

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Board of Education**  
**Midland Park, New Jersey**  
**November 1, 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 | Richard Formicola |
|          | Timothy Thomas    |                   |
|          | Maryalice Thomas  |                   |

|          |                  |
|----------|------------------|
| Excused: | Brian McCourt    |
|          | William Sullivan |
|          | Peter Triolo     |

**OTHERS PRESENT**

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| Staff: | Marie Cirasella, Superintendent of Schools           |
|        | Stacy Garvey, Business Administrator/Board Secretary |

**BOARD PRESIDENT ITEMS**

**Mission Statement**

**The Midland Park School District as part of a strong, dedicated community, provides its students with a comprehensive, adoptive education aligned to 21<sup>st</sup> 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.**

The following items were discussed:

Congratulations to our Marching Band, they earned 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Syracuse competition.

Shredding at the Municipal Lot will take place on November 19, 2016.

Girl Soccer won the first round State game today.

## **SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS ITEMS**    *Dr. Marie Cirasella*

APPENDIX

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

1. Approve the submission of the Midland Park School District's New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC) Statement of Assurance for the 2016-2017 school year, which is attached as an appendix.

SR-1

2. Approve the District Organizational Chart, as per the attached appendix.

SR-2

Roll Call: All Yes

Dr. Cirasella also congratulated the Marching Band.

December 12, 2016- ABR ACT/ HIB Presentation

## **AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Review of agenda for the Action Meeting to be held on November 22, 2016.

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

No one chose to speak on any item.

*District policy states that anyone wishing to speak on an agenda item prior to its vote by the full Board will have an opportunity to do so without prior notice.*

## **BOARD MOTIONS**

### **Action Items:**

- A. Personnel- (M. Cirasella)

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2016-2017 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. Fantulin, seconded – Ms. Criscenzo . . .

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve a paid maternity leave for Allison Kilgallen, elementary teacher in the Highland School, effective approximately January 24, 2017 through February 20, 2017; a paid child care leave, effective approximately February 21, 2017 through March 20, 2017; an unpaid leave as per the NJ Family Leave Act, effective approximately March 21, 2017 through June 19, 2017 and an unpaid leave, effective June 20, 2017 through June 23, 2017.

2. Approve a paid maternity leave for Laurie Belthoff, elementary teacher in the Godwin School, effective approximately January 30, 2017 through February 26, 2017; a paid child care leave, effective approximately February 27, 2017 through March 25, 2017; an unpaid leave as per the NJ Family Leave Act, effective approximately March 26, 2017 through June 17, 2017 and an unpaid leave, effective June 18, 2017 through June 23, 2017.
3. Accept the resignation of Kira Harder as a School Psychologist, effective December 30, 2016.
4. Approve the appointment of the following coaches at the high school, for the 2016-2017 school year, as per the attached appendix: A-4
5. Approve the appointment of Maureen Barbour as a substitute Bus Driver. She will be paid at the approved hourly rate effective, retroactive from October 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

Roll Call: All Yes

B. Finance- (J. Canellas, Chairperson)

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

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the following resolution and attached appendices: B-1

**Whereas**, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit three-year maintenance plans documenting “required” maintenance activities for each of its public school facilities, and

**Whereas**, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached document for the various school facilities of the Midland Park School District are consistent with these requirements, and

**Whereas**, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid,

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved**, that the Midland Park School District hereby authorizes the school business administrator to submit the attached Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for Midland Park in compliance with Department of Education requirements.

2. Accept the New Jersey Department of Education revised funding for the 2016-2017 school year, as follows:

|                                   |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Nonpublic Technology Aid          | \$ 4,654.00  |
| Nonpublic Nursing Aid             | \$ 17,100.00 |
| Security Aid                      | \$ 9,500.00  |
| Services Under Chapters 192 & 193 | \$129,446.00 |

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- S-1 Accept a donation from The Midland Park Boosters Association in the amount \$1950.00 for the purchase of a new sound board for Memorial Hall.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

To approve the following block motion:

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

| Name           | Workshop                   | Location        | Cost     | Date        |
|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------|-------------|
| Maureen Kelley | NJASL 2016 Fall Conference | Long Branch, NJ | \$356.45 | 11/17-19/16 |

- 2. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the placement of a non-classified high school student on bedside instruction at the Daytop Village of New Jersey, Mendham, NJ, effective retroactive from October 7, 2016 through January 7, 2017.

Roll Call: All Yes

**LIAISON/BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

No Report.

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

The NJSBA Delegates Assembly will take place on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

The following 3 items were reported on as items that are up for a vote:

- a. A TASK FORCE that was created to study NJSBA GOVERNANCE determined that there needs to be additional language in 4 Article VI, 2c (Board of Directors) and Article VII, 2c (Officers) stating that, upon the decision 5 to run for municipal, county, or state elected office or political party chair, an individual must 6 step down from the NJSBA or county school boards association leadership role. The language 7 must also specifically clarify that the position of IPP is included in the provision. Additionally, 8 the same language should be included in Article XI(County School Boards Association).

The next item is a Sunset Review that recommends reaffirming an item that was held back from the May review and sent to December after it was checked. Another 55 policies are recommended to be reaffirmed and two have been recommended for amendment or partial deletion. One of these is a policy update to reflect current law regarding professional

development requirements.

The other item is aid to School Districts which has become contentious with Governor Christie's current desire to equalize funding. The NJSBA is reaffirming its support for the School Funding Formula.

Finally, Marlboro introduced a resolution advocating the NJSBA push for a shift in the burden of proof in Special Education litigation. Presently, the burden of proof is on school districts rather than the complaining party, which they argue runs counter to a Supreme Court decision, Schaffer vs. West, 2005. In 2014, New Jersey School Boards Association's Special Education Task Force recommended making this change and Marlboro Township Board of Education believes that this change would reduce their expenses and therefore the impact on property taxes. Basically, they would like to encourage legislators to do this and they want a NJSBA resolution supporting this.

F. Buildings and Grounds Committee- (P. Triolo, Chairperson)

No Report.

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

No Report.

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

The following items were reported on:

- Doubled the storage capacity of the high school server
- Upgraded 3 laptop carts (78 laptops) from Highland School to Windows 10 from Windows 7
- Upgraded 158 iPads to the latest IOS and Apps
- Created 504 electronic forms and letters

I. Liaison Committee

High School PTA – (S. Criscenzo)

No Report.

Elementary School PTA - (R. Formicola)

There was a very good turn-out for the Book Fair.

Booster Club – (T. Thomas)

Money has been donated for the soundboard. We are so happy that the Boosters have branched out their support.

Performing Arts Parents – (P. Triolo)

No Report.

Special Education – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

Education Foundation – (P. Fantulin)

No Report.

Board of Recreation – (B. McCourt)

No Report.

Continuing Education Program – (M. Thomas)

No Report.

Student Representative to the Board – (Tess Steuerwald)

The following items were reported on:

- The Take Action first Public Meeting was held last week.
- New Club – Girl Up has begun.
- Drama rehearsals starting.
- November 18-20 *The Election* will take place.
- High School – Seeking volunteers for America Legion pancake breakfast Fund Raiser.
- Hugh O’Brien Youth Leadership (HOBY) is a state leadership seminar. Josephine Dragonetti and Ann Skudera sophomore students have been selected to represent our district by attending this seminar offered in July.

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

No Report.

Ad Hoc – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

### **ADDITIONAL BOARD ITEMS**

No one chose to speak.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was nothing to report.

## NEW BUSINESS

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

To go into closed session before the meeting of November 22, 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.

Mr. Nabil Alia proposed cost benefits on the rental of fields and gyms to any programs outside of Midland Park based on field conditions. Over-use not worth the rental dollars from the outside programs. Mr. Alia asked for discussion on this topic.

Dr. Thomas asked for the Building & Grounds Committee to review.

Mr. Alia also informed the Board that the field closed signs had been taken down on the Highland field. Ms. Garvey will make sure the signs are up.

Motion - Mr. Canellas, 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