

**MIDLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**WORK MEETING  
MINUTES**

**TUESDAY  
January 3, 2012**

**8:00 P.M.**

**AUGUST C. DePREKER MEDIA  
CENTER, HIGHLAND SCHOOL**

**Flag Salute:** Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting called to order by Robert Schiffer, Board President at 8:00 p.m. an the following statement was Read:

**Board Statement:**

"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 2011 elective year. A notice was also posted inside 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."

**Roll Call:**

James Canellas  
Richard Formicola  
Maryalice Thomas  
William Sullivan

Sandra Criscenzo  
Brian McCourt  
Timothy Thomas

Robert Schiffer

Excused: Raymond Moraski

Others Present:

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

**BOARD PRESIDENT ITEMS**      *Mr. Robert Schiffer*

*Midland Park Public School District 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 OF SCHOOLS ITEMS**      *Dr. Marie Cirasella*

Dr. Cirasella commented on the following items:

Class of 2012 Acceptances to Colleges & Scholarship Lists can be found under the Superintendent's message on our website.

Upon entering the high school please visit the case in the front hallway to review the MPHS map indicating senior college acceptances.

Good Samaritan Award Recipients for the month of December were:

Alex Stangl

Michelle Wyrich

Will Leonard

Jenny Cho

Chris Laureano

John Mardo

Calvin Park

CarmelaMendoza

Our first teacher recognized is Mr. Jason Gangi

## **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS**

*Ms. Stacy Garvey*

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

No one had any comments.

### **Action Items:**

#### **Superintendent of Schools**

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

Approve the submission of the District QSAC DPR and SOA documents advanced by the District QSAC Committee.

Dr. Cirasella commented that in the Instruction and Program section you are not allowed to populate all areas and the state will add the information at a later date.

QSAC Review will be 5/22 and we will report our findings back to the Board within a few weeks of that review.

Roll Call: All Yes

#### A. **Personnel-** (M. Cirasella)

Motion – Dr. Thomas, seconded – Mr. Sullivan . . .

1. Approve the appointment of Jean Clarke as a Homework Assistant Aide for the Midland Park Continuing Education After Care Program, replacing Suzanne Esposito, effective January 4, 2012 through June 19, 2012.

Roll Call: All Yes

#### C. **Curriculum-** (S. Criscenzo, Chairperson)

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

1. Approve the recommendation of the Interim Director of Special Services for a high school special education student to receive two 45 minute sessions per week of Audio Verbal Therapy with Bergen County Special Services, effective retroactive from January 2, 2012 through June 30, 2012.

Roll Call: All Yes

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Review of agenda for Regular Meeting to be held on January 17, 2012.

**LIAISON/BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

B. Finance- (W. Sullivan, Chairperson)

No Report.

D. Policy Committee- (B. McCourt, Chairperson)

No Report.

E. Legislative Committee- (T. Thomas, Chairperson)

No Report.

F. Buildings and Grounds Committee- (J. Canellas, Chairperson)

The following items were commented/reported on:

- a. Lights in the high school gym.
- b. Electric upgrades to the Media Center.
- c. Lights/Ballasts in the Highland gym.
- d. The on-going cleaning, painting, and cleaning/waxing of floors.

Thank you to the Boosters / community for the purchase of new pads on the gym wall at the high school gym.

G. Negotiations Committee- (R. Moraski, Chairperson)

No Report.

H. Public Relations Committee- (R. Formicola, Chairperson)

No Report.

I. Personnel Committee- (M. Thomas, Chairperson)

No Report.

J. Liaison Committee- (T. Thomas, Chairperson)

**High School PTA**

Reminder: Blue Moon Fund Raiser is scheduled for January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

Elementary School PTA

No Report.

Booster Club

The following items were commented/discussed:

- a. Thank you to the community members for giving up their time on 1/1 to install pads on the gym walls at the high school
- b. Membership is at 94.
- c. Panther snuggies Fund Raiser
- d. Athletic Hall of Fame Committee Meeting is upcoming
- e. The Booster Sponsored events that occurred in December were:
  - 12/20 - Pack the House Nights
  - 12/24 Pack the House Nights
  - 12/26 Pack the House Nights
  - 12/28 Yearly Beef Steak

Performing Arts Parents

No Report.

Special Education

No Report.

Education Foundation

No Report.

Board of Recreation

No Report.

Continuing Education Program

No Report.

Student Representative to the Board – (A. Dravis-Stark)

The following items were commented/discussed:

- Congratulations to Sara Luberto for reaching 1, 000 points in basketball.
- Improvements have been made in the cafeteria
- Adjustments have been made to the Honor Roll

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was nothing to discuss at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Motion – Mr. Thomas, seconded – Mr. Formicola . . .

To go into closed session before the meeting of January 17, 2012.

Roll Call: All Yes

**Open to the Public-**

Mr. Schiffer invited the public to address the Board.

Mr. Peter Triolo questioned the 2% surplus Cap in the Budget. He stated that he would like to see Curriculum changes to raise the State testing from proficiency to advanced proficiency and also an increase in the quality of teachers in the schools.

Ms. Fantulin asked if the district passed in all areas.

Dr. Cirasella responded that we have some challenges and there are areas we did not reach.

Ms. Fantulin asked if it is required to explain why we did not reach AYP. Dr. Cirasella responded yes once it is populated by the State.

Ms. Fantulin questioned why the surplus is so large and asked if we are budgeting too much. Mr. Schiffer responded that the additional surplus is an offset to the tax base to help get the budget passed. The school is the only budget that is voted on –anyone angry takes it out on the school budget.

Ms. Fantulin commented that there is a lot of interest on a blog that she has started. One question posted was asking if there will be honors classes in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades next year.

Dr. Cirasella answered that the Committee has discussed this issue and will be recommending that it be in the budget next year. Dr. Cirasella commented that our plan is to have 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade Parent Night to bridge the gap and help the parents get to know the high school.

Motion – Mr. Thomas, seconded – Mr. Formicola . . .

To adjourn the meeting

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Garvey  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary