BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVALE, NEW JERSEY

REGULAR PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA
DECEMBER 16, 2024

1. **CALL TO ORDER**: President to call the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in room 103 of Fieldstone Middle School, 47 Spring Valley Road, Montvale NJ.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Bagdat, Mrs. Baskin, Mr. Carvelli, Mr. Colla, Mr. DiFiore, Mr. DiSalvo, Mrs. Foley

2. **OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ANNOUNCEMENT:**
"The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted by Borough Hall/Montvale Public Library, the Board Secretary's Office, posted on the district web site, and such notice given to *Herald News & The Record*."

3. **COMMENTS BY THE BOARD PRESIDENT**
Welcome to the public.
Invite those present to sign the attendance sheet, if they so choose.
No smoking is allowed.
Pre-approval of audio or video recording by the public is required.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

Introduced by: _____ Seconded by: _____
AYE Votes: _____ NO Votes: _____

Motion 4.1 **WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act and the Montvale Board of Education reserve the right within the constraints of State Law to sit in Private Executive Session, and

WHEREAS, there now exists a need for this Board of Education to reconvene in Executive Session, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Montvale Board of Education recess into Executive Session to discuss exempt matters as follows:

Superintendent's Report of Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying
Personnel

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public will be informed
1. When the Board reconvenes to the Regular Meeting business portion of this meeting this evening; or
2. At a later date, undetermined at this time.

5. RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION at 6:30 p.m.

The Board President will restate the opening comments.

6. RESOLUTIONS OF APPRECIATION

BOARD MEMBER SERVICE - ERNIE DIFIORE

Motion 6.1

WHEREAS, we who have been associated with Mr. Ernie DiFiore, in service since January 2016 have enjoyed the benefit of his aid, knowledge and concern for the staff and children of the Montvale School District, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of the Montvale School District, the Board of Education extends to Mr. DiFiore its appreciation for his nine years of dedicated work in the field of education and his four years of leadership as Board President; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread in full upon the minutes and a copy presented to him.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

District Events

Capital Projects Update

Enrollment - FMS and MES

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

This is the first of two portions of the meeting reserved for comments from the public where members of the public are invited to address the board concerning board business matters of interest. If you wish to address the board, when acknowledged please provide your name, address and share your comment. All comments will be considered and a response may be forthcoming if and when appropriate. Issues raised by the public may or may not be responded to by the board. The board requests that all members of the public be mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Due to confidentiality and legal rights afforded by the state of New Jersey, members of the public are asked to not speak negatively or in a derogatory manner about any employee of the board, or any student within our district.

At this time, I welcome comments from the public on agenda items only.

9. BOARD BUSINESS

Motions 9.1 through 9.5 were introduced by:_____Seconded by:_____
Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Bagdat, Mrs. Baskin, Mr. Carvelli, Mr. Colla, Mr. DiSalvo Mrs. Foley, Mr. DiFiore

MINUTES

Motion 9.1 **RESOLVED**, that there be accepted, as written, the minutes of the following meetings:

November 18, 2024 (see attached)

APPROVAL TO AFFIRM HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, BULLYING DECISIONS

Motion 9.2 **RESOLVED,** that there be affirmed the Superintendent of School's decisions and resulting consequences, if any, in response to reported acts of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying per the below table:

HIB #	**Executive Session Discussion Date**
271422	November 18, 2024
271588	November 18, 2024
M-1	November 18, 2024
271615	November 18, 2024
272408	November 18, 2024

273092	December 9, 2024

BERGEN COUNTY TEACHER RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Motion 9.3

WHEREAS, the Bergen County Teacher Recognition Program Committee using the criteria specified by the State Department of Education, met to consider nominations and recommend an educator from each school to receive the award,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that there be approved the nominations of:

Mrs. Jillian Gelalia	Fieldstone Middle School
Mrs. Megan Dugan	Memorial Elementary School

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montvale Board of Education authorize up to $500 per each nominated teacher for a project designed by the teacher and approved by the Superintendent of Schools for the Bergen County Teacher Recognition Program.

REGION II BY-LAWS

Motion 9.4

RESOLVED, that the Montvale Board of Education affirm its membership in the Pascack Valley Council for Special Education (Region II) for the 2025-2026 school year, and commits its full support and financial participation in the Council,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that when a Component District withdraws from Region II membership, such board of education will continue to be jointly liable with all other Component Districts on a pro rata basis for any service category in which the component district was a participant, for existing and potential liability of any claims, lawsuits, judgements, liens, or complaints filed during, incurred during, or arising from an incident that occurred during the time period when the withdrawn Component District was still a participating member district board of education,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board President be authorized to sign the Bylaws on behalf of the district.

2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Motion 9.5

RESOLVED, that there be approved the 2025-2026 school year calendar as noted on the attached Appendix.

10. EDUCATION COMMITTEE [Mrs. Baskin/Mr. Colla/Mr. DiSalvo]

Motions 10.1 through 10.5 were introduced by:_____Seconded by:_____
Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Bagdat, Mrs. Baskin, Mr. Carvelli, Mr. Colla, Mr. DiSalvo, Mrs. Foley, Mr. DiFiore

NEW CONTRACT AWARD - TEACHING ASSISTANT

Motion 10.1 **RESOLVED**, that there be approved an award of contract, subject to Chapter 116, P.L. 1986, to Kristina Erskine, Teaching Assistant, with compensation of $20.00 per hour, for the period January 2, 2025 through June 30, 2025, subject to continued student need.

SUBSTITUTES

Motion 10.2 **RESOLVED,** that there be approved employment to substitute, subject to Chapter 116, P.L. 1986 in the Montvale Public Schools during the 2024-2025 School year, with compensation at the Board approved rate, the following individuals.

Name	Position	Effective Dates
Eva Katz	Substitute Teacher	12/17/24 - 6/30/25
Eva Katz	Substitute Teaching Assistant	12/17/24 - 6/30/25

LEAVE WITHOUT PAY

Motion 10.3 **RESOLVED,** that the following be approved an unpaid leave of absence for the date(s) specified:

Employee	Date(s)
Employee #76726496	December 20, 2024

JOB DESCRIPTION - TEACHING ASSISTANT MENTOR

Motion 10.4 **RESOLVED,** that there be approved a job description for the Teaching Assistant Mentor, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board approve a stipend for this position of $1,000 for the period February 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025.

EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL

Motion 10.5 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Education is required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12 to adopt policy and approve travel expenditures by district employees and board

members using local, State, or Federal funds to ensure that travel is educationally necessary and fiscally prudent; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education acknowledges that on-going professional development is critical to the instructional needs of the district or may further the efficient operation of the school district, and providing said training may require travel expenses;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board authorize employee and Board Member attendance in informational programs directly related to, and within the scope of the listed job title's current responsibilities, and/or training opportunities as follows with payment of expenses, if applicable, based on the federal travel regulations provided that such expenses are within the annual maximum travel expenditure amount:

DATE	EMPLOYEE	WORKSHOP	COSTS NOT TO EXCEED
1/29/25-1/31/25	Valois, Peter	Techspo '25	$1,185.62
1/29/25-1/31/25	Parks, Erik	Techspo '25	$1,179.60
1/7/25	Alboum, Stephanie	Grade 7 Math Articulation	$0.00
1/23/25	Alboum, Stephanie	Grade 5/6 Math Articulation	$0.00
1/29/25	Bain, Joan	Gr. 3 & 4 Math Articulation	$0.00
1/9/25	Sconza, Gina	Preschool Articulation	$0.00
1/9/25	Rudolph, Allyson	Preschool Articulation	$0.00
2/20/25-2/21/25	Majury, Sean	Majury, Sean (additional expenses for meals & parking)	$222.00 (additional)
1/23/25	Kilkenny, Maggie	Gr. 5 & 6 Math Articulation	$0.00
2/28/25	Altero, Marcella	Visiting River Dell's Middle School Cooking & Nutrition Classroom	$0.00
3/7/25	Reynolds, Dionna	101 Best Strategies for Teaching Social Studies (Gr. 6-12)	$295.00

11. FINANCE COMMITTEE [Mrs. Bagdat/Mr. Carvelli/Mrs. Foley]

Motions 11.1 through 11.9 were introduced by:_____Seconded by:_____
Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Bagdat, Mrs. Baskin, Mr. Carvelli, Mr. Colla, Mr. DiSalvo Mrs. Foley, Mr. DiFiore

VOUCHER PAYMENTS

Motion 11.1 **RESOLVED**, that there be approved/ratified for payment vouchers in the total amount as follows:

General Fund		**Total**
Check Register	Digital Checks November	$1,735,745.86
Check Register	Computer Checks 016671-016740	$1,379,627.48

APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS - 2024-25

Motion 11.2 **RESOLVED**, that there be approved all line item appropriation transfers to the 2024-25 budget year to date as follows:

Reason	Amount	Account Name	To	Account Name	From
French Supplies	$500	FMS World Language	11-190-100-610-222-02	FMS General Teaching Supplies	11-190-100-610-211-02
Memorial Filters	$5,000	Maint Supplies MES	11-000-261-610-030-05	Maint Serv MES	11-000-261-420-030-05
Annual Contract RFP	$5,000	Communications Phone & Postage	11-000-230-530-010-00	Gen Admin Other Prof Services	11-000-230-339-010-00
Lead Testing	$2,250	Lead Testing	11-000-261-421-010-05	Maint Serv FMS	11-000-261-420-020-05
OOD Nursing	$7,000	Extraord Purch Prof Services	11-000-217-320-010-04	Health Prof Services District	11-000-213-300-010-00
OOD Nursing	$80,000	Extraord Purch Prof Services	11-000-217-320-010-04	Health/Dental/Vision Benefits	11-000-291-270-010-00
FMS Software Application	$2,500	FMS Technology Software	11-190-100-610-240-02	Prof Dev & Travel FMS	11-000-223-580-020-02

BOARD CERTIFICATION – OCTOBER (Motions 11.3 and 11.4)

Motion 11.3 **RESOLVED**, that the Montvale Board of Education approve the following reports as of October 31, 2024: The Board Secretary Report and The Cash Report, attached as Appendices to the minutes of this meeting.

Motion 11.4 **RESOLVED**, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 [c]4, the Montvale Board of Education certifies that as of September 30, 2023 after review of the Board Secretary's monthly financial reports [appropriations section], and upon consultation with the appropriate district official, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation N.J.A.C. 6A:23- 2.11(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

RENEWAL OF ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AND SOFTWARE SUPPORT CONTRACT

Motion 11.5 **RESOLVED**, that the Montvale Board of Education approves and accepts the renewal service and maintenance contract with RFP Solutions, Inc for the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 202 for the amount of $9,370.19.

DONATION - MONTVALE ATHLETIC LEAGUE

Motion 11.6 **RESOLVED,** that there be accepted with appreciation a donation from the Montvale Athletic League of $1,600 for new uniforms for the boys and girls basketball teams at Fieldstone Middle School,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary send a letter of thanks on behalf of the Board for this generous donation.

DONATION - PROMETHEAN BOARDS

Motion 11.7 **RESOLVED,** that there be accepted with appreciation an anonymous donation for two Promethean Boards for use at Memorial Elementary School worth approximately $2,000,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary send a letter of thanks on behalf of the Board for this generous donation.

BCUA GRANT AWARD

Motion 11.8 **RESOLVED,** that there be accepted a 2024 (BCUA) Recycling Awareness Challenge Grant in the amount of $650 for Debbie Katz at Memorial Elementary School from the Bergen County Utilities Authority: and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Mrs. Katz be commended for her work to apply for and execute this grant,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary send a letter of thanks on behalf of the Board for the generous grant donation.

INTERIM PROFESSIONALS - AGREEMENT WITH DELTA T GROUP

Motion 11.9 **RESOLVED,** that there be approved an agreement with Delta T Group North Jersey, Inc. to provide interim placements of professionals in the Montvale School District, specifically to provide School Psychologists Services at $90/hour, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board President and the Business Administrator are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

12. FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE [Mrs. Bagdat/Mr. Carvelli/Mrs. Foley]

Motion 12.1 through 12.6 were introduced by:_____Seconded by:_____
Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Bagdat, Mrs. Baskin, Mr. Carvelli, Mr. Colla, Mr. DiSalvo Mrs. Foley, Mr. DiFiore

CHANGE ORDERS - MEMORIAL ADDITION PROJECT

Motion 12.1 **RESOLVED,** that the Montvale Board of Education approves the following change orders for the Memorial Addition Project with Belmont Construction,

25. Provide power to BMS panel for $454.20
26. VCT tile for hallway floor for $8,965.00

CHANGE ORDERS - FIELDSTONE RENOVATIONS

Motion 12.2 **RESOLVED,** that the Montvale Board of Education approves the following change orders for the Fieldstone Renovations Project with Premier Building & Construction Management, Inc.

9. Electrical work to support existing 2 inch EMT for $982.00
10. Electrical work for relocation of IMC outlets for $2,818.00

LONG RANGE FACILITIES PLAN AMENDMENT

Motion 12.3 **RESOLVED**, that the Montvale Board of Education approve the amendment and submission of the District's Long Range Facility Plan to the New Jersey Department of Education for the student capacity at each school.

FIELDSTONE ABATEMENT SERVICES

Motion 12.4 **RESOLVED,** that the proposal from BL Contracting, Inc for an abatement of specified areas of Fieldstone Middle School for $5,985 be accepted, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes its School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute any agreement necessary to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

FIELDSTONE ROOF PROJECT BID

Motion 12.5 **WHEREAS**, the Montvale Board of Education recently advertised for bids for the Fieldstone Middle School Partial Roof Replacement Project, FKA Project No. 2425 ("Project");

WHEREAS, on December 10, 2024, the Board received and publicly opened eight bids for the Project, as set forth on the attached bid tabulation; and

WHEREAS, Billy Contracting & Restoration, Inc. submitted the lowest responsible bid that complied in all material respects, with a base bid in the amount of $734,000.00, Alternate 1 adding $21,000.00, for a total of $755,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to award the contract to Billy Contracting & Restoration, Inc. with the alternate;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby awards the contract for the Project to Billy Contracting & Restoration, Inc. in the total amount of $755,000.000 reflecting the base bid plus the alternate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this award is further conditioned upon the contractor furnishing the requisite insurance certificate and labor and materials/performance bond as required in the project specifications, together with an AA201-Project Manning Report, and an executed A-101, Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Contractor, and an A-201, General Conditions of the Contract for Construction, as prepared by the Board Attorney and/or Architect, within ten days of the date hereof; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Attorney and/or Architect are hereby directed to draft the agreements with the successful bidder consistent with this Resolution and with the terms contained in the bid documents approved by the Board for the Project. The Board President and the Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute such agreement and any other documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

MEMORIAL ROOF PROJECT BID

Motion 12.6

WHEREAS, the Montvale Board of Education recently advertised for bids for Memorial School Partial Roof Replacement Project, FKA Project No. 2424 ("Project");

WHEREAS, on December 10, 2024, the Board received and publicly opened eight bids for the Project, as set forth on the attached bid tabulation; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to award the bid with both Alternates 1 and 2; and

WHEREAS, Marshall, LLC submitted a bid that did not include an Affidavit of No Material Adverse Change or a Sworn Contractor Certification Requirements certification for its subcontractor, and it submitted a bid that, when including Alternates 1 and 2, exceeds its DMPC aggregate rating and NJSDA prequalification rating, thereby rendering its bid materially defective; and

WHEREAS, Mak Group, LLC submitted the lowest responsible bid that complied in all material respects, with a base bid in the amount of $1,084,758.00,

Alternate 1 adding $4,000.00, Alternate 2 adding $4,700.00, for a total of $1,093,458.00; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to award the contract to Mak Group, LLC with the alternates;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby awards the contract for the Project to Mak Group, LLC in the total amount of $1,093,458.00 reflecting the base bid plus both alternates; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this award is further conditioned upon the contractor furnishing the requisite insurance certificate and labor and materials/performance bond as required in the project specifications, together with an AA201-Project Manning Report, and an executed A-101, Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Contractor, and an A-201, General Conditions of the Contract for Construction, as prepared by the Board Attorney and/or Architect, within ten days of the date hereof; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Attorney and/or Architect are hereby directed to draft the agreements with the successful bidder consistent with this Resolution and with the terms contained in the bid documents approved by the Board for the Project. The Board President and the Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute such agreement and any other documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS

14. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS

15. COMMUNICATIONS

16. OLD BUSINESS

17. NEW BUSINESS

Budget Calendar for 2025-2026 Budget

BOE Meeting Calendar Draft for 2025

18. PUBLIC COMMENT

This is the second of two portions of the meeting reserved for comments from the public where members of the public are invited to address the board concerning board business matters of interest. If you wish to address the board, when acknowledged please provide your name, address and share your comment. All comments will be considered and a response may be forthcoming if and when appropriate. Issues raised by the public may or may not be responded to by the board. The board requests that all members of the public be mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Due to confidentiality and legal rights afforded by the state of New Jersey, members of the public are asked to not speak negatively or in a derogatory manner about any employee of the board, or any student within our district.

At this time, I welcome comments from the public on any matter concerning board business.

19. PRIVATE SESSION [reconvened if necessary]

Introduced by:_____ **Seconded by:_____**
AYE Votes:_____ **NO Votes: _____**

Motion 19.1

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act and the Montvale Board of Education reserve the right within the constraints of State Law to sit in Private Executive Session, and

WHEREAS, there now exists a need for this Board of Education to reconvene in Executive Session, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Montvale Board of Education recess into Executive Session to discuss exempt matters as follows:

- _____

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public will be informed

1. When the Board reconvenes to the Regular Meeting business portion of this meeting this evening; or
2. At a later date, undetermined at this time.

20. FURTHER BUSINESS

21. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Introduced by:_____ **Seconded by:_____**
AYE Votes:_____ **NO Votes: _____**

Motion 21.1 **RESOLVED**, that this meeting be adjourned at ____ p.m.