MIDLAND PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

BACK–TO–SCHOOL UPDATE FOR PARENTS & COMMUNITY

Presented at the Midland Park Board of Education Meeting of October 1, 2019
District Facility Improvement Projects: a 10-Year Retrospective

Security
- Door entrance security system—Fob requirement
- Security cameras, inside and out
- Enhanced exterior security lighting
- State-of-the-art security system for lockdowns, evacuations, etc.
- Secure, controlled school entrances—security vestibules

Technology
- Private Fiber Optic Network
- Computers in every classroom
- Smart Boards in every classroom
- 1:1 technology initiative completed
- New phones and PA systems

Fields
- Stadium Field and Highland Field have been renovated:
  - Stadium Field: new bleachers, synthetic track, sound system, Press Box, Concession Stand
  - Highland Field: new baseball backstop, two new infields, field re-graded and seeded
  - New scoreboards: Stadium Field, Schiffer Field

Transportation
- Transitioned from outsourced busing to district-owned transportation system, resulting in significant fiscal gain
District Facility Improvement Projects: a 10-Year Retrospective (continued)

- All roofs have been replaced
- All windows have been replaced
- Solar Panels installed on all buildings
- Asbestos abatements completed in all buildings
- New vinyl composite tile (VCT) installed in all buildings
- State-of-the-art building management system for HVAC
- New unit ventilators in all buildings
- Boiler Room upgrades in all buildings

- New fire alarm panels, heat detectors, smoke detectors in all buildings
- Electric Panel upgrades in all buildings
- All student restrooms fully renovated
- Identified staff restrooms fully renovated
- Interior lighting upgrades
- Door replacement project—ongoing
- Upgraded kitchens and equipment
- New maintenance equipment:
  - Maintenance Vehicles
  - Tractor, Backhoe, Field Machine, Lawn Mowers, Snow Plows
Facility Improvements: Godwin School

- Renovated Main Office creating a security vestibule
- Nurse's Office re-located to the first floor, improving accessibility for all students
- Renovated Faculty Room
- Multi-Purpose/Gym renovation:
  - Gym floor;
  - Protective wall padding;
  - New LED lighting;
  - New sound system;
  - New stage curtains;
  - Dangerous “Murphy Wall” cafeteria tables removed; new cafeteria tables provided.
- New Godwin School sign
- New Playground
Respect all things
BIG & small
Facility Improvements: Highland School

- New Main Office entrance; creation of security vestibule
- New classroom doors—ongoing
- Multi-Purpose/Gym renovation; new presentation system:
  - 15-foot screen with rear projector
  - New sound system
  - Motorized stage curtain
  - LED lighting
  - Acoustic panels
  - New bleachers
  - Tower Garden supports science and sustainability concepts (students eat what they grow)
- Oversized screen in the media center
- New instructional spaces:
  - Enrichment
  - OT/PT
  - LLD
  - Makerspace/Stem Lab
  - New Conference Room
- New student lockers
- New playground and basketball net
- Eight new murals painted by an MPHS graduate
Students at work in the new Makerspace Lab and a clock crafted in the Simple Woodworking elective.
Facility Improvements: MPHS

- Renovated Main office and the creation of a security vestibule
- Main Office: drop ceiling, new lighting and floor
- New Media Center, including the creation of two new learning spaces
- Fully renovated auditorium
- Gym renovation:
  - Lighting, bleachers, wall padding, wireless sound system, new scoreboards, mechanized basketball backboards
- White soffits along the perimeter of the school have been installed
- Re-paving and re-designs of parking lots, front and rear
- Additional instructional space realized through relocation of administrative offices
- New Broadcasting Studio
- Athletic Trainer’s Room
- New Culinary Arts Suite—in process
Elementary Curriculum & Program

- Full Day Kindergarten
- Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Program
- Fundations Word Study program implemented in kindergarten
- Patterns of Power Language Program implemented in grades 1–2
- Career Day Program in grades K–2
- 7 Mindsets Platform for Social Emotional Learning
- Mystery Science utilized in Grades K–2
- New Chromebooks for teachers
- Adding dynamic resistance training and free weights to Elementary PE curriculum
  - STEM Lab has been 90% completed and is enabled with Chromecast for wireless presentations
  - Flex seating initiative continues (over $4000 in flex seating options for students purchased for 2019–20)
Elementary Curriculum & Program (continued)

- Year I of a sixth grade community service initiative at the Therapeutic Rec Center in Fair Lawn
- Grades 3–5: Conquer Math Professional Development for teachers
- Implementation of teacher–created grammar scope and sequence for Gr. 3–5
- Flying and programming of mini drones added to robotics course elective
- Weekly morning show hosted by Highland students—video editing elective
- Student–run school store, part of the Personal Finance elective
- New After School Intervention programs, in addition to the Support Lab and ELA math grade level interventions: Mindfulness, Executive Function
- Formal mentoring program established for students in Grades 3 and 6
Secondary Curriculum & Program

- New touch screen Chromebooks issued to students in grades 7–12 (2019–20)
- Implemented the 1:1 Chromebook Technology Program
- Culinary Program
- Summer School Program
- Academic Support Lab
- Mid-term assessments
- AP Honor Roll School
- NAMM award-winning school for five consecutive years (2014–19)
- Sustainable Schools Bronze Award
- Reinstated middle school sports
- Expanded club offerings: Fishing, Computer, Model UN, Girl UP, Girls Who Code, Interact, REACT, Brain Busters, Spectrum, ASL Clubs
- Implemented 8th grade Moving Up Ceremony
- Spanish and French Honor Societies
- Revised the Senate Constitution
- Created Athletic & Technology Handbooks
- Athletic Hall of Fame
- Community & Hydroponic Garden
Secondary Curriculum & Program (continued)

Dual Enrollment Classes

• Holocaust Studies (Kean University)
• Medical Terminology (Rutgers University)
• Dynamics of Health Care (Rutgers University)
• Computer Programming Honors (Seton Hall) – New
• Intro to App. Design Honors (Seton Hall) – New

2019 AP Results

• 29 Total Scholars
• 11 AP Scholars
• 9 AP Scholars with Honors
• 9 AP Scholars with Distinction
• 89% passing rate
MPHS: New Class Implementation

- Horticulture (Semester)
- Intro to Computers (Year)
- Sports Medicine (Semester)
- Personal Finance (Semester)
- Economics (Semester)
- Intro to Psychology (Semester)
- AP Psychology (Year)
- AP Music Theory (Year)
- AP Macro & Micro Economics (Year)
- AP Studio Art (Year)
- Computer Programming I – Honors (Year)
- Introduction to Web Design (Semester)
- AP Computer Science Applications & Principles
- Medical Terminology (Honors)
- TV Workshop- (Quarter)
- Robotics (Semester)
- Dynamics of Healthcare (Semester)
- Math & Marketing (Semester)
- Painting (Semester)
- Financial Literacy – Exploratory 7 (Quarter)
- Genius Hour – Exploratory 7 (Quarter)
- Digital Photography 2 (Semester)
Department of Special Education

- Additional collaborative classes to meet the requirement of special education population through the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)
- Implementation of a Full Day Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Self-Contained Preschool Program
- Revised scope and sequence for secondary resource math—increased rigor and relevance
- Provision of Home Programs support for our most needy/disabled students
- Community Connections for students
  - Special Olympics
  - Pass the Torch Run
  - Best Buddies
  - Down Town Sports
- Monthly administrative meetings focusing on identified special education students
- Increase in extraordinary aid from less than $100,000 to over $400,000 annually
- All curriculum guides include accommodations
- Developed a technical partnership with Eastwick College of Trade for students
- Community Based Instruction (CBI) class developed to meet student needs
- Parent trainings and workshops; partnership with Waldwick for specific sessions
  - Related Service Providers
  - Community Agencies – Care Plus, Bergen’s Promise
  - Component of the IEP
  - Transition to College
Midland Park currently has a Send/Receive relationship with Bergen County Special Services:
- 100 students;
- Year II of a 20-year contract;
- $700K to the district.

Discussions regarding receiving students from another district were held with Maywood, North Haledon, Ho Ho Kus, Rochelle Park—our district has always been open to this prospect, which has been prohibited in the past due to demographic profiles.
The process is embedded in statute and begins with a conversation between districts.

Must be approved by a public vote of all involved districts.

Informal discussions have already been held with Northern Highlands, Glen Rock, and Waldwick—there is no interest in pursuing this prospect at this time.

Impact of regionalization:
- Various scenarios of student integration at all grade levels does not indicate the possibility of closing any of the district’s schools;
- Possible increase in teacher/staff salaries;
- Transportation cost;
- Current relationship with BCSS would be impacted.
Our district always reviews student enrollment, an endeavor which never ceases and is a critical variable in planning for upcoming school years.

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Murphy Administration Boosts Extraordinary Special Education Aid by $50 million
- Makes progress toward full state funding of special education costs, a proposal of the “Path to Progress” report
- In recent years, districts have needed over $300 million to meet funding.

Senate Approves Student Athlete Health Bills
- Concussion Protocol (S–2442) A student-athlete who sustains a concussion must return to regular school activities prior to returning to competition.
- Heat and Humidity Policy (S–2443) Districts must adopt the NJSIAA heat and humidity practice policies.
- Emergency Action Plan (S–2494) Districts with grades 6–12 are required to establish an emergency action plan for responding to a potentially life-threatening sports-related injury.

Sleeping In—a Pilot Program for Late School Start Times
- Bill S–3160/A–4865 authorizes a four-year pilot program to student later school start times for some high school students; five school districts will participate in the program.

“Mallory’s Law” Would Hold Parents Liable for Child’s Bullying Behavior
- Legislation S–3433 would impose tougher penalties on parents when a student bullies another student. The bill would provide for civil liability of a parent of a minor found to be guilty of harassment or cyber harassment.
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Dr. Marie Cirasella, Superintendent of Schools
Stacy Garvey, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Danielle Bache, Godwin School Principal
Peter Galasso, Highland School Principal

Nicholas Capuano, MPHS Principal
Jason Cata, MPHS Assistant Principal
Michael Gaccione, MPHS Assistant Principal/Director of Athletics
Ann Marie Bruder, Director of Special Services

Scott Collins, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds
Kathleen LoCascio, HIP/SHIP Principal
Eurico Antunes, District Technology Coordinator