

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

FEBRUARY 4, 2014

AUGUST C. DePREKER MEDIA CENTER, HIGHLAND SCHOOL

8:00 P.M.

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

Excused: Richard Formicola

OTHERS PRESENT

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

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.

Recognition of the Warriors Football Team

AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Review of agenda for Regular Meeting to be held on February 25, 2014.

Open to Public-

No one chose to speak on any items on this agenda.

Action Items:

A. Personnel- (M. Cirasella)

APPENDIX

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

1. Approve the appointment of Scott Collins as the Buildings & Grounds Supervisor. He will be paid a salary of \$98,000, prorated effective March 1, 2014 through June 30, 2014, as per the contract, which is attached as an appendix.

A-1

B. Finance- (R. Schiffer, Chairperson)

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

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the 2014-2015 Tentative Budget Preparation Calendar.
2. Approve the February 2014 claims in the amount of \$139,577.50.

Roll Call: All Yes

C. Curriculum- (S. Criscenzo, Chairperson)

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

1. Approve the following new Spanish textbooks:

Asi Se Dice by McGraw Hill – Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 & Level 4 (Grades 9 – 12)

Approve the following new Music textbook:

Making Music by Silver Burdett – Grade 1

Roll Call: All Yes

2. Motion – Ms. Criscenzo, seconded – Dr. Maryalice Thomas . . .
Approve the following resolution:

Authorize the Superintendent of Schools to apply for a SEMI (Special Education Medicaid Initiative) Waiver from the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for the 2014-2015 school year, due to the fact that there are forty or fewer Medicaid eligible students in the Midland Park School District.

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)

No Report.

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

The next meeting is scheduled for February 13th, 2014.

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

No Report.

- I. Liaison Committee

High School PTA – (S. Criscenzo)

Market Day Orders due February 8, 2014.

Elementary School PTA - (P. Triolo)

Executive meeting rescheduled for next week on February 10, 2014.

Booster Club – (T. Thomas)

The Hall of Fame Dinner is on March 22nd at the Brick House.

Performing Arts Parents – (J. Canellas)

No Report.

Special Education – (W. Sullivan)

The next meeting of the SEPAC – Kathy La Monte will attend to discuss reviving inclusive programs for Special Education students.

Education Foundation – (M. Thomas)

Super 50/50

Blue Jean Ball is scheduled for March 1, 2014.

Board of Recreation – (B. McCourt)

Baseball Cooperstown pig roast Fund Raiser.

Continuing Education Program – (R. Schiffer)

No Report.

Student Representative to the Board – (Dan Lynam substitute for K. Peterson)

The following topics were discussed:

Upcoming testing

Students have been very active in community service fund raisers and food drives.

Field trips

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

No Report.

ADDITIONAL BOARD ITEMS

No additional items to discuss at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

No items to discuss at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

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

To go into closed session before the meeting of February 25, 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.

Ms. Kerri Schaefer asked why when elementary students go out for a fire drill some students are able to get their coats on and some are not, there is some confusion.

Mr. Sullivan remarked that we would need to touch base with Ms. Bache/Mr. Murphy.

Dr. Cirasella will follow-up on this item.

Ms. Pat Fantulin commented that the Buildings & Ground Supervisor has been replaced quickly and that is great because we need help in that area. She asked for an overview of his background. Dr. Cirasella responded that the new candidate comes from Bloomfield. He was the top candidate throughout the interview process and he had excellent recommendations. Bloomfield is sorry to lose him. He is coming on March 1 although Mr. Treta is doing an excellent job.

Ms. Fantulin asked about the factors in deciding to close the school.

Dr. Cirasella explained that she consults with other district superintendents throughout the area and Region 1. They speak on a conference call and talk about what they hear from DPW's, Maintenance Departments, weather forecasts, road conditions, to and from school/work safely. Timing is very critical in this regard. We will have a conference call tonight and try to make a decision as early as possible. We always try to keep the day if possible.

Mr. Sullivan also commented that you also have to consider the employees who come from farther away.

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

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