

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MIDLAND PARK, NEW JERSEY
DECEMBER 13, 2022**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Mr. McCourt and Ms. Garvey read the following 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 2022 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 or students.”

ROLL CALL

Present: James Canellas Sandra Criscenzo
Christine Dell’Aglio Patricia Fantulin
Richard Formicola Brian McCourt

Excused: Nabil Eliya
Maryalice Thomas
Peter Triolo

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 its students with a comprehensive, adaptive education aligned to 21st century knowledge and skills needed for success in college and career. The district maximizes all resources to empower students to realize their individual worth and responsibility, with the expectation they achieve the New Jersey state standards at all grade levels.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT Dr. Marie Cirasella

Dr. Cirasella and Mr. Capuano presented the NJ Graduation Proficiency Assessment Spring 2022 test results.

Presentation on the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment Spring 2022 Test results.

A few Board members asked questions after the presentation.

- Mrs. Dell'Aglia asked if this test was given to the class of 2023 and if the students knew this was not going to count. Mr. Capuano answered yes, it was for that class and the students knew it was not going to count and not a graduation requirement. He also noted that the NJGPA is usually a graduation requirement this was a field test. Mrs. Dell'Aglia asked if it will count for the class of 2024 and Mr. Capuano answered yes, it will be administered in March for grade 11.
- Mr. Canellas asked about the last sentence on the last slide. Mr. Capuano answered we are trying to get the students to take the test more seriously.
- Mrs. Criscenzo asked if a student does fail and it is a requirement to graduate, what is the procedure to get them to graduate? Mr. Capuano answered that they have to sit for the NJGPA, if they do not make the graduation requirement, there are other pathways, like the SAT's and ACT's. It is listed in the handbook.
- Mrs. Dell'Aglia asked if the ACT's are offered here at MPHS. Mr. Capuano said, no, we offer pre-ACT's for 9th graders.
- Mrs. Fantulin asked for clarification, is NJ one of only 11 states in the country that require an exam to graduate? Mr. Capuano answered that he did not know. Mrs. Fantulin also asked who generated the exam, was it a Pearson product or a product of NJ's Board of Education, and stated that Pearson has a history of scoring things very low in general. Mr. Capuano stated he was almost positive that Pearson generated the exam.

Mr. Capuano passed around laser cut ornaments that our students are making in our STEM lab. It is a Junior/Senior fundraiser.

Dr. Cirasella thanked Mr. Capuano and told him the students were doing a great job.

Student Representative to the Board – (Declan Feehan)

- Grades 7 & 8 assembly regarding internet safety, grades 9 & 10 assembly about the pathway to addiction
- Students in the Art Club and Food & Nutrition classes have been working hard on their gingerbread houses for the competition on 12/22
- Winter chorus concert, featuring the Middle School Chorus, High School Chorus and the Madrigals on 12/15
- Seven of our students have been accepted into Bergen County HS Chorus
- Out of 29 schools that sent students to audition, we placed 6th regarding the number of students accepted into Bergen County Chorus, impressive for such a small school
- Matthew Oliveri was accepted into the Bergen County HS Band on trumpet
- Auditions were held for the spring musical, Anastasia, and the cast list was posted
- Winter sports have started practice, many of which begin competing before the end of the month
- Student Senate, Interact Club and National Honor Society are hosting a clothing drive through 12/15
- The MPHS Citizenship Award has been reinstated. There were 13 recipients in November
- Holiday break begins on 12/23

Open to the Public: **COMMENTS** only for action items on the agenda.

No one chose to speak at this time.

BOARD MOTIONS

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

1. Approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meeting held on November 14, 2022.

Roll Call: All Yes

- A. Personnel – (M. Cirasella)

APPENDIX

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2022-2023 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. Canellas, seconded – Ms. Dell’Aglia...

1. Approve the following additions to the list of Winter and Spring Coaches at the High School for the 2022-2023 school year, as per the attached appendix:

A-1

Roll Call: All Yes

2. Approve the following change to the list of Advisors to Activities and Clubs at the High School for the 2022-2023 school year:

Delete: Shernett Alexander 7/8th Grade Science Club Advisor

3. Approve the change in position for Anthony Papapietro from a part-time Custodian at the High School to a full-time Maintenance Worker. He will be paid a salary of \$46,500 (Step 13 on the Maintenance salary guide) prorated, effective on or about December 19, 2022 through June 30, 2023.
4. Approve the appointment of Mark Jones as a part-time Custodian at the High School. He will be paid at the rate of \$23.75 per hour, effective on or about December 19, 2022 through June 30, 2023.
5. Revise Board Motion A-1 of the October 18, 2022 meeting, to approve an unpaid child care leave for Employee No. 1426, as per the NJ Family Leave Act, effective December 5 through December 19, 2022 and approve an unpaid child care leave, as per the NJ Family Leave Act, effective January 9 through January 13, 2023.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Canellas, seconded – Ms. Dell'Aglio...

6. Approve the appointment of Heather Corey as an Art teacher in the High School. She will be paid a salary of \$72,750 (MA +30 Step 12 on the MPEA salary guide) prorated, effective January 9, 2023 through June 30, 2023.
7. Approve the termination of Employee No. 2183, effective January 12, 2023.
8. Approve a paid maternity leave for Employee No. 1821, effective approximately March 6, 2023 through April 5, 2023; a paid child care leave, effective approximately April 6, 2023 through May 19, 2023 and an unpaid child care leave as per the NJ FMLA, effective approximately May 22, 2023 through approximately October 23, 2023.
9. Approve Magdalena Kauker as an Aide for the Before and After School Child Care program, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education, effective December 14, 2022 through June 30, 2023.
10. Approve Grace Mahoney, MPHS student, to work as a Lighting Technician for Broadway Originals, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education on December 17 & 18, 2022.

Roll Call: All Yes

B. Finance Committee – (B. McCourt, Chairperson) Mr. Canellas reported

Motion – Mr. Canellas, seconded – Ms. Dell'Aglio...

1. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), we certify that as of November 30, 2022, 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.

2. Approve the following block motion:

- a. November 2022 direct pays in the amount of \$470,392.88,
- b. November 2022 Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$39,178.53,
- c. November 2022 cafeteria claims in the amount of \$40,224.06,
- d. Second November 2022 payroll in the amount of \$670,085.56,
- e. December 2022 claims in the amount of \$697,720.53.

3. Approve the cash reports and the Board Secretary's Report for the period November 1 – 30, 2022.

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4. Approve the transfers among accounts for the period November 1 – 30, 2022, as per the attached appendix.
5. Approve the updated Region I List of Independent Evaluators for the 2022-23 school year.
6. Approve the following additions to the List of Independent Evaluators for the 2022-23 school year:

Dr. Richard Hahn, MD Psychiatrist - The cost for an evaluation and report is \$1,000

Dr. Leslie Nagy, MD Psychiatrist - The cost for an evaluation and report is \$700 (\$325 is charged if the child/family does not show without advance notice)

7. Approve the 403(b) Adoption Agreement between the Midland Park Board of Education and US OMNI & TSACG Compliance Services.
8. Accept the following grant funding from the School Development Authority for projects related to emergent and capital maintenance needs:

FY 2002 Funding for Return of Students \$21,575

FY 2023 Funding for Return of Students \$20,663

The grant funding will be used for the installation of AC/air exchange mechanical systems in the gymnasium of the Midland Park Jr/Sr High School and the multipurpose room of Godwin School.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

1. Approve the following staff members requesting workshop attendance:

Name	Workshop	Location	Cost	Date
Nicholas Capuano	Aspiring Superintendents	ZOOM	\$1,000	N/A
Danielle Vandenberghe	Osha 10 Plus for General Industry	On-line	\$259	N/A
Danielle Vandenberghe	Designing & Implementing Student Training Plans	On-Line	\$300	N/A
Burico Antunes	TECHSPO 2023	Atlantic City, NJ	\$1,146.88	1/25– 1/27/2023
Diane Erdman Kristie Gambutti Erin Holmes	A Closer Look at Dyslexia, Dysgraphia and Dyscalculia	On-Line	\$405 \$405 \$405	N/A

Roll Call: 5 Yes, 1 Abstain (Mrs. Fantulin)

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

2. Approve the submission of the Emergency Plan for Virtual or Remote Instruction for the 2022-2023 School Year to the New Jersey Department of Education.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

3. Approve the Extended Winter 2023 Courses, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education as follows:

- Barre Extended Winter Classes 1/4/23-2/25/23 (Midland Park H.S.)
- Pilates Extended Winter Classes 1/5/23-1/26/23 (Midland Park H.S.)
- Sewing All Levels Extended Winter Classes 1/4/23-2/8/23 (Midland Park H.S.)
- Zumba Extended Winter Classes 1/12/23-2/9/23 (Midland Park H.S.)
- Italian Beginner Extended Winter Classes 1/4/23-2/8/23 (Midland Park H.S.)
- Italian Intermediate Extended Winter Classes 1/2/23-2/6/23 (Midland Park H.S.)
- Men's Basketball Extended Winter Classes 1/2/23-2/6/23 (Midland Park H.S.)
- Open Pickleball MPHS Gym 6-8pm 1/1/23-3/26/23 (Midland Park H.S.)
- Staff Continuation Pickleball at Midland Park DePhilips Recreation Department 1/5/23-3/30/23
- Staff Continuation Spring Pickleball

4. Approve the Spring/Summer 2023 Youth Programs, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education.

5. Approve all courses, instructors, programs and trips in the Spring 2023 Midland Park Continuing Education brochure.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

No Report

- E. Legislative Committee – (Administration)

- On December 1, Governor Murphy announced the launch of the NJ Partnership for Student Success (NJPSS), an initiative designed to harness the energy of volunteers and community organizations to help students, educators and schools as they work to accelerate student learning in the post-pandemic world.
- The NJPSS will support school districts with a goal of recruiting, training and engaging an additional 5,000 adults who can serve as tutors, mentors, student success coaches, wraparound service coordinators and postsecondary transition coaches. These adults will work in coordination with educators, parents and other stakeholders to accelerate student learning, address youth mental health, support preschool programs, empower educators and strengthen community partnerships.

- F. Buildings & Grounds Committee – (C. Dell'Aglio, Chairperson)

No Report

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

- We had a meeting tonight, a report will be sent out

H. Technology & Public Relations Committee – (P. Fantulin, Chairperson)

- There were a number of PR workshops at the NJSBA Conf. A report was sent to the committee

I. Town Council – (P. Triolo, B. McCourt)

No Report

J. Diversity Committee – (J. Canellas, Chairperson)

No Report

K. Liaison Committee

High School PTA - (R. Formicola)

No Report

Elementary School PTA- (C. Dell'Aglio)

- Holiday Shop is this week for the students to shop for the their families and friends
- Holiday craft workshop on 12/19

Booster Club – (N. Eliya)

- Sports are starting this week
- This Thursday, 12/15, there are 3 boys basketball games, freshman, JV and Varsity - going to pack the house

Performing Arts Parents – (J. Canellas)

No Report

Special Education – (M. Thomas)

No Report

Education Foundation – (S. Criscenzo)

- Working on the Spring event on 3/11

Board of Recreation – (B. McCourt)

- Town is thankful that the band performed at the tree lighting
- Mr. Galasso invited the town to see the Veterans project at Highland School
- Seats open on many committees
- Staff pickle ball

Continuing Education Program – (P, Fantulin)

- A number of extended winter courses were approved on tonight's agenda
- Starting on 1/11, there is a STEM & Art program for elementary school children at Highland School that runs for 8 or 9 weeks. Sign up from the Facebook page link or get more information from the district website

L. Old Business

No Report

M. New Business

Motion – Ms. Dell'Aglio, seconded – Ms. Fantulin...

Motion to go into closed session before the meeting of January 3, 2023, for the purpose of reviewing the hiring of personnel, legal updates and confidential student HIB case reviews.

Roll Call: All Yes

Open to the Public - general COMMENTS only at this time are to be directed to the Board President.

No one chose to speak at this time.


Mr. McCourt wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Motion – Mr. Formicola, seconded – Mr. Canellas...

To adjourn the meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Stacy Garyey
School Business Administrator