

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MIDLAND PARK, NEW JERSEY
SEPTEMBER 21, 2021**

The pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Mr. Triolo 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 2021 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	Sandra Criscenzo
	Christine Dell’Aglia	Nabil Eliya
	Patricia Fantulin	Richard Formicola
	Brian McCourt	Peter Triolo
Excused:	Maryalice Thomas	

OTHERS PRESENT

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

PRESIDENT’S REPORT Mr. Peter Triolo

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

- We are delighted to have our first presentation on the school year for trustees and public tonight. We would like to welcome Mr. Capuano and Ms. Susan Jensen, our Life Skills teacher.
- The COVID-19 weekly report may be found on the homepage of the district website. The chart provides the number of new positive cases in each of our schools.
- In April, 2021 the USDOE recognized that, "We are in the midst of a pandemic that requires real flexibility" and informed the NJDOE that the administration of what is called the Start Strong assessments in Fall 2021 will satisfy the federal statewide assessment requirement to administer general assessments in English, Language Arts, Mathematics and Science for the 20-21 school year.
- Start Strong represents a one-time only flexibility granted by the USDOE, noting that these assessments will be used in lieu of the NJ Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA) that were scheduled to be administered in Spring 2021. Our district will administer the Start Strong assessments from October 4-19, completing them prior to the deadline for test administration on October 22.
- A handout is provided for you regarding the Start Strong Assessments, which provides more information on test elements, design and purpose of testing. More information will be provided by each school's principal. Once the test results are received, administrators will be reporting achievement data to the Board and public.

Presentation: MPHS's Life Skills Program: Culinary Arts, and MPHS's Broadcasting Program

Open to the Public: **COMMENTS** only for action items on the agenda.

No one chose to speak at this time.

BOARD MOTIONS

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

August 24, 2021

- 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.

- +1. **Rescind Motion A-23 of the July 20, 2021 Board Agenda to appoint Amanda Petrocelli as a Science teacher at the High School.**
- +2. **Approve the retroactive payment for Amanda Petrocelli to attend the Opening Days for teachers on September 1 & 2, 2021. She will be paid a prorated salary based on BA Step 5 of the MPEA salary guide.**

- +3. Approve the appointment of Amanda Petrocelli as a substitute teacher at the High School. She will be paid at the substitute teacher rate of \$96.00 per day, effective September 13, 2021 through October 11, 2021.
- +4. Approve the list of Advisors to Activities and Clubs at the High School for the 2021-2022 school year, as per the attached appendix: A-4
- +5. Revise Motion A-7 of the September 7, 2021 Work Session Agenda, to reflect the appointment of Deidre Bulick as an Instructional Aide in the Highland School. She will be paid a salary of \$26,200 (Category V Step 2 on the secretarial/clerical salary guide), prorated effective approximately October 4, 2021 (or sooner) through June 30, 2022.
- +6. Approve the following addition to the list of substitute workers for the 2021-2022 school year:

Milena Theodorides	Building Aide
--------------------	---------------
- +7. Approve Amy Biswurm to be the School Nurse to accompany the Marching Band on the Syracuse trip from October 29 - 31, 2021. She will be paid at the rate of \$165 per day for no more than two days.

B. Finance Committee – (J. Canellas, Chairperson)

- 1. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), we certify that as of August 31, 2021, 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. August 2021 direct pays in the amount of \$1,235,779.67.
 - b. August 2021 Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$79,118.42.
 - c. Second August 2021 payroll in the amount of \$135,065.31.
 - d. First September 2021 payroll in the amount of \$691,990.65.
 - e. September 2021 claims in the amount of \$260,817.21.
- 3. Approve the cash reports and the Board Secretary’s Report for the period August 1 - 31, 2021, as per the attached appendix. B-3

4. Approve the transfers among accounts for the period August 1 – 31, 2021, as per the attached appendix.

B-4

5. Approve the tuition rate for out-of-district students to attend the Midland Park Public Schools for the 2021-2022 school year, as follows:

- Pre/K - \$18,215
- Grades 1-5 - \$21,292
- Grades 6-8 - \$21,159
- Grades 9-12 - \$24,232

+6. Approve the amended cash reports and the Board Secretary’s Report for the period July 1 – 31, 2021, as per the attached appendix.

B-6

+7. Approve the Agreement for Consultant Services between the Midland Park School District and Gravity Goldberg, LLC to provide ten days of literacy professional development at the daily rate of \$2,000, not to exceed \$20,000, paid through ESSER III funds, during the 2021-2022 school year.

+8. Approve the acceptance of the ARP IDEA Grant funds for the 2021-2022 IDEA Grant, as follows:

- Basic ARP: \$41,492.00
- Non Public Basic: \$ 3,990.00
- Preschool ARP : \$ 3,883.00

+9. Accept the School Security Grant funding in the amount of \$50,392.00.

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

1. Approve the decommissioning of outdated textbooks at the High School, as per the attached appendix:

C-1

+2. Approve the following staff member requesting workshop attendance:

Name	Workshop	Location	Cost	Date
Christine Carr	NJ Association of School Librarians Fall Conference	Atlantic City, NJ	\$524.76	12/5-7/2021

+3. Approve the Nursing Services Plan for the 2021-2022 school year.

+4. Approve the recommendation for the placement of a classified high school student in the Holmstead School, Ridgewood, NJ, retroactive from September 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

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

1. Approve the new and/or revised Mandated Policies, as per the attached appendices:

a.	Evaluation of Teachers	Policy Section 3221	<u>D-1a</u>
b.	Evaluation of Teaching Staff Members, Excluding Teachers and Administrators	Policy Section 3222	<u>D-1b</u>
c.	Evaluation of Administrators, Excluding Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals	Policy Section 3223	<u>D-1c</u>
d.	Evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals	Policy Section 3224	<u>D-1d</u>
e.	Bridge Year Pilot Program	Policy Section 5460.02	<u>D-1e</u>
f.	School District Travel	Policy Section 6471	<u>D-1f</u>
g.	Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs	Policy Section 8561	<u>D-1g</u>

Mr. Canellas asked that clarification be made, travel is for conferences and workshops.

2. Approve the Mandated Policies to be abolished:

- a. Educational Improvement Plans
- b. Federal Families First Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response Act

Mrs. Dell’Aglia asked for further information on 2a. Mrs. Fantulin responded the policy is for Special Education Schools, not public schools.

E. Legislative Committee – (Administration)

No Report

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

+1. Approve the Midland Park Public Schools Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill Report on the following date and location:

9/9/21 Windsor Bergen Academy, Ridgewood, NJ, 8:50 a.m.

G. Negotiations Committee - (N. Eliya, Chairperson)

No Report

H. Technology & Public Relations Committee – (R. Formicola, Chairperson)

No Report

I. Town Council – (P. Triolo, B. McCourt)

No Report

J. Liaison Committee

High School PTA - (N. Eliya)

- Membership drive
- Parent academies night 10/11

Elementary School PTA- (J. Canellas)

- General meeting 9/28
- Week of respect 10/4
- Harvest Festival 10/15
- Pumpkin sale 10/12
- Looking for volunteers
- Membership is online
- Exciting fundraisers planned

Booster Club – (B. McCourt)

- Lawn sign sale
- Fall sports have started, big football game this week

Performing Arts Parents – (M. Thomas)

- Marching band competition this weekend
- Parent event this past weekend
- Signs for fall drama
- Please become a member

Special Education – (P. Fantulin)

- Parent Advisory Group will have meetings via zoom

Education Foundation – (S. Criscenzo)

- Table set up for Community Day on 10/2
- 2nd Edition of cookbook
- Coin collection event
- Committee Thrift Shop fundraiser, volunteers are needed

Board of Recreation – (R. Formicola)

- Community Day 10/2

Continuing Education Program – (C. Dell’Aglia)

- Fall courses are underway
- Popular programs are back and going well

Student Representative to the Board – (Sophia Rosenthal)

- Students put 1300 flags on the lawn for 9/11 remembrance
- Speaker Glen Klein spoke about surviving the 9/11 attack
- We won our 1st football game, we are playing a full schedule, plus tournaments
- Students were trying to figure out classes before the drop period
- More students joined senior seminar

K. Old Business

No Report

L. New Business

Motion to go into closed session before the meeting of October 5, 2021, for the purpose of reviewing the hiring of personnel, legal updates and confidential student HIB case reviews.

Open to the Public - general **COMMENTS** only at this time are to be directed to the Board President.

Mr. Kalata asked the Board, instead of the days being spread out throughout the year, consider stacking with other breaks. Parents are scrambling for child care. Mr. Triolo thanked Mr. Kalata for his comment.

Motion – Mr. Formicola, seconded – Mr. Canellas...
To adjourn the meeting

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Stacy Garvey
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary