## **Montague Township Board of Education Meeting Special Meeting Minutes** August 26, 2025

## 1. CALL TO ORDER at 6:30 p.m.

#### 2. **ROLL CALL**

	Present	Absent
Christopher Bell	X via phone	
Paul Brislin, Vice President		Х
Andree Campbell, President	Х	
Tasha DeGorge	Х	
Jaime Johnson		Х
Caitlin Statkus	х	
Michael Zernhelt		Х

Others Present:	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
James Andriac - CSA	x	
Michael Bussow, SBA/BS	x	
Joseph Garcia, Esq. – Board Atty.		X
Dana Berry, Adm. Asst. to Bd. Sec.	x	

## FLAG SALUTE - FOLLOWED BY A MOMENT OF SILENCE OR PRAYER 3.

- 4. MISSION STATEMENT - The mission of the Montague Township School District is to provide the best educational experience and opportunities to realize the potential of every child.
- 5. LEGAL NOTICE - In accordance with the New Jersey Sunshine Law, a legal notice of this meeting has been posted on the official bulletin board at the school and advertised in the New Jersey Herald.

## **PUBLIC SESSION – ALL ITEMS** 6.

Public comment is invited on all matters pertaining to the school district. All participants shall be permitted four (4) minutes to speak and shall state their name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate. The board uses the public comment as an opportunity to listen to Citizen concerns, but please be aware that not all issues brought to a board meeting will be resolved this evening.

Motion to open Public Comment at 6:32 p.m.

Motion Tasha DeGeorge 2<sup>nd</sup> Caitlin Statkus Voice Vote: All in Favor

Motion to close Public Comment at 6:32 p.m.

Motion Caitlin Statkus 2<sup>nd</sup> Tasha DeGeorge Voice Vote: All in Favor

## 7. FINANCE

F-1 BE IT RESOLVED at the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Montague Board of Education approve the June 9, 2025 proposal for physical therapy (2 days a week) with the Montague Public School District and the Sussex County Educational Services Commission for the 2025-26SY at the cost of \$47,223.30.

woved: Caltiin	Statkus	Seconded: Tasi	ia DeGeorge					
Roll Call	Bell	Brislin	Campbell	DeGeorge	Johnson	Statkus	Zernhelt	Total
YES	х		х	x		х		4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT		х			х		х	3

## 8. PERSONNEL

## Motion to approve Resolutions P-1 through P-2 listed below:

Moved: Caitlin	Statkus	Seconded: Tasl	na DeGeorge:			_		
Roll Call	Bell	Brislin	Campbell	DeGeorge	Johnson	Statkus	Zernhelt	Total
YES	х		x	х		х		4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT		х			Х		х	3

**P-1 WHEREAS**, the Montague Township Board of Education and James Andriac, entered into a Contract for Employment for the term commencing July 1, 2024 and expiring June 30, 2027 (herein after referred to as "Present Contract for Employment"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Board and the Superintendent desire to rescind the Present Contract for Employment prior to its conclusion, and enter into a new Employment Agreement for a term commencing July 1, 2025 and expiring June 30, 2028; and

**WHEREAS**, the new Employment Agreement has been submitted to and approved by the County Superintendent, according to standards adopted by the Commissioner of Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8(j).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board hereby rescinds the Present Contract for Employment; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board hereby appoints James Andriac, as the Superintendent/Principal for the Montague Township School District for the period beginning on July 1, 2025 and expiring on June 30, 2028, in accordance with the terms of the new Contract of Employment; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board approves the new Contract of Employment with James Andriac, for the position of Superintendent/Principal for the foregoing period of appointment; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board hereby authorizes the Board President and School Business Administrator to execute the new Contract of Employment on behalf of the Board.

**P-2 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve **CAROL SPECK**, as a part-time (three-sevenths) Teacher, Step I/MA+30, effective August 26, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

## 9. POLICIES

**PL-1 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the second and final reading of Strauss Esmay Policy #5111 - Eligibility of Resident/Non-Resident Students..

Moved: Tasha	DeGeorge	Seconded: Cait	lin Statkus:	Motion does no	t pass - tied vote			
Roll Call	Bell	Brislin	Campbell	DeGeorge	Johnson	Statkus	Zernhelt	Total
YES			х	х		x		3
NO								
ABSTAIN	х							1
ABSENT		х			х		х	3

#### 10. **ADMINISTRATION**

Motion to approve Resolutions A-1 and A-3 listed below:

A-1 BE IT RESOLVED at the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Montague Board of Education allow the residents of Montague Township to use the pickleball courts when school is not in session.

A-2 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the District and Board goals for the 2025-2026 school year.

A-3 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Township Board of Education adopt the Emergency Response Template (ERT) dated August 21, 2025 for the 2025-26SY.

Moved: Tasha DeGeorge Seconded: Caitlin Statkus Discussion: Board goals was tabled as Mr. Bell had some

additions to them. He would like to add that the NJSLA scores in ELA and Math improve by 10%

	additions to them. The would like to add that the Nederland in Elect and math improve by 10%							
Roll Call	Bell	Brislin	Campbell	DeGeorge	Johnson	Statkus	Zernhelt	Total
YES	х		х	х		х		4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT		х			х		х	3

## 11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Caitlin Statkus 2nd Tasha DeGeorge Voice Vote: All in Favor

Time of Adjournment: 6:38 p.m.

Motion to reopen meeting at 6:40 p.m. made by Andree Campbell

Moved: Christopher Bell Seconded: Caitlin Statkus

Motion to permit a field trip for grades K-8 to the Sussex County Sunflower Maze in Sandyston in September at no cost to the district.

Moved: Caitlin Statkus Seconded: Christopher Bell

Wioved. Caltilli	Jiaikus	Seconded. Onli	Stopher Den					
Roll Call	Bell	Brislin	Campbell	DeGeorge	Johnson	Statkus	Zernhelt	Total
YES	х		х	х		х		4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT		х			х		х	3

Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:41 p.m.

Moved: Caitlin Statkus Seconded: Tasha DeGeorge Voice Vote: All in favor

Next board meeting: September 10, 2025 @ 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

# Dana Berry

**DANA BERRY** 

Administrative Assistant to the Board Secretary