property since 1994 and they have paid their taxes every year. Mr. Miller stated that his only concern is if we do this, are we opening the door as a precedent for other taxpayers to be able to get away with the same thing. Mr. Truelove stated that these taxpayers have substantiated pretty explicitly their efforts, and according to their check registers it does show that they attempted to make the payment prior to deadline date. Mr. Miller stated that it is his understanding that this District has never allowed this to happen in the past. Mr. Miller asked if they are willing to owe the difference according to County records to put the records straight. Mr. DeAngelo stated that he can't answer for the taxpayer, but based on the size of the amount due, the interest would be less than \$25, and he would suspect that they would be willing to do this. Mr. DeAngelo stated that this would then make it unique because they would be paying their taxes at that point, plus interest.

Mr. Truelove stated that we could make the motion to read, subject to their agreement to pay the interest due.

Ms. Kartal stated that she is also concerned that this will start a precedent. Mr. Stoneburner asked why we just aren't letting them go through the normal process for late taxes. Mr. Truelove stated that sometimes by the time you get through that process you would have already had the money in hand in the District.

Ms. Kartal stated that if the motion is written that they would have to pay the penalties just like any other taxpayer, it would cover us. Mr. DeAngelo stated that this is rare for us and we only had three or four requests like this since he has been here in 2008. He stated that what ends up happening from both the Tax Collector and the Tax Claim Bureau is

that they always go back to the District to make the decision to accept the payment amount.

Mr. Parker asked if other than the late charge that occurred from not paying it in full on time, would there be any additional late charges after that or just the interest. Mr. DeAngelo stated that there are only the interest charges at this point.

Mr. Stoneburner stated that by voting on this motion tonight we would not be setting anything in stone because the Board has the chance to vote on each and every matter such as this. Mr. Miller stated that burden of proof is always on the taxpayer.

PUBLIC SESSION #2

There were no speakers for Public Session #2.

11. Adjournment

The Board approved a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m.

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Kartal, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 7 ayes.

Damon Miller, President

Wanda Kartal, Secretary