

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

The regular monthly meeting of the Morrisville Board of School Directors was held in the LGI located in the Morrisville Middle/Senior High School, 550 West Palmer Street, Morrisville, Pennsylvania on Wednesday, February 25, 2009, after due notice of the meeting had been given as required by law. Mr. William Hellmann, President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm with the following members present on roll call:

In attendance: Mrs. Mihok; Mr. Kemp; Mr. Hellmann; Mr. Buckman; Mrs. Reithmeyer;  
Mrs. Heater, Mrs. Worob, and Mr. Farrell.

Absent: Mr. Radosti

*Quorum Present.*

Also attending this evening's meeting were Mr. William Ferrara, Substitute Superintendent/Secondary Principal; Mr. Paul DeAngelo, Business Administrator; Mr. Tony Gesualdi, Supervisor of Special Education; Ms. Laurie Ruffing, Acting Elementary Principal; Michael Fitzpatrick, Esq., Solicitor; MEA representation, and media. Dr. Yonson is currently on a leave of absence.

**ITEMS OF GENERAL INFORMATION**

Student Representative to the Board – Michael Leather

Peyton McDonald and Amanda Graf representing the drama club distributed courtesy tickets to the members of the School Board to attend the production of *The Wizard of Oz*.

- Gym Night was held on March 6<sup>th</sup> with the Blue team as the winner. The Middle School assembled started the event.
- The Morrisville School District hosted a Lower Bucks Cheerleading Championship for Middle School Cheerleaders. It was held on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Many schools attended this event and school spirit overflowed in the gymnasium. Our cheerleaders won the Spirit Award. The Middle School Service Learning Group held a fundraiser. They raffled a gift basket and the proceeds went to Multiple Sclerosis.
- The Bucks County Links sponsored an Art contest. Many parents came to see our students' work. The winners:

10-12 grades	1 <sup>st</sup> place- Megan Johnson	2 <sup>nd</sup> place- Nichole Kamann
7-9 grades	1 <sup>st</sup> place- David Gately	2 <sup>nd</sup> place- Alex Anderson
5-6 grades	1 <sup>st</sup> place- Lisherrah Rankins	2 <sup>nd</sup> place- Krista Mullaney
- Operation Helping Hand, the food collection sponsored by the United Way, was held on March 12<sup>th</sup>. We are awaiting the number of total pounds collected; however, a bounteous amount of non-perishable food was collected.
- PSSA Math and Reading tests were given to students in grades 5,6,7,8 and 11.
- On March 24<sup>th</sup> The Harlem Ambassadors presented a show filled with "high flying slam dunks and hilarious comedy." It was sponsored primarily by the 21<sup>st</sup> Century High School service learning club.
- Baseball and Softball season began. The Baseball team played at Christopher Dock today.
- The National Honors Society and the National Junior Honors Society held Daffodil Days and raised a fair amount of money.
- BCCC dual enrollment placement tests will be held on March 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.
- The high school play, *The Wizard of Oz* will be present in the Caum Auditorium on March 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. The cast, crew, and Mrs. Habel have all been working very hard to produce an excellent rendition of this play.
- The Student of the Month Breakfast will be held on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Congratulations in advance to all of the recipients.

- FBLA will be going to states next Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

***A 55 minute Executive Session was held prior to this evening's meeting pertaining to personnel matters.***

*Item 3.2.d. Technology Administrator salary was changed to \$50,000 + benefits.*

*Addition of item 5.3. to amend the collective bargaining agreement between Morrisville Board of School Directors and Morrisville Education Association that will help to implement scheduling changes that will be discussed by Mr. Ferrara tonight. Article 8 – Workday will be changed to read that the length of the student day will be from 7:45 until 2:30.-- will not be increased during the length of the agreement. Teacher workday will begin no earlier than 7:15 and end no later than 2:55. In addition, bargaining unit members at the secondary level will be granted preparation time equal to 60 minutes which is normally one period of the student day.*

**The Board approved a motion to amend the agenda as indicated. Moved by Mr. Buckman; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.**

***Mr. Fitzpatrick congratulated Michael Leather for achieving Eagle Scout status.***

**1. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Ferrara advised that High School graduation has been set for June 17. He thanked all of the staff members that helped him be successful as he served as Substitute Superintendent and noted that Dr. Yonson will return on April 1.

Mr. DeAngelo informed that the preliminary budget presentation will take place on April 8 at the Finance Committee meeting. The preliminary budget is constantly being updated and updates are posted on our website.

- ⇒ Enrollment Report
- ⇒ This week in our Schools

**District Enrollments as of March 18, 2009**

Elementary Students .....	438
Secondary 6-12 .....	416
Technical School.....	55
Home Schooled.....	18
Out-of-District Placements .....	11
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>1022</b>
(students in out-of-district placements are housed in our district and are included only once in the total)	
New Enrollments.....	11
Withdraws.....	1
House in our buildings.....	854

**Elementary Report**

- February 28<sup>th</sup> - Morrisville Spirit Day at Chick Fila. Families could visit the store to eat. 15% of all sales were returned to Morrisville School District.
- March 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> – Kindergarten Registration
- March 12<sup>th</sup> – LINKS poster contest. Elementary winners were Griffin Kemp 1<sup>st</sup> place. He won a bicycle and advanced to regionals. Navhere Williams won second place and a target gift card.
- March 16-24<sup>th</sup> PSSA Testing

- March 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> – Health Farms/Healthy Schools Grant – Snipes Farm visited kindergarten classrooms
- March 24<sup>th</sup> – Elementary students traveled to the high school to watch the Harlem Ambassadors perform
- March 25<sup>th</sup> – Students traveled to the middle/high school to watch the students perform The Wizard of Oz
- March 25<sup>th</sup> – Kindergarten visited Snipes Farm
- March 30<sup>th</sup> – April 7<sup>th</sup> Art Goes to School

### **Secondary Report**

- Gym Night was held on March 6<sup>th</sup>. The middle school assembly started the event. The Blue Team was the winner this year's Gym Night.
- The Morrisville School District hosted a Lower Bucks Cheerleading Championship for Middle School Cheerleaders. It was held on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Many schools attended this event and school spirit overflowed in the gymnasium. Our cheerleaders won the Sprit Award. The Middle School Service Learning Group held a fund raiser. They raffled a gift basket and the proceeds were donated to Multiple Sclerosis.
- The Bucks County Links sponsored an Art contest. Many parents came to see our students' work. The winners:

10-12 grades	1 <sup>st</sup> place-Megan Johnson	2 <sup>nd</sup> place-Nicole Kamann
7-9 grades	1 <sup>st</sup> place-David Gately	2 <sup>nd</sup> place-Alex Anderson
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- Operation Helping Hand, the food collection sponsored by the United Way, was held on March 12<sup>th</sup>. We are awaiting the number of total pounds collected; however, a bounteous amount of non-perishable food was collected.
- PSSA Math and Reading tests were given to students in grades 5, 6, 7, 8 and 11.
- On March 24<sup>th</sup> The Harlem Ambassadors will present a show filled with high flying slam dunks and hilarious comedy. It will be sponsored by the 21<sup>st</sup> Century High School service learning club.
- BCCC dual enrollment placement tests will be held on March 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.
- The high school play, *Wizard of Oz* will be presented in the Caum auditorium on March 27 and March 28. The cast, crew, and Mrs. Habel having been working very hard to produce an excellent rendition of this play.
- The Student of the Month Breakfast will be held on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Congratulations to all the recipients.

*Mrs. Marlys Mihok presented Mr. Ron Stout with a plaque of appreciation for financial savings to the District of approximately \$729,000 resulting from Mr. Stout's suggestions (See Addendum #1).*

*Mr. Hellmann added that not only did Mr. Stout save money for the high school renovations, but he also saved \$100,000-\$200,000 in cost savings related to the piping at Grandview Elementary.*

### **Vitetta**

Mr. Bill Cornfield from Vitetta Architects explained the bid process for renovation projects (window and HVAC). Bids came in under the estimate. He recommended proceeding with the projects to take advantage of the bids.

Additionally, we are suggesting an analysis of the asbestos work which will be required at the Grandview school.

Mr. Perry proposed a question about the Vitetta letter that was available at the February meeting, specifically, that the original cost was \$2.6 million down to \$2 million. He asked if anything was cut out of the scope. The answer was no.

Ms. Panzitta attended the facilities meeting and a remark was made about the “scaled down” project at Grandview. She asked what this referred to.

Morrisville Educational Foundation

Mr. Coassolo reported the committee met on March 11 to cement the paperwork for the foundation. The Board consisting of: Jerri Rush, Secretary; Gayle Haug, Treasurer; Jane Burger, VP; and Mark Coassolo, President were voted to serve. Next meeting is April 15.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

**Ann Perry, 43 Fairview Ave.**

Current emergency educational assignments impact education.  
Traffic nightmare at GV.

**Kathy Panzitta, 401 Hillcrest**

Tax penalty (item 6.9).

**Jon Perry, 43 Fairview Ave.**

Early Retirement Incentive Plan.  
Board inexperience.  
Management Assessment Study 2005.

**John DeWilde, 94 W. Maple**

Standard operating procedures for emergencies.

**Jack Beck, 608 Prospect**

Where did the \$700,000 savings go?  
Code of Conduct for School Board.

**Gayle Haug, 260 Harper**

Early Retirement Incentive Plan.  
Option of opening Manor Park  
Endorsing candidates at board meetings.

**Damon Miller, 249 W. Franklin**

Pride and respect in our community.

**Dave Stoneburner, 270 Harper**

Board has responsibility to respond to the Community.  
Make school and community the best it can be for our children.

**Sharon Hughes, 121 Mercer**

Tech school costs are down.  
Financially responsible decisions by the board.  
Standardized tests measure quality of education has improved.

**David Bain, 808 Crown**

Merge with Pennsbury.

Would like copy of letter sent to Pennsbury and response.

**Steve Worob, 101 Grandview**

Board doing good job.

**Danielle Lairson, 588 Carlisle**

Listen to the parents. We want the best education.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**2.1. Approval of Minutes**

The Board approved a motion to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2009 monthly Business Meeting of the Board of School Directors.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a voice vote of 7 ayes; 1 abstention. Member abstaining was Mrs. Reithmeyer.

**2.2. Approval of Minutes**

The Board approved a motion to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2009 monthly Agenda Meeting of the Board of School Directors.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a voice vote of 7 ayes; 1 abstention. Member abstaining was Mrs. Worob.

**3.1. Approval, Acceptance of Resignation**

The Board approved a motion to accept, with regret, the resignation of Tammi Bresnen from the position of one-to-one paraeducator, effective March 12, 2009.

Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Kemp; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.

**3.2. Approval, Appointments**

The Board approved a motion to approve the appointments listed:

	<b>Individual</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Effective</b>	<b>Compensation</b>	<b>Replaces</b>
<b>3.2.a.</b>	Candidate not chosen	One-on-One Instructional Paraeducator	As soon as candidate is found	In accordance with group II salary and benefit policy. <i><b>Paid through IDEA Funds.</b></i>	Tammi Bresnen
Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.					
<i>Position approved pending selection of candidate.</i>					
<b>3.2.b.</b>	Carol Young	Teacher Induction Mentor for Victoria Roache-Lelli	2008-2009	In accordance with collective bargaining agreement; \$750	Contractual
Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.					
<b>3.2.c.</b>	Christine Nemeth	Nurse, Media, Guidance Coordinator	2/6/09 for remainder of 2008-2009	In accordance with collective bargaining agreement = Pro-rated \$1,500	Contractual; replaces Pam Montanya
Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.					
<b>3.2.d.</b>	Joe Myat	Technology Administrator	3/26/09	In accordance with Group I Salary and Benefits; \$60,000 \$50,000	Chris Barone
Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.					
<b>3.2.e.</b>	Hiring of per diem substitutes, as needed, during the 2008-2009 school year. Compensation will be in accordance with district policy #429 (\$94/\$100 per day).				
	Felice Israel Mary Scott Szilvia Deak-Kent	Henry Nitka Leslie Fletcher	Leah Gautier Patricia Fletcher	Michelle Schanck Brian Cohen	
Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.					

**3.3. Approval, Tuition Reimbursements**

The Board approved a motion to approve payment of tuition reimbursement to the individual as listed below.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>College/School</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Paul DeAngelo	Teacher as a Researcher	St. Joseph Univ.	3	\$800
Dennis Rodgers	Styles of Teaching	Gratz	3	\$500
Jill Osterhout	Assertive Discipline	Indiana-Wesleyan	3	\$460

Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.

**3.4. Approval, Office Restructure/Employee Promotion**

3.4.a. The Board approved a motion to re-name the Bookkeeping Office to the Accounting Department, effective immediately.

Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.

**3.4.b. The Board approved a motion** to promote Mary Hendershot to the responsibility of supervising the Accounting Office staff. Compensation for this responsibility will be \$49,905.13, effective March 26, 2009.

Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.

**4.1. Approval, Assume ES Program in Morrisville Schools**

**The Board approved a motion** to approve the Morrisville School District assuming an ES program currently run by the BCIU beginning in the 2009-2010 school year. This would include offering the teacher a transfer to the Morrisville School District.

Moved by Mr. Buckman; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.

**5.1. Approval, Healthy Farms & Healthy Schools Grant**

**The Board approved a motion** to approve the Healthy Farms & Healthy Schools Grant in the amount of \$7,500 for 2008-2009.

Moved by Mr. Kemp; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.

**5.2. Approval, Six Period Schedule on the Secondary Level**

**The Board approved a motion** to approve the change from block scheduling to a six-period schedule on the secondary level beginning with the 2009-2010 school year.

Moved by Mr. Kemp; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.

*Mr. Buckman thanked the MEA for their cooperation.*

**Addition to Agenda**

**The Board approved a motion to adopt and amend the collective bargaining agreement between Morrisville Education Association and Morrisville Borough School District to reflect changes needed to implement the new class scheduling in accordance with amendment on agenda earlier and as described by Mr. Ferrara.**

**Moved by Mr. Buckman; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.**

***Mr. Ferrara explained that the union gave 18 minutes of time in exchange they are guaranteed one hour prep time during the day. The goal of the 6 period day is to make sure students have a full year of the core courses.***

The Finance Committee presents the following items for consideration.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

**Contracts approved by the Board are available for viewing in the Business Office.**

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**6.1. Approval, Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 Programs and Services Instructional Materials Budget for 2009-2010**

The Board approved a motion to approve the 2009-2010 Intermediate Unit Operating Budget. This budget covers the costs of operation of the programs and services part of the Intermediate Unit Budget. This includes such services as curriculum development, staff development, and film and video tape rentals. The District's total expenditure to the Intermediate Unit will be \$11,906 representing an increase of \$165 from the 2008-2009 budget.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a roll call vote of 8 ayes.

**6.2. Bucks County Comprehensive Technical School Budget for 2009-2010**

The Board approved a motion to approve the Bucks County Comprehensive Technical School Budget for 2009-2010.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a roll call vote of 8 ayes.

*This budget represents a savings of \$79,535 over last year. Mr. Buckman recommended approving this budget and suggested we continue to be vigilant to bring these costs down. Mrs. Mihok thanked Mr. Buckman for his vigilance. Mr. Hellmann stated that we did not approve this budget last year.*

*Mrs. Reithmeyer commented that this budget is based on average daily membership and the reduction is related to a refund of the fund balance. Mr. Kemp added that the formula for funding remains unchanged.*

**6.3. Approval, Cost Proposal from Environmental Connection Inc. for Professional, Technical and Analytical Services Associated with the Asbestos Abatement and Disposal at the Morrisville Middle/Senior High School**

The Board approved a motion to approve proposal #290134 from Environmental Connection Inc. for professional, technical and analytical services associated with the asbestos abatement and disposal at the Morrisville Middle/Senior High School. The total cost is not to exceed \$22,000.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a voice vote of 7 ayes; 1 nay. Member voting nay was Mrs. Reithmeyer.

*Mrs. Reithmeyer stated she is not in favor of this because we do not have a plan.*

**6.4. Approval, Cost Proposal from Environmental Connection Inc. for Professional, Technical and Analytical Services Associated with the Window Replacement Project at the Morrisville Middle/Senior High School**

The Board approved a motion to approve proposal #290136 from Environmental Connection Inc. for professional, technical and analytical services associated with the window replacement at the Morrisville Middle/Senior High School. The total cost is not to exceed \$26,180.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a voice vote of 7 ayes; 1 nay. Member voting nay was Mrs. Reithmeyer.

*Mrs. Reithmeyer stated she is not in favor of this because we do not have a plan. Mrs. Mihok stated that she has seen the plan and these windows are state of the art.*

**6.5. Approval, Cost Proposal from Environmental Connection Inc. for Professional, Technical and Analytical Services Associated with the Asbestos Abatement and Disposal from the Grandview Elementary School**

The Board approved a motion to approve proposal #290156 from Environmental Connection Inc. for professional, technical and analytical services associated with the asbestos abatement and disposal from the Grandview Elementary School. The total cost is not to exceed \$7,620.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Buckman; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.

**6.6. Award of Bids**

**6.6.a. Approval, Morrisville High School HVAC Renovations:**

The Board approved a motion to approve The Midway Corporation, as the General Contractor for the Morrisville High School HVAC Renovations project in the amount of **\$226,549.00**. Bids were received as follows:

<b>The Midway Corporation</b>	<b>\$226,549.00</b>
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Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a voice vote of 7 ayes; 1 nay. Member voting nay was Mrs. Reithmeyer.

*Mrs. Reithmeyer stated she is not in favor of this because we do not have a plan.*

**6.6.b. Approval, Award of Bid – Electrical Contractor for HVAC Renovations**

The Board approved a motion to approve QPI Electrical Co., Inc., as the Electrical Contractor for the Morrisville High School HVAC Renovations project, in the amount of **\$137,745.00**. Bids were received as follows:

MJF Electrical	\$241,450.00
<b>QPI Electrical Co.</b>	<b>137,745.00</b>
R. M. Electric Co., Inc.	169,187.00
Voacolo Electrica, inc.	202,800.00
Yates Electrical, Inc.	202,700.00

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a voice vote of 7 ayes; 1 nay. Member voting nay was Mrs. Reithmeyer.

**6.6.c. Approval, Award of Bid – Plumbing Contractor for HVAC Renovations**

The Board approved a motion to approve **Five Star Inc.**, as the Plumbing Contractor for the Morrisville High School HVAC Renovations project, in the amount of **\$144,300.00**. Bids were received as follows:

<b>Five Star, Inc.</b>	<b>\$144,300.00</b>
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Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a voice vote of 7 ayes; 1 nay; member voting nay was Mrs. Reithmeyer.

*Mrs. Reithmeyer stated she is not in favor of this because we do not have a plan.*

**6.6.d. Approval, Award of Bid – HVAC Contractor**

The Board approved a motion to approve **B & S Sheet Metal Mech.**, as the HVAC Contractor for the Morrisville High School HVAC Renovations project, in the amount of **\$1,620,628.00**. Bids were received as follows:

<b>B&amp;S Sheet Metal Mech.</b>	<b>\$1,620,628.00</b>
Five Star	2,393,800.00
GDS Mechanical, Inc.	1,879,500.00
Guy M. Cooper	2,712,900.00
Peterson Service Co.	2,214,326.00
Worth & Company, Inc.	2,326,000.00
MJ Meloney	2,380,690.00

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Worob. Passed by a voice vote of 6 ayes; 1 nay; 1 abstention. Member voting nay was Mrs. Reithmeyer. Member abstaining was Mrs. Heater.

*Mrs. Heater highly recommended this Morrisville company; however, she is abstaining from this bid since she is connected to the company. Mrs. Reithmeyer stated she is not in favor of this because we do not have a plan.*

**6.6.e. Approval, Award of Bid – Asbestos Contractor**

The Board approved a motion to approve **Plymouth Environmental.**, as the Asbestos Contractor for the Morrisville High School HVAC Renovations project, in the amount of **\$132,000.00**. Bids were received as follows:

<b>Plymouth Meeting</b>	<b>\$132,000.00</b>
USA EMI	165,000.00
Mattiola	174,205.00

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a voice vote of 7 ayes; 1 nay. Member voting nay was Mrs. Reithmeyer.

**6.6.f. Approval, Award of Bid – Window Replacement at High School**

The Board approved a motion to approve **Architectural Windows**, as the General Contractor for Morrisville High School Window Replacement Renovations project in the amount of **\$1,062,000.00**. Bids were received as follows:

<b>Architectural Windows</b>	<b>\$1,062,000.00</b>
TEConstruction Services	1,163,700.00
Garozzo & Scimeca Const.	1,713,000.00

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a voice vote of 7 ayes; 1 nay. Member voting nay was Mrs. Reithmeyer.

**6.6.g. Approval, Award of Bid – Asbestos Contractor for Window Replacement at High School**

The Board approved a motion to approve USA EMI, as the Asbestos Contractor for Morrisville High School Window Replacement Renovations project in the amount of \$117,200.00. Bids were received as follows:

USA EMI	\$117,200.00
Architectural Windows	153,400.00

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a voice vote of 7 ayes; 1 nay. Member voting nay was Mrs. Reithmeyer.

**6.7. Approval, Builder's Risk Insurance**

The Board approved a motion to add Builder's Risk Insurance onto our General Property Insurance Policy for the HVAC and Window renovation projects at the Morrisville High School. The cost of the Builder's Risk is not to exceed \$1,500.00.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a voice vote of 7 ayes; 1 nay. Member voting nay was Mrs. Reithmeyer.

*Mr. Hellmann stated that the total work is about \$3,340,000. We are replacing original items resulting in no tax increase.*

**6.8. Approval, Early Retirement Incentive**

The Board approved a motion to approve an Early Retirement Incentive for professional employees.

Moved by Mrs. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a voice vote of 6 ayes; 2 nays. Members voting nay were Mrs. Heater and Mrs. Reithmeyer.

*Mrs. Reithmeyer commented that this had not previously been run past the board. I feel this is no longer a democracy; it's a monarchy run by King Hellmann. You are leaving the solicitor and minority board members out of the process. Obviously some people are able to vote so you are talking to the majority members. Therefore, you are violating the Sunshine Laws. You are shutting us out of the process and we can not do the job we are elected to do. I am not against the plan; I am not against saving money; I am against the fact that Mr. Hellmann went out on his own to offer this incentive.*

*Mrs. Heater stated she learned of this plan in the packet and she looked at the way the letter was written. She expressed concerns about the 9 or more participants not having a limit in this current offering.*

*Mr. Fitzpatrick explained that many of the surrounding districts are considering ERIP. This has been shared with the bargaining unit but is not in effect until it is approved by the board.*

*Mr. DeAngelo stated that there could be 24 participants interested in this offering; however, this is highly unlikely. Mr. DeAngelo recommends this plan as does Mr. Hellmann.*

*Mrs. Reithmeyer reiterated that her complaint is that this offer was dated March 5<sup>th</sup> and shared with the MEA before being shared with the board.*

*Mr. King explained that there is a statement in the contract that an ERIP could be discussed. MEA initiated this idea and it was clear it would be pending board approval. There is contractual language about the number of teachers who retire and the ratio which exists. That ratio will not disappear because of an ERIP. This is a win-win situation.*

*Mr. King also commented that in another motion there is language about placing an IU teacher into the bargaining unit; there are concerns with this.*

*Mr. DeAngelo explained that the last paragraph, which has been standard procedure, asks the potential retiree to submit a letter prior to April 30.*

*Mr. Hellmann read from a letter from the Senate addressed to all PA School Board Presidents that he received in the Friday packet -- There is no guaranteed funding to schools in the state until the budget is signed into law. This is the time to hold the line on spending and to continue to find ways to cut spending and imposing taxes on hardworking families. This is what this board has been doing since Dec. 3, 2007. We saw the crisis coming and we are working very hard to make this place efficient. This early retirement is one example.*

#### **6.9. Approval, Request to Remove Interest & Penalty for Tax Parcel**

The Board **DEFEATED** a motion to remove interest and penalty in the amount of \$464.50 plus any additional fees which may have accrued for Tax Parcel 24-004-380. Payment was attempted on November 1<sup>st</sup>, one day late and refused by Morrisville School District Tax Collector.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Farrell; **DEFEATED** by a roll call vote of 7 nays; 1 aye. Member voting aye was Mr. Farrell.

#### **6.10. Approval, Financial Auditing Services**

A request for proposal was sent to various auditing firms for one and three year financial auditing services. We received the following proposals:

	<u>One Year</u>	<u>Three Years</u>
Barbacane, Thornton & Company	\$23,500.00	\$74,100.00
<b>Briggs, Bunting &amp; Dougherty, LLP</b>	<b>18,000.00</b>	<b>56,700.00</b>
Abbott, Davidson, Weiss & Co., LLC	20,000.00	58,125.00
Maillie, Falconiero & Company, LLP	25,000.00	69,000.00

The Board approved a motion to approve the firm of Briggs, Bunting & Dougherty, LLP to perform the 2008-09, 2009-10, and 2010-11 Financial Audits for the Morrisville School District in the amount of \$56,700.00.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.

*Mr. DeAngelo recommended this firm. If we are not satisfied, we have the option to cancel.*

**6.11. 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: (2/25/09 – 3/18/09)	\$236,522.34
Athletic Fund (3/2/09)	200.00
Cafeteria Fund: (3/26/09)	39,426.62
Accounts Payable (3/26/09)	643,365.95
Capital Projects (3/11/09 – 3/18/09)	111,468.18
Capital Reserve	-0-
Procurement Cards (February 2009)	3,500.04
Payroll & Benefits (February 2009)	<u>786,412.09</u>
<b>TOTAL BILLS</b>	<b>\$1,820,895.22</b>

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 8 ayes.

*Mrs. Reithmeyer asked that the board resume receiving procurement card spending documentation.*

*Mr. Hellmann reported that we were obligated to spend the bond money by November 2009 and this spending takes care of that.*

**7. LIAISON REPORTS**

- a. Lower Bucks County Vocational-Educational School – Mr. Buckman  
*Monday's meeting was a discussion of the budget.*
- b. Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 – Mrs. Mihok  
*Due to another commitment, Mrs. Mihok did not attend this month's meeting*
- c. Pennsylvania School Boards Association/Legislative – Mrs. Worob  
*Mrs. Worob read from the March 22 article in the Philadelphia Inquirer which stated that the Governor's plan calls for reducing the number of districts from 501 to fewer than 100.*  
*Morrisville's current tax on \$50,000 market value is currently \$880. Under a countywide system a reduction of \$366 would be realized – a reduction of 41.66%. A reduction would lead to better schools and to lower and fairer taxes. This savings would be a great opportunity for the children and the town. We need to get on board with the Governor's plan. Mrs. Worob recommended contacting the Governor's office, forming a committee and writing a letter on behalf of the board. Mr. Buckman suggested that Mr. Fitzpatrick draw up a resolution.*

**8. OLD BUSINESS**

Update on Uniform Dress Committee/Policy – Mrs. Mihok/Mrs. Worob

*Mrs. Worob is waiting for quotes on uniforms. She will share with the board in the Friday packet. Mrs. Mihok is waiting for quotes from Walmart.*

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

*To continue their education, Mrs. Mihok and Mrs. Worob informed the board that they would like to attend the PSBA conference in April.*

*Mrs. Reithmeyer stated that the plaque given to Mr. Stout was never brought before the board. She is not in favor of giving a plaque to a citizen to promote the election.*

*Mr. Farrell informed that the GCA exams are dead. There is a new alternative called the Keystone Exams. The state will fund ½ of the cost if a district chooses to administer this exam.*

*Future Meetings and Items of Interest*

March 27 & 28, 2009 .....7:30 pm – Morrisville Performing Arts presents  
.....Wizard of Oz  
Wednesday, April 8, 2009 .....6:30 pm – Infrastructure/Facilities Committee  
.....7:00 pm – Finance Committee/Preliminary Budget Recommended  
April 9, 10, 11, 2009 .....Spring Break/School Closed  
Wednesday, April 15, 2009 .....6:30 pm – Education Committee  
.....7:00 pm – Human Resources/Negotiations Committee  
.....7:30 pm – Monthly Agenda Meeting  
Wednesday, April 22, 2009 .....6:30 pm – Policy Committee Meets  
.....7:30 pm – Monthly Business Meeting

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

**Future agenda and monthly business meetings will be held in the auditorium provided no other function is scheduled in that area.**

**10. Adjournment**

The Board approved a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 pm. Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mrs. Mihok; passed by a unanimous voice vote.

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William Hellmann, Board President

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Marlys Mihok, Board Secretary

The Morrisville School Board wishes to thank Ronald M. Stout for saving us approximately \$729,000.00 in renovation costs (\$675,000 + \$54,000 in engineering fees) at the Morrisville Middle/Senior High School. This is the type of practical, common sense solution we appreciate from our residents.

THANK YOU RON

March 25<sup>th</sup> , 2009

Ronald M. Stout has a history of saving the Borough of Morrisville School District money. When Ron was concerned about the amount of solicitor fees the district was being charged, he went out of his way to investigate and found out that a similar school district was spending dramatically less for legal fees. Ron convinced that school board to replace the legal firm that represented the board at that time. The numbers he discovered resulted in that school board's costs being reduced from \$77,000 to \$12,000. dollars annually. Today that saving of \$65,000. per year has yielded a reduction in solicitor costs to date of \$390,000. dollars.

When the previous school board was considering replacing exterior doors at the M. R. Reiter Elementary School, Ronald M. Stout objected to the proposed spending of \$85,000 dollars to replace 7 exterior doors. Ron went to see for himself and determined that repairs to the existing doors would accomplish the required results without replacing them. Repair costs were under \$2,000. dollars for a savings of \$83,000. dollars for the district.

Most recently when this current school board made plans to renovate and upgrade our heating system in the Morrisville Middle /Senior High School, Ronald M. Stout pointed out that the existing black pipe which feeds hot water throughout this building did not have to be replaced when a new heating system is installed. Ron explained simply that the water passing through this pipe no longer contained oxygen that could corrode or rust the interior of this piping system. With this knowledge we then asked that the black pipe be tested before plans were made to replace it. Testing costs were approximately \$10,000. and all three sections of pipe that were removed and replaced after testing proved that it was not necessary to replace it. \$675,000. was the projected cost for replacement and with engineering fees estimated at \$54,000. new black pipe would have cost the school district \$729,000. Testing costs were approximately \$10,000 and all three sections of pipe that were removed and replaced after testing proved that it was not necessary to replace it.