

MOUNT LAUREL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

February 28 2006

A. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT**

The Regular Public Meeting of the Mount Laurel Township Board of Education was called to order in the Board Room of the Hattie Britt Administration Building, located at 330 Mount Laurel Road, Mount Laurel, NJ, by Ms. Helen Siegel, President, at 7:30 p.m.

B. **NOTICE OF MEETING**

Ms. Siegel read the Open Public Meeting Preamble stating, "In Compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law, the date, time, and location of this meeting have been filed with the Municipal Clerk, posted at the Municipal Center, and sent to four newspapers, on April 27, 2005, September 13, 2005, October 24, 2005".

C. **FLAG SALUTE**

D. **BOARD OF EDUCATION ROLL CALL**

Roll Call - Members Present: Mr. Crowe, Mr. Frey, Mr. Gallagher, Mr. Greatrex , Ms. Haynes, Ms. Jones, Ms. Wolfe, Ms. Blair, Ms. Siegel.

Also Present: Dr. Rath, Mr. Wachter, Mr. Weiss.

E. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of Mrs. Jones, seconded by Mr. Frey, the minutes of January 31, 2006 Regular Public Meeting, the January 31, 2006 Executive Session and the February 21, 2006 Work Session were approved.

Roll Call Vote: YES – Ms. Jones Mr. Frey, Mr. Crowe, Mr. Gallagher, Mr. Greatrex, Ms. Haynes, Ms. Wolfe, Ms. Blair, Ms. Siegel (ABSTAINED). Motion carried

F. **COMMUNICATIONS**

The Board of Education members recognized the attendance of Harrington Middle School student Christopher Beardsley who gave a short presentation on Middle School activities.

G. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - REPORTS/
INFORMATION ITEMS/CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Enrollment Report

The Enrollment Report as of December 23, 2005 was included in the agenda as Exhibit #3 to be filed in the Minute Book

2. Attendance Report

The Attendance Report for the month of December 2005 was included in the agenda as Exhibit #4 to be filed in the Minute Book .

3. Suspension Reports

The Suspension Reports for the month of December 2005 were included in the agenda as Exhibit #5 to be filed in the Minute Book.

- Dr. Rath updated the Board on the 2006-2007 budget guidelines.
- Dr. Rath and Marie Reynolds presented a short video showing some of the events in the schools during last month.

H. **ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR BUSINESS/ SECRETARY'S REPORT -
INFORMATION ITEMS/CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS**

- a. Mr. Wachter gave the Board an update on the Capital Projects 2003.
- b. Mr. Wachter gave the Board an update on the 2006-2007 Budget Calendar
- c. Drawing for position on the April 18, 2006 Annual School Election Ballot will be held on Wednesday, March 8, 2006 at 4:00 p.m.
- d. School Ethics Disclosure Form.

I. **BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORTS**

1. Correspondence

No report.

2. Board Reports

a. Negotiations

Ms. Blair stated that the negotiations committee met with the MLEA to discuss a contract issue.

b. BCSBA

Ms. Haynes stated that she, Mrs. Siegel and Dr. Rath attended a meeting on February 6, 2006.

c. NJSBA

No report.

d. Lenape Council

Mrs. Siegel stated that she, Dr. Rath and Mr. Wachter attended a meeting on February 16, 2006 there was an update from the lobbyist.

e. Library

Ms. Haynes stated that Mrs. Bernstein was nominated as President Elect for the State Association of Librarians.

f. PTO Liaison

No report.

3. Ad Hoc Committeesa. Schools for Polling Places

Mr. Greatrex stated that he is in the process of scheduling a meeting.

b. Increased Enrollment Impact

At a meeting held on February 4 the committee voted to disband and thanked everyone involved (see attached).

J. **TOPIC PRESENTATIONS**

Nancy Knight gave a presentation on a new class proposal (see attached).

K. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- Ms. Siegel opened the meeting for public comment at approximately 8:02 p.m.
- Linda Herman, 844 Lafayette Drive expressed concern about the changes in the curriculum being proposed at Harrington.
- Terre Irvin, 180 Kettlebrook Drive, asked for clarification on the math curriculum changes be proposed at Harrington.

After all those who wished to address the Board had the opportunity to do so, Ms. Siegel Closed the public comment portion of the meeting at approximately 8:10 p.m.

On motion of Mr. Frey, seconded by Ms. Haynes, the Board of Education approved the following Curriculum and Instruction action items:

L. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

1. Homebound Instruction Providers

The following teachers to serve as Homebound Instructors for the 2005-2006 school year at the MLEA contracted rate as of February 2, 2006:

Elizabeth Haws
Dina Spence
Susan Winkel
St. Christopher's Hospital for Children

2. Approval of Combined Kindergarten Classes

Larchmont will bring in both a.m. and p.m. Kindergarten sessions for Field Day on May 26, 2006 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. with a rain date of June 2, 2006.

3. Approval of Out-of-District Placement

The following students were approved in an out-of-district placement per exhibit #6 to be filed in the Minute Book.

Student #00-35
Student #99-62
Student #05-46CL

4. Removal from Out-of District Placement

The following student to be removed from Out-of-District Placement as per Exhibit 7 to be filed in the Minute book.

Student #00-35

5. Professional Development Plan

Local District Professional Development Plan 2006-2007. This plan, according to State Department guidelines, was submitted to the County Professional Development Board. The Burlington County Professional Development Board accepted this plan February 2, 2006 as per exhibit 8 to be filed in the Minute book.

6. Additional Staff Development Workshops

Additional Fall/Winter @ My School sessions as per exhibit 9 to be filed in the Minute book.

7. Volunteers

The following individuals to serve as volunteers

Parkway (Playground)

Jill Anthony	Kelly Cariello	Gail Craley
Sharon Cray	Sally DiDomenico	Jane Elliott
Marianne Evans	Lori Gallagher	Terry Haber
Debbie Hill	Leanne Mitchell	Kari Mortlock
JoAnn Panus	Julie Robinson	Barrie Urbano

Project T.I.M.E. (To serve as mentors in all schools participating in the program)

Randall Reddig	Wilber Parker Jr.	Jessica Payne
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8. Observer

Caroline Cuiule, a former Larchmont student with a goal to possibly earn a degree as a Speech Therapist, will observe lessons with Janice Fauser, Speech Therapist at Larchmont. She will be visiting on the morning of March 1, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. to obtain information about Speech Therapy.

9. Program Changes at Harrington

Program changes at Harrington for the 2006–2007 school year as per exhibit 10 to be filed in the Minute book.

10. Field Trip

Fleetwood's fourth grade chorus to perform before the Camden Riversharks game on May 18, 2006. Students will return to Fleetwood before the end of the school day.

11. Revised Summer Reading List

Approval was granted to permit incoming fourth grade, current fifth, and sixth grade students at Hartford to select summer reading books from the following titles as per Exhibit 11.

Fourth and Fifth Grades

A Week in the Woods-Andrew Clements
The School Story-Andrew Clements
Windcatcher-Avi

Fifth and Sixth Grades

Everything on a Waffle-Polly Horvath
Surviving the Applewhites-Stephanie S. Tolan
The Report Card-Andrew Clements

12. Adjustment of Parent Contribution to Eighth Grade field Trip

Adjustment in the parent contribution limit for field trips from \$10.00 per student to \$35.00 per student for the annual eighth grade team field trips only as per Exhibit 12.

13. Conferences

The following conference request, has been approved as per the negotiated agreement, for the following personnel:

Robert Smith – National Association of Elementary School Principals’ Convention and Exposition in San Antonio, TX from March 31 through April 4, 2006.

14. Grant Application

New Jersey Department of Education Character Education Grant Application for funds in the amount of \$12,167. These funds will be used to support district-wide character education programs, assemblies, professional resources, professional development, character education supplies and resources for students, teachers and parents.

15. RAS Technology, Consultant

Contract with RAS Technology for the 2005-2006 school year has been extended to accommodate schedule changes at Hartford and Harrington and to incorporate third and fourth grade report cards into PowerSchool. Mr. Statts will be reimbursed at a rate of \$95 per hour from the 2005-2006 budget not to exceed \$2,000 for these projects.

16. Accept Out-of-District Student

Approval has been given to accept G.D., an out-of-district student from Delran, to attend Hartford School in the Self-Contained Class for students with Autism. The Delran School District has agreed to pay tuition to Mount Laurel as well as to reimburse for the cost of a one-to-one aide. Transportation will be arranged by Delran Township Schools. Placement will be scheduled to commence on March 14, 2006.

Roll Call Vote: YES – Mr. Frey, Ms. Haynes , Ms. Haynes Mr. Crowe, Mr. Gallagher, Mr. Greatrex, Mrs. Jones Ms. Wolfe, Ms. Blair, Ms. Siegel. Motion carried.

On motion of Ms. Jones, seconded by Mr. Crowe, the Board of Education approved the following Business and Facilities action items:

M. **BUSINESS AND FACILITIES**

1. **Secretary's Reports**

The following financial reports pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23, 11(c)3 that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A23-2.11(a), as certified by the Board Secretary, and pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2 11(c)4 that no major account or fund has been overexpended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-02.11(b) as contained in Exhibits #13A, #13B, #13C, and #13D to be filed in the Minute Book:

- (a) Secretary's Report as of January 31, 2006
- (b) Treasurer's Report as of January 31, 2006
- (c) Budget Report as of January 31, 2006
- (d) Cafeteria Report as of January 31, 2006

2. **Budget Transfers**

Budget Transfers for 2005-06 as outlined in Exhibit #14 to be filed in the Minute Book.

3. **Bill Lists**

- (a) The bills for the month of February 2006 in the amount of \$1,679,411.96 per Exhibit #15 to be filed in the minute book.
- (b) Capital Projects None at this time

4. **Holiday Village Donation**

The Board of Education accepted a donation of \$50.00 from Holiday Village to the Hartford School, as per Exhibit 16.

5. **Equipment Donation**

The Board of Education accepted the donation of a G-4 computer, monitor and printer from Mr. & Mrs. Goldman.

6. **Fun/Run Health Fair**

The third annual PTO sponsored Fleetwood Families for Fitness Fun Run and Health Fair, as per the attached exhibit 17 to be filed in the Minute book .

7. Facility Use Request

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the following facility use request in accordance with Board of Education Policy No. 1330 and Board of Education Regulations for use of the Auditorium.

- (a) The Mount Laurel Rotary will be using the Hartford School cafeteria on Sunday, May 7, 2006 for a pancake breakfast. There are no fees associated with this use.
- (b) The Girl Scouts of South Jersey will be using the Hartford School cafeteria and gym for a "Girl Scout Lock-in" on March 18 and 19, 2006. There are no fees associated with this use

8. Workshop Request

- (a) Glenn Smith to attend the New Jersey Supervisors of Building and Grounds Workshop on April 10, 11, and 12, 2006. The cost for this is: Registration \$100.00 and Room \$190.00.
- (b) Kathy Lewis to attend the Regional Child Passenger Safety Conference on March 28, 29, and 30, 2006. The cost for this is, Registration \$100.00 and Room \$186.00.

9. Grant Approval

A Grant of \$5,000 was approved for the Fleetwood School from Nickelodeon's "Lets Just Play" giveaway program as per the attached exhibit 18 to be filed in the Minute book.

Roll Call Vote: YES – Ms. Jones, Mr. Crowe, Mr. Frey, Mr. Gallagher (ABSTAINED - Item #3), Mr. Greatrex, Ms. Haynes, Ms. Wolfe, Ms. Blair Ms. Siegel. Motion carried.

On motion of Ms. Blair, seconded by Ms. Haynes, the Board of Education approved the following personnel action items

N. PERSONNEL

1. Terminations (Resignations, Retirements, Terminations, Non-Renewals)

(a) RETIREMENT: NON-CERTIFICATED

<u>Name</u>	<u>Building& Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Jose Morales	Countryside Custodian	7-31-06

Recommendation: It is recommended that the individual(s) listed above be appointed to the positions indicated for the 2005-06 school year.

(b) RESIGNATION NON-CERTIFICATED

<u>Name</u>	<u>Building & Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Dorothy Holroyd	Springville Play Aide	2-24-06	Personal

Recommendation: It is recommended that the individual(s) listed above be appointed to the positions indicated for the 2005-06 school year.

2. Appointments (Employment)

(a) EMPLOYMENT: NON-CERTIFICATED INTERIMS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Building & Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary or Hourly Rate</u>	<u>Replacement/ Reason</u>
Lori Hagan Interim	Countryside Aide to Class	3-01-06	Step 1 \$10,100	Catherine Farr Resigned
Juliet Lacey Interim	Hartford Aide to Class	3-01-06	Step 1 \$10.100	Saleha Lakdawala
Ashley Palko Interim	Hartford Aide to Class	3-01-06	Step 1 \$10,100	504 Driven for Linda Thomsen
Renee Bellino	Hartford .5 Aide to Class	3-01-06	Step 1 \$5,500	IEP Driven

Recommendation: It is recommended that the individual(s) listed above be appointed to the positions indicated for the 2005-06 school year.

3. Leaves of Absence (Medical)

(a) MEDICAL LEAVE(S) OF ABSENCE: NON-CERTIFICATED

<u>Name</u>	<u>Building & Assignment</u>	<u>Pay Status</u>	<u>Dates</u>
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Joseph Schiliro Medical	Transportation Bus Driver	With Pay	3-02-06 to 6-01-06
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Recommendation: It is recommended that the above medical leave(s) of absence be approved as indicated.

(b) RETURN FROM LEAVE: CERTIFICATED

Name	Building & Assignment	Dates
Melissa Winkel	Hillside Grade 2	9-01-06
Laura Merrill	Larchmont Special Ed.	3-02-06 3-02-06
Christy Vincent	Larchmont Grade 2	9-01-06

Recommendation: It is recommended that the above return from leave(s) of absence be approved as indicated.

(c) RETURN FROM LEAVE: NON-CERTIFICATED

Name	Building & Assignment	Dates
Michael Byrd	Transportation Bus Driver	2-27-06

Recommendation: It is recommended that the above return from leave(s) of absence be approved as indicated.

(d) EXTENSION OF LEAVE: CERTIFICATED

Name	Building & Assignment	Pay Status	Effective Dates
Kari Thalwitzer Child Rearing	Fleetwood Grade 4	Without pay	9-01-06 to 9-01-07

Recommendation: It is recommended that the above extension of leave of absence be approved as indicated:

(e) EXTENSION OF LEAVE: NON- CERTIFICATED

Name	Building & Assignment	Pay Status	Effective Dates
Michael Byrd Medical	Transportation Bus Driver	Without pay	2-16-06 to 2-23-06

Recommendation: It is recommended that the above extension of leave of absence be approved as indicated.

4. STATUS CHANGES

(a) NON-CERTIFICATED

Name	From/Building	To	Effective Date
John Turzanski	Interim Custodian Larchmont	Full Time	3-01-06
Dan Hatvaney	Custodian Fleetwood	Custodian Hillside	3-01-06

Recommendation: It is recommended that the above status change adjustments be approved as indicated.

5. SUBSTITUTE STAFF (Teachers,)

(a) SUBSTITUTE TEACHER(S)

Robert Finch
Natasha Huester
Linda Stepler
Barbara Straub
Kelly Knight

Recommendation: It is recommended that the above individuals be approved as substitute teachers for the 2005-06 school year.

(b) SUBSTITUE BUS DRIVER(S)

Joseph Luttrell

Recommendation: It is recommended that the above individuals be approved as substitute bus driver for the 2005-06 school year.

On motion of Ms. Blair, seconded by Mr. Greatrex, the Board of Education approved the following Policy and Legislation items:

O. POLICY AND LEGISLATION

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following:

- a. Board Policies/Bylaw – First Reading and Final Adoption
- 1. Approval of Board Policies/Bylaw – First Reading

It is recommended that the following Board policies/bylaw be approved for a first reading, as per the exhibit:

- Policy #3541.1 -- Transportation
- Policy #4151.1-2 -- Compensatory Leave
- Bylaw #9250b1 -- Expenses – Non-Abbotts

Roll Call Vote: YES – Ms. Blair, Mr. Greatrex, Mr. Crowe, Mr. Frey, Mr. Gallagher, Ms. Jones, Ms.. Haynes, Ms. Wolfe, Ms. Siegel. Motion carried.

P. ADDITIONAL REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC

Ms. Siegel opened the meeting for public comment at approximately 815 p.m.

- Nancy Reed, 149 Knotty Oak Drive, stated that she supported the changes being proposed in the math program at Harrington.

After all those who wished to address the Board had the opportunity to do so, Ms. Siegel Closed the public comment portion of the meeting at approximately 8:17 p.m.

Q. OTHER BUSINESS

The Board to hold a special meeting on Tuesday, March 14, 2006 at 6:35 p.m. to approve the 2006-2007 tentative budget.

R. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Ms. Jones, seconded by Mr. Crowe, the Board of Education voted to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing legal and personnel matters at approximately 8:25 p.m. Ms. Siegel announced that the items discussed in Executive Session could be released to the public at such time as the reason for confidentiality no longer exists.

All Board members present voted in favor. Motion carried

S. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

On motion of Ms. Jones, seconded by Mr. Gallagher the Board voted to return to public session. The Board reconvened in public session at approximately 9:05 p.m.

Board Members Present: Mr. Crowe, Mr. Frey, Mr. Gallagher, Mr. Greatrex,
Ms. Haynes, Ms. Jones, Ms. Wolfe, Ms. Blair, Ms. Siegel.

Also Present: Dr. Rath, Mr. Wachter, Mr. Weiss.

T. **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Ms. Jones, seconded by Mr. Gallagher, the meeting was adjourned at
approximately 9:05 p.m.

All Board members present voted in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert F. Wachter, Jr.
Assistant Superintendent for Business/
Secretary

(President)