

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

Approval of Minutes

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

Approve the minutes of the regularly scheduled public meeting held on December 4, 2008.

Roll Call: 8 Yes (Criscenzo, Polhemus, Roberts, Schiffer, Sullivan, Vandervliet, Venditti, Moraski)  
1 Abstain (Lein)

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

On behalf of the Board of Education, Mr. Moraski welcomed Mr. Nicholas Mamola as the Interim Superintendent of Schools.

January is School Board Recognition Month—Funding, Public Awareness, NCLB are their main focuses. He referred everyone to their website for additional information.

Update on the Superintendent Search – Interviews are scheduled.

Minutes of the Public Meeting of January 8, 2008

### **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.**

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

Approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, there exist significant cost disparities within various regions/counties in the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, as a result of such disparities, the cost of living in Bergen County significantly exceeds that of other regions of the State; and

WHEREAS, such disparities effectively result in the availability of less resources for the education of children in Bergen County; and

WHEREAS, such discrepancies further result in an increased tax burden on the taxpayers of Bergen County; and

WHEREAS, the foregoing has been duly recognized by all 15 elected Bergen County State Legislators in a bi-partisan manner now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, by the Bergen County School Boards Association Executive Committee that the New Jersey Legislature is hereby urged to develop and adopt a school funding formula in the best interests of all residents of our State by duly including such factors as cost of living, real wealth, and available resources for the education of our children in any formula; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution will be sent to all members of the State Senate and General Assembly representing Bergen County as well as Governor Jon S. Corzine, Senate President Richard J. Codey, Assembly Speaker Joseph J. Roberts, Jr., Bergen County Superintendent Dr. Aaron Graham, Bergen County Executive Dennis McNerney and the Bergen County Freeholders, and NJSBA Governmental Relations Director Michael Vrancik.

Roll Call: All Yes

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Mamola commented on the following items:

Mr. Mamola was pleased with the very warm reception from the staff at each building his first week.

NJ Report Card Narratives are in process; they are due in the County office on January 11, 2008

He referenced the PTA calendar highlights.

In addition, January 21, 2008 is Staff Development Day.

## A G E N D A

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. Polhemus . . .

1. Approve the following change to the list of advisors at the high school, for the 2007-2008 school year (support material attached):

Delete:	Brian Ersalesi	Musical Director
	Brian Ersalesi	Musical Producer

Roll Call: All Yes

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

2. Approve the following additions to the list of coaches at the high school, for the 2007-2008 school year (support material attached):

			<u>Stipend</u>
Add:	Christine Jakobsen	Assistant Softball Coach	\$4,001
	Michael Walker	Assistant Baseball Coach (Freshman)	\$4,001
	Jeffrey Yearling	Assistant Baseball Coach (Varsity Assistant)	\$4,001

Roll Call: All Yes

Mrs. Polhemus commented that Ms. Jakobsen and Mr. Walker are graduates of Midland Park.

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

3. Approve the following addition to the list of substitute workers for the 2007-2008 school year (support material attached):

Susan Hartmann	Substitute Secretary
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Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

1. Approve the December 2007 payroll in the amount of \$1,000,501.71.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

2. Approve the following block motion:

- a. December 2007 direct pays in the amount of \$72,605.61.

- b. December 2007 cafeteria direct pays in the amount of \$ 24,072.99.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

3. Approve the January 2008 claims in the amount of \$192,286.23.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

4. \*Accept the donation of grant moneys in the amount of \$1000 from the Rotary Club for the implementation of the Rotary Interact Club as per Board Policy Section 7230 (support material attached).

(\*Motion reflects Strategic Planning Goal Area: Partnership

Objective: To establish, build and champion partnerships and align them appropriately in order to achieve the Midland Park district goals.)

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Schiffer as Finance Committee Chairperson referenced that they have explored the cost of a recording system for board meetings and, based on the cost estimate received, is recommending that this item be placed in next year's budget.

Mr. Venditti and Mrs. Vandervliet questioned the comparable locations. Mr. Roer responded- Ridgewood Board of Education, Ramapo/Indian Hills Board of Education and the Borough of Hawthorne. Mrs. Vandervliet questioned whether Ridgewood's meetings being live broadcasts impacts on the type of system they use.

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

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

1. Approve the mock SAT test on February 9, 2008 and subsequent SAT Preparation Course to be held by the Midland Park Continuing Education Program in conjunction with Revolution Prep (support material attached).

Mr. Roberts questioned whether this was a group class.

Mr. Mamola referenced that Midland Park students were getting a lower cost.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

Name	Workshop	Location	Date
Patricia Terraciano Elizabeth Veneziano	NJ ASCD Annual State Conference	East Windsor, NJ	Jan. 31, 2008
Nicholas Capuano Marie Pantina Carol Weaver	MMS Scheduling	Somerset, NJ	Feb. 11-12, 2008

Raina Dawson	Training for Certified Scores	Montvale, NJ	Feb. 29, 2008
Michael Healy	Annual DAANJ Workshop	Atlantic City, NJ	March 17-20, 2008
Linda Carr Jennifer Frumolt Dianna Grasso Jennifer Hunt Jennifer Kendall Frederick Triano	Intervention Model for IR&S Teams	Saddle Brook, NJ	March 28, 2008
Raina Dawson	Assessment Scoring	Montvale, NJ	June 2, 2008

Mr. Venditti (regarding the MMS class) questioned and referenced that Mr. Capuano as Assistant principal, by taking this class, will be the responsible party for the master schedule at the high school in the future.

Mr. Schiffer questioned whether we would have the necessary administrative coverage at the elementary schools on March 28, 2008.

In addition, the committee will be meeting prior to next meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

Motion – Mr. Venditti, seconded – Mr. Schiffer . . .

Approve the second reading of the following revised policy and new regulation:

Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying  
(support material attached)

Policy Section 5512.01

Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and  
On School Grounds

Regulation Section 7441

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Venditti; When will we have the signage placed in the building, as per regulation 7441? Mr. Roer will have an answer by the next meeting.

Mr. Roberts referenced that the committee will meet to finalize any remaining policies. The Board has an updated disk of all current policies, as well as the administration and in the faculty rooms.

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

The following items were discussed:

- The 213<sup>th</sup> legislature was sworn in today.
- The legislature approved the School Funding Reform Act of 2008 ( S4000/ A-500) - The plan calls for a \$530 million increase statewide
- A868 –DYFYS notification of long term absence pending governor approval
- S548 –will allow school districts to voluntarily establish sick leave banks- pending governor approval.

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

The following items were discussed:

- a. Stage lights replaced
- b. Ceiling in Science Wing has been repaired
- c. Highland gym floor was resurfaced.
- d. Cameras all working at the high school

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 committee will meet tonight.

J. Personnel Committee – (J. Vandervliet, Chairperson)

No Report.

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

Mrs. Lein; When does the Board need to begin the review/extension process for Pomptonian?  
Mr. Roer-The April timeline would be reasonable.

L. Liaison Committee:

High School PTA – (S. Criscenzo)

Market Day orders are due by January 19, 2007.

The PTA has offered \$500.00 per grade for field trips

The combined meeting was held at the high school last night.

January 11, 2008 is the last night to sign up for parent fun night out on January 19, 2008  
(co sponsored by the three organizations).

Elementary School PTA – (P. Lein)

The following items were reported on:

Friday – Fun day was postponed

Talent shows: 1/18/08 Highland Avenue;-1/25/08 Godwin School

Booster Club – (W. Roberts)

The Winter Ad Journal – now includes 7/8 & J.V. programs. Cutoff date for ads is  
1/19/08

The Fun Dance is on 1/19/08 (at Guardian Angel)

Next phase of their support program is the ' banner system'.

They are also promoting Mid Week Attendance at home sports events called 'Pack the House'. Events promoted are:  
Boys Varsity Basketball on 1/29/08 vs. Garfield  
Wrestling vs. Manchester on 1/30/08 and  
Girls Varsity Basketball on 2/5/08 vs. Pompton Lakes  
All games/matches at 7:00 p.m.

Performing Arts Parents – (A. Polhemus)

No Report.

Special Education – (J. Vandervliet)

There have not been any parent workshops this year.

Board of Recreation – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

Education Foundation – (R. Venditti)

No Report.

Continuing Education Program – (J. Vandervliet)

Revolution Program was a result of the "Advisory Council" involvement.

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

Mr. Roer commented on the status of the Inter-local Agreements with the Borough.

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

As a result of the new funding law there may be state aid funds that may go to Borough residents as tax relief. We will wait for direction from the State.

O. Old Business

The memo on the distribution of lunch tickets was discussed. Mr. Roer reported on the past week's participation and will continue to monitor the progress.

Meal Claims showed more 'ala carte' sales than full lunch sales.

Mr. Sullivan suggested that we look at the way the food is laid out at the serving line. It may be causing the students to purchase 'ala carte' due to its layout. Mr. Roer will share this thought with Pomptonian.

New Business

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

P1. To go into closed session before the meeting of January 22, 2008, for the purpose of discussing personnel items.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mrs. Polhemus, seconded – Mrs. Criscenzo . . .

P2. To go into a Special Closed Meeting on January 9, 10 and January 16, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. each night at the August C. DePreker Media Center in Highland School. The purpose of these meetings will be for interviewing prospective candidates for the Superintendent position.

Roll Call: All Yes

Open to the Public

Mr. Moraski invited the public to address the Board.

There were none.

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

To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis Roer,  
School Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary