

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Board of Education**  
**Midland Park, New Jersey**  
December 21, 2010

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order by Robert Schiffer, 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 2010 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
	Richard Formicola	Paula Lein
	Brian McCourt	Raymond Moraski
	William Sullivan	Maryalice Thomas
	Robert Schiffer	

**OTHERS PRESENT**

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

District policy states that anyone wishing to speak on an agenda item prior to its vote by the full Board will have an opportunity to do so without prior notice.

**BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT**

***Approval of Minutes***

Motion – Mr. Moraski, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .

Approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meeting held on November 16, 2010.

Roll Call: 8 Yes (Canellas, Criscenzo, Formicola, McCourt, Moraski, Thomas, Sullivan, Schiffer)  
1 Abstain (Lein)

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### 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.

Mr. Schiffer commented on the following items:

On 12/9/2010 Mr. Schiffer and Mr. Sullivan met with Assemblyman Russo and the President and Vice President of the Ridgewood Board. The group discussed the Governor's proposal for Superintendent Contract Caps and his opinions of Boards of Education.

Dr. Cirasella commented that there will be many law suits filed by Superintendents whose contracts have been held up.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Cirasella commented that this is a great time of the year in the school buildings. There is a wonderful "*Spirit*" in the schools and she wished everyone happy holidays.

Board resolutions related to hiring for the 2010-2011 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 – (M. Cirasella)

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

1. Approve the appointment of Justin Soccol as a Health/Physical Education teacher at the high school. He will be paid a salary of \$41,480 (BA Step 1 on the MPEA salary guide) prorated effective January 3, 2011 through June 30, 2011 (support material attached).
2. Approve the appointment of Sheila Steinberg as a French teacher at the high school. She will be paid at the approved substitute rate, as per Policy Section 3125, effective January 3, 2011. Upon issuance of her New Jersey certification, she will be paid a retroactive prorated salary of \$43,750 (BA Step 4 on the MPEA salary guide) through June 30, 2011 (support material attached).
3. Approve the appointment of Tricia Woodhead as a Learning Disability/Teacher Consultant for the district. She will be paid at the approved substitute rate, as per Policy Section 3125, effective January 3, 2011. Upon issuance of her New Jersey certification, she will be paid a retroactive prorated salary of \$54,401(MA Step 7 on the MPEA salary guide) effective January 3, 2011 through June 30, 2011 (support material attached).

4. Approve the following addition to the list of advisors to activities and clubs at the high school for the 2010-2011 school year:

Add:	Donna Halliwell	Stage Crew – Musical	<u>Stipend</u> \$683.00
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5. Approve the following volunteer chaperone for the Midland Park Continuing Education Winter Ski Program:

Edward Salvi

6. Approve the appointment of Theresa Haffler as a substitute school nurse in the Godwin School. She will be paid at the approved rate of \$150 per diem, effective January 3, 2011 through June 23, 2011 (support material attached).

7. Approve the following additions to the list of substitute teachers for the 2010-2011 school year (support material attached):

(s) Laura Bakelaar  
\* Linda DeNier  
\* Carol Peterson  
\* Lee Tracy

(s) = County Substitute certificate  
\* = NJ Standard certificate

Roll Call: All Yes

B. Finance Committee – (W. Sullivan, Chairperson)

APPENDIX

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. Canellas . . .  
To approve the following block motion:

1. Approve the December 2010 supplemental claims in the amount of \$247,376.23.
2. Approve the first December 2010 payroll in the amount of \$516,043.81.

Mr. McCourt asked if he should vote because daughter is paid by the Continuing Education Department. Ms. Garvey stated that he can vote because Board funds are not used. She is paid by Continuing Education, the business office just runs the payroll for Continuing Ed.

3. Approve the financial reports of the Board Secretary for the period November 1, 2010 through November 30, 2010, which are attached as an appendix. F-1

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .  
To approve the following motion . . .

4. Approve the School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill Reports (support material attached).

5. Approve the Annual Contract for Non Public Nursing Services for the 2010-2011 school year with the Bergen County Health Department, at Eastern Christian Elementary School, which is attached as an appendix. F-2

Roll Call: All Yes

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

Motion – Mr. Moraski, Ms. Lein . . .

To approve the following block motion:

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

Name	Workshop	Date	Amount	Location
Deborah Marks	Exciting Ways to Inform Your Teaching While Engaging Your Learners Through Collaborative Creativity	Feb. 10, 2011	\$92.04	Somerset, NJ

2. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the placement of one high school special education student on bed side instruction, effective retroactive from December 3, 2010 through December 31, 2010.
3. Approve the extended programs of the Midland Park Continuing Education Program, which are offered in the evenings from December 2010 through February 2011. All instructors and adult oriented programs have been previously approved and held during previous semesters:

Course

Basketball – (Monday)  
Oil Painting – (Tuesday)  
Total Body Toning – (Tuesday & Thursday)  
Yoga, Intermediate – (Tuesday)  
Sewing, Beginner/Advanced – (Wednesday)  
Pilates Plus – (Wednesday)  
Zumba Fitness – (Thursday)  
Bellydancing – (Thursday)

Instructor

Bart Merola  
Susan Marlett  
Faith Grohman  
Gloria Smiley  
Karen Skoglund  
Denise Swan  
Silvia Acosta  
Diane Schroller

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Moraski and Ms. Criscenzo have processed an application to the Board of Trustees of the Educational Leadership Foundation of New Jersey for a grant in the amount of \$150.00 to cover attendance to **Driving Student Achievement** on February 26, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Wyndham Princeton Forrestal Hotel & Conference Center.

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

Dr. Thomas commented that there is a meeting tonight and that we will have policies for the first reading on January 4<sup>th</sup>.

E. Legislative Committee – (B. McCourt, Chairperson)

Governor Christie on December 8 signed a measure that restricts the employment of temporary teaching staff. S-2071 requires that after 60 days, temporarily assigned staff working outside their area of certification must be compensated the same as appropriately certified staff in the same position.

Governor Christie also signed into law a bill, S-435, that reflects current regulation placing a 20 - day limit on the assignment of a substitute teacher to a vacant position. The new law goes beyond current regulation by prohibiting a district from appointing a different substitute teacher to fill the same vacancy after the 20 – day period.

A-2743 requires the New Jersey Department of Education to develop an interscholastic head injury training program to be completed by coaches, school physicians, and athletic trainers. This program will include training on recognizing head injuries and will address the amount of time an athlete must wait before playing sports again.

F. Buildings & Grounds Committee – (S. Criscenzo, Chairperson)

The Buildings & Grounds committee met on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010. A summary of the energy audit is being put together for all board members.

In addition, gym improvements that are being sponsored by the Boosters are being done at the high school over the winter break.

G. Negotiations – Teachers/Secretaries/Custodians - (P. Lein, Chairperson)

No Report.

H. Negotiations – Administrators – (R. Moraski, Chairperson)

No Report.

I. Public Relations Committee – (P. Lein, Chairperson)

Article on Avery Dravis- Stark on the website.

J. Personnel Committee – (W. Sullivan, Chairperson)

Met on December 8<sup>th</sup>, will forward Minutes to the Board

K. Service Review Committee – (R. Formicola, Chairperson)

No Report.

L. Technology Committee – (J. Canellas, Chairperson)

No Report.

M. Liaison Committee:

High School PTA – (S. Criscenzo)

The following items were discussed:

- a. Market Day Orders will be due on Saturday, January 15, 2011.
- b. The PTA will host a guest speaker Nancy Graham on January 19<sup>th</sup>.  
She will speak on the topic of “Body Image” and the young adult.  
The presentation will start at 8:00 p.m. in the High School Media Center.  
Ms. Graham will also be speaking to the high school children during  
“Awareness Week” scheduled in late March.

Elementary School PTA – (P. Lein)

No Report.

Booster Club – (R. Formicola)

Winter sports are underway.

On Monday the work on the gym will start.

Performing Arts Parents – (R. Moraski)

There was a Choral performance last Thursday and a presentation at EC Health Care facility.

Special Education – (M. Thomas)

No Report.

Education Foundation – (J. Canellas)

No Report.

Board of Recreation – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

Continuing Education Program – (B. McCourt)

No Report.

Student Representative to the Board – (A. Dravis-Stark)

No Report.

N. Old Business

Ms. Criscenzo questioned what the status is on the appeal for shutting down the high school due to the water main break.

Dr. Cirasella answered that an appeal has not been filed as of yet. One will be filed only if there are snow days used and it is necessary to file.

O. New Business

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

To go into closed session before the meeting of January 4, 2011, for the purpose of discussing personnel and negotiations.

Roll Call:

Open to the Public

Mr. Schiffer invited the public to address the Board.

No one chose to speak.

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

To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey,  
School Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary