



MINUTES

Date: October 21, 2025

Location: Library Media Center, Montville High School

Recording Notice: This meeting is being voice and video recorded and the video recording of the meeting will be posted online with the meeting minutes.

Board of Education Goal:

Montville graduates will possess the skills and dispositions to navigate complex tasks. Our graduates are communicators, information consumers, problem solvers, and independent learners. They exhibit empathy, perseverance, inclusivity and self-awareness.

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence – Chairman Wills Pike called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Board Members Attending: Bonnie Bacon, Timothy Shanahan, Norman Sylvia, Tina Grove, Donna Funk and Bob Mitchell. Superintendent Vumback, Director of Finance and Operations, Assistant Superintendent Andrea Flynn, Deborah Martin, Town Council Liaison, Joe Jaskiewicz and Student Representatives D'mitri Charles and Tiana Barber, were also in attendance. Absent were Secondary Supervisor of Special Services Amanda Brown and board members Carol Burgess and Erika Striebel. Administrators: Rob Alves, David Gollsneider, Will Klinefelter, Ken Daniewicz, Jessica Lilienthal, Liz Dumond, Kristen Brewer, and Theresa Gouveia were in attendance.

2. Alterations to the agenda

Motion: To add Item 7d. to the agenda to discuss the upcoming CABE event on 11/20/25 and whether a member of the Board will attend.

Moved by: Bob Mitchell

Seconded by: Wills Pike

Carried: (7-0)

3. Citizens' Comments (regarding agenda items only)

None

4. Letters and Communications - None

- a. Montville Marvels: Principals Will Klinefelter and David Gollsneider

It is recommended that the Board of Education acknowledge the following students, teachers, and community members in the areas noted:

Mohegan Elementary School – For consistently going above and beyond to support students and staff, bringing positivity, patience and dedication to their work every day: Abigail Bozsum and Noah Hastings.

The Palmer School- For being a proud Palmer graduate who has generously dedicated her time and talents to giving back to Montville Public Schools: Voula Barbour.

- b. Presentation on student outcomes as a result of the implementation of [Elementary CKLA](#)
- c. Presentation of [SBAC Data](#)

5. Approval of the Consent Calendar

[Minutes, October 16, 2025 Special Meeting](#)
[Minutes, October 8, 2025 Special Meeting](#)
[Minutes, September 16, 2025 Board Meeting](#)
[August 2025 Financial Reports](#)

Motion: To approve the consent calendar.

Moved by: Timothy Shanahan
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried (7-0)

- a. Budget update: Deb Martin

Board Chair Wills Pike commended Deb and her predecessors for managing a budget of this size and the anticipated final numbers that will show a total of less than 1% unspent funds.

6. Unfinished Business

a. HVAC updates

Deb Martin informed the attendees that Murphy and Oakdale Schools work will take place next week to prepare for the installation of the VRF units. The DOAZ units should arrive by the end of the 1st week of November and Action Air will begin preparing for their installation.

Mohegan and MHS went out to bid, albeit minimally delayed.

Tyl Middle will begin the bid process shortly. Estimators are still reviewing true costs at The Palmer Building.

7. New Business

a. Appraisal: Montville High School Music field trip to New York City

Superintendent Vumback informed the Board that approximately 50 students from MHS plan to attend a 3 day/2-night workshop in NY between 4/24/25 – 4/26/25. The trip will include clinics at Montclair College and Broadway shows.

b. Appraisal: Montville High School Athletics Baseball trip to Florida, April 2026

Superintendent Vumback informed the Board that approximately 20 students from the MHS Baseball program plan to attend a 4-day trip to FL, over the spring recess. The trip provides an opportunity for team bonding and competition. Last year's trip was a huge success and the team is looking forward to a repeat.

c. Anticipated tour of Transition rooms at Montville High School

Superintendent Vumback extended the invitation to board members to visit the Transition Academy rooms, immediately following the meeting.

d. Request a volunteer to act as CABE Delegate

Bob Mitchell reviewed upcoming CABE event to be held from 3:00 – 6:00 pm on 11/20/25. With the District's renewed membership, a delegate from the Board is eligible to attend. At this time, no one is able to attend. An email will be sent to all Board members to determine interest.

First reading of new, repealed or revised policies:

- Repeal Policy 9325.2 Order of Business/Agenda
- Repeal P6114.81 Emergency and Disaster Preparedness

- New Policy P5170 Title IX
- Revise Policy P3323 Competitive Pricing/Bidding
- Repeal Policy P4118.231/4218.231 Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco
Replace P4118.232 Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drug-Free Workplace
- Repeal P5145.4 Non-Discrimination
Replace P5145.4 Non-Discrimination Students
- Repeal P4152.6/4252.6 FMLA
Replace 4152.6/4252.6 FMLA
- Repeal P4111 and 4211 Recruitment and Selection
Replace P4111.1 Recruitment and Selection; Affirmative Action
- Repeal P4118.11/4218.11 Non-Discrimination
Replace P4118.11 Non-Discrimination – Employees

8. Information Items

None

9. Committee and Liaison Reports

- a. Montville Education Foundation – *Richard Slack, MEF Board Vice President spoke about the Fall Grant Cycle and the quickly approaching deadline of October 30, 2025. Fundraising efforts were very successful this past year and the MEF is looking forward to awarding grants up to the amount of \$20,000.00.*
- b. LEARN – *Bob Mitchell reports that LEARN is off to a great start to the school year and that once the government shutdown is over, they will be in receipt of substantial grant funding. Bob also shared that Montville will be on the receiving end of a 20% reduction in tuition costs for students who attend LEARN Magnet schools.*
- c. CABE/NSBA – *Bob Mitchell reported that since the district renewed its membership with CABE, they have reappointed him as a Regional Director.*
- d. Montville Youth Services Bureau – *Timothy Shanahan reported that there was not a meeting since the Board met last.*
- e. Student Board Representatives – *Tiana Barber and D’Mitri Charles presented their [reports](#), providing update on upcoming events at MHS*
- f. Principals’ Report *Elementary Principals reports presented during Data Presentation.*

10. Report on District Operating Plan

a. Report from the Director of Special Services Kristin Brewer

Working closely with all staff, the Supervisors, Principals and Central Office on our programs in the district (RISE and Pathways), as well as Palmer and the Transition Academy. We have offered training including having a BCBA come in and teach staff how to take data collections and work on FBA's and BIP's. The budget for Special Education is status quo, as we are looking to bring students back from outplacement, but that does take time. One of my goals is to establish strong programming in our schools for our students and I have the backing of the Superintendent and Principals to do so. Our transition program is thriving in the high school and I will show you the new room after this meeting. Amanda Brown and Rob Alves really went over and above with the design and set up of the room. The teacher and a few students did give me feedback to share with you all about the change to the high school. All students stated that their favorite part of the new room is the stove top and how everything is in one big room. The teacher said she is happy to be so close to the admin and Central Office and appreciates their support for the program. I also have been working closely with Deb Martin on finances for the Special Education department in order to maintain training and up to date needs for the district.

b. Report from Assistant Superintendent Andrea Flynn

We had another busy and successful day on September 25th for professional development. I want to give a brief overview of some of the PD happening in the schools and district.

Back by popular demand, Literacy How presented the second installment on the Science of Reading PD focusing on a deeper dive into the strategies to support students across K-5

Tyl has been working closely with LEARN in all content areas, ELA, math, science and SS. They are diving into such topics as the instructional core, high level instruction in the middle school classroom, flexible grouping and using Building Think Classroom routines just to name a few.

Other professional development opportunities offered on this day were: ○ Safety Care-our crisis prevention and management program. Curriculum refinement at the high school level.

c. Report from the Superintendent – Dianne Vumback, Ed.D.

I would like to give you an updated on chronic absenteeism as it is a focus at each building and as a district. Currently, districtwide we are at 13.5%. We are not satisfied with that number and we are working on improving our strategies.

We are taking advantage of an excellent opportunity to transform leading, teaching, and learning in Montville. Aligning our work around the District Improvement Plan and building capacity, we will work with McRel Institute, known for identifying and sharing evidence-based best practices for improving instruction, leadership, students learning and school performance to engage in school system improvement.

McRel partners with schools, districts, education service agencies such as LEARN, and state departments of education to tailor PD to our needs to give leaders specific knowledge, approaches, tools and action steps to support quick wins and long-term school improvement and innovation.

We will engage in the right work to improve student outcomes and align all of our efforts.

Evaluations are underway districtwide; I am currently meeting with the Administrative Team for their initial

11. Citizens' comments – *Town Council Liaison Joe Jaskiewicz expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the members of the board, the administration and the teachers in the district. He further commented that the Town Council will always support the education of the students in the community.*

12. Remarks – Board Chair

Thank you to Bonnie Bacon for serving on the Board of Education, Bonnie has chosen not to run in the new election cycle.

Track and Field Referendum – thanks to the people of Montville.

13. Future agenda items

- Fall Technology Presentation (November)
- Presentations from Secondary Principals on Assessment Data
- Board Member Tina Grove requested a presentation providing an update on the impact of the academic guidelines for participation in extracurricular activities.

14. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.
Moved by: Wills Pike
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried (7-0)

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Wills Pike, Chair
Montville Board of Education

Bob Mitchell, Secretary
Montville Board of Education

Minutes Approved: _____