

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Board of Education**  
**Midland Park, New Jersey**  
July 15, 2014

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order by James Canellas, 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 2014 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	William Sullivan
	Timothy Thomas	Peter Triolo

Excused: Maryalice Thomas

**OTHERS PRESENT**

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

**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.**

## SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Cirasella commented that Governor Christie compromised on the use of standardized test scores in teacher evaluations, lessening the weight of them in evaluations.

In addition, Dr. Cirasella stated that the Governor will create a Taskforce to study the effectiveness of testing as a whole, including the PARCC tests and the Common Core Standards upon which they are based.

Presentation on “The Share & Grow Learning Partnership” between the Midland Park and Waldwick School Districts. Dr. Cirasella reported on three of the key pieces to the design of this program, as follows:

- Expand elective class offerings and learning opportunities through shared services;
- Maximize learning opportunities to address areas of specific student interest;
- Craft a schedule without additional fiscal impact.

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

Approve the following resolutions:

- a. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 052114215 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.
- b. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 052114341 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 (Criscenzo, Formicola, Schiffer, Sullivan, Thomas, Triolo, Canellas)

1 Abstain (McCourt)

### Open to the Public:

To discuss action items on the Agenda.

## BOARD MOTIONS

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Sullivan . . .

1. Approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meetings:

June 3, 2014

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

1 Abstain (Triolo)

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

June 17, 2014

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

1 Abstain (McCourt)

A. Personnel – (M. Cirasella)

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2014-2015 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.

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

To approve the following block motion:

1. Accept the resignation of Caline Treger as a French teacher in the Highland School, effective retroactive to June 30, 2014.
2. Pulled this item from the agenda.
3. Approve the appointment of Loreto Angulo-Pizarro as a home instructor for an elementary school special education student, effective retroactive from June 16, 2014 through June 24, 2014. She will be paid as per Schedule D of the MPEA contract (pending completion of negotiations) not to exceed 10 hours per week.
4. Approve the employment contract for Stacy Garvey, School Business Administrator, for the 2014-2015 school year, which is attached as an appendix:

Roll Call: All Yes

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

5. Approve the employment contracts for the following individual staff members for the 2014-2015 school year, which are attached as appendices:

- |    |  |             |
|----|--|-------------|
| a. | Eurico Antunes, District Technology & Data Coordinator | <u>A-5a</u> |
| b. | Scott Collins, Buildings & Grounds Supervisor          | <u>A-5b</u> |
| c. | Ristem Sela, Computer Technician                       | <u>A-5c</u> |

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

6. Approve a transfer for Principal Danielle Bache from the Highland School to the Godwin School, effective August 11, 2014 through June 30, 2015.
7. Approve the appointment of Peter Galasso as Principal at Highland School. He will be paid a salary of \$110,000 prorated, effective August 11, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

8. Approve the appointment of Kira Harder as a School Psychologist for the district. She will be placed on MA +30 Step 1 on the MPEA salary (pending completion of negotiations), effective September 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

9. Approve the appointment of Tarra Lawlor as the ELL Instructor at the high school for the 2014-2015 school year. She will be paid as per the MPEA contract for three days per week, 30 minutes per day.

10. Approve the additions to the list of Fall Coaches at the high school for the 2014-2015 school year, which are attached as an appendix. A-10

11. Approve the appointment of the following substitute Bus Aides, effective retroactive from July 14, 2014 through August 30, 2014:

Alberta Dykstra  
Patrick Weaver  
Tyler Vassallo

12. Approve the appointment of Kaitlyn Mastrofilippo as a substitute maternity leave replacement for Katherine Kuperus. She will be paid at the approved substitute rate of pay, effective September 1, 2014 through October 31, 2014.

13. Approve the appointment of Denise Connelly as a substitute Aide for the Midland Park Continuing Education After School Child Care program for the 2014-2015 school year on an as needed basis.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

14. Approve the appointment of Fiona Keenan as an Aide for the Midland Park Continuing Education After School Child Care program, effective September 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

S-15. Accept the resignation of Maher Boules as the Head Custodian at the high school, effective August 29, 2014.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

1. Approve the following block motion:

a. June 2014 Midland Park Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$147,438.62.

b. June 2014 cafeteria claims in the amount of \$28,220.10.

c. June 2014 supplemental claims in the amount of \$206,413.14.

d. July 2014 claims in the amount of \$311,541.03.

2. Approve the June 2014 direct pays in the amount of \$153,541.01.
3. Approve the following block motion:
  - a. Second June 2014 payroll in the amount of \$542,552.43.
  - b. Supplemental June 2014 payroll in the amount of \$58,082.24.
  - c. First July 2014 payroll in the amount of \$85,845.03.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

4. Approve the purchasing through the National Intergovernmental Purchasing Alliance (NIPA).
5. Approve purchasing through the following New Jersey State Contracts:

Apple Computer, Inc.	70259
Grainger	79875
Hewlett Packard Co.	70262
Home Depot	83930
TD Equipment Finance	85098
Tequipment Inc.	80992
Verizon Wireless	82583

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .

6. Approve the decommissioning of the following items:
  - a. Pottery Wheel inventory #1907 in Art room 40 at the high school, which is no longer functioning
  - b. SMART TABLE ST230i inventory #2797 in room 9 at the Godwin School, which is damaged and irreparable

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the District Organizational Chart for the 2014-2015 school year, which is attached as an appendix. C-1

2. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the placement of one elementary school student on home instruction, effective retroactive from June 13, 2014 through approximately July 25, 2014.
3. Approve the submission to the New Jersey Department of Education the “Individuals with Disabilities Act, Part B (IDEA-B) Combined Basic and Preschool Flow-Through Grant Application FY 2015, as follows:

Basic               \$245,508  
Preschool         \$ 20,538

Roll Call: All Yes

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

4. Approve the following staff members requesting workshop attendance:

Name	Workshop	Location	Cost	Date
Michael Gaccione	NJSIAA/DAANJ Athletic Directors Course	Robbinsville, NJ	\$193.00	Aug. 20, 2014
Stacy Garvey	ASBO International Annual Conference	Kissimmee, FL	\$2,800	Sept. 18-23, 201
Danielle Bache Nicholas Capuano Marie Cirasella June Chang Peter Galasso	Education in an Age of Disruptive Innovation: Achieving Essential 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Fluencies	Mahwah, NJ	\$183.96 \$183.96 \$183.96 \$183.96	Oct. 10, 2014
Teresa Mallon	NJ Science Teachers Association – Simmons Summer Scholar	Princeton, NJ	\$89.57	Oct. 14 & 15, 2014
Maureen Kelley	NJ Association of School Librarians Fall Conference	Long Branch, NJ	\$130.76	Oct. 27, 2014

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

5. Approve all courses and related instructors programs and trips, which are included in the Fall 2014 brochure of the Midland Park Continuing Education program (copy available for public review in the Board of Education office).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

Motion – Mr. Thomas, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .

1. Approve the first reading of the following new and revised policies, as per the attached appendices:
  - a. Victim of Domestic or Sexual Violence Leave (new) M               Policy Section 1581               D-1a

b.	Employment of Teaching Staff Members (revised) M	Policy Section 3125	<u>D-1b</u>
c.	Professional Development for Teachers and School Leaders (revised) M	Policy Section 3240	<u>D-1c</u>
d.	Employment of Support Staff Members (revised) M	Policy Section 4125	<u>D-1d</u>

Roll Call: All Yes

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

Governor Chris Christie announced his plans to reduce payments to the state's pension system for public workers in order to fix the shortfall in the fiscal year budget.

F. Buildings & Grounds Committee – (R. Formicola, Chairperson)

S-1 Approve the donation of time and materials from Custom Designers, LLC, Kuiken Brothers, and community volunteers for the building of dugouts on the varsity baseball field. The estimated amount of the donation is \$6,000.00.

There is a lot of summer work being accomplished.

Mr. Triolo mentioned the net for Highland field. Ms. Garvey replied that she just received a hold harmless document from the Borough to sign. Netting should be up shortly.

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

A meeting is scheduled for tonight. Hopefully, we will meet again in August.

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

No Report.

I. Liaison Committee

High School PTA - (S. Criscenzo)

Market Day Order scheduled for July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Elementary School PTA- (P. Triolo)

No Report.

Booster Club – (T. Thomas)

No Report.

Performing Arts Parents – (J. Canellas)

No Report.

Special Education – (M. Thomas)

No Report.

Education Foundation – (R. Formicola)

We are in the midst of planning Midland Park's First (1<sup>st</sup>) Annual Fun Run.

Board of Recreation – (B. McCourt)

No Report.

Continuing Education Program – (R. Schiffer)

No Report.

Student Representative to the Board – (Brian Mulligan)

Not present.

Borough Town Council – (M. Thomas & J. Canellas)

No Report.

Ad Hoc – (W. Sullivan)

Mr. Sullivan stated that Dr. Thomas created this committee which was charged with finding a way to take advantage of the \$2.8 million dollar grant. We went back to the first building audit findings and prioritized to come up with a plan. There will be a Referendum vote put forward in September.

Whatever we put forth before the people some will say it will be too much and other people will say it is not enough, but we have to take advantage of the \$2.8 million dollar grant from the state.

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. Schiffer . . .

- S-1 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Midland Park Board of Education approves moving forward with a referendum to obtain funds to remediate identified building needs, in an amount not to exceed \$11,359,807.00, which includes \$2,859,807 approved grant funding from the State of New Jersey through the Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act.

Roll Call: All Yes



Mr. Schiffer stated that a few years ago the State took \$1.2 million in aid from the district of which only a small portion has been returned. These grant dollars are the only way to receive State funding.

The increase on an average home of \$392,000 tax base would be approximately \$218.00 per year-if compared to what was spent in 2013-2014 it would be \$5 lower than total tax.

J. Old Business

There was nothing to discuss at this time.

K. New Business

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

To go into closed session before the meeting of August 7, 2014, for the purpose of personnel, negotiations and confidential student and association matters.

Roll Call: All Yes

Open to the Public

Mr. Canellas invited the public to address the Board.

No one chose to speak at this time.

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. Formicola . . .

To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey,  
School Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary