

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BOROUGH OF MORRISVILLE
Morrisville, Pennsylvania

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Work Session—Wednesday, April 17, 2013
Large Group Instruction Room
Morrisville Intermediate/Senior High School
7:30 p.m.

This meeting was recorded for televising

The regular monthly agenda 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 April 17, 2013, after due notice of the meeting had been given as required by law. Mr. Miller, President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Miller asked for a moment of silence in regards to what happened in Boston this week.

Mr. Miller made a motion to appoint Mr. Paul DeAngelo as the Recording Secretary for tonight's meeting. This motion was seconded by Mr. DeWilde, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present on roll call:

Messrs. Buckman, DeWilde, Stout, Miller, Stoneburner, Parker, Worob, Dingle, and Ms. Kartal

Quorum Present:

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

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

Student Spotlight

- Teacher – Lauren Bischoff
Second grade students will be presenting their animal reports via Power Point

Mr. Miller stated that he was informed today that our Varsity Soccer Team will also be attending the meeting next week, and during Student Spotlight, they will be recognized for the award that they received.

Student Representatives to the Board

Morrisville Opportunity Education Foundation – MOEF

PTO Report

Superintendent/Administrator's Reports

Enrollment Report

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION ITEMS:

- January 16, 2013 Monthly Agenda Meeting
- January 23, 2013 Monthly Business Meeting

PUBLIC SESSION #1

There were no speakers for Public Session #1.

FACILITIES/INFRASTRUCTURE

Facilities Committee – Mr. Stoneburner

Mr. Stoneburner stated that the following items were discussed at the Facilities Committee meeting:

- Grandview Garden Project
- A hard surfaced area at Grandview where the student's could play when other areas are wet
- The possibility of putting up a few basketball nets at Grandview so we could replace what was there when the new parking area was made
- The discussed the front flower beds at Grandview. He stated that on Sunday, Mr. Dingle's wife, two ladies that have been attending the Facilities Committee meetings, and himself weeded the flower beds, mulched, planted flowers, and painted the wood around the beds.
- They also discussed the Athletic Field and food stand upgrades. He stated that people that have helped in the past have expressed an interest to help out to upgrade the food stand at the Athletic Field.
- The auditorium lighting is being worked on by Mr. Miller and Mr. Lastichen and it is very well lit. It is a short term fix, but they are beginning to work on what is needed for both lighting and sound upgrades, and the painting that is also needed in the auditorium.
- They had a brief discussion about the M. R. Reiter and Manor Park buildings and the options for these buildings.

- They worked on some potential questions for the Architects. He stated that he and Mr. DeAngelo interviewed four potential Architectural firms that were chosen first by what their hourly billing would be. Mr. Stoneburner would like input from the other Board members on how they would like to go about appointment a new Architect of Record. He stated that he has information provided by the Architects for any Board member who would be interested in reviewing it. Mr. Buckman stated that he would like to see the names of the firms that were interviewed, where they are from and read about some of the jobs that they have done. Mr. DeAngelo stated that this information can be put in the Friday letter for the Board's review.
- Mr. Stoneburner stated that they received a quote from a roofing company that was asked to look at E Hall where the roof has been leaking. Mr. Stoneburner discussed their findings and stated that they will be getting more quotes from other companies and hopefully make a decision by May.
- The next meeting will be held on May 2nd at 7:30 p.m. in the LGI.

In regards to the Architect, Mr. Miller stated that we are planning on doing some searching just to make sure that there are no issues from other Districts. He stated that we will also be checking with other districts regarding the Architects they use. Mr. DeAngelo stated that he ran a cursory and nothing came up on the Architects we interviewed and he has also been in touch with some Business Managers in other districts asking for information on their Architects.

Mr. Miller stated that speakers have been installed in the auditorium for this weeks play performance and there were some feedback issues and this issue needs to be taken into consideration when they do the plans for the auditorium.

Mr. Miller discussed the lighting in the auditorium and what they have been able to do at this time.

Mr. Miller thanked Mr. Stoneburner and the volunteers that helped with the Grandview entrance and the work that was done. He stated that it looks fantastic

At next week's Board meeting Mr. Stoneburner stated that the following items will be on the agenda under the Infrastructure Section:

INFRASTRUCTURE

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Architect of Record

The Board discussed this matter and decided that they would wait until the May meeting to be ready to put it on the agenda for approval. This way they have time to look over all of the paperwork from each Architectural Firm and be sure that all of their questions or concerns are answered.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Approval, Annual Ordering of Graduation Chairs

Ms. Kartal asked that someone check M. R. Reiter for any available chairs. She stated that last time she was in that building she noticed about 150 chairs.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources Committee – Mr. DeWilde

Mr. DeWilde stated that there is no committee report to give at this time.

At next week's Board meeting Mr. DeWilde stated that the following items will be on the agenda under the Human Resource Section:

1. Approval, MESPA Contract (2013-14/2014-15)
2. Approval, MESPA Retirees
3. Approval, Appointments
 - a. AESOP Substitutes
4. Approval, K-2 Dean of Students and Stipend
5. Approval, Resignation (Kindergarten teacher)
6. Approval, Maternity/FMLA Extension
7. Approval, Modification to Act 93 Contract to incorporate Teachers on Assignment/Dean of Students, with all benefits of the teacher contract

Ms. Kartal asked if the Board members would be given a copy of the MESPA contract. Mr. Ferrara stated that it is on the shared website for access by the Board.

Mr. DeWilde stated that he would like to have a committee meeting prior to the approval of the MESPA contract, and he will contact the committee members to set up a meeting.

Mr. Ferrara stated that he would like to add a motion to the agenda next week to approve any 21st Century hires.

BUSINESS OPERATIONS/FINANCE

Finance Committee – Mr. Dingle

Mr. Dingle stated that the Finance Committee met last evening and discussed the following:

- The next meeting will be held on the 14th of next month at 7:00 p.m. in the LGI.
- Discussed the budget and looked at opportunities to cut spending
- He would like the opportunity to go over the quote discussed by Mr. Stoneburner regarding the roof repairs and review the scope of work to be done. He will be looking forward to receiving other quotes to see who has the best available price for the best work.

At next week's Board meeting Mr. Dingle stated that the following items will be on the agenda under the Business Operations/Finance Section:

1. Approval, Food Service Contract 2013-14
2. Approval, Homestead/Farmstead Resolution
3. Approval, Budget Transfers
4. Approval, Treasurer's Report
5. Approval, Investment Report
6. Approval, Payment of Bills

At this time, Mr. DeAngelo gave a presentation on the 2013-14 budget and discussed where we stand at this point. Mr. DeAngelo stated that he feels that we will be okay, but we will know better as we get closer to June. The Board members discussed what a 2% increase would calculate to for the taxpayers. Mr. Miller stated that we are all here to work on cutting costs and to try to balance the budget.

EDUCATION

Education Committee – Mr. Miller

Mr. Miller stated that the committee met last Tuesday and discussed the following:

- At the meeting, Mr. Dupell spoke on behalf of an e-library system. This program would allow the District to pick from a library of items that would be accessible through the computer. They could be accessed from home or from school in the classroom, and there may also be the possibility that they could be accessed through the student's own personal device. Mr. Miller discussed the licensing requirements. He stated that once we would purchase the license, we would have it forever. Teachers would be able to project the materials on the smart boards to have group readings. Mr. Ferrara will ask Mr. Dupell to put this information on the website and it will also be provided to the Board members in their Friday packets. Mr. Miller discussed the cost of the various packets and what the packets would include. Mr. Ferrara stated that by using this system, we would never have to replace any books; they will last forever and can never be lost. Mr. Ferrara stated that a huge benefit of this program is that the reading material would be based on each individual student's reading comprehension and levels.
- They discussed the cyber school classes and how this program would work. Mr. Miller discussed the cyber classes that would be available, how they would be scheduled, and how the teachers would be assigned to these classes.
- A small discussion took place regarding the merge with Pennsbury

Mr. Miller stated that it has been brought to the Board's attention that a new student will be moving into the District possibly over the summer, and they currently go to Tech. They are currently in 10th grade and will be going into 11th grade next year. Mr. Miller stated that this would be an added expense to our District.

Mr. Ferrara stated that there is a good possibility that this student will possibly be transferring to Morrisville this school year. Mr. Ferrara asked the Board to consider allowing this student to continue at the Tech School until he graduates.

Mr. Truelove asked that a motion be added to the agenda regarding the expulsion of a student. Mr. Ferrara stated that we need to schedule a discipline meeting of the Board by next Tuesday to discuss this matter. Mr. Truelove stated that he would coordinate scheduling this meeting.

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

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Approval, Expulsion of Student

POLICY COMMITTEE

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

ACTION ITEMS:

No items to be discussed or approved at this time.

LIAISON REPORTS

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- a. Lower Bucks County Vocational Educational School
- b. Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22
- c. Pennsylvania School Boards Association/Legislative

SPECIAL EDUCATION

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

ACTION ITEMS:

None at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

As requested by Ms. Kartal, Mr. Truelove informed the Board that it is possible to make donations to the District by using the website. He stated that there are two options, one of which he is going to recommend to the Board this evening. Mr. Truelove stated that we would administer the donations ourselves here on the website. This would be something that our Webmaster would do with proper forms that we would help draft for the potential donors to see. He stated that we also have to adopt or amend the current policy that we have, which is Policy #702, where it would include provisions for online website grants and donations. Mr. Truelove stated that we want to make sure that we have the form that is properly on the website explaining how a donor would go about notifying the District, whether it's a monetary gift and where they want this donation directed (e.g. auditorium, athletic equipment, etc.). We need to include a disclaimer regarding privacy and we need to be able to communicate back to the donors in case the original request is not appropriate. He discussed the other reasons or issues why certain donations could not be accepted.

Mr. Truelove stated that the other option would be through an outfit called Official Payments which allows individuals to make payments on line to various entities.

With the Board's permission, Mr. Truelove would recommend at this time developing the format of the secure website and the necessary forms for potential donors to review and access, and then modify the current policy to reflect that protocol. Mr. Buckman suggested that this be placed on the agenda for approval next week. Mr. Miller stated that he will talk to Mr. Myat and get in contact with our current web company to see if a form can be included on the website with drop down menus so the donors would be able to select the area that they wish to donate to. Mr. Miller asked Mr. Truelove to give him any specifics that he may have that need to be included. Mr.

Ferrara asked Mr. Truelove if he knows of any District's that have donations routed directly to the Business Office. Mr. Truelove stated that he doesn't know, but he will look into it. Mr. Truelove stated that it would still remain the policy that all donations need to be approved and accepted by the School Board.

Mr. DeAngelo stated that Mr. Donovan had provided the Board with a quote for the speaker system for the cafeteria. Mr. Donovan has been able to secure more quotes and Mr. DeAngelo stated that he will include these quotes in the Friday packet for the Board's information.

Mr. Buckman discussed the Education Committee's recommendation for cyber classes. He stated that he had the opportunity to observe one of our PA Cyber Schools, and he feels that the type of cyber program along with the brick and mortar is a much better program. Mr. Buckman stated that he feels that we are going in the right direction with the cyber school program. Mr. Miller stated that our cyber classes would be taught by Morrisville teachers. We are not looking to hire a company to run the classes. Mr. Miller stated that there are companies out there that could give us the materials and the structure of the classes, but then we would have a Morrisville teacher in the cyber classroom.

Mr. DeAngelo stated that the budget presentation he gave tonight will be on the website.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC SESSION #2

There were no speakers for Public Session #2.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m. This motion was seconded by Mr. Worob, and passed by a unanimous voice vote of 9 ayes.

Damon Miller, President

Wanda Kartal, Secretary