

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2008 AT 5:00 P.M.
22 VALLEY ROAD, MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY

A. The public meeting opened at 5:10 p.m. and the following statement was read:

Let the minutes reflect that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in the following manner:

On March 5, 2008, notice of this meeting was faxed to the Montclair Times, the Herald and News and the Star-Ledger. The time, date, and location of this meeting were accurately set forth therein.

On the same date a copy of said notice was filed with the Township Clerk and was posted at the public bulletin board in the first floor main hall of the Board of Education Building, 22 Valley Road.

Copies have also been mailed to all persons who have requested same at no cost.

B. RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:11 p.m. Mrs. Taylor moved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b), the Montclair Board of Education may exclude the public from that portion of a public meeting at which the Board discusses any of the matters described at N.J.S.A.10:4-(b) (1) - (9);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education shall forthwith enter into closed session to discuss the following matters concerning: personnel matters cover by the attorney-client privilege; and matter rendered confidential by state or federal law: personnel matters, personnel report, and out-of-district.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said discussion maybe disclosed to the public when the reasons for discussing and acting upon it in closed session no longer exist.

Seconded by Ms. Grill and approved by a vote of 6-0.

At 5:11 p.m. the Board went into executive session.

C. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Personnel Matters
2. Personnel Report

3. Out-of-District Placement

D. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Mrs. Taylor moved that the Board shall return from executive session; seconded by Ms. Grill and approved by a vote of 6-0.

The Board returned to open session at 7:35 p.m.

E. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance occurred at 7:41 p.m.

F. ROLL CALL

	PRESENT	ABSENT
Timothy Barr	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
John Carlton	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Shirley Grill	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Robert Kautz	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Shelly Lombard	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Ronald Riddick	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Carmen Taylor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Staff Members Present	<u> 5</u>	
Members of the Public	<u> 10</u>	
Members of the Press	<u> 1</u>	

G. MINUTES

Ms. Grill moved to approve the following minutes:

1. Public Board meeting held Monday, March 3, 2008

Seconded by Mrs. Taylor and approved by a vote of 6-0.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Alvarez thanked Mrs. Sullivan and the Board members for all of their work and support during the budget process. Dr. Alvarez gave special thanks to Mrs. Lombard and Mr. Barr for being the Board representatives to the Board of School Estimate. He stated it was a difficult year but the Board got through it.

Dr. Alvarez spoke about the AVID program at the High School which received a \$42,000 grant from the Avington Foundation and that the Health & Wellness Partnership received a \$3,000 grant from Montclair State for a community health intern for this summer.

Dr. Alvarez thanked Boyce Ennis for putting together our Youth Explosion chorus last week which had about 500 students participating in it.

1. Ethics Training

Presented by Janet Lobsenz:

Ms. Lobsenz stated that the Ethics Act was passed in two phases. The first portion addresses the Conflict of Interest Act, which is represented by the forms that are filled out every April. The second portion made Board members training mandatory in which QSAC will be checking to make sure the training is done. This portion also adopted the New Jersey's School Boards Code of Ethics and made them statutory.

Ms. Lobsenz passed out a Code of Ethics Quiz for the Board, she highlighted the following regarding the Code of Ethics:

- ◆ Anyone can file a complaint against a School Board Members
- ◆ School Ethics Commission is the first to hear the complaint, then a formal recommendation is made to the Commissioner of Education who makes the final decision
- ◆ If a Board member has violated the Code they can be suspended, censured, reprimanded, or removed from the Board
- ◆ If a frivolous complaint is made there can be recourse
- ◆ The following actions are considered illegal under the Ethics Act
 - Action in an official capacity when the official or a member of his/her immediate family may benefit
 - Action in an official capacity when the official or a member of his/her immediate family has a direct/indirect financial involvement, if that action may reasonably be expected to impair the official's objectivity or judgment
 - Solicitation of a favor, loan, contribution, etc., that was given or offered to influence the official directly or indirectly

- ◆ An immediate family member is defined as: spouse, dependent and emancipated children and siblings
- ◆ You do not have to list the dollar value of your holding on your financial disclosure form
- ◆ You can not discuss or vote on the appointment of an immediate family member
- ◆ If you have a family member in the same statewide union you can not be involved in negotiations until after there has been a tentative agreement on the contract
- ◆ Political endorsement by the union prevents a Board member from participating in local negotiations for the year they are endorsed
- ◆ Board members costs are not covered for acts or omissions arising out of his/her official duties when the proceedings are criminal or quasi-criminal

Ms. Lobsenz stated that all Board members are officers of the State. Confidentiality is a very important area. Currently there are more training requirements for new Board members than in the past, including training in QSAC and web site training.

Mr. Carlton asked about e-mail's and blogs. Ms. Lobsenz responded there has not been any rules on blogs as of yet, but anything that is done on a district's web site is public knowledge.

2. Science Curriculum

Presented by Mrs. Trigg-Scales and Dr. Moriarity:

Mrs. Trigg-Scales stated that the summary of the Science Curriculum will be presented by Dr. Moriarity and the actual curriculum will be distributed before the end of the year.

Dr. Moriarity stated that the Science K-8 curriculum is based on the 2004 New Jersey Core Content Standards as well as the 2008 New Jersey Clarification Process. At a meeting Mr. Hines, the State Science Supervisor, informed everyone that the New Jersey Science Committee is coming out with more specific standards. This summer they will be publishing deeper units that can be added to the curriculum at each of the grade levels. Standards include scientific process, science and safety, math applications, and nature & process of technology throughout K-8. As well as life science, physical science, earth science, astronomy, and environmental science. The standards are written sequentially and recognize that each of the years from K-8 the children will be exposed to earth science, physical science, and chemical science not just one topic a year.

The Board has been very generous the past three years in providing the new books the teachers have selected. Literature resources have been integrated for each of the grade levels, lab investigations have been added which will help the teacher to help differentiate and enrich or reinforce concepts for students. The Montclair Public School Technology standards have been integrated within the science websites as well as differentiated instruction forms for the teachers to help develop learning styles and activities.

Dr. Moriarty thanked a Montclair High School graduate that is doing his mentoring program for supervision and curriculum with the DOI and he has helped them very much.

Ms. Grill verified that the curriculum will be taught in a level appropriate to that grade. She also made sure that the curriculum is going to have all of the elements such as the assessment tools, the ability to teach to different levels, with everything built in.

Dr. Moriarty responded that these tools will be in two packets. The grade level curriculum is written for K-6 so that the fifth grade can look ahead to see what the sixth grade will be doing. The second packet is by grade level such as K-2, 3-5, and 6-8 which will have the other resources available in them.

Mr. Carlton asked about the achievement gap in science.

Mrs. Trigg-Scales responded that there are some gaps in science and now Montclair is at the point that we can start to focus on that gap. Science will now be looked at in more detail.

I. BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS

Mr. Barr thanked everyone for their support in the Board of School Estimate process.

Mrs. Taylor attended a Taste of China workshop which gave interesting statistics. One is that 200 million Chinese students are studying English, but only 24,000 American students are studying Chinese. She also thanked the School Board of Estimate for all of their hard work.

Ms. Grill thanked her fellow Board members for all of their support during the budget process especially Dr. Alvarez and Mrs. Sullivan.

Mr. Carlton also thanked his fellow Board members for their work done during the budget process. Mr. Carlton noted that the awards of contract resolutions related to the new school construction will be tabled.

Mrs. Sullivan informed everyone that bids for the new school were opened on March 19, 2008, and are still in the process of being reviewed. Several challenges arose from the bidders and the Board is investigating the legality of those challenges. The Board hopes to have a recommendation at the next Board meeting.

J. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – AGENDA ITEMS

None.

K. RESOLUTIONS

1. Budget Resolutions

Mrs. Lombard moved to approve the following Budget Resolutions:

Acknowledge Receipt of Certificates from the Board of School Estimate to the Montclair Board of Education of the Township of Montclair, New Jersey, and the Council of the Township of Montclair, New Jersey, Relating to the 2008-2009 Operating and Capital Budgets

BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the attached Certificates of the Board of School Estimate to the Board of Education of the Township of Montclair, New Jersey, and the Council of the Township of Montclair, New Jersey, relating to the School District Budget for the 2008-2009 school year as follows:

1. The 2008-2009 School District Budget
2. The Authorization of School Bonds for Capital Purposes

Seconded by Mr. Barr and approved by a roll call vote:

	AYE	NAY
Timothy Barr	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
John Carlton	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Shirley Grill	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Robert Kautz	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Shelly Lombard	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Ronald Riddick	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		ABSENT
Carmen Taylor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

2. Other Resolutions

Ms. Grill moved to approve the following resolutions:

a. Science Curriculum Grades K-8

WHEREAS, the recommended curriculum has been revised and updated by the staff of the Montclair School District, and correlates closely with the New Jersey Department of Education Core Curriculum Content Standards, 2007

WHEREAS, Title 18A (NJSA) requires New Jersey Boards of Education to adopt courses of study for children between the ages of 5 and 20, and

WHEREAS, this curriculum is developmentally appropriate, inclusive and challenging.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education approves the adoption of the Science Curriculum, Grades K-8.

b. Conference and Travel Expenses

WHEREAS, New Jersey Administrative Code N.J.A.C. 23 B and board of Education policy require approval of the Board of Education prior to expending Board of Education funds for travel and related expenses, and

WHEREAS, the travel must be directly related to the employee's or Board member's current responsibilities,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following Board members and employees are approved for travel-related reimbursements for an amount up to the estimated cost indicated:

<u>Conference</u>	<u>Board Member/ Employee</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Educational Purpose</u>
NJASBO-403B Regulations	Andrea Del Guercio	\$25.00	New regulations regarding 403B plans/tax

shelters

Cultural Competence & Child Maltreatment: Theories & Application	Latifah Jannah	\$75.00	Addresses issues of diversity in parenting and social equity and how this impacts schools.
Strengthening Your Geometry Program	Kimberly Noel Robinson Felicia Canino	\$195.00	Provides ideas, strategies, and hands-on activities for grade 7-12 Geometry.
Algebra Through Function Academy	James Rodgers Kari DeMeo	\$575.00 \$575.00	Focuses on teaching algebra through functions which will capitalize on cognitive processes of associations, patterns building visualizations and an enriched teaching environment. Strong emphasis on the use of graphing calculators in the classroom.
Electrical Licensed Renewal Cont. Education	Dulix Amilcar	\$195.00	Required as part of his electrical license, which is a contract requirement.
Electrical License Renewal	Dulix Amilcar	\$495.00	Continuing education for electrical license which is a requirement of his contract.
Understanding and Managing Children's Behaviors	Courtney Anderson	\$169.00	Provides behavior management strategies for various negative behaviors exhibited in the classroom.
AP Studio Art	Joanne Petrigliano	\$1150.00	Will provide a thorough

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review of the AP Studio Art program including portfolio development, assessment, rubrics, and review quality student work.

NJTESOL/ NJBE 2008 Spring Conference	Pasquale Lino Martire	\$130.00	Promote the delivery of instruction to our districts ESL population.
16 th Annual Principal's Center for Education Leadership	Barbara Elder Weller	\$1975.00	Focuses on skills for developing differentiated instruction, improving staff effectiveness in the delivery of instruction, & fostering communication and collaboration.
Practical Co- Teaching	Susan Knopping	\$199.00	Useful strategies for in-class support classrooms. Co-teaching rules & responsibilities.
Visions of Hope & Opportunity in Developmental & Learning Disabilities	Annette Kuehn	\$195.00	Will further her technology knowledge. Will help to incorporate technology into the class lessons. Will help to gain information to help students explore careers in Health Professions as added part of career exploration lessons.
Motivating Hard to Reach Students	Darlene Claussen Sarah Long	\$199.00 \$199.00	Promotes the delivery of instruction by presenting ideas on how to discourage or handle inappropriate or disruptive behavior issues within the

classroom.

Teachers College Workshop Model	Susan Becker John Furey	\$750.00 \$750.00	Will learn state of the art methods of staff development and school reform.
Institute on the Teaching of Writing	Susan Becker John Furey	\$600.00 \$600.00	Focuses on the teaching of writing with participants working on their own writing in order to turn classroom into richly literate reading and writing workshops.
Athletic Performance Symposium	La Dawn Mc Clamb	\$90.00	Exercise clinic
Sensory Strategies to Improve Children's Learning & Behavior	Elizabeth Tallaksen	\$159.00	Promotes delivery of services in occupational therapy in the area of sensory processing and integration within the school setting.
39 th Annual Spring Training Institute	Sylvia Bryant Martha Melhuish Guy Whitlock Jean Wuensch Kathryn Carter	\$1010.80 \$1074.26 \$1074.26 \$1074.26	Will teach effective strategies & tactics for parents and family engagement. Learning, sharing of resources with other faculty staff. "Best Practices" in family involvement model to be implemented in our district.
Pre-K Science Instructional Techniques	Kimberly Dillman John Furey Janis Vascimini	\$36.00 \$36.00 \$36.00	Will strengthen the K science program.

Project Search Dr. James Patterson \$145.00 Teacher recruiting
Education Job
Fair

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that reimbursement will be made for expenses that are in accordance with Board of Education policy and for which original receipts are submitted to the Business Office.

c. 2008-2009 School Calendar

WHEREAS, the Montclair Board of Education must adopt a school calendar each year, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education sought input from school and community groups on the proposed 2008-2009 school calendar,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education approves the attached 2008-2009 school calendar.

Dr. Patterson presented comments from the Public about the calendar which includes:

Schools being closed on Election Day and graduating one day later
Some of the people commented that they would like shorter winter breaks
When spring break is some people would like it following Easter

Seconded by Mrs. Taylor and approved by a roll call vote:

	A YE	N AY
Timothy Barr	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
John Carlton	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Shirley Grill	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Robert Kautz	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Shelly Lombard	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Ronald Riddick	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		ABSENT
Carmen Taylor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

3. Contract Awards

Mr. Kautz moved to approve the following contract awards:

- a. Award of Transportation Contract for the 2008-2009 School Year (Renewal)

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A-18A-5 (B) authorizes the awarding of a contract to other governmental agencies without benefit of advertising and bidding, and

WHEREAS, the Essex County Services Commission has provided transportation service to out-of-district special education students of Montclair and has offered these same services for the 2008-2009 school year, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education award a contract to the Essex County Educational Services Commission for transportation of all eligible students for whom applications are submitted by the Montclair Board of Education, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Board President and the Board Secretary be authorized to execute the contract attached and issue a purchase order for this contract effective July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009.

- b. Door and Frame Replacements at Various Schools in - Richard Rigolo in the total amount of \$151,560.00 (base bid of \$147,000.00 plus alternates #1 for \$2,260.00 and #3 for \$2,300.00).

Seconded by Mrs. Lombard and approved by a roll call vote:

	AYE	NAY
Timothy Barr	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
John Carlton	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Shirley Grill	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Robert Kautz	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Shelly Lombard	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Ronald Riddick	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		ABSENT
Carmen Taylor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

Contract awards C-G were tabled.

c. General Construction for New Elementary School - Niram, Inc. in the total amount of \$12,949,800.00 which includes the base bid of 12,377,000 plus the following alternates:

• Alt #1 Polished Glass Block in Corridors in lieu of Painted	\$161,000.00
• Alt #2 SS Guardrail/Handrail at Main Entry in lieu of Painted	\$95,000.00
• Alt #3 Internal Blinds at CRs & Main Office in lieu of Shades	\$23,000.00
• Alt #4 Door Hardware for Security Access Control	\$18,000.00
• Alt #5 Aluminum Sun-Shades	\$106,000.00
• Alt #6 Carpeting in Corridors & CRs in lieu of Linoleum	-\$20,000.00
• Alt #7 Wood Floor at Gym in lieu of Polyurethane Membrane	\$16,300.00
• Alt #8 Provide and Install Compacting Dumpster	\$20,000.00
• Alt #9 Provide and Install Clock Tower	\$75,000.00
• Alt #10 Provide and Install Playground Equipment	\$47,400.00
• Alt #11 Provide and Install Rubber Playground Surfacing	<u>\$31,100.00</u>
Total	\$572,800.00

d. Structural Steel and Ornamental Iron Work for New Elementary School - J.G. Schmidt Steel, in the total amount of \$1,663,600 which includes the base bid of 1,645,000 plus Alternate #1 - Provide and Install Steel for Clock Tower for \$18,600.

e. Heating and Ventilating Systems and Equipment for New Elementary School - Centralpack Engineering Corporation in the total amount of \$3,236,429.

f. Plumbing and Gas Fitting Work for New Elementary School - Don Pizzolato, Inc., in the total amount of \$1,226,248 which includes the base bid of 1,228,748 less a credit for Alternate #1 - Roof Drains for Clock Tower for -\$2,500.

g. Electrical Work for New Elementary School - Sal Electric Company, Inc., in the total amount of \$4,145,945 which includes the base bid of 2,515,940 plus the following alternates:

• Alt #1 Pendant Light Fixtures at CRs in lieu of 2/4 Lay-ins	\$116,525.00
• Alt #2 Provide Photovoltaic System	\$1,450,690.00
• Alt #3 Provide Security Access Control System	\$58,230.00
• Alt #4 Provide Power to Compacting Dumpster	\$3,360.00
• Alt #5 Provide Power to Clock Tower	<u>\$1,200.00</u>
Total	\$1,630,005.00

4. Change Orders

Ms. Grill moved to approve the following change orders:

- a. #8 and #9 for woodman field house renovations

WHEREAS, supplies, equipment and services anticipated to be in excess of \$29,000 are subject to the bidding requirements of New Jersey Statutes 18A:18A-4 or are to be purchased under a State of New Jersey contract through the provisions of N.J.S. 18A:18A-10, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Public School Contract Law, specifications were prepared for the Board of Education by The Biber Partnership, Architect for the Montclair Board of Education, advertised, and sealed bids received on March 15, 2007, for Woodman Field House Renovations. The contract was awarded to Jeral Construction Services, 320 Belleville Avenue, Bloomfield, New Jersey, 07003, in the total amount of \$3,999,250.00 (base bid of \$3,152,650.00 plus 6 Alternates).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montclair Board of Education approve change order #8 in the amount of \$13,139.48 as follows:

• Excavate Utility Lines Serving Maintenance Buildings	\$881.15
• Additional CMU	\$993.30
• Credit for Breezeway Footing Changes	-\$1,973.70
• Replace Unsuitable Soil	\$10,797.37
• Credit for Tile Removal/Masonry/Sheet Metal/Lockers	-\$2,436.16
• Additional Sawcutting	\$205.38
• Shower Fixture Changes	\$6,376.04
• Credit for Flooring	<u>-\$1,703.90</u>
Total	\$13,139.48

and #9 in the amount of \$17,146.27 as follows:

•	Curved Steel	\$7,728.82
•	Permanent Power to Score Board	\$1,485.07
•	Demolition of Weight Room Equipment	\$933.52
•	Steel for Graffiti Wall	\$2,723.40
•	RFI 66 – Power to AHU-1	\$1,702.65
•	Reconnect Power to Maintenance Building	\$2,572.81
	Total	\$17,146.27

b. #6 for Site Demolition for New Elementary School

Topic: Supplies, equipment and services anticipated to be in excess of \$29,000 are subject to the bidding requirements of New Jersey Statutes 18A:18A-4 or are to be purchased under a State of New Jersey contract through the provisions of N.J.S. 18A:18A-10.

Background Information: In accordance with Public School Contract Law, specifications were prepared for the Board of Education by The Thomas Group, Architect for the Montclair Board of Education, advertised, and sealed bids received on May 1, 2007, for Site Demolition for New Elementary School. The contract was awarded to Mazzocchi Wrecking, Inc., 32 Williams Parkway, East Hanover, New Jersey, 07936, in the total amount of \$1,594,400.00.

Superintendent's Recommendations: It is my recommendation that the Montclair Board of Education approve change order #6 for all labor, materials and equipment to remove and dispose of PCB contaminated soils from the site that was St. Vincent's Hospital for a total additional cost of \$5,900.00.

Seconded by Mr. Kautz and approved by a roll call vote:

	AYE	NAY
Timothy Barr	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
John Carlton	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Shirley Grill	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Robert Kautz	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Shelly Lombard	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Ronald Riddick	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		ABSENT
Carmen Taylor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

Mrs. Taylor moved to approve the Personnel Report:

5. Personnel Report

Seconded by Mrs. Lombard and approved by a roll call vote:

	AYE	NAY
Timothy Barr	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
John Carlton	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Shirley Grill	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Robert Kautz	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Shelly Lombard	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Ronald Riddick	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		ABSENT
Carmen Taylor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

Ms. Grill moved to approve the Out-of-District Placements:

6. Out-of-District Placements

Seconded by Mr. Barr and approved by a roll call vote:

	AYE	NAY
Timothy Barr	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
John Carlton	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Shirley Grill	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Robert Kautz	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Shelly Lombard	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Ronald Riddick	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		ABSENT
Carmen Taylor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

L. COMMENTS

1. Board Members

None.

2. Members of the Public

None.

M. ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUTURE MEETING DATES

The next meeting of the Board of Education will be held on April 28, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. in closed session and will open in public at approximately 7:30 p.m. in the Board of Education Building.

N. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:45 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.