

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
Board of Education
Midland Park, New Jersey
April 8, 2014

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 2013 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

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS

Ms. Stacy Garvey

BOARD PRESIDENT ITEMS

Mr. William Sullivan

Midland Park Public School District 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.

Mr. Sullivan commented that the Budget and the School Election is being held on 4/23/2014.
Please remember to vote.
The Board Self-Evaluation needs to be submitted within the next week.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS ITEMS *Dr. Marie Cirasella*

Recognition of the Girls' Basketball Team

There are four students on the Holocaust Study Trip and there is a living communication through blogs.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

At this time the Reorganization Meeting items to be held on April 29, 2014, were not reviewed.

Open to Public- Comments only for action items on the agenda.

No comments at this time.

Action Items:

A. Personnel- (M. Cirasella)

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

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the increase in position for Catherine Prinsell, School Psychologist for the District, from a .6 position to a .8 position, effective retroactive from April 3, 2014 through June 24, 2014.
2. Approve a paid maternity leave for Katherine Kuperus, high school teacher, effective approximately May 5, 2014 through May 31, 2014 and a paid child care leave effective approximately June 1, 2014 through June 24, 2014.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

3. Approve an additional unpaid maternity leave of absence for Paula Didyk, elementary school teacher, for the 2014-2015 school year.
4. Approve the appointment of Cheryl Cusack as a full-time elementary school Instructional Aide. She will be placed on Category V, Step 3 of the MPEA Secretarial salary guide (salary to be determined, pending completion of negotiations), effective April 23, 2014 (or sooner) through June 24, 2014.
5. Approve the following addition to the list of substitute workers for the 2013-2014 school year:

Sigrid Smith Bus Aide

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- S-6. Approve the increase in position for Diane Erdman, elementary school special education teacher, from a .5 position to a full-time position, effective April 10, 2014 through June 24, 2014.

Roll Call: All Yes

B. Finance- (R. Schiffer, Chairperson)

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

To approve the following block motion . . .

1. Approve the purchase of fuel and diesel from the Borough of Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ.
2. Approve the appropriation of Extraordinary Aid into the 2013-2014 Budget in the amount of \$75,000 to Account #11 000 261 420 00 00 - Maintenance repairs – undistributed, for the purpose of Bleacher Replacement in the Midland Park Jr./Sr. High School gymnasium.
3. Approve the decommissioning of out dated and worn wrestling mats from the Midland Park Jr./Sr. High School gym.

Roll Call: All Yes

C. Curriculum- (S. Criscenzo, Chairperson)

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

1. Approve the following staff members requesting workshop attendance:

Name	Workshop	Location	Cost	Date
Heidi Cassells	Autism, Asperger's, Sensory & ADHD	Totowa, NJ	\$179.00	April 15, 2014
Stacy Boufford Matthew Murphy	Interpretation: Close Reading Across Genres	Monroe Township, NJ	\$186.26 \$179.13	April 30, 2014

Roll Call: All Yes

LIAISON/BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

No Report.

E. Legislative Committee- (J. Canellas, Chairperson)

No Report.

F. Buildings and Grounds Committee- (R. Formicola, Chairperson)

Mr. Collins and the maintenance staff have been extremely busy. The following are some of the items recently completed: tree maintenance at all three schools, roof drain clean-up, and preparing fields for the season. Mr. Collins has also been reviewing resumes for the maintenance/groundskeeper position.

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

The committee has made progress on a few items.
The next meeting is being scheduled.

H. Public Relations Committee- (P. Triolo, Chairperson)

No Report.

I. Liaison Committee

High School PTA – (S. Criscenzo)

The following items were reviewed/updated:
The Midland Park High School PTA is sponsoring an informative presentation by
The Bergen County Drug Task Force and Prosecutor's Office on Wednesday,
April 30, 2014 at 7:30 at the high school- The New Dangers of Heroin
The Market Day Orders are due on 4/22/14 and the pick-up is 4/28/2014.

Elementary School PTA - (P. Triolo)

The following items were reported/commented on:
Coffee connection was cancelled.
Family fun night at Ben & Jerry's.
Mrs. Brennan changed displays at the Midland Park Library to
showcase student art work.

Booster Club – (T. Thomas)

The following items were reported on:
The track team went to a county meet on Saturday.
Spring sports are underway.
Water cooler was purchased for the weight room.

Performing Arts Parents – (J. Canellas)

The Midland Park High School Band Program and The Midland Park Performing Arts
Parents are thrilled to welcome the New Jersey City University Symphony of Winds
and Percussion to present a free concert on April 8, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the MPHS

Auditorium. The ensemble will be under the direction of Patrick J. Burns. This concert titled "Hidden Treasures" will feature works by Malcolm Arnold, Cecile Chaminade, Edward Madden, Clifton Williams, Chaminade, Satoshi Yagisawa, and Tan Dun.

The National Association of Music Merchant recognized Midland Park as one of the best communities for music education.

Special Education – (W. Sullivan)

In the fall, Mr. Gangi led the CBI class in installing pavers leading up to the green house. They also installed railroad ties, to create flower beds which they will be sprucing up now that the snow has melted. They also have a new internship project that they are working on two mornings a week. They are going to the Mahwah Marriott to learn about the hotel business. Many work and life skills are able to be discussed and practiced in this internship experience.

To identify ways to control cost, yet preserve the quality of special education, NJSBA created the Special Education Task Force in January 2013. The study will be unveiled at a special event on Thursday evening, April 10, at Crossroads Middle School, South Campus, in South Brunswick. The Final Report of the NJSBA Special Education Task Force includes 20 recommendations for strategies to improve delivery of services and control costs. Public education should not be viewed as two separate systems-general education and special education –but rather as one continuum of instruction, programs, interventions, and services that respond to individual student needs. Special education is a service provided to children, not a separate place to put them.

Education Foundation – (M. Thomas)

No Report.

Board of Recreation – (B. McCourt)

There was a meeting last night and there was nothing to report that will affect the Board of Education.

Continuing Education Program – (R. Schiffer)

No Report.

Student Representative to the Board – (K. Peterson) Absent

Ms Criscenzo read the following report on behalf of Kevin Peterson, as follows:

There has been an increase of in-school and out-of-school activities such as spring sports, along with exciting field trips, and Cultural Awareness Day presentations.

Today's warm weather was greatly appreciated from all the teams, including the track team who were freezing this past Saturday, and the golf team who have encountered rain at a couple of their meets. Last week the upper level Biology students went on a field trip on Tuesday, in which they observed a live hip replacement.

The school had many in-school presentations which were quite interesting during the

Cultural Awareness Day last Friday. In addition, the Grand Central Station Field Trip which provided a lot of learning opportunities along with the fun of a scavenger hunt.

Borough Town Council – (W. Sullivan, S. Criscenzo)

A meeting will be scheduled shortly.

ADDITIONAL BOARD ITEMS

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Formicola asked about the status of the greenhouse. Ms. Garvey replied that we are going to receive replacement parts through the warranty.

Mr. Sullivan commented that there will be a new Board president at the next Board meeting and wanted to thank the Board and the Administrator's for all of their hard work. He also thanked the public for their comments and input.

NEW BUSINESS

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

To go into closed session before the meeting of April 29, 2014, 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.
No one chose to speak at this time.

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Formicola . . .
To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary