IT IS THE MISSION OF MONTAGUE AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO EDUCATE AND INSPIRE ALL STUDENTS TO BECOME MOTIVATED, ARTICULATE, PRODUCTIVE, AND SUCCESSFUL CITIZENS FOR TODAY, TOMORROW, AND FOREVER.

MONTAGUE AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES

Minutes of the regular board meeting held on December 14, 2015.

The regular board meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the high school C.A.T. Lab by President Chris Stark.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Hunt, Stark, Moreau, Francis, Moore, Beishuizen, Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeffrey Johnson, Stacey Brown, and other interested students, staff, and citizens.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: It was moved by Moreau, seconded by Johnson to approve the agenda as presented.

All voted yes - motion carried. (7-0)

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA: It was moved by Beishuizen, seconded by Moreau that the consent agenda be adopted which consisted of the following:

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A. **Approval of minutes from:**
November 16, 2015 Regular Board Meeting

B. **General Fund Business**

1. **Approval of Expenditures:** For a total of $272,250.48; General Fund $233,461.23, Food Service $36,776.01, and Technology and Safety Fund $2,013.24

All voted yes – motion carried. (7-0)

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION OF THE MEETING: None

REPORTS:

A. Bond Refunding – Michael Gressens

Michael Gressens from Thrun Law P.C. gave a brief overview of the two current bond refunding transactions. Refunding the bonds directly benefits our tax payers, and will save our tax payers approximately $1.4 million collectively.

B. FFA

Students from FFA presented the Board with gifts consisting of products from current FFA projects including honey, popcorn, a beeswax candle, caramel, and eggs.

C. Focus School Quarterly Report – Jeff Henderson and Allison Hier

New students have been identified for this year's Superintendent Drop Out Challenge. The chosen students have "At Risk" factors and are offered support with silent mentors, counseling through Kid's Hope, and counseling services from our school counselor.

Increased parent involvement and accountability play a role in this initiative.

This year, three new strategies are being implemented to improve student achievement:
(1) Focus professional development on subject specific high quality instruction
(2) Utilize district problem-solving protocol to analyze data in order to adjust instruction and positively impact student achievement
(3) Utilize assessments for the ongoing identification of struggling students who need differentiated academic support

D. Meaningful Minute - Principals

MACC - One of Title I's focuses is to increase parent involvement. Allison spoke about the two recent family events held at the MACC and RRO that encouraged parent involvement and gave the parents ideas/tools for continuing math skill building at home.

RRO - RRO is focused on parent involvement and has recently held the 4th grade Region Fair, 5th grade poetry reading at the Book Nook, and Jacquie Wood's annual 5th grade Christmas concert.

NBC – The after school choir program held their first performance. ELA teachers received a $1200 grant providing a library within the classroom. The robotics team won 1st place in the Allendale tournament and advances to the state tournament on Saturday.

MHS – Many groups within MHS have recently been involved in community service activities including the FFA, NHS, and DECA. Pat Collins was recently named the Region 3 Football Coach of the Year. Shawn Bectal was named the All Area Volleyball Coach of the Year.

E. Superintendent Comments

Jeff announced the resignation of:

- Rachel Flagstead – JV Volleyball Coach, MHS
- Laurel Geis – Academic Awards Coordinator, MHS

Jeff updated the Board on recent legislation being considered regarding electric choice and state accountability standards. The success of the middle school robotics team was discussed. Future discussion will take place on whether or not robotics should be considered an official activity group of MAPS. The forestry plan for tree removal around the baseball field was discussed. The district is in the process of moving from a Title I targeted assistance program to a Title I school-wide program. The District Network Team held their first meeting last week to begin to put systems in place for efficient and effective procedures that will facilitate growth in student achievement.

2005 Bond Refunding:

It was moved by Moreau, seconded by Moore to approve the Resolution to refund the 2005 bonds as presented.

All voted yes – motion carried. (7-0)

2006 Bond Refunding

It was moved by Moreau, seconded by Francis to approve the Resolution to refund the 2006 bonds as presented.

All voted yes – motion carried. (7-0)

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Francis, seconded by Moreau to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

All voted yes – motion carried. (7-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacey Brown, Recording Secretary
MONTAGUE AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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Michael Moore, Secretary
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