

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Board of Education**  
**Midland Park, New Jersey**  
**April 19, 2016**

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 2016 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
	Patricia Fantulin	Brian McCourt
	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.**

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

There are renderings on display of the High School Media Center. This is a vision of what the new media center will look like when finished.

PARCC Testing is going well. There have not been any issues. Kudos to our Technology staff who have done a great job in preparation and support for the testing.

## BOARD MOTIONS

## APPENDIX

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

1. Approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meetings held on:

March 8, 2016

March 22, 2016

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

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. Triolo . . .

2. Approve the proposed Board of Education Schedule of Meetings from July 12, 2016 through January 3rd, 2017, as per the attached appendix. BM-2

Roll Call: All Yes

- A. Personnel – (M. Cirasella)

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2015-2016 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 – Ms. Criscenzo, seconded – Mr. Triolo . . .

To approve the following block motion:

1. Accept the retirement resignation of Mary Johnston, elementary school teacher in the Highland School, effective June 30, 2016.
2. Accept the retirement resignation of Diane Rebholz as the Secretary to the Midland Park Continuing Education program, effective June 30, 2016.

Roll Call: All Yes

- B. Finance Committee – (J. Canellas, Chairperson)

Motion – Mr. Canellas, seconded – Mr. Thomas . . .

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), we certify that as of March 31, 2016, 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. March 2016 Midland Park Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$67,467.89.
  - b. March 2016 cafeteria claims in the amount of \$36,939.30.
  - c. April 2016 claims in the amount of \$395,467.24.
3. Approve the March 2016 direct pays in the amount of \$583,163.61.
4. Approve the following block motion:
  - a. Second March 2016 payroll in the amount of \$578,426.01.
  - b. First April 2016 payroll in the amount of \$594,774.30.
5. Approve the transfers among accounts for the period March 1 – 31, 2016, as per the attached appendix. B-5
6. Approve the financial reports of the Board Secretary for the period March 1 – 31, 2016, as per the attached appendix. B-6
7. Approve the renewal of the Licensing and Maintenance Agreement between Educational Data Services and the Midland Park Board of Education.
8. Approve the following resolution:

The FSMC shall receive, in addition to the costs of operation, an administrative/management fee of \$.0981 per reimbursable meal and meal equivalent to compensate the FSMC for administrative and management costs. This fee shall be billed monthly as a cost of operation. The LEA guarantees the payment of such costs and fee to the FSMC.

Total meals are calculated by adding reimbursable meal pattern meals (breakfast, lunch) served and meal equivalents. The number of (School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch program) meals served to the children shall be determined by actual count. Cash receipts, other than from Sales of (National Lunch Program meals and School Breakfast Program meals) served to the children, shall be divided by \$1.00 to arrive at an equivalent meal count.

The per meal administrative/management fee of \$.0981 will be multiplied by total meals.
9. Approve the 2016-2017 Cafeteria Prices, as per the attached appendix. B-9
10. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Midland Park Board of Education does hereby approve an agreement with the Region 1/Mahwah Board of Education, a Coordinated Transportation Services Agency, for the purpose of transporting students in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the 2016-2017 school year. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, the coordinated transportation of public, nonpublic and special education students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Midland Park Board of Education agrees to abide by the Transportation Services Agreement as published by the Region 1/Mahwah Board of Education and attached to this resolution.

11. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Midland Park Board of Education does hereby approve an agreement with the South Bergen Jointure Commission, an approved Coordinated Transportation Services Agency, for the purposes of transporting students in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the time period 2016-2017 school year. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, the Coordinated Transportation of nonpublic, out of district special education, vocational and summer programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Midland Park Board of Education agrees to abide by the Transportation Services Agreement as published by the South Bergen Jointure Commission and attached to this resolution.

12. Approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission (“HCESC”), as Lead Agency for the HCESC cooperative pricing system (system identifier 34 HUNCCP), has awarded a contract for proprietary Apple technology products following the public solicitation of sealed bids pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-15, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-13 and N.J.A.C. 5:34-9.1; and

WHEREAS, the Midland Park Board of Education is a member of the HCESC cooperative pricing system and is authorized to make purchases from contracts awarded by the HCESC pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Apple technology products covered by the HCESC contract sought by the Midland Park Board of Education are of such a specialized nature that only such products will meet the needs of the Midland Park Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Midland Park Board of Education has heavily invested time and funds into the acquisition and integration of Apple products in local operations that will be wasted if non-Apple products were used to supplement the existing technology; and

WHEREAS, the use of non-Apple products would require either the wholesale replacement of the technology currently used by the Midland Park Board of Education or an unsupportable level of training, support and maintenance services that would utterly defeat the purpose of the public contracting laws;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Midland Park Board of Education hereby authorizes the purchase of proprietary Apple technology products from the HCESC contract.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- +13. **Approve the purchase of band uniforms from DeMoulin Bros. & Co. in the amount of \$35,946.00 to be charged to Account No. 11 401 100 600 03 81.**

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. McCourt questioned from where the funding is coming to pay for these uniforms.  
 Ms. Garvey answered money is being reallocated from other areas of the high school budget.  
 Mr. Thomas inquired how many uniforms will be purchased  
 Ms. Garvey said there will be uniforms for the entire band.

Motion – Mr. Canellas, seconded – Mr. Thomas . . .

- +14. **Approve the appropriation of Extraordinary Aid as follows:**

<b>11-190-100-610-00-35 Supplies –Technology</b>	
<b>Purchase of Chromebooks for grades 5 &amp; 6</b>	<b>\$45,000</b>
<b>11-000-261-420-03-52 Contracted Services- High School</b>	
<b>Renovations to high school media center</b>	<b>\$59,240</b>
<b>12-402-100-732-03-80 Equipment- Athletics</b>	
<b>Purchase stadium score board</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$139,240</b>

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- S-1 Approve the agreement with Sterling High School SJTP Shared Service Agreement, as per the attached appendix. BS-1

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- S-2 Approve the transfer of \$15,204 from account #11-190-100-610-02-00 to account #12-120-100-730-02-00 for the purchase of a Cosmopolitan 10’x16’ tension screen, a WXGA rear projector, and a ELPLU01 short throw zoom lens. Purchase price includes freight, materials and labor for installation. NJ State Contract #A81123.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

To approve the following block motion:

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

Name	Workshop	Location	Cost	Date

Mallory Buchmann	ABA – Behavior Management	New Providence, NJ	\$196.38	May 3, 10, 2016
Christina Eromenok	Mindfulness Techniques Children & Teens	Hasbrouck Heights, NJ	\$207.43	June 8, 2016

- +2. **Approve the non-resident enrollment of Gabrielle Esposito, daughter of Robert Esposito, Media Technician, in the freshman class at the high school for September 2016, as per Board Policy 5111.**

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- +1. **Approve the following new or revised policies, as per the attached appendices:**

<b>a. Public Participation in Board Meetings</b>	<b>Bylaws Section 0167</b>	<b><u>D1-a</u></b>
<b>b. Recording Board Meetings</b>	<b>Bylaws Section 0168</b>	<b><u>D1-b</u></b>
<b>c. Health and Physical Education</b>	<b>Policy Section 2422</b>	<b><u>D1-c</u></b>
<b>d. Athletic Competition</b>	<b>Policy Section 2431</b>	<b><u>D1-d</u></b>
<b>e. Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students</b>	<b>Policy Section 5111</b>	<b><u>D1-e</u></b>
<b>f. Health Services</b>	<b>Policy Section 5310</b>	<b><u>D1-f</u></b>
<b>g. Administration of Medical Marijuana</b>	<b>Policy Section 5330.01</b>	<b><u>D1-g</u></b>
<b>h. High School Graduation</b>	<b>Policy Section 5460</b>	<b><u>D1-h</u></b>
<b>i. Reporting Potentially Missing or Abused Children</b>	<b>Policy Section 8462</b>	<b><u>D1-i</u></b>
<b>j. Outstanding Food Service Charges</b>	<b>Policy Section 8550</b>	<b><u>D1-j</u></b>

Roll Call: All Yes

Ms. Fantulin asked which policies are not mandatory.

Mr. McCourt answered a. through c. and j.

- E. Legislative Committee – (P. Fantulin, Chairperson)

Ms. Fantulin reported that nothing has made its way across the Governor’s desk, so in the meantime she has been watching two issues. One is the lawsuit brought by several students and parents against the NJ Department of Education which alleges that the new high school graduation requirements are in fact illegal. According to Politico, Administrative Law Judge Thomas Betancourt has determined that education officials have violated a statute in deciding to use PARCC as the new high school exit exam, but that he has not determined what remedy should be imposed. The State Department of Education has said it is ready to handle a large number of appeals if necessary.

The second issue underway is the hammering out of regulations relating to the thousand page Every Student Succeeds Act, passed in December. Some policymakers want more attention paid in ESSSA to ensuring that federal Title I dollars augment state and local money, rather than replace it. Others are concerned that the Department of Education proposals would force districts and states to show how much they spend per student, particularly looking at teacher salaries. Critics argue that this goes beyond the scope of the Department of Education's regulatory authority and could end up forcing districts to engage in teacher transfers or student transfers in order to equalize spending between schools and that this could be extraordinarily disruptive and lead to inequalities.

F. Buildings & Grounds Committee – (P. Triolo, Chairperson)

Renderings of the Media Center have been enlarged and are on display. On behalf of the Board of Education, thank you to the Education Foundation for their contribution toward this effort.

G. Negotiations Committee - (W. Sullivan, Chairperson)

April 26<sup>th</sup> is the first meeting to be scheduled.

H. Technology & Public Relations Committee – (R. Formicola, Chairperson)

No Report.

I. Liaison Committee

High School PTA - (S. Criscenzo)

Events scheduled:  
T-shirts and plant sale fund raisers.

Elementary School PTA- (R. Formicola)

No Report.

Booster Club – (T. Thomas)

Spring sports are off to a very good start.  
On the Face Book page there is a write up on each team.

Performing Arts Parents – (P. Triolo)

Items reviewed:  
Raffle fundraiser.  
Scholarship discussions.

Special Education – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

Education Foundation – (P. Fantulin)

The following items were reported on:

- Applications for the MPPEF scholarship are due on Wednesday, April 27, 2016.
- Teacher Appreciation week is slated for the first week of May. There is a program that recognizes Midland Park School District teachers and staff members for a job well done.
- Work has begun on the 5K. The Foundation is currently looking for sponsors. They reserved the timing company. The committee is considering different options like a family fun run, family sponsorships, possibly introducing grand-prix points, getting a band or DJ. They have also decided to include a tribute to Mr. Varjian and they will likely have a collection for socks or soup for Mr. Varjian's favorite food pantry.
- Next meeting is scheduled for May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Board of Recreation – (B. McCourt)

No Report.

Continuing Education Program – (M. Thomas)

The new session is up and running.

Student Representative to the Board – (Aidan MacLean)

The following items were reported on:

- Underclassmen take the PARCC exams.
- The fourth quarter has begun and Advanced Placement students continue to prepare for their exams.
- Washington D.C. Holocaust Studies Trip is approaching. The group have been meeting to discuss the upcoming trip.
- Students will go to a Model UN this Saturday if they are in the club.

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

No Report.

Ad Hoc – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

J. Old Business

Ms. Fantulin commented on attending David Thompson's Eagle Scout award ceremony. She reported that it was a beautiful, moving ceremony and the small town nature of Midland Park really showed itself to be precious. Ms. Fantulin was impressed with the turnout, as well as, the number and quality of the speakers. David's project focused on commemorating Midland Park members of the armed services, who have died in service to their country. There were several veteran organizations in attendance and he received a number of additional awards and certificates.

K. New Business



Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. Triolo . . .

To go into closed session before the meeting of May 3, 2016, for the purpose of reviewing the hiring of personnel and confidential student HIB case reviews.

Roll Call: All Yes

Open to the Public

Dr. Thomas invited the public to address the Board.

Mrs. Denise MacLean asked if when the PARCC Testing is complete will there be an announcement of how many students / parents refused the testing.

Dr. Cirasella said that she will announce the district wide number.

Mrs. MacLean also commented she received two letters on a student matter and felt it to be redundant. Dr. Thomas replied that you would need to speak to the principal with regard to this matter.

Mrs. MacLean asked about the Absence Policy and if it were an excused absence if you call in and say you are picking up your child. Dr. Cirasella responded to check the Student Handbook, but this is a school based matter which you will need to speak to the principal.

Motion – Mr. McCourt, seconded – Ms. Fantulin . . .

To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey,  
School Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary