

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

November 18, 2008

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order by Richard Venditti, President, 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 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

Approval of Minutes

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

Approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meeting held on October 21, 2008.

Roll Call: All Yes

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The following items were reported on:

Board Self Evaluation Corrective Action Plan –One item is Finance. Mr. Venditti suggested having the NJSBA rep back to meet with the Board during budget preparation.

Mr. Moraski commented the meeting with the rep should also include team building.

S-1 Motion – Mr. Venditti, seconded – Mr. Schiffer . . .
Approve the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the Midland Park Board of Education agrees to participate as an independent school in interscholastic athletics in the 2010-2011 school year, subject to Board of Education approval of the final schedule (support material attached).

Mr. Sullivan asked Mr. Salvi about the Division make up. Mr. Salvi answered that the whole league conference is in flux and he did not know exactly what the divisional set up will be.

Mr. Sullivan stated that he does not see much of a change for us and he thinks it will be a lot of pressure on the Athletic Department to go independent.

Mr. Salvi commented that if the district went independent we could still participate in the league tournaments.

Mr. Schiffer stated that Mr. Salvi's letter stated that he felt we should stay with a league.

Mr. Salvi commented that he believes schools should be in a league. Independent school league would be made up of smaller school districts; but there is not a lot of information.

The Board further discussed the pros and cons of going independent verses staying in the current league.

Public Comments

Marty Costello –stated that he didn't see benefit of Midland Park going independent. He felt it was a plea from one Superintendent for his/her own district.

Roll Call: All No

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

Dr. Heebink explained the new state assessment and process the district followed to prepare for State review and site visit. Also, Dr. Heebink explained the scoring process. The site visit is scheduled for the first week of February. Program and Instruction is the only area that we did not meet the minimum score because of lack of World Language. We will have to address this issue. The process will have to be repeated in 3years.

Mr. Hahn questioned World Language –why didn't we continue to have it? Was it financial?

Dr. Heebink answered that he is not sure why, however, there will be ramifications and it will have to be corrected.

Mr. Moraski reported that the Curriculum Committee met and asked Dr. Heebink to move ahead with maybe some implementation on for the second semester. We have a Cultural aspect but not a communicative aspect. There will be a change in personnel and budget impact.

Mr. Canellas commented that accountability needs to be considered. When did the administrators gain knowledge of lack of CCS due to QSAC?

Dr. Heebink stated that he could not respond for anyone else, but he personally gained knowledge due to the review and now looks at it as a point to correct.

Mr. Canellas wants to ensure this doesn't happen in the future.

Dr. Heebink stated that QSAC provides an excellent set of documents to monitor the future.

Mr. Schiffer asked what is the timeframe for the correction?

Mr. Venditti responded that Dr. Heebink is reviewing and will report back to the Board. He also stated that this is an evaluation process to help districts correct problems and to better ourselves.

Mr. Canellas asked about the Finance section and about the question on repeat audit comments.

Ms. Garvey answered that the question asked if there were any material repeat comments. The auditor stated that the comment received by the district in the past two audits is not considered material.

Motion – Mr. Venditti seconded – Mr. Schiffer . . .

S-2 Approve a Resolution honoring Mr. Frederick Triano upon his retirement as Principal of the Highland Elementary School.

WHEREAS, since 1978, Frederick M. (Rick) Triano has served with distinction as a social studies teacher (5-12), Dean of Students at Midland Park High School and Elementary School Principal; and,

WHEREAS, since 1986, Rick Triano has been the primary steward of elementary education in the Midland Park School District;

WHEREAS, Rick Triano has been honored by the National Association of Elementary School Principals, the Bergen County Elementary and Middle School Administrators Association and the American Legion for his performance as an elementary principal; and

WHEREAS, Rick Triano has brought honors to the Midland Park elementary school programs from the New Jersey Department of Education and the United States Department of Education; and,

WHEREAS, since 2000, Rick Triano has provided fair and focused leadership as the President of the Midland Park Administrators and Supervisors Association; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Midland Park Board of Education hereby honors Frederick M. (Rick) Triano, and pays tribute to his remarkable history of service, leadership, and involvement in education for a total of 32 ½ years; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution, signed by members of the Midland Park Board of Education, be provided to Rick Triano.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Moraski, seconded – Mr. Sullivan . . .

Approve the submission of the District QSAC Documents advanced by the District QSAC Committee.

Public

Ms. Anne Polhemus commented that World Language happened because the Board at the time had to remove a position from the Budget. New Administrators looked at what was here and were honest about findings. There is a need now to take care of this matter.

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

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. Criscenzo . . .

1. Approve the appointment of Joseph Desiderio to perform the duties of Interim Elementary School Principal in the Midland Park School System, effective January 5, 2009 through June 30, 2009, or until such time as a permanent appointment can be made, at the rate of \$500 per diem and to authorize the President and Board Secretary to prepare and execute the appropriate agreement, which is attached as an appendix (support material attached). A

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Desiderio addressed the Board to thank them for the opportunity to serve as Interim Elementary School Principal.

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

2. Approve the opening of the Agreement between the Midland Park Board of Education and the Midland Park Education Association and the proviso for the inclusion of a physical therapist to the MPEA membership, which is attached as an appendix. B

Roll Call: All Yes

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

To approve the following block motion:

3. Approve the following retroactive additions to the list of advisors to activities and clubs at the elementary schools, for the 2008-2009 school year:

		<u>Stipend</u>
Add:	Carol Carlisle	I&RS Committee, Godwin
	Danielle Haring	I&RS Committee, Highland
		\$817
		\$817

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

- * Cheryl Mensing
- (s) Candy Mingst
- * Joseph Wolfson

(s) = County Substitute Certificate * = NJ Standard Certificate

Roll Call: All Yes

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

4. Approve the following revised job descriptions, which are attached as appendices:

- Affirmative Action Officer
- Athletic Director
- Bus Driver
- Director of Continuing Education
- Elementary School Guidance Counselor
- High School Guidance Counselor
- Secretary to the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

C
D
E
F
G
H
I

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

1. Approve the following block motion:

- a. October 2008 direct pays in the amount of \$219,411.61.
- b. October 2008 cafeteria direct pays in the amount of \$11,979.44.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

2. Approve the following block motion:

- a. October 2008 Midland Park Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$48,548.35.
- b. November 2008 supplemental claims in the amount of \$272,564.97.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

3. Approve the award of Bid File # 500 – 1995 Chevrolet Bus

Advertised in The Record
Bid Opening Date: November 3, 2008

Responses: 2

Awarded to: Star Towing & Salvage, Inc. \$702.02
23 Chestnut Street
Emerson, NJ 07630

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Venditti questioned whether we are replacing the bus?
Mr. Schiffer answered yes we will be looking into replacing this bus

Mr. Schiffer stated that the Note was renewed at 3.99% and that Ms. Garvey will be looking into investing the funds at a greater % to draw in revenue.

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 transportation of one elementary school special education student to the Center for Exceptional Children, Clifton, NJ, effective November 24, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

	Workshop	Date	Location
Jennifer Frumolt	Social Skills During Lunch And on the Playground	12/01/2008	Montvale, NJ
Elsa Carbone	Arts in Education	12/03/2008	Paramus, NJ
Francesca Mullady	Classroom Rules - The Art of Motivating	12//09/2008	Paramus, NJ
Casey Vier	A Framework for Reading comprehension Instruction	12/11/2008	Newark, NJ
Lee Tracy	NJSIAA Coaches Clinic	12/12/2008	Flemington, NJ

Roll Call: All Yes

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

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

The following items were reported on:

- a. A420 – Bill A420 was passed by the Assembly on November 17, 2008. The bill would extend tenure-like protections to teaching paraprofessionals in Title I school districts.
- b. A375 – Bill A375 was passed by the Assembly Education Committee on 10/23/08. The bill would raise the age for compulsory school attendance from 16 to 18.

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

The following items were reported on:

- a. Gas leak at the high school corrected
- b. Committee will be getting together November 29 to tour the district.

Ms. Criscenzo questioned if there is any damage from Kiln. It was notified that there was not. Mr. Roberts asked about the high school gym windows. Mr. Sullivan answered that the committee will be looking into it.—Mr. Roberts commented that’s something to consider it may be the ac lines that run in the hallway.

Mr. Venditti questioned lightning in front of school. Mr. Sullivan stated that Ms. Garvey is asking PSE&G to come in to do site reviews.

Mr. Sullivan commented that the committee would like to do walk through based on the 7.6 indicators.

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

It was reported that the committee met to begin discussing negotiations.

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

Chalk Board #2 is with the graphic designer and we hope to have our first proof set by November 26. We hope to meet the 12/6 drop date.

In addition, I will be trying to schedule a meeting to plan for *Chalk Board’s Budget* issue in early December. It is my intention to ask a representative from the Finance Committee to attend.

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

No Report.

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

Mr. Roberts reported that the problem with pizza cost has been addressed.

Ms. Garvey commented on legal services—need to schedule meeting to discuss.

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

No Report.

Special Recreation Committee – (W. Sullivan, Chairperson)

No Report.

L. Liaison Committee:

High School PTA – (S. Criscenzo)

The following items were reported on:

- a. Market Day pick-up is Friday, November 21st, 5:30-6:30 in the High School Cafeteria.
- b. They had asked people to order an extra item in November for a donation to a local family. Items will be given at pick up and will be delivered to needy families in the area.

The combined general meeting was on Monday, November 10th, 2008.
The PTA will be showed a video: “Helping Other People is what it is all about”
Detective Steven McDonald is sharing his story during Disabilities Awareness Week’2008 in an assembly to MPHS students from this past April. On July 12, 1986, officer McDonald was shot in Central Park, NYC by a 15 year old boy.

Elementary School PTA – (P. Lein)

Ms. Lein reported that there will be a Gift Card Fund Raiser and the next general meeting would be November 20th.

Booster Club – (W. Roberts)

The following items were reported on:
There will be an ad journal going out to all athletes.
An Awards Dinner is scheduled for 12/4/2008.
A beefsteak dinner is scheduled for 1/31/2008.

Performing Arts Parents – (J. Canellas)

The students did a fantastic job this past weekend in their rendition of Romeo and Juliet.

Fund Raisers – please review the site for information www.goodshop.com

Special Education – (M. Hahn)

No Report.

Education Foundation – (R. Moraski)

There is a December 12, 2008 fundraiser scheduled at Barnes & Noble in Paramus.

Board of Recreation – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

Continuing Education Program – (R. Schiffer)

There was a meeting with Mr. Salvi and staff on Thursday to discuss articles in the newspaper. Although the Board is concerned, the comments made were by the auditor about another district, not Midland Park.

Student Representative – (K. Yali)

No Report.

M. Old Business

Ms. Lein was approached by elementary school lunch aide. She heard raving reviews on Pomptonian and the new management.

N. New Business

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

To go into closed session before the meeting of December 2, 2008, for the purpose of discussing Personnel issues.

Roll Call: All Yes

Open to the Public

Mr. Venditti invited the public to address the Board.

Ms. Ann Marie Fuliani – questioned an additional section for 3rd grade next year and wondered whether the Board would be considering this matter during the budget process.

Dr. Heebink answered yes it will be considered in the total budget process. Dr. Heebink reiterated that we do need public support of the Budget. Ms. Criscenzo and Mr. Schiffer commented that if the budget doesn't pass then the Midland Park Borough Council will determine cuts on the Budget.

Motion – Mr. Schiffer, seconded – Ms. Criscenzo . . .
To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey,
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary