

MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
Upper Middle School Media Center
Skillman, New Jersey 08558

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 4, 2020

Call to Order – By Board President Tonkin at 5:30 p.m.

Statement of Open Meeting and Public Participation – By President Tonkin

In accordance with the State's Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mailing notice of meeting on January 29, 2020. Notice was provided to Board of Education Members, Montgomery Township Clerk, Rocky Hill Borough Clerk, Public Library, Township Posting, School Posting, PTSA Officers, Courier News, Montgomery News, Princeton Packet, Trenton Times, and The Star Ledger.

The Board reserves the right to enter into Executive Session during all meetings of the Board of Education.

This meeting is being tape-recorded for the purpose of Board review and future reference and to assist in the preparation of minutes.

It is the School Board's intention to conclude this meeting no later than 10:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Phyllis Bursh – Present
Amy Miller - Present
Michael Morack, Jr - Present
Jinesh Patel - Present

Ranjana Rao – Absent (arrived at 5:38 p.m.)
Shreesh Tiwari - Present
Joann Tonkin - Present

Also Present: Mary McLoughlin, Acting Superintendent of Schools
Damian Pappa, Acting Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Thomas M. Venanzi, Interim School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
David Palumbo, Associate School Business Administrator, Assistant Board Secretary

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board convened in Executive Session at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing items related to personnel, harassment, intimidation and bullying reports and the superintendent search. When the need for confidentiality no longer exists, the matters will be disclosed to the public.

Ms. Rao arrived at 5:38 p.m.

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION – The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:21 p.m.

SALUTE THE FLAG

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None

ACTION AGENDA

Ms. Miller motioned items 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 4.1, and it was seconded by Mr. Patel and approved by a unanimous vote.

ROLL CALL

Phyllis Bursh – Yes
 Amy Miller - Yes
 Michael Morack, Jr - Yes
 Jinesh Patel - Yes

Ranjana Rao - Yes
 Shreesh Tiwari - Yes
 Joann Tonkin - Yes

1.0 ADMINISTRATIVE

- 1.1 Accept Resignation of Board Member – Accept the resignation of Minkyo Chenette, board member, effective January 31, 2020.
- 1.2 Parent Appeal – BE IT RESOLVED that the Montgomery Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) has conducted a hearing on an appeal of a finding of Harassment Intimidation and Bullying (hereinafter referred to as “HIB”) in HIB Investigation No. 205186_UMS_11202019 and hereby affirms the Board’s decision of January 28, 2020 and denies the Parents’ appeal.
- 1.3 Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Report – Approve the February 4, 2020 Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Report.

4.0 PERSONNEL

- 4.1 Approval of Personnel Agenda – approve the personnel agenda as below.

Location	First	Last	Position	Replacing	Degree	Step	Salary	Pro-rated	Dates of Employment/Notes
DISTRICT	Thomas	Wain*	Director of Safety and Security DIR.BO.SECU.NA.01	New	N/A	N/A	\$95,000	Yes	02/05/2020 – 06/30/2020

BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS FOR VACANCY

The Board of Education interviewed four candidates for the two vacancies on the Board of Education. The candidates are Mr. Ali Batliwala, Mr. Ranjit Bawa, Ms. Christina Harris and Dr. Biren Saraiya.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board convened in Executive Session at 8:04 p.m. for the purpose of deliberating on the candidates to fill the Board vacancies. When the need for confidentiality no longer exists, the matters will be disclosed to the public.

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION – The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:29 p.m.

SELECTION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Ms. Tonkin asked for nominations to fill the open vacancies on the Board of Education.

Ms. Miller nominated Ms. Christina Harris, and it was seconded by Mr. Tiwari to fill the first vacancy on the Board of Education.

ROLL CALL

Phyllis Bursh – Yes

Amy Miller - Yes

Michael Morack, Jr - Yes

Jinesh Patel - Yes

Ranjana Rao - Yes

Shreesh Tiwari - Yes

Joann Tonkin - Yes

Mr. Tiwari nominated Dr. Biren Saraiya, and it was seconded by Mr. Morack Jr. to fill the second vacancy on the Board of Education.

ROLL CALL

Phyllis Bursh – Yes

Amy Miller - Yes

Michael Morack, Jr - Yes

Jinesh Patel - Yes

Ranjana Rao - Yes

Shreesh Tiwari - Yes

Joann Tonkin - Yes

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

- Ms. Tonkin thanked the candidates for coming tonight and stated they should continue to run for the board and look for other possible vacancies.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Morack Jr. motioned to adjourn at 8:31 p.m., and it was seconded by Ms. Miller.

ROLL CALL

Phyllis Bursh – Yes

Amy Miller - Yes

Michael Morack, Jr - Yes

Jinesh Patel - Yes

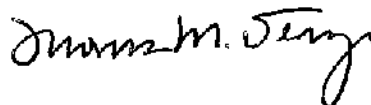
Ranjana Rao - Yes

Shreesh Tiwari - Yes

Joann Tonkin - Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas M. Venanzi
Board Secretary

