

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING  
Board of Education  
Midland Park, New Jersey  
September 17, 2019

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order by Richard 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 2019 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 Cannellas	Sandra Criscenzo
	Christine Dell’Aglio	Nabil Eliya
	Patricia Fantulin	Brian McCourt
	Peter Triolo	Richard Formicola
Excused:	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, 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

- At the next Board meeting on 10/1 a Back to School 2019-2020 Presentation will be given.

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

No one chose to speak at this time.

BOARD MOTIONS

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

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

August 20, 2019

Roll Call: All Yes

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

2. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 0619193142 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

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

3. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby denies the student record appeal in accordance with Board Policy #8330.

Roll Call: All Yes

- A. Personnel – (M. Cirasella)

**APPENDIX**

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2019-2020 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 – Mr. Canellas, seconded – Ms. Dell'Aglio...

- +1. **Approve the revised resignation date of Employee No. 1728, effective retroactive to August 8, 2019.**
- +2. **Approve the revised resignation date of Employee No. 1827, effective September 30, 2019 (or sooner).**
- +3. **Accept the resignation of Employee No. 0336, effective November 10, 2019 (or sooner).**

+4. Approve the list of Advisors to Activities and Clubs at the Highland School for the 2019-2020 school year, as per the attached appendix.

+5. Approve the appointment of Sonya Arakawa-Bass as an Instructional Aide in the Godwin School. She will be paid a salary of \$27,100 (Category V Step 4 on the secretarial/clerical salary guide), prorated effective October 7, 2019 (or sooner) through June 30, 2020.

+6. Approve the following addition to the list of substitute workers for the 2019-2020 school year:

Judy Bley Building Aide

+7. Approve the following appointments to provide supplemental instruction at the high school for three days per week, as per Article XIII, Section F of the MPEA contract during the 2019-2020 school year.

Joanne Manicone ELA Instructor  
Emily Donovan Math Enrichment

+8. Approve the following staff members to provide supplemental instruction for the Academic Support Lab in the high school during the 2019-2020 school year. They will be paid at the rate of \$43.26 per hour through the ESSA Grant:

Teresa Wecht  
Paul Marino  
Deb Marks

+9. Approve Karen Corcoran to provide nursing support to Lauren Fenning on procedures and protocol two times per week, after school, during the 2019-2020 school year. She will be paid at the rate of \$43.26 per hour.

+10. Approve the following addition to the list of Fall Coaches at the high school for the 2019-2020 school year:

Add: Byron Blake Assistant Football Coach Volunteer

Roll Call: All Yes

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

S-1. Accept the resignation of Employee No. 1839, effective November 27, 2019, or sooner.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- S-2. Approve the following additions to the list of Truck Drivers for the Marching Band during the 2019-2020 school year:

Richard Boland  
Susan Hartmann

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- S-3 Approve the following appointment as a student Aide for the After School Child Care Program, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education, effective September 18, 2019 through June 30, 2020:

Adem Skenderi

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

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, 2019, 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 2019 direct pays in the amount of \$1,190,060.13.
- b. August 2019 Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$48,708.33.
- c. August 2019 Cafeteria claims in the amount of \$4,117.74.

**+d. June 2019 supplemental payroll in the amount of \$315.18.**

- e. Second August 2019 payroll in the amount of \$135,320.79.
- f. First September 2019 payroll in the amount of \$632,441.53.
- g. September 2019 claims in the amount of \$464,462.89.

3. Approve the cash reports and the Board Secretary’s report for the period August 1 – 31, 2019, as per the attached appendix.

B-3

+4. Approve the Annual Contracts for Services between Bergen County Special Services School District, Educational Enterprises Division and the Midland Park Public School District to provide services to classified students during the 2019-2020 school year, as follows:

- Teacher of the Deaf CART services for a maximum of 25 sessions weekly, at a rate not to exceed \$35,000.00
- Interpreter Services on a full-time basis, not to exceed \$90,709.30
- Interpreter Services for a maximum of 200 hours, not to exceed \$9,000.00

+5 Approve Maryanne Kroll to provide Physical Therapy for a classified student at the high school two times a week. She will be paid \$100 per 42 minute session.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

1. Approve the following staff members requesting workshop attendance:

Name	Workshop	Location	Cost	Date
Danielle Bache	PLC Institute	Somerville, NJ	\$221.00	09/25/2019
+Teresa Mallon	Next Generation Science Standards in NJ	Princeton, NJ	\$228.05	10/22 or 23/2019
+Nancy Stewart	AP US Government & Politics Test	New York, NY	\$245.00	11/5/2019
+Christine Carr	NJASL Fall Conference	New Brunswick, NJ	\$280.60	12/8 & 9/2019

+2. Approve the recommendation for the placement of a classified student in the Bergen County Special Services H.I.P. program in the Godwin School for the 2019-2020 school year.

+3. Approve the Applied Behavioral Analysis Parent Training Workshops, offered by Region II during the 2019-2020 school year at a cost of \$225 per family.

+4 Approve the Nursing Services Plan for the 2019-2020 school year, as per the attached appendix.

C-4

Roll Call: All Yes

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

No Report

E. Legislative Committee – (Administration)

- Dept. of Education update – 10/1

F. Buildings & Grounds Committee – (B. McCourt, Chairperson)

No Report

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

- Meeting tonight – 9/17

H. Technology & Public Relations Committee – (P. Fantulin, Chairperson)

- Rescheduling the meeting to next Board meeting night – 10/1

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

No Report

J. Liaison Committee

High School PTA - (J. Canellas)

No Report

Elementary School PTA- (C. Dell’Aglia)

- Next meeting is Monday, 9/23 at 7:30
- PTA President - information is coming for candidates night

Booster Club – (B. McCourt)

No Report

Performing Arts Parents – (P. Fantulin)

- Music in the Park – 15 bands, a substantial increase
- Placed 1<sup>st</sup> place at Brantwood
- The drama this year in November is Lighter Shades of Noir
- Fundraisers
- Musical is a concern, requesting two camcorders for Broadcasting Dept.
- The band trip to Chicago

Special Education – (M. Thomas)

No Report

Education Foundation – (S. Criscenzo)

- 5K was a huge success
- The grants were sent out, the deadline is 9/27, on 10/3 the decisions will be made
- Community Thrift Shop donations

Board of Recreation – (N. Eliya)

- Soccer is opening this weekend
- Basketball registration
- 4 Baseball teams
- Community Day
- Soccer and football are sharing fields
- We are looking for softball teams for a charity game
- Summer camp went well

Continuing Education Program – (P. Triolo)

- Over 100 courses are offered, beginning on 9/23
- The child care program has the largest enrollment

Student Representative to the Board – (Samantha Padovano)

- The drama, Lighter Shades of Noir, is going to be on Nov. 15, 16, 17
- The football team is 2-0 against Lodi and Garfield, both games were shut outs
- This Friday is the last day to drop classes
- Back to school night was a success

K. Old Business

No Report

L. New Business

Motion – Mr. Eliya, seconded – Mr. McCourt...

Motion to go into closed session before the meeting of October 1, 2019, 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.

Mr. Formicola invited the public to address the Board.

April Catuogno discussed transportation for the students from Midland Park who play football. She asked that the Board reinstate transportation for players after school to Waldwick.

A number of parents addressed the Board with comments and questions concerning the new 7<sup>th</sup> grade schedule. Linda Eliya, Laura Hartman, Faith Duma, Heidi Meyer, Valarie Martinkus, Lori Ballen and Vicki Warner discussed the lack of communication to the parents. Although a letter was sent in June, it did not explain how the new 7<sup>th</sup> grade schedule would include shorten lunch periods in order to allow for a choice of exploratory classes. Not enough information was given on the A/B schedule. Parents were concerned with their children having only 20 minutes for lunch, not enough time to eat and decompress. It was asked if certain classes could be absorbed into others in order to allow for a longer lunch period and about the performing arts requirements in middle school. The parents asked that administration consider a change.

Mr. Capuano addressed the parents and explained the new schedule is a pilot program and at the time the letter was sent, the schedules had not been completed. Over the years there have been concerns brought forward that the children who were in the band or chorus did not have an opportunity to be in any exploratory classes because they ran at the same time. Created a rotating schedule so 7<sup>th</sup> grade students can do both. The State mandated certain classes that cannot be absorbed by other classes. Been running classes during lunch periods for years as an option, this year mandatory. Lunch periods are shortened to 24 minutes every other day. Felt this schedule would be a building block for when the culinary program is rolled out in the fall of next year. Parent feedback is very important and will be taken into consideration.

Dr. Cirasella thanked the parents for coming. Feedback is critical for a pilot program and additional information will be sent out to parents. If someone has something specific to address, please contact administration.



Motion - Mr. McCourt, seconded – Ms. Criscenzo...  
To Adjourn into closed session


No action will be taken once the open session resumes.  
The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

The Board resumed open session at 9:09 p.m.

Motion – Ms. Criscenzo, seconded – Mr. McCourt...  
To Adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Stacy Garvey  
School Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary