

Transcript of 12/21/21 BOE Monthly Meeting

00:01
good evening everyone
00:05
i'd like to call to order the regular
00:07
meeting of the morristown township board
00:09
of education is called to order this
00:11
meeting is called in conformance with
00:12
the open public meetings act with
00:14
adequate notice provided as follows
00:16
notice filed with the courier post on
00:18
july 1st 2021 notice filed with the
00:21
burlington county times on july 1st 2021
00:24
can i please have a moment of silence
00:30
please rise for the pledge of allegiance
00:36
i pledge allegiance to the flag of the
00:39
united states
00:41
and to the republic for which it stands
00:44
one nation under god indivisible with
00:47
liberty and justice for all
00:54
[Music]
00:55
thank you roll call james please dr
00:58
alberti
01:00
mr fairchild here mrs mullen
01:03
dr snyder here mr villanueva here mr
01:06
weeks
01:07
mr weinstein president mrs romano
01:11
mr shaw yeah thank you
01:14
thank you james
01:16
we already went to executive session
01:18
returned to public going on to routine
01:20
matters
01:22
minutes can i please have a motion to
01:24
approve the following minutes november
01:26
16 2021 executive session and november
01:29
16 2021 regular meeting
01:33
thank you thank you
01:35
all in favor
01:37
hi

01:38
any nose or abstentions
01:41
okay process
01:45
okay any communications that the board
01:47
would like to share
01:56
so good evening again everyone um first
01:59
off i'd like to welcome mr mike volpe as
02:01
the new superintendent of morristown
02:03
township published schools um we've been
02:06
so excited for your arrival and you're
02:08
we're thrilled that you're finally here
02:10
so
02:10
we are confident that our staff our
02:13
parents students and community will love
02:15
meeting you in the upcoming months um
02:17
i'm sorry that i'm not going to have the
02:19
opportunity to work with you but i am
02:21
sure um
02:22
you are going to make a real great
02:24
connection with the community and our
02:25
staff so thank you for being here
02:28
um
02:29
i also see dr fitz out there so a thank
02:31
you to
02:32
dr fitz for all that you've done for our
02:34
district as well um
02:37
so as i come to my second um
02:40
term on the board as an ending
02:42
i just wanted to take a moment to thank
02:44
the community the board the
02:46
administration the staff first for the
02:48
opportunity to serve and the support and
02:51
the great relationships i've made over
02:53
the years
02:54
we have some of the best administrators
02:56
teachers staff parents and most
02:58
importantly our students
03:00
we must continue to work together to
03:02

ensure our district remains the best it
03:05
can be and that we continue to provide
03:07
top-notch education for our students
03:09
that they deserve we face huge
03:11
challenges ahead and collaboration is
03:14
the key to success in my mind
03:16
i've always made decisions based on what
03:18
i thought was in the best interest of
03:19
all of the students in the district
03:21
keeping in mind there are many different
03:23
types of students in our district i
03:25
always thought about what would keep
03:26
them safe emotionally and physically
03:29
what would make our students reach their
03:30
highest potential and what would excite
03:32
and interest them one of the most
03:34
important initiatives that i supported
03:36
in champion was advancing our use of
03:38
technology and integrating it into our
03:40
classrooms in an efficient productive
03:42
and innovative manner
03:44
which quickly was enabled during covid
03:47
and i consider this experience with the
03:49
technology a silver lining of the
03:50
pandemic and i hope it continues to
03:53
expand don't get me wrong i believe in
03:55
person learning and teacher-student
03:57
face-to-face interactions are by far the
03:59
most important way to learn however
04:01
technology can expand on these learning
04:04
experiences greatly
04:06
i've also been involved in trying to
04:07
develop partnerships with universities
04:09
and businesses to expand our students
04:11
access to real-life opportunities as the
04:14
world is changing at a rapid speed i
04:16
truly hope morristown public schools can
04:18
expand upon the incredible foundation

04:22
and reputation it has to establish
04:24
relationships with local universities
04:26
businesses and organization
04:28
also our work on diversity inclusion has
04:30
been such an important part of these
04:32
past two years we have had some
04:34
important yet difficult conversations
04:36
but necessary ones
04:38
this is critical work that has been done
04:40
and must continue to make sure our
04:41
students feel comfortable and belong a
04:43
sense of belonging while i am sad to
04:46
leave the board i know you are in good
04:47
hands
04:49
please have some grace on our students
04:51
our staff
04:52
these are truly some of the hardest
04:54
times they've had as much as last year's
04:56
remote learning was stressful in some
04:58
ways this year has proven even harder
05:00
for some as we continue to deal with the
05:03
impact on the pandemic and we have seen
05:05
that in our students
05:08
unfortunately
05:12
i appreciate the opportunity to work
05:14
with all of my board colleagues
05:16
it was a tough year but despite all of
05:18
the challenges i think now the district
05:21
is in a position to move forward
05:23
successfully
05:24
being a board member is mostly a
05:26
thankless job as we all know so i do
05:28
want to take the opportunity to thank
05:31
all of you
05:32
for the opportunity to me to serve as
05:34
board president but most importantly
05:37
each board member your true dedication
05:39

your time your effort and support of our
05:42
district during these extremely
05:43
challenging times
05:45
in addition to dealing with the impact
05:47
and ramifications that wreaked havoc on
05:50
all school districts
05:51
in the world
05:53
from a board perspective we had some
05:55
most significant board challenges as
05:56
well this year including interviewing
05:59
and appointing an interim superintendent
06:01
interviewing and appointing a permanent
06:03
superintendent and the mist appointing a
06:05
board member to fill a board vacancy
06:08
i just wanted to take the opportunity to
06:10
say all this to you and i want to give
06:13
wish the district and the new board of
06:15
education much success as we move into
06:17
the school year
06:19
so thank you all
06:22
[Applause]
06:27
thank you
06:29
we also have um
06:31
two other board members
06:33
that are and david weinstein and kathy
06:35
mullin will also be um
06:37
departing the board as well i don't know
06:39
if either of you
06:41
have anything that you'd like to say or
06:50
thank you uh cameron and uh i thank
06:53
you all uh my current
06:55
board fellow board members and all the
06:57
members of the public who have uh
07:00
found faith in me i was first elected in
07:02
2009 which seems like about several
07:05
decades ago now
07:06
um
07:07
and i was probably the last board member

07:09
elected uh through an april election
07:11
that's sitting at least i think in
07:12
burlington county still so
07:14
um it's been a while and uh i was
07:18
mentored by one of the most terrific
07:20
human beings a
07:22
board member here by larry named larry
07:24
friedman
07:26
and he taught me to always just do the
07:28
right thing
07:29
follow your heart
07:30
and treat others as you want to be
07:32
treated and
07:34
fight people with a pen and paper when
07:36
you have something to say
07:38
because it matters
07:40
um i came in to this board
07:42
during a crisis
07:44
horrible economic crisis
07:46
i'm leaving this board during a public
07:48
health crisis
07:49
and in between there were many crises
07:52
that occurred but one thing that always
07:54
was true is that the community
07:56
felt strongly about the schools
07:59
um and we've always done what we feel is
08:01
right as a community for our students
08:04
um i've negotiated contracts with our
08:08
existing mea leadership our existing maa
08:10
leadership and while we didn't always
08:13
agree about what needed to be in the
08:15
contracts we always agreed about the
08:17
purpose which was to make sure that the
08:19
district itself
08:20
did the right things for the students
08:22
fairly for both
08:24
our existing staff
08:26

and
08:27
the community and for that i thank you
08:29
for your time during your negotiations
08:35
i uh
08:37
when i came in we held taxes to zero for
08:39
several years
08:41
um but then we spent the money
08:43
over several years after because the
08:45
world freed up
08:47
and i want you to always think that what
08:49
we do today
08:50
we always do have a long goal and that's
08:52
to make sure the students are educated
08:54
to the best of our ability
08:56
by the generosity of you letting us do
08:59
it
09:00
um i've been in the minority i've been
09:03
the majority on many decisions
09:05
um always following the same principles
09:08
i fought
09:10
to avoid loss of programming for
09:12
students over the years
09:14
we've lost a lot of programming over the
09:15
years folks
09:17
i didn't even want to take a list and i
09:19
stopped because
09:20
we can't afford to run the programs we
09:22
once ran and it's not because of
09:24
anything other than we're limited by the
09:26
state of new jersey and how much money
09:28
we're able to raise
09:29
you don't decide anymore you don't have
09:32
a voice in your local school district
09:34
anymore
09:35
the state took that away from you
09:37
and as long as we stay within a
09:38
budgetary cap
09:41
you never will have that voice again

09:42
except for by electing people up here
09:44
and for that i'm very sorry
09:47
um
09:48
i've worked on the board with a lot of
09:49
passionate people over the years
09:51
don't always agree but we always respect
09:53
each other over the years um there was a
09:56
lot of crisis on the board over the
09:57
years too
09:58
we had crises of ethics
10:02
faith
10:04
we had superintendents leaving left and
10:06
right we had stability for a long time
10:09
but one thing that held true the entire
10:10
time is that the community still
10:11
believed in the education process that
10:14
we delivered and believed in our staff
10:16
and this board to continue to provide
10:17
that education
10:19
i had a lot of good memories of handing
10:21
out diplomas to students over the years
10:24
and every decision
10:25
was made with the exact same thought in
10:27
mind which was to make a decision that
10:29
was in the best interests of our
10:30
students and to try to build the
10:33
cadillac model for them understanding
10:35
that we might only be able to deliver a
10:37
chevy
10:38
but that's okay because we idealized the
10:40
best we could do and then work within
10:42
the resources we had
10:43
and for that i thank
10:45
everybody in this town for the past 12
10:48
and a half years that i've been on board
10:50
thank you
11:03
i'd like to thank karen and david for
11:05

their service and david particularly for
11:07
your longevity that's so valuable to the
11:10
community to have someone who served on
11:12
the board as diligently as you have for
11:14
all these years so thank you very much
11:16
and karen thank you for your leadership
11:18
i just want to thank the board
11:20
for appointing me giving me the honor
11:23
and privilege and appointing me to the
11:24
board twice
11:27
it's it's really been a pleasure to work
11:29
over these last two years with you
11:32
and i just i
11:34
am so proud to be able to
11:36
serve
11:37
um in this capacity we were talking on
11:40
the way over from the executive session
11:42
it's such a healthy thing to see so many
11:45
members of the community both applying
11:47
for appointments and running for
11:49
election it's a really healthy aspect of
11:52
having so many people involved in what's
11:53
happening in the school district so i
11:55
thank the community for everything that
11:56
you're doing to support the work of the
11:58
board and the work of the district in
12:00
general thanks
12:16
thank you madam president and i will
12:18
keep my comments very brief as there
12:20
will be a lot of them coming tonight i
12:22
just want to say how thrilled i am to be
12:24
the superintendent of the moore's town
12:26
township public schools i travel about
12:28
an hour each day and uh it is not hard
12:30
to do this town there's no town like
12:33
morristown this town is a lot like the
12:34
town that i chose to live in and i see
12:36
some of the same values here

12:38
um during my transition i really want to
12:41
thank ms shaw who was integral in
12:43
communicating with me on a daily basis
12:45
needs of the community as well as the
12:47
needs of the board i want to thank the
12:49
legend that you had sitting in the
12:50
office dr fitz is a true legend in the
12:52
state of new jersey and he uh did right
12:55
by you a lot of times interims just sit
12:58
in a chair he did the work
12:59
on behalf of your students
13:02
i want to thank my entire administrative
13:03
team my cabinet as well as all
13:05
administrators who over the past two
13:07
weeks i had half hour one-on-ones with
13:09
getting to know them and my next level
13:11
of work here is getting to know you the
13:13
community uh the faculty and staff as
13:16
well as the students
13:18
in my first two days here i've had the
13:19
opportunity to visit four of the schools
13:22
and i really like what i see so far
13:24
one of the things that i liked the most
13:26
when i was in the schools and there's no
13:28
ego in the job when you're a
13:29
superintendent i love the fact that i
13:31
was walking in the halls
13:33
and people said
13:34
excuse me who are you
13:37
it makes me feel good that people are
13:39
out there looking for the safety and
13:40
security now everybody has a nice little
13:42
lap once i say hi i'm the new
13:43
superintendent but it lets me know what
13:45
your values are here michelle spoke to
13:47
the physical safety and psychological
13:49
safety of your students it is clear that
13:51

that is also important and paramount to
13:53
your faculty and staff
13:55
so without any further ado i would just
13:57
like to say thank you for having faith
13:59
in me and i look forward to getting to
14:01
know each and every one of you and
14:03
students faculty and staff please don't
14:05
be surprised when i come around to your
14:06
schools thank you
14:37
it's a little awkward
14:40
sending our
14:41
current president
14:43
off but we definitely want to recognize
14:44
her on behalf of the board
14:46
um karen your passion dedication to our
14:48
district is really unparalleled your
14:51
time on the board has been so
14:52
appreciated by all of us and we really
14:54
appreciate the leadership that you've
14:56
given over this last difficult year i
14:58
admire your leadership style as you have
15:00
really exuded
15:02
the true example of grace under fire as
15:04
president during a very challenging year
15:06
you will be missed but i know you will
15:08
still remain very active with
15:11
mef and other home in school and other
15:13
roles in within our district so we
15:15
really appreciate that so on behalf of
15:17
the board would like to present you with
15:19
the plaque and of course
15:21
the the wonderful pen i'll hold on to it
15:23
while your hands are full but um thank
15:26
you but thank you so much for all of
15:27
your photos thank you so much
15:34
david and kathy
15:37
david kathy we have some plaques for you
15:39
as well

15:58
[Music]
16:00
so kathy you have been such a pleasure
16:02
to work with um you are we're so
16:04
grateful to you for stepping back onto
16:07
the board at this difficult time um your
16:10
objective views your bounds ways your
16:13
kindness means so much to all of us
16:15
we greatly appreciate your time your
16:17
commitment um it's been a pleasure
16:19
working with you and we wish
16:29
david thank you so much for all of your
16:31
contributions in the past 12 years that
16:34
you've been on the board
16:35
your commitment your knowledge your
16:37
experience has been such a great
16:39
resource for all of us um your sense of
16:41
stability has really kept the board
16:44
whole i personally know i was always
16:47
able to reach out to you to bounce an
16:49
issue off of given your knowledge and
16:51
our past experiences and it's always
16:53
been um
16:54
fun to reminisce here and there about
16:56
the times board passed um so i wish you
16:59
all the best in the future i'm not sure
17:02
what you're going to do with all your
17:03
free time now but
17:06
but knowing your long time commitment to
17:08
our community i'm sure you're going to
17:10
do something wonderful so thank you so
17:12
much for everything
17:14
[Applause]
17:42
thank you so much everyone so i think we
17:45
are ready for our
17:48
state of the district presentation dr
17:50
benton
17:52
and while he's pulling that up good
17:54

evening um our presentation tonight is
17:56
to share with you where we are
17:59
as a district in terms of our students
18:01
learning
18:02
thus far into the
18:03
2021-2022 school year we've all lived
18:06
through the learning disruptions of the
18:08
past almost two years
18:10
and so i think it's an important
18:12
as well as appropriate time to look at
18:14
where our students are and highlight
18:15
their progress as well as the learning
18:17
supports um that we are providing as we
18:19
continue with our transition back into
18:22
uh full-day in-person learning
18:25
uh before we begin the curriculum
18:27
committee did ask um as part of my first
18:30
presentation that i spent a little quick
18:32
moment to share a little bit about
18:33
myself as the new director of curriculum
18:35
instruction
18:36
um i began in the district back in july
18:39
um and had the opportunity to work with
18:41
many of the staff and administration
18:43
during the summer programs at ues
18:46
which also gave me the opportunity
18:48
to meet and greet many of the elementary
18:50
and middle school students that
18:51
participated in that program as well as
18:53
some of our high school students who
18:55
volunteered
18:56
this is overall my 17th year in
18:58
education i began as a high school
19:00
science teacher
19:02
for all nine years and then transitioned
19:04
into administration
19:06
as a math and science supervisor high
19:08
school assistant principal and director

19:10
of counseling and assessment before
19:12
coming here to morristown as the
19:13
director of curriculum instruction
19:16
my
19:17
passion has always been about how to
19:19
facilitate and support
19:22
high quality and engaging instruction
19:24
for all of our students
19:26
and the pandemic has presented us all
19:27
both as parents and educators with a
19:29
unique challenge to provide this
19:31
instruction and and see
19:33
the growth and development of our
19:35
students so in my short time here
19:37
working with our administration our our
19:40
teachers
19:41
um and visiting classroom and buildings
19:42
i believe we've responded well to this
19:44
challenge and we'll continue to monitor
19:47
and respond as needed to meet the needs
19:48
of our students
19:53
within the curriculum and instruction
19:55
team i work closely with our content
19:57
supervisors to facilitate the delivery
19:59
of curriculum and i encourage you to
20:00
reach out to them with any of your
20:02
questions um regarding our curriculum in
20:04
addition to their teachers and
20:06
principals
20:09
this year we were excited to return to
20:11
full day in-person learning after a year
20:13
of hybrid learning staff began the year
20:15
working with students to establish
20:17
community and learning expectations for
20:19
the classroom and this included our
20:21
youngest students and those students
20:22
making big transitions such as those
20:24

moving into a new school or those who
20:26
were fully remote last year
20:31
because state testing was cancelled for
20:33
the last two spring administrations all
20:35
districts were required to administer a
20:37
one-time start strong assessment this
20:39
fall to satisfy our federal requirement
20:42
to administer these tests in ela math
20:44
science for this year
20:46
these tests were not meant to replace
20:48
the summative new jersey student
20:49
learning assessments um as well as the
20:52
district level assessments that we
20:53
typically use to understand the learning
20:55
progress of our students
20:57
over the course of the year
21:00
this spring we do anticipate
21:02
that we will return uh to an
21:04
administration of the njsla in grades
21:06
three through nine as well as a new
21:09
graduation requirement for our 11th
21:11
graders the new jersey graduation
21:12
proficiency exam um and a letter was
21:15
sent home out to the high school
21:16
students regarding that new assessment
21:18
um we'll continue to communicate any
21:20
additional information that we see
21:23
in addition to that
21:26
um there are still going to be three
21:28
pathways to graduation for our students
21:31
for the class of 2022 uh they will
21:34
continue to be able to use the new
21:36
jersey student learning um uh assessment
21:39
as well as in the second pathway any of
21:41
the alternative assessments that you see
21:44
here
21:45
and a third pathway that is a portfolio
21:47
appeal for the class of 2023 through

21:50
2025 which is our current freshman
21:52
through 11th graders the first pathway
21:54
will now be a passing score on the new
21:56
new jersey gpa assessment to be taken in
21:59
11th grade and this test will assess
22:01
content from algebra 1 geometry and
22:04
english 10 course coursework
22:12
that said as one point of recognition
22:14
for our
22:15
recently graduated class of 2021 we're
22:18
proud to report that 100 of students met
22:20
their assessment requirement to graduate
22:23
despite having a reduced number of
22:24
opportunities to take the psat s.a.t and
22:28
jsla or other
22:30
tests over the last two school years
22:34
as stated earlier the district relies on
22:36
district level assessments to measure
22:38
ongoing growth and to identify student
22:40
learning needs that then guide our
22:42
instruction
22:44
one of the most one of these measures is
22:46
are the
22:46
wnwea map assessments these are short
22:49
online tests that most students in
22:51
grades grade one through eight take in
22:53
the fall and spring to measure their
22:55
learning growth in math and reading
22:57
these tests are adaptive meaning
22:59
questions begin at grade level content
23:01
appropriate for that time of the year
23:03
fall winter or spring and adjust up or
23:06
down depending on each student's
23:07
response
23:11
in the next two slides we'll look at
23:12
students performance on the fall 20 this
23:15
falls map assessments in grades one
23:17

through seven
23:18
one of the things that we've been doing
23:20
is monitoring learning progress with
23:21
ongoing map testing since the start of
23:24
the pandemic
23:25
that occurs and this is occurring as
23:27
part of the formative assessments that
23:28
our teachers are using to deliver uh
23:30
instruction in the classroom with an eye
23:32
for any impacts that were caused by the
23:34
disruption of learning over the last two
23:36
years two years
23:38
to that end we have map tested in the
23:40
spring in the fall and also in the
23:42
winter for some students in order to
23:43
establish a baseline and then
23:45
continuously measure growth to adjust
23:47
our instruction
23:48
and you can see that was our ela data
23:51
this is our
23:53
math data
23:55
for instance we've seen some growth in a
23:57
couple of great levels from fall 2020 to
23:59
fall 2021 in both math and ela
24:02
and we've seen deviations of
24:04
approximately one to five percent in the
24:05
learning progress of students fall to
24:07
fall in the remaining grade levels
24:09
overall at this time as you can see on
24:11
these two slides eighty percent or more
24:13
of our students are at above grade level
24:15
expectations for this time of the year
24:17
across all great levels in ela and 70 78
24:22
or higher for math
24:28
as we moved into this year we did try to
24:30
identify areas of strength within the
24:32
new jersey student learning standards
24:34
strands that students demonstrated from

24:36
the map testing in math and ela as the
24:38
starting points for instructional focus
24:40
for this school year
24:42
and as you can see
24:44
in ela i said 80 of our students are at
24:47
or above grade level and within that 60
24:49
of students are within the high to high
24:52
average we did see strengths across in k
24:54
through 3 and 4 through 7 with
24:56
vocabulary use and acquisition
25:00
our areas of strength and math
25:02
again accept approximately 80 of
25:04
students in each grade and of that 60
25:07
percent also we're at the high and
25:09
average
25:10
and within our
25:13
anchor standards students demonstrated
25:15
strengths across all six of the standard
25:17
strands and performance as they were
25:20
aligned to the different grade levels
25:24
the next two slides show a
25:26
disaggregation of our map data on grade
25:28
level or above performance for different
25:30
subgroups within the district
25:32
this slide does demonstrate a trend seen
25:34
nationally where vulnerable
25:36
subpopulations of students such as our
25:37
special education and esl students as
25:40
well as those from lower socioeconomic
25:42
backgrounds have experienced the
25:43
greatest impacts from the pandemic uh
25:46
over the last two school years
25:54
and then oh sorry moving forward however
25:57
what we want to try to do is to
26:00
adjust our instruction to make sure that
26:02
we are providing support for students
26:04
who are not meeting grade level
26:05

expectations
26:07
for students that are not meeting these
26:08
expectations we continue to build
26:10
consistent basic skills and reading
26:12
support programming
26:14
in ela we've used the learning loss
26:16
grant funds to provide our teachers with
26:18
additional training as well as to
26:20
acquire additional resources to support
26:22
our ela programming students who did not
26:25
meet grade level expectations in the
26:27
spring were invited in both math and ela
26:30
to attend a six-week summer engagement
26:32
program where 23 teachers provided small
26:35
group instruction in math and reading
26:38
these students were also identified for
26:39
continued support as we entered into
26:41
this year through our reading and math
26:43
support program where we're focusing on
26:45
fluency and number sense in math and
26:47
foundational skills and
26:49
comprehension in ela
26:57
moving forward to address the needs of
26:59
students
27:00
we are
27:02
[Music]
27:04
going to be looking uh to focus in ela
27:06
in k-5
27:08
we're currently in the adoption phase
27:10
for a new ela curriculum for next year
27:12
that will increase rigor with new
27:14
programming resources as well as
27:16
building an embedded professional
27:18
development for our teachers to support
27:20
this instruction in grades six through
27:22
eight the focus is on developing methods
27:24
such as notice and note signposts that
27:26
support student ability to conduct

27:28
literary analysis across a wide range of
27:30
types of genre of literature
27:32
and informational text which is an
27:34
important college and career readiness
27:36
skill as they enter into the high school
27:38
grades
27:41
in math we continue to place a strong
27:43
emphasis on engaging students in
27:44
mathematical practices including
27:46
reasoning and modeling with more and
27:48
more complex content as they progress
27:50
k-12 within our math curriculum
27:55
[Music]
27:58
while assessment data to measure
27:59
learning growth over the course of year
28:00
is an important way to identify needs
28:03
and adjust instruction we're also
28:04
looking uh this year and many other
28:07
measures used to determine each child's
28:09
need in a holistic way that considers
28:11
the whole child and some of the things
28:12
that we're looking at you know we're
28:14
monitoring uh marking period grades
28:17
classroom engagement information
28:18
assessments um that teachers are giving
28:20
on a daily basis attendance counselor
28:23
and case management referrals as well as
28:25
parent and teacher communication
28:31
in science uh we did not uh we were not
28:35
uh able to give the state assessments in
28:37
science however we have adjusted our
28:39
curriculum to meet the new next-gen uh
28:42
science standards in all grades and we
28:44
do anticipate that this spring along
28:46
with math and ela we will be testing in
28:48
grades 5 8 and 11 in science
28:52
um
28:54

and the district has adapted all of our
28:56
assessments in those grades
28:58
in all grades excuse me um in order to
29:02
prepare students for those
29:05
for those tests uh in grades one through
29:07
five we continue to develop hands-on
29:08
learning opportunities for science
29:10
lessons and creating meaningful
29:12
connections between our science
29:14
ela math and i apologize but social
29:16
studies should also be on there in
29:18
grades 6 through 12 we have a continued
29:20
focus on finding engaging phenomena that
29:23
leverage students use of science in the
29:24
engineering practices
29:31
as we take a look at some of the
29:32
secondary data and specifically the high
29:34
school i think it's important to note
29:36
that this really begins to reflect a
29:38
culmination of the learning that occurs
29:40
in kindergarten through senior year
29:43
here are some areas of particular pride
29:45
and while not every child can be
29:47
recognized here it demonstrates the
29:49
rigor quality of instruction and
29:51
development that all students engage in
29:53
throughout through our various academic
29:55
and extracurricular programs
29:58
this information is from the school year
30:00
2020 2021 which we know uh was a
30:04
challenging year
30:05
but despite that challenge
30:07
our students are still have still
30:10
excelled in a number of areas and i
30:12
think that's something that we should be
30:13
proud of and celebrate
30:16
when we looked at our psat data for our
30:18
juniors and sophomores

30:21
you can see that we are still well above
30:22
the state and national averages
30:28
when we look at our sat data the 2021
30:31
sat performance results show that
30:33
students continue
30:35
to show consistently high performance
30:37
compared to their national peers
30:39
and it is important to know that there
30:41
were less opportunities for students to
30:42
sit for the s.a.t after december of 2019
30:46
and currently the college board has
30:48
resumed its normal administration
30:50
schedule
30:51
starting this year for this year
30:55
some of our students also participate in
30:57
the act
30:59
and again as you can see if we look at
31:00
our
31:01
composite we do the state did not
31:03
compound not state level data but when
31:06
we look at the composite scores again
31:09
our students perform well above
31:11
the national average
31:13
[Music]
31:16
our latest ap scores from last year do
31:18
show a dip in the percentage of students
31:20
scoring a three or higher however it's
31:23
important to note that the college board
31:25
provided an all digital exam format
31:28
instead of a paper and pencil based and
31:30
reduced the amount of content that was
31:32
assessed due to the school closures in
31:34
the
31:35
2019-2020 year last year they did return
31:38
to a full exam that covered the entire
31:41
core content of those courses
31:43
and assessed students across all of the
31:45

expectations in each course but the test
31:48
was also provided in both the digital
31:50
and paper-based format so our ap
31:52
teachers are using last year's data as a
31:55
baseline as they prepare our students to
31:57
return
31:58
to the normal ap administration
32:02
[Music]
32:03
if we look at some of our post
32:06
secondary data post high school planning
32:08
is a deeply personal process for our
32:11
students and families and i think that
32:12
became a much more challenging
32:15
decision-making process for uh students
32:18
in over the last two years not really
32:21
knowing uh what the college experience
32:24
would be like what the job um
32:28
scene would look like
32:30
and the post high school um
32:33
and so we've tried to support our
32:34
students in that
32:36
in a college going culture here in
32:38
morristown it is our philosophy to work
32:40
with students to find institutions that
32:42
are best fit based on individual needs
32:45
preferences
32:46
and career
32:47
explorations
32:49
that's aspirations that said we you know
32:52
over 80
32:54
90 of our students 89 of our students
32:56
are moving on to two-year and four-year
32:59
institutions and more importantly when
33:01
we look at college persistence uh in
33:04
year two um we find that 95
33:08
of our students are remaining in college
33:10
programs um beyond the two-year mark and
33:13
that

33:14
is compared to a national average
33:16
compiled by the national student
33:18
clearinghouse that tracks that trend um
33:20
a seven-year trend of students who
33:22
remain in college for two years the
33:24
national average is 80 percent
33:28
this is just a sampling of the different
33:30
college acceptances for our seniors for
33:33
last year
33:35
our students are accepted to a wide
33:37
variety of
33:39
colleges
33:44
and last year
33:45
for our visual and performing arts while
33:48
we did have
33:50
a
33:52
um
33:54
challenging uh
33:57
program i will say in terms of how we
33:59
were able to do our different visual and
34:01
performing arts this year we're excited
34:04
that we've been planning for a near
34:05
normal schedule of performances and
34:08
artwork showcases
34:13
and again these are some of the
34:15
despite the challenges last year
34:17
our students were recognized for their
34:20
work
34:20
and these are some of the nominations
34:22
and awards that they received
34:26
[Music]
34:30
as another indicator of our students
34:32
excellence in both character and
34:33
leadership students continue to
34:35
demonstrate a commitment to service
34:37
despite the ongoing
34:39
pandemic
34:41

over the last two years our students in
34:43
1920 were able to serve 27
34:48
875 community service hours and even
34:51
last year as the pandemic continued 13
34:55
658 hours of community service
35:02
again despite the challenges presented
35:03
by covet our athletic athletic program
35:06
also continued uh last year the nj sia
35:10
split the high school year into into
35:12
four different seasons instead of three
35:15
and under these guidelines all mhs
35:17
sports were able to have a season except
35:19
for the fall unified soccer because no
35:22
other schools chose to participate and
35:25
whams was able to
35:27
run their middle school sports in the
35:29
spring
35:33
we were also able to uh participate in
35:37
the regional championships that were
35:38
held by the nj
35:40
iaa instead of state championships
35:43
and the boys soccer and girls tennis won
35:46
the 2020 southwest regional
35:48
championships
35:51
boys tennis won the south jersey group 3
35:54
sectional championship
35:56
and kate inglis won an individual south
35:58
jersey group 3 sectional championship in
36:00
the 3 200 meters and girls lacrosse won
36:03
the south jersey group 3 sectional
36:05
championship
36:07
moorestown
36:09
girls lacrosse won the 2021 group 3
36:12
state championship
36:15
and last year 33 senior student athletes
36:18
participated in the 2020 fall and the
36:21
2021 spring signing commitment day
36:24
representing 15 different sports

36:30
additionally in our unified sports
36:32
program
36:33
whams was able to add unified bowling
36:35
last year and the high school unified
36:38
track 4 by 100 and 4 by 400
36:41
were state champion teams were state
36:43
champions
36:48
our student athlete representatives
36:50
included maria heffernan who won the
36:52
2020 2021 njsia scholar athlete award
36:56
for moorestown high school
37:01
and finally over the last two years the
37:02
district has responded to an increased
37:05
need to integrate social emotional
37:06
learning and a focus on student wellness
37:09
at every grade level the chart here
37:11
lists some of the highlighted sel
37:13
engagement opportunities for students
37:16
that occur as part of student schedule
37:18
and activities as well as assemblies and
37:20
resources available to students within
37:22
the school
37:28
that concludes our presentation while
37:30
this one presentation cannot capture all
37:32
of the experiences of school life over
37:35
the last two years
37:36
for our students staff and parents i do
37:38
want to thank our staff and
37:40
administration for their dedication and
37:42
diligence and just generally going above
37:44
and beyond for our students we also
37:46
thank the board of education for their
37:48
continued support and we especially
37:50
thank parents for partnering with us as
37:52
their educators and their schools to
37:54
provide the best education possible and
37:57
meet the needs of their children
38:00

thank you
38:08
thank you so much dr benton for pulling
38:10
that together and for all of your
38:11
support um and all the administration as
38:14
well i know that's a team effort so
38:16
thank you so much
38:18
any board members have questions
38:23
sure good
38:25
thank you dr ben um i have just a couple
38:28
of questions on the um
38:31
map statistics and and you may not know
38:34
the answer to it it might be a map
38:35
organization question but i'll ask
38:38
anyway in case you know
38:40
um
38:42
the the
38:44
the data you showed presented um
38:46
statistics that included average high
38:49
average and i forget the
38:50
the last category
38:52
um
38:54
before i guess 2020 or 2021.
38:58
do you know if
39:00
those
39:02
if if the the
39:04
criteria to meet those categories
39:08
where
39:09
the 2021 tests
39:11
were the same
39:12
as the criteria to meet those categories
39:15
pre-pandemic
39:25
sorry
39:26
i don't think i've ever used it
39:29
um yes so they were we were in 2019
39:33
is when um in uh wea changed their norms
39:38
so
39:38
prior to that you cannot like compare
39:41
directly to you know the scores the rid

39:44
scores is what we use but those
39:46
percentages um
39:48
are are able to be
39:50
compared so we were able to look at
39:53
where students were in the fall of
39:58
2021 which is now 20 20 2020 and 2019 um
40:04
and so we were able to see and as i've
40:06
reported um we saw
40:08
no more than a five percent um decrease
40:11
over the last two years which i think in
40:14
light of everything that has happened um
40:17
shows the amount of work and effort that
40:19
went into making sure that our hybrid
40:22
instructional program was high quality
40:24
and that we were serving the needs of
40:26
students as best that we you know we
40:28
could during that time
40:29
great thank you that was my only
40:30
question
40:34
yes we did see two grades with an
40:36
increase
40:40
any other questions from board members
40:45
appreciation for the amount of work that
40:47
that went into that and you know every
40:49
time we as a board committee curriculum
40:52
committee look at that it's like oh it's
40:53
such a long presentation that's really
40:55
the heart of why we're all here and so i
40:57
appreciate the time that you took uh to
40:59
go through all of that and you know
41:02
just to remind everybody you know this
41:04
is a long game that we're in here i
41:06
think we've seen tremendous uh things i
41:09
particularly appreciated looking beyond
41:11
test scores um i think it is you know uh
41:16
sobering when we look at the
41:17
disaggregated data um you know we talked
41:20

about in curriculum committee how many
41:22
times those categories over represent
41:24
because you count the same student's
41:26
choice
41:27
and
41:29
you know i
41:32
want to remind us that we've all made a
41:33
commitment to continue to look at that
41:35
data and not just look at it
41:37
that's the easy part although that's
41:39
hard but to actually continue to measure
41:41
ourselves
41:43
not against just what the best kids do
41:45
but with the kids who are struggling
41:47
in our school district do and i
41:49
appreciate you highlighting that
41:50
information for us
41:54
thanks sandra great point
41:56
any other questions
42:01
i guess not so mr diacenzo i think
42:04
you're up
42:05
the ssds presentation and the hib
42:08
self-assessment presentation
42:22
all right
42:25
good evening everyone my name is mike
42:27
diacenzo i'm the assistant principal at
42:29
the ues and i'm also have the honor to
42:31
be the district hib coordinator
42:34
um it was nice mr volpe meeting you and
42:36
one of the things i found about our new
42:39
superintendent that he also has a
42:40
history of being
42:42
an anti-bullying coordinator in his
42:43
district so thank you for that and i'll
42:44
be leaning on you for some more advice
42:48
tonight is the public report to address
42:49
both the ssds system which is school
42:52
safety data and also our each school's

42:55
individual
42:56
hi bay school self-assessments they
42:58
consider that
42:59
determining grades
43:02
[Music]
43:06
i'm here
43:08
help someone
43:10
perfect there we go um one of the things
43:12
that the variables i'll start with first
43:13
that we're talking about tonight um
43:16
were some of the challenges during the
43:17
19 the 2020-21 school years and we
43:20
talked about our abbreviated schedules
43:23
remote and
43:25
in-person instruction uh the changes of
43:28
and challenges that our students have
43:29
you're going to see in some of the data
43:31
that the data itself is a little
43:33
different from our previous years
43:35
but i i would like to say that um
43:38
that some of the the the data that is
43:40
going to be addressed and discussed
43:42
especially around discipline referrals
43:44
um our students did have less time
43:46
together because of the shortened
43:47
schedule but they had a lot of time
43:49
online together and i think we can look
43:51
at the data and say well maybe there
43:54
were there's some variables about not
43:56
being together socially but i will say
43:58
that our parents and our teachers and
44:00
our administrative team did an excellent
44:01
job managing
44:03
uh really a new
44:05
horizon for our students so when i like
44:07
to first acknowledge that because it's
44:09
easy to look at data and say wow you
44:10

know there's a reason our kids
44:12
and our data is different but i do want
44:14
to say that i think it was a testimony
44:16
to how hard
44:18
our teachers and parents and
44:19
administration were because there were
44:21
challenges online and we know it okay
44:25
uh you're gonna have to move oh there we
44:27
go sorry about that thank you um
44:30
the the first that really tried to
44:32
combine this really simply you can see
44:34
up top there are eight core areas that
44:35
each school will self-assess the
44:38
self-assessment goes through a
44:40
combination of discussions with
44:42
our sel committees our school climate
44:45
committees and also
44:47
our administration teachers off the top
44:49
you can see how they self-assess for
44:50
programs and approaches
44:52
training staff instruction curriculum
44:54
around hiv hiv personnel
44:57
school reporting investigative
44:58
procedures and hiv reporting the most
45:01
that each school can obtain is a score
45:02
of 78 the average um during the 2021
45:05
school year across schools was 71 and
45:08
you could see um each of the schools
45:10
listed and then their total score
45:13
in parentheses there is a score from um
45:15
actually the previous year so we
45:17
certainly want to track um
45:19
you know our data and from a school
45:21
perspective look at when when we look at
45:23
our self-assessment look at the areas of
45:25
strength but also as a district as a
45:28
board and as a school really look at
45:30
those areas that we can improve on

45:33
and you know looking at scores of 74 on
45:36
average and some other scores again
45:38
they're school-based assessments so it's
45:40
up to the each school to continue to
45:42
assess that
45:44
i know that the state makes it very very
45:46
difficult and we'll continue to to do
45:48
our best to get that perfect score of 78
45:50
and that's a challenge that we're up for
45:52
but i think overall um
45:54
it gives really good discussion points
45:56
for our board and also our school
45:59
committees
46:02
when we talk about ssds there are seven
46:04
areas that the estate likes to look at
46:06
and you can see them that are
46:06
highlighted
46:08
they look at reportable weapons offense
46:10
substance abuse violence and vandalism
46:13
hiv trainings and programs and then
46:16
incidents other incidents removing
46:18
leading to um removal hiv total alleged
46:20
and hiv confirmed
46:22
the the data that actually dr benton
46:25
talked about and he she really
46:26
highlighted well the school programs
46:29
that really impact in a positive way
46:31
climate and i always say this when i'm
46:33
up here the best way to impact impact
46:36
data when it comes to discipline is
46:38
always address school climate um and
46:40
that's something that this board's been
46:41
committed to um since i've been
46:42
president especially over the last uh
46:45
you know three to five years
46:46
um you can see total incidents they are
46:48
they are down so we look at total
46:50

incidents reported for the district we
46:52
had a total of five
46:54
the the state asked you to look at this
46:56
is critical they asked you to look at
46:57
other incidents that lead to students
47:00
um
47:01
being removed from instruction so there
47:02
were a total of 11. that means anytime a
47:04
student is placed in in-school
47:06
suspension
47:07
out-of-school suspension um they're
47:09
variables that we have to report
47:12
violence and when you look at the ues i
47:14
can say is the u.s assistant principle
47:16
any type of conflict that reads that
47:18
leads to
47:20
a potential fight that's noted and that
47:21
has to be reported again those numbers
47:24
uh compared to our previous years are
47:25
down and then one substance abuse um
47:29
referral off the high school
47:30
total referrals for hivs again we're
47:33
down as we compare the last three to
47:35
five years and it was four alleged and
47:36
one confirmed
47:40
um this was actually highlighted by dr
47:42
benton but i will say one of the things
47:45
that we do well and we'll continue to
47:46
commit on is
47:48
how we look at sel and how we look at
47:50
school improvement and and climate
47:52
you can see that um and i believe karen
47:55
you talked about this over the last few
47:56
years the commitment to looking at our
47:58
committees exploring race and racism
48:01
all the cross-age instruction and pd
48:04
development that our our staff are
48:05
involved in

48:06
the lower left quadrant identified and
48:09
have some of those for you that there
48:10
were workshops that our staff turnkey
48:13
for our staff
48:14
up top there were some highlights of
48:17
keynote speakers from dr fallon george
48:19
scott who did a great job talking about
48:21
um mental health and some of the
48:22
variables to support our students
48:24
and also um cherie love who's who's one
48:28
of the
48:29
key administrators for the crisis
48:30
management institute
48:32
institute did a great job in leading
48:34
some of our discussions
48:35
and and at the bottom um
48:38
our schools every day our counselors our
48:40
staff are committed to sel and that's
48:42
social emotional and they do that
48:45
through
48:46
um
48:47
direct direct connection to instruction
48:49
morning meeting one book one school
48:51
truth talks our high school students
48:52
were involved in in many many
48:54
initiatives
48:55
so um
48:56
again thank you to our our our staff and
48:59
our students on our board for continuing
49:01
those initiatives because they are
49:02
critical
49:05
um
49:06
i know that was quick but i wanted to
49:08
give you the quick overview any
49:09
questions thoughts feelings
49:12
all right
49:14
thank you very much i appreciate it
49:16

thank you so much mike we appreciate it
49:18
[Applause]
49:20
thanks for all your diligent work on
49:22
this i know it you make it look easy but
49:24
i know that it is not um
49:27
and i think like you had said the
49:29
commitment to changing school climate um
49:31
has really made a difference so thank
49:33
you to that too
49:37
next presentation this is
49:40
second to last
49:43
um we are going to do an update on the
49:45
ad hoc committee on exploring race and
49:47
racism in morristown dr benton and dr
49:49
alberti
50:02
uh good evening everyone we wanted to
50:03
take some time
50:05
uh
50:06
to share with the community and share
50:07
with the board members where we are with
50:09
the ad hoc committee exploring race and
50:11
racism
50:12
kind of give a little bit of history
50:13
lesson partly for mr volpe's benefit as
50:16
well as for the community um and
50:19
kind of give you some direction of where
50:21
we plan to go
50:22
going forward
50:24
dr benton wasn't here when we started
50:26
this mr volpe wasn't here so we thought
50:28
that this was a good place to
50:30
set a flag and and talk about where we
50:32
are going forward
50:35
a little bit of history in the fall of
50:36
2020 uh we created stakeholder groups to
50:39
identify areas that we should focus on
50:42
in
50:42
demonstrating our commitment to

50:44
diversity equity and inclusion one way
50:47
of looking at it
50:48
as you see the names of the committee
50:50
really what we were focused on is
50:52
exploring race and racism in morristown
50:55
and as karen alluded to resulted in a
50:57
lot of very interesting and difficult
50:59
conversations but we had incredible
51:02
engagement we ended up forming
51:04
subcommittees and i was exceptionally
51:08
proud and happy that for each of these
51:10
subcommittees again during the pandemic
51:13
at in the evening when lots of folks
51:16
were zoom exhausted we had board members
51:18
we had teachers we had students
51:21
we had administrators parents and
51:23
members of the community on everyone and
51:25
i know folks have continued to
51:27
um express interest in keeping the
51:30
conversation going and keeping the work
51:32
going in in all of these subgroups
51:36
as we looked at
51:38
the
51:38
work ahead we had two community
51:40
engagement meetings last year where
51:43
members of the community share their
51:44
perspectives we heard from parents we
51:46
heard from students their exact
51:49
experiences they've had shared their
51:51
feelings shared the things that they
51:53
celebrate as well as the things that
51:55
have caused challenge and the focus of
51:57
those two meetings that i continue to to
52:00
uh
52:01
emphasize in all of our work and as you
52:03
know we have our student representatives
52:04
here um included is on the power of
52:07

voice and why we need to keep talking
52:10
about this and not just amongst
52:11
ourselves but engaged with students
52:13
engage with teachers engage with
52:15
administrators and members of the
52:17
community
52:18
and so as we met throughout the year
52:21
during these two community engagement
52:22
meetings which was uh ultimately
52:24
actually facilitated by students by by
52:26
the spring we continue to share the
52:28
progress of the discussions that we were
52:30
having
52:31
at the subcommittee meetings and so
52:34
this list of five topics are what the
52:36
focus was for each of the subcommittees
52:38
so we had one subcommittee focused on
52:41
represent cultural representation in our
52:44
curriculum
52:45
we had one subcommittee that was focused
52:47
on creating safe places for students to
52:49
share their concerns
52:50
a subcommittee focused on hiring and
52:52
retaining diverse faculty and staff
52:55
a subcommittee on improving academic
52:57
achievement trends and then finally a
53:00
subcommittee on the fair treatment of
53:01
all students and what that might look
53:02
like in discipline and hiv uh policies
53:06
going forward and by
53:07
the end of the year
53:09
each of these subcommittees was tasked
53:11
with creating what we were then calling
53:13
an action plan knowing that we were
53:15
going to have a significant turnover in
53:18
upper levels of administration we didn't
53:20
feel that it was um in the best interest
53:23
of the work itself to have a plan

53:26
already baked and delivered to a new
53:27
leadership team but that our goal
53:29
instead was to get lots of input lots of
53:31
voice and create something that we could
53:34
eventually build on and so each of these
53:36
plans
53:37
spoke to a vision of success in each of
53:39
those five areas what would it look like
53:41
if we were actually doing well
53:43
um second what might some possible
53:45
sources of data be what what might we
53:48
see here feel if we walked into
53:50
classrooms and schools and those things
53:52
were going well
53:53
what could be some potential action
53:54
steps that we could take in the near
53:56
term
53:57
including some learning um steps that
53:59
might need to be taken and then finally
54:01
and most importantly in ongoing
54:04
how can we continue to share this with
54:05
the community and so each of these
54:07
subcommittee areas describe their
54:10
intention what it would look like to
54:12
share this with the community and so
54:14
uh in the fall of this year uh karen
54:17
lauren myself carol butler karen benton
54:20
and dr fitz
54:22
had conversations about where we should
54:24
go knowing that mr volpe was coming and
54:26
so we've um taken uh several meetings
54:29
this fall to look across all of these um
54:32
action plans uh to come up with some
54:33
priority areas and so dr benton's going
54:36
to share
54:38
those
54:41
it was
54:42

it was working well
54:44
uh
54:45
so as we said we looked across all the
54:47
action plans and really what we were
54:49
looking for were themes that would
54:51
emerge topics ideas trends um that we
54:54
would emerge repeatedly throughout the
54:56
different subcommittee
54:58
action plans um and from that we
55:01
identified three connected priorities um
55:04
that would need to be addressed in order
55:05
to kind of establish this expanded
55:07
vision of success for all students so
55:10
the first priority uh was to focus on
55:13
elevating a diverse array of student
55:15
voice and choice across all areas of
55:17
school experience
55:19
both in and out of the classroom in
55:21
student leadership
55:23
as part of preparing every student to be
55:25
a world-class learner which is tied to
55:27
our strategic plan
55:29
and be prepared for college and career
55:30
which is really our focus right in our
55:32
k-12 uh education
55:37
oh no
55:40
can you bring it back up for me
55:42
thank
55:46
you nope
55:54
yes there okay
55:55
the second priority that emerged was
55:57
creating a sense of belonging
56:00
for all students
56:01
especially as we discuss rates and
56:03
racism black and brown students where
56:05
diverse experiences and perspectives are
56:08
not only recognized but valued and seen
56:11
as assets that enrich the entire school

56:13
community and the education of all
56:16
students
56:20
and the third priority
56:22
that we identified
56:24
was really about deepening and
56:25
broadening our understanding of
56:27
diversity and equity
56:29
an understanding of diversity that is
56:31
inclusive across all types of difference
56:34
and sees this difference as i said
56:36
before as an attribute to our school
56:38
culture and our school community
56:40
and that understanding that the work of
56:42
equity is a responsibility to create not
56:45
just safe but also engaging learning
56:47
environments
56:49
where all students have full access to
56:51
what north town schools offer
56:53
and that those perspectives and
56:54
experience of experiences of all are
56:57
represented and recognized with the same
56:59
value
57:00
[Music]
57:02
and so from those um three priority
57:04
areas that we've identified um
57:08
we obviously are going to share that
57:09
with the incoming superintendent mr
57:12
volpe um
57:14
continue um and celebrate the work
57:16
that's already in progress within our
57:19
district
57:21
which includes
57:23
a district within our district
57:25
professional development plan um we are
57:27
including discussion at all levels with
57:30
our faculty our staff our administration
57:32
on culturally responsive practices
57:36

we're working to institute now the new
57:38
k-12 standards around
57:42
diverse groups and diverse
57:44
representations
57:46
as well as increasing our efforts to
57:48
recruit and retain diverse staffs
57:51
staff
57:52
from these priorities um we are moving
57:55
into an uh an area of new strategic
57:58
planning um which will be in mr volpe's
58:02
hands um and we hope that that will
58:04
include an equity plan
58:06
as well as continue the conversation
58:08
with
58:10
the community um with regular
58:12
communication on the progress and the
58:14
continued engagement with the community
58:31
thank you so much both of you for your
58:32
continued work um i'm so proud of
58:34
morristown to
58:36
continue um
58:37
doing this work i was proud to be a part
58:39
of it and i'm so glad we're having these
58:41
conversations and putting action steps
58:43
in place um so thank you do any board
58:46
members have any
58:48
questions
58:52
great on to the retirement
59:06
i don't believe
59:08
i don't believe that any of our retirees
59:09
are here but in case somebody came in
59:11
after confirming they weren't going to
59:12
be here uh please come up uh here so you
59:15
can be recognized by everyone jane
59:16
hession
59:18
okay jane hession has been a
59:20
paraprofessional for morristown for
59:22
almost 10 years

59:24
she supported our students and teachers
59:25
at ues wham's and the high school she'll
59:28
be greatly missed as she too she will
59:29
get to spend more time with her
59:31
grandchildren we appreciate everything
59:33
that she has done for our district small
59:35
round of applause for miss hessian
59:36
please
59:40
is lois kacchacy here i don't believe so
59:44
okay
59:44
lois uh chasey has been a
59:46
paraprofessional in morristown for 16
59:48
years starting with us as a part-time
59:50
worker and then increasing to full-time
59:52
she's worked at the middle school and
59:53
high school supporting our students at
59:54
lunchtime and in the classroom she'll be
59:57
greatly missed as she spends time also
59:59
with her grandchildren a little round of
60:00
applause for mrs kaczyn
60:06
and again i don't think so but is debbie
60:07
parisi here
60:09
no okay debbie parisi has just
60:11
celebrated her 25th year in morristown
60:14
as a speech and language teacher at ues
60:17
she has worked tirelessly to support her
60:18
students and as a contributor overall in
60:21
the building she is best known for
60:22
coming to work each day with a positive
60:24
attitude she will be missed by her
60:26
colleagues and students and we wish her
60:28
all the best in her next phase in life
60:30
little round of applause for her as well
60:32
[Applause]
60:35
congratulations to all our retirees
60:58
great thank you now we are on to the
61:00
student board representative reports um
61:04

sorry it was a little bit longer
61:06
than usual but we are so happy to have
61:09
you here as usual
61:11
um and i'm glad we have a little table
61:14
oh they don't have okay
61:16
so
61:17
yep if um we will start with claire
61:20
senior rep um if you come up to the mic
61:22
that would be great
61:28
[Music]
61:30
good evening everybody my name is claire
61:32
herren and i am the senior class liaison
61:36
first i would like to welcome mr volpe
61:37
to the district and specifically to our
61:40
board meetings my favorite tuesday of
61:41
the month
61:45
um i'm looking forward to meeting you at
61:47
our student council luncheon on january
61:49
28th
61:50
yeah we definitely have some characters
61:52
that i'm sure you'll look forward to
61:53
meet
61:54
um
61:55
i would like to give an update on our
61:57
senior trip um early in december we had
62:00
to submit our rooming form so that was a
62:02
pretty intense week
62:04
um
62:05
yeah and we've been planning outfits
62:07
organizing trip ideas uh we can't really
62:09
set anything in stone right now uh still
62:11
in a couple months so we're definitely
62:13
excited getting ready uh it'll be on the
62:15
first week of april so it'll be a lot
62:17
sooner than we think
62:18
um and for the past couple of weeks at
62:21
the high school we have been hosting our
62:22
music concerts

62:24
uh our vocal concert kicked off the
62:26
series followed by orchestra and then
62:28
banned
62:29
i have some friends in each group who
62:31
were featured as soloists
62:33
and all the concerts were a great
62:34
success um our vocal concert was the
62:38
first concert for our new vocal director
62:40
miss johnson um and also they have a new
62:43
assistant band director mr schmidt so
62:45
that was their first concerts um
62:48
and last night the madrigals which is
62:50
our acapella group for anybody who
62:52
doesn't know we had our annual holiday
62:56
dinner at the community house
62:58
usually it's at the riverton country
63:00
club so we mix it up a bit but it was a
63:02
great success it was really fun
63:04
um about half the audience was made up
63:06
of past madrigals and then half the
63:08
audience was friends and families of our
63:10
current madrigals
63:11
um and our scene or our alumni song at
63:14
the end of the night was the irish
63:16
blessing which is
63:17
our iconic magical song we end about
63:20
every concert with it
63:21
if you go to graduation or any assembly
63:24
you'll hear the irish blessing it's
63:26
really special to me and it was our
63:28
alumni song and it really just choked
63:30
everybody up there were a few dry eyes
63:32
in the audience it was
63:33
um really it was nice to come together
63:35
as a community and celebrate the
63:37
holidays and just being with one another
63:41
um and i would also like to thank the
63:42

board members who are departing tonight
63:44
this is sean this is mullen mr weinstein
63:47
um the board's constant support i know
63:49
the other liaisons and i really
63:51
appreciate it seeing all your smiling
63:53
faces for the past couple of years
63:55
uh it really makes the night and we feel
63:57
very welcome and pretty confident which
63:59
is nice
64:00
um i'd like to thank everybody for
64:01
listening happy holidays and i'll see
64:04
you next year
64:18
good evening i'm payton emmel i'm the
64:20
junior liaison i'd like to welcome mr
64:22
volpe i look forward to meeting with you
64:24
throughout the school year so i'm going
64:26
to touch base on two events that are
64:27
upcoming so first is the martin luther
64:30
king jr assembly so annually student
64:33
council jose martin luther king jr
64:36
assembly
64:37
so we've been splitting into groups to
64:40
prepare different aspects of the
64:42
assembly
64:43
so this is going to be a multimedia
64:45
presentation
64:46
with videos um a guest speaker
64:50
images and music from the band and the
64:52
magicals
64:53
so we're going to start with a brief
64:54
history of martin luther king jr his
64:57
life his achievements and why he's a
64:59
legacy
65:01
and then students are going to discuss
65:02
why they believe celebrating mlk junior
65:05
is important and why it's necessary to
65:08
carry on his legacy
65:10
and then the second thing that is

65:11
upcoming is we're doing a prom dress
65:14
drive
65:15
um shout out to maya patel it was her
65:17
idea
65:18
and so basically we're going to have
65:21
students parents whoever donate formal
65:24
wear like prom dresses suits
65:27
shoes to donate to less fortunate
65:29
students because prom is a big part of
65:32
high school life and you shouldn't have
65:35
to not participate in it because you
65:36
can't afford it so
65:39
we'd like to do an event here at the
65:40
high school
65:42
but also we are going to start a chapter
65:44
at the school with becca's closet
65:47
and yeah those are the two events that
65:49
are going to
65:50
happen this high school thank you
66:05
all right good evening board and parents
66:06
uh my name is jack britton i'm your
66:08
sophomore class liaison first i'd love
66:09
to give a warm welcome to our new
66:11
superintendent mr volpe and i also like
66:13
to inform you on student council
66:14
activities and preparations our student
66:17
council has been busy planning our
66:18
winter service projects and this
66:20
includes stock drives hat and glove
66:21
drives and donating to shelters
66:23
this will quickly help those in need
66:25
during this festive time of the year and
66:27
help give back to our community as part
66:28
of student council this is something you
66:30
love to see giving back and helping out
66:31
the community
66:32
and that's what it's all about during
66:33

the season of giving also this year the
66:36
mhs administration is planning to hold
66:37
midterms due to last year's online
66:39
struggle morrison high school has
66:40
planned to hold four preparation days in
66:42
which teachers of each class will view
66:44
relevant material to help the students
66:46
prepare for their midterms
66:47
from the administration reading days are
66:49
intended to promote an academic value as
66:51
parallel to scheduled class days whereby
66:53
classes will concentrate time on
66:54
studying for larger and longer exams
66:57
they will subject specific study skills
66:59
and group study skills and these days
67:01
are subject to occur on thursday january
67:03
20th friday january 21st monday january
67:06
24th and tuesday january 25th and our
67:08
midterms for this year are planned to be
67:10
wednesday january 26th we'll be taking
67:12
english and science thursday january
67:14
27th we will be taking world language
67:15
and social studies and friday january
67:18
28th we'll be taking math and makeup
67:19
exams thank you
67:35
hi everyone my name is yvette with tall
67:37
and i'm the freshman class liaison first
67:40
off i would also like to welcome mr
67:42
volpe
67:43
to the district
67:47
with this being my first winter in the
67:49
high school this is my first time
67:50
watching all the winter sports unfold
67:53
back at wham's the little kids can only
67:55
play two winter sports whereas here we
67:57
big kids get to choose between four
68:00
so far all the teams have been decided
68:02
but the teams haven't started playing

68:04
yet a couple of teams had scrimmages
68:06
with other schools but most of them
68:07
won't start their official season until
68:09
january being a freshman most things in
68:11
this school are new to me this year will
68:14
be my whole grade's first time taking a
68:16
midterm i know a lot of people are
68:18
nervous for such a big test after all it
68:21
is half the year's work for just for
68:23
every single class
68:25
a lot of us have no idea how to prepare
68:27
for such big tests but we have four
68:29
reading days to prepare and to review
68:32
material with our teachers in which no
68:34
new material will be taught
68:36
thank you and have a good evening
68:43
thank you so much to all of you as i've
68:45
always said this is having the students
68:47
speak is my favorite part of the meeting
68:49
um i really appreciate having you here i
68:52
know it takes a lot of extra time and on
68:54
tuesday night um
68:56
so um it is wonderful to have you here
68:58
it means a lot to the board to hear your
69:00
voice so um definitely continue on doing
69:03
it it means a lot to us so thank you
69:06
and you are if you wish to leave i know
69:09
you probably have other things to do
69:11
then you could probably um it's fine if
69:14
you want to leave and i just wanted to
69:16
wish you all very happy holidays try to
69:18
rest recharge enjoy
69:20
um i know you probably need it
69:24
you're welcome
69:33
okay on to board committee reports
69:36
let's start with um
69:38
mark for curriculum
69:52

oh my goodness
69:53
the curriculum committee met on the 18th
69:56
uh it was karen benton sandra alberti mc
69:58
weeks lauren romano myself
70:01
doctor fitz petty row jack bernal anjali
70:04
colby so the first thing we talked that
70:06
was discussed was the ues challenge
70:08
community involvement program so the
70:10
sixth grade
70:11
challenge is creating murals at the four
70:14
elementary schools um
70:16
the sixth grade challenge students have
70:18
grouped themselves by their sending
70:20
school
70:21
and are each responsible for
70:24
sort of conceptually creating
70:26
and then ultimately creating the
70:29
it'll be a mural on fence posts it'll be
70:32
completed in the spring of 2022
70:35
um
70:36
again they they they created videos to
70:38
sort of talk about
70:40
the context the cons the concepts they
70:43
were coming up with and and they seemed
70:44
really excited grades four and five are
70:47
also engaging in the this discourse
70:50
trying to you know doing different video
70:52
projects to sort of
70:54
create a better sense of student voice
70:56
and how to explore
70:58
the their place in the community and how
71:01
to to create change
71:03
we discussed
71:04
uh very cursorily the
71:06
the fall
71:08
map data that we saw presented earlier
71:11
as well as what the nj start strong data
71:14
might look like

71:15
and and how that might be used in the
71:17
context of not knowing in in november
71:20
exactly what the metrics were going to
71:23
be for this new test
71:25
uh the last thing we talked about was
71:27
the um this is instructional technology
71:29
leadership committee
71:31
that is looking at all the different
71:32
programs and applications that were used
71:35
in the past 18 months
71:36
and trying to inventory and create a
71:39
context for
71:41
which ones should be kept and which ones
71:43
shouldn't
71:44
um based on sort of
71:47
ones that might do more than one thing
71:50
uh cost availability utility all that
71:53
kind of stuff
71:54
and they're also then looking at
71:56
reviewing the digital textbooks that
71:58
might exist based on things like length
72:01
of license cost
72:03
the pros and cons of you know the
72:05
physical books versus the digital book
72:09
and that's it
72:11
we met again last week only discussing
72:14
the start strong that
72:15
we just saw presented known information
72:18
beyond that
72:34
um
72:39
uh fno met on the 13th of this month
72:42
uh in intense where mr heiser mr hurley
72:45
dr tate uh mr airy uh dr fitz
72:50
miss butler myself
72:52
mr villanueva and ms shaw
72:55
we discussed a donation which you'll see
72:57
on the agenda for tonight which is the
72:59

tackling robot to help prevent head
73:01
injuries in our house in our
73:03
football program
73:04
it's in honor of one of our assistant
73:06
coaches that uh passed away uh herb
73:09
hopkins
73:10
uh we're recommending acceptance of it i
73:12
think the value was placed on thirty
73:13
five hundred dollars so it's a very
73:15
generous donation to the
73:16
school uh we discussed the meal service
73:19
program add-on that we're looking to do
73:21
for the benjamin banneker school in west
73:23
hampton uh on the agenda tonight
73:26
it is not it's not okay that's through
73:28
subsequent conversations it's gonna be a
73:30
july one start potentially there we go
73:32
okay
73:32
originally we were talking about william
73:34
bro have been doing the work for them uh
73:35
willing bro stepped away we were looking
73:37
to help the school uh in their food
73:39
service program but uh i was gonna be
73:42
for six months through june 30th but it
73:44
sounds like it's gonna start next fiscal
73:45
year for them so onward
73:48
we've discussed some of the issues with
73:49
their cleaning service
73:52
they've been improving they've added
73:54
some additional supervisors and some
73:55
other
73:56
help we're still having
73:59
some issues with costs and some other
74:00
things with them but uh we're looking at
74:02
other options potentially that might be
74:04
available to us in the future but at the
74:06
moment we're trying to work with the
74:07
vendor as best we can

74:09
uh
74:10
we discussed some of
74:12
the issues we're having just with
74:13
staffing in general due to copa and
74:15
other issues going on
74:17
and some of the turnover within the
74:19
district itself
74:20
and then we had a long discussion about
74:22
substitute availability um
74:25
just some of the issues that have gone
74:26
on within substitutes their availability
74:28
overall the current conditions that are
74:31
in the marketplace as a whole where
74:33
substitutes are difficult to come by and
74:35
the pool is shortening off which is
74:37
creating a shortage of available people
74:40
to cover when we have um
74:42
staff that are that are out for various
74:45
reasons under their you know for health
74:46
or otherwise
74:48
and it's an ongoing problem that we
74:49
they're going to continue to try to
74:50
address but we're not unlike every other
74:52
district
74:54
we discussed school safety uh there was
74:57
a meeting with officer wright
75:00
just to understand what's going on
75:02
inside and outside the state and how we
75:03
can improve our safety within our
75:05
schools it was a discussion generally
75:07
surrounding some of the concerns that
75:09
we've seen nationally that have happened
75:10
within schools just making sure we're
75:12
prepared
75:13
we did have a full safety analysis of
75:14
the school done by an outside
75:16
professional several years ago
75:19

and
75:20
none of this none of the board members
75:22
were able to even actually look at that
75:23
particular plan as part of the safety
75:25
protocol so it's a pretty in-depth
75:27
strong safety protocol that only those
75:29
people who are in the highest chain of
75:30
command within the district were able to
75:31
look at
75:32
uh together with our police department
75:34
and uh and other emergency professionals
75:37
so
75:38
i haven't the board numbers know exactly
75:40
how that plan is going to work because
75:41
we're not supposed to
75:44
talked about the esf summer rates the
75:46
how they're coming back this summer what
75:48
we did last year
75:50
discussed some of the residency and
75:51
discussion uh investigations are ongoing
75:53
within the district as people may be
75:55
aware we
75:56
do investigate when people are
75:58
allegedly not living within the district
76:00
but saying their schools here it costs
76:01
you the taxpayers money
76:03
to educate students that should be going
76:05
elsewhere so we do occasionally hear
76:06
information about them try to find out
76:08
where enough students truly are
76:10
residents of morristown or residents of
76:11
a surrounding or neighboring town and if
76:13
they are we try to have them go to the
76:15
town that the school that they should be
76:17
going to or if they want to come to
76:19
morristown pay tuition um it's only fair
76:23
and then we talked about the 2022-23
76:25
budget uh it's gonna be a similar

76:26
process to 2021 22 budget assumptions
76:29
underpinnings gonna look very similar uh
76:31
though mr volpe may have some different
76:32
ideas on budgeting we'll find out as he
76:34
progresses
76:35
and
76:36
we're going to use some reasonable
76:37
assumptions for salaries and benefits
76:39
and other things within the actual uh
76:42
contract uh within the budget so i think
76:45
that's it unless there's any questions
76:51
oh did i miss you
76:52
and
76:53
as my parting gift to mick i told him he
76:55
wasn't there so
76:56
[Laughter]
77:00
there you go
77:08
[Laughter]
77:13
all right thanks david um jack
77:16
policy
77:22
okay policy met on
77:24
um december 6
77:26
in attendance was lauren romano
77:29
kathy mullin sorry for
77:31
spelling your name wrong in a minute sir
77:33
kathy mullen mark villanueva
77:35
myself
77:37
dr benton
77:39
carol butler dr fitz and scott tennant
77:42
who represents our general general
77:44
insurer
77:46
most of the meeting was spent discussing
77:48
uh policy 9190 community organizations
77:52
and clubs uh we had a
77:56
pretty significant discussion with our
77:57
insurer about um some of his concerns
78:01
with
78:02

um how we are with our agreements with
78:04
with those organizations um so we're
78:07
looking to better formalize the
78:09
agreements with the organizations we're
78:10
gonna have some some written agreements
78:12
with them
78:14
and we're going to try and um
78:16
detail the onboarding and off boarding
78:18
procedure
78:20
with them because we don't really
78:21
currently have one
78:24
policies on tonight for first reading
78:26
the first four policies all have to do
78:29
with federal awards and federal grants
78:32
those are on there for changes of
78:34
contractual languages terms and law and
78:38
citation updates
78:41
the
78:42
fifth policy on there for first reading
78:44
is policy 8600 student transportation
78:47
which renews uh courtesy vesting and is
78:50
a cleanup
78:53
on second reading there are
78:55
one policy and one regulation for sexual
78:57
harassment of students
78:59
this was a language change to clarify
79:03
that the policy and the regulation um is
79:05
only applicable to students and that
79:08
other adults are captured in other
79:10
policies
79:13
that concludes my report any questions
79:19
jack
79:20
communications did not meet this month
79:22
so um there's no report
79:25
sandra i'm assuming your ad hoc report
79:27
was a presentation
79:29
okay sounds
79:34
hoc committee good our our intention

79:36
wants to go through
79:38
the development of an equity plan is
79:40
that it won't be a stand-alone committee
79:42
but instead when we have fno we'll think
79:45
about equity in that context we have our
79:48
personal committee we'll think about
79:50
equity in that context that will be
79:52
uh blended in as part of our regular
79:54
business not only
79:57
great thanks for the clarification does
79:59
any board member have any off-board
80:01
committee reports
80:06
i guess not
80:09
sorry i'll just mention um for more arts
80:11
just one thing uh to share their uh 2022
80:15
dolla will take place on saturday
80:17
january 29th
80:19
at the community house tickets available
80:21
now
80:21
[Music]
80:27
up to public comment um a motion is
80:29
requested to open the floor for public
80:31
comment
80:33
second
80:35
thank you
80:36
all in favor
80:38
this is public comment on agenda items
80:40
only please come up to the mic state and
80:44
please state your name and address
80:46
you'll have three minutes to speak as
80:47
you know this isn't necessarily a
80:49
question and answer period and it's
80:50
always best to follow up with an email
80:52
please don't dress uh the board members
80:54
individually please be respectful when
80:56
making public comments
81:03
hi
81:04

um
81:05
oh i always said i hate people that talk
81:07
on their iphones but um
81:10
i wanna i'm just up here i wanna thank
81:12
the board members that are leaving
81:14
thank you miss mullen and dave i don't
81:16
remember you ever not being on the board
81:18
cindy can you just give name and address
81:20
sorry
81:21
your name and address oh i'm sorry
81:23
cindy snyder 180 ramble woodrow
81:26
um
81:27
i'm here to just say a few minutes a few
81:29
words about karen i won't be more than
81:32
three minutes um
81:34
from the minute karen moved to
81:35
morristown she just hit the ground
81:37
running i won't be able to finish and
81:39
say everything that she's done in three
81:40
minutes um
81:42
i'll just start with home in school she
81:44
started it you know she moved her 10
81:46
year 10 or 11 years ago
81:50
she started on home and school
81:52
from the ues chair
81:53
to district community service chair to
81:56
vice president and trustee she initiated
81:59
programs that are still going strong in
82:01
the district art for the sky is my
82:03
favorite
82:04
community service was her great love and
82:07
she initiated projects
82:09
that's a trend here initiated projects
82:12
um
82:13
but then she saw a great need
82:15
the district was running out of money my
82:17
turn my words not
82:19
probably

82:20
entirely true
82:21
but before she was on the board she
82:24
brought the words to this community
82:26
revenue generation to us
82:28
she started
82:30
created a
82:31
fun run
82:32
and a school supply fundraiser which
82:35
raised close to fifteen thousand dollars
82:37
this is before she was even on the board
82:40
um but it wasn't enough so she had a
82:42
mission she joined the board of ed
82:44
um
82:46
her first term
82:48
she was part of creative programs that
82:50
raised almost three quarters of a
82:52
million dollars
82:53
karen doesn't tutor horn that's why i'm
82:55
up here
82:56
giving you like this quick bio um
82:59
every minute karen was on the board
83:01
morristown was lucky she had no other
83:03
agenda than the support and welfare of
83:05
every child she never wavered as
83:08
lawrence said karen is a complete model
83:10
for grace under fire
83:12
most people have no understanding of all
83:15
the time and commitment the board takes
83:17
of course all of you do
83:19
karen was the worker behind the scenes
83:21
she was on many committees within the
83:23
board and she attended every meeting all
83:25
the meetings two superintendent searches
83:28
teacher negotiations and a pandemic i'm
83:31
not up here to reiterate how hard the
83:32
job is
83:35
i guess i'm just up here to say how
83:37

commitment behind the scenes
83:39
effectiveness
83:41
hard work and heart
83:43
is karen shaw
83:45
that was her tenure on the board i know
83:47
how much she cared
83:49
everyone knows her knows her kindness is
83:51
only surpassed by her ability to put her
83:53
emotions aside and make rational
83:56
decisions
83:57
she made a favorable impression on
83:59
administration and staff that you work
84:01
with you see the joy and it's contagious
84:04
i know i speak for many in this
84:06
community when i say thank you
84:08
you're going to be missed
84:19
thank you so much
84:20
speechless
84:27
hi good evening sarah rivera
84:29
everyone knows me um i'm sorry i missed
84:31
the november meeting which uh this
84:33
probably would have been slightly more
84:34
timely but um it was brought up during
84:37
the safety report
84:39
so i just kind of wanted to touch base
84:40
on it
84:41
back on october 28th we received an
84:43
email signed by mtps administration
84:46
which was kind of odd because up until
84:47
then all of the emails that we had
84:49
received were signed by dr fitz
84:51
specifically
84:52
that seemed to want to clarify events
84:54
that occurred that day the email stated
84:56
that a lockdown drill did occur but that
84:58
a drug bust did not take place it also
85:01
casually mentioned that medical events
85:04
after the lockdown were managed by the

85:06
school nurse as you're aware the rumors
85:08
went wild and the students were fairly
85:09
adamant that something related to drug
85:11
use
85:12
and or possession of drugs on campus
85:14
occurred that day
85:16
that left a lot of parents especially
85:18
those who don't have kids at the high
85:19
school
85:21
in a state of confusion because we
85:22
didn't have first-hand knowledge of the
85:24
incident
85:25
without breaching the privacy of the
85:26
specific students can someone please
85:28
clarify
85:29
um
85:30
what occurred that day and more
85:32
importantly how are the morristown
85:33
police involved and how was the incident
85:35
logged from a school safety report
85:38
perspective
85:39
i don't know if anyone's here to report
85:41
on that
85:48
now you could actually email if you want
85:50
mr volte about it and get more
85:51
information
86:02
hi elizabeth pollard 64 brooks road
86:04
um thank you to karen and dave and kathy
86:07
for all of your service it's really
86:09
appreciated and welcome to dr volkey
86:12
um i just have three quick comments not
86:14
coping related
86:16
shocking um
86:17
so one of them is that i just wanted to
86:19
know if it's possible i know you can
86:20
answer but for um
86:22
my son gets chocolate milk every day at
86:24

school
86:25
and i'm wondering if he can just get the
86:27
chocolate milk and not throw away the
86:28
pear in the juice
86:30
they have to take three items apparently
86:32
i know it sounds silly but i think it's
86:34
a little wasteful so just consider
86:36
allowing them just to take the milk
86:38
um
86:39
might seem minor but
86:41
um another
86:42
[Music]
86:43
possibility is i'm wondering if it's um
86:45
if you would consider opening up the mlk
86:47
junior assembly the families in like a
86:49
zoom format it sounds like a fabulous
86:51
assembly i'm just wondering if that
86:52
would be something you would consider
86:54
doing
86:55
um
86:56
and then also thanks to mr seibel and
86:58
the high school teachers and
86:59
administration
87:00
um for implementing reading days for
87:03
midterms i think that's going to be a
87:04
huge help
87:05
to the kids and i hope that it continues
87:07
for finals so thank you
87:20
good evening billy danielle thomas 539
87:23
north church street
87:24
i'd just like to um also echo the
87:28
acknowledgements for
87:30
our board members mrs shaw mr weinstein
87:33
and mrs mullen and thank you all for
87:36
your commitment and dedication and
87:38
service to this board
87:41
additionally i'd like to thank dr benton
87:44
and dr alberti for the very

87:46
comprehensive
87:47
reports this evening
87:50
it's it was wonderful to hear
87:52
the plans
87:54
in regard to the state of the district
87:56
in addition
87:57
to the district's plan to move the
88:01
continued work in the area of race
88:03
equity and diversity forward thank you
88:06
very much
88:16
hi karen vidal 441 older shaw avenue um
88:20
i actually since it was brought up in
88:21
the meeting tonight would like to echo
88:22
the intimate uh school safety sentiments
88:25
i actually spoke in front of the board
88:27
in 2019 with my sandy hook promise
88:29
t-shirt um hoping to for the board to
88:32
end the administration to embrace the
88:34
sandy hook promise say something for our
88:37
middle and our teens
88:38
i can say that i am happy that you did
88:40
adopt a lot of the things and while i
88:42
understand what mr weinstein said that
88:43
it can't always be public knowledge i do
88:46
think the public doesn't have an
88:47
understanding of what goes on and when
88:50
you had i love you guys i love that you
88:52
did adopt this the same wording and
88:54
formatting because we know that concise
88:56
and clear wording matters
88:58
so i work in a school so i know what it
89:00
means if i'm going to shelter in place
89:02
to a parent that panics them they have
89:04
no idea what that means
89:06
so to further on and like i said the
89:08
pandemic happened my understanding
89:10
happens but in the future i think for
89:12

parents to really understand why you
89:14
can't give them an entire safety plan
89:16
definitions can be told so you can tell
89:18
somebody what examples of shelter in
89:20
place what an example of an active
89:22
shooter drill is some other things you
89:24
can let them know that won't jeopardize
89:26
school safety but will give parents some
89:29
sort of ease and um
89:31
sense of
89:32
i don't even know what to say because
89:34
there's no sense of normalcy in any of
89:35
this
89:36
um but i guess understanding so thank
89:39
you for that consideration
90:05
to this district two times
90:07
we have always appreciated your balanced
90:10
approach to our support
90:13
[Music]
90:25
um
90:59
people
91:14
he has served at different times
91:17
we appreciate all of the time that she
91:19
has devoted to the district for many
91:21
levels
91:22
several committees and the leadership
91:24
roles as president and vice president of
91:26
support
91:28
i would like to share something that i
91:30
found called
91:32
of life
91:33
that i believe
91:34
how to carry herself
91:39
the first one is mine
91:42
it always works out again
91:45
number two be time
91:47
you have the power to make people feel
91:49
good

91:50
number three don't give up
91:52
if it doesn't work out the first time
91:54
find another way
91:57
number four don't compare
92:00
everyone is on a different journey
92:03
number five
92:04
avoid negativity
92:10
number six make peace with your past
92:13
focus on being present and creating a
92:15
better future
92:16
and number seven
92:18
take care of your body and mind
92:20
one struggles to survive without
92:27
thank you so much that means so much to
92:29
me
92:38
this is tough
92:40
thank you i i really appreciate all the
92:43
comments and remarks and i i am going to
92:45
miss it so but i'm sure i'll be back in
92:48
in other ways
92:50
um
92:51
so if i don't see anyone else i'd like
92:53
to have a motion to end public comment
92:58
thank you second
93:02
thank you all in favor
93:08
great moving on reports to the board
93:11
a the business administrator board
93:13
secretary financial reports to of the
93:15
board secretary cafeteria report
93:18
treasurer's report
93:19
um
93:21
approval of budget transfers approval of
93:23
bills can i please have a motion to
93:26
approve items one through four
93:30
actually one through five
93:33
one through five
93:34
seconds
93:37

great any questions comments
93:40
nope all in favor
93:43
any nose abstentions
93:48
thank you moving on to recommendations
93:50
of the superintendent
93:52
a um the hib self-assessment
93:54
i please have a motion to approve
93:57
the hip self-assessment
94:00
thank you second
94:04
thank you
94:05
any questions comments
94:09
oh thank you mr d for
94:11
presenting on that i'm all in favor
94:16
any nose abstentions
94:20
on to 2020 2021 end of year ssds hib
94:23
report can i please have a motion to
94:26
approve
94:29
thank you
94:30
second thank you any questions comments
94:35
all in favor
94:37
thank you no substentions
94:40
moving on to policies and procedures one
94:42
first reading two second reading
94:45
can i please
94:46
have a motion to approve items one and
94:48
two
94:50
thank you second
94:53
thank you questions comments
94:56
all in favor
94:59
nose abstentions
95:01
moving on to educational program one
95:03
burlington county alternative school
95:05
placement for 20 21 2022 home
95:08
instruction for 2021-2022
95:11
3 special education out of district
95:13
placement twenty twenty one twenty two
95:15
four homeless placements twenty one
95:17
twenty two five consulting service

95:19
agreement six consulting service
95:21
agreement can i please have a motion to
95:23
approve items one through six
95:27
second
95:28
questions
95:34
comments this month
95:48
we've talked about this before but
95:50
at some point like i think you take a
95:52
view
95:54
not just for financial but if so many
95:55
students need alternatives
95:58
maybe that alternative is within the
95:59
school so
96:01
yes thank you dr albert for certain we
96:03
can do that it's not a problem i know
96:04
it's a it's a conversation that we're
96:06
going to have so thank you
96:10
any other comments questions
96:12
all in favor
96:14
aye any nose abstentions
96:19
moving on finance and business one
96:21
travel expenditures approval request to
96:24
approval of state contract and
96:25
consortium vendor purchases three
96:28
donations for
96:29
interlocal service agreement i.t
96:31
services five catapult learning
96:34
professional services 2021-22
96:37
six burlington county educational
96:39
services unit non-public idea arp
96:42
services 2021-22
96:45
number seven 2022 idea grant amendment
96:49
number one
96:50
application 8 2022 essa consolidated
96:55
grant amendment 9 high school and middle
96:57
school athletic schedules winter 2021 10
97:01
bus emergency evacuation drills
97:04

11 appointment of labor negotiator 12
97:07
settlement agreement 13 settlement
97:10
agreement
97:12
can i please have a motion to approve
97:14
items 1 through 13.
97:17
thank you second
97:19
thank you any questions comments
97:23
all in favor
97:25
any nose abstentions
97:28
moving on to employee relations number
97:31
one appointments number two change of
97:33
position hours number three salary
97:35
adjustment four leaves of absence
97:37
five resignation six retirement seven
97:40
curriculum eight substitutes nine
97:43
athletics co-curricular clubs ten
97:45
student teacher practicum student 11
97:48
extension of contracts and number 12 i'm
97:50
adding the appointment
97:53
that we had talked about in executive
97:54
session so can i please have a motion to
97:57
approve items 1 through 12.
98:02
thank you any questions comments
98:06
nope uh i think we need a roll call
98:07
james correct
98:11
a second let's just get to my page here
98:15
dr alberti
98:16
mr fairchild yes mrs mom
98:19
dr schneider yeah mr villanueva
98:22
mr weeks
98:23
mr weinstein yes miss romano yeah mrs
98:27
shaw yes paris thank you
98:31
suspensions uh superintendent tip report
98:35
can i please have a motion to approve
98:37
the following hip cases as discussed in
98:39
executive session
98:41
thank you
98:42
a second

98:45
thank you any questions comments
98:48
all in favor
98:49
aye
98:50
any news abstentions
98:53
moving on informational only enrollment
98:56
information
98:59
any old business the board has
99:03
any new business the board has
99:06
i guess not
99:08
moving on to public comment again
99:11
a motion is requested to open the floor
99:13
for public comment
99:16
thank you second
99:19
thank you all in favor
99:23
again if anyone has um would like the
99:25
opportunity to speak please
99:27
go to the mic set your name and address
99:29
you have three minutes to speak
99:34
i guess not
99:36
um a motion is requested to close the
99:38
floor for public comment
99:44
moving on to adjournment um can i please
99:46
have a motion to adjourn
99:50
you had to do that right
99:56
[Laughter]
100:02
thank you well everyone enjoy the
100:04
holidays everyone needs some time to
100:06
recharge relax enjoy time with your
100:08
family some downtime maybe away from
100:10
your phones and electronics um
100:13
enjoy
100:14
and
100:16
i have to do that
100:27
you
English (auto-generated)
AllCourses