

**Montague Board of Education Meeting
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2018
6:00 pm**

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Glen Plotsky, President	X	
Linda Spinapolice, Vice President		X
Gayle Andriac	X	
Sally Kurtzman	X	
Emma Masset		X
Diane Cole		X
Charles Teufert	X	

Others Present:

Timothy Capone - Chief School Administrator

Tina Palecek – Business Administrator/Board Secretary

III. Flag Salute

IV. 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 Times Herald Record.

V. Announcement of Executive Session

VI. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education recess and proceed to executive session to discuss personnel matters and legal issues. Action may or may not be taken.

Motion to open Executive Session at 6:04 pm

Motion Gayle Andriac 2nd by Charles Teufert

All in Favor

None Opposed

Motion Carried

Motion to close Executive Session at 8:09 pm

Motion Gayle Andriac 2nd by Charles Teufert

All in Favor

None Opposed

Motion Carried

Motion to reopen Regular Meeting at 8:09 pm

Motion Charles Teufert 2nd by Sally Kurtzman

All in Favor

None Opposed

Motion Carried

VII. Approval of Minutes
a. March 26, 2018

Motion: Charles Teufert Second: Sally Kurtzman
With the correction of one name during public comment

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

VIII. CSA Report

The first spring track meet against Sussex Wantage and Kittatinny students was held at High Point Regional High School. Mr. Gregory reported the students, even with limited practice due to weather, did exceptionally well; he was very proud. One student came in 2nd in the 400 meter and another student jumped over twelve-feet with only three practices before the event. The next track meet is May 15, 2018 at Kittatinny.

HIB Report – Mr. Gregory, There was a HIB investigation initiated on March 26, 2018. It was closed on April 18, 2018 as a confirmed HIB. Appropriate action was taken.

A motion was made by Gayle Andriac and seconded by Charles Teufert to accept the findings of the HIB investigative report.

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

Title I – Mr. Capone reported on the held Title I meetings. To date two have been held with community and staff attendance. Several suggestions were given including green screens and the desire to have a maker space at the school. There is one more meeting scheduled. Becoming a School wide Title I school will provide greater flexibility and allow more students to benefit. The next Title I meeting will be on May 22, 2018.

IX. SBA Report

Mrs. Palecek discussed the 2018-2019 with the aid of PowerPoint slide show. The operating budget for the 2018-2019 school year is \$9,120,971.00, proposed tax levy is \$6,260,805.00 utilizing Banked Cap \$121,833.00 from 2016-20017, \$33,940.00 from 2017-2018, and \$90,758.00 in Health Care Adjustment. Mrs. Palecek explained the figures presented were different from the approved tentative budget due to an additional adjustment to the Health Care Adjustment and the need for the budget to include an increase in Charter tuition costs of \$206,457.00. The total Charter tuition cost for the 2018-2019 school year is \$492,527.00 this figure was calculated by the State using a formula that has not been utilized since 2009. When asked why our tuition for Charter could go up over \$200,000.00 for five-students, the answer was that is how the formula works. Mrs. Palecek attempted to get the county office to allow Montague to reduce this number, but the answer was, “no”. Additionally, the county office required an additional \$148,822.20 for projected tuition costs regardless of whether the Montague Board believes it should pay. Therefore, significant changes were necessary to balance the budget. Another factor impacting the budget is a loss of \$26,720.00. We are able to give back to the tax payer a total of \$212,695.00. Total tax impact per household will be \$43.00.

Mr. Teufert asked how we are making up those additional costs in the budget.

Mrs. Palecek responded that the Board needs to determine where we can save and where we need to make cuts.

Mr. Teufert recommended tabling F1 until additional discussion can be completed.

Mr. Plotsky asked if the school was overstaffed and about the full-day preschool and bringing special education students back.

Mr. Capone responded that the tuition figures Mrs. Palecek discussed do not include the cost to transport for those students. Montague is responsible for transporting all students and those costs like tuition will continue to increase subsequently increasing our per pupil costs. Purchasing our own buses will cut transportation costs, but that requires spending to save money. Mr. Capone communicated concern regarding how the Board can identify a \$400,000.00 tax gap. We need to find cost savings and the Board will need to look at how that can be accomplished. Staffing is an area the Board can find the needed money.

Mr. Plotsky asked about the preschool program and bringing back special education students.

Mr. Capone commented that he was concerned that there were rumors of closing down the preschool program when we are actually expanding the program. Mr. Capone told the Board that the expanded preschool and bringing back students based on individual needs will allow us to provide more services. Mr. Capone said he had no idea where that rumor was coming from, but it is completely false.

Mrs. Palecek also communicated to the Board that the school passed County fire inspection.

X. Correspondence

Mr. Plotsky received an email from a member of the High Point Foundation regarding the transportation of our 8th graders attending the picnic at High Point on May 23, 2018. The Foundation has offered to donate funds to secure transportation of our students to the event.

XI. Liaison Report

a. Non-voting Member Report

No report

XII. Public Session

Motion to open public comment at 8:35 pm

Motion Gayle Andriac 2nd by Charles Teufert

All in Favor

None Opposed

Motion Carried

Amy Quiros, 315 Wagon-wheel Road, expressed her gratitude for Mr. Capone meeting with them regarding the situation discussed at a previous meeting. Her son is doing much better and he feels comfortable. Thank you for taking action.

Jose Batres, 315 Wagon-wheel Road, communicated he had conflicting feelings regarding the situation with his son. He does not believe it should have taken speaking at a Board meeting to get action it was an emotional rollercoaster for all of them. There are policies that should be followed – they were not followed.

George Gelderman, 402 Deerfield, new 7th grade English teacher is awesome. The additional school activities is wonderful, but he communicated concern regarding the picnic at High Point and things being withheld from High Point and students going to an open house without permission slips from parents.

Donna Campbell, 230 New Road, Yes it is true students went to an open house without parents knowing. Her daughter went and she had no idea her daughter left the building. The High Point picnic, other schools are paying for transportation – she sent emails to both Mr. Gregory and Mr. Capone – no responses. If she needs, she will take day off and drive her child. She also expressed concern that no records were released for graduating students.

Motion to close public comment at 8:43 pm

Motion Charles Teufert 2nd by Gayle Andriac

All in Favor

None Opposed

Motion Carried

XIII. Action Items

F-1 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the 2018-2019 Budget utilizing \$121,833.00 from 2016-2017 Banked Cap, \$33,940.00 from 2017-2018 Banked Cap, \$90,758.00 Health Care Adjustment for a total tax levy of \$6,260,805.00, and a threshold for travel at \$25,000.00.

Tabled initially for additional discussion

Motion: Charles Teufert

Second: Sally Kurtzman

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

F-2 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the May 1, 2018 - Bill List attached and listed below:

Regular Bill List
 Check Numbers #A:23992-A:24031
 Amount \$163,288.53

Motion: Charles Teufert

Second: Gayle Andriac

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

F-3 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve Contract for Educational Services for ESY 2018 commencing on July 5, 2018 for student #6347937694 in the amount of \$16,065.00.

Motion: Charles Teufert Second: Gayle Andriac

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

F-4 Was Deleted

~~**F-4 BE IT RESOLVED**, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve Contract for Educational Services for ESY 2018 commencing on July 5, 2018 for student #8197377834 in the amount of \$15,107.00.~~

F-5 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve Contract for Educational Services for ESY 2018 commencing on July 5, 2018 for student #2454617903 in the amount of \$9,536.00.

Motion: Charles Teufert Second: Gayle Andriac

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

F-6 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve Contract for Educational Services for ESY 2018 commencing on July 5, 2018 for student #9469614603 in the amount of \$12,513.50.

Motion: Charles Teufert Second: Gayle Andriac

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

F-7 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the Joint Transportation Agreement between High Point Regional High School and Montague School for the 2017-2018 School Year with a joiner cost of \$3,940.65.

Motion: Charles Teufert Second: Gayle Andriac

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

A-1 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the change in field trip date for the 7th and 8th Grade Class Trip to Dorney Park in Allentown Pennsylvania from June 8, 2018 to June 15, 2018. Approval includes transportation and admission tickets. Rain date withdrawn.

Motion: Charles Teufert

Second: Gayle Andriac

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

A-2 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the track meet at Kittatinny High School on May 15, 2018 including transportation.

Motion: Charles Teufert

Second: Gayle Andriac

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

A-3 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the Engineering Club meet at Kittatinny High School on May 15, 2018 for Junior Solar Sprint Race including transportation.

Motion: Charles Teufert

Second: Gayle Andriac

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

A-4 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve Porzio Bromberg and Newman as the Montague School District's Special Counsel at the listed rates.

Motion: Sally Kurtzman

Second: Charles Teufert

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

A-5 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve going to bid for ESY transportation for the Montague’s 2018/2019 Extended School Year program.

Motion: Sally Kurtzman

Second: Charles Teufert

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

P-1 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the request of employee # MES0000023 application for Family and Medical Leave Act due to her medical condition.

Motion: Charles Teufert

Second: Gayle Andriac

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

P-2 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the elimination of the following positions from the Montague School Personnel Control Roster:

- MES0000026 – Social Worker
- MES0000057 – Main Office Secretary

Motion: Gayle Andriac

Second: Charles Teufert

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

P-3 BE IT RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Montague Board of Education approve the creation of an hourly office clerk position effective September 1, 2018 ending June 30, 2019.

Motion: Charles Teufert

Second: Sally Kurtzman

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

Resolution No. P-4 5-1-18 WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:28-9 provides that a board of education may “reduce the number of teaching staff members employed in the district whenever, in the judgment of the board, it is advisable to abolish any such positions for reasons of economy or because of reduction in the number of pupils or of change in the administrative or supervisory organization of the district or for other good cause;”

WHEREAS, for reasons of economy, and position and staffing restructuring in light of current District operational needs and student enrollment the following existing full time employee (“FTE”) positions are recommended for abolishment: of two (2) Elementary Teacher Positions

WHEREAS, based foregoing and information provided by the Superintendent, the Board finds it advisable to reduce the total number of positions in the District for the 2018-2019 school year through a reduction in force;

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Education as follows:

1. That two (2) Elementary Teacher positions are hereby eliminated as a result of a reduction in force;
2. That affected employees will promptly receive appropriate notification of their respective employment status; and
3. That the Superintendent or his/her designee is authorized to provide the necessary notification to affected employees.

Motion: Charles Teufert

Second: Gayle Andriac

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

Resolution No P-5 5-1-2018 WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:28-9 provides that a board of education may “reduce the number of teaching staff members employed in the district whenever, in the judgment of the board, it is advisable to abolish any such positions for reasons of economy or because of reduction in the number of pupils or of change in the administrative or supervisory organization of the district or for other good cause;”

WHEREAS, for reasons of economy, and position and staffing restructuring in light of current District operational needs and student enrollment the following existing full time employee (“FTE”) positions are recommended for abolishment: one (1) Assistant Principal Position

WHEREAS, based foregoing and information provided by the Superintendent, the Board finds it advisable to reduce the total number of positions in the District for the 2018-2019 school year through a reduction in force;

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Education as follows:

2. That one (1) Assistant Principal position is hereby eliminated as a result of a reduction in force;
2. That affected employees will promptly receive appropriate notification of their respective employment status; and
3. That the Superintendent or his/her designee is authorized to provide the necessary notification to affected employees.

Motion: Charles Teufert

Second: Sally Kurtzman

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

XV Unfinished Business

- Underground Oil Tank
- Asbestos Tile
- Roof
- Eye Screener
- Auditory Screener
- Front Main Entrance Safety Upgrade
 - Will have update of work in next couple of weeks
- Budget Goals/LRFP
 - Pre-K Program/Special Education
 - Transportation
 - Facilities

XVI New Business

Mr. Plotsky made the motion to accept the donation of transportation to the 8th Grade Orientation picnic by the High Point Foundation, seconded by Charles Teufert.

Roll Call	GP	GA	SK	LS	EM	DC	CT	Total
YES	X	X	X				X	4
NO								
ABSTAIN								
ABSENT				X	X	X		3

Mr. Teufert communicated that he believes there is an existing contract through the Town of Montague which may allow us to have a discounted expense. Mr. Plotsky requested Mrs. Palecek look into the matter.

XVII Executive Session if necessary:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montague Board of Education recess and proceed to executive session to discuss personnel matters and legal issues. Action may or may not be taken.

Motion to open Executive Session at 8:50 pm
 Motion Gayle Andriac 2nd by Charles Teufert
 All in Favor
 None Opposed
 Motion Carried

Motion to close Executive Session at 9:26 pm
 Motion Gayle Andriac 2nd by Charles Teufert
 All in Favor
 None Opposed
 Motion Carried

Motion to reopen Regular Meeting at 9:26 pm
Motion Charles Teufert 2nd by Sally Kurtzman
All in Favor
None Opposed
Motion Carried

XVIII Adjournment

Motion Gayle Andriac 2nd by Charles Teufert
All in Favor
None Opposed
Motion Carried