

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
Board of Education
Midland Park, New Jersey
February 3, 2015

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order by Maryalice Thomas, 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
	Brian McCourt	Robert Schiffer
	William Sullivan	Timothy Thomas
	Peter Triolo	

Maryalice Thomas

Excused: Richard Formicola

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.

Dr. Thomas thanked the Borough for hosting an Appreciation Dinner.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

Approve the following resolution:

1. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 121614357 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

Dr. Cirasella commented on the following items:

-The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Presentation was rescheduled for February 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

-Pupil Immunization requirement hand-out policy that the Board will comply with regulations.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Review of agenda for Regular Meeting to be held on February 24, 2015.

No one chose to ask any questions at this time.

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

BOARD MOTIONS

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

1. Approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meetings held on:
December 2, 2014

Roll Call: 6 Yes (Schiffer, Sullivan, Thomas, Triolo, Canellas, Dr. Thomas)

2 Abstain (Criscenzo, McCourt)

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

December 16, 2014

Roll Call: 7 Yes (Criscenzo, McCourt, Schiffer, Sullivan, Triolo, Canellas, Dr. Thomas)

1 Abstain (Thomas)

A. Personnel – (M. Cirasella)

APPENDIX

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

To approve the following block motion:

Approve the following changes to the list of Advisors to Activities and Clubs at the elementary schools for the 2014-2015 school year:

			<u>Stipend</u>
Delete:	Terry Alnor	Assistant Director – Choral	
Add:	Joan Brennan	Assistant Director – Choral	\$361.00

2. Approve the unpaid child care leave for David Hershberger, elementary school teacher, effective March 2, 2015 through April 3, 2015, as per the NJ Family Leave Act.
3. Approve Jilian Smith, as part of her Marywood University undergraduate requirements, to observe Patricia Sicree, Speech Therapist, effective March 9 – 13; May 13 – June 19, 2015 and during the summer, as needed.
4. Approve a paid sick leave for Linda Carr, Special Education teacher in Highland School, effective retroactive from January 12, 2015 through February 12, 2015.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

5. Approve the appointment of the following high school teacher to provide home instruction to a high school non-classified student. She will be paid as per Schedule D of the MPEA contract (pending completion of negotiations), for two hours per week, effective retroactive from January 16, 2015 through February 6, 2015:

Yana Seminara	French
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6. Approve the appointment of the following high school teachers to provide home instruction to a middle school non-classified student. They will be paid as per Schedule D of the MPEA contract (pending completion of negotiations), effective retroactive from January 12, 2015 through March 12, 2015:

Jason Gangi
Drew Strohmeyer
Kristy Victory

7. Approve the appointment of the following high school teachers to provide home instruction to a high school non-classified student for two hours per week. They will be paid as per Schedule D of the MPEA contract (pending completion of negotiations), effective retroactive from January 23, 2015 through April 27, 2015:

Nancy DeRitter/Therese Seiders	General Physics
Eric Ferro	US History II, PE/Health, Dig. Photo.
Patricia Homsany	Spanish I, Chorus
Therese Seiders	English IV, Algebra II

8. Approve the increase in salary for the following teachers, effective **retroactive from** February 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015 (salaries to be determined, pending completion of negotiations):

Ethan Grubman from MA Step 4 (\$49,725) to MA+ Step 4 (\$54,800)
Katherine Kuperus from MA Step 4 (\$49,725) to MA+ Step 4 (\$54,800)

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

9. Approve the change in job title for the Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment to the title of Supervisor of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment, as per the attached appendix. A-9
10. Approve the appointment of Melissa Quackenbush as the Supervisor of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment. She will be paid a salary of \$120,000 prorated, effective **April 4, 2015** (or sooner) through June 30, 2015.

Roll Call: All Yes

Dr. Cirasella introduced Ms. Quackenbush and gave the public some information on her background.

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

To approve the following block motion:

11. Approve the appointment of Amy Tamburri as a Special Education teacher in the Highland School. She will be placed on BA Step 1 of the MPEA salary guide (salary to be determined, pending completion of negotiations), effective **February 4, 2015** through June 30, 2015.
12. Approve the appointment of John Macari as a maternity leave replacement for Catherine Ianni, Special Education teacher in the high school. He will be placed on MA Step 1 of the MPEA salary guide (salary to be determined, pending completion of negotiations), effective February 18, 2015 through June 19, 2015.
13. Accept the resignation of Troy Wallace as the Maintenance/Groundskeeper, effective February 13, 2015.
14. Approve the appointment of Radcliff Brown as a Night Custodian. He will be paid on Step 5 of the Custodial Maintenance salary guide, plus Night Stipend (salary to be determined, pending completion of negotiations), effective **February 4, 2015** through June 30, 2015.

Roll Call: All Yes

15. This item was pulled from the Agenda.

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

To approve the following block motion:

16. Approve the appointment of Liz Potenzano as an Aide for the Spring 2015 semester of Volleyball for Middle School Girls (Grades 6-8), sponsored by Midland Park Continuing

Education.

17. **Approve the appointment of Douglas Habenstreit as the Maintenance/Groundskeeper. He will be placed on Step 5 of the MPEA Custodial Maintenance salary guide (salary to be determined, pending completion of negotiations), effective February 17, 2015 through June 30, 2015.**
18. **Approve the appointment of Phyllis Kirchdoerffer as a part-time Bus Aide. She will be paid at the approved hourly rate of \$13.90, effective February 4, 2015 through June 30, 2015.**

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- S-19. Approve the appointment of the following additional high school teachers to provide home instruction to a middle school non-classified student. They will be paid as per Schedule D of the MPEA contract (pending completion of negotiations), effective retroactive from January 12, 2015 through March 12, 2015:

Susanna Caldelas
Maureen Fister

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

1. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), we certify that as of December 31, 2014, after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section), and upon consultation with the appropriate District officials, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13 (b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year, subject to the conditions of P.L. 1701.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

2. Approve the following block motion:

- a. December, 2014 direct pays in the amount of \$79,071.89.
- b. December, 2014 Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$48,085.59.
- c. December 2014 cafeteria claims in the amount of \$20,103.53.
- d. January 2015 claims in the amount of \$329,176.41.

3. Approve the following block motion:

- a. Second December 2014 payroll in the amount of \$528,226.54.
- b. First January 2015 payroll in the amount of \$558,412.98.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

- 4. Approve the financial reports of the Board Secretary for the period December 1 – 31, 2014, which are attached as an appendix. B-4
- 5. Approve the transfers between accounts for the periods December 1 – 31, 2014 **and January 1 – 31, 2015**, which are attached as an appendix. B-5

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- 6. Approve the decommissioning of outdated surplus equipment, as listed on the attached appendix. B-6

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- 7. Approve the use and rental of the Rear Field at the high school for Summer Heatt, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education for La Crosse clinics on Sundays from 8:30 – 11:30 a.m., as follows:

March 29, April 12, 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 31, June 7 & 14, 2015

Roll Call: All Yes

Ms. Garvey commented that Midland Park participated in a Bid Opening for School Bonds on January 15, 2015 at 2.75%

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

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

- 1. Approve the following staff members requesting workshop attendance:

Name	Workshop	Location	Cost	Date
Maureen O’Hara	FastTrack to PARCC	Newark, NJ	\$246.05	Feb. 4, 2015
Scott Grasso	2015 NJAHPERD Annual Convention	Long Branch, NJ	\$281.20	Feb. 22-24, 2015
Eurico Antunes	Power School University	Orlando, FL	\$4,076.00	Feb. 22-26, 2015
Christine Carr	How to Use Newest Fiction & Nonfiction in my Lessons	Whippany, NJ	\$216.36	April 24, 2015

2. This item was pulled from the agenda.

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

To approve the following block motion:

3. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the placement and transportation of one middle school classified student in the Cornerstone Day School, Mountainside, NJ, effective retroactive from January 20, 2015 through June 30, 2015.
4. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the placement and transportation of one elementary school classified student in the Windsor Learning Center, Pompton Lakes, NJ, effective retroactive from January 22, 2015 through June 30, 2015.
5. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the placement of one high school non-classified student on home instruction, effective retroactive from January 23, 2015 through April 27, 2015.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

6. Approve the following after school workshops to be held at the Godwin School for After School Child Care children, which will be held bi-weekly, effective February, 2015 through May, 2015:

Chef it Up 2 Go Team Bergen County
Mad Science of Northeast NJ

Roll Call: All Yes

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

7. **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 2015-2016 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

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

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

1. Approve the first reading of the following revised Mandated policy, which is attached as an appendix:

Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Pupils

Policy Section 5111 D-1

(Abolish) Pupil Grievance

Policy Section 5710

Roll Call: All Yes

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

The following bills that are being closely monitored by the NJSBA were discussed:

-S-295, a bill that requires a board of education to provide an individual textbook for each student enrolled in a class.

-S-1760 recognizes American Sign Language as a world language for meeting high school graduation requirements.

S-2425/ A-3360 requires each school district with a middle school or high school to establish a food services advisory committee to consider menu options that reflect students' cultural, traditional, and dietary preferences.

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

No Report.

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

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

1. Approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Midland Park Board of Education and the Midland Park Education Association, effective retroactive from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016, which is attached as an appendix. G-1

Mr. McCourt discussed some highlights of items on the Memorandum of Agreement

Roll Call: All Yes

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

No Report.

I. Liaison Committee

High School PTA - (S. Criscenzo)

A Market Day Order is scheduled for February 14, 2015 and the pick-up day is February 20, 2015.

Elementary School PTA- (P. Triolo)

No Report.

Booster Club – (T. Thomas)

The Beefsteak dinner was a huge success.

Performing Arts Parents – (J. Canellas)

No Report.

Special Education – (M. Thomas)

No Report.

Education Foundation – (R. Formicola)

The Blue Jean Ball has been sold out.

Board of Recreation – (B. McCourt)

No Report.

Continuing Education Program – (R. Schiffer)

No Report.

Student Representative to the Board – (Aidan MacLean)

The following items/events were reported:

Outdoors Club

A great opportunity to enjoy the outdoors. Students love it. The most recent trip to Shawnee was a huge success.

Holocaust Assembly

The students enjoyed learning about the history of the Holocaust during the first week of October.

Course Registration:

January 21-22 – Students who will be returning to the Midland Park High School were given opportunities to select electives.

Popular classes are: Holocaust Studies, Discrete Math, and Yearbook.

A 12th grade Orientation is scheduled for February 4, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

A 9th grade Orientation is scheduled for February 5, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

A 7th grade Orientation is scheduled for February 12, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

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

No Report.

Ad Hoc – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

J. Old Business

Nothing was discussed at this time.

K. New Business

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

To go into closed session before the meeting of February 24, 2015, for the purpose of reviewing the hiring of personnel, updates on MPEA negotiations and confidential student HIB case reviews.

Roll Call: All Yes

Open to the Public

Dr. Thomas invited the public to address the Board.

Ms. Linda De Tanico questioned where the district stands regarding full day kindergarten. Dr. Cirasella answered that the committee is working on this topic. There is a scheduled meeting for February 10 and the committee will be bringing information to the Board at the next meeting. The question was asked as to who was on the committee. Dr. Cirasella responded that there are administrators, parents, and board members.

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

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