

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
Board of Education
Midland Park, New Jersey
October 26, 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

BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Approval of Minutes

Motion –Dr. Thomas, seconded - Mr. Moraski . . .
Approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meeting:

September 7, 2010 Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Dr. Thomas, seconded – Mr. Formicola . . .
Approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meeting:

September 21, 2010 Roll Call: 7 Yes (Formicola, Lein, McCourt, Moraski, Thomas, Sullivan, Schiffer)
2 Abstain (Canellas, Criscenzo)

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

Approve the minutes of the following regularly scheduled public meeting:

October 5, 2010

Roll Call: All Yes

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.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Cirasella reported/commented on the following items:

- a. Tyler Halliwell was named to the Middle School Bergen County Band.
- b. Intervention Convention at Highland School.
- c. Junior High Chorus members accepted into Bergen County Chorus.
- d. Halloween Parade.

Mr. Moraski stated that he was a judge at last year’s Invention Convention.—He hoped that the student’s work can be displayed all throughout the school this year.

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. Moraski, seconded – Mr. Sullivan . . .

To approve the following block motion:

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

Delete: Kit Gonzalez Musical Producer

2. Rescind the appointment of Matthew Arroyo as Interact Advisor and Edward McDonough as React Advisor on the August 24, 2010 Board Agenda.
3. Approve the appointment of Shari Fried as Co-Advisor to the Rotary Interact Student Organization at the high school for the 2010-2011 school year. She will be paid a donated stipend of \$1,000.
4. Approve the following addition to the list of coaches at the high school for the 2010-2011 school year (support material attached):

Stipend
\$5,382

- (s) James Fitzpatrick
 - * David Kessinger
 - * Jill Lewis
- (s) Deborah Maloney

(s) = County Substitute Certificate
* = NJ certification

- Roll Call: All Yes

APPENDIX

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded- Mr. Canellas . . .

- RESOLVED: That pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), we certify that as of September 30, 2010, 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.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. McCourt . . .

To approve the following block motion:

2. Approve the following block motion:

a. September 2010 Midland Park Continuing Education claims in the amount of \$52,796.88.

b. October 2010 supplemental claims in the amount of \$228,567.47.

3. Approve the first October 2010 payroll in the amount of \$536,192.82.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. Canellas . . .

4. Approve the transfers among accounts, according to prescribed accounting procedures, for the period September 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010, which are attached as an appendix. F-1

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. McCourt. . .

5. Approve the following resolution:

Whereas, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit three-year maintenance plans documenting “required” maintenance activities for each of its public school facilities, and

Whereas, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached document for the various school facilities of the Midland Park Public Schools are consistent with these requirements, and

Whereas, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Midland Park Public Schools hereby authorizes the school business administrator to submit the attached Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for Midland Park in compliance with Department of Education requirements. F-2

Ms. Garvey explained what the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan is and why it is issued to the State. The State uses to ensure that districts are maintaining buildings.

Roll Call: All Yes

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. Canellas . . .

6. Approve the following resolution authorizing the issuance of not exceeding \$315,055 promissory notes of the Midland Park Board of Education, which is attached as an appendix: F-3

Ms. Garvey explained the note is being rolled from last year. We have not yet received total grant funding from the state for the addition and renovation project in 2005. The original Note was taken out to pay contractors and when grant dollars is received we can pay off the Note. Mr. Canellas asked why it has taken so long to get dollars. Ms. Garvey explained that she has been working with a rep from the State to file all of the proper paperwork. A lot was outstanding and the longer it takes to close out the project the more times things have to be updated. There is one

last piece of information needed from the Architect that worked on the project, but they have not been cooperative. There is an outstanding payment to them that has been withheld and will not be paid until the Grant dollars have been received. Working with a new Architect and hoping to resolve the issue soon.

Motion – Mr. Sullivan, seconded – Mr. McCourt. . .

To approve the following block motion:

7. Approve the appointment of Sherilyn Ball as a Consultant to be the home instructor for an elementary school special education student. She will work 10 hours per week for five weeks at the approved hourly rate of \$33.00.
8. Approve the appointment of Wendy Padykula as a home instructor for a high school special education student. She will be paid at the approved hourly rate of \$33.00 per hour, effective retroactive from October 19, 2010 until placement is secured.
9. Approve the appointment of Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Educational Enterprises to provide Cart Notes for a high school special education student. The rate will be \$77 per hour for 13.5 hours for a nine month period, at approximately \$1,039.
10. Approve the appointment of Jacquelyn Pletsch to replace Erin Cahilly as the ABA Home Therapist for a special education student. She will be paid at the rate of \$15.00 per hour.
11. Approve the appointment of Mercedes Paine, M.D. to perform psychiatric evaluations, as needed. Her rate is \$350 per hour.

Roll Call: All Yes

Mr. Sullivan asked about the Building Audit and when the Board will receive it. Ms. Garvey answered that the audit had been reviewed by the Administration and the Building & rounds Committee will be meeting with the architect on 11/23 to review.

Mr. Schiffer asked about the Finance Audit. Ms. Garvey stated that she is waiting for the report from the Auditor and will let the Board know as soon as the Auditor contacts the Board office.

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

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

1. Approve the recommendation of the Director of Special Services for the placement of one elementary school special education student on home instruction, effective retroactive from October 4, 2010 through November 8, 2010.

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):

Name	Workshop	Location	Date
Jason Gangi	Communicating with Parents	Montvale, NJ	Nov. 2, 2010

Jennifer Harris			
Danielle Kirsch Allison Ruta	Supporting Students w/Disabilities in General Ed Programs Through In-Class Resource Program Instruction	East Orange, NJ	Nov. 9, 2010 Dec. 8, 2010
Danielle Bache Jennifer Finnerty Sheralyn Gottlieb Patricia Zarpaylic	Designing Inclusive Preschool Programs	Morris Plains, NJ	Nov. 9, 2010
Jennifer Finnerty	Autism – The Legal and the Practical	Long Branch, NJ	Nov. 15, 2010
Nicholas Capuano	Electronic Violence/Vandalism Reporting System Definitions	Parsippany, NJ	Nov. 17, 2010
Jennifer Finnerty	IEP: Components and Considerations	East Orange, NJ	Nov. 17, 2010
Patricia Sicree	Integrating Applied Behavior Analysis Into Therapies	Montvale, NJ	Nov. 30, 2010
Allison Ruta	Differentiated Instruction	Hasbrouck Heights, NJ	Dec. 2, 2010
Karen Corcoran	Hot Topics in Adolescence	Hackensack, NJ	Dec. 2, 2010
Christina Gouraige	IEP: Goals and Student Progress	East Orange, NJ	Dec. 3, 2010
Maureen Kelley	School Libraries for Student Success	Long Branch, NJ	Dec. 3, 2010
Jennifer Finnerty	Updates in IDEIA	Oradell, NJ	Dec. 6, 2010
Jennifer Finnerty	Transition from School to Adult Life	East Orange, NJ	Dec. 7, 2010
Sheralyn Gottlieb	Legal Training for Special Education Administrators: Ethics	Westfield, NJ	Dec. 7, 2010
Patricia Sicree	Social Skills in the Classroom	Hackensack, NJ	Dec. 8, 2010
Susan Cheetham Michael Winters	Differentiated Instruction in the Literacy Block K-3	Hasbrouck Heights, NJ	Jan. 13, 2011
Danielle Bache Jennifer Finnerty Sheralyn Gottlieb Patricia Zarpaylic	Focus on Inclusion: Accommodating Needs of S.E. Students in General Education	Morris Plains, NJ	Jan. 14, 2011

Mr. Canellas questioned if we have a policy on attending back to back workshops. Dr. Cirasella answered that there is not a policy and representation is necessary at these sessions.

Roll Call: All Yes

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

Motion – Dr. Thomas, seconded – Ms. Criscenzo . . .

Approve the second reading of the following revised policies (support material attached):

Student Representative to the Board of Education

Bylaws Section 0143.2

Mr. Canellas questioned what option is being chosen. Dr. Thomas answered under Term –option 1 and under Qualification –Option 2.

Evaluation of Nontenured Teaching Staff Members

Regulation Section 3221

Evaluation of Tenured Teaching Staff Members

Policy Section 3222

Evaluation of Administrators

Policy Section 3223

Roll Call: All Yes

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

Senate approved Board members have to have background checks.
Sick leave cap of \$15000.00

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

There will be a meeting on November 23, 2010 to review facilities audit.

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)

Chalk Board has been submitted to Superintendent. The staff met to review and it will be sent back to committee for final approval.

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

Meeting in December

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 directory cover winners are as follows:

Robert Bandstra, 11th grader –front cover and Carly Tephnhardt,
7th grader for the back cover.

To show their appreciation to the teachers for taking a pay freeze, the PTA has waived dues for all of their teachers and administrators.

Elementary School PTA – (P. Lein)

The following events are scheduled:

Harvest Fest

Halloween Parade will be Friday at 7:00 p.m.

Booster Club – (R. Formicola)

Met with Mr. Blanchard and discussed the repainting of the gym; banners are ordered and looking to do this job during the December break.

Performing Arts Parents – (R. Moraski)

The following items were reported on:

Marching Band Championship in Syracuse

Music in the Park

Special Education – (M. Thomas)

The Parent Info Group met on October 18th.

Accolades go out to Mrs. Gottlieb on new programs that she has instituted.

Education Foundation – (J. Canellas)

The following items were mentioned:

a. Approved Fall classroom Grants

b. On 11/11 is the Military Bridge

Board of Recreation – (W. Sullivan)

No Report.

Continuing Education Program – (B. McCourt)

No Report.

N. Old Business

None

O. New Business

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

To go into closed session before the meeting of November 2, 2010, for the purpose of discussing personnel and negotiations items.

Open to the Public

Mr. Schiffer invited the public to address the Board.

Ms. Grace Kuka, who is a junior at Midland Park High School discussed the possibility of starting a Gay/Straight Alliance Club. Even though there is a strict budget, the dollars will not be wasted and will go to supporting the gay community.

Mr. Moraski replied that this idea was brought up to the Curriculum Committee and was being discussed.

Ms. Ester Vierheilig asked if the School Election date in April will be changed. Mr. Schiffer replied yes it has been moved back one week and it has been scheduled for the following Wednesday.

Motion - Ms. Lein, seconded – Mr. Moraski

To adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: All Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Garvey,
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary