

**Montague Board of Education Meeting
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2017**

Call to Order

Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Glen Plotsky, President	X	
Diane Cole, Vice President	X	
Gayle Andriac	X-Late	
Sally Kurtzman	X	
Emma Masset	X	
Tacia Johnson	X-Late	
Linda Spinapolice	X	

Others Present:

Robert Walker – Interim Chief School Administrator
Tina Palecek – Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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.

Announcement of Executive Session

There will be an executive session at the end of this meeting to discuss personnel. Action will be taken.

Recognition

Congratulations to Jody Taylor, Montague Township School Teacher of the Year!!

Congratulations to Kristen Snyder – Sussex County Technical School Student of the Year!!

Congratulations to Lori Jeskey who received a \$1,000.00 scholarship from NJEA to attend the National Network of State Teachers of the Year (NNSTOY) Conference held in Washington DC July 15-19, 2017.

Presentation

None

Approval of Minutes

Approval of February 14, 2017

Attachment BA 1

Motion Diane Cole 2nd by Sally Kurtzman

Discussion: Diane Cole disagreed with the notation in the meeting that stated, “Diane left the meeting” Mrs. Cole stated she never left the meeting and she never leaves a meeting. Mr. Plotsky and Mrs. Palecek recalled the action in question which supported the minutes. Linda Spinapolice noted a needed correction

on a vote contained in the minutes; Mrs. Spinapolice and Mrs. Andriac were marked as having voted, but were both absent and unable to participate in the vote. In light of the need to verify the minutes and correct as needed, it was decided to table the minutes.

Motion to table the February 14, 2017 Minutes by Glen Plotsky and 2nd by Sally Kurtzman
Ayes: Glen Plotsky, Sally Kurtzman, Emma Masset, Diane Cole, Gayle Andriac
Nays: Tacia Johnson
Abstains: Linda Spinapolice
Motion carried

Approval of Special Meeting, March 2, 2017 Attachment BA 2
Motion by Sally Kurtzman 2nd by Gayle Andriac
Ayes: Glen Plotsky, Sally Kurtzman, Emma Masset, Gayle Andriac, Linda Spinapolice
Nays:
Abstains: Diane Cole, Tacia Johnson
Motion carried

Approval of Workshop Meeting, March 20, 2017 Attachment BA 3
Motion by Emma Masset 2nd by Sally Kurtzman
Ayes: Glen Plotsky, Emma Masset, Gayle Andriac, Linda Spinapolice
Nays:
Abstains: Diane Cole, Tacia Johnson, Sally Kurtzman
Motion carried

CSA Report

Presented by Robert Walker:

We have one staff member who resigned and there is some reorganization of job responsibilities from that retirement.

First time graduation details are being completed by staff and PTA; students and staff very excited.

Classroom observations have been excellent

Problem with transportation was addressed in High Point Country Club

Preschool and K-8 Spanish Curriculum was reviewed

Policy changes recommended for committee to review

SBA Report

Budget

Lead Water Testing Montague Passed its Lead Water testing requirements. County has been notified and letters sent home to parent/guardians as required.

Water Test Room 92 – the architect firm conducted a water test in Room 92; the windows have no leaks, but there are some serious roof issues.

Committee Reports

Committee reports were received at the previous meeting
Committees need to be on each workshop meeting agenda with special emphasis on curriculum and policy so the Board may speak on those matters next month.

Finance/Insurance, Chair – E. Masset

Buildings, Grounds, & Transportation, Chair – L. Spinapolice

Personnel, Chair – S. Kurtzman
Negotiations, Chair – T. Johnson

Sending current contract to NJSBA for review, but then received recall from NJSBA. As soon as we receive final version Board members will receive contract to review

Curriculum, Chair – L. Spinapolic
Policy, Chair – G. Plotsky

Correspondence

Goal Setting Workshop Summary and Ethics Training PowerPoint from Kathy Helewa, Field Service Rep. NJSBA

Liaison Report

Tacia Johnson will be the new Port Jervis liaison.

Glen Plotsky agreed to be liaison to High Point Regional High School

Public Session

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 9322, 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 6:45 p.m.

Motion by: Emma Masset 2nd by: Gayle Andriac

All in favor

No opposed

Motion Carried

John Manion, Chubby Lane, Board of Education members have the right to grieve, need peace and love and smooth running. Mr. Manion commented that there are over \$400,000.00 unpaid taxes accrued for second or third year in a row. The Board needs to be mindful not to bankrupt the Town with per pupil costs. He requested the Board look at the community and make drastic changes; can't continue present path, Town will go bankrupt.

Lisa Bingham, Deckertown Turnpike, Thank you all. Read an email from Michele Hordzinski who in the opinion of Mrs. Bingham was a big part of her life. Losing Ms. Hordzinski is a gifted and compassionate person. She understands and respects the Board, but for the mom of a special education student she requested Ms. Hordzinski's job be saved.

Dawn Marion, River Road – On May 26, 2017 there will be a wedding celebration in the preschool program between “Q” and “U”. There is a DJ and reception. The entire Board is invited.

Debra Osborne, New Road, Private School Students, She OPRA requested transportation records for documentation regarding Aide in Lieu. She also requested update regarding placement of 7th and 8th grade students at Kittatinny as mentioned by Mr. Walker.

Art Henn, River Road, Where are the microphones; are we ever going to get them?

Dawn Marion, River Road, Rebuttal, we need to invest in our school; we have an awesome school. She mentioned she heard of problems with the school and all the costs would be too expensive – has the Board considered a referendum? Paying for all of the repairs would be too much money to take out of working budget.

Glen Plotsky addressed the public: No answers will be given during Public Comment

Diane Cole wanted to make a comment for public record. Mrs. Cole read a letter she received from Mr. Robert Walker. Mr. Walker communicated a former Board member; Osborne claimed he discussed executive session information regarding placing students at Kittatinny. Mrs. Osborne was waiting to see Mrs. Palecek for bussing when she complained about not having athletics. Mr. Walker wrote he explained Montague was looking at options like Kittatinny because we have 20 or so students there as Choice students. Mrs. Cole verbalized that the time

of this conversation, any discussions regarding looking at placing students at Kittatinny had not been made public; it was clearly an Executive Session topic. Debra Osborne has now brought it to light that this was an Executive Session topic and not open to the public.

Motion to close public comment at 7:08 p.m.

Motion by: Gayle Andriac 2nd by: Emma Masset
All in favor
No opposed
Motion Carried

Committee Action Items

Finance & Insurance

FI-1- BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education approve the 2017-2018 School Budget as presented at the Public Hearing on May 2, 2017 with a tax levy of \$5,896,347.00 ATTACHMENT F&I-1

Motion by Emma Masset, 2nd by Gayle Andriac

Discussion: Mrs. Johnson read an email regarding her thoughts on the presented budget. Mrs. Spinapolice new Chair working with Mrs. Palecek and facilities issues addressed with budget.

Ayes: Glen Plotsky, Gayle Andriac, Linda Spinapolice, Diane Cole, Sally Kurtzman, Emma Masset
No: None
Abstain: Tacia Johnson
Motion Carried

FI-2- BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education approve the May 9, 2017 Bill attached and listed below: ATTACHMENT BA-4

	Check Numbers	Amount
Regular Bill List	#23207-23262	\$540,946.03
Lunch Program List	#1653-1655	\$8,418.16
Student Council	#323	\$150.00

Motion by Gayle Andriac, 2nd by Sally Kurtzman

Ayes: Glen Plotsky, Gayle Andriac, Linda Spinapolice, Sally Kurtzman, Emma Masset
No: None
Abstain: Tacia Johnson, Diane Cole
Motion Carried

Building, Grounds, & Transportation

BGT 1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education approve changing bus route E-1 as recommended by the School Business Administrator.

Motion by Sally Kurtzman, 2nd by Gayle Andriac

Ayes: Glen Plotsky, Gayle Andriac, Linda Spinapolice, Sally Kurtzman, Emma Masset, Diane Cole

No: None

Abstain: Tacia Johnson

Motion Carried

Personnel

P-1- BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education accept with regret the retirement papers of Mrs. Diane Dennis effective July 1, 2017.

Motion by Gayle Andriac, 2nd by Emma Masset

Ayes: Glen Plotsky, Gayle Andriac, Linda Spinapolice, Sally Kurtzman, Emma Masset

No: None

Abstain: Tacia Johnson, Diane Cole

Motion Carried

P-2- BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Township Board of Education approve the hiring of Timothy Capone as the Chief School Administrator for Montague Township School at the annual salary of \$125,000.00 per year for five-years to begin in accordance with his approved contract.

Motion by Gayle Andriac, 2nd by Glen Plotsky

Discussion: Why vote again? First time resolution presented the contract was not in proper form. The second time the proper form did not have the County Superintendent's approval. We are now in compliance.

Ayes: Glen Plotsky, Gayle Andriac, Linda Spinapolice, Sally Kurtzman, Emma Masset, Diane Cole

No: None

Abstain: Tacia Johnson

Motion Carried

P-3-. BE IT RESOLVED, the Montague Board of Education approve the renewal of the following certificated staff contracts:

Lynn Antonucci

Taffy-Lynn Banghart

Jennifer Barcza

Jennifer Battikha

Denise Bellini

Stacey Blasdell

Leslie Coolong

Donna Dougherty

Carl Ferriere

Therese Fischer

Karen Goyette

Kimberly Hamilton

Cori Harrington

Monica Higbie

Lori

Jeskey

Dawn Marion
Laura Moroney
Debra Runne
Michelle Visco
Nancy Wright

Peter Martin
Victoria Pauciello
Jody Taylor
Linda Willeford

Shannon McCarty-Meincke
Brenton Runne
Frances Varacalli
Sharon William

as recommended by the Chief School Administrator for the 2017-2018 School Year; salaries to be determined upon completion of negotiations.

Motion by Diane Cole, 2nd by Gayle Andriac

Ayes: Glen Plotsky, Gayle Andriac, Linda Spinapolice, Sally Kurtzman, Emma Masset, Tacia Johnson, Diane Cole

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

P-4- BE IT RESOLVED, the Montague Board of Education approve the renewal of the following support staff contracts:

Sharon Aldom

Reyna Carreno

Tracy Edwards

Heidi Falcowski

Charles Fletcher

Kim Hart

William Jeskey

Vito Morrealle

Rocco Pinzone

Donna Reckovik

Stephen Reiners

as recommended by the Chief School Administrator for the 2017-2018 School Year; salaries to be determined upon completion of negotiations

Motion by Diane Cole, 2nd by Emma Masset

Ayes: Glen Plotsky, Gayle Andriac, Linda Spinapolice, Sally Kurtzman, Emma Masset, Tacia Johnson, Diane Cole

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

P-5- BE IT RESOLVED, the Montague Board of Education approve the renewal of the following confidential staff contracts:

Donna Pinzone

Sharon Reiners

as recommended by the Chief School Administrator for the 2017-2018 School Year; salaries to be determined upon completion of negotiations

Motion by Emma Masset, 2nd by Sally Kurtzman

Ayes: Glen Plotsky, Gayle Andriac, Linda Spinapolice, Sally Kurtzman, Emma Masset, Tacia Johnson, Diane Cole

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

P-6- BE IT RESOLVED, the Montague Board of Education approve the renewal of the Tina Palecek as the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary contract as recommended by the Chief School Administrator for the 2017-2018 School Year; salary to be determined upon completion of negotiations

Motion by Gayle Andriac, 2nd by Linda Spinapolice

Ayes: Glen Plotsky, Gayle Andriac, Linda Spinapolice, Sally Kurtzman, Emma Masset, Tacia Johnson, Diane Cole

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

P-7- BE IT RESOLVED, the Montague Board of Education approve the contract renewal of School Psychologist/Counselor, Cheri Geoghegan and Social Worker, Patricia Walker and the nonrenewal the contract for the Social Worker, Michele Hordysznski as recommended by the Chief School Administrator for the 2017-2018 School Year; salaries to be determined upon completion of negotiations

Motion by Gayle Andriac, 2nd by Emma Masset

Ayes: Glen Plotsky, Gayle Andriac, Linda Spinapolice, Emma Masset, Diane Cole

No: None

Abstain: None

Recuse: Sally Kurtzman, Tacia Johnson (both solely for M. Hordysznski)

Motion Carried

Administration

None

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

Executive Session:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education recess and proceed to executive session to discuss personnel matters. Action will be taken.

Motion to open Executive Session at 7:41 p.m.

Motion Gayle Andriac 2nd by Emma Masset

All in Favor

None Opposed

Motion Carried

Motion to close Executive Session at 9:00 p.m.

Motion Sally Kurtzman, 2nd by Diane Cole

All in Favor

Non Opposed

Motion Carried

Motion to reopen Regular Meeting at 9:00pm
Motion Sally Kurtzman, 2nd by Gayle Andriac
All in Favor
None Opposed
Motion Carried

Adjournment

Motion Gayle Andriac 2nd by Diane Cole
All in Favor
None Oppose
Motion Carried