

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

February 26, 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
	Joan Vandervliet	Richard Venditti
	Ray Moraski	

OTHERS PRESENT

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

BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Board Secretary's Certification

Approval of Minutes

Motion – Mrs. Vandervliet, seconded – Mrs. Criscenzo . . .

Approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meetings:

January 22, 2008

February 5, 2008, as amended

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Roer will draw ballot positions on March 5th at 9:12 a.m.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Moraski commented on the following items:

Coach Kilgallen – 100th win in basketball – this is a major accomplishment in such a short time.

In addition our high school science scores received a high ranking

Finally there will be a Community Forum on March 4, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the August C. DePreker's Media Center in Highland School. All residents of Midland Park are invited to meet and dialogue with the two finalists for the position of Superintendent of Midland Park Schools.

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 reported on the following items:

Each district is required to provide an annual review and update of plans, procedures, and mechanisms that provide for the safety and security of the district's schools. Staff input and administrative review accomplished this task and confirmed the review and update with the State Department of Education.

The American Association of Teachers of French announced that three Midland Park High School students have been awarded prizes in the 2007 National French Essay and Poster Contest.

Kaitlyn Lynch in Grade 8 was awarded 1st place in the Poster Contest.

Keith Traynor in Grade 11 was awarded 2nd place in the Essay Contest.

Logan Traynor in Grade 7 was awarded an Honorable Mention.

All students are in the French classes of Midland Park High School French teacher, Bonnie Platter.

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. Vandervliet, seconded – Mrs. Lein . . .

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the following addition to the list of advisors to activities and clubs at the elementary schools, for the 2007-2008 school year (support material attached):

Add: Rachel Reboiro	I & RS member	<u>Stipend</u> \$788
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2. Approve the following additions to the list of substitute teachers for the 2007-2008 school year

(support material attached):

(s) Michael Bucci

(s) Mary Ann Dumlao - Substitute School Nurse for Band trips

* Kevin Okeefe

(s) = Bergen County Substitute Certificate

* = NJ certification

3. Approve the appointment of Annelies Baker as a Building Aide at the high school. She will be paid at the approved rate of \$14.50 per hour, effective March 3, 2008 through June 25, 2008 (or the last day of school) (support material attached).
4. Approve the following addition to the list of substitute workers for the 2007-2008 school year (support material attached):

Timothy Ferriday	Substitute Custodian
Jason Goyco	Substitute Custodian

Roll Call: All Yes

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

APPENDIX

Motion – Mrs. Vandervliet, seconded – Mrs. Lein . . .

1. Authorize the Public Hearing on the 2008-2009 Budget, as part of the regularly scheduled public meeting of March 25, 2008, which will be held in the August C. DePreker Media Center in the Highland School at 8:00 p.m.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

2. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, to approve a school district budget for the FY 2008-2009 school year for submission to the voters of Midland Park, as follows:

	Budget	Local Tax Levy
Total General Fund	\$ 18,531,084	\$ 15,538,133
Total Special Revenue Fund	\$ 593,852	n/a
Total Debt Service Fund	\$ 451,615	\$ 451,615
Totals	\$ 19,576,551	\$ 15,989,748

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Schiffer referenced that this reflects a 3.46% annual increase in the amount of \$167.00 for the combined operating and debt service budget.

Mr. Venditti asked if there is time for Board members to provide input into the 2008-09 budget. Mr. Schiffer indicated that there most definitely is time right through the Public Hearing on March 25, 2008.

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

3. Approve the 2008-2009 budgetary maximum for travel and related expenses for employees of the Midland Park school district, as per new regulations P.L. 2005 c132 and N.J.A.C. 6A 23B 1.2 (b) and Policy Book Section 3440 in the amount of \$40,000.

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Venditti referenced that this motion is reflective of the new law that requires that a ceiling be established.

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

4. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), we certify that as of January 21, 2008, 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.

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Venditti inquired as to when we can get a firm handle on the additional free balance generated, if any. Mr. Roer felt that we could reasonably project this number by the end of April.

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

To approve the following block motion:

5. Approve the following block motion:

- a. January 2008 Midland Park Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$87,351.16.

- b. February 2008 supplemental claims in the amount of \$328,522.67.

6. Approve the following block motion:

- a. February 2008 payroll in the amount of \$1,001,089.32.

- b. February 2008 supplemental payroll in the amount of \$1,057.84.

7. Approve the financial reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Moneys for the period, January 1, 2008 through January 31, 2008, which are attached as an appendix.

A

8. Approve the transfers among accounts and additional increase in the budget, as per the auditor's recommendation, for the period December 1, 2007 through January 31, 2008, which are attached as an appendix. B
9. Approve the annual Contract for Non Public Nursing Services for the 2007-2008 school year with the Bergen County Health Department, at Eastern Christian Elementary School, which is attached as an appendix. C

Roll Call: All Yes

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

10. Approve the resolution authorizing the Midland Park Public School District to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement, as follows (support material attached):

RESOLUTION NUMBER 26EDCP

WHEREAS N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11 (5) authorizes contracting units to enter into Cooperative Pricing Agreements; and

WHEREAS the Board of Education of the Township of Glen Rock, hereinafter referred to as the "Lead Agency", has offered voluntary participation in a Cooperative Pricing System known as the "Educational Cooperative Pricing System" for the purchase of work, materials and supplies; and

WHEREAS, the Midland Park School District, within the County of Bergen, New Jersey, desires to participate in the Educational Cooperative Pricing System;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on the 26th day of February, 2008, by the said Board of Education, as follows:

AUTHORITY

As directed by N.J.S.A. 18A-18A-11 et seq. and pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11 (5), the Board President is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency.

CONTRACTING UNIT

The Lead Agency shall advertise for and receive bids from vendors who will make school supplies, equipment and other related goods and services available to participating members of the said Cooperative Pricing System at the agreed upon price; and

The Lead Agency entering into contracts on behalf of the Midland Park Public School District shall be responsible for complying with the 54 provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

- BS-1. Confirm the approval of the application at the Board Meeting of September 19, 2006 for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004-Part B FY 07 Grant, and accept the funds, as follows:

Basic: \$264,126

Preschool: \$ 21,386

- BS-2 Approve the acceptance of funds for the No Child Left Behind Consolidated formula Sub Grant FY 07 in the amount of \$71,516.

- BS-3 Retroactively approve the application for the No Child Left Behind Consolidated formula Sub Grant FY 08, as submitted on September 25, 2007, in the sum of \$61,820,

Roll Call: All Yes

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

Mrs. Polhemus, seconded – Mrs. Vandervliet . . .

1. Approve the proposed 2008-2009 Academic Calendar, which is attached as an appendix. D

A lengthy discussion was held on the merits of Graduation during the week and the possibility of eliminating and/or rearranging the school breaks to accommodate alternative dates.

Mr. Sullivan expressed concern on the date of High School Graduation and the Graduation Ball. (Tuesday night)

Mrs. Polhemus referenced the 183 days calendar because the County Superintendent of Schools would not be as flexible as in the past for the 180 day minimum requirement if there are a number of snow days.

Mrs. Vandervliet commented that the elementary students will be out and the seniors will be graduating.

Mr. Venditti referenced that, with the exception of last year, Graduation was always on Friday.

Roll Call: No (7) (Criscenzo, Lein, Roberts, Schiffer, Sullivan, Venditti, Moraski,
Yes (2) (Polhemus, Vandervliet)

Motion was defeated and remanded back to the committee.

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

To approve the following block motion:

2. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the continuation of one high school regular education student on bedside instruction, effective retroactive from December 16, 2007 through February 16, 2008.
3. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the continuation of one high school regular education student on home instruction, effective retroactive from February 6, 2008 through April 6, 2008.
4. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the continuation of one elementary school regular education student on bedside instruction, effective retroactive from February 11, 2008 through April 11, 2008.
5. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the continuation of one high school regular education student on bedside instruction, effective retroactive from February 16, 2008 through April 16, 2008.
6. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the placement and transportation of one elementary school special education student in the Calais School, Whippany, NJ, effective February 28, 2008.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mrs. Polhemus, seconded – Mrs. Vandervliet . . .

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

Name	Workshop	Location	Date
Traci Audino Casey Vier	Serving students with special needs: Strategies for Administrators and Teachers	Hackensack, NJ	Feb. 29, 2008
Nancy DeRitter	How to score EOC Biology Test	Montvale, NJ	Feb. 29, 2008
Craig Rush Patricia Terraciano	The Rights of School and Police Personnel: Managing your School Environment	Totowa, NJ	March 6, 2008
Leon Varjian	Annual Pre Calculus Conference	New Brunswick, NJ	March 17, 2008
Michal Edgerton Jacqueline Goodell Edward McDonough Teresa Mallon Elizabeth Veneziano	Statewide Middle School Conference	Union, NJ	April 4, 2008
Jennifer Kendall	Assessing your Progress	Somerset, NJ	April 14, 15,

Patricia Terraciano Elizabeth Veneziano	on the Professional Learning Community Journey		2008
Karen Corcoran	Healthy Choices for Healthy Children, Through the School Wellness Policy	Paramus, NJ	May 15, 2008
Kristin Ommerborn Gail Traitz	New Pathways to Teaching in NJ Capstone Conference	Princeton Junction, NJ	June 6, 2008

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

Approve the second reading for the following new or revised policies and regulations:

Administration of Medicine

Policy and Regulation
Section 5330 (rev.)

Suspected Gang Activity, as amended
Reporting Violence, Vandalism and Alcohol
And Other Drug Abuse

Policy Section 5615 (new)
Policy Section 8461(rev.)
Regulation Section 8461 (new)

Pupil Supervision After School

Policy Section 8601 (rev.)

There will be two Forms for Release on the website for the Godwin/Highland pupils, including the name of the escort

Roll Call: All Yes

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

No Report.

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

The following items were reported on:

The Slave Score Board in the Highland Gymnasium was installed.

At Godwin School, Room 8 New blinds were installed.

The High School main office's damage carpet was replaced and we are in the process of repairing office door.

Mr. Roer, Mr. Healy, and Ms. Dugan met with the Borough engineer to discuss the layout of the Sprinkler System on the high school field.

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 current issue of Chalkboard arrived at home on 2/12/08. There was excellent positive feed-back with this issue.

The committee will meet tonight to begin preparations for the budget issue.

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)

The following items were reported on:

The combined parent meetings for PTA, Boosters and PAP's will be held on Wednesday, March 5, 2008. The first session will start at 7:00 p.m. with the Boosters, followed by PAP's then PTA. At 8:00 p.m. they will serve "Decaffeinated coffee with the Superintendent and the Principals.

The next Market Day pick up will be Friday, February 29th between 5:30-6:30.

7th grade trip to Weiss Ecology Center will be sponsored in part by the PTA.

Elementary School PTA – (P. Lein)

On Thursday, March 6th the 3rd, 4th & 5th grade parents sat down and had coffee and dialogue with the elementary Principals.

Booster Club – (W. Roberts)

The following items were reported on:
The Winter Sports season has ended.
The Winter Sports Awards Ceremony will be held on March 6, 2008.
The Ad Journal is waiting for Pick-up
The Spring Pep/ Boosters Rally is on April 1, 2008

Performing Arts Parents – (A. Polhemus)

Grease will be performed on 3/13, 3/15, 3/16.

Special Education – (J. Vandervliet)

The State has approved the last of the monitoring papers

Board of Recreation – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

Education Foundation – (R. Venditti)

On February 11, 2008, they installed seven new Trustees –Ms. Sclafani is the new president.
Their Gala Dinner is on March 14, 2008.

Continuing Education Program – (J. Vandervliet)

Their next meeting is scheduled for March 4, (it may be changed).

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 . . .

1. To go into closed session on March 4, 2008 following the NJSBA Superintendent Search Public Forum.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

2. To go into closed session before the meeting of March 11, 2008 for the purpose of discussing personnel and litigation.

Open to the Public

Mr. Moraski invited the public to address the Board.

No one chose to speak.

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Roberts . . .
To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis Roer,
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary