

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
Board of Education
Midland Park, New Jersey
April 8, 2008

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order by Ray Moraski, President, 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 2007 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."

ROLL CALL

Present:	Sandra Criscenzo	Paula Lein
	Anne Polhemus	Wayne Roberts
	Robert Schiffer	William Sullivan
	Richard Venditti	
	Ray Moraski	

Excused: Joan Vandervliet (medical)

OTHERS PRESENT

Staff: Nicholas Mamola, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Louis Roer, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Approval of Minutes

Motion – Mrs. Polhemus, seconded – Mrs. Lein . . .

Approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meetings:

March 11, 2008

March 25, 2008

Roll Call: All Yes

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Moraski commented on the following items:

Minutes of the Public Meeting of April 8, 2008

- a. Reminder-The National Honor Society induction ceremony is this week.
 - b. He attended an Eagle Scout award ceremony for Alex Halen.
- Mr. Venditti –Steve Saranovic was also a recipient
Mr. Moraski - Matt Birchenough's ceremony is on April 20, 2008.
There have been three to four such ceremonies each year.

Mr. Moraski presented outgoing Board member Mrs. Anne Polhemus with a recognition certificate of her long dedication to the Midland Park community as a trustee of the Midland Park Board of Education in many capacities including the presidency

Mr. Venditti presented Mr. Moraski with the Presidential Apple Award for his past two years of service as the president of the Midland Park Board of Education. Mr. Venditti took special note of Mr. Moraski's untiring diligence in the long and successful process of transitioning from the retiring Superintendent of Schools, through the interim Superintendent process, and ultimately in the hiring of the next Superintendent.

Mission Statement

The Midland Park School District, as part of a strong, dedicated community, provides students with a comprehensive, adaptive education in a positive environment by maximizing all resources and empowering them to realize their individual worth and responsibility.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Mamola commented on the following items:

a. The activities for Cultural Awareness Week were well planned and well received. The activities focused on dealing with disabilities at the high school. In all, the program's provided at school provided Midland Park students real insight in the lives of people with disabilities. Various displays from eighteen different countries were most impressive. Students from Godwin and Highland were escorted by teachers to view artifacts and participate in activities. Each student had his/her passport stamped as they went from country to country. The MPEPTA was responsible for these excellent programs.

b. Reminder: Tuesday, April 15, 2008 is the Annual School Election.

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2007-2008 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.

A. Personnel – (N. Mamola)

Motion – Mrs. Polhemus, seconded – Mr. Venditti . . .

1. Authorize the Board President and Board Secretary to prepare and execute an employment contract with Dr. William Heebink as Superintendent of Schools, effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011, at a starting salary of \$153,000.

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Moraski referenced that, with this motion, the Board has completed the interview and selection process for the Superintendent. He thanked the public for their participation in the public forums and thanked Mr. Mamola and Mr. Roer for their respective roles in the process.

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mrs. Polhemus . . .

To Recess the meeting for twenty minutes.

Roll Call: All Yes

The Board of Education went into a brief recess at 8:11 p.m. in order that the Board members and the general public could spend a few minutes with Dr. Heebink. A commemorative cake was enjoyed by all.

The Board called the meeting to order again at 8:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:	Sandra Criscenzo	Paula Lein
	Anne Polhemus	Wayne Roberts
	Robert Schiffer	William Sullivan
	Richard Venditti	
	Ray Moraski	

Excused: Joan Vandervliet (medical)

Motion – Mrs. Lein, seconded – Mr. Roberts . . .

2. Accept with regrets the retirement resignation of Ethel DeMyer as a Building Aide in the Highland School, effective June 30, 2008 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mrs. Lein, seconded – Mrs. Polhemus . . .

3. Approve an adjustment in paid maternity leave for Victoria Schoeler, elementary school teacher, effective March 24, 2008 through March 31, 2008; a paid child care leave effective April 1, 2008 through May 5, 2008 and an unpaid child care leave, effective May 6, 2008 through June 30, 2008 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Venditti, seconded – Mrs. Polhemus . . .

4. Approve the following additions to the list of substitute teachers for the 2007-2008 school year (support material attached):

(s) Christine Fox

* Melissa Furlong

(s) Melissa Troast

* = NJ standard certification

(s) = Bergen County Substitute Certificate

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Venditti, seconded – Mrs. Polhemus . . .

5. Approve the following volunteer chaperones for the Leaders Beyond Borders Trip to Pearlington, MS from April 20 - 26, 2008:

Jane Bandstra
Mark Berninger, Sr.
Mark Berninger, Jr.
Sharon Gray

William Hardy
Michael Keenan
Donald Cichewicz

Roll Call: All Yes

B. Finance Committee – (R. Schiffer, Chairperson)

APPENDIX

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mrs. Lein . . .

1. Approve the following block motion:

- a. March 2008 cafeteria direct pays in the amount of \$29,831.86.
b. March 2008 direct pays in the amount of \$330,099.53.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mrs. Lein . . .

2. Approve the April 2008 claims in the amount of \$135,752.14.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mrs. Lein . . .

3. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Midland Park Board of Education approves the Transportation Services Agreement with the Northern Highlands Regional High School Board of Education, serving as the Coordinating Transportation Services Agency (CTSA), shall provide through a contract with various transportation contractors, pupil transportation, effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009, and to execute a Transportation Services Agreement, between the Midland Park Board of Education and the Northern Highlands Regional High School Board of Education, which is attached as an appendix. A

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Roberts . . .

4. Approve the resolution authorizing the elimination of the current Horizon Blue Cross & Blue Shield of NJ contract, effective June 1, 2008, as per the attached appendix. B

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Roberts . . .

5. Accept the donation of Turface material for the Highland School field, valued at \$600 from the Midland Park Girls' Softball Association, as per Board Policy 7230 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

C. Curriculum Committee – (A. Polhemus, Chairperson)

Motion – Mrs. Polhemus, seconded – Mrs. Lein . . .

1. Approve the list of staff members requesting workshop attendance, as follows (support material attached):

Name	Workshop	Location	Date
Teresa Isik	Berkeley College presentation	Hackensack, NJ	April 11, 2008
James Newman	Building Resiliency in College Students with Learning Disabilities	Teaneck, NJ	April 15, 2008
Jack Ferriday	Newspaper in Education	East Rutherford, NJ	April 16, 2008
Teresa Isik	Bergen Community College presentation	Paramus, NJ	April 30, 2008
Kristin Ommerborn	Differentiated Instruction Grades K-5	Newark, NJ	April 30, 2008
David Hersberger	Uses of technology in the classroom	Pomona, NJ	May 14, 2008
Elsa Carbone	Working with Glass in the Art Room and New Glazing Techniques	Emerson, NJ	May 28, 2008

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mrs. Polhemus, seconded – Mrs. Lein . . .

2. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the placement of one high school special education student on bedside instruction, effective retroactive from March 26, 2008 through April 4, 2008.

Roll Call: All Yes

D. Policy Committee – (W. Roberts, Chairperson)

Motion – Mr. Roberts, seconded – Mr. Schiffer . . .

Approve the first reading of the following revised policies and regulations, as per the attached appendices:

Philosophy of Education/ District Mission Statement	Policy Section 2110	<u>C</u>
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This change has been mandated by the State. The mission statement will be changed AFTER the second reading is approved.

Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying	Policy Section 5512.01	<u>D</u>
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Budget Transfers, Emergency Purchases And Over expenditure of Funds	Policy and Regulation Section 6422	<u>E</u>
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Reporting Violence, Vandalism, Alcohol And Other Drug Abuse	Policy and Regulation Section 8461	<u>F</u>
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Reporting Potentially Missing or Abused Children	Policy and Regulation Section 8462	<u>G</u>
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Missing Children	Policy and Regulation Section 8464 (abolish)	<u>H</u>
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This policy (8464) is now included in 8462.

Roll Call: All Yes

E. Legislative Committee – (S. Criscenzo, Chairperson)

The 2008 Annual School Election will take place on April 15, 2008 from 2:00-9:00.
Reminder: Very Important; Please Vote.

F. Buildings & Grounds Committee – (W. Sullivan, Chairperson)

The following items were discussed:

Two sets of building assessment reports generated by Mr. Salvi were given out—February follow-up and a new report for March building walk- through were reviewed.

The J.V. soccer field irrigation system plans and specification are available for review.

The Lightning detection will be installed on the high school field during the break.

It was reported that the Borough's College Road tennis bid were over budget and that they are reviewing strategies for this project to be completed.

G. Negotiations – Teachers/Secretaries – (R. Venditti, Chairperson)

No report.

H. Negotiations – Administrators/Custodians – (J. Vandervliet, Chairperson)

No report.

I. Public Relations Committee – (S. Criscenzo, Chairperson)

The Election issue of Chalk Board is at the printer for delivery on the Saturday before the election..

J. Personnel Committee (J. Vandervliet, Chairperson)

No report.

K. Service Review Committee– (P. Lein, Chairperson)

No report.

L. Liaison Committee:

High School PTA – (S. Criscenzo)

Cultural Awareness week was fabulous; Jane Bandstra, Pat McGlade and their committee should be commended for the hard work they put into organizing this week.

The next Market Day order is due by Saturday, April 26th, 2008.

The PTA Scholarship application return date is April 11, 2008.

Summer grant applications for grades 9-11 are available on the school web site –due May 16th, 2008.

The PTA is giving the 12th grade class \$500.00 towards a trip to see a Shakespeare play and \$500.00 to the 8th grade class to go to the Bronx Zoo.

Elementary School PTA – (P. Lein)

The Art Auction is this Friday.

The Scholastic Book Fair I 4/16 and 4/17

They still need a vice president

Mrs. Snyder was this year's Elementary Fellowship Award recipient. She will be representing Midland Park at the County level.

Booster Club – (W. Roberts)

No report.

Performing Arts Parents – (A. Polhemus)

The Madrigal Show dates–April 16 & April 17.

Special Education – (J. Vandervliet)

No report.

Board of Recreation – (W. Sullivan)

No report.

Education Foundation – (R. Venditti)

No report.

Continuing Education Program – (J. Vandervliet)

No report.

M Town Council Special Projects Committee – (A. Polhemus, Chairperson)

No report.

N. New Jersey and/or Bergen County School Board Delegates – (R. Schiffer/A. Polhemus)

No report.

O. Old Business

None.

P. New Business

Motion – Mrs. Lein, seconded – Mr. Schiffer . . .

To go into closed session after the meeting of April 8, 2008 and before April 29, 2008, for the purpose of discussing personnel items.

Roll Call: All Yes

Open to the Public

Mr. Moraski invited the public to address the Board.

Mr. Formicola thanked Mr. Salvi and Mr. Healy for their respective cooperation on behalf of the recreation Basketball program for the past season.

Also, he questioned/challenged the District Drug Policy –section 18 –and referenced his perception that there is a lack of education of our teachers.

He referenced his stepson: He (the stepson) was challenged (4 X in 8 weeks) by the building officials for drug related concerns that were based on anonymous reports. He claimed the staff that reported him had no education as to what to report etc.

He was annoyed that the parents had to take time off from work for the test. In addition, what does it do to kid?

He also referenced the supervision of boy's locker room; and a Saran wrap issue which he labeled as clean fun.

Mr. Moraski –If there are parental concerns they should go to the appropriate building principal or their designee.

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mrs. Lein . . .
To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Sullivan . . .
To reopen the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes
The meeting reopened at 8:51 p.m.

Jessica Saliba read a prepared statement on the positive influence that Mr. Arroyo had on her.

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mrs. Lein . . .
To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis Roer,
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary