

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Board of Education**  
**Midland Park, New Jersey**  
May 19, 2015

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order by Maryalice Thomas, at 8:00 p.m. and the following statement was read:

"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 2014 elective year. A notice was also posted outside of 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. In addition, all questions must be presented to the Board of Education during the public session and prior to the adjournment of the meeting."

**ROLL CALL**

Present:	James Canellas	Sandra Criscenzo
	Brian McCourt	Robert Schiffer
	William Sullivan	Timothy Thomas
	Peter Triolo	
	Maryalice Thomas	

Excused: Richard Formicola

**OTHERS PRESENT**

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

**BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Mission Statement**

**The Midland Park School District as part of a strong, dedicated community, provides students with a comprehensive, adaptive education in a positive environment by maximizing all resources and empowering them to realize their individual worth and responsibility with the expectation that all students achieve the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards at all grade levels.**

Dr. Thomas stated that the Board is marching in the parade on Saturday and if you can, come and join us.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Motion – Mr. Canellas, seconded – Mr. Thomas . . .

**+1. Approve the following resolutions:**

- a. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 022515224 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.
- b. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 030315225 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.
- c. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 041515370 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

### Open to the Public:

To discuss action items on the Agenda.

## BOARD MOTIONS

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

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

April 7, 2015

Roll Call: 7 Yes (Criscenzo, Schiffer, Sullivan, Thomas, Triolo, Canellas, Dr. Thomas)  
1 Abstain (McCourt)

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

April 28, 2015

Roll Call: 7 Yes (Criscenzo, McCourt, Schiffer, Sullivan, Thomas, Triolo, Dr. Thomas)  
1 Abstain (Canellas)

A. Personnel – (M. Cirasella)

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 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.

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

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the reappointment of Dr. Everett Schlam, School Physician, for the 2015-2016 school year. His yearly rate will be \$5,000.
2. Approve the non-tenured reappointment of Scott Collins as the Buildings & Grounds Supervisor for the 2015-2016 school year (salary to be determined pending completion of negotiations).
3. Approve the non-tenured reappointment of Eurico Antunes as the District Technology & Data Coordinator for the 2015-2016 school year (salary to be determined pending completion of negotiations).
4. Approve the non-tenured reappointment of Ristem Sela as the Computer Technician for the 2015-2016 school year (salary to be determined pending completion of negotiations).
5. Approve the non-tenured reappointment of Jay Esposito as the Media Technician at the high school. He will be paid at the approved hourly rate of \$39.56 and will work 25 hours per week for the 2015-2016 school year.
6. Approve the reappointment of the following tenured Confidential Secretaries, for the 2015-2016 school year (salaries to be determined pending completion of negotiations):

Barbara Pierro, Secretary to the Business Administrator

Anne Schaper, Secretary to the Superintendent of Schools

Susan Schlosser, Secretary to the Supervisor of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

7. Approve the tenured reappointment and salaries of all Clerk/Secretaries for the 2015-2016 school year, as per the attached appendix. A-7
8. Approve the non-tenured reappointment and salaries of all Instructional Aides for the 2015-2016 school year, as per the attached appendix. A-8
9. Approve the reappointment and salaries of all non-tenured full-time Custodial/Maintenance personnel for the 2015-2016 school year, as per the attached appendix. A-9
10. Approve the non-aligned salary schedule for the 2015-2016 school year, as per the attached appendix. A-10

11. Approve the reappointment of all non-aligned staff for the 2015-2016 school year, as per the attached appendix. A-11
12. Approve the appointment of Thomas Treta as a part-time Maintenance worker. He will be paid at the approved hourly rate, effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. Triolo . . .

13. Approve the following appointments as summer Custodial/Maintenance workers. They will be paid at the approved hourly rate, effective June 22, 2015 through August 28, 2015:

John Ari	Tyler Halliwell	
Aaron Chaparian	Christopher Montanaro, Jr	
Christopher Cioffari	Michael Norcia	
Connor Fogelstrom	Evan Pagliei	
Kyle Fogelstrom	Rafik Saad	
Nicholas Ghalano	Jefferson Thomas	
Matt Greer	Sean Ullmer	
Tim Hagerty	Tyler Vassallo	<b>Michael Koeller</b>

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

14. Approve the appointment of the following part-time summer Bus Drivers. They will be paid at the approved hourly rate, effective July 1, 2015 through August 28, 2015:

Elizabeth Gibson	Margaret Soto
Joan O'Neill	Oscar Urias
Rafik Saad	

15. Approve the appointment of Nancy Rosa as a substitute Bus Driver. She will be paid at the approved hourly rate, effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.
16. Approve the appointment of the following part-time summer Bus Aides. They will be paid at the approved hourly rate, effective July 1, 2015 through August 28, 2015:

Alberta Dykstra (sub)	Louis Pellegrino
Marissa Emord	Sigrid Smith
Phyllis Kirchdoerffer	

17. Approve the staff appointments for the Extended School Year Program, effective July 1 - 24, 2015, which is attached as an appendix: A-17
18. Approve the summer hours for the following Child Study Team members to work on an as-needed basis during the months of July and August 2015:

Christina Eromenok, School Social Worker  
Kira Harder, School Psychologist  
Catherine Prinsell, School Psychologist  
Pamela Vermaas, Learning Disabilities Teacher/Consultant  
**+Christy Kearney, Learning Disabilities Teacher/Consultant**

19. Approve the summer hours for Carole Treta, Technology Coordinator, for up to 60 additional hours.

20. Approve the summer hours for the following Guidance Counselors for up to 12 additional hours:

Nina Fasciano  
Jenna Simon

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. Triolo . . .

To approve the following block motion:

21. Approve the summer hours for Diane Rebholz, Clerk/Secretary for the Midland Park Continuing Education program, for up to 80 additional hours.

22. Approve the summer hours for Jo Ann Francolino, Bookkeeper for the Midland Park Continuing Education program, for up to 120 additional hours.

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

Carol Berninger, Godwin Secretary to the Principal  
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

24. 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  
Anna Parke

25. Approve the summer hours for Karen Corcoran, Certified School Nurse, to provide services for the physical examinations for the athletic teams for five additional days.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- +26. Approve the revised list of salaries for the non-tenured certificated staff for the 2015-2016 school year, which is attached as an appendix:**

**A-26**

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- +27. Approve the second tenured appointment of Christina Gouraige, as the Director of Special Services, effective July 2, 2015.**

Roll Call: All Yes

**B. Finance Committee – (R. Schiffer, Chairperson)**

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, 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 April 30, 2015, 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. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .

2. Approve the following block motion:

- a. April 2015 direct pays in the amount of \$604,608.52.
- b. April 2015 Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$42,461.48.
- c. April 2015 cafeteria claims in the amount of \$23,095.86.
- d. May 2015 claims in the amount of \$297,737.03.

3. Approve the following block motion:

- a. Second April 2015 payroll in the amount of \$542,235.80.
- b. First May 2015 payroll in the amount of \$568,833.83.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Canellas . . .

To approve the following block motion:

- 4. Approve the financial reports of the Board Secretary for the period April 1 – 30, 2015, which are attached as an appendix. B-4
- 5. Approve the transfers between accounts for the period April 1 – 30, 2015, which are attached as an appendix. B-5

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Canellas . . .

To approve the following block motion:

6. Approve the list of Educational Data Services vendors for the 2015-2016 school year, which is attached as an appendix. B-6
7. Approve the recommendation for the reimbursement to the Municipal Alliance, in the sum of \$660.00 towards the Municipal Alliance Summer Program hours for Craig Rush, Student Assistance Counselor, during July and August.
8. Approve the Agreement for Continuing Disclosure Agent Services and Independent Registered Municipal Advisor of Record between the Midland Park School District and Phoenix Advisors, LLC, as per the attached appendix: B-8

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .

To approve the following block motion:

9. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Midland Park Board of Education does hereby approve an agreement with the Region 1/Mahwah Board of Education, a Coordinated Transportation Services Agency for the purpose of transporting students in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the 2015-2016 school year. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, the coordinated transportation of public, nonpublic and special education students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Midland Park Board of Education agrees to abide by the Transportation Services Agreement as published by the Region 1/Mahwah Board of Education and attached to this resolution.

10. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Midland Park Board of Education does hereby approve an agreement with the South Bergen Jointure Commission, an approved Coordinated Transportation Services Agency, for the purposes of transporting students in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the time period 2015-2016 school year. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, the Coordinated Transportation of non-public, out of district special education, vocational and summer programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Midland Park Board of Education agrees to abide by the Transportation Services Agreement as published by the South Bergen Jointure Commission and attached to this resolution.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Canellas . . .

To approve the following block motion:

11. Approve the renewal of the Licensing and Maintenance Agreement between Educational Data Services and the Midland Park Board of Education.
12. Approve Rickard Rehabilitation Services, Inc. to provide Occupational Therapy Services for two special education students for the extended 2015 school year and for the 2015-2016 school year.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .

To approve the following block motion:

- +13. **Approve the schedule of tax payment requests from the Borough of Midland Park for the 2015-2016 school year.**
- +14. **Accept the donation of \$2,000 from the Class of 1964 to be used for the Scholarship Fund, as per Board Policy Section 7230.**
- +15. **Approve the renewal of Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield on New Jersey as the dental provider with a -5.85% decrease, effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.**

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Canellas . . .

To approve the following block motion:

- +16. **Approve the following resolution:**

**BE IT RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Marie Cirasella, the Midland Park Board of Education approves the submission of the following school facilities project to the New Jersey Department of Education for review and approval:**

**School**

**Project**

**Midland Park High School**

**Maintenance Barn Conversion for Admin**

- +17. **Approve the decommissioning of the following non-functioning technology items in the Central Office:**

**Xerox Workcentre Copier C2424, Inventory #3943**

**Savin 3820 FAX machine, Inventory #**

- +18. **Approve the decommissioning of the following items in the High School Athletic Department:**

**Pole-Vaulting Mats**

**Jumping Mat**

Roll Call: All Yes



Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .

To approve the following block motion:

- S-19. Approve the use and rental of the High School gym to Hoop Heaven, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education, for a Basketball Tournament on Saturday, June 6, 2015 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- S-20. Approve Rickard Rehabilitation Services, Inc. to provide Physical Therapy Services for one high school classified student, effective May 19, 2015 through June 30, 2015.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

1. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the special education placements and transportation for the summer of 2015, which is attached as an appendix: C-1

**+2. Approve the proposed overnight trips:**

- a. **French program students Grades 8 – 12 to Quebec City and Montreal, Canada from November 7 – 11, 2015.**
- b. **Concert Band trip to Nashville, TN from April 7 – 11, 2016.**

**These items were pulled- Board requested further information from administration.**

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

**+3. Approve the following proposed new courses:**

- a. **Holocaust Study Tour - secondary**
- b. **Music Technology – elementary**

Mr. Canellas asked if the Holocaust Study Tour is the same as the trip.

Ms. Criscenzo replied yes, the students have work to complete before, during, and after the trip-now they will get credit for the trip.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- +4. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the placement of one middle school classified student on home instruction, effective retroactive from May 18, 2015 through June 8, 2015.**

Roll Call: All Yes

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

**+5. Approve the following staff member requesting workshop attendance:**

Name	Workshop	Location	Cost	Date
Stacy Garvey	Annual NJASBO Conference	Atlantic City, NJ	Approx. \$725.00	June 3-5, 2015
Anne Edwards	Teaching of Writing	Paramus, NJ	\$425.00	July 27-30, 2015

Roll Call: All Yes

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

S-6. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the placement of one high school classified student on home instruction, effective retroactive from May 18, 2015 through June 19, 2015.

S-7. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the placement of one high school non-classified student on bedside instruction, effective retroactive from May 18, 2015 through May 26, 2015.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

No Report.

E. Legislative Committee – (J. Canellas, Chairperson)

NJSBA Applauds Senate approval of Bill to end Superintendent Salary Caps- The New Jersey School Boards Association thanked members of the state Senate for their approval of legislation that would eliminate the state-imposed cap on school district superintendent salaries.S-1987 sponsored by Senators M. Teresa Ruiz and Paul Sarlo that would overturn state Department of Education regulations which restrict the salary that a school district could pay its superintendent. The caps went into effect in February 2011.

Since then research shows an increase in superintendent turnover, a decrease in the experience levels of superintendent candidates and the likelihood that the situation will worsen when a large number of superintendent contracts expire in 2015-2016.

F. Buildings & Grounds Committee – (R. Formicola, Chairperson)

The following items were reported on behalf of Mr. Formicola:

- Installed another smart board at Highland School.
- New Stage Curtain has been installed at Highland School.
- Grass cutting district wide.
- Resolved a couple of A/C issues.
- Lining ball fields - everyday.
- Installed another water fountain at Highland School.
- Installed new closet doors in new Full day Kindergarten room at Godwin School.
- Removed a large tree stump in front of MPHS.

- Moved topsoil and prepared new landscape bed for garden club at MPHS.
- Six A/C units donated to Highland School from the BCSS have been installed in HIP classrooms and are operational.

#### REFERENDUM UPDATE:

##### Highland School-

The concrete slab in the boiler room has been saw cut. Removal of concrete slab and remainder of old piping (boiler room) is scheduled for the evenings of May 27-28.

##### MPHS Field

- All demo is complete . . . old fencing has been removed. All asphalt, concrete, and ticket booths have been removed.
- Temporary construction/safety fence has been installed per plan.
- Bleachers have been moved and reset successfully.
- The contractor has begun the process of stripping the dirt from the field.
- All silt fencing (erosion control) has been installed along the perimeter of construction area.

#### G. Negotiations Committee - (B. McCourt, Chairperson)

The negotiations have begun for the Administrator's. Proposals are being exchanged.

#### H. Public Relations Committee – (P. Triolo, Chairperson)

No Report.

#### I. Liaison Committee

##### High School PTA - (S. Criscenzo)

Combination meeting is scheduled for 5/20/15.  
Marketing Day is 5/22/15.

##### Elementary School PTA- (P. Triolo)

No Report.

##### Booster Club – (T. Thomas)

The Hall of Fame recipients have been chosen for 2016.

##### Performing Arts Parents – (J. Canellas)

No Report.

##### Special Education – (M. Thomas)

Open Barn night continuing.

Education Foundation – (R. Formicola)

No Report.

Board of Recreation – (B. McCourt)

No Report.

Continuing Education Program – (R. Schiffer)

No Report.

Student Representative to the Board – (Aidan MacLean)

The student representative commented on the following items:

- Field Trips – The students will be attending the Metropolitan Museum, tomorrow.
- Students will attend High Line Tour.
- Next week students will attend their prom.
- AP testing has concluded.
- Students are now prepping for regular testing.

Borough Town Council – (M. Thomas & J. Canellas)

No Report.

Ad Hoc – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

J. Old Business

No one brought forth anything to discuss at this time.

K. New Business

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Canellas . . .

To go into closed session before the meeting of June 9, 2015, for the purpose of reviewing the hiring of personnel and confidential student HIB case reviews.

Roll Call: All Yes

Open to the Public:

Dr. Thomas invited the public to address the Board.

Ms. Diane Mathews Lucca asked about the status of the CBI class. She would like to know what the situation is with the teacher. Dr. Thomas responded at this time we can't speak about this confidential issue. It is in attorney hands right now and we do not have any anticipated dates at this point.

Ms. Cheryl Boland asked about the schedule of renovation for the auditorium.

Ms. Garvey replied that the renovations are being held in the hope that costs of other projects slated in the referendum will be less than estimated and the extra funding can be used to do additional work in the auditorium. We are looking to go to bid next January/February for the work to be done over the summer of 2016.

Ms. Stephanie Coppola asked about the \$600,000 to renovate the maintenance barn.

Ms. Garvey replied the Board has made it a point to deposit funds into the capital reserve account to do projects outside of the referendum and not part of the tax levy. The moneys have been saved over the past few years and this project was chosen to be done. Mr. Schiffer added that capital funds have been threatened in the past and rather than possibly losing funds-the Board decided to use funds on a project that is necessary to open up classroom space at the high school.

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

To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey,  
School Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary