

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
Board of Education
Midland Park, New Jersey
February 26, 2013

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order by William Sullivan, 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 2012 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. In addition, all questions must be presented to the Board of Education during the public session and prior to the adjournment of the meeting."

ROLL CALL

Present:	James Canellas	Sandra Criscenzo
	Richard Formicola	Brian McCourt
	Robert Schiffer	Peter Triolo
	Timothy Thomas	
	William Sullivan	

Excused: Maryalice Thomas

OTHERS PRESENT

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

BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Approval of Minutes

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

1. Approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meetings held on:
January 8, 2013

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Ms. Criscenzo, seconded – Mr. Formicola . . .
January 22, 2013 (As Amended)

Roll Call: All Yes

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

February 5, 2013

Roll Call: 7 Yes (Canellas, Formicola, Schiffer, Thomas, Triolo, Criscenzo, Sullivan)

1 Abstain (McCourt)

Motion – Mr. McCourt, seconded – Mr. Formicola . . .

2. **Approve the revised 2013-2014 Budget Preparation Calendar (support material attached).**

Roll Call: All Yes

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

3. **Approve the Public Hearing on the 2013-2014 School Budget to be held on March 26, 2013 at 8:00 p.m. in the August C. DePreker Media Center in Highland School.**

Roll Call: All Yes

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

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 with the expectation that all students achieve the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards at all grade levels.

Dr. Cirasella has reached out to several local districts to request an informal meeting to ask the hypothetical question of whether they would be able to absorb our high school population into their existing schools as a sending agreement. We have one meeting set up on March 8th and we expect to hear back from a few other districts to see if they’re interested in meeting. We’re just gathering information at this point to share with the Board.

Process of getting pricing and proper system installed for the room(s) regarding a sound system.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

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

Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 010113302 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 – 7 Yes (Canellas, Formicola, Schiffer, Thomas, Triolo, Criscenzo, Sullivan)

1 Abstain (McCourt)

Dr. Cirasella reported that the current enrollment in the school district is as follows:

Godwin/Highland - 591

High School 529

The trip presentation by Mr. Ersalesi and his Broadcasting students has been postponed until a later upcoming meeting in March.

The Girls basketball team won their game tonight. Rebecca Rabiero scored 1000 points.

The Midland Park Athletic Boosters are hosting a 1st Hall of Fame Dinner at the Brick House on 3/23.

Open to the Public:

To discuss action items on the Agenda.

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2012-2013 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 – (M. Cirasella)

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

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the following addition to the list of advisors to activities and clubs at the high school for the 2012-2013 school year:

			<u>Stipend</u>
Add:	Ilya Maslov	Musical Rehearsal Accompanist	\$788.00
	Ilya Maslov	Musical Assistant Director – Instrumental	\$530.00

2. Approve the following addition to the list of coaches at the high school for the 2012-2013 school year (support material attached):

			<u>Stipend</u>
Add:	Scott Grasso	7 th & 8 th Grade Spring Track Coach	\$2,470.00

3. Approve the following addition to the list of substitute teachers for the 2012-2013 school year:

(s) Jeffrey Monsma (previously on list)

(s) Nicholas Pampaloni

(s) = County Substitute certificate

Roll Call: All Yes

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

4. **Approve the placement of Nicole Lidestri, a student from William Paterson University, to shadow the Guidance Department from March 1, 2013 – May 31, 2013.**

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Triolo . . .

To approve the following block motion:

5. Approve the appointment of Sarah Grimaldi, special education teacher in the Godwin School, as an ABA Home Therapist for one elementary school special education student. She will be paid at the approved hourly rate of \$39.04(Schedule D of the MPEA contract) for two hours per week, effective retroactive from February 15, 2013.

Roll Call: All Yes

6. **Approve the increase in position for Karen Kantrowitz, Spanish teacher in the elementary schools, from a .5 position to a .6 position. She will be paid a salary of \$29,835.00 prorated, effective March 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013.**

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

7. **Approve the following Aides for the Spring 2013 semester of Indoor Soccer–Boys and Girls (Grades 6-8) sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education (support material attached):**

**Harrison DeKnight
Michelle Passaro**

8. Approve the following Aides for the Spring 2013 semester of Volleyball for Middle School Girls (Grades 6-8) sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education (support material attached)

Nicole Cartaino
Karli Damiano

Roll Call: All Yes

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

APPENDIX

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Canellas . . .

1. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), we certify that as of January 31, 2013, 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. McCourt. . .

2. Approve the following block motion:

- a. January 2013 Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$47,897.69.
- b. January 2013 cafeteria claims in the amount of \$28,303.34.
- c. February 2013 claims in the amount of \$341,277.30.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. McCourt. . .

- 3. Approve the following block motion:

- a. Second January 2013 payroll in the amount of \$516,117.91.
- b. First February 2013 payroll in the amount of \$538,838.40.

- 4. Approve the January 2013 direct pays in the amount of \$484,035.12.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Canellas . . .

To approve the following block motion:

- 5. Approve the transfers between accounts for the period January 1-31, 2013, which are attached as an appendix. B-5
- 6. Approve the financial reports of the Board Secretary, according to prescribed accounting procedures, for the period January 1-31, 2013, which are attached as an appendix. B-6

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .

- 7. Approve the establishment of financial pay-out limits for the following consultants for the 2012-2013 school year
 - a. Board Architect \$30,000
 - b. Board Attorney/Bond Counsel \$50,000
 - c. Board Auditor \$25,000
 - d. Occupational/Physical Therapy \$75,000

Mr. Canellas asked if we normally approve these limits of pay-outs at this time of the year. Ms. Garvey answered yes, but it will be changed to the reorganization agenda in the future.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .

To approve the following block motion:

- 8. Authorize the Board Secretary to draw for candidate's positions on the ballot at the Board of Education office at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 6, 2013.
- 9. Authorize the Board Secretary to request that the polls be opened from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 for the Annual School Election, and to request that the appropriate number of voting machines be provided by the County Superintendent of Elections.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Canellas . . .

To approve the following block motion:

10. Accept the donation from the Performing Arts Parents in the amount of \$4,555 to benefit the production of the musical, Legally Blonde, as per Board Policy 7230.

Mr. Canellas questioned whether they normally receive this much and does the Board pay any part?

Mr. Schiffer and Ms. Criscenzo answered yes.

Dr. Cirasella answered yes the Board pays a portion and the rest is paid through generous donations from PAPS.

11. Accept the donation in the amount of \$750 from Verizon Volunteers Incentive Program from Mr. Ron Agresta to the Marching Band, as per Board Policy 7230.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. McCourt. . .

To approve the following block motion:

12. Approve the use and rental of the lower Sunset Field to English Pro Soccer, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education for Winter Soccer on Saturdays, effective March 30, 2013– June 8, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (support material attached).

13. **Approve the use and rental of the Highland School gym to Summer Heatt for their Summer Camp 2013 sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education on the following dates (support material attached):**

July 9–13, July 16-20, July 23-27 and July 30–August 3, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

14. **Approve the use and rental of the Lower Sunset Field to English Pro Soccer for their Summer Soccer Camp, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education effective July 22-26, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (support material attached).**

Roll Call: All Yes

- C. Curriculum Committee – (S. Criscenzo, Chairperson)

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

1. Approve the following staff members requesting workshop attendance (support material attached):

Name	Workshop	Location	Cost	Date
Barbara Gemza	Legal One Training	Westfield, NJ	\$178.00	Feb. 28,

Christina Gouraige	for Special Ed Administrators		\$178.00	March 14, April 18, May 21, 2013
Kelly Scala	Conflict Resolution Training	New Brunswick, NJ	\$37.05	March 5, 2013
Matthew Murphy	The Principals' Institute Series (2 sessions)	Monroe Township, NJ	\$184.96 \$80.96	March 6, May 3, 2013
Karen Corcoran	The Many Facets of School Nursing	Parsippany, NJ	\$313.64	March 8 – 9, 2013
Carol Steel Laurie Troisi	NJCEC Spring Conference – Assessment and You	Mahwah, NJ	\$105.20 \$105.20	March 18, 2013
Kelly Scala	NJ ASK training	Mt. Laurel, NJ	\$32.24	March 21, 2013
Nicholas Capuano Stacie Millman Marie Pantina Carol Weaver	Build the Master Scheduler in Powerschool	Dumont, NJ	\$6,400.00 (combined)	March 25-28, 2013
David Hersherberger	Outstanding Technology Projects to Enhance Content Learning	Parsippany, NJ	\$239.88	April 3, 2013

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

2. **Approve the recommendation of the Interim Director of Special Services for the home instruction of one high school regular education student, effective retroactive from February 11, 2013 through April 1, 2013.**
3. **Approve the revision in the commencement of a previously approved high school special education student on bedside instruction, effective retroactive to December 17, 2012 through June 30, 2013.**

Roll Call: All Yes

The Board discussed the 2013-2014 School Calendar. It will be discussed further at the next committee meeting and brought back to the Board.

D. Policy Committee – (T. Thomas, Chairperson)

Motion – Mr. Thomas, seconded – Mr. Schiffer . . .

1. Approve the first reading of the following revised mandated policies, as per the attached appendix:

No Child Left Behind Programs	Policy Section 2415	<u>D-1a.</u>
Athletic Competition	Policy Section 2431	<u>D-1b.</u>
Purchase of Food Supplies	Policy Section 6480	<u>D-1c.</u>
School Nutrition	Policy Section 8505	<u>D-1d.</u>

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. McCourt commented that these policies are mandated but many seem to be long and too detailed. A discussion ensued on mandatory policies and what the Board has flexibility to change.

Mr. McCourt commented on Policy 5460. He said that page 1 differs from page 2. The first page needed to be revised.

Mr. Canellas asked if administration heard back from the police department on the ECRD Policy.

Dr. Cirasella answered that she did hear from the MPPD and they are satisfied with the way policy is written.

Mr. Sullivan asked when we will be receiving the state aid figures. Mr. Schiffer replied Thursday.

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

2. Approve the second reading of the following new or revised policies:

High School Graduation	Policy Section 5460 (as amended)
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6 Yes (Formicola, Schiffer, Thomas, Triolo, Criscenzo, Sullivan)
2 No (Canellas, McCourt)

To approve the following block policies . . .

Use of Electronic Communication and Recording Devices (ECRD)	Policy Section 5516
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School Clearance Following Crisis Situation (new)	Policy Section 8420.30
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Roll Call: 7 Yes (Formicola, McCourt, Schiffer, Thomas, Triolo, Criscenzo, Sullivan)
1 No (Canellas)

E. Legislative Committee – (P. Triolo, Chairperson)

The Senate Education Committee on February 21 released the following bills, all of which are now in position for a vote by the full Senate. The notable proposals include:

Subcontracting – S-1191 would limit the ability of school districts and higher education institutions to enter into subcontracting agreements for services such as busing, custodial or cafeteria services. The bill would make the current subcontracting much more difficult by making such decisions mandatory subjects of negotiations. NJSBA opposes this bill. The Assembly version of the bill, A-3627, was released last week from the Assembly Education Committee and is on second reading in the Assembly. NJSBA’S position statement on the legislation will provide information for local school boards to consider when contracting lawmakers about this legislation.

Required recess: S-1501 would require a public school district to provide a daily recess period for students in kindergarten through grade five. NJSBA believes that this issue should be determined by individual districts and not state mandates.

Arbitration: S-2163 concerns arbitration for certain non-teaching school staff. The bill would give non-teaching school employees the right to go to binding arbitration for any dispute regarding whether there is just cause for a disciplinary action. It would include termination, non-renewal, expiration or lapse of an employment contract or term, or lack of continuation of employment, irrespective of the reason for the employer’s action or failure to act, and irrespective of any contractual or negotiated provision. NJSBA opposes this bill.

Full-Day Kindergarten – the full day kindergarten proposal, A-2927, would require that all school districts provide full-day kindergarten programs to their students. The Assembly Education Committee did not vote on the full-day kindergarten bill, but it will continue discussions with stakeholders, including NJSBA.

Currently, the 31 special –needs districts classified as “Abbott” districts have been required to provide full-day kindergarten. The legislation would require full-day kindergarten, if not currently provided, to be available by 2013-2014 in District Factor Groups A, B, CD & DE. By the 2014-15 school year, all other school districts would be required to provide full-day kindergarten. According to the NJDOE, approximately 21 percent of school districts in New Jersey do not provide full-day kindergarten. Nationally, 10 states and the District of Columbia require school districts to provide at least half-day kindergarten, and six have no requirements.

Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee – The New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA), a federation of 586 local boards of education and 68 charter school associate members, provide training, advocacy and support to advance public education and promote the achievement of all students through effective governance.

NJSBA strongly supports the formation of an educational security task force, and we are proud to be included as one of the 15 voting members along with other education associations. Seeking effective strategies and incorporating best practices pertaining to school security is a priority not only in New Jersey but throughout the entire country.

F. Buildings & Grounds Committee – (J. Canellas, Chairperson)

No Report.

G. Negotiations Committee - (B. McCourt, Chairperson)

The committee and administration have met initially and a meeting is being scheduled with

H. Public Relations Committee – (R. Formicola, Chairperson)

Articles are being collected for the upcoming Chalkboard issue.

I. Personnel Committee – (M. Thomas, Chairperson)

The Personnel Committee had a meeting tonight and the minutes will be forthcoming.

J. Liaison Committee

High School PTA - (S. Criscenzo)

There will be a pick up for Market Day this Friday.
Cultural Awareness Week – March 18-22

Elementary School PTA- (P.Triolo)

Parent Palooza Event was a great success.

Booster Club – (R. Formicola)

The Midland Park Athletic Booster Association will be hosting the Midland Park Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony at the Brick House on Saturday, March 23, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. There will be a social hour from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., followed by dinner and the induction ceremonies. Tickets are \$65.00 per person.

Performing Arts Parents – (M. Thomas)

No Report.

Special Education – (W. Sullivan)

Interviews for the Director position start tomorrow.
Letters of invitation have been sent for the next SEPAC meeting scheduled for tomorrow afternoon.

Education Foundation – (J. Canellas)

The Board of Trustees of the Midland Park Education Foundation invites you to the foundation's annual Blue Jean Ball on Saturday, April 13 from 7 to 11:00 p.m. at St. Leon's Armenian Church, 16-21 Saddle River Road, Fair Lawn NJ.

Board of Recreation – (T. Thomas)

No Report.

Continuing Education Program – (R. Schiffer)

No Report.

Student Representative to the Board – (H. DeKnight)

Seniors are trying to organize a sale of Midland Park Shirts.

Borough Town Council – (W. Sullivan)

The following items were discussed:

There is a meeting set for March 6th at 7:00 p.m.

SRO from Wayne will be coming to speak

Council meeting – reported on Scholarship from League of Municipalities.

The Municipal Alliance will be running buses for the prom

The Recreation Parade is scheduled for April 13, 2013.

Council is attending Ethics seminars.

K. Old Business

Nothing to discuss at this time.

L. New Business

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

To go into closed session before the meeting of March 5, 2013, for the purpose of personnel, negotiations and confidential student and association matters.

Roll Call: All Yes

Open to the Public

Mr. Sullivan invited the public to address the Board.

Ms. Fantulin commented that she is confused about the Pre-K Program and why it is under the jurisdiction of the Midland Park Continuing Education Department. Dr. Cirasella replied that the program is under the Midland Park Board of Education.

Ms. Fantulin questioned how the tuition rate is set. It seems like other Pre-School Programs are much more expensive. Dr. Cirasella replied that this figure is determined locally- we discuss it each year and evaluate this number as it is a relatively good competitive number.

Aidan MacLean, Freshman Class President, stated that there are no nutrition counts on food served in the cafeteria. Students may be more concerned about what food choices they are making. I am asking that consideration be brought to the food service company.

Ms. Joan Dumas asked about the rental of facilities and how the monies are collected. Ms. Garvey explained that the monies sometimes flow through the continuing education department, but are board funds.

Mr. Togneri request attachments on electronic Minutes of the Meetings on the website

Mr. Sullivan will discuss this with the Board. Mr. McCourt asked that the Board attorney review. He does not feel comfortable with an automatic yes.

Ms. Fantulin asked if there is a section in Policy that asked for approval of attendance at seminars. Dr. Cirasella responded yes there is a policy that defines this. Also the Professional development plan dictates which selections are made to be sure that it is a valid request.

Mr. John Dilorgi asked that the Board disclose which districts are being approached for a sending/receiving relationship.

Mr. Sullivan responded that the first meeting is with Ridgewood. We reached out to Northern Highlands and haven't heard back. We are just starting dialogue now and we have no set number(s).

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .

To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey,
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary