

**MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015
BOARD ROOM
MINUTES**

Board: President, Kathryn Chandless. Vice President, Matthew Bilker, Robert Sack, Leonard Altieri, Barbara Harvey, Matthew Catania, Atsuh J. Baker, Matthew DeNucci, Nicholas Reynolds

Solicitor: Mr. Mark Sereni, Esquire

Administration: Dr. Carol Cary, Dr. Connie Bompadre, Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Mr. Michael Dumin, Mr. Jim Orwig,

Press: 1

Audience: 6

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mrs. Chandless called the meeting to order at 7:41 PM

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Altieri led the Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Chandless asked that the audience remain standing for a moment of silence for Michael Presser, a first grade student at Loomis Elementary who recently passed away.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Altieri, Mr. Catania, Mrs. Chandless, Mr. DeNucci, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Sack

Taylor Schwartz student representative was present.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mrs. Chandless asked for a motion to accept the agenda, as presented. Motion was made by Mr. Altieri, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

1 addition to Human Resource 13.07 Classified ~ 10.5 Secretary

2 additions to Facilities and Transportation ~ 15.03 and 15.04

Agenda was approved as amended 7 – 0

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Agenda Items Only)

Ms. Christine Carpenter from Miss Annette's spoke and she gave each member of the Board a copy of her letter. She has owned Miss Annette's for 13 years, but it has been around for 60 years. They had requested the use of Paxon Hollow fields for the 6 to 10 year olds in their care during the summer. It would work out to be about an hour and a half on weekdays only. They understand that the request to waive the fees in Policy 707 had been declined. She would like to the Board to revisit this request. They have teachers that have Master Degrees, they support the district, and have a ½ day kindergarten. They recently donated a Steinway Piano to the District that was valued at \$20,000.00. They will be able to give the District a certificate of insurance and a bond. Will accept a reduced fee but feel that the present cost seems excessive.

There were 2 parents that have children that attend Miss Annette's and were there to support them in their request.

6. WE ARE PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

Dr. Cary would like to congratulate seniors Leia Chung, Christopher Feltner, and Megan O'Meara who are among 16,000 students nationwide who have been recognized as National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists. They will continue on to compete for finalist spots.

7. COMMENDATIONS

None

8. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

Taylor Schwartz gave the following report:

- The high school will continue with our inter-grade competition called the Tiger Cup. This is where the grades compete between participation at an event, GPA and attendance at school. The seniors won the first by having the most people attend a football game. The events will be on the schools Twitter page @MN_StuCo
- First student council meeting was on September 17th, it was very well attended
- There will be a lot happening at the football game on October 2nd, it is Youth night, Faculty appreciation night, and #courageforcatrina night. Catrina Carton, who suffered from cancer in elementary school, was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in June. Friends made a Twitter page and a hashtag to raise awareness for Catrina

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Cary gave the following report:

We extend special thoughts to our Jewish fiends during the Holy season of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

We remember Michael Presser and his family in our thoughts and prayers. Funeral services for Michael Presser will be held Wednesday evening and Thursday morning. Please see the Loomis School website for details.

Academics

- On Tuesday, September 15, the PSSA Individual Student Reports were delivered to the schools along with a communication from Secretary for Education, Pedro Rivera (see attached letter from Pedro Rivera). The Individual Student Reports will be mailed home to parents/guardians.
- New Teacher Induction was held August 24-27 with some activities held at the admin building and some held at the individual schools. New teachers seemed excited to be a part of the district. Members of the cabinet as well as curriculum supervisors spent time introducing the new teachers to various policies, procedures, etc.
- A crisis drill took place on August 25th where the fictitious crisis took place at the high school and the district administrative team went into action to support the school's crisis needs.

Communications

- *InCommunity* should be in the homes by September 18
- We need to get the word out that the varsity football game originally scheduled for September 25th is now September 24th due to Radnor's cancellation of school and activities on the 25th because of the Papal Visit.

Superintendent's Office

- I attended a transportation meeting on August 26 and thanked the bus drivers for their service to the district.
- On September 2nd we began the new school year by holding town hall sessions with our teachers. Broken into three school level groups, high school, elementary schools, and middle school, I addressed the groups as did the cabinet members. We have received positive feedback from teachers about the town hall format.
- Student "getting to know you meetings" took place on September 10th. The high school students represented a variety of interests and grade levels. Overall, students are very happy at MNHS. More to come on findings from this meeting and other "getting to know you meetings."
- I addressed the football players on September 4th encouraging the players to show good sportsmanship, character, and team work as they represent the district on the field and off. I attended the varsity games on September 4th and September 11th, enjoying our winning games very much.
- On Tuesday, September 8th, I attended the "moving up" pep rally at the high school. The students, staff, and administrators were great! The band was excellent.
- I had the pleasure of joining the Loomis students on Friday, September 11 as the school held its welcome back assembly. The topic for the assembly was the character

education program. It was great. The students were engaged for the full 45-minute assembly.

Marple Newtown High School

- Congratulations to seniors Leia Chung, Christopher Feltner, and Megan O'Meara who are among 16,000 students nationwide who have been recognized as National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists. They will continue on to compete for finalist spots.

10. SECRETARY'S MINUTES

Mr. Catania asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2015 Regular Meeting.

Motion was made by Mrs. Chandless, seconded by Mr. Altieri

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

11. OTHER REPORTS

Mr. Catania asked for a motion to approve Student No. 880307 to attend the Melmark School, an Approved Private School (APS), for the 2015-2016 school year. This is a new contract and a new placement. This student was placed in Melmark's Residential Treatment Facility and the parents reside from Central Bucks School District.

Motion was made by Mr. Altieri, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

After a brief discussion motion passed 7 – 0

Mr. Catania asked for a motion to approve Student No. 804582 to attend the Child Guidance Resource Center for the 2015-2016 school year. This is not a new placement.

Motion was made by Mrs. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Altieri

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

12. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

12.01 Committee Report – Leonard B. Altieri, III, Chairperson

12.02 Policy

Mr. Altieri asked for a motion to approve the second reading of the Home Education Programs Policy No. 137.

Motion was made by Mrs. Chandless, seconded by Mr. Sack

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

Mr. Altieri asked for a motion to approve the second reading of the Suicide Awareness Prevention and Response Policy No. 236.1.

Motion was made by Mrs. Harvey, seconded by Mrs. Chandless

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

12.03 Disposal of Textbooks

Mr. Altieri asked for a motion to approve the disposal of 225 level 2 textbooks, ISBN 0-618-25063-8, published by McDougall Littell, copyright date, 2004.

Motion was made by Mrs. Chandless, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

13. HUMAN RESOURCES AND POLICY COMMITTEE

13.01 Committee Report – Matthew J. Bilker, Chairperson

In the absence of Mr. Bilker, Mrs. Chandless gave the following report

13.02 Retirements

PROFESSIONAL

Mrs. Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following professional retirement item(s) 1.

- 1) Debra Peters – Gifted Support Teacher
Worrall Elementary School
Effective: December 23, 2015
Reason: Retirement

Motion was made by Mr. Altieri, seconded by Mr. Sack

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

13.03 Resignations

CLASSIFIED

Mrs. Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following classified resignations item(s) 1 through 4.

- 1) Renee Francisco – Title I Assistant
Culbertson Elementary School
Effective: August 31, 2015
Reason: Personal

- 2) Maria Rich – 10.5 month Secretary
Marple Newtown High School
Effective: September 4, 2015
Reason: Personal
- 3) Wendy McGregor – Classified Substitute
District
Effective: August 25, 2015
Reason: Personal
- 4) Diane Standen – Special Education Assistant
Russell Elementary School
Effective: September 16, 2015
Reason: Personal

Motion was made by Mrs. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Altieri

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

13.04 Terminations

ADMINISTRATIVE

Mrs. Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following administrative terminations item(s) 1.

- 1) Christopher Costello – Interim Assistant Principal
Paxon Hollow Middle School
Effective: September 18, 2015
Reason: End of Assignment (Returning to MNEA teaching position at PHMS)

Motion was made by Mrs. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Altieri

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

CLASSIFIED

Mrs. Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following classified terminations item(s) 1.

- 1) Jacqueline Milano – Classified Substitute
District
Effective: September 1, 2015
Reason: Failed to provide necessary paperwork for employment

Motion was made by Mr. Sack, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

13.05 Leaves

PROFESSIONAL

Mrs. Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following professional leaves, item(s) 1 through 5.

- 1) Kathleen Saybolt – Elementary Teacher
Russell Elementary School
Effective: September 1, 2015 through and including
December 23, 2015
Reason: Medical Leave utilizing available sick leave (new request,
extension of leave)

- 2) Gina Gelsomini – Speech Therapist
Russell Elementary School
Effective: January 4, 2016 through and including May 15, 2016
Reason: Medical Leave: January 4, 2016 through and including
February 18, 2016
FMLA: February 19, 2016 through and including May 15, 2016

- 3) Megan Smith – Special Education Teacher
Worrall Elementary School
Effective: October 31, 2015 through and including January 18, 2016
Reason: Medical Leave: October 31, 2015 through and including
December 21, 2015
FMLA: December 22, 2015 through and including
January 18, 2016

- 4) Carolyn Russell – Health Room Nurse
District-Wide
Effective: November 25, 2015 through and including
December 23, 2015
Reason: Medical Leave: November 25, 2015 through and including
December 18, 2015
Leave Without Pay: December 21, 2015 through December 23, 2015

- 5) Helene Marczyk – Elementary Teacher
Worrall Elementary School
Effective: September 1, 2015 through and including
January 18, 2016
Reason: Sabbatical Leave for Restoration of Health

Motion was made by Mrs. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Sack

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

13.06 Return from Leave

ADMINISTRATIVE

Mrs. Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following administrative return from leave item(s) 1.

- 1) Thomas Gretchen – Assistant Principal
Paxon Hollow Middle School
Effective: September 21, 2015
Returning from: Medical Leave

Motion was made by Mrs. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Sack

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

CLASSIFIED

Mrs. Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following classified return from leave item(s) 1.

- 1) Jennie Dreyer - Custodian
District
Effective: August 31, 2015
Returning from: Medical Leave

Motion was made by Mr. Catania, seconded by Mr. Catania, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

13.07 Appointments

PROFESSIONAL

Mrs. Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following professional appointments, item(s) 1 through 3.

- 1) Maria Boursalian – LTS Elementary Teacher
Russell Elementary School
Salary: \$42,646.00 (pro-rated @ BA-Step 1)
Effective: September 8, 2015 through and including
December 23, 2015
Reason: Replacing Jody Farkas (Medical Leave)
- 2) Kyle Johnson – LTS Elementary Teacher
Russell Elementary School
Salary: \$42,646.00 (pro-rated @ BA-Step 1)
Effective: September 1, 2015 through and including
December 23, 2015 (extended assignment)
Reason: Replacing Kathy Saybolt (Medical Leave – request to
extend leave)

- 3) Thomas Keer – LTS Math Teacher (0.4 position)
Paxon Hollow Middle School
Salary: \$42,646.00 (pro-rated @ BA-Step 1)
Effective: September 1, 2015 through and including
January 20, 2016 (adjustment to ending date)
Reason: Replacing Michelle Lunn (Math Grant Coach)

Motion was made by Mr. Sack, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

CLASSIFIED

MOTION: To approve the following classified appointments, item(s) 1 through 7.

- 1) Jennifer Boyce – LTS Special Education Assistant
Russell Elementary School
Salary: \$14,330.00 (pro-rated)
Effective: September 8, 2015 through and including
December 23, 2015
Replacing: Maria Boursalian (reassigned to LTS Teaching position
at Russell Elementary)
- 2) Melissa Shelly – LTS Special Education Assistant
Culbertson Elementary School
Salary: \$14,330.00 (pro-rated)
Effective: September 8, 2015 through and including
December 23, 2015
Replacing: Kyle Johnson (reassigned to LTS Teaching position
at Russell Elementary; extended assignment)
- 3) Mark Camarote – Food Services
Food Services (Options Student)
Salary: \$7.25 per hour
Effective: September 22, 2015
Reason: DCIU Options Program
- 4) Alexis Lanciano – Food Service Worker I
Culbertson Elementary School
Salary: \$13.48 per hour
Effective: September 22, 2015
Replacing: Anne Blithe (Resignation)
- 5) Lisa Naughton – Title I Assistant
Russell Elementary School
Salary: \$15.10 per hour
Effective: September 24, 2015
Replacing: Renee Francisco (Resignation)
- 6) Maria Boerckel – Non-Instructional Assistant

Culbertson Elementary School
 Salary: \$10.87 per hour
 Effective: September 28, 2015
 Replacing: Maria Thompson (Reassignment)

7) Lisa Harrington – 10.5 Secretary
 Marple Newtown High School
 Salary: \$20,461.00
 Effective: October 5, 2015
 Replacing: Maria Rich (Resignation)

Motion was made by Mr. Sack, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

13.08 Transfers

CLASSIFIED

Mrs. Chandless asked for a motion approve the classified transfers effective the 2015-2016 school year, items 1 and 2.

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
1. Peggy Walton	Admin. Bldg.	Full-time Custodian	Russell	Full-time Custodian
2. Jennie Dreyer	Russell	Part-time Custodian	Admin. Bldg.	Part-time Custodian

Motion was made by Mr. Altieri, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

13.09 Supplementary Contracts

Mrs. Chandless asked for a motion to approve the appointment of personnel to activity contracts for the 2015-2016 school year as attached. The amount of each contract is in accordance with the MNEA negotiated agreement.

Motion was made by Mrs. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Altieri

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

13.10 Tuition Reimbursement

Mrs. Chandless asked for a motion to approve the attached tuition reimbursement, in accordance with the MNEA, MNAA and MNESPA negotiated agreements.

Motion was made by Mrs. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Altieri

There was a question on the amounts \$2,400.00, for MNEA, Unlimited for MNAA and \$1,250.00 for MNESPA

With no further discussion motion passed by 7 – 0

14. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

14.01 Committee Report – A. J. Baker, Chairperson

In the absence of Mr. Baker, Mr. Sack gave the following report

14.02 Bills for Payment

Mr. Sack asked for a motion to approve and authorize payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$3,169,428.41, Capital Reserve bills in the amount of \$102,607.19 and Food Service bills in the amount of \$42,861.35.

Motion made by Mr. DeNucci, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

14.03 Monthly Reports

Mr. Sack asked for a motion to approve monthly financial reports for July 2015.

Informational item monthly financial reports for August 2015.

Motion was made by Mrs. Harvey, seconded by Mrs. Chandless

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

14.04 Capital Fund

Mr. Sack asked for a motion to commit \$ 3,250,000.00 of excess fund balance to the Capital Reserve Fund and to authorize the transfer of funds during the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

Motion was made by Mrs. Chandless, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

15. FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

15.01 Committee Report – Matthew A. DeNucci, IV, Chairperson

15.02 Purchase

Mr. DeNucci asked for a motion to approve the purchase and installation of Everase Whiteboards from Sherwin-Williams, 3559 West Chester Pike, Newtown Square, Pennsylvania, 19073 to be installed at Paxon Hollow Middle School, Culbertson Elementary School, Loomis Elementary School, Russell Elementary School, and Worrall Elementary School per the CoStars pricing, at a cost not to exceed \$55,326.52.

Motion was made by Mrs. Chandless, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

15.02 Contract

Mr. DeNucci asked for a motion to approve, in light of the various legal issues raised by the District Solicitor’s review of the proposed contract with Stephen Parks and Associates regarding the High School Athletic Fields Renovation Project, authorize the Board President and Business Administrator, on behalf of the District, to negotiate and enter into a contract with either (a) Stephen Parks & Associates or (b) Bonnett Associates that contains business terms establishing the most favorable business relationship for the District, subject to legal review and approval of final contract language by the District Solicitor. The scope of services will include making recommendations based on the District’s scope of work; developing bid documents; attending and representing the District at all required approval meetings; reviewing bids and making a corresponding recommendations; and construction administration through the completion of the punch list.

Motion was made by Mrs. Chandless, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

15.03 Parking

Mr. DeNucci asked for a motion to approve the Marple Soccer Association to use the playground at Russell Elementary School playground for parking on Saturday’s from 8AM to 5PM.

Motion was made by Mrs. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Catania

After a brief discussion motion passed 7 – 0

16. DELAWARE COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT REPORT

Mrs. Harvey reported that the search for an executive director is still ongoing

17. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Mr. Altieri reported that the legislative meeting was cancelled and the state still does not have a budget.

18. BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT TO THE BOARD

None

19. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There was a question about the teacher contract.

Response: Nothing yet, hopefully soon

20. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Catania made a comment regarding going green. Instead of having bottle water on the table why not have pitchers of water and paper cups

21. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business for the Board, Mrs. Chandless adjourned the meeting at 8:22 PM

Respectfully submitted

Joseph Driscoll
Board Secretary