

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
Board of Education
Midland Park, New Jersey
January 22, 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
	Maryalice Thomas	Timothy Thomas
	William Sullivan	

OTHERS PRESENT

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

BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Approval of Minutes

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

Approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meeting held on December 18, 2012.

Roll Call: 8 Yes (Canellas, Formicola, Schiffer, Dr. Thomas, Mr. Thomas, Triolo, Criscenzo, Sullivan)
1 Abstain (Mc. Court)

Motion – Ms. Criscenzo, seconded – Mr. Schiffer

Approve the tentative 2013-2014 Budget Preparation Calendar (support material attached).

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.

Ms. Criscenzo and I will be attending a School Safety Workshop being conducted by the Bergen County School Business Administrator on Thursday. At this time, we believe the Chief of Police and Nancy Peet will be attending, also.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Midland Park Police Department presentation on School Safety.

Demitri Pittas suggested test for reverse 911.

Lt. Vandenberg will look into it although a reverse 911 takes at least 20 minutes. He will look into different ways to get out accurate information.

Patricia Fantulin suggested that there should be a place for parents to go to wait if something were to happen.

Lt. Vandenberg replied that the idea has been discussed.

Ms. Mallone questioned what will be the procedure for kids whose parents cannot get to the school if something were to happen.

Lt. Vandenberg replied that an arrangement will be made with the building administrators that students will not be able to leave until the parents pick them up.

Ms. Mallone asked about access to the buildings during the school day. Dr. Cirasella replied visitors have to be buzzed in the school. We are always reviewing to make sure our plan is working and if not we will make the proper adjustments.

Ms. Olson asked if the cell phone policy allow students to use their phones in school.

Mr. Sullivan replied that tonight will be the first reading of the policy.

Mr. Canellas asked that the Midland Park Police Department review the policy.

Lt. Vandenberg commented that he prefer to have the phone off, because the screen on the phone would light up and if there was an intruder their location would be compromised. That being said, to have a cell phone would be helpful in getting information out.

Arlene Moritz commented that a phone call could be made from the site for reverse 911 to expedite an information chain.

The Sergeant answered that it would still take time because we are busy taking care of the situation.

Ms. Padovano asked if the P.A. system issue is being addressed. Ms. Garvey replied yes we are addressing that issue.

Open to the Public:

To discuss action items on the Agenda.

Ms. Elaine Seals asked about the Tentative Budget Calendar

Ms. Garvey will post the Budget Calendar on line when it has its final revision.

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)

APPENDIX

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

1. **Approve a stipend in the amount of \$2,500 per month for Thomas Treta as the Interim Buildings & Grounds Supervisor, retroactive to December 17, 2012.**

Roll Call: All Yes

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

2. **Approve the increase in salary for the following high school teacher, effective February 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013:**

Stacie Millman - MA 5 (\$50,525) to MA+5 (\$56,125)

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Dr. Thomas, seconded – Mr. Triolo . . .

To approve the following block motion:

3. **Approve the following changes to the list of advisors to activities and clubs at the elementary schools for the 2012-2013 school year:**

			<u>Stipend</u>
Delete:	Frank Isola	Math Club Advisor	
Add:	Andrea Napolitano	Math Club Advisor	\$387 (prorated)

4. **Approve the appointment of the following elementary school teachers to provide home instruction for an elementary school special education student. They will be paid at the approved rate of \$33.18 per hour, as per Schedule D of the MPEA contract, effective retroactive from January 21, 2013 through February 15, 2013:**

Erin Welch – 8 hours per week

Sarah Grimaldi – 2 hours per week

Roll Call: All Yes

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

Approve the following block motion:

5. **Approve the following addition to the list of Winter Coaches at the high school for the 2012-2013 school year (support material attached):**

Add: Emily Walker

**Volunteer for 7th & 8th Grade
Girls' Basketball**

6. **Approve the list of Spring Coaches at the high school for the 2012-2013 school year, which is attached as an appendix (support material attached).** **A-5**

Roll Call: 7 Yes (Canellas, Criscenzo, Formicola, McCourt, Dr. Thomas, Thomas, Sullivan)
2 No (Schiffer, Triolo)

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

To approve the following block motion:

7. **Approve the following high school teachers for the HSPA review class sponsored by the Midland Park Continuing Education program (support material attached):**

Brian Ersalesi English
Allyson LaMarca Math

8. **Approve the appointment of Joyce Gomez as Coordinator for the Midland Park Continuing Education Winter Break Mini Camp 2013 (support material attached).**

9. **Approve the appointment of Kristina Damiano as an Aide for the Midland Park Continuing Education Before School Child Care program, effective January 23, 2013 through June 30, 2013 (support material attached).**

10. **Approve the appointment of the following Aides for the Midland Park Continuing Education After School Child Care program, effective January 23, 2013 through June 30, 2013 (support material attached):**

Julia Clausman
Emily Grzeskowiak
Kaytlynn Knyfd

11. **Approve the placement of the following Nursing students from William Paterson University to shadow Karen Corcoran, Certified School Nurse at the high school, on the following days:**

Lauren Boyton, Kristine Malig	January 23, 30 February 6, 13, 2013
Oksana Dukhan, Rawan Hammoudeh	February 27, March 6, 13, 27, 2013
Sean Murphy, Lynette Quinones	April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2013

12. **Approve the appointment of Richard Bennett as a substitute Bus Driver for the Golf Team for the Spring 2013 season (support material attached).**

13. **Approve the following additions to the list of substitute teachers for the 2012-2013 school year:**

(s) Marion Banta
*** Anneliese Mayo**
(s) Wendy McGuigan

*** = NJ permanent certification**
(s) = County Substitute certificate

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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 December 31, 2012, 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 . . .

To approve the following block motion:

2. Approve the December 2012 direct pays in the amount of \$176,872.11.

3. Approve the following block motion:

a. December 2012 Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$33,918.50.

b. December 2012 cafeteria claims in the amount of \$27,083.13.

c. January 2013 claims in the amount of \$362,451.14.

4. Approve the following block motion:

a. Second December 2012 payroll in the amount of \$511,498.67.

b. First January 2013 payroll in the amount of \$546,526.95.

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 December 1-31, 2012, 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 December 1-31, 2012, which are attached as an appendix. B-6

Roll Call: All Yes

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

7. **Approve the Carry Over funds for the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Grant FY 2012 in the amount of \$2001.**
8. **Approve the use and rental of the high school Football Field to Summer Heatt, sponsored by the Midland Park Continuing Education program for La Crosse clinics on Sundays, effective March 24 – June 9, 2013 from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. (support material attached).**
9. **Approve the use and rental of the Rear Field at the high school to Summer Heatt, sponsored by the Midland Park Continuing Education program for La Crosse clinics on the following weeks from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (support material attached):**

July 15 – July 19, 2013

August 5 – 9, August 12 – 16, 2013

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

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

Name	Workshop	Location	Cost	Date
Danielle Bache	The Principals' Institute Series (4 sessions)	Monroe Township, NJ	\$184.96 \$184.96	Jan. 30, 2013 Feb. 13, 2013
Nicholas Capuano Stacie Millman Marie Pantina Carol Weaver	Build the Master Scheduler in Powerschool	Dumont, NJ	\$4,804.96	Jan. 23, 24, 25, 2013
Nicholas Capuano Craig Rush	Safe Rooms in Schools; Organization of the Flight Team in Schools	Glen Rock, NJ	\$120.00	Feb. 5, 2013
Barbara Makela	Educational Technology – Ipad in K-12 Classroom	Wayne, NJ	\$56.62	Feb. 8, 2013
Scott Grasso	NJAHPERD Annual Convention	Long Branch, NJ	\$347.72	Feb. 24-26, 2013
Laurin Apruzzese	Improving Academic Interventions in the Classroom	Tarrytown, NY	\$199.00	Feb. 28, 2013
Peter Galasso	DAANJ Annual Workshop	Atlantic City, NJ	\$455.42	March 18-21, 2013

Roll Call: All Yes

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

2. Approve the following new textbooks for the high school:

Driver Education – Health 10: “Drive Right”

Grade 11 Health: “A Teen’s Guide to Sexuality – Building Healthy Relationship Skills”

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

3. **Approve the recommendation of the Interim Director of Special Services for the placement of a high school special education student on bedside instruction, effective retroactive from January 7, 2013 through June 30, 2013.**
4. **Approve the recommendation of the Interim Director of Special Services for the placement of a high school regular education student on home instruction, effective retroactive from January 7, 2013 through February 25, 2013.**
5. **Approve the recommendation of the Interim Director of Special Services for the placement of an elementary school special education student on home instruction, effective retroactive from January 21, 2013 through February 15, 2013.**

Roll Call: All Yes

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

Motion – Mr. Thomas, seconded – Mr. Formicola . . .

1. **Approve the first reading of the following new and revised policies:**

a. High School Graduation

**Policy Section 5460
(revised)**

D-1a.

Mr. McCourt questioned the reason why we are going from 131 to 126 credits. Dr. Cirasella answered we are not currently at 131 – the policy was never adjusted.

Mr. McCourt asked if the 126 came because of the state aid cuts a few years ago.

Dr. Thomas commented that we want to be able to include all students and most students are above 131.

Mr. Canellas asked why was 131 credits originally established.

Dr. Cirasella replied that she was unable to find out why since it was never instituted.

Dr. Thomas replied that the top students were the only ones that were looked at. Our current principal has looked at numbers and has realized it will impact our Special Education population which were previously not taken into consideration. I don’t know why original idea was to move to 131 credits.

Mr. Canellas commented that he would like to know more information on consideration for 131 credits.

Dr. Cirasella commented that this concept would not only affect Special Education Students but it will also impact the lower 1/3 of students on roll.

Dr. Cirasella and Dr. Thomas agree that by raising to 131 credits it would have an adverse affect to bottom 1/3 of the students.

Dr. Cirasella suggested that she could bring some data and present it to the Board.

**Roll Call: 7 Yes (Formicola, Schiffer, Dr. Thomas, Mr. Thomas, Triolo, Criscenzo, Sullivan)
2 No (Canellas, Mc.Court)**

**b. Use of Electronic Communication and Recording
Devices (ECRD) (with changes)**

**Policy Section 5516
(revised)**

D-1b.

Mr. Formicola felt that leaving cell phones on vibrate would still be disruptive in the classroom.
Mr. Thomas responded if a student takes out his or her phone, it would be a violation of the policy and the phone will be taken away.

c. School Clearance Following Crisis Situation

**Regulation Section
8420.30 (new)**

D-1c.

Mr. McCourt asked if the policy is mandated.
Dr. Cirasella responded that it is a new policy and is not mandated.

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

No Report.

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

Motion – Mr. Canellas, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .

1. Approve Midland Park's School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill Report on the following dates and locations (support material attached):

**Oct. 3, 2012 at 7:45 a.m. at Midland Park High School, Midland Park, NJ
Dec. 11, 2012 at 8:15 a.m. at Highland School, Midland Park, NJ
Dec. 13, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. at Windsor Learning Center, Pompton Lakes, NJ
Jan. 8, 2013 at 8:55 a.m. at Colonial Road School, Franklin Lakes, NJ**

Roll Call: All Yes

There was a Building & Grounds Meeting last week. They are reviewing items in the Referendum and will report back to the Board shortly.

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

The committee is ready to hold a first meeting for the purpose of discovery.
The committee is asking for dates.

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

This committee met last week and sent out minutes.
In addition, the Chalk Board newsletter will be returning for publication.

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

No Report.

J. Liaison Committee

High School PTA - (S. Criscenzo)

The following items were reported on:

Market Day pickup on January 31, 2013.

Tara Tashian and Stacie Millman conducted a presentation on Naviance.

They instructed the public on what the program is and how to use it.

Elementary School PTA- (P.Triolo)

The following events/fundraiser are scheduled:

Highland (1/25) Godwin (2/1) Talent Shows

Parent Social (2/7)

Family Night-Bingo (2/8)

Family Fun Night (3/1)

PTA/Teacher Volleyball Game (3/15)

Cultural Awareness Week (3/17-3/22) (3/18-22)

Booster Club – (R. Formicola)

The following events/fundraisers are scheduled:

Beef Steak Dinner on 1/26

Pack the House Nights

Hall of Fame Dinner at the Brick House on 3/23.

Performing Arts Parents – (M. Thomas)

Legally Blond will be performed in March.

Special Education – (W. Sullivan)

It was reported that there will be an advertisement in the paper for the Director's position on January 27, 2013..

Education Foundation – (J. Canellas)

No Report.

Board of Recreation – (T. Thomas)

Mr. John Meeks and Eric Goodell joined the Board last month.

Continuing Education Program – (R. Schiffer)

No Report.

Student Representative to the Board – (H. DeKnight)

Harrison DeKnight had a jumping meet and could not attend the meeting.

However, he passed along a report to Dr. Cirasella, as follows:

The senior class jelly bean bonanza was a success in that it received a lot of attention from both students and faculty members. Jeremy Kojongian became the principal for a period on the last day before we left for winter break. He was shown what some of the tasks are that fall under the responsibility of the principal. After talking to him briefly, it sounded like the experience was enlightening for a student who goes about his daily routine with a different perspective from the principal's.

Borough Town Council – (W. Sullivan)

There is a scheduled meeting on January 23 at 7:00 at the Borough Hall.

K. Old Business

No one wished to comment/review any old business, at this time.

L. New Business

Mr. Canellas attended a pasta dinner for a Holocaust event. The Administrators have to be commended for their effort that night. He witnessed such a great relationship with the Administrators and the students and believes that it can only happen in a district this size.

Mr. Triolo asked why we do not recognize Midland Park as a Jr/Sr. High School. He stated that we normally refer to it as just the high school and asked that we begin to recognize and use the official name.

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

To go into closed session before the meeting of February 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 asked if anyone has considered the position of Middle States when looking into credits. Dr. Thomas commented that there should be consideration of the significant importance regarding the courses that are being taking vs. the amount of credits a student has taken. Mr. Bernie Jackson questioned where are we with the Referendum. Mr. Canellas commented that there was a Building & Grounds Meeting last week. At this time, they are reviewing items in the Referendum and will report back to the Board shortly.

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Ms. Criscenzo . . .
To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 9:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey,
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary