

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MIDLAND PARK, NEW JERSEY  
JUNE 16, 2020**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Formicola at 8:00 p.m. 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 2020 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**

|          |                      |                  |
|----------|----------------------|------------------|
| Present: | James Canellas       | Sandra Criscenzo |
|          | Christine Dell’Aglia | Nabil Eliya      |
|          | Patricia Fantulin    | Brian McCourt    |
|          | Maryalice Thomas     | Peter Triolo     |

Richard Formicola

**OTHERS PRESENT**

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

**BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Mr. Canellas spoke on behalf of the district and stated that the town has had a lot of heartache. We have lost many parents in the last few months. Most recently, Lena Padovano, a real special lady who gave her all. She gave her heart to this community. Want to say thank you from the family for all the community has done for them. Hoping her spirit of kindness somehow continues in her memory.

## Mission Statement

The Midland Park School District as part of a strong, dedicated community, provides its students with a comprehensive, adaptive 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 Dr. Marie Cirasella

- We've made it to the last week of school and we are so proud of our students, teachers, Staff and families for their great efforts during the transition to distance learning. Principals remain in close contact with students and families regarding end-of-year procedures and encourage you to contact them with any questions or concerns.
- The NJDOE has yet to release guidance on school openings in September. We have already begun planning for a variety of potential options for re-opening of schools.
- The administrative team has formed an internal district committee and in analyzing what worked well in distance learning and where improvements must be made. Once additional guidance is received, we will bring other key stakeholders into the process.
- We are planning to access feedback from school families on their experiences with distance learning and hear any other concerns they may have.
- The NJSIAA is the governing body for high school athletics. The NJSIAA is aiming for schools to begin summer workouts on July 13. Guidelines for what this will look like will be in place by the end of June and will be based on NJDOE, NJ Dept. of Health and CDC guidelines.
- The NJSIAA and their newly established COVID-19 taskforce will continue to evaluate and discuss the status of fall sports as new information is released.
- With regard to youth and recreation sports and district facilities, the Governor announced on June 15 regarding youth sports, his statement does not apply to high school activities.
- Youth sports and camps are allowed to open as of Monday, June 22, there is still an executive order stating that school facilities are to remain closed.
- Sports are scheduled to begin on or around Labor Day.

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

There were no comments from the public.

### BOARD MOTIONS

### APPENDIX

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

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

May 5, 2020

May 19, 2020

Roll Call: All Yes

- Motion – Mr. Eliya, seconded – Mr. Canellas...
2. Approve the attainment of the Superintendent of School’s Merit Goals for the 2019-2020 school year, as per the attached appendix.

BM-2

Roll Call: All Yes

- Motion – Mr. Triolo, seconded – Ms. Criscenzo...
3. Approve the attainment of the School Business Administrator’s Merit Goal for the 2019-2020 school year, as per the attached appendix.

BM-3

Roll Call: All Yes

- Motion - Mr. Triolo, seconded – Ms. Dell’Aglia...
4. Authorize the Superintendent to hire staff over the summer months with retroactive Board approval.

Roll Call: All Yes

- Motion – Mr. Triolo, seconded – Mr. McCourt...
5. Approve the Agreement between the Midland Park Administrator’s Association and the Midland Park Board of Education, as well as Salary Schedule A, effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023.

Roll Call: All Yes

- Motion – Mr. Triolo, seconded – Mr. McCourt...
6. Approve the Agreement between the Midland Park Education Association and the Midland Park Board of Education, effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023.

Roll Call: All Yes

A. Personnel – (M. Cirasella)

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2020-2021 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. Canellas...
1. Approve the appointment and stipend in the amount of \$2,000 for Nicholas Capuano as the School Security Specialist for the 2019-2020 school year.
  2. Approve the payment of stipends for curriculum writing during the 2019-2020 school year, as follows:

| Name of Teacher      | Curriculum            | Total     |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Jessica Lee          | Algebra 2             | \$ 55.00  |
| Maggie Ptak          | Spanish 8             | \$ 55.00  |
| Phyllis Stepien      | Modern World History  | \$ 250.00 |
| Paul Marino          | Ancient World History | \$ 500.00 |
| Deb Marks            | Chemistry             | \$ 450.00 |
| Rana Parvanov Dawson | Biology               | \$ 450.00 |
| Nancy DeRitter       | Physics               | \$ 450.00 |

3. Approve the payments of stipends for Academic Support Lab paid through Title I funds for the 2019-2020 school year, as follows:

| Teacher            | No of Hours | Total    |
|--------------------|-------------|----------|
| Terri Wecht        | 17          | \$735.42 |
| Jaclyn DeMagistris | 9           | \$389.34 |
| Emily Donovan      | 5.5         | \$237.93 |
| Barbara Makela     | 6           | \$259.56 |
| Stephanie Mont     | 2.75        | \$118.97 |
| Ashley Smith       | 6           | \$259.56 |
| Deb Marks          | 9           | \$389.34 |

Roll Call: All Yes

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

4. Accept the retirement resignation of Joseph Naples as a Custodian, effective June 30, 2020.
5. Accept the resignation of Employee No. 1427, effective June 30, 2020.
6. Accept the resignation of Employee No. 1550, effective August 14, 2020.
7. Accept the resignation of Employee No. 1664, effective August 31, 2020.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

8. Approve the staff appointments for the Extended School Year Program, effective July 6-23, 2020, as per the attached appendix:
9. Approve the employment contracts for the following employees for the 2020-2021 school year:

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| a. Eurico Antunes   | District Technology & Data Coordinator   |
| b. Trina Bradley    | Confidential Secretary to the Director of Special Education & Child Study Team |
| c. Virginia Callero | Payroll & Benefits Coordinator   |

A-8

- d. Scott Collins Buildings & Grounds Supervisor
- e. Lisa Green Confidential Secretary to Business Administrator
- f. Eileen Pomianek Assistant to the Business Administrator
- g. Anne Schaper Confidential Secretary to Superintendent of Schools
- h. Ristem Sela Computer Technician
- i. Zachary Spadaccini Computer Media Technician

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Ms. Criscenzo, seconded – Ms. Fantulin...

10. Approve the Secretarial salaries for the 2020-2021 school year, as per the attached appendix: A-10

11. Approve the Instructional Aide salaries for the 2020-2021 school year, as per the attached appendix: A-11

12. Approve the Custodial/Maintenance salaries for the 2020-2021 school year, as per the attached appendix: A-12

Roll Call: All Yes

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

13. Approve the appointment of Krzysztof Jaje as a Maintenance worker. He will be paid a salary of \$49,000 (Step 13 on the Maintenance salary guide, including Maintenance stipends of \$6,000) effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Ms. Fantulin, seconded – Ms. Criscenzo...

14. Approve the appointment of Delroy Sinclair as a Custodian. He will be paid a prorated salary of \$36,700 (Step 6 on the Custodial salary guide, including Night Differential), effective August 3, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Ms. Criscenzo, seconded – Ms. Fantulin...

15. Approve the summer hours for the following Child Study Team members to work up to 10 days each during the months of July and August 2020. They will be paid as per Schedule D of the MPEA contract:

- Christy Kearney Learning Disabilities Teacher/Consultant
- Jennifer Liss School Social Worker
- Catherine Prinsell School Psychologist
- Emily Trent School Psychologist
- Pamela Vermaas Learning Disabilities Teacher/Consultant

16. Approve the summer hours for Craig Rush, Student Assistance Counselor, for up to 24 hours during the months of July and August 2020. He will be paid as per Schedule D of the MPEA Agreement.

17. Approve the summer hours for Carole Treta, Technology Coordinator, for up to 60 additional hours. She will be paid as per Schedule D of the MPEA contract.

18. Approve the summer hours for the following Guidance Counselors. They will be paid as per Schedule D of the MPEA contract:

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Kelly Scala    | up to 1 additional day for 7 hours per day  |
| Margaret Owens | up to 8 additional days for 7 hours per day |
| Elizabeth Wall | up to 8 additional days for 7 hours per day |

19. Approve the summer hours for the following Certified School Nurses to review student records to ensure that required immunizations are complete prior to the start of school. They will each work for two additional days, not to exceed 15 hours, and will be paid as per Schedule D of the MPEA contract:

Karen Corcoran  
Lauren Fenning

20. Approve the summer hours for the following Secretaries, for up to 20 additional days each:

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Michele Callesano | Highland Secretary to the Principal              |
| Marie Pantina     | High School Guidance Secretary                   |
| Barbara Rasmussen | High School Secretary to the Principal           |
| Carol Weaver      | High School Secretary to the Assistant Principal |

21. Approve the summer hours for the following Midland Park Continuing Education program staff:

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Jo Ann Francolino | Bookkeeper for up to 120 additional hours |
| Beth Kasbarian    | Clerk for up to 120 additional hours      |

Roll Call: All Yes

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

22. Approve the appointment of Danielle Bache as the Affirmative Action & Title IX Officer, effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Roll Call: All Yes

B. Finance Committee – (B. McCourt, Chairperson)

Motion – Mr. McCourt, seconded – Mr. Canellas...

1. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), we certify that as of May 31, 2020, 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.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. McCourt, seconded – Mr. Canellas...

2. Approve the following block motion:
  - a. May 2020 direct pays in the amount of \$423,656.26.
  - b. May 2020 Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$24,805.43.
  - c. May 2020 Cafeteria claims in the amount of \$25,920.40.
  - d. Second May 2020 payroll in the amount of \$614,374.64.
  - e. First June 2020 payroll in the amount of \$759,298.42.
  - f. June 2020 claims in the amount of \$153,189.29.
  - g. First Quarter SUI payment in the amount of \$9,359.16.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. McCourt, seconded – Mr. Canellas...

3. Approve the cash reports and the Board Secretary's report for the period May 1 – 31, 2020, as per the attached appendix. B-3
4. Approve the transfers between accounts for the period May 1 – 31, 2020, as per the attached appendix. B-4
5. Authorize the Business Administrator to cancel outstanding checks in the various accounts, in accordance with the Auditor's recommendations, as per the attached appendix. B-5

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. McCourt, seconded – Mr. Canellas...

6. Approve the submission of the 2020-2021 IDEA Grant Application to the New Jersey Department of Education and the acceptance of the entitlement funds as follows:

|           |              |
|-----------|--------------|
| Basic     | \$260,364.00 |
| Preschool | \$ 21,248.00 |

7. Approve the third amendment to the Lease Agreement and the fourth amendment to the Facility and Program Agreement between the Midland Park Board of Education and Bergen County Special Services Board of Education.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. McCourt, seconded – Ms. Dell’Aglia...

8. Approve the following resolution for the transfer of current year surplus to reserve:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:21-2 and N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-13 permit a Board of Education to establish and/or deposit into certain reserve accounts at year end, and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permit a Board of Education to transfer anticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by Board resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Midland Park Board of Education wishes to deposit anticipated current year surplus into a Capital Reserve account at year end, and

WHEREAS, the Midland Park Board of Education has determined to retain as yearend unreserved undesignated fund balance for the year end June 30, 2020 an amount not-to-exceed the state mandated 2% cap plus an additional \$275,000.00; with the excess above this amount, in an amount not to exceed the maximum allowable amount defined by the district’s Long Range Facility Plan is to be transferred to the Capital Reserve Account subject to the verification upon completion of the Audit;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Midland Park Board of Education that it hereby authorizes the district’s School Business Administrator to make this transfer consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. McCourt, seconded – Mr. Triolo...

9. Approve the following resolution to increase the bid threshold:

WHEREAS, Stacy Garvey, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary possesses a Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) certificate;

WHEREAS, the State Treasurer, in consultation with the Governor and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:34-7, and N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (b), has increased the bid threshold amount for school districts with a Qualified Purchasing Agent , from \$40,000 to \$44,000, and the Quote Threshold from \$6,000 to \$6,600, effective July 1, 2020;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Midland Park Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (a) and N.J.A.C. 5:34-5.4, establishes and sets the bid threshold amount of \$44,000 and the Quote Threshold in the amount of \$6,600 for the Board of Education, and further authorizes Stacy Garvey, the Qualified Purchasing Agent, to award contracts, in full accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (a), for those purchases that do not exceed in the aggregate of the newly established bid threshold amount.

Roll Call: All Yes



Motion – Mr. McCourt, seconded – Ms. Dell’Aglia...

- 10. Approve Iva Rinaudo as a Spanish translator (as needed) during parent meetings for the 2020-2021 school year at the rate of \$40 per hour.

- 11. Authorize the School Business Administrator to execute the Agreement for Alcohol and Drug Testing Services between Valley Medical Group and the Midland Park Board of Education for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

Motion – Ms. Criscenzo, seconded – Ms. Fantulin...

- 1. Approve the membership resolution in the New Jersey Interscholastic Athletic Association for the 2020-2021 school year.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Ms. Criscenzo, seconded – Ms. Fantulin...

- 2. Approve the following new instructors to teach Continuing Education summer classes virtually from July 1 through August 31, 2020:

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Kaitlin Higgins  | Summer cooking Classes                                  |
| Steve Manin      | “Crossword Coach – How to Solve the NY Times Crossword” |
| Diana Warcholik, | Critter Care Kids Workshops                             |
| Kristen Conte    | Kids Exercise/Dance Workshops                           |

- 3. Approve Hobby Quest of Northern NJ, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education, to teach Kids Virtual Summer Workshops from July 1 – August 21, 2020.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Ms. Criscenzo, seconded – Ms. Fantulin...

- 4. Approve the college and university partnerships with Midland Park course offerings for dual enrollment credit, as per the attached appendix.

C-4

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- S-1. Approve all instructors and classes from the Spring 2020 Continuing Education brochure to continue teaching summer classes virtually, effective July 1- August 31, 2020.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

Motion – Dr. Thomas, seconded – Ms. Dell’Aglia...

1. Approve the following revised Mandated Board Policies:
  - a. Domestic Violence Policy Section 1581
  - b. Health and Physical Education Policy Section 2422
  - c. Administration of Medication Policy Section 5330
  - d. School Day Policy Section 8220
  - e. Reporting Potentially Missing or Abused Children Policy Section 8462

Roll Call: All Yes

E. Legislative Committee – (Administration)

- Several pieces of legislation were recently introduced and have yet to be approved
  - A4165 extends the time period for which student-athletes are required to receive physical examinations before participation in athletic activities for the 2020-2021 school year
  - S2481 establishes a task force to study the impact to the COVID-19 pandemic
  - A4159 requires new civics instruction in middle and high schools. It requires districts to use NJDOE curriculum guidelines and requires the department to provide funding to enhance civics instruction
  - S2380 concerns employment benefits related to COVID-19 infections contracted by essential employees
  - S2383 requires the Commissioner of Education to establish a three-year Bridge Year Pilot Program for students who were impacted by COVID-19

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

- Repaired irrigation issues on both fields
- Removed cabinets in Highland School conference room and repaired wall and carpet tile
- Fertilized all fields
- Prepared boilers for mandated State and insurance co. inspection
- Installed several new countertops, sink and faucets
- Reused/installed cabinets in Godwin staff room
- Maint. staff has begun assembling and installing sneeze guards in all restrooms
- Procuring Personal Protective Equipment
- Continuing the summer building cleaning

G. Negotiations Committee - (P. Triolo, Chairperson)

- Thank you to the Board for approving the two negotiated contracts and for your support.

H. Technology & Public Relations Committee – (C. Dell’Aglia, Chairperson)

No Report

I. Town Council – (R. Formicola, P. Triolo)

No Report

J. Liaison Committee

High School PTA - (J. Canellas)

No Report

Elementary School PTA- (C. Dell'Aglio)

- Starting School Kits fundraiser, expanding into August

Booster Club – (N. Eliya)

- Looking for new Board for next year
- Hoops Mania fundraiser- donate money or refunds
- Senior scholarships

Performing Arts Parents – (P. Fantulin)

- Magicals on facebook
- Candy Grams fundraiser still going on
- National School Performance Award – see link on MPPAPS

Special Education – (P. Triolo)

No Report

Education Foundation – (S. Criscenzo)

- New trustees, still open seats
- 5K virtually in September
- Student liaison
- Scholarships

Board of Recreation – (B. McCourt)

No Report

Continuing Education Program – (M. Thomas)

No Report

Student Representative to the Board – (Samantha Padovano)

No Report

K. Old Business

No Report

L. New Business

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

Motion to go into closed session before the meeting of July 14, 2020, 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.

Mr. Formicola invited the public to address the Board.

No one chose to speak at this time.

Mr. Formicola commented on the virtual 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation - Mr. Galasso and staff did a great job, the students were excited.

Motion – Mr. Eliya, seconded – Mr. Triolo...

To Adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Stacy Garvey  
School Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary