

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MIDLAND PARK, NEW JERSEY
MARCH 15, 2022**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. McCourt at 8:00 p.m. 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 2022 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	Christine Dell’Aglio
	Nabil Eliya	Patricia Fantulin
	Maryalice Thomas	Brian McCourt
Excused:	Sandra Criscenzo	
	Richard Formicola	
	Peter Triolo	

OTHERS PRESENT

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

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

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 2020-2021 Annual Audit by Gary Higgins, School Auditor, of Lerch, Vinci & Higgins

Monthly Presentations for Board & Public: Godwin School's Mystery Science Program presented by Danielle Bache. Principal Bache and second grade teacher Ms. Stefanie Greenberg will provide information on the popular hands-on, standards-aligned Mystery Science program, featuring online science resource to support instructional objectives.

A Coffee & Conversations event is scheduled for Monday, March 28 at 7 pm in the MPHS Media Center. This is an in-person opportunity for parents/guardians to meet with me and members of the administrative team to share thoughts, questions, concerns and messages of positivity about any school/district topic.

I wanted to speak about Ms. Stacy Garvey's recent NJASBO Distinguished Service Award. This award is truly significant as it represents long-term success and accomplishments in the field of school district business operations. Ms. Garvey's outstanding record of excellence in her field is worthy of commendation and recognition. She is a leader in her field, in the county and now recognized as one in our state. Ms. Garvey is a wonderful and sincere person of great integrity, congratulations on this prestigious award.

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

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 020122246 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.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation No. 0206223161 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: **COMMENTS** only for action items on the agenda.

No one chose to speak at this time.

BOARD MOTIONS

Motion – Mr. Canellas, seconded – Ms. Fantulin...

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

February 1, 2022
February 15, 2022

Roll Call: All Yes

- A. Personnel – (M. Cirasella)

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2021-2022 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 – Ms. Fantulin...

- +1. Approve the following additions to the list of Advisors to Activities and Clubs at the High School for the 2021-2022 school year:

		<u>Stipend</u>
Add: Terry Alnor	Rehearsal Accompanist	\$939.00
Steven Bartosik	Musical Assistant Director – Instrumental	\$631.00
Donna Halliwell	Stage Crew Director (Musical)	\$854.50

- +2. Approve a paid medical leave of absence for Employee No. 0174, effective March 16, 2022 through April 8, 2022.

- +3. Approve the appointment of Leah Battaglia as a 1st grade Special Education leave replacement in the Godwin School. She will be paid a salary of \$50,500 (BA Step 4 on the MPEA salary guide) prorated, effective March 18, 2022 through June 1, 2022.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Ms. Dell’Aglia, seconded – Mr. Canellas...

- +4. Approve the appointment of Holly Neville as a 1st grade leave replacement in the Godwin School. She will be paid a salary of \$49,250 (BA Step 1 on the MPEA salary guide) (pending issuance of her expedited teaching certificate) prorated, effective March 18, 2022 through June 30, 2022.

- +5. Approve the following students as Aides for the Volleyball for Girls program, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education, effective March 29, 2022 through May 24, 2022:

Jessica Balala
Brandi Shortway
Paige Tuozzo

- +6. **Approve the following teachers as Coaches for the Summer Track Clinic, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education in June 2022:**

**Nicole Marino
Shawn Savage**

- +7. **Approve Adam Sidrow as Coach for the Spring Break Basketball Camp, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education, effective April 11 – 14, 2022.**

Roll Call: All Yes

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

- S-1. Approve the appointment of Timothy Hamilton as a Volunteer Coach to assist Nicole Marino, as needed, in the Volleyball Clinic sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education, effective March 29, 2022.

Roll Call: All Yes

- B. Finance Committee – (B. McCourt, Chairperson)

Motion – Mr. Canellas, seconded – Ms. Dell’Aglia...

1. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), we certify that as of February 28, 2022, 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.

2. Approve the following block motion:

- a. February 2022 direct pays in the amount of \$225,088.04.
- b. February 2022 Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$28,276.31.
- c. February 2022 cafeteria claims in the amount of \$42,732.00.
- d. First February 2022 payroll in the amount of \$667,251.90.
- e. Second February 2022 payroll in the amount of \$687,042.32.
- f. March 2022 claims in the amount of \$490,660.05.

3. Approve the cash reports and the Board Secretary’s Report for the period February 1 - 28, 2022, as per the attached appendix. B-3

4. Approve the transfers among accounts for the period February 1 – 28, 2022, as per the attached appendix. B-4

5. 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 2022/2023 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.

+6. Accept the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021.

+7. Approve the Software Support Renewal Agreement between the Midland Park Board of Education and Computer Solutions, Inc. for the 2022-2023 school year.

+8. Approve the use of the Highland School Gym for the Spring Break Basketball Camp Grades 3-8, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., to be held April 11 – 14, 2022.

+9. Approve the use and rental of the Highland School Gym to Hoop Heaven, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education, for youth Basketball games from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. on the following dates:

April 4-8, 11-14, 18-22, 25-29; May 5, 6, 9-13, 16, 17, 18, 20, 23-30; May 31 – June 1, 3, 2022

+10. Approve the Summer Track Clinic, Grades 3-8, sponsored by Midland Park Continuing Education to be held at the High School from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. on the following dates:

June 7, 8, 14, 15, 2022

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Canellas stated the 2022-23 budget is not being approved on this agenda because of impact of Chapter 44. Ms. Garvey and team will be working to facilitate changes and we hope to have a meeting soon to present the budget to the Board for approval.

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

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

+1. **Approve the following staff member requesting workshop attendance:**

Name	Workshop	Location	Cost	Date
Kathleen Lepage	Language Disorders vs. Language Differences for English Language Learners	West Orange, NJ	\$302.80	5/17/22

+2. **Approve the recommendation for the placement of a non-classified high school student on home instruction, effective retroactive from March 7, 2022 through approximately May 7, 2022.**

Roll Call: All Yes

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

No Report

E. Legislative Committee – (Administration)

- NJ lawmakers are considering passage of a bill that would allow public schools or approved private schools for students with disabilities to count remote instruction days called due to inclement weather, hazardous transportation conditions or another emergency that closes the school building toward the 180 day school year requirement. At this time, schools can count remote learning days toward the 180 day requirement only if they are closed for three or more days because of a state of emergency, public health emergency or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health related closure. This bill has passed the Senate Education Committee and would need to pass the full Senate and Assembly before the Governor would sign it into law.
- The NJDOE has announced the release of resources to assist school districts with incorporating equity, diversity and inclusion in the curriculum. The website is known as the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Educational Resources website and provides a compilation of approximately 140 resources from national and state education organizations, government, higher education, civic and teaching websites. Resources include sample learning activities and lessons, tools to help educators evaluate instructional materials, culturally responsive practices, videos and webinars.

F. Buildings & Grounds Committee – (C. Dell’Aglia, Chairperson)

Motion – Ms. Dell’Aglia, seconded – Ms. Fantulin...

1. Approve the Mold and Moisture Prevention Plan.

Roll Call: All Yes

The referendum was not successful, we are going to begin debriefing.

- G. Negotiations Committee - (R. Formicola, Chairperson)
- The next meeting will be before the Board meeting on April 6th
- H. Technology & Public Relations Committee – (P. Fantulin, Chairperson)
- No Report
- I. Town Council – (P. Triolo, B. McCourt)
- We will be scheduling a meeting shortly
- J. Diversity Committee – (J. Canellas, Chairperson)
- We are very happy with the resources for the committee. We will get an inaugural meeting set up after budget season
- K. Liaison Committee
- High School PTA - (N. Formicola)
- No Report
- Elementary School PTA- (C. Dell’Aglia)
- Family bingo at Godwin School - 3/18
 - Cultural Awareness Day – 3/29
 - Next meeting – 4/4
- Booster Club – (N. Eliya)
- 1st annual Panther Pride throw down at Stumpy’s on 4/7
 - Join the booster club
- Performing Arts Parents – (J. Canellas)
- SpongeBob the Musical will be showing at the High School on 3/25-27
 - Tickets for the musical will be on sale at the High School on 3/17-19
- Special Education – (M. Thomas)
- No Report
- Education Foundation – (S. Criscenzo)
- No Report
- Board of Recreation – (B. McCourt)
- No Report
- Continuing Education Program – (P. Fantulin)
- No Report

Student Representative to the Board – (Sophia Rosenthal)

- Juniors have testing this week (NJGPA)
- There was an assembly on Friday, March 11 about Mental Health acceptance from the creator of Listen Lucy
- Tickets for SpongeBob the Musical are currently on sale. The musical is March 25, 26 and 27
- NHS, Senate & Interact are currently taking donations for Save the Children to provide relief to children in Ukraine. It's nice to see that our donation jars are doing well

K. Old Business

No Report

L. New Business

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

Motion to go into closed session before the meeting of April 5, 2022, 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. Eliya, seconded – Mr. Canellas...

To adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Stacy Garvey
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary