

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Board of Education**  
**Midland Park, New Jersey**  
November 20, 2012

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
	Brian McCourt	Robert Schiffer
	Peter Triolo	Timothy Thomas
	Maryalice Thomas	William Sullivan

Absent: Richard Formicola

**OTHERS PRESENT**

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

**BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Approval of Minutes

Motion – Mr. Canellas, seconded – Mr. Thomas . . .  
Approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meetings:

October 9, 2012

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .  
November 6, 2012

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.**

The last Referendum Forum was very well attended. A lot of questions were asked and answered. We are trying to educate the public.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

Approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 092712206 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.

2. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 0100412323 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: All Yes

Dr. Cirasella commented on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual AP – District Honor Roll. Midland Park has been recognized, 1 of 34 placed on the Honor Roll. Recognition of excellent work by students, staff, administration and the Board with hope to expand availability of AP courses to our students. In addition, Dr. Cirasella wished everyone a “Happy Thanksgiving”.

### Open to the Public:

No one chose to speak at this time.

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

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the paid maternity leave for Stacy Garvey, School Business Administrator, effective November 26, 2012 through January 4, 2013.
2. Approve the following addition to the list of advisors to activities and clubs at the elementary school for the 2012-2013 school year:

Add: Debbie Kilgore	I&RS member	<u>Stipend</u> \$858.00
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3. Approve the following additions to the list of substitute teachers for the 2012-2013 school year:
  - \* Michelle Dobes
  - \* Julie Dorlon
  - (s) Kena MacWilliam

\* = NJ certification  
(s) = County Substitute certificate
4. Approve Denise Connelly as a 1-1 Aide to accompany a high school special education student to the rehearsal and performance of the Choral Concert on December 10 and 13, 2012. She will be paid at the approved rate of \$20.00 per hour for approximately 3 hours.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- S-1. Accept the resignation of Joseph Carretta, Buildings & Grounds Supervisor, effective January 18, 2013 (S support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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 October 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 . . .

2. Approve the following block motion:

- a. October 2012 Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$36,030.55.
- b. October 2012 cafeteria claims in the amount of \$33,656.32.
- c. November 2012 claims in the amount of \$241,382.38.
3. Approve the October 2012 direct pays in the amount of \$461,666.51.
4. Approve the first November 2012 payroll in the amount of \$584,887.77.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

5. Approve the transfers between accounts for the period October 1 – 31, 2012, as per the attached appendix. B-5
6. Approve the financial reports of the Board Secretary for the period October 1 – 31, 2012, as per the attached appendix. B-6

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- S-7 Approve the following transfer among accounts for the purpose of purchasing an FM Receiver required for a 504 student:

From: 11-000-100-563-91-40	To: 12-120-100-730-01-35
Tuition – County Voc. – Reg. Ed.	Instructional Equipment
\$2,835.54	\$2,835.54

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Schiffer commented that the Audit is complete. The Audit will be presented to the Board and the public at the December 18, 2012 meeting.

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

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

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the recommendation of the Interim Director of Special Services for the placement and transportation for one high school student in the Bergen County Vocational Technical School shared time program, Paramus, NJ, effective November 26, 2012 through June 30, 2013.
2. Approve the following staff members requesting workshop attendance (support material attached):

Name	Workshop	Location	Cost	Date
Maxine Lynch	Managing Challenging Student Health Care Needs as a School	Parsippany, NJ	\$234.75	12/19/12

	Nurse			
Linda Carr Dianna Grasso	Positive Behavioral Support for Students	New Providence, NJ	\$123.56	1/16/13

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

- S-3 To approve calendar modifications for the 2012-2013 school year including reinstating January 21, 2013 (Martin Luther King Day) as a half-day for students and half-day professional development for teachers.

Roll Call: All Yes

Ms. Criscenzo commented that the middle school basketball program has a high number of students registered. The committee reviewed options given by the Administration and asked that they bring more information to the Board for the next Board meeting.

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

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

Approve the second reading of the following revised policies:

Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Pupils Policy Section 5111

School District Travel Policy Section 6471

Roll Call: All Yes

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

In the packet notes from School Boards were included on modifications to the school calendar due to Hurricane Sandy. Mr. Triolo reviewed some of the questions and answers given.

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

No Report.

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

No Report.

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

No Report.

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

No Report.

J. Liaison Committee

High School PTA - (S. Criscenzo)

The Market Day Orders are due the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of December.

Elementary School PTA- (P.Triolo)

No Report.

Booster Club – (R. Formicola)

No Report.

Performing Arts Parents – (M. Thomas)

*Peter Pan* is scheduled for November 30 and December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Special Education – (W. Sullivan)

The first Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) meeting was held on November 14, 2012. Mrs. Gemza and the Child Study Team met with eight parents. There is another meeting scheduled for January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

Education Foundation – (J. Canellas)

The Military Bridge was quite successful.

Board of Recreation – (T. Thomas)

No Report.

Continuing Education Program – (R. Schiffer)

No Report.

Student Representative to the Board – (H. DeKnight)

Interact Club and Senate are having fund raisers for Moonachie and Little Ferry. The French Club is trying to bring back Petit Dejeuner.

K. Old Business

No old business at this time to discuss.

L. New Business

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

To go into closed session before the meeting of December 4, 2012, 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. Theresa Sasso spoke and said she has a 7<sup>th</sup> grade daughter and that when she came back from the meeting for basketball she was upset that she may not get playing time because there are so many 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls. Ms. Sasso continued that if you do not have two separate teams it will discourage the girls from continuing to try to play.

Ms. Jamie Powderly has a daughter who has played basketball. She stated that some of the girls who play are excellent and should be on separate teams to be able to go forward. Students need the experience of being cut or placed on a B team.

Ms. Theresa Sasso commented that she doesn't care how split – just not cut. Students will become discouraged.

Ms. Sasso asked are there any thoughts on how students/teachers will be making up the other days that have been lost to the storm. Ms. Criscenzo replied that this topic is still in discussion.

Dr. Cirasella commented that on the calendar it states that days will be taken out of the April break, if needed. If the Board looks at February instead, we would have to sit down with the Union and the Community to discuss.

Mr. Sullivan commented that we will be looking at a lot of different options.

Ms. Vierheilg asked for clarification on the last sentence of the Open Public Meeting Act Statement.

Mr. Sullivan answered that we are trying to limit the amount of questions that the Board members are being asked after the meeting is over. It would be more beneficial to ask the questions during the meeting – during the Open Public Session.

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

To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey,  
School Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary