

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Board of Education**  
**Midland Park, New Jersey**  
October 15, 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 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:	Sandra Criscenzo	Brian McCourt
	Robert Schiffer	Peter Triolo
	Maryalice Thomas	Timothy Thomas

William Sullivan

Excused:	James Canellas
	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. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Triolo . . .

Approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meetings:

September 3, 2013	September 17, 2013
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Roll Call: All Yes for September 3, 2013

All Yes with one revision on September 17, 2013

Minutes of the Public Meeting of October 15, 2013

## 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 following items were mentioned/reported on:

NJSBA Workshop is next week in Atlantic City.

Along with mandated training, there are workshops and seminars on STEM, HIB, School Security, Special Education, etc. I encourage Board members to share information that they receive from seminars and visiting on the floor with exhibitors.

No workshops on send/receive or shared services.

Another issue is the cost of a Feasibility Study which is \$25,000.00.

Scope of this Study:

Current & projected enrollment

Comparison of educational programs

Ability to house additional students

Demographics

Impact on Current Facilities

Financial

There will be discussion at the work session of 11/5/2013.

I encourage the public to offer their thoughts and opinions.

Easiest way to correspond with me is to email me at: [wsullivan@mpsnj.org](mailto:wsullivan@mpsnj.org) and I will compile and distribute your thoughts and opinions to the board.

Mr. Sullivan asked to please only use this e-mail address and not his business or personal address.

I will acknowledge opinions of senders only.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Midland Park Public Schools 2012-2013 Assessment Profile Presentation.

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

### 1. **Approve the following resolution:**

**BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 052113210 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

Open to the Public:

To discuss action items on the Agenda.

No one chose to speak to the Board at this point.

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2013-2014 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 . . .

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the following revised job descriptions, which are attached as appendices:

Stage Crew Advisor	<u>A-1a</u>
Biology Club Advisor	<u>A-1b</u>
Biology Team Advisor	<u>A-1c</u>
Chemistry Team Advisor	<u>A-1d</u>
Physics Team Advisor	<u>A-1e</u>
<b>REACT Club Advisor – 7<sup>th</sup> &amp; 8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b><u>A-1f</u></b>

2. Approve the list of Advisors to Activities and Clubs at the Highland School for the 2013-2014 school year, which is attached as an appendix. A-2

3. **Approve the following new clubs and advisor to the list of Advisors to Activities and Clubs at the High School for the 2013-2014 school year:**

		<u>Stipend</u>
Nancy DeRitter	INTERACT Club Advisor	\$ 387
Nancy DeRitter	REACT Club Advisor – 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	\$ 387

4. **Approve the following additions to the list of substitute teachers for the 2013-2014 school year:**

Edward Fuhr                      School Nurse for Band trips only  
Suzanne Mayer

5. **Accept the resignation of Kazimierz Majewski as a part-time Bus Driver, effective retroactive to September 30, 2013.**

6. **Approve the appointment of Louis Pellegrino as a part-time Bus Driver. He will be paid at the approved hourly rate, effective October 16, 2013 through June 30, 2014.**

7. **Approve the following co-advisors for the Midland Park Continuing Education Winter Ski Program:**

David Hershberger  
Jeffrey Peters

8. **Approve the following appointments as Aides for the Midland Park Continuing Education After School Child Care program, effective October 16, 2013 through June 30, 2014:**

**Hwang Haermin  
Daniel Lynam  
Ashley Lynch  
Michael Norcia  
Kara Rector**

**Roll Call: All Yes**

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

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

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the September 2013 direct pays in the amount of \$304,565.26.
2. Approve the following block motion:
  - a. September 2013 Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$47,701.64.
  - b. September 2013 cafeteria claims in the amount of \$13,448.39.
  - c. October 2013 claims in the amount of \$516,144.71.
3. Approve the following block motion:
  - a. Second September 2013 payroll in the amount of \$508,830.85.
  - b. First October 2013 payroll in the amount of \$568,110.71.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

4. Approve a budget transfer from account #12-000-400-800 to account #11-000-261-420-00 Repair/Maintenance of Buildings in the amount of \$12,342, due to a reduction in the FY2013-14 SDA assessment amount.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

5. **Approve the following resolution and attached appendices:** B-5

**Whereas, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit three-year maintenance plans documenting “required” maintenance activities for each of its public school facilities, and**

**Whereas, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached document for the various school facilities of Midland Park are consistent with these requirements, and**

Whereas, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Midland Park Public Schools hereby authorizes the school business administrator to submit the attached Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for Midland Park in compliance with Department of Education requirements.

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

6. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Midland Park Board of Education does hereby approve an agreement with the Englewood Public Schools, for the purpose of transporting students in accordance with P.L. 2010, C65 (A-355, The School Choice Law) for the 2013-2014 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Midland Park Board of Education agrees to abide by the Transportation Services Agreement as published by the Englewood Public School District.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

7. Approve the following renewal resolution binding the Midland Park Public Schools to purchase electric generation and natural gas services through the Alliance for Competitive Energy Services (“ACES”) Bid Cooperative Pricing System ID# E8801-ACESCPS, as per the attached appendices.

B-7a  
B-7b

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

8. Approve the use and rental of the Midland Park High School gym to Summer Heatt, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education for Basketball tournaments on Sundays, effective December 1, 2013 through February 9, 2014 from 8:00 – 11:30 a.m.
9. Approve the use and rental of the High School rear practice field to New York Giants Camps, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education for a youth football camp, Monday – Friday, July 14 – 18, 2014 from 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Roll Call: All Yes

Ms. Garvey spoke about the annual Audit. There was an exit conference on Friday. Ms. Garvey commented that there will be a presentation of the Audit in November/December-We will let the Board know which meeting when we finalize with the auditor.

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

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

1. Approve the following staff members requesting workshop attendance:

Name	Workshop	Location	Cost	Date
Kelly Scala Jenna Simon	HIB Prevention Training	Toms River, NJ	\$ 152.70 \$ 152.70	Oct. 29, 2013
David Hersherberger	Using the Web Successfully in the Classroom	Rochelle Park, NJ	\$ 84.39	Oct. 30, 2013
<b>Francesca Mullady</b>	<b>Tourette Syndrome &amp; Associated Disorders</b>	<b>Wayne, NJ</b>	<b>\$ 104.96</b>	<b>Oct. 21, 2013</b>
<b>Dr. Marie Cirasella Stacy Garvey Richard Formicola Brian McCourt Robert Schiffer William Sullivan</b>	<b>NJSBA/NJASA/NJASBO Annual Workshop</b>	<b>Atlantic City, NJ</b>	<b>\$3,750</b>	<b>Oct. 22-24, 2013</b>
<b>Christina Gouraige Christina Eromenok</b>	<b>The Nurtured Heart Approach to Creating Great Schools</b>	<b>Monroe, NJ</b>	<b>\$ 131.84 \$ 132.32</b>	<b>Oct. 23, 2013</b>
<b>Jason Gangi</b>	<b>Training Series in Community-Based Instruction for Students with Disabilities</b>	<b>Morris Plains, NJ</b>	<b>\$ 96.53</b>	<b>Nov. 20, 2013</b>
<b>Andrea Napolitano</b>	<b>Math Benchmarking Aligned to the Common Core State Standards</b>	<b>New Providence, NJ</b>	<b>\$ 177.75</b>	<b>Oct. 29, 2013</b>
<b>Anna Parke</b>	<b>Practical Strategies to Address the Challenges of Today's School Nurse</b>	<b>Newark, NJ</b>	<b>\$ 251.60</b>	<b>Dec. 13, 2013</b>

Roll Call: All Yes

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

2. Approve the Nursing Services Plan for the 2013-2014 school year, which is attached as an appendix:

C-2

Roll Call: All Yes

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

3. **Approve the following program for the Midland Park Continuing Education program:**

## Winter Ski Program (Ski Club)

**Roll Call: All Yes**

**Motion – Ms. Criscenzo, seconded – Mr. Thomas . . .**

- 4. Approve the list of MPPEF approved grants for the 2013-2014 school year, which is attached as an appendix. C-4**

**Roll Call: All Yes**

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

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

- 1. Approve the first reading of the new and revised policies, which are attached as appendices:**

**Certification of Tenure Charges – Inefficiency (new)                      Policy Section 3144.12                      D-1a**

**Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (revised)                      PolicySection5512                      D-1b**

**Roll Call: All Yes**

- 2. Approve the second reading of the following new and revised policies:**

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

**Introduction (revised)**

**Bylaws 0000.02**

**Roll Call: All Yes**

Mr. Thomas commented that other district policies were reviewed and no other district details what documentation to provide to the public in the policy. In as much, changes to both Bylaws 0612 and 0614 are withdrawn.

**Notice of Board Meetings (revised)                      Bylaws 0612(Withdrawn)**

**Conduct of Board Meetings                      Bylaws 0614(Withdrawn)**

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

**Employment of Teaching Staff Members (revised)**

**Policy Section 3125**

**Tutoring Services (new)**

**Policy Section 3232**

**Use of Social Networking Sites (new)**

**Policy Section 3282**

**Assignment of Pupils (revised)**

**Policy Section 5120**

**Pupil Smoking (revised)**

**Policy Section5533**

**Smoking in School Buildings and on School Grounds (revised)   Policy Section7434**

School District Provided Technology Devices to Staff Members Policy Section 7522  
(new)

Roll Call: All Yes

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

No Report.

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

No Report.

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

The next meeting is scheduled for October 29, 2013.

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

There are a list of articles gathered for Chalk Board and will be sharing with the Board soon.

I. Liaison Committee

High School PTA - (S. Criscenzo)

The following items were commented on:

Market Day pick up on Friday

Executive Board meeting is scheduled for tomorrow night.

Elementary School PTA- (P.Triolo)

The following events have been scheduled/already happened:

Movie Night – 9/6 the students and their parents watched a movie on a big screen on the field.

Coffee connection – These occur monthly on different topics.

PTA Pumpkin Sale – 10/16 – The students will visit the pumpkin patch on the field.

Harvest festival – 10/18 – The students will play games, paint pumpkins, and eat baked goods on the field.

Trunk or Treat – 10/25 – The students went trick or treating from car to car in the municipal lot.

Booster Club – (T. Thomas)

The following items were mentioned:

Fall teams are doing quite well

Spirit Week

Beefsteak dinner is scheduled for 1/25 at the Firehouse.

Performing Arts Parents – (J. Canellas)

Mr. Sullivan commented that Music in the Park was Sunday.

Special Education – (W. Sullivan)

Back to school night October 14<sup>th</sup>.  
CPAC Meeting is being planned.

Education Foundation – (M. Thomas)

October 14<sup>th</sup> meeting had a presentation on testing.  
November 14, 2013 Trivia Night is scheduled.

Board of Recreation – (B. McCourt)

It was reported that there is an ongoing dialogue with the Athletic Director for program and field use.

Continuing Education Program – (R. Schiffer)

Program is in full swing.

Student Representative to the Board – (K. Peterson)

No Report.

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

A meeting was held on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and the following items were discussed:  
Option 2 program to include students working at the municipality level  
Jr. Firemen Program  
Shared services on maintenance level  
Netting on the Highland Field.  
SRO  
Open Space Funds  
December 4<sup>th</sup> will be the next meeting

Public Safety Committee – (P. Triolo)

On September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013, the following items were discussed:  
Speed concerns throughout the community  
Senior Citizen call-in program  
Recommendation to increase the hours of the crossing guards  
Continue the police presence at Highland School/Municipal parking lot  
Discussion on crosswalks throughout the town, the need for signs and enforcement of the yield for pedestrians.  
Police presence in school buildings  
Consider sharing a resource officer with another district.

Heroine education has been recommended in the Jr/Sr High School.  
The next meeting will be held on October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the municipal building.

J. Old Business

Nothing to discuss at this time.

K. New Business

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

To go into closed session before the meeting of November 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.

Mr. Russ Kamp asked that the board revisit the stipends being offered for the Act and React clubs because of the amount of students, work and time given to the program by the advisor.

Mr. David Opderbeck expressed his disappointment in the decision that was rendered and the Board's decision to not change Bylaws 0612 and 0614. He asked the Board to reconsider and if not, the courts will.

Ms. Joan Doumas asked if Open Space has come up at a Board of Recreation meeting.

Mr. McCourt replied that this is more of a Midland Park Council issue then a Recreation Program issue.

Ms. Doumas asked if there is a plan of action regarding asking the Borough for funding. Mr. Sullivan offered that it is difficult to ask the Borough for funding. He mentioned an article on Tenaflly School District working with the Borough. We will need to have further discussion with them.

Mr. McCourt commented that no one from the public attends the Board of Recreation meetings – I encourage you to go.

Ms. Fantulin wanted to thank the Administration for their most profoundly insightful presentation. She appreciated the DFG being shown, pleased to see scores and impressed with the administration's commitment, passion and knowledge.

Mr. John Peppes commented that the tree by the playground looks unhealthy. Someone has to look at this because it needs some trimming.

Ms. Rhonda Vreeland stated that the on-line grading tool is very valuable. Ms. Vreeland is wondering why this tool is not used at all grade levels? Dr. Cirasella replied that this is slightly different at the elementary level, but we will be looking into using the on-line grading at all levels.

Ms. Colleen Monahan would like to second Mr. Kamp's thoughts on the Club issue. I am not sure how the dollars are paid – 103 students in a club with one person in charge is a lot.

Mr. Sullivan replied that it is a contractual item.

Mr. John Peppes stated that if you have a child struggling with Math and parents are struggling to help there is not a lot of remedial help available - maybe the district can help the parents help the students. Dr. Cirasella commented that the best thing to do is to go and speak to the teacher and then the Principal. You may find from the teacher/Principal that something is in place to help your child. Dr. Cirasella commented that she will bring this scenario back to the principals. Ms. Monahan commented on the Curriculum Mapping. Ms. Monahan stated that it would be nice to be able to see what kids will be doing. Dr. Cirasella commented that it is still in place this year; administration is gauging its success level.

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

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey,  
School Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary