

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
Board of Education
Midland Park, New Jersey
October 17, 2017

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order by James Canellas, at 8:00 p.m. and the following statement was read:

"Adequate notice of this meeting was provided as specified in the Open Meeting Act. Notices of this meeting were sent to the Record, Ridgewood News and to the Midland Park Borough Clerk for the 2017 elective year. A notice was also posted outside of the office of the Midland Park Board of Education in a place reserved for such announcements. The Board announces that under its long-standing policy, it will not discuss in public any comments made by members of the public concerning individual staff members.

ROLL CALL

Present:	Sandra Criscenzo	Patricia Fantulin
	Richard Formicola	Brian McCourt
	William Sullivan	Maryalice Thomas
	Timothy Thomas	Peter Triolo

James Canellas

OTHERS PRESENT

Staff: Marie Cirasella, Superintendent of Schools
Stacy Garvey, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mission Statement

The Midland Park School District as part of a strong, dedicated community, provides its students with a comprehensive, adoptive education aligned to 21st century knowledge and skills needed for success in college and career. The district maximizes all resources to empower students to realize their individual worth and responsibility, with the expectation they achieve the New Jersey state standards at all grade levels.

Mr. Canellas thanked everyone who continues to make this District the place that it is. Mr. Canellas expressed his thoughts on how wonderful the Anniversary weekend had been. On behalf of the Board of Education, Mr. Canellas would like to thank all who made this weekend possible, especially the Buildings and Grounds Team.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

DISTRICT ASSESSMENT PRESENTATION

Mr. Canellas expressed his thanks to the Administration. They never lose sight of what is important, the students. Our Administration does a great job.

Motion – Mr. Triolo, seconded – Mr. Formicola . . .

+1. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 0911173112 for the reasons set forth in the Superintendent's Report to the Board and directs the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator to transmit a copy of the Board's decision to the affected students' parents forthwith.

Roll Call: All Yes

Open to the Public: **COMMENTS** only for action items on the agenda.

No one chose to speak at this time.

BOARD MOTIONS

Motion – Dr. Thomas, seconded – Mr. Sullivan . . .

1. Approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meeting held on September 19, 2017.

Roll Call: All Yes

A. Personnel – (M. Cirasella)

APPENDIX

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2017-2018 school year will be on an emergency basis, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1, N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 and/or N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13, as applicable.

Motion – Mr. Triolo, seconded – Ms. Criscenzo . . .

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the list of Winter and Spring Coaches at the high school for the 2017-2018 school year, as per the attached appendix. A-1
2. Approve the list of Advisors to Activities and Clubs at the Highland School for the 2017-2018 school year, as per the attached appendix. A-2

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Triolo, seconded – Ms. Criscenzo . . .

To approve the following block motion:

- +3. **Approve the appointment for Erin Gallagher, elementary school teacher, to provide home services for a classified preschool student for up to four hours per week, effective October 18, 2017 through June 30, 2017. She will be paid as per Schedule D of the MPEA contract.**
- +4. **Approve a paid sick leave of absence for employee #0207, effective October 24, 2017 through November 24, 2017.**
- +5. **Approve the appointment of Amy Biswurm as a substitute School Nurse for Band trips, on an as needed basis, for the 2017-2018 school year.**
- +6. **Approve the appointment of David Hershberger as an advisor for the Midland Park Continuing Education Winter Ski Program.**

Roll Call: All Yes

B. Finance Committee – (T. Thomas, Chairperson)

Motion – Mr. Thomas, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), we certify that as of September 30, 2017, after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section), and upon consultation with the appropriate District officials, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13 (b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year, subject to the conditions of P.L. 1701.

2. Approve the following block motion:

- a. September 2017 direct pays in the amount of \$721,925.62.
- b. September 2017 Midland Park Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$52,570.22.
- c. September 2017 Cafeteria claims in the amount of \$25,823.18.
- d. Second September 2017 payroll in the amount of \$613,270.70.
- e. First October 2017 payroll in the amount of \$652,634.27.
- f. October 2017 claims in the amount of \$542,172.63.

- 3. Approve the cash reports and the Board Secretary's report for the period September 1 – 30, 2017, as per the attached appendix. B-3
- 4. Approve the transfers between accounts for the period September 1 – September 30, 2017, as per the attached appendix. B-4
- 5. Approve the decommissioning of the following outdated textbooks in the Highland School:

- +6. Approve the resolution awarding the contract for the window replacement bid in the district, as per the attached appendix. B-6**

Mr. Canellas made the following statement:

The installation of windows marks our last major endeavor related to the Referendum. The scope and depth of the project will be completed as originally planned without exception.

However, as we near completion of the referendum projects, we have come to find there are several issues with regard to the School Development Authority (SDA) grant allocations and project overages. Due to an unanticipated change in the way grant monies were categorized, we are unable at this time to move funds from one category to another. This has caused shortages and our consultants and staff have been diligently working with SDA officials and contacts at the NJDOE to secure approval to authorize the reallocation of funds. So far, we have yet to receive a final ruling. With respect to overages, all construction projects, whether large or small, encounter unexpected issues resulting in cost overages. We have been monitoring identified overages throughout the project very closely but the funding formula revision compounded by a higher than expected window bid have made things a little tight. We will be reviewing the status of current projects and seeking more information from our consultants with regard to final cost estimates for the couple remaining smaller projects. Please know we will keep you posted as to what we learn in the weeks to come but be assured the Board is 100% committed to completing all the items included in the referendum.

- +7. Approve the resolution for participation in coordinated transportation between the Warren County Special Services School District and the Midland Park School District, as per the attached appendix. B-7**

- +8. Approve the acceptance and appropriation of the 2016-2017 Extraordinary Aid, as per the attached appendix. B-8**

- +9. WHEREAS, the Midland Park School District has maintained a 403(b) and 457("the Plan") for the benefit of its eligible employees; and**

WHEREAS, the District has reserved the right to amend the Plan at any time;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Plan shall be amended to add Security Benefit as an approved vendor,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers of the District are hereby authorized to execute documents and proceed with the addition of this vendor.

- +10 Approve the acceptance of the Midland Park Public Education Foundation Grants for the 2017-2018 school year in the amount of \$10,547.31.**

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Thomas thanked the Education Foundation for its generous gift.

- C. Curriculum Committee – (M. Thomas, Chairperson)**

Motion – Dr. Thomas, seconded – Mr. Sullivan . . .

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the following staff member requesting workshop attendance:

Name	Workshop	Location	Cost	Date
Maureen Kelley	NJASL 2017 Fall Conference	Long Branch, NJ	\$364.42	11/16-17/2017

- +2. **Approve the recommendation for the placement of a classified high school student in the Shepard Preparatory High School, Morristown, NJ, effective retroactive from October 5, 2017 through June 30, 2018.**
- +3. **Approve the recommendation for home services to be provided for a classified pre-school student for up to four hours per week, effective October 18, 2017 through June 30, 2018.**
- +4. **Approve the recommendation for the placement and transportation of a classified high school student to attend Holmstead School, Ridgewood, NJ, effective retroactive to October 12, 2017 through June 30, 2018.**
- +5. **Approve the Midland Park Continuing Education Winter Ski Program (Ski Club) to Mountain Creek, Vernon, NJ on the following dates:**

January 4, 9, 16, 23, 2018

Make up dates: February 6, 8, 13, 15, 2018

Roll Call: All Yes

D. Policy Committee – (B. Sullivan, Chairperson)

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. Formicola . . .

To approve the following block motion:

- +1. **Approve the revised Mandated policies, as per the attached appendices:**

- | | | |
|--|---------------------|-------------|
| a. Services to Nonpublic School Students | Policy Section 2700 | <u>D-1a</u> |
| b. Long-Range Facilities Planning | Policy Section 7100 | <u>D-1b</u> |

- +2. **Approve the first reading of the following new/revised policies, as per the attached appendices:**

- | | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
| a. Public Participation in Board Meetings | Bylaws Section 0167 | <u>D-2a</u> |
| b. Educational Adequacy of Capital Projects | Policy Section 7101 | <u>D-2b</u> |
| c. Site Selection and Acquisition | Policy Section 7102 | <u>D-2c</u> |
| d. Disposition of Property | Policy Section 7300 | <u>D-2d</u> |

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Sullivan commented on policy for Public Participation in Board Meetings. Mr. Sullivan reported that the change will align the policy to the information that we provide at the meetings.

E. Legislative Committee – (B. McCourt, Chairperson)

Minutes of the Public Meeting of October 17, 2017

No Report.

F. Buildings & Grounds Committee – (R. Formicola, Chairperson)

Motion – Mr. Formicola, seconded – Ms. Criscenzo . . .

+1. **Approve the following resolution and attached appendices:**

F-1

Whereas, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit three-year maintenance plans documenting “required” maintenance activities for each of its public school facilities, and

Whereas, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached document for the various school facilities of the Midland Park School District are consistent with these requirements, and

Whereas, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Midland Park School District hereby authorizes the school business administrator to submit the attached Comprehensive Maintenance Plan and Form M-1 for Midland Park in compliance with Department of Education requirements.

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Formicola commented on the Solar RFP. We will be moving forward, possibly on the agenda for the November meeting.

G. Negotiations Committee - (P. Fantulin, Chairperson)

No Report.

H. Technology & Public Relations Committee – (P. Triolo, Chairperson)

The next issue of ChalkBoard will be in January.

I. Town Council – (J. Canellas, R. Formicola, M. Thomas)

The following items were discussed at the October 10th meeting with Mayor Shortway and Ms. Peet:

- Increased communication
- Shared Services
- Update on Tennis Courts
- On-going projects

The next meeting will be scheduled for some time in November.

J. Liaison Committee

High School PTA - (M. Thomas)

Update as follows:

-Ms. Monahan and Ms. Padovano chaired the PTA Career Day on October 9, 2017. There were various members of the community, parents and alumni who participated. The day culminated with a presentation from a former member of the NYFD, a 9/11 responder, Lt. Joseph Torrillo. Mr. Torrillo spoke to the students about perseverance, being a leader and not a follower and to follow your passions in life-a message given by all the presenters. It was a success.

Elementary School PTA- (J. Canellas)

Update on dates and events scheduled:

- Harvest Festival – 10/29/17
- Book Fair – 10/23/17-10/27
- PTA is moving Trunk or-Treat to Sunday afternoon
- Cycle Bar fund raiser 11/2

Booster Club – (B. McCourt)

Football game a big hit-many past graduates are attending.
The next meeting is scheduled for 11/19/2017.

Performing Arts Parents – (P. Triolo)

The following events are scheduled:

- Wine tasting event is Saturday, November 4th, 2017.
- Dome for the Marching Band- October 27-29th, 2017
- Drama – November 17-19

Music in the Park was such a tremendous event. The students and the volunteers do so much work to accomplish this task.

Special Education – (B. Sullivan)

No Report.

Education Foundation – (P. Fantulin)

The following items were commented on:

- Accepted Grants awarded
- Working on Spring Event

Board of Recreation – (T. Thomas)

No Report.

Continuing Education Program – (S. Criscenzo)

No Report.

Student Representative to the Board – (Emma Lein)

No Report.

K. Old Business

Nothing to discuss at this time.

L. New Business

Motion – Mr. Formicola, seconded – Mr. Sullivan . . .

To go into closed session before the meeting of November 7, 2017, for the purpose of reviewing the hiring of personnel and confidential student HIB case reviews.

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Canellas invited the public to address the Board.

Open to the Public - general **COMMENTS** only at this time.

No members of the public chose to speak at this time.

Motion – Mr. Formicola, seconded – Mr. Sullivan . . .

To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey,
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary