

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MIDLAND PARK, NEW JERSEY
MAY 5, 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’Aglio	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

- The Administration, led by Dr. Cirasella, is doing an amazing job, we are lucky to have you here during this time and all of the time.

Midland Park Public School District 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*

- Schools are closed until the end of the year. We have confidence the decision was made with public's safety and well-being in mind. CDC guidance for social distancing must be kept in place.
- Our Administrative team has been developing plans for tasks which must be completed, such as locker clean-up, return of technology resources for seniors, packing up of student and teacher's personal items and more.
- We have been proactive in drafting plans both for a virtual ceremony and for an in-person event that may be held on stadium field, if we are permitted and if we can ensure compliance with safety measures.
- We welcome hearing from families with graduation ceremony ideas, all these are considered and we thank you for sharing.
- Additional guidance from Trenton and the NJDOE is forthcoming with regard to social distancing for graduation events and celebrations.
- Our goal is to strike the proper balance between safety and celebration. We will inform you of determinations as soon as they are made.
- Teacher Appreciation week – The teachers work so hard in regular circumstances. Staff is extraordinary, we are honored to work with them and also to the parents who are now teaching at home.

Approve the following resolutions:

Motion – Mr. Triolo, seconded – Mr. Canellas...

1. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 0303203152 for the reasons set forth in the Superintendent's Report to the Board and directs the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator to transmit a copy of the Board's decision to the affected students' parents forthwith.
2. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 0303203153 for the reasons set forth in the Superintendent's Report to the Board and directs the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator to transmit a copy of the Board's decision to the affected students' parents forthwith.
3. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 0303203154 for the reasons set forth in the Superintendent's Report to the Board and directs the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator to transmit a copy of the Board's decision to the affected students' parents forthwith.

Roll Call: All Yes

Presentation of the proposed 2020-2021 School Budget and Public Hearing.

Mr. McCourt, Dr. Cirasella and Ms. Garvey presented the proposed budget for the public and the Board for their consideration.

Mr. McCourt reviewed the budget process-

1. Administrators discuss needs for the upcoming year with the Superintendent and the BA.
2. The Board Finance Committee meets frequently during the process as budget determinations are made and modifications considered.
3. You should define what constitutes discretionary and non-discretionary items in the budget, using the pie chart to draw attention to the fact that only 9% of the budget is discretionary.
4. The proposed budget is finalized, bringing us to tonight's presentation and Board resolution to approve next year's school budget.

Ms. Garvey reviewed the revenue summary, expenditure summary and tax levy impact.

Dr. Cirasella spoke on the curricular highlights.

Motion to close the Public Hearing

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

4. Resolution to Approve the 2020-2021 School Year Budget

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Midland Park Board of Education, County of Bergen, approves the 2020-2021 School Year Budget, as follows:

Current General Expense (Funds 11)	\$22,929,658
Capital Outlay (Fund 12)	\$ 323,275
Special Schools (Fund 13)	\$ 807,100
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$24,060,033
SPECIAL REVENUE (Fund 20)	\$ 482,278
DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$ 937,475
TOTAL EXPENDITURES/APPROPRIATIONS	\$25,479,786

Included in budget line 620, Budgeted Withdrawal from Capital Reserve- Excess Costs & Other Capital Projects is \$300,000 for other capital project costs to create a Life Skills Classroom at the High School and for lintel renovations at Highland School. The total costs of these projects represent expenditures for renovation elements or projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the CCCS;

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the GENERAL FUND tax levy \$20,983,476 is approved to support Current General Expense and \$937,475 to support Debt Service, for the 2020-2021 school year budget. Included in the General Fund Tax Levy is the need for a Banked Cap Adjustment in the amount of \$153,163 to be included in the base budget and used to support current programs as well as the purchase of new math textbooks at the elementary level and on-line textbooks at the secondary level. These purchases will be completed in the 2020-2021 budget year.

Roll Call: All Yes

Open to Public – COMMENTS only for action items on the May 5, 2020 agenda.

There were no comments from the public.

1. BOARD MOTIONS

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

1. Approve the cancellation of the Board meeting scheduled for June 2, 2020.

Roll Call: All Yes

Action Items:

A. Personnel- (M. Cirasella)

APPENDIX

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years 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.

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

1. Approve the appointment of Jaclyn DeMagistris as a Math Instructor to provide supplemental instruction for at-risk students at the High School. She will work three days per week, as per Article XIII, Section F of the MPEA contract, effective May 4, 2020 through June 30, 2020 and will be paid through the ESSA Grant (Title 1 funds).
2. Approve the tenured reappointment and employment contract for Stacy Garvey, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, for the 2020-2021 school year, pending contract approval by the Interim Executive County Superintendent.
3. Approve the reappointment of the following tenured administrators for the 2020-2021 school year:

Danielle Bache	Godwin School Principal
Ann Marie Bruder	Director of Special Services
Nicholas Capuano	High School Principal
Jason Cata	High School Assistant Principal
Michael Gaccione	High School Assistant Principal/Athletic Director
Peter Galasso	Highland School Principal

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Triolo, seconded – Mr. Canellas...

4. Approve the reappointment of Dr. Everett Schlam, School Physician, for the 2020-2021 school year.
5. Approve the reappointment of all non-tenured certificated staff for the 2020-2021 school year, as per the attached appendix:

6. Approve the reappointment of all tenured certificated staff for the 2020-2021 school year, as per the attached appendix:
7. Approve the appointment of Susan Jensen as the Culinary Arts teacher in the High School. She will be placed on MA Step 18 of the MPEA salary guide (salary to be determined pending final contract approval), effective September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Roll Call: All Yes

C. Curriculum- (S. Criscenzo, Chairperson)

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

1. Approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governor has declared a state of emergency and a public health emergency, and ordered all schools closed for in-person instruction; and

WHEREAS, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Legislature has revised N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9 to permit the use of virtual or remote instruction to establish compliance with the 180 school day requirement during a public health emergency, subject to Board approval of a virtual or remote instruction program;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves the District's program of virtual or remote instruction to meet the 180 school day requirement, which was previously submitted to the Department of Education on March 13, 2020, and implemented since the District's closure on March 16, 2020.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

1. Approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Midland Park Board of Education and the Midland Park Education Association, effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023, as per the attached appendix:

Roll Call: All Yes

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS/Review of May 19, 2020 agenda items

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

No Report

- C. Curriculum Committee- (S. Criscenzo, Chairperson)
No Report
- D. Policy Committee- (M. Thomas, Chairperson)
No Report
- E. Legislative Committee- (Administration)
No Report
- F. Buildings and Grounds Committee- (P. Fantulin, Chairperson)
- Removed field blankets on stadium field
 - All fields have been fertilized
 - All buildings have been prepared for mandated State Fire Inspection
 - Band trailer has been refurbished
 - New countertops, sink and faucets have been installed
 - Small garage has been vinyl sided
 - Maintaining fields
 - Summer building cleaning will start immediately
- G. Negotiations Committee- (P. Triolo, Chairperson)
- Administration and MPEA contracts on next agenda
- H. Technology & Public Relations Committee- (C. Dell'Aglio, Chairperson)
No Report
- I. Town Council- (R. Formicola, P. Triolo)
- A meeting will be scheduled shortly
- J. Student Representative- (Samantha Padovano)
No Report

OLD BUSINESS

No Report

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Canellas asked why our stadium and scoreboard were not lit on Friday as an honor to the students graduating. Dr. Cirasella responded that we wanted to participate but we do not have lights on school fields. We reached out to the Borough to use their lights but were told no because of the 8:00 curfew. We will revisit with the Town Council to hopefully have in place for this Friday.

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

Motion to go into closed session before the meeting of May 19, 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.

Motion – Mr. Eliya, seconded – Ms. Dell’Aglia...
To Adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Stacy Garvey
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary