

**MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
REORGANIZATION BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2009
BOARD ROOM
MINUTES**

PRESENT: Board: President Dave McGinley, Vice President Edward Partridge, Mrs. Kathryn Chandless, Mr. Fred Dewey, Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mrs. Dana Kauffman, Mr. John McDevitt, Mr. Michael Molinaro, and Mr. Richard Sokorai.

Solicitor: Mr. Mark Sereni, Esquire

Administration: Dr. Merle Horowitz, Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Mr. Lance Freeman, Mr. Michael Dumin, Dr. Constance Bompadre

Press: Leslie Krowchenko, County Press and Delaware County Daily Times

Audience: 103

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President David McGinley called the meeting to order at 7.37.p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Mr. Fred Dewey then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present were Mr. David McGinley, Mr. Edward Partridge, Mr. Fred Dewey, Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mrs. Dana Kauffman, Mr. Michael Molinaro, and Mr. Richard Sokorai

4. BOARD SECRETARY READS CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION FOR NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS

Mr. Joseph Driscoll read the certificates of election for the newly elected members of the School Board of Marple Newtown School District:

“...for the Marple Newtown School District in the county of Delaware, Kathryn B. Chandless, Nancy Galbraith, John J. McDevitt, David J. McGinley were duly elected to the office of School Director for a four year term.”

5. ADMINISTRATION OF OATH

Honorable Barry C. Dozer administered the Oath of Office and The Loyalty Oath to Kathryn Chandless, Nancy Galbraith, John McDevitt and David McGinley. Mrs. Kathryn Chandless and Mr. John McDevitt then took their seats at the Board table.

6. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT PRO TEM

6.01 President David McGinley asked for nominations for President Pro Tem (no second required). Mrs. Nancy Galbraith nominated Mr. Michael Molinaro. With no further nominations, Mr. McGinley then asked for a roll call vote.

Ayes: Mr. John McDevitt, Mrs. Kathryn Chandless, Mr. Fred Dewey, Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mrs. Dana Kauffman, Mr. David McGinley, Mr. Michael Molinaro, and Mr. Richard Sokorai.

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

6.02 President David McGinley declared Mr. Michael Molinaro elected President Pro Tem.

7. ELECTION FOR PRESIDENT FOR 2010

7.01 Mr. Michael Molinaro, President Pro Tem, then asked for nominations for President for 2010 (with no second needed). Mrs. Nancy Galbraith nominated Mr. David McGinley. Mr. Edward Partridge nominated Mr. Richard Sokorai.

Mr. Molinaro asked for a roll call vote for the nomination of Mr. David McGinley:

Ayes: Mr. Fred Dewey, Mrs. Dana Kauffman, Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mr. David McGinley, Mr. Michael Molinaro, Mr. Richard Sokorai, Mrs. Kathryn Chandless

Nays: Mr. Edward Partridge, Mr. John McDevitt

Abstentions: 0

Mr. Michael Molinaro declared Mr. David McGinley elected President of the Marple Newtown School Board for 2010.

7.02 President David McGinley then assumed the chair.

8. ELECTION FOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR 2010

8.01 Newly-elected President David McGinley asked for nominations for Vice-President for 2010 (with no second needed):

Mrs. Dana Kauffman nominated Mrs. Nancy Galbraith. Mr. John McDevitt nominated Mr. Edward Partridge.

Mr. McGinley asked for a roll call vote for the nomination of Mrs. Nancy Galbraith:

Ayes: Mr. Fred Dewey, Mrs. Dana Kauffman, Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mr. David McGinley, Mr. Michael Molinaro, Mr. Richard Sokorai

Nays: Mr. John McDevitt, Mr. Edward Partridge, Mrs. Kathryn Chandless

Abstentions: 0

Mr. David McGinley declared Mrs. Nancy Galbraith elected Vice President of the Marple Newtown School Board for 2010.

9. APPROVAL OF THE 2010 MEETING CALENDAR (Majority Vote)

Mr. McGinley asked for a motion to approve the Calendar of Meetings for 2010.

Motion was made by Mr. Richard Sokorai and seconded by Mrs. Dana Kauffman.
With no further discussion, motion passed: 9-0

10. PRESIDENT APPOINTS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS AND MEMBERS

Mr. McGinley then appointed the following Committee Chairpersons and Members:

Curriculum, Instruction and Technology:

Chair – Mrs. Nancy Galbraith

Members: Mrs. Dana Kauffman, Mrs. Kathryn Chandless, and Mr. John McDevitt

Budget and Finance:

Chair – Mr. Fred Dewey

Members: Mr. Richard Sokorai, Mr. Edward Partridge, Mr. Michael Molinaro (Until December 31, 2009
at 5:00 p.m.)

Human Resources:

Chair-Mrs. Dana Kauffman

Members: Mrs. Kathryn Chandless, Mr. Edward Partridge, Mr. Fred Dewey

Facilities and Transportation:

Chair- Mr. Michael Molinaro (until December 31, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.)

Mr. Richard Sokorai (after December 31, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.)

Members: Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mr. John McDevitt

Secretary's Minutes and Other Reports

Chair- Mrs. Dana Kauffman

Legal Oversight

Chair- Mr. Michael Molinaro (Until December 31, 2009)

TBA (After December 31, 2009)

Delaware County Legislative Liaison

Mrs. Nancy Galbraith

Legislative Liaison

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless

PTO Liaison

Mrs. Dana Kauffman

Intermediate Unit Liaison

Mrs. Nancy Galbraith

Marple Township Liaison

Mr. Michael Molinaro (Until December 31, 2009)

TBA (After December 31, 2009)

Newtown Square Liaison

Mr. John McDevitt

Marple Newtown High School Liaison

Mr. Richard Sokorai

Paxon Hollow Liaison

Mrs. Nancy Galbraith

Culbertson Elementary Liaison

Mr. Fred Dewey

Loomis Elementary Liaison

Mrs. Dana Kauffman

Russell Elementary Liaison

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless

Worrall Elementary Liaison

Mr. John McDevitt

11. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. David McGinley adjourned the reorganization meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Board Secretary

**MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2009
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PRESENT: **Board:** President Dave McGinley, Vice President Nancy Galbraith, Mrs. Kathryn Chandless, Mr. Fred Dewey, Mr. Edward Partridge, Mrs. Dana Kauffman, Mr. John McDevitt, Mr. Michael Molinaro, and Mr. Richard Sokorai.

Solicitor: Mr. Mark Sereni, Esquire

Administration: Dr. Merle Horowitz, Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Mr. Lance Freeman, Mr. Michael Dumin, Dr. Constance Bompadre

Press: Leslie Krowchenko, County Press and Delaware County Daily Times

Audience: 103

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President David McGinley called the meeting to order at 7.45.p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. David McGinley asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion was made by Mrs. Dana Kauffman and seconded by Mr. Edward Partridge.

Mr. McGinley asked for any changes or additions to the agenda. Mrs. Nancy Galbraith asked for an addition to the second motion under Item 8, so that the motion will read:

To reappoint Mark A. Sereni, Esquire as Solicitor **through the 2011 reorganization meeting** in accordance with the following fee structure:

“in-court” attorney time	\$165.00/hr (no increase)
“out of court” attorney time	\$140.00/hr (no increase)
legal assistant time	\$70.00/hr (no increase)
retainer	\$5,500.00/yr (no increase)

With no further discussion the motion passed: 9-0

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Agenda Items Only)

There were no public comments at this time.

4. COMMENDATIONS

There was no report.

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Merle Horowitz announced the death of cafeteria worker Ilene Resneck. Dr. Horowitz stated that Ilene has been very visible in the Marple Newtown School District since 1976. She touched several departments over the years, serving as a teacher's aide and switchboard operator (when administrators were housed in the basement of the High School) to her most recent association with the Food Services Department, as a substitute in 2000, and then a cafeteria worker in Marple Newtown High School from 2001 until the present. She was our point person to have catered events set up in a timely and complete fashion. When you feel a tap on the shoulder, and your inner voice says "I have an idea", you will know Ilene's influence is still felt. The legacy of her dedication and loyalty to the Marple Newtown Community will be a continuing inspiration.

6. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

There was no report.

7. SECRETARY'S MINUTES

There was no report.

8. OTHER REPORTS

Mrs. Dana Kauffman asked for a motion to accept the resignation of school director, Michael K. Molinaro, effective December 31, 2009.

Motion was made by Mr. Fred Dewey and seconded by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith.

Mr. Molinaro asked to speak, saying the following:

"The time has come for me to graciously request that you unanimously accept my letter of resignation as a Marple Newtown School District Director to be effective December 31, 2009.

It was 2 ½ years ago when 10 candidates were competing for 5 vacant seats. And the voters got it right. We came on the Board and started working from day one. Strategic Planning, Policy 707, Laptop Leasing, Wireless Routing, Smart Boards, Swine Flu, Cabinet Contracts, District Wide Roofing, District Wide Security, Gauntlett Center and the High School Renovation Project. From Hand Sanitizers to Textbooks, we have accomplished more in the short period of time than anyone could have ever imagined. We were here to serve. Our job was to plan, evaluate, and make policy and that is what we did. Few people will know the time, effort, and sacrifice that we put into our position as Directors. We did it not for ourselves but for the love of our community, schools, and children. I cannot say enough about how well we worked together as the Board. Agree or disagree, we were one.

I want to personally thank, seated from right to left, Fred "Pledge" Dewey, Dana "Curtains" Kauffman, Nancy "Books" Galbraith, Dave "Big Daddy" McGinley, Ed "Hear Me Out" Partridge, Rich "Captain" Sokorai, Dick "Gauntlett" Carpenter, and Jeff "Science Lab" Shapiro. We were all part of the package, but we could not have done what we did without the cooperation of our "Dream Team" administration. Thank you Merle, Joe, Mike, Lance, Connie and Stan for working with us. Few things in life can compare to having the honor and privilege to have served on a Board in the School District which I attended and my four children now attend. I am proud to have served along side of all of you and our many accomplishments.

My resignation is not the beginning to the end, but rather the end to the beginning. I will soon take another seat a few minutes down the road. My body will leave the Board, but not my heart and soul. I

will always be your ally, and will forever work with you and our District. I wish you all well and urge that you continue to work as one towards our Township's foremost goal, the education and well-being of our children."

Mr. McGinley then thanked Mr. Molinaro saying that he always gave 100% to every project in which he was involved. Mr. McGinley then stated that he would miss Mr. Molinaro, and wished him the best.

Mr. Fred Dewey stated that he would not say anything sad. He wanted Marple Township to know what a great commissioner they are getting, and we will see Mike and his great children in the District. We will still feel his positive influence in the District for many years to come.

Mrs. Dana Kauffman stated that, as a Marple Township resident, she is thrilled to see what Mike will do as a commissioner. Mike is everywhere, so she is sure we will run in to him a lot.

Mrs. Nancy Galbraith said that she has served with many members over the past eight years, but never saw anyone so involved from the start as Mike Molinaro. She said he will be missed, and what a good job he has done for us.

Dr. Merle Horowitz said, "Mike, on behalf of the Administration, thank you for all you have given to this District." She also thanked him for his part in bringing a flagship high school that the community has deserved.

Mrs. Kauffman then asked for a roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Fred Dewey, Mrs. Dana Kauffman, Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mr. David McGinley, Mr. Edward Partridge, Mr. Richard Sokorai, Mrs. Kathryn Chandless, Mr. John McDevitt

Nays: 0

Abstentions: Mr. Michael Molinaro

Motion passed: 8-0-1

Mrs. Nancy Galbraith asked for a motion to reappoint Mark A. Sereni, Esquire as Solicitor through the 2011 reorganization meeting in accordance with the following fee structure:

"in-court" attorney time	\$165.00/hr (no increase)
"out of court" attorney time	\$140.00/hr (no increase)
legal assistant time	\$70/hr (no increase)
retainer	\$5,500.00/yr (no increase)

Motion was made by Mr. Michael Molinaro and seconded by Mrs. Dana Kauffman.

Mr. McDevitt asked what the advantage was to accepting this fee schedule. Mr. McGinley responded that we would be tying in one of the best solicitors for two years with no increase in the fee structure. Mr. McDevitt asked if this had anything to do with any construction-related issues that have come up. Mr. McGinley responded that everything is included unless the Board decides to hire an outside solicitor for some reason. Mr. McDevitt responded that he wasn't certain he could see the benefit in this move. Mr. Partridge asked if the motion could be tabled until the January meeting so that the new Board members could look a little more closely at this.

With no further discussion, Mr. McGinley asked for a roll call vote.

Ayes: Mr. Fred Dewey, Mrs. Dana Kauffman, Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mr. David McGinley, Mr. Edward Partridge, Mr. Richard Sokorai, Mrs. Kathryn Chandless

Nays: Mr. John McDevitt

Abstentions: Mr. Michael Molinaro

Motion passed: 7-1-1

9. HUMAN RESOURCES AND POLICY COMMITTEE

9.01 RETIREMENTS

Mrs. Dana Kauffman asked for a motion to approve the following classified retirement, item 1.

- 1) Charles W. Robinson – Technology Assistant
High School
Effective: November 30, 2009
Reason: Retirement

Motion was made by Mr. Michael Molinaro and seconded by Mr. John McDevitt.
With no further discussion, motion passed: 9-0

9.02 APPOINTMENTS

PROFESSIONAL

Mrs. Dana Kauffman asked for a motion to approve the following professional appointment, item 1

- 1) Jaelyn Keammerer – LTS Special Education Teacher
B.A. – LaSalle University: Elementary, Special Education, and American Studies;
Certification: Special Education, Elementary Education, English 7–12, and Middle Level
English 7-9; 0 Yrs. Experience.
High School
Salary: \$41,600.00 (Pro-rated)
Effective: December 9, 2009 through June 23, 2010
Reason: Replaces Shannon Clarke (Resigned)

Motion was made by Mr. Michael Molinaro and seconded by Mr. John McDevitt.
With no further discussion, motion passed: 9-0

10. BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT TO THE BOARD

There was no report.

11. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Fred Dewey welcomed Mr. John McDevitt and Mrs. Kathryn Chandless to the Board, and said that he looked forward to working with them.

Mrs. Dana Kauffman echoed Mr. Dewey’s welcome, and then thanked Dr. Horowitz for the groundbreaking. She said it was done very well, and everyone had a great time.

Mr. Richard Sokorai said that it was great to see Mr. McDevitt jump in.

12. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD (PUBLIC)

With no further comments from the Board, Mr. McGinley adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m. He re-opened the meeting at 8:03 p.m. to entertain comments from the public

Ms. Suzanne McCutcheon (Newtown Square) asked the Board to please negotiate with MNEA in good faith. Teachers are the most valuable resource the District has, and the reason why we are still at the level

we are. All want to do everything they can to get our children on the right path. Let's treat them with the dignity and respect they deserve. Ms. McCutcheon challenged the Board to finalize a contract by the January meeting.

13. ADJOURNMENT

With no further comments, Mr. David McGinley adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Board Secretary