

**Montague Board of Education Meeting  
Regular Meeting  
March 18, 2015**

**Call to Order**

**Roll Call**

	Present	Absent
Tacia Johnson	X	
Gayle Andriac	X	
Tom Bolen	X	
Diane Cole	X	
George Gelderman	X	
Sally Kurtzman	X	
Debra Osborne	X	

Others Present:

Janice L. Hodge, Chief School Administrator/Principal  
John W. Waycie, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Cherie Adams, Esq., Attorney for Montague Board of Education

**Flag Salute**

**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 and The Middletown Record.**

**Executive Session**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education recess and proceed to Executive Session to review personnel and legal matters.**

**Motion to open Executive Session at 7:02 p.m.**

Motion by Mrs. Kurtzman, seconded by Mr. Bolen  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried

**Motion to close Executive Session at 7:45p.m.**

Motion by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mr. Bolen  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried

**Motion to resume Regular Meeting Agenda at 7:45p.m.**

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mr. Gelderman  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried

**As a reminder, the school's anti-bullying policy and how it applies to all; Board Members, Administration, Teachers, volunteers, parents, and members of the community, as we are all to display behavior for the children so they can learn by example and not harass, intimidate, or bully others, either in person or writing, inclusive of via social media. It has been brought to the attention of the Board and Administration, that just prior to our last meeting, as well as during the meeting, statements were made on social media by those in attendance at the meeting, which included an insinuation and threat of violence which were both harassing, intimidating, and of course a form of bullying. Therefore, as a safety precaution for the Board Members, Administration, public and students, the presence of the Constable has been requested at the meetings until these threats cease to exist.**

### **Approval of Minutes**

**February 26, 2015 – Regular Meeting  
February 26, 2015 – Executive Meeting  
March 11, 2015 – Workshop Meeting**  
Motion by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mrs. Andriac  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried

### **Superintendent Report:**

- 1. Mary Ellen Kithcart is retiring after 28 years, 26 here in Montague. During this time she has taught BSI, special ed, 6<sup>th</sup> and kindergarten. Thank you Mary Ellen for your dedication to our students!**
- 2. PARCC- week 3 (4<sup>th</sup> grade) ends Friday. Week 4 (3<sup>rd</sup> grade) next week**
- 3. Curriculum- the writing phase is underway. EQ's and OBJ**

### **Open to Public (Any Items)**

**As a reminder for all, and as per NJSBA, Board of Education meetings are “a meeting in public, not a meeting of the public. Many people especially parents and community members, misunderstand the nature of a school board meeting. School boards provide leadership for what are typically multi-million dollar corporations. The board has important work to accomplish. And, to do that work, the board needs to be fully engaged around the table. The Open Meetings Act requires that public business be done in public, and that citizens have opportunity to observe, and comment, at every meeting.”**

**Additionally, as per NJSA 2C:33-8, 10:4-12, and as adopted by Montague's Board of Education in Bylaw 0167, please remember the public participation shall be governed by the following rules:**

- 1. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface - by an announcement of his/her name, place of residence, and group affiliation if appropriate;**
- 2. Each statement by a participant shall be limited to 3 minute duration**

**3. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard;**

**4. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board Members individually;**

**5. The presiding officer may:**

**a. Interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;**

**b. Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;**

**c. Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;**

**d. Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action; and**

**e. Waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or the efficient administration of the Board's business.**

**During this portion of the meeting, the residents are invited to address the Board with any comments or concerns that may be in respect to the operation of their school.**

**Motion to open public comment at 7:55 p.m.**

Motion Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mrs. Andriac

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Mrs. Olenick- mentioned survey of High Point students, her children won't be bullied to go to High Point, 7/8 grade options for Port Jervis, wants printed report card, no response on March 5<sup>th</sup> letter

Mr. Mitchell- commented about Board members behavior

Ms. Mikulski- video clip at Port Jervis, was high Point contacted? What are your intentions?

Mr. Mannion- we have a contract with Port Jervis

Mr. Henn- what is tax impact, new counsel

Mr. Biggs- not taking PARCC

Ms. Holstein- Port Jervis Board meeting, Port Jervis broken system

Ms. Mikulski- misleading people about Port Jervis

**Motion to close public comment at 8:12 p.m.**

Motion by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mr. Bolen

All in Favor

Motion Carried

**Old Business-**

Mrs. Cole- is training date set for training?  
Technology- informed Dr. Greene has been invited for presentation  
NJSBA article about grants – set up presentation

Ms. Johnson- need representatives for Port Jervis and High Point meetings

**New Business:**

Committee reports: Finance/Insurance March 4<sup>th</sup>  
Ad Hoc- March 4<sup>th</sup>

**Administration**

**AD-1 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education approves that interviews are scheduled for possible Special Counsel respondents.**

Motion by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mrs. Andriac  
All in Favor  
Motion Carries

**Personnel**

**P -1 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education accept the retirement letter of Mary Ellen Seely-Kithcart effective April 30, 2015, with regret.**

Motion Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mr. Bolen  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried

**Finance**

**FI 1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education accept the School Treasurer's Financial Report for the month of January 2015 (FY2015).**

**ATTACHMENT FI 1**

Motion by Mrs. Kurtzman, seconded by Mrs. Andriac  
Vote 7-0  
Motion Carried

**FI 2. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education accept the Board Secretary's Financial Report for the month of January 2015 (FY2015).**

**ATTACHMENT FI 2**

Motion by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mrs. Andriac  
Vote 7-0  
Motion Carried

**FI 3. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education approve the March 18, 2015 (FY 2015) Bill List attached and listed below:**

	<u>Check Numbers</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Regular Bill List	#21218-#21268	\$557,720.60
Lunch Program	#1598- #1602	\$9,012.20

**ATTACHMENT FI 3**

Motion by Mrs. Kurtzman, seconded by Mrs. Andriac  
 Vote 7-0  
 Motion Carried

**FI 4. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education certifies that pursuant to NJAC 6A: 23-16.10 (c), as of January 31, 2015 the appropriations section of the budget did not reflect any over expenditures in any of the major accounts or funds, and based upon the appropriation balances reflected and the advice of district officials, we have no reason to doubt that the district has sufficient funds available to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.**

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mr. Gelderman  
 Vote 7-0  
 Motion Carried

**FI 5. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education hereby adopt the following budget for the 2015-2016 school year:**

	<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>SPECIAL REVENUES</u>	<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
2015-2016 Total Expenditures	\$8,716,113	\$201,000	\$ 137,410	\$9,054,523
Less: Anticipated Revenues	<u>\$2,935,380</u>	<u>\$201,000</u>	<u>\$15,032</u>	<u>\$3,151,412</u>
Taxes to be Raised	\$5,780,733	0	\$122,378	\$5,903,111

**WHEREAS, the Montague Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and**

**WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and**

**WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$500 per staff member where prior Board approval shall**

not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A et seq., but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A et seq. as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A et seq., to a maximum expenditure of \$20,000 for all staff and board members.

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mrs. Kurtzman  
Vote 7-0  
Motion Carried

### **Building/Grounds/Transportation**

**BGT 1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education approve the application for use of school facilities made by Cal Ripken Baseball.**

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>PURPOSE/ROOM</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Cal Ripken Baseball	baseball gym/side parking lot	March-April M & W T & Th	5-9pm 7:30-9pm

Please Note: This approval is to authorize use of the facilities to a specific group/organization for the purpose indicated above and in no way burdens the Montague School or Board of Education with the responsibility of notification of any cancellations for whatever reason. Notification of cancellation or adjustment to the dates indicated is the sole responsibility of the Group/Organization named above.

Motion by Mr. Bolen, seconded by Mr. Gelderman  
Vote 7-0  
Motion Carried

### **Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:40 p.m.**

Motion by Mr. Gelderman, seconded by Mrs. Andriac  
All in Favor  
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

John W. Waycie  
Board Secretary