

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Board of Education**  
**Midland Park, New Jersey**  
October 20, 2009

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order by Richard Venditti, President, 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 2009 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."

ROLL CALL

Present:	James Canellas	Sandra Criscenzo
	Paula Lein	Raymond Moraski
	Wayne Roberts	William Sullivan
	Maryalice Thomas	Robert Schiffer

Richard Venditti

OTHERS PRESENT

Staff: William Heebink, Superintendent of Schools  
Stacy Garvey, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Approval of Minutes

BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Motion – Mr. Moraski, seconded – Mr. Schiffer . . .  
Approve the minutes of the regularly scheduled public meeting held on October 6, 2009.

Roll Call: (7 Yes – Canellas, Criscenzo, Moraski, Sullivan, Thomas, Schiffer, Venditti)  
2 Abstain ( Lein, Roberts)

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Venditti commented that there was an article on the new one-year agreement that was quite misleading-the article reads that the association did not receive an increase but each employee did get an increase –overall 3.6%.

### 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. Heebink commented on the following items:

- a. Principal's Recognition Month
- b. List of achievements

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2009-2010 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 – (W. Heebink)

### APPENDIX

Motion – Mr. Moraski, seconded – Mr. Schiffer . . .

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve a change in position for Gail Traitz, math teacher at the high school to a .6 position. She will be paid a salary of \$33,852.00 (BA Step 2 on the MPEA salary guide), prorated effective October 12, 2009 through October 20, 2009. Effective October 21, 2009, she will return to a .2 position through June 30, 2010.
2. Rescind Motion SP 3. of the October 6, 2009 Agenda to approve the appointment of Therese Connors as a math teacher at the high school, effective retroactive from October 5, 2009 until a permanent replacement is in place.
3. Approve the appointment of Therese Connors as a .6 math teacher at the high school, effective retroactive from October 5, 2009 through October 9, 2009. Effective retroactive from October 12, 2009, approve a change to a .4 position, through October 20, 2009. Her combined salary for these positions will be \$1,249.66, based on (BA Step 3 on the MPEA salary guide).
4. Approve the appointment of Gail Custer as a special education teacher in the high school. She will be paid a salary of \$42,315 (BA Step 2 on the MPEA salary guide), prorated effective retroactive from October 12, 2009 through June 30, 2010 (support material attached).

5. Approve the appointment of Jessica Lee as a math teacher in the high school. She will be paid a salary of \$41,480 (BA Step 1 on the MPEA salary guide), prorated effective October 21, 2009 through June 30, 2010 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

6. Approve the following addition to the list of advisors to activities and clubs at the high school for the 2009-2010 school year:

		<u>Stipend</u>
Add: Jason Gangi	T.A.P. Co-Advisor	\$408.50

7. Approve the following additions to the list of advisors to activities and clubs at the elementary schools for the 2009-2010 school year (support material attached).

		<u>Stipend</u>
Add: Anne Edwards	Yearbook Advisor	\$576.00
Danielle Kirsch	I &RS Team Member	\$817.00
Rachel Reboiro	I &RS Team Member	\$817.00
Lynn Snyder	I &RS Team Member	\$817.00

8. Approve the following appointments as Family Math Night Presenters. They will be paid a stipend of \$70:

Kathleen Andrews  
 Katelyn Intveld  
 Kathryn Piscitello  
 Carole Steel

9. Approve the list of winter coaches at the high school for the 2009-2010 school year, which is attached as an appendix. P-1

10. Approve the following co-advisors and coordinator for the Midland Park Continuing Education program (support material attached):

David Hershberger	Winter Ski Program co-advisor
Jeffrey Peters	Winter Ski Program co-advisor
Maria Iler	Teacher’s Convention Mini Camp Coordinator

11. Approve the following student as Scorekeeper for the Men’s Basketball League sponsored by the Midland Park Continuing Education program (support material attached):

Nicholas Acito

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Moraski . . .

12. Approve the termination of Thomas Capicchioni as a .5 Instructional Aide in the high school, effective October 28, 2009 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. Roberts . . .

To approve the following block motion:

13. Approve the following additions to the list of substitute teachers for the 2009-2010 school year (support material attached):

- (s) Robert Bauer
- \* Lauren Black
- (s) Stephen Margiotta (previously on list)
- (s) Michael Patrizio
- (s) Maureen Raymond
- \* Joseph Singer

(s) = County substitute certification

\* = NJ permanent certification

14. Approve the appointment of Annelies Baker as a Building Aide in the Highland School. She will be paid at the approved hourly rate of \$12.65 for ten hours per week, effective October 21, 2009 through June 30, 2010 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Venditti, seconded – Mr. Schiffer . . .

- ASP1. Accept with regret, the resignation of William Heebink, Superintendent of Schools, effective June 30, 2010 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Venditti addressed the public and explained the process that the Board will be using for searching for a Superintendent. Dr. Heebink will release a letter of explanation.

- 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 August 31, 2009, 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. Canellas . . .

2. Approve the following block motion:
  - a. September 2009 Midland Park Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$94,322.85.
  - b. October 2009 supplemental claims in the amount of \$311,066.74.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Roberts . . .

To approve the following block motion:

3. Approve the financial reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Moneys for the period August 1, 2009 through August 31, 2009, which are attached as an appendix. F-1
4. Approve the transfers among accounts, according to prescribed accounting procedures, for the period August 1, 2009 through August 31, 2009, which are attached as an appendix. F-2
5. Approve the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan, including the M-1 form, which is attached as an appendix. F-3

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Roberts . . .

6. Approve the following consultants for Family Math Night presentations at a cost of \$70.00 each:

Peter Arvanites  
Stanley Becker  
Kevin Cheslack-Postava

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Schiffer reported that we are looking at a used truck from Harrington Park offered at \$4,100.00.

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

- SP 2. Approve the hiring of an investigation officer for possible non-resident cases.

Roll Call: All Yes

- C. Curriculum Committee – (R. Moraski, Chairperson)

Motion – Mr. Moraski, seconded – Ms. Lein . . .

1. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the placement and transportation for one elementary special education student in The Children’s Therapy Center, Fair Lawn, NJ, effective retroactive from October 15, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

2. Approve the following new clubs/activities for the 2009-2010 school year (support material

attached):

Elementary World Language Club  
Middle School Play Accompanist

Geography Club at Highland

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Moraski, seconded – Ms. Lein . . .

- 3. Approve an overnight trip for the Take Action Drug and Alcohol Prevention Club Leadership and Prevention Workshop from November 21 – 22, 2009 at Fairview Lake YMCA Camp, Newton, NJ (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

Dr. Thomas questioned does that include 3 advisors. Dr. Heebink replied they will be going as part of their stipend

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

- 4. Approve the list of staff members requesting workshop attendance, as follows (support material attached):

<b>Name</b>	<b>Workshop</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>
Anne Edwards, Deborah Lelinho	Improving NJASK Scores	Newark, NJ	Oct. 27, 2009
Teresa Isik	Guidance Counselor Breakfast and Information Session	Park Ridge, NJ	Oct. 30, 2009
Patricia Zarpaylic	4 <sup>th</sup> Annual Autism Symposium	Pearl River, NY	Nov. 9, 2009
Sheralyn Gottlieb	RTI & I&RS: Perfect Together	Long Branch, NJ	Nov. 13, 2009
Jason Gangi, Jennifer Harris	Cooperative Learning Strategies! It takes 2 or more	Montvale, NJ	Nov. 20, 2009
Danielle Bache, Maureen O’Hara	Response to Intervention	Iselin, NJ	Dec. 11, 2009
Jason Gangi, Jennifer Harris	Authentic Learning Environments: Assessment/Education	Montvale, NJ	Dec. 17, 2009

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Moraski, seconded – Ms. Lein . . .

- 5. Approve the following grants funded by the Midland Park Public Education Foundation for a total amount of \$10,439.50 (support material attached):

<b>Name of Grant</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Amount of Award</b>

Nonfiction Writing with Author Betty Tatham	Highland	Kathleen Andrews, Margaret Behan, Paula Didyk, Deborah Lelinho, Kathryn Piscitello, Laurie Troisi	\$4,210.00
Funomena-High Touch High	Highland	Lisa Guarini	\$825.00
Aiding Struggling Readers	High School	Therese Seiders	\$1,494.00
iRead with my iPod	High School	Brian Ersalesi	\$750.00
Elmo Camera, Projector, Carts	Godwin	Heidi Cassells, Jean Clarke, Meaghan Martinez, Lynn Snyder	\$1,576.00
Wii System and Wii Fit	Godwin/Highland	Jane Bandstra, Debbie Kelly	\$784.50
Fidget Box	Highland	Danielle Kirsch, Debbie Kelly	\$300
Fitness for All	Highland	Scott Grasso	\$500

Roll Call: All Yes

Dr. Thomas asked how much is the increase each year? Mr. Moraski stated that he was not sure; but that we are doing two grants, both fall and spring.

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

6. Approve the following program for the Midland Park Continuing Education program (support material attached):

Winter Ski Program (Ski Club)

Roll Call: All Yes

- D. Policy Committee – (J. Canellas, Chairperson)

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

1. Approve the abolishment of the following Board Policies and Regulations, which are attached as appendices:

Board Members Travel Expenses & Appendix A                      Bylaws & Regulation Section 0147    PB-1

Teaching Staff Members Travel Expenses                      Policy & Regulation Section 3440    PB-2

Support Staff Members Travel Expenses                      Policy & Regulation Section 4440    PB-3

Roll Call: All Yes

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

2. Approve the second reading of the following Board Policies and Regulations:

Employment of Chief School Administrator	Policy Section 1220 (revised)
Teaching Staff Member/School District Reporting Responsibilities	Policy Section 3159 (new)
Early Graduation	Policy Section 5465 (revised)
Pupil Accident Insurance	Policy Section 8760 (revised)

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Sullivan asked if the Board was abolishing policies because we are approving new policies to take the place of old ones. Mr. Canellas replied yes.

E. Legislative Committee – (P. Lein, Chairperson)

Governor Corzine signed A-267 which authorizes parents or guardians to request an individualized health care plan for children with diabetes and allows certain students to self-administer glucagon to regulate blood glucose levels.

The following bills are stalled – meaning they were approved of by both houses and the Governor has 45 days to sign.

A1943 – establishes pilot program in the Department of Education to provide instruction in personal finance to the H.S. seniors.

A2655 – Requires law enforcement agency to inform school principals of certain crimes committed by students.

A3317 – would not allow schools to contract for electrical work except with a licensed journeyman who is a member of the electrical contractors union.

F. Buildings & Grounds Committee – (S. Criscenzo, Chairperson)

The following items were reported/commented on:

- a. Speed bumps installed in front parking lot at the high school.
- b. Poles installed in the courtyard behind the High School cafeteria.
- c. All boilers (heating systems) running.
- d. Volunteers cleared hill behind Godwin. Our staff removed 10 truckloads of trees, brush, etc.
- e. Room E9 at the high school, old carpet removed and new installed with cove base. Removed cabinetry, shelving and temporary wall. Painted entire room.
- f. Repaired leaking drain line in the Godwin basement.
- g. Large trees at Highland will be pruned by Downes tree service on 11/5/09.
- h. Bleacher repairs were made and roof on press box was sealed. Green carpet and ceiling was removed in press box and new light with switch installed. We are looking at replacing the roof in the spring. The Band has offered \$500.00 toward roof replacement.



Mrs. Criscenzo and stated that the clock in the High School Teacher's room #60 is not working and asked if it is possible to have room number signs made for the classrooms.

Mr. Venditti asked that a thank you note be sent to the Group that did the work at Godwin. The grounds look great ---Thanks to Robert Blanchard.

G. Negotiations – Teachers/Secretaries/Custodians - (W. Roberts, Chairperson)

The next meeting is scheduled for 11/9/09.

H. Negotiations – Administrators – (W. Sullivan, Chairperson)

No Report.

I. Public Relations Committee – (P. Lein, Chairperson)

A letter on behalf of the Board will be going out from Mr. Venditti regarding the Superintendent Search.

A meeting will be set.

J. Personnel Committee – (W. Sullivan, Chairperson)

No Report

K. Service Review Committee – (M. Thomas, Chairperson)

No Report.

L. Town Council Special Projects Committee – (R. Moraski, Chairperson)

There was a meeting on October 5. Information was distributed to the Board members on the field proposals. Also discussed and shared information with Mayor and the Council, waiting for them to get back with a decision.

M. Technology Committee – (J. Canellas, Chairperson)

None

N. Liaison Committee:

High School PTA – (S. Criscenzo)

The following items were reported on:

Market Day pick-up will be Friday, October 23, at 5:00 at the HS Cafeteria.

Coffee with the Principal is scheduled for Thursday, October 22, 2009 at 7:15 a.m. in room 60.

Help us welcome the Children's Therapy Group to the Midland Park Community on Make a Difference Day, Friday, October 23, 2009. They will be accepting new and

gently used books for students in grades 3-6. Monetary donations will also be accepted. Collection bins will be located at Midland Park High School.

Elementary School PTA – (J. Canellas)

The following events will take place:

- a. Book Fair
- b. Family Night

Booster Club – (W. Roberts)

Discussed Grants provided to Sports Teams.

Performing Arts Parents – (R. Moraski)

The following events are scheduled:

- a. Music In The Park
- b. November 1<sup>st</sup> final band competition

Special Education – (M. Thomas)

There was an information meeting scheduled for the parents on October 9<sup>th</sup>. A parent advisory group is being created.

Education Foundation – (P. Lein)

The Mad Science Sign –Ups are scheduled

Board of Recreation – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

Continuing Education Program – (R. Schiffer)

No Report.

Student Representative to the Board – (C. Duane) - Absent

O. Old Business

None.

P. New Business

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

To go into closed session before the meeting of November 3, 2009, for the purpose of discussing personnel and negotiation items.

### Open to the Public

Mr. Venditti invited the public to address the Board.

Mr. James Flemming asked for the field information that was distributed to the Board.

Mr. Moraski replied that you can receive the information from the Board Office.

Ms. Ester Vierheilg commented that she is sad to see Dr. Heebink leave.

Ms. Vierheilg responded to the tongue lashing about the press release; at first glance the press release was incomprehensive, made it look like there was no increase.

Mr. Venditti commented that the article did say that there was an increase that was below the County average-so it was an increase. You asked for a comment and gave me no time to respond because of a dead line.

Ms. Laura Flemming questioned why a one-year agreement and are the salaries at the County average?

Mr. Venditti replied that he wasn't sure what the salary average is but we worked with a guide that we had. As far as an agreement for 1 year – both sides were in agreement to a one-year contract.

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

To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey,  
School Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary