

**1MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Board of Education**  
**Midland Park, New Jersey**  
**August 21, 2007**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order by Ray Moraski, President, at 8:37 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	Anne Polhemus
	Wayne Roberts	Robert Schiffer
	William Sullivan	Richard Venditti

Ray Moraski

Excused:	Paula Lein
	Joan Vandervliet

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Staff:	August C. DePreker, Superintendent of Schools
	Louis Roer, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Board Secretary's Certification

Communication: letter from the Borough, RE: Land Acquisition

Communication: letter from the Borough, RE: Lightning Detection System

Mr. Schiffer inquired whether we could consider a second unit for the Highland/Godwin complex. Mr. Roer will discuss this request with the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

Mr. Sullivan indicated that we could respond to the Borough request for the lightning detection system placement on school property (by formal Board action) at the September 4, 2007 meeting.

**Approval of Minutes**

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

Approve the minutes of the regularly scheduled public meeting held on July 10, 2007.

Roll Call: 6 Yes(Criscenzo, Polhemus, Roberts, Sullivan, Venditti, Moraski)  
1 Abstain ( Schiffer )

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Options are available for the legal advertisement for the Superintendent search: The Star Ledger, The Bergen Record, The New York Times and other publications.

Mr. Schiffer was of the opinion that there is not enough of a following in the Star Ledger  
The Board of Education will continue to discuss the choice at next meeting

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The following items were discussed:

- a. On September 4, 2007 we will have our Staff Preparation Day; in addition Cathie Sousa, (NJSBA) will address staff on the Superintendent search.
- b. On September 9, 2007 we will have our Staff Development Day (year 2 of Mapping)
- c. On September 10, 2007 we will have a Community Meeting with Ms. Sousa for their input.
- d. At the September 9, 2007 Board meeting , the Administration will present a draft of the Strategic Plan to the Board of Education.

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 – (A. DePreker)

### APPENDIX

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

To accept the following block motion:

1. Accept the resignation of Ramesha Francois as a math teacher in the Highland School, effective August 22, 2007 (support material attached).
2. Accept the resignation of Marla Wormser as the Guidance Secretary in the high school, effective September 12, 2007 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

3. Approve the appointment of Kristen Ommerborn as an elementary school teacher in the Highland School. She will be paid \$40,000 (BA Step 1, Experience Level 1 of the MPEA salary guide), effective September 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

4. Approve the reappointment of Nicholas Capuano as the Strategic Planning Coordinator for the district. He will be paid a stipend of \$1,500, effective September 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

5. Approve the increase in salary for the following teachers, effective September 1, 2007:

Elementary School

Stacy Boufford	- BA 7 Exp. Lvl. 8 (\$47,132) to MA 7 Exp. Lvl. 8 (\$52,460)
Eileen Brown	- BA 6 Exp. Lvl. 7 (\$45,221) to MA 6 Exp. Lvl. 7 (\$50,356)
Mary Johnston	- BA 9 Exp. Lvl. 10 (\$51,215) to MA 9 Exp. Lvl. 10 (\$56,983)

High School

Patricia Homsany - MA 15 Exp. Lvl.17 (\$76,319) to MA+ 15 Exp. Lvl.17(\$85,050)

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

6. Approve the list of Advisors to Activities and Clubs at the high school, for the 2007-2008 school year, which is attached as an appendix.

A

7. 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>
Daniel Anderson	Assistant Boys Soccer Coach	\$3,562
Shawn Bennett	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Tennis Intramurals	\$ 550
Shawn Bennett	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Golf Intramurals	\$ 550
Jack Ferriday	Cross Country Head Coach	\$4,113.
Michael Kilgallen	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Soccer Coach	\$2,267
Lee Tracy*	Assistant Volleyball Coach	\$3,522
Karen Strittmatter	Assistant Volleyball Coach (Freshman)	\$3,522

\*pending Dr.'s clearance for return to work

There was a question on the number of available uniforms for 7/8 soccer; answer: Yes

Roll Call: All Yes

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

8. Approve the appointment of Amarilis Villanueva as a Health Aide in the Highland School. She will be paid at the approved hourly rate, effective September 6, 2007 through June 25, 2008 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

9. Approve the additional .5 increase for the following Instructional Aides for the 2007-2008 school year:

Madeleine Barry	Category V, Step 3
Susan Fischer	Category V, Step 7
Joyce Gomez	Category V, Step 6
Karen Smith	Category V, Step 3
Cindy Verbrugge	Category V, Step 10

Roll Call: All Yes

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

10. Approve the termination of employment for the following cafeteria workers, effective August 22, 2007: (Support material attached).

Elementary School

Teresa Hansen  
Kathleen LaMonte  
Kim LiPuma  
Jean Marie Pennington  
Frances Shabrack

High School

Jeanne Bartlam  
Alberta Dykstra  
Theresa Gregory  
Doris Junta  
Shirley Lisbona  
Dawn Luna  
Katherine Miller  
Janet Vassallo

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mrs. Polhemus, seconded – Mr. Wayne Roberts . . .

To approve the following block motion:

11. Approve the appointment of Charles Cucci as a part-time evening Custodian at the Highland School. He will be paid at the approved hourly rate, effective September 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 (support material attached).
12. Accept the resignation of Dawn Luna as a Coordinator for the Midland Park Continuing Education Before and After School Child Care program, effective retroactive to July 4, 2007 (support material attached).
13. Approve the appointment of Lisa Giovanniello as a Coordinator for the Midland Park Continuing Education Before and After School Child Care program, effective September 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- S-1 Accept the resignation of Frederick DeKovessey as the Grounds Keeper for the District, effective retroactive to August 20, 2007 (support material attached).

Mr. Sullivan questioned whether we would be looking for a replacement. Mr. Roer indicated yes and as soon as possible.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- S-2 Approve the appointment of Gail Traitz as a .2 Calculus H/AP teacher at the high school. She will be paid a salary of \$8,000 (BA Step1, Experience Level 1 of the MPEA salary guide), effective September 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 (support material attached).  
Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

1. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), we certify that as of July 31, 2007, 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

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

2. Approve the following block motion:

- a. June 2007 Midland Park Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$64,968.31.
- b. June 2007 supplemental claims in the amount of \$294,162.40.
- c. July 2007 claims in the amount of \$141,628.06.
- d. July 2007 supplemental claims in the amount of \$96,323.62.
- e. July 2007 Midland Park Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$6,901.85.
- f. August 2007 claims in the amount of \$37,965.53.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

3. Approve the July 2007 direct pays in the amount of \$190,136.84.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

4. Approve the following block motion:

- a. July 2007 payroll in the amount of \$183,037.11.
- b. August 2007 payroll in the amount of \$226,120.21.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

5. Approve the financial reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Moneys for the period June 1, 2007 through June 31, 2007, which are attached as an appendix. B

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Venditti inquired whether we could anticipate any additional free balance this year. Mr. Roer responded that preliminary estimates would be in the range of \$40,000+.

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

6. Approve the 2007-2008 Salaries of the Non-Aligned Staff, which are attached as an appendix. C

Roll Call: All Yes

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

7. Accept the donation of \$2000 from Summer Heatt Sports LLC to be applied to field and/or gymnasium renovation or repair, as per Board Policy 7230 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

8. Approve the Waiver of Health Benefits Plan resolution, which is attached as an appendix. D

Mr. Venditti referenced that the form must contain a provision that the employee certifies that he/she has alternate coverage. Mr. Roer indicated that it would.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

9. To reject the bids for computers of Bid – File No. 498 - Computers

Bids distributed:	7
Bids submitted:	3
Bids rejected:	3

Roll Call: All Yes

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

10. Approve the award of Quote #1. – Highland School Wall

Bids distributed:	
Bids submitted:	3

Award to:

JBS Contracting                                      \$ 9,600 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

11. Approve the awards of Quotes 2, 3 –Godwin Chair Lift and related services

Bids distributed:

Bids submitted: 4 received each area

Award to:

Handi-lift, Carlstadt, N.J. \$ 20,375 chairlift

V.M. and Sons, Wallington N.J. \$1,501.97 related electric (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

1. Approve the following block motion:

- a. Out-of-District Placements for Special and Regular Education Students for the 2007-2008 school year, as listed on the attached appendix E

- b. Transportation for In and Out-of-District Placement for the 2007-2008 school year, as listed on the attached appendix. F

Roll Call: 6 Yes (Criscenzo, Polhemus, Roberts, Schiffer, Venditti, Moraski )  
1 Abstain (Sullivan)

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

2. Accept the 2007 List of Graduates from Midland Park High School, as listed on the attached appendix. G

Roll Call: All Yes

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

3. Approve the contract between the Midland Park Board of Education and Wilma Bogertman, as a non-public nurse at Eastern Christian Elementary School, effective September 4, 2007 through the end of Eastern Christian's school year, subject to Chapter 226 funding provisions (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

4. Approve the retroactive attendance of Susana Gonzalez, high school teacher, at a workshop entitled "AP Spanish Language for Teachers", to be held on August 13-17, 2007 at Drew University, Madison, NJ (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

5. Approve the attendance of Madeline Barry, Instructional Aide in the elementary schools, at a workshop entitled, “How to shadow a student with Autism”, to be held on August 23, 2007 at Northern Highlands High School, Allendale, NJ (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

6. Approve the attendance of the Lee Tracy, high school teacher and Sara Shortway, high school coach at the NJSCA 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Men’s & Women’s Volleyball Coaches Clinic to be held on August 26, 2007 in East Brunswick, NJ (support material attached).
7. Approve the attendance of Michael Kilgallen, high school teacher, at a workshop entitled, “Garden State Coaches Clinic”, to be held on September 28, 2007 at St. Benedict’s, Newark, NJ (support material attached).
8. Approve the attendance of Nancy DeRitter, high school teacher, at a conference entitled, “Cells Come Alive” to be held on October 9, 2007 in Somerset, NJ (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

9. Approve the attendance of the following Board of Education members and district administrators at the Fall School Boards Conference to be held on October 24-26 2007 in Atlantic City (support material attached):

Raymond Moraski  
Richard Venditti  
Sandra Criscenzo  
Paula Lein  
Anne Polhemus  
Wayne Roberts

Robert Schiffer  
William Sullivan  
Joan Vandervliet  
August DePreker  
Louis Roer

Roll Call: All Yes

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

10. Approve the attendance of Louis Roer, School Business Administrator, at the Annual Fall ASBO Conference to be held on October 12-15, 2007 in Toronto, Canada (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

11. Approve the written curriculum for Biology for Life (support material attached).



12. Approve the written curriculum for Forensics (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Venditti: Is this a Jr. and Sr. elective Answer: Yes

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

13. Approve the implementation of “Middle School Musical” to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade activities (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

14. Approve the following textbooks:

*Environmental Science* for Resource Center Science grades 9-12 (support material attached).

*Cell and Heredity* for Resource Center Science grades 9-12 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Venditti Is it budgeted? Yes except the c.d.’s were not budgeted

In addition Mrs. Polhemus reported that the middle school wing will become more self-contained as the science component will be relocated to that wing.

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

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

1. Approve the first reading of the following new/revised Policies and Regulations, as per the attached appendices:

Nonrenewal of Nontenured Teaching Staff Member	Regulation 3142	(revision)	<u>H</u>
Evaluation of Administrators	Policy 3223	(revision)	<u>I</u>
Political Contributions	Policy 6360	(new)	<u>J</u>
Pupil Enrollments	Policy 8140	(revision)	<u>K</u>
Enrollment Accounting	Regulation 8140	(revision)	<u>L</u>
Pupil Records	Policy & Regulation 8330	(revision)	<u>M</u>
Family Educational Rights And Privacy Act	Policy 8335	(new)	<u>N</u>

Roll Call: All Yes

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

2. Approve the second reading of the following new/revised Policies and Regulations:

Employment of Chief School Administrator	Policy 1220	(revision)
Title 1- Parental Involvement	Policy 2415.04	(revision)
Eligibility of Resident/ Non Resident Pupils	Policy & Regulation 5111	(revision)
Administration of Medication	Policy & Regulation 5330	(revision)
Kidnapping	Regulation 8420.4	(new)
Asbestos Release	Regulation 8420.5	(new)
Accidents to and from School	Regulation 8420.6	(new)
Drug Free School Zones	Policy & Regulation 9322	(delete)

Roll Call: All Yes

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

No Report.

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

It was reported that the Committee took a tour last night of Highland School and the High School:  
The following comments were given:

- a. Phase 3 of the four phase painting schedule was completed, halls were buffed and waxed; five classrooms to date have new ceilings
- b. The new roof on the Science wing was extended to the front of the building
- c. Four new exterior doors are on order and will be installed by the end of September.
- d. The High School parking lot will have its most serious areas repaved before the opening of school, (as well as areas at the rear of the high school building.
- e. Student hall lockers will continue to be placed as part of a master schedule to be installed
- f. The theatre lights in Memorial Hall will be replaced this Fall
- g. The High School will get an updated phone system in the Fall
- h. At the Highland School the playground wall will be completed before school opening and the Cleaning of the building is going well.
- i. The committee will tour the Godwin School on 9/4 at 6:00 p.m.

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)

Ms. Nemec will do one more issue of Chalk Board and the committee will meet tonight.

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)

It was reported that the first meeting will be September 12, at 8:00 p.m. at the High School.

Elementary School PTA – (P. Lein)

First meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2007.

Booster Club – (W. Roberts)

It was reported that the membership drive is in progress. Booster journal on-going. The meeting will also be on September 12 (Collaborative w/PTA).

Performing Arts Parents – (A. Polhemus)

First meeting will be September 2, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Special Education – (J. Vandervliet)

No Report.

Board of Recreation – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

Education Foundation – (R. Venditti)

They will be contacting us.

Continuing Education Program – (J. Vandervliet)

No Report.

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

The following items were discussed:

- a. Lighting detection system
- b. Tennis Courts ---We indicated that we simply need safe and playable courts
- c. The Borough has been approved for a grant that will provide a Sprinkler System for the field behind the high school; a sod turf field is part of the Grant approval.
- d. Costs Sharing of the Board indoor facilities included gym time will be further discussed.

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. Polhemus, seconded – Mr. Schiffer . . .

To go into closed session before the meeting of September 4, 2007, for the purpose of personnel, negotiations and litigation.

Roll Call: All Yes

Open to the Public

Mr. Moraski invited the public to address the Board.

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

To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 9: 45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Louis Roer,  
School Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary