

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MIDLAND PARK, NEW JERSEY
OCTOBER 20, 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 or students.”

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

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 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

Presentation of School Self-Assessment Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act

- In compliance with the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, the Commissioner of Education is required to grade each public school and school district's efforts to implement the law. Each School Safety Team uses guidance from the department in completing the self-assessment. The maximum grade a school may receive is 78 and reflects scoring in eight Core Elements. Our district's School Safety Team reviewed the eight Core Elements and assigned a point value to each indicator based on a 4-point scale. Per statute, the results of each school's self-assessment will be presented for Board approval before the deadline of October 31. Following Board approval the ratings will be electronically submitted into the web-based system. In the handout that was provided it includes the point value assigned to each of the eight core indicators by the school safety team in each school. All three of our schools scored 75 out of 78 possible points and we are HIB compliance.

Phase II eblast – continuing development of plan

- We continue the development of Phase 1 and have made strong progress with the Pandemic Response Team meeting and important input from teachers and staff. Phase II plans will likely be implemented in a roll-out format, with Godwin first, then Highland and MPHS. A parent survey is scheduled to be distributed Oct. 19. We anticipate providing the Board with Phase II plans in early November and advising the public immediately thereafter. We will keep you posted as to further determinations in days to come.

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

There were no comments from the public.

BOARD MOTIONS

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

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

September 1, 2020

September 15, 2020

Roll Call: All Yes

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

2. Approve the submission of the School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act for the 2019-2020 school year to the New Jersey Department of Education.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

3. Approve the cancellation of the Board Work Session meeting scheduled for November 3, 2020, due to Election Day.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

4. Approve the District Organizational Chart for the 2020-2021 school year, as per the attached appendix.

BM-4

Roll Call: All Yes

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

5. Approve the tentative 2021-2022 Budget Preparation Calendar, as per the attached appendix.

BM-5

Roll Call: All Yes

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

6. Recognize the following district support organizations for the 2020-2021 school year:

Elementary PTA

High School PTA

Midland Park Athletic Booster Association

Midland Park Performing Arts Parents

Midland Park Public Education Foundation

Roll Call: All Yes

Mrs. Fantulin thanked all organizations for their support.

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 – Mr. Triolo, seconded – Ms. Fantulin...

1. Approve the following addition to the list of Advisors to Activities and Clubs at the High School for the 2020-2021 school year:

Add:	Yana Seminara	French Club Advisor	<u>Stipend</u> \$997.00
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Roll Call: All Yes

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

APPENDIX

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 September 30, 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. September 2020 direct pays in the amount of \$437,531.26.
- b. September 2020 Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$13,526.46.
- c. September 2020 Cafeteria claims in the amount of \$9,091.25.
- d. First September 2020 payroll in the amount of \$662,589.69.
- e. Second September 2020 payroll in the amount of \$643,743.11.
- f. First October 2020 payroll in the amount of \$635,792.61.
- g. October 2020 claims in the amount of \$685,925.71.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

3. Approve the cash reports and the Board Secretary's report for the period September 1 – 30, 2020, as per the attached appendix.

B-3

4. Approve the transfers between accounts for the period September 1 – 30, 2020, as per the attached appendix.

B-4

Roll Call: All Yes

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

5. Approve the 4th quarter SUI payment in the amount of \$480.00
6. Accept the New Jersey Department of Education funding for the non-public schools for the 2020-2021 school year as follows and approve the purchases using the entitlement funding:

Textbook Aid	\$10,324.00
Nursing Aide (revised)	\$17,850.00
Security Aid	\$30,625.00

7. Accept the revised Extraordinary Aid funds to be allocated as follows:

Account 11 000 100 566 01 40 \$34,352.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

1. Approve the “The Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials”.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

1. Approve the reading of the following new/revised Mandated Policies, as per the attached appendices:

a. Heat Participation Policy for Student-Athlete Safety	Policy Section 2431.3	<u>D-1a</u>
b. Student Assessment	Policy Section 2622	<u>D-1b</u>
c. Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students	Policy Section 5111	<u>D-1c</u>
d. Attendance	Policy Section 5200	<u>D-1d</u>
e. Administering an Opioid Antidote	Policy Section 5330.04	<u>D-1e</u>
f. Suspension	Policy Section 5610	<u>D-1f</u>
g. Expulsion	Policy Section 5620	<u>D-1g</u>
h. Personnel Records	Policy Section 8320	<u>D-1h</u>

Roll Call: All Yes

E. Legislative Committee – (Administration)

Nomination by Governor Murphy of Dr. Angelica Allen McMillan for the position of Commissioner of Education.

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

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

1. Approve the following resolution and attached appendices: F-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 and Form M-1 for Midland Park in compliance with Department of Education requirements.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

No Report

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

- Great meeting 2 weeks ago
- Snapshot/Video – Buildings and Grounds update going to be posted for the community
- Website
- Social media

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

- The next meeting is scheduled for 10/27

J. Liaison Committee

High School PTA - (J. Canellas)

No Report

Elementary School PTA- (C. Dell’Aglio)

- Membership is open
- Lunch for the teachers

Booster Club – (N. Eliya)

- Fundraiser for MP Flags

Performing Arts Parents – (P. Fantulin)

- Marching Band – Music in the Park – Nice it took place but hard not to have the public to see it.
- Membership registration
- Fruit sale
- Poinsettia sale
- Booing candy grams
- Budget

Special Education – (P. Triolo)

No Report

Education Foundation – (S. Criscenzo)

No Report

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

Motion to go into closed session before the meeting of November 17, 2020, for the purpose of reviewing the hiring of personnel, legal updates and confidential student HIB case reviews.

Open to the Public - general **COMMENTS** only at this time are to be directed to the Board President.

Ms. Sansone submitted a few questions for the Board and Superintendent.

1. *What does Phase 2 include and when do they plan on implementing it provided all continues to move forward well?* Dr. Cirasella's response to this question is that Phase II is still being developed. The goal is to increase in-person learning time for students. We must remain aware of the safety and health risks in increasing learning time and bringing larger groups of students together in classrooms for more hours than our Phase I plan. We anticipate a roll-out of Phase II in mid-November. It is important to remember that each district has its own unique needs, therefore each phase of the reopening planning process is individualized to that district, comparing the actions of one district to another is not informative. If there were a statewide template for reopening decisions all schools would be following the same guidelines. We hope the parents complete the Parent Survey and shares valuable feedback which will help to inform decision making in the days to come.

2. *As we move into cold season and parents are choosing to keep their kids home they are losing valuable facetime with their teachers since the kids only do asynchronous learning on their virtual days, if the school expects parents to keep their kids home for school days that they otherwise would be capable of being in attendance for, how is the school making it possible for the kids to learn remotely during those days?* Dr. Cirasella answered this question by stating that students that remain home due to illness, are expected to rest and get well. If you decide to keep your child home for the cold and flu season, your child would then become a virtual learner and get moved to the virtual cohort and be live with a teacher on in-person days. Please contact your child's principal for specifics.
3. *I know other schools already meet with their teachers on their virtual days and actually have scheduled meet times for their extra-curricular classes, but MP does not do this, if we continue forward with hybrid learning how is the school planning on moving forward with synchronous learning on their virtual days?* Dr. Cirasella responded that Principal Bache continues to work with staff on possible changes to the live streaming option available to students. There are other options we are discussing and changes are on the horizon and all variables are being considered. Contact Ms. Bache with specific questions.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Stacy Garvey
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary