

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Board of Education**  
**Midland Park, New Jersey**  
September 20, 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:	Patricia Fantulin	Richard Formicola
	Brian McCourt	William Sullivan
	Maryalice Thomas	

**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, 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.**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

The District Assessment Presentation will be held on October 18, 2016.

Open to the Public:

To discuss action items on the Agenda.  
No one chose to speak.

## BOARD MOTIONS

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

1. Approve the minutes of the regularly scheduled public meeting held on August 16, 2016.

Roll Call: All Yes

- A. Personnel – (M. Cirasella)

APPENDIX

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.

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the correct salaries for the following teachers for the 2016-2017 school year:

Karen Corcoran	\$112,755 (MA+ 30 Step 21)
Maureen Fister Donatien	\$112,755 (MA+ 30 Step 21)
Suzanne Esposito	\$111,105 (MA+ 30 Step 21)
John Ferriday	\$114,855 (MA+ 30 Step 21)
Dianna Grasso	\$111,105 (MA+ 30 Step 21)
Jeffrey Hackett	\$112,755 (MA+ 30 Step 21)
Patricia Homsany	\$110,305 (MA+ 30 Step 21)
Kathleen LePage	\$100,405 (MA Step 21)
Teresa Mallon	\$112,755 (MA+30 Step 21)
Magdalene Ptak	\$ 90,955 (BA Step 21)
Nancy Stewart LoPresti	\$111,105 (MA+ 30 Step 21)
Therese Seiders	\$100,405 (MA Step 21)
Teresa Wecht	\$112,755 (MA+ 30 Step 21)

2. Approve the appointment of Lisa McNerney as a substitute Athletic Trainer for the 2016-2017 school year.

3. Approve the following additions to the list of Advisors to Activities and Clubs at the high school for the 2016-2016 school year:

		<u>Stipend</u>
Add:	Paul Marino          Senate Advisor	\$2,338
	Jason Whelpley      Drama Producer	\$ 408

4. Approve the employment contracts for the following individual staff members, effective retroactive from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, as per the attached appendices:

- a. Eurico Antunes, District Technology & Data Coordinator
- b. Ristem Sela, Computer Technician

A-4a

A-4b

5. Approve a paid maternity leave for Nina Suri, Guidance Counselor in the high school, effective approximately November 21, 2016 through December 17, 2016; a paid child care leave, effective approximately December 18, 2016 through January 14, 2017 and an unpaid child care leave as per the NJ Family Leave Act, effective January 15, 2017 through March 31, 2017.
6. Accept the resignation of Karen Donohue, Instructional Aide in the Godwin School, effective October 12, 2016.
7. Approve a paid sick leave of absence for Barrie Facente, Instructional Aide in the Godwin School, effective September 27, 2016 through November 1, 2016 and an unpaid leave of absence, effective November 2, 2016 through approximately November 28, 2016.
8. Approve the appointment of Mireya Perez as a part-time Bus Driver. She will be paid at the approved hourly rate, effective September 21, 2016 through June 30, 2017.
9. Approve the following additions to the list of substitute workers for the 2016-2017 school year:

Thomas Iandiorio	Maintenance worker
Susan Hartmann	Building Aide
Katherine Marsden	Bus Aide

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- S-1. Approve the following additions to the list of substitute workers for the 2016-2017 school year:

Marissa Emord	Bus Aide
Nancy Rosa	Bus Driver

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

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 August 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. August 2016 direct pays in the amount of \$1,140,390.33.

- b. August 2016 Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$37,924.41.
  - c. August 2016 Cafeteria claims in the amount of \$4,290.20.
  - d. Second August 2016 payroll in the amount of \$131,644.99.
  - e. First September 2016 payroll in the amount of \$599,188.91.
  - f. September 2016 claims in the amount of \$1,957,597.88.
3. Approve the financial reports of the Board Secretary for the period July 1 – 31, 2016, as per the attached appendix. B-3
  4. Approve the financial reports of the Board Secretary for the period August 1 – 31, 2016, as per the attached appendix. B-4
  5. Approve the transfers between accounts for the period August 1 – 31, 2016, as per the attached appendix. B-5
  6. Approve Applied Behavioral Analysis Parent Training Workshops, offered by Region II for the 2016-2017 school year.
  7. Approve Bergen County Region V Council for Special Education to perform evaluations, on as needed basis, for the 2016-2017 school year, as follows:

Speech  
Occupational Therapy  
Physical Therapy  
Home Programing and Parent Training

Roll Call: All Yes

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

8. Accept the donation of the MPHS Athletic Booster Association in the sum of \$4,000 to provide funds for the stadium snack bar renovation project, as per Board Policy 7230.

Roll Call: All Yes

Ms. Fantulin expressed her thanks for the donation. The snack bar renovation is urgently needed.

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

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .

1. Approve the following staff members requesting workshop attendance:

Name	Workshop	Location	Cost	Date
Hayley Devereaux	AP Workshop Studio Art	Philadelphia, PA	\$220.38	11/18/2016

Christine Carr	NJ Association of School Librarians Conference	Long Branch, NJ	\$193.40	11/17, 18, 19/2016
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Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .

2. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the placement of one classified high school student on bedside instruction, effective retroactive from September 6, 2016 through October 2, 2016.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. Formicola . . .

3. Approve the Nursing Services Plan for the 2016-2017 school year, which is attached as an appendix.

C-3

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- S-2. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the bedside instruction of one regular education high school student in Saint Clare’s Hospital, Boonton Township, NJ, effective retroactive from September 17, 2016 through approximately November 25, 2016 (or sooner).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- S-3. Approve the exception to Board Policy 9541 and allow Student Teachers and Interns previously approved by the Board, Resolutions A-2 of March 22, 2016 meeting and A-21, A-22 & A-31 of the May 24, 2016 meeting, to continue with their training pending receipt of a County Substitute Certificate.

Roll Call: All Yes

Legislative Committee – (P. Fantulin, Chairperson)

The following items were reported on:

- S-2081/A-3790 limits expulsions and out of school suspensions for students in Pre-K through Grade 2.
- A-2292/S-372 requires the DOE to review the standards in health and physical education to ensure they are updated for evidence – based standards and practices with regard to substance abuse. A report will be issued within 120 days of enactment and will include proposed changes.
- A-2566/S-496 directs the commissioner of education to develop and establish an initiative to support and encourage the use of a Response to Intervention framework by school districts to promote the achievement of all students.
- A-2689/s-754 is the Secure Schools for All Children Act, which establishes a state aid program for security services, equipment, or technology to ensure a safe and secure school environment for non-public schools.

- The School Security Officer Bill, S-86/A-3629 was vetoed conditionally. The bill seeks to establish class three Special Law Enforcement Officers (SLEO's) to provide security in public and non public schools, and county colleges. The NJSBA objected because the legislature removed the requirement that the officer complete a school resource officer training course and it seems the governor agreed.
- A4122 removes standardized tests scores from teacher evaluations. Assemblywomen Caride and Jasey spoke about the need to “decouple” teacher evaluations and high stakes standardized testing.

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

No Report.

Negotiations Committee - (W. Sullivan, Chairperson)

No Report.

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

The following items have been accomplished:

- New Highland school computer lab with 25 23” touch screen computers and 65” smart tv.
- Reconfigure and upgrade high school computer lab and upgrade all computers to Windows 10.
- Installed 7 new cameras at the high school to cover the field and bleachers.
- Installed new wireless clock system in Godwin School offices and classrooms.
- Upgrade all classroom teacher computers to Windows 10.
- Upgrade PowerSchool to version 10 in order for teachers to have a browser based teacher gradebook system.

I. Liaison Committee

High School PTA - (S. Criscenzo)

Event up-date:

- Plant sale
- General Meeting scheduled for September 21, 2016.

Elementary School PTA- (R. Formicola)

Event up-date:

- 9/22/16—No –cook Fundraiser
- 9/27/16 – Picture Day
- Harvest Festival
- Kids Stuff Books

Booster Club – (T. Thomas)

No Report.

Performing Arts Parents – (P. Triolo)

Event up-date:

-Up-coming *Music in the Park*  
-Fundraisers

Special Education – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

Education Foundation – (P. Fantulin)

The following items were mentioned:

- Thank you for supporting the 5 K.
- Teacher Grants are due this week.
- Thank you to the Foundation for funding a new screen for the High School Auditorium.

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:

- Excited about the new renovations
- New class offerings
- New stadium is amazing
- Extra Curricular groups have met
- New club, Girl-Up Club being reviewed.

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

The meeting is scheduled for 10/11/16.

Ad Hoc – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

J. Old Business

At this time there wasn't anything to speak about.

K. New Business

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. Formicola . . .

To go into closed session before the meeting of October 4, 2016, for the purpose of reviewing the hiring of personnel and confidential student HIB case reviews.

Roll Call: All Yes

Dr. Thomas invited the public to address the Board.

Ms. Jill Barber has a daughter in ECLC and 2 boys at Highland. She asked about the possibility of a handicap accessible ramp and additional parking in front of the high school. Ms. Garvey responded both of those items were reviewed during the planning of the referendum. We are unable to put in a ramp, too steep. Also, there is not enough room for the length it would have to be. Parking is going to be part of the maintenance garage renovations.

Ms. Barber also spoke on the amount of homework being given. Research has shown there is no need for homework. She stated her children have become stressed about school and homework and a lot of parents feel the same way.

Dr. Cirasella replied that this is not a Board issue. Board policies are always being reviewed and provide latitude to the schools. You will need to go to the teachers first and then to the principal. If you are not satisfied, my door is always open. We do have committees in place regarding the homework issue. If homework is effectively given and is constructive to the learning process it can be a positive action.

Ms. Melissa McElwain stated she has a son at the high school and she complimented the team at Highland School, commending the 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers. They did a great job getting her son ready for the next grade and high school. She expressed her thanks.

Motion – Mr. Formicola, seconded – Ms. Fantulin . . .  
To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8: 35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey,  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary