

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MIDLAND PARK, NEW JERSEY
APRIL 11, 2023**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Mr. McCourt 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 2023 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	Richard Formicola
	Maryalice Thomas	Peter Triolo
	Patricia Fantulin	Brian McCourt

Excused: Nabil Eliya

OTHERS PRESENT

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

BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT *Mr. Brian McCourt*

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*

- Presentation of the 2021-22 Annual Audit by Gary Higgins, School Auditor, of PKF O'Connor Davies.
Mr. Higgins reviewed the financial standing of the district and informed the Board there were no audit comments or recommendations.
- The district had its NJQSAC review with outstanding results. Congratulations to all on our district team, Board and students for another excellent QSAC review.
- Godwin playground painting finished and it looks wonderful. We are grateful to the MPEPTA for donating \$5000 toward this project. Also funded by the APEX Leadership Program.
- District participated in the Bergen County Job Fair and it was very successful. Approximately 400 candidates attended and we collected quite a few resumes.

Student Representative - (Declan Feehan)

- 4th quarter has begun
- Trivia night was a huge success
- A Shakespeare Live group performed A Midsummer Night's Dream the Friday before spring break
- The Art Educators of NJ selected Grace Mahoney for the State Level 2023 Youth Art Exhibit, it will be on display for a week
- Teen Canteen event for middle schoolers featuring a DJ, snacks, basketball and other games in the gym
- 7th Grade Orientation is 4/13 for incoming 7th graders, they can take peer leader tours
- World Language Honor Society and the National Honor Society ceremonies will be held on 4/20
- The Middle School Spring Choral Concert will be on 4/26, the High School Spring Choral Concert will be on 4/27
- The Madrigals will be performing at both concerts
- Spring sports are underway, not many wins, but the weather has been nice for them to practice

Open to Public – COMMENTS only for action items on the April 11, 2023 agenda.

No one chose to speak at this time.

Action Items and Committee Reports:

A. Personnel- (M. Cirasella)

APPENDIX

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2022-2023 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 – Dr. Thomas, seconded – Mr. Triolo...

1. Approve the retroactive payment to Karen Corcoran as the field trip nurse on behalf of student need on March 18, 2023. She will be paid at the rate of \$43.26 per hour, as per Schedule D of the MPEA contract.

2. Approve the appointment of Wanda Cruz as a part-time Bus Aide. She will be paid at the approved hourly rate of \$18.25, effective April 12, 2023 through June 30, 2023, pending Criminal History Review.
3. Approve the appointment of Claribel Abreu as a part-time Bus Aide. She will be paid at the approved hourly rate of \$18.25, effective April 12, 2023 through June 30, 2023, pending Criminal History Review.
4. Approval for Midland Park School District staff members to donate sick days to create a sick bank for Employee No. 1883.
5. Approve Christina Scott, Gabriella DelValle and Latoya Sinclair to work as counselors at the Before and/or After School Child Care program at Godwin school effective immediately through June 30, 2023.
6. Approve the resignation of employee #1632, effective March 6, 2023.
7. Approve the appointment Christine Hirsch for a tenure track Elementary teacher in the Middle School. She will continue to be paid a salary of \$63,500.00 (MA, Step 11 on the MPEA salary guide), prorated effective April 11th. 2023 through June 30, 2023.

Roll Call: All Yes

B. Finance- (J. Canellas, Chairperson)

Motion – Mr. Canellas, seconded – Mrs. Dell’Aglio...

1. Accept the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022.
2. Approve the agreement with Intermedia Advertising for the use of f Highland School as a location for the filming of a commercial on April 22, 2023. Intermedia Advertising is donating \$2000 to Highland School.
3. Approve the recommended Student Breakfast and Lunch Meal Prices for the 2023 – 2024 School Year as per the attached appendix. B-3
4. Approve the Addendum to the Agreement with ESS Northeast, LLC for the services of Substitute Teachers and Staff.

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Canellas added that the typical monthly reporting will be on the next agenda. On 5/3 the Board will be holding the public hearing on the 2023-24 budget. Suggested the public attend.

C. Curriculum- (M. Thomas, Chairperson)

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

1. Approve MacKenzie Kamp, a college student from Loyola University pursuing a speech pathology degree, to observe in Godwin School during the months of May and June 2023.

Dr. Thomas stated that at the Curriculum meeting tonight, an overnight trip and proposed use of unused snow days were discussed.

Roll Call: All Yes

D. Policy Committee- (S. Criscenzo, Chairperson)

- Mandated and revised policies will be on the 4/25 agenda

E. Legislative Committee- (Administration)

No Report

F. Buildings and Grounds Committee- (N. Eliya, Chairperson)

No Report

G. Negotiations Committee- (R. Formicola, Chairperson)

No Report

H. Technology & Public Relations Committee- (M. Thomas, Chairperson)

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

1. Approve residents of Mill Gardens to come to Highland School on April 25th, 2023, May 2nd, 2023, and May 9th, 2023 to collaborate with students on the following activities: Legos, board games, reading stories, and eating lunch.

Roll Call: All Yes

Mrs. Fantulin commented that she is happy to see these programs back.

I. Town Council- (B. McCourt, P. Fantulin)

- Next meeting – 5/23

Mrs. Fantulin informed the Board that the Library has a new meeting room. Residents can reserve it, it would be good for tutoring.

J. Diversity Committee – (C. Dell'Aglio, Chairperson)

No Report

OLD BUSINESS

No Report

NEW BUSINESS

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

Motion to go into closed session before the meeting of April 25, 2023, 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.

No one chose to speak at this time.

Motion – Mr. Formicola, seconded – Mr. Canellas...

To adjourn the meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary