

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
Board of Education
Midland Park, New Jersey
October 21, 2008

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order by Richard Venditti, President, at 8:07 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
Nick Capuano, High School Assistant Principal
Michael Healy, Elementary School Assistant Principal
Patricia Terraciano, High School Principal
Frederick Triano, Elementary School Principal
Elizabeth Veneziano, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Staff Development

BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Approval of Minutes

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

Approve the minutes of the regularly scheduled public meeting held on October 7, 2008.

Roll Call: 8 Yes (Canellas, Criscenzo, Hahn, Moraski, Roberts, Sullivan, Schiffer, Venditti)
1 Abstain (Lein)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Venditti welcomed Ms. Garvey.

The Board Self-Evaluation was conducted by Ms. Nancy Stern of New Jersey School Boards Association.

Ms. Stern reviewed the report with the Board –report is supposed to give the Board direction for self-improvement plan.

Mr. Venditti wanted to know if other Boards make this public.

Ms. Stern answered to publicize the fact you went through the process.

Mr. Schiffer asked what the deadline is for the self-improvement plan.

Ms. Stern answered the deadline is November 15, 2008 and the answers do not have to be formal-they can be written in minutes-2-3 items.

Also state that NJSB facilitated presentation and discussion of self-evaluation.

Mr. Venditti asked what is involved in team building.

Ms. Stern responded you can do various exercises and it can be part of a regular meeting or part of retreat.

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

Presentation on testing results by Mrs. Elizabeth Veneziano.

Listing of District accomplishments:

Ms. Veneziano explained the testing report –NJASK 3-8; HESPA 3-8

The Board asked the following questions:

Mr. Sullivan asked how the District Factor Group is created and what is the criteria.

Ms. Veneziano replied this is from the State Department of Education based on demographics, economics, and the size of the school district

Mr. Moraski thanked Ms. Veneziano and the Curriculum Committee and asked if any other administrators would like to comment.

The administrators stated that they had met with the faculty to discuss a variety of issues to see what adjustments needed to be in the classrooms and any concerns. Also, supplemental help and resources were being provided.

Mr. Roberts asked is there some benchmark that you consider significant-1%?

Ms. Veneziano states that the goal is to be on par with other districts or above. Start by look at whole number then look at specific students.

Mr. Venditti asked if Ms. Veneziano was happy with results

Ms. Veneziano thinks that the state assessments give the district an idea, but you still have to look at the overall curriculum if it is rigorous enough for student instruction in the classroom. She stated that overall she was happy with the results, but does have areas of concern.

Ms. Criscenzo stated that the districts were not aware that the state was going to change the test scoring. She asked if the state was planning on changing the scoring again.

Ms. Veneziano stated that by 2012 we have to be 100% so yes, but don't know when.

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)

APPENDIX

Motion – Mr. Canellas, seconded – Mr. Moraski . . .

To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the revised employment contract for Louis Roer, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, for the time period July 1, 2008 through October 31, 2008, which is attached as an appendix. A
2. Approve the revised employment contract for William Shlala, Interim Director of Special Services, for the time period August 6, 2008 through June 30, 2009, which is attached as an appendix. B
3. Approve the change in employment date for Stacy Garvey, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, from November 1, 2008 to November 20, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Canellas, seconded – Mr. Moraski . . .

To approve the following block motion:

4. Accept the retirement resignation of David Ostman, Social Worker for the district, effective December 31, 2008 (support material attached).
5. Accept the retirement resignation of Sam Schaper, Maintenance Foreman, effective December 31, 2008 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

6. Approve the following addition to the list of advisors to activities and clubs at the high school for the 2008-2009 school year (support material attached):

Add:	Steven Bartosik	Percussion Ensemble Advisor	<u>Stipend</u> \$368.00
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7. Approve the following addition to the list of coaches at the high school for the 2008-2009 school year (support material attached):

Stipend

Add: Brian DeCarlo Head Wrestling Coach \$5,277

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Canellas, seconded – Mr. Moraski . . .

To approve the following block motion:

8. Approve the following co-advisors and coordinator for the Midland Park Continuing Education program (support material attached):

David Hershberger	Winter Ski Program co-advisors
Jeffrey Peters	Winter Ski Program co-advisors
Lisa Giovannello	Teacher’s Convention Mini Camp Coordinator

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

* Nicole King

*= NJ Certification

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Canellas, seconded – Mr. Moraski . . .

To approve the following block motion:

10. Approve a contract with Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania for the placement of a speech/language intern for the 2008-2009 school year, which is attached as an appendix. C

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

1. Approve the following block motion:

- a. September 2008 Midland Park Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$78,416.01.
- b. October 2008 cafeteria claims in the amount of \$18,194.26.
- c. October 2008 supplemental claims in the amount of \$247,104.57.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

2. Approve the October 2008 payroll in the amount of \$1,065,909.60.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

3. Approve the transfers among accounts, according to prescribed accounting procedures, for the period September 1, 2008 through September 30, 2008, which are attached as an appendix. E

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

To approve the following block motion:

4. Accept the donation of four aluminum player benches for the Stadium and JV soccer fields, valued at \$1,840, by the Midland Park Soccer Association, as per Board Policy 7230 (support material attached).
5. Accept the following donations of three Bradford Pear Trees, along with underlying mulch and surrounding shrubs, for planting at the Midland Park High School, as per Board Policy 7230 (support material attached):

One tree from the Class of 2006
Two trees for Mr. Shawn Flattery

Roll Call: All Yes

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

6. Approve the legal services consulting agreement with Scarinci Hollenbeck for selected special education cases during the 2008-2009 school year, which is attached as an appendix. D

Roll Call: 8 Yes (Canellas, Criscenzo, Hahn, Lein, Moraski, Roberts, Schiffer, Venditti)
1 No (William Sullivan)

Mr. Schiffer commented that you have received your audits and to please bring in for auditor review at the next meeting.

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

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

1. Approve the withdrawal of one high school special education student from the Sage Day School, Rochelle Park, NJ, effective retroactive to October 14, 2008.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

2. Approve the submission of the No Child Left Behind Consolidated Formula Sub grant FY 2009 (NCLB) application in the following amounts:

Title II Part A	\$36,548
Title IV	\$ 1,989

Roll Call: All Yes

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

3. Approve the implementation of the new club, Bio Club, grades 9 – 12 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

4. Approve the curriculum writing of General Physics and revision of Health 12 (support material attached).

Roll Call: All Yes

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

5. Accept the Midland Park Public Education Foundation grants for the Fall 2008 cycle (support material attached):

School	Project Title	Subject/Grade	Grant Writer(s)	Grant Money
MPHS	Participation in NJ Debate League	10-12	Dr. Heebink	\$450.00
MPHS	Determine the Absorption Spectrum of a Specimen	9-11	R. Dawson	\$1081.50
MPHS	Equip New Computers in Science Room 57 & 59	10-12	L. Menken	\$1540.00 + shipping
MPHS	History of Modern Art	10-12	J. Ferriday	\$150.00
MPHS	Fenkart Assembly	9-12	D. Halliwell	\$500.00
MPHS	Listen to Me! I have Something to Say!	7	7 th grade teachers	\$310.00
Highland	Elmo and LCD projector	4	4 th grade teachers	\$1257.97
Highland	Let There Be Light!	3-6		\$600.00
Godwin	Elmo and LCD projector	1	1 st grade teachers	\$1200.00
TOTAL				\$ 7089.47

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

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

Name	Workshop	Date	Location
Karen Corcoran	Pediatric Sleeping disorders and the Role of the School Nurse	10/ 20/ 2008	Wood Ridge, NJ
Teresa Isik	ACT Educator Workshop	10/ 22/ 2008	Mahwah, NJ
Jennifer Frumolt	Social Skills in Community Based Environments	10/ 24/ 2008	Hackensack, NJ
Matthew Sayles	M3 = Making Mathematics Meaningful	10/ 24/ 2008	Somerset, NJ
Teresa Isik	St. John's University Guidance Counselor Breakfast	10/ 29/2008	Woodcliff Lake, NJ
Jennifer Frumolt	Reducing Disputes When Parents Request a 1:1 Aide	11/14/ 2008	Hackensack, NJ
Karen Corcoran	Prevention, Assessment, Intervention and Recovery from Brain Injury and Role of School Nurse	11/17/2008	Wood-Ridge, NJ
Teresa Mallon	Hands, Inquiry-based Teaching and Learning Workshop	1/ 07/ 2009	Piscataway, NJ
Connie Cervati	It's Elementary: Family Life Lesson Plans for Grades K-3	2/ 04/2009	Piscataway, NJ
Deborah Marks	Workshop for NJ ASK 8 Science Preparation	2/ 27/ 2009	Jersey City, NJ

7. Approve the following program for the Midland Park Continuing Education program:

Winter Ski Program (Ski Club)

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Moraski thanked the Education Foundation and the teachers for all of their efforts.

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

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

1. Approve the first reading of the following new/revised bylaws, policies and regulations, which are attached as appendices:

Professional Services	Bylaws Section 0177 (new)	<u>F</u>
Internal Controls	Policy and Regulations Section 1570 (new)	<u>G</u>
Purchases Subject to Bid	Policy Section 6320 (revised)	<u>H</u>

Political Contributions	Policy Section 6360 (revised)	<u>I</u>
Contributions to Board Members and Contract Awards	Policy Section 6362 (new)	<u>J</u>
School Vehicle Assignment, Use, Tracking, Maintenance and Accounting	Policy and Regulations Section 7650 (new)	<u>K</u>

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Sullivan questioned is there a continuing wave of these?

Dr. Heebink commented – yes because of new regulations

Mr. Venditti commented that some are o.k. but just that the dates are old. Need to decide to give Board an updated disk.

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

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

Eligibility of Resident/Non Resident Pupils Policy Section 5111

Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Policy Section 5512.01
(revised since first reading and included as support material)

Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program Policy & Regulations
Section 6111

Public Relations Program Policy Section 9120
(revised since first reading and included as support material)

Student Teachers/Interns Policy Section 9541

Roll Call: All Yes

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

No Report.

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

No Report.

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

No Report.

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

No Report.

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

No Report.

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

Mr. Roberts stated that the issue with the food being removed too early and the menus not being followed was addressed with the food service provider. Also, the committee approved a Request for Proposal for legal services. Responses are due by November 7th.

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)

The following items were reported on:

Pick-up for Market Day orders is Friday, October 24th, 2008 at 5:30-6:30 in the high school cafeteria. First coffee with the principal was held at 7:15 a.m. Thursday, October 16, 2008.

All combined general meetings will now be held in the Media Center not Memorial Hall. The next Meeting will be Monday, November 10th, 2008.

Membership is up to 321 with 100% from the teachers.

PTA is sponsoring a Halloween Food Drive. Signs will be posted at the drop off houses several days before Halloween. Donations will be made to the Emanuel Cancer Center.

Winners were chosen for the directory artwork. \$25.00 was awarded to 9th grader Jake Thomas for the back cover.

Elementary School PTA – (P. Lein)

The following items were reported on:

The Harvest Festival was a big success.

The Fall Feet Fundraiser

Gift Card Sale Starts Thursday.

Booster Club – (W. Roberts)

Spirit Week has been completed and has been quite successful.

The volleyball game was very well attended.

The Booster Club would like to thank everyone for their support.

Homecoming dance
Panther apparel being sold as fund raiser.

Performing Arts Parents – (J. Canellas)

Music in the Park was October 12th, and the band did a great job.

Special Education – (M. Hahn)

No Report.

Education Foundation – (R. Moraski)

On December 12, 2008 there will be a fund raiser at Barnes & Noble in Paramus. There is an Amazon link for purchases.

Also, there will be a comedy night – dinner dance on March 28, 2009.

Board of Recreation – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

Continuing Education Program – (R. Schiffer)

No Report.

N. Old Business

None

O. New Business

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

To go into closed session after the meeting of October 21, 2008 for the purpose of discussing personnel and negotiation items.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To go into closed session before the meeting of November 4, 2008 for the purpose of discussing personnel and negotiation items.

Roll Call: All Yes

Open to the Public

Mr. Venditti invited the public to address the Board.

Karen Reilly asked if the testing report was available to the public. Dr. Heebink answered that the information was on the website.

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Mr. Moraski . . .
To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey,
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary