

**OCTOBER 12, 2009, 7:00 PM**  
**JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL – COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER**

**MONTROSE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

**MEETING MINUTES APPROVED NOVEMBER 9, 2009**

(Visit our website at [www.masd.info](http://www.masd.info))

Mr. Chris Caterson  
President, Board of Directors

Mr. Michael F. Ognosky  
Superintendent of Schools

The Montrose Area School District Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by Mr. Chris Caterson, Board President at 7:02 PM in the Junior-Senior High School Community Learning Center, 50 High School Road, Montrose PA, 18801.

**I. OPENING EXERCISES** - Led by Board Member Ms. Julie Humphrey

A. Moment of silence in memory of Mrs. Dolores Quinn, former Board Member

**II. ROLL CALL** – Mrs. Judith Sample, Co-Board Secretary

**PRESENT:** Mr. Christopher Caterson, Mr. George Gow (arrived 7:20 PM), Mrs. Mary Homan, Ms. Julie Humphrey, Mrs. Kathleen Mordovancey, Mrs. Gloria Smith, Mrs. Pamela Staats, Mr. Douglas Wilcox, Mr. Karl Wimmer

**ADMINISTRATORS/SUPERVISORS:** Mr. Michael Ognosky, Mr. Craig Owens

**III. GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING**

A. Energy Education Pacesetter Award

Mr. Ognosky opened this presentation by sharing one of the public news releases regarding the district's efforts to conserve energy and introduced to those in attendance Mr. Ross Kelly, representative of the eastern division of the Energy Education organization. Mr. Kelly stated that in less than one year the Montrose Area School District has emerged as a leader in energy conservation and presented to Mr. Caterson on behalf of Energy Education the *Pacesetters Award*. Mr. Caterson thanked Mr. Kelly and acknowledged Mr. Tripp who was in attendance at this evening's meeting for his accomplishments in this endeavor.

**IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR VISITORS TO ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS** - None

(Visitors must speak directly into the public microphone for accurate transcription of minutes. Even if the person speaks loud enough to be heard by meeting attendees, they cannot be heard on the tape transcription unless they speak directly into the microphone.)

**V. INFORMATION ITEMS**

A. Items from members of Board of Directors

Mr. Caterson read a thank you note received from the *Endless Mountains Cruisers Club* thanking the district for the use of the Junior-Senior High School for their event.

**VI. AGENDA ITEMS**

A. **MINUTES** – Mr. Chris Caterson, Board President

55. A motion was made by Mrs. Mordovancey, seconded by Mrs. Homan to approve the following minutes as submitted:

- a. September 14, 2009 Board Meeting
- b. September 14, 2009 Work Session
- c. September 15, 2009 Energy Committee
- d. September 23, 2009 Personnel Committee
- e. September 23, 2009 Policy Committee
- f. September 24, 2009 Community Advisory Committee
- g. October 7, 2009 Buildings and Grounds Committee

Mr. Caterson, Yes; Mr. Gow, (not present); Mrs. Homan, Yes; Ms. Humphrey, Yes; Mrs. Mordovancey, Yes; Mrs. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Staats, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Mr. Wimmer, Yes

**YES – 8      NO – 0      ABSTAIN – 0**

**VI. AGENDA ITEMS – continued**

**B. FINANCE – Mr. Chris Caterson, Chairperson**

56. Prior to this vote Mr. Ognosky reviewed the procedure for processing new supplies for the opening of the school year as well as answering questions posed by members of the Board regarding certain bills. A motion was made by Ms. Humphrey, seconded by Mrs. Homan to approve a list of bills to be paid as submitted.

Mr. Caterson, Yes, Mr. Gow, (not present); Mrs. Homan, Yes; Ms. Humphrey, Yes; Mrs. Mordovancey, Yes; Mrs. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Staats, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Mr. Wimmer, Yes

**YES – 8      NO – 0      ABSTAIN – 0**

57. A motion was made by Mrs. Mordovancey, seconded by Mr. Wimmer to approve the September 2009 Treasurer's Report as submitted.

Mr. Caterson, Yes, Mr. Gow, (not present); Mrs. Homan, Yes; Ms. Humphrey, Yes; Mrs. Mordovancey, Yes; Mrs. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Staats, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Mr. Wimmer, Yes

**YES – 8      NO – 0      ABSTAIN – 0**

**C. LEGISLATIVE – Mr. Chris Caterson, Chairperson**

**D. TRANSPORTATION – Mr. Douglas Wilcox, Chairperson**

58. Mr. Ognosky reviewed the new bus routes that were implemented at the beginning of this school year and answered questions from the members of the Board. A motion was made by Mrs. Homan, seconded by Mrs. Mordovancey to approve 2009-2010 transportation contracts and payments for bus and car contractors as submitted.

Mr. Caterson, Yes, Mr. Gow, Yes; Mrs. Homan, Yes; Ms. Humphrey, Yes; Mrs. Mordovancey, Yes; Mrs. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Staats, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Mr. Wimmer, Yes

**YES – 9      NO – 0      ABSTAIN – 0**

**E. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS / SAFETY – Mr. George Gow, Chairperson**

59. Prior to this vote Mr. Caterson and Mr. Ognosky reported on the process followed in the development of this contract and answered questions from the members of the Board. A motion for the following resolution was made by Ms. Humphrey, seconded by Mr. Wilcox: "Resolved that the President and Secretary of this School Board together with the Montrose Area School District Superintendent be authorized, and they are hereby directed, to execute and deliver to Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation, 900 Lee Street East, Suite 500, Charleston, WV 25301 on behalf of the School Board, an Oil and Gas Lease, with addendum, covering 177.72 acres, more or less situated in Bridgewater Township and Montrose Borough, Susquehanna County, PA."

Mr. Caterson, Yes, Mr. Gow, Yes; Mrs. Homan, Yes; Ms. Humphrey, Yes; Mrs. Mordovancey, Yes; Mrs. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Staats, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Mr. Wimmer, Yes

**YES – 9      NO – 0      ABSTAIN – 0**

**F. TECHNOLOGY – Mr. Karl Wimmer, Chairperson**

**G. CURRICULUM – Mrs. Pamela Staats, Chairperson**

60. In response to a question from a Board member Mr. Ognosky reviewed the reasons for this position. A motion was made by Ms. Humphrey, seconded by Mr. Wilcox to appoint Tammy Jenkins as a daily substitute personal assistive caregiver for a child with severe disabilities on an as-needed basis at the rate of \$12.00 per hour for eight hours per day effective immediately contingent upon completion of necessary paperwork.

Mr. Caterson, Yes, Mr. Gow, Yes; Mrs. Homan, Yes; Ms. Humphrey, Yes; Mrs. Mordovancey, Yes; Mrs. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Staats, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Mr. Wimmer, Yes

**YES – 9      NO – 0      ABSTAIN – 0**

**VI. AGENDA ITEMS – Curriculum continued**

61. A motion was made by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Mrs. Mordovancey to appoint Judith Tucker Dewey effective immediately contingent upon completion of necessary paperwork
- a. as a daily substitute personal assistive caregiver for a child with severe disabilities on an as-needed basis at the rate of \$12.00 per hour for eight hours per day
  - b. as a daily substitute nurse for our school district at the substitute teacher rate of pay
- Mr. Caterson, Yes, Mr. Gow, Yes; Mrs. Homan, Yes; Ms. Humphrey, Yes; Mrs. Mordovancey, Yes; Mrs. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Staats, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Mr. Wimmer, Yes
- YES – 9      NO – 0      ABSTAIN – 0**

**H. EXTRA CURRICULAR – Mrs. Kathy Mordovancey, Chairperson**

62. A motion was made by Ms. Humphrey, seconded by Mrs. Staats to accept with regret the resignation of Carrie Robinson as Assistant Junior High Girls' Basketball Coach effective immediately.
- Mr. Caterson, Yes, Mr. Gow, Yes; Mrs. Homan, Yes; Ms. Humphrey, Yes; Mrs. Mordovancey, Yes; Mrs. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Staats, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Mr. Wimmer, Yes
- YES – 9      NO – 0      ABSTAIN – 0**

63. A motion was made by Mrs. Staats, seconded by Mr. Wilcox to appoint Mary Gesford as the Junior Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach at a cost of \$3,010.
- Mr. Caterson, Yes, Mr. Gow, Yes; Mrs. Homan, Yes; Ms. Humphrey, Yes; Mrs. Mordovancey, Yes; Mrs. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Staats, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Mr. Wimmer, Yes
- YES – 9      NO – 0      ABSTAIN – 0**

64. A motion was made by Ms. Humphrey, seconded by Mrs. Homan to appoint Brenda Allen as the Junior High Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach at a cost of \$2,205.
- Mr. Caterson, Yes, Mr. Gow, Yes; Mrs. Homan, Yes; Ms. Humphrey, Yes; Mrs. Mordovancey, Yes; Mrs. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Staats, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Mr. Wimmer, Yes
- YES – 9      NO – 0      ABSTAIN – 0**

**I. POLICIES – Mrs. Gloria Smith, Chairperson**

65. The revisions in these policies were outlined by Mr. Ognosky prior to this vote. A motion was made by Mr. Wilcox, seconded by Mr. Wimmer for first reading of revisions to the following policies:
- a. Policy No. 237 Electronic Devices
  - b. Policy No. 609 Investment of District Funds
  - c. Policy No. 815 Acceptable Use of Internet
  - d. New Policy 718 Service Animals in Schools
- Mr. Caterson, Yes, Mr. Gow, Yes; Mrs. Homan, Yes; Ms. Humphrey, Yes; Mrs. Mordovancey, Yes; Mrs. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Staats, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Mr. Wimmer, Yes
- YES – 9      NO – 0      ABSTAIN – 0**

**J. PERSONNEL – Ms. Julie Humphrey, Chairperson**

66. In response to a question from a Board member Mr. Ognosky explained the hourly rate difference for these two positions. A motion was made by Mrs. Mordovancey, seconded by Mrs. Staats to employ the following Instructional Aides for a maximum of 6½ hours per day, 180 student school days, with individual fringe benefits in accordance with the current MESPA Support Staff Agreement:
- a. Kathleen Fetherbay, Autistic Program at the Choconut Valley Elementary School at the rate of \$8.66 per hour effective October 13, 2009.
  - b. Iris Hoffman, Emotional Support Program at the Junior-Senior High School at the rate of \$7.96 per hour effective October 13, 2009.
- Mr. Caterson, Yes, Mr. Gow, Yes; Mrs. Homan, Yes; Ms. Humphrey, Yes; Mrs. Mordovancey, Yes; Mrs. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Staats, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Mr. Wimmer, Yes
- YES – 9      NO – 0      ABSTAIN – 0**

**VI. AGENDA ITEMS – Personnel continued**

67. A motion was made by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Wimmer to appoint the following daily support staff substitutes effective immediately contingent upon completion of employment requirements:

- a. Summer Swackhamer
- b. Michelle Birchard
- c. Deborah O'Neill-Gittoes
- d. Tonia Oliver

Mr. Caterson, Yes, Mr. Gow, Yes; Mrs. Homan, Yes; Ms. Humphrey, Yes; Mrs. Mordovancey, Yes; Mrs. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Staats, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Mr. Wimmer, Yes

**YES – 9      NO – 0      ABSTAIN – 0**

**K. PROFESSIONAL – Mrs. Mary Homan, Chairperson**

68. A motion was made by Mrs. Mordovancey, seconded by Ms. Humphrey to appoint Petrina Gregory as a mentor teacher at the Junior-Senior High School for special education for the 2009-2010 school year at the rate of \$1,000.

Mr. Caterson, Yes, Mr. Gow, Yes; Mrs. Homan, Yes; Ms. Humphrey, Yes; Mrs. Mordovancey, Yes; Mrs. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Staats, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Mr. Wimmer, Yes

**YES – 9      NO – 0      ABSTAIN – 0**

69. Prior to this vote Mr. Ognosky reported that the reason for this termination was failure on the part of the employee to meet certification requirements. A motion was made by Mrs. Mordovancey, seconded by Ms. Humphrey to terminate the employment of Jeffrey D. Norris as a teacher at the Junior-Senior High School effective immediately.

Mr. Caterson, Yes, Mr. Gow, Yes; Mrs. Homan, Yes; Ms. Humphrey, Yes; Mrs. Mordovancey, Yes; Mrs. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Staats, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Mr. Wimmer, Yes

**YES – 9      NO – 0      ABSTAIN – 0**

70. A motion was made by Ms. Humphrey, seconded by Mrs. Staats to approve Leona Kucharski as a daily substitute elementary teacher effective immediately contingent upon completion of employment requirements.

Mr. Caterson, Yes, Mr. Gow, Yes; Mrs. Homan, Yes; Ms. Humphrey, Yes; Mrs. Mordovancey, Yes; Mrs. Smith, Yes; Mrs. Staats, Yes; Mr. Wilcox, Yes; Mr. Wimmer, Yes

**YES – 9      NO – 0      ABSTAIN – 0**

**VII. NEW BUSINESS - None**

**VIII. SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC BOARD MEETINGS – Mr. Caterson reviewed the following upcoming meetings:**

- A. Monday, October 12, 2009, immediately following Board meeting – Work Session, Junior-Senior High School Community Learning Center
- B. Thursday, October 22, 2009, 4:00 PM – Energy Ad Hoc Committee meeting, Administrative Offices
- C. Thursday, October 22, 2009, 7:00 PM – Community Advisory Committee meeting, Junior-Senior High School Community Learning Center
- D. Monday, November 9, 2009, 7:00 PM – Board meeting, Junior-Senior High School Community Learning Center
- E. Monday, November 9, 2009 TBA – Work Session following the Board meeting, Junior-Senior High School Community Learning Center

**IX. OPPORTUNITY FOR VISITORS' ADDITIONAL COMMENTS - None**

(Visitors must speak directly into the public microphone for accurate transcription of minutes. Even if the person speaks loud enough to be heard by meeting attendees, they cannot be heard on the tape transcription unless they speak directly into the microphone.)

**X. ADJOURNMENT – This meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7:55 PM.**