

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
Board of Education
Midland Park, New Jersey
December 16, 2008

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order by Richard Venditti, President, at 8:06 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 2008 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."

ROLL CALL

Present:	James Canellas	Sandra Criscenzo
	Michael Hahn	Paula Lein
	Raymond Moraski	Wayne Roberts
	William Sullivan	Robert Schiffer

Richard Venditti

OTHERS PRESENT

Staff: William Heebink, Superintendent of Schools
Stacy Garvey, Interim Business Administrator

BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Board Secretary's Certification

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Moraski . . .

To approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meeting held on November 18, 2008.

Roll Call: All Yes

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Venditti commented that the retirement party for Sam Schaper and George Williams was well attended. Also, Mr. Venditti thanked Barbara for doing such a great job in organizing the party and thanked Anne for ordering and receiving the plaques in time for the presentation at the party.

Minutes of the Public Meeting of December 16, 2008

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.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2008-2009 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.

A. Personnel – (W. Heebink)

Motion – Mr. Roberts, seconded – Mr. Moraski . . .

1. Accept the resignation of Elizabeth Veneziano as the Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Staff Development, effective February 6, 2009 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

2. Approve the appointment of Christina Marinaro as a Social Worker for the district. She will be paid a salary of \$52,219 (MA Step 6 of the MPEA salary guide) prorated effective January 5, 2009 through June 30, 2009 (support material attached).
3. Approve the appointment of Sarah Berninger and Maureen Kelley as Language Arts SRA Graders at the high school. They will be paid at the approved rate of \$33.18 per hour for 10 hours each, for a total of \$331.80 each.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Roberts, seconded – Mr. Moraski . . .

4. Approve the following changes to the list of coaches at the high school for the 2008-2009 school year (support material attached):

		<u>Stipend</u>
Delete:	Michael Walker Assistant Baseball Coach	
	Christine Jakobsen Assistant Softball Coach	
	Jack Ferriday Assistant Spring Track Coach	
Add:	Jack Ferriday Head Spring Track Coach	\$5,051
	John Follo Head Softball Coach	\$5,104
	Rosemary Ferullo Assistant Spring Track Coach	\$4,038
	Brian DeCarlo Assistant Baseball Coach	\$4,149

Ms. Carolyn Brian, who is a student softball player chose to speak to the Board on behalf of Coach Kilgallen. Ms. Brian stated that there has been a great turn over with regards to that coaching position. Ms. Brian stated that Coach Kilgallen is familiar with the players, has coached the players before and she feels that he is a great coach. She stated that she was speaking on behalf of her team mates.

Mr. Venditti responded that he understands the players sentiments and that there has been a lot of changeovers but can't discuss personnel issues in public. However, the Board appreciates your comments.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

5. Approve the following additions to the list of advisors to activities and clubs at the elementary school, for the 2008-2009 school year (support material attached):

		<u>Stipend</u>
Add:	Carol Carlisle PAC Club Advisor	\$408.50
	Helen Snyder PAC Club Advisor	\$408.50

6. Approve the appointment of Connor McGlade and Patrick Weaver as substitute custodians. They will be paid at the approved hourly rate, on an as needed basis during the school year and vacation periods, effective December 17, 2008 through June 30, 2009 (support material attached).

7. Approve the following additions to the list of substitute teachers for the 2008-2009 school year (support material attached):

(s) Michael Bucci (previously on list)

* Amy Giovanetti

* Nancy Hafers

* Kathryn Kakolyris (employed as a .5 Instructional Aide in Highland School)

(s) Andrew Tucci (employed as a summer custodian and truck driver for the Marching Band)

(s) = County Substitute Certificate

* = NJ certification

8. Approve the following additions to the list of homebound instructors for the 2008-2009 school year (support material attached):

* Colleen Deyo

* Sarah Sless (employed as a .5 Instructional Aide in Godwin School)

* = NJ certification

Roll Call: All Yes

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

APPENDIX

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Lein . . .

1. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), we certify that as of October 31, 2008, 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 – Ms. Lein . . .

To approve the following block motion:

2. Approve the following block motion:

- a. November 2008 Midland Park Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$73,616.38.
- b. December 2008 supplemental claims in the amount of \$179,098.00.

3. Approve the following block motion:

- a. November 2008 cafeteria direct pays in the amount of \$79,536.58.
- b. November 2008 direct pays in the amount of \$193,419.02.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

4. Approve the transfers among accounts, according to prescribed accounting procedures, for the period October 1, 2008 through October 31, 2008, which are attached as an appendix. A

Mr. Venditti asked why so many transfers? Mr. Schiffer responded to cover large increased tuition costs.

5. Approve the financial reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Moneys for the period October 1, 2008 through October 31, 2008, which are attached as an appendix. B

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Ms. Lein

6. Accept the anonymous donation of \$900 for Knox Boxes to be installed on the outside of the school buildings, as per Board Policy 7230.

Mr. Roberts asked What Knox boxes were for and where would they be placed? Dr. Heebink responded that they would hold keys for schools so that fire /police can enter. The boxes will be placed outside of front doors.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

7. Approve the 403B Plan Document, which is attached as an appendix. C

8. Approve the following tax sheltered annuity companies:

AIG/Valic

AXA/Equitable

Metropolitan Life

Mr. Venditti asked if the district had any fiduciary responsibility? Mr. Schiffer replied no. Mr. Roberts asked why make that change now? Mr. Schiffer answered that there is a change in Federal law. Now, companies have to share account information to ensure contributions are within the guidelines.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

9. Approve the appointment of Eurico Antunes as a technology consultant for the district, for the 2008-2009 school year. He will be paid at the rate of \$80 per hour.

Mr. Roberts questioned do we have a cap on spending? Dr. Heebink answered Administrators discussed approximately \$7,000.00. The Board discussed the Cap and Administrators will inform the Board if going over \$7,000.00.

Roll Call: All Yes

- C. Curriculum Committee – (R. Moraski, Chairperson)

Motion – Mr. Moraski, seconded – Ms. Lein . . .

1. Approve the recommendation of the Interim Director of Special Services for the placement of one pre-school student with a disability, on home instruction, effective retroactive from September 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009, including an extended school program during the summer.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To block the following motion:

2. Approve the textbooks for grade 4 Health: *Health & Wellness*, Meeks and Heit, Macmillan/McGraw Hill, 2008.

3. Approve all courses and related instructors, programs and trips, which are included in the Spring 2009 brochure of the Midland Park Continuing Education program. Support material available.

4. Approve the list of staff members requesting workshop attendance, as follows (support material attached):

	Workshop	Date	Location
Jacqueline Goodell	Holocaust Education	1/ 6//2009	Mahwah, NJ
Katie Gordon	Topics & Strategies to Improve Student Performance on the NJ ASK 7-8	1/8/2009	Piscataway, NJ
Nicholas Capuano	Enhancing Your Effectiveness As an Instructional Coach	1/ 20/ 2009	Newark, NJ
Jennifer Langenfeld	Teaching Mythology : Beyond The Basics	2/ 5/ 2009	Montclair, NJ
Tracy Audino, Jacqueline Goodell, Ethan Grubman, Jennifer Langenfeld, Edward McDonough	Middle Level Education	3/27/ 2009	Union, NJ

Ms. Criscenzo questioned is there a limit on number of workshops teachers can attend? Dr. Heebink answered no, but he will be looking at that especially with budget constraints.

Roll Call: All Yes

D. Policy Committee – (P. Lein, Chairperson)

Motion – Mrs. Lein, Seconded – Mr. Schiffer. . .

Approve the second reading of the following new/revised bylaws, policies and regulations:

Staff Recognition- Education Hall of Fame	Policy Section 3450 (new)
Cyber-Bullying	Policy Section 5512.02 (revised)
Expenditures for Non-Employee Activities, Meals and Refreshments	Policy Section 6423 (new)
Payment of Claims	Policy & Regulations Section 6470 (revised)
Payroll Authorization	Policy Section 6510 (revised)
Withholding or Recovering State Aid	Policy Section 6831 (new)

Roll Call: All Yes

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

The following bills were released by the Senate Education Committee on 12/08:

1a. **S1861**- the bill would eliminate the vote on school budgets that are below the state-imposed cap and shift school board member elections and second ballot questions to the November general election (Senate).

1b. **S1730** – would establish a uniform school bus life of 15 years for new buses (Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee).

2. On 12/4 Governor Corzine signed bill A1113/S1898 into law which reduced the current 1 year advance notice given to superintendents whose contracts will not be renewed to 30 days for each year of the superintendent's contract.

F. Buildings & Grounds Committee – (W. Sullivan, Chairperson)

The following items were commented on:

Mr. Sullivan asked if there had been leaks at the schools from last week's storms? Dr. Heebink said he only knows of one at Highland.

Ms. Lein questioned is there a broken window in Godwin? Mr. Venditti commented that he would hope teacher would report a broken window? Ms. Garvey will check on this.

Mr. Roberts commented that the bleachers at the stadium field maybe problematic.

Mr. Sullivan answered that the bleachers were checked last spring but will check again.

Mr. Venditti commented on the lights in front of the high school

Ms. Garvey has already begun to look onto the problem.

G. Negotiations – Teachers/Secretaries – (W. Roberts, Chairperson)

No Report.

H. Public Relations Committee – (J. Canellas, Chairperson)

It was reported that Chalk Board #2 was delivered to residents on December 6, 2008. We hope to have the issue launched on the website soon.

I. Personnel Committee – (S. Criscenzo, Chairperson)

The last parent meeting was December 2nd, 2008.

J. Service Review Committee – (W. Roberts, Chairperson)

Mr. Roberts explained the process of RFP's and choosing of the firm.

Motion – Mr. Roberts, seconded – Ms. Lein . . .

Approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the law firm of Fogarty & Hara, Esqs. has the expertise and experience to provide professional services to the Midland Park Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board");

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board appoints the law firm of Fogarty & Hara, Esqs, as Board Attorneys, until the next reorganization meeting at the following hourly rates:

\$165.00 partner \$145.00 associate

Roll Call: All Yes

K. Town Council Special Projects Committee – (R. Moraski, Chairperson)

No Report.

L. Special Recreation Committee – (W. Sullivan, Chairperson)

No Report.

M. Liaison Committee:

High School PTA – (S. Criscenzo)

Market Day pick up this Friday.

Elementary School PTA – (P. Lein)

The elementary school PTA hosted a tea party for Mr. Triano's retirement.

Booster Club – (W. Roberts)

It was asked that the Board inform the boosters of any status change on conferences. Mr. Salvi addressed the fact that there are no meetings scheduled until January—he believes our division is remaining intact.

There is a beef steak scheduled for January 31.

Performing Arts Parents – (J. Canellas)

The middle school and the high school choir concerts are scheduled for this Wednesday.

Special Education – (M. Hahn)

Interim Director is happy with the new appointments. He is also looking at programs for next year and into a speech program with Bloomberg College.

Education Foundation – (R. Moraski)

The following items were discussed:

- a. The Barnes & Noble fundraiser was very well attended.
- b. Parisi Gym fundraiser.

Also, Mr. Venditti states that his firm volunteered to do tax return to save money. He did not think that this is a conflict. Please let me know if anyone feels differently.

Board of Recreation – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

Continuing Education Program – (R. Schiffer)

Ideas were exchanged at the meeting last Tuesday.

Student Representative to the Board – (K. Yalli)

The idea of a home room was discussed- Is there any reason for it- some students have 1st period free and they choose to leave. Dr Heebink will follow up on this.

N. Old Business

None

O. New Business

Motion -

To go into closed session before the meeting of January 6, 2009, for the purpose of discussing personnel.

Roll Call: All Yes

Open to the Public

Mr. Venditti invited the public to address the Board.

No one chose to speak.

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

To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey,
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary