

**MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2013
BOARD ROOM
MINUTES**

Board: President Kathryn Chandless, Vice-President Nancy Galbraith, Mr. Robert Sack, Mr. Leonard Altieri, Mrs. Barbara Harvey, Mr. James Lanzalotto, Mr. Atsushi J. Baker and Mr. John McDevitt.

Solicitor: Mr. Mark Sereni, Esquire

Administration: Dr. Merle Horowitz, Dr. Constance Bompadre, Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Mr. Louis DeVlieger, Mr. Michael Dumin.

Press: Mrs. Leslie Krowchenko

Audience: 14

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

President Kathryn Chandless called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Mr. Leonard Altieri then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present were Mrs. Kathryn Chandless, Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mr. James Lanzalotto, Mr. Leonard Altieri, Mrs. Barbara Harvey, Mr. Robert Sack, Mr. Atsushi J. Baker and Mr. John McDevitt.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless asked for a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Motion was made by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith and seconded by Mrs. Sherry-Lee McAuliffe. Mrs. Chandless then asked for any revisions or additions to the agenda.

Hearing none, motion passed, 8-0

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Agenda Items Only)

There were no comments at this time.

6. WE ARE PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

There was no report.

7. COMMENDATIONS

There was no report.

8. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

Ms. Murphy reported that classes, clubs and sports teams are in full swing, and many fundraisers are underway for the year. The first Student Council meeting was held on September 11 and over 140 students attended. Youth night at the football game was a big success, and Worrall Elementary won the trophy for highest youth attendance. The new student breakfast will be held on September 26 and preparations are now being made for the "Club Fair" and Spirit Week. The Homecoming dance will be held on October 5, 2013. The PAL conference was held September 24 in Reading, and was very informative. The theme was "Finish Strong", and addressed ways to motivate students to get more involved in activities. A demonstration of positive energy was then given, with the entire audience forming a circle to hold hands, creating a united current that lit an 'energy stick'. Students hope to incorporate many ideas obtained at the PAL conference to motivate and unite the school and the community.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Merle Horowitz announced that Marple Newtown has had an excellent start to the school year, and thanked the students, staff and families for making that so. September 17 was the culmination of Book Club at the High School. Professional staff and administrators were asked last year to recommend a book for students to read over the summer. Students then gathered in discussion groups in a classroom assigned to each title to discuss what they had read. She then stated that "Restore the Road" is the new motto to support the district teams. Dr. Horowitz then reported that the State Board of Education approved revisions on September 12, 2013 that will redefine academic standards to insure that students continue to college, trade schools or the military upon graduation. She cited examples of how these revisions will affect a student's ability to graduate, i.e. the class of 2017 (current freshmen) will have to pass three Keystone exams in specific core content in order to get their diploma.

Dr. Horowitz then shared that a recent graduate of Marple Newtown, Esmiana Jani, is now dancing professionally with the Washington D.C. Ballet group at the Kennedy Center for the Arts. Ms. Jani dances for dignitaries and the President, and we are very proud of her accomplishments.

Dr. Horowitz then introduced parent Karen Rice, who gave a presentation regarding the Steinway Piano Project, "One Kid, One Key". The purpose of this project is to take the music program out to the community, and unite a community effort to purchase a Steinway piano and donate it to the district at a future Gala event.

10. SECRETARY'S MINUTES

Mr. James Lanzaletto asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2013 Regular Meeting and have them made a permanent part of the record.

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless requested a correction to the draft minutes of the August 27, 2013 Regular Meeting to reflect that the School Board voted unanimously to approve the following motion:

To approve the PILOT Agreement with Suburban Seahawks Club in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Pilot Agreement with Suburban Swim Club, subject to review and approval of final language by the Solicitor.

Motion was made to accept the revised minutes of the August 27, 2013 Regular Meeting by Mr. Atsushi Baker and seconded by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith.

With no further discussion, motion passed, 8-0

11. OTHER REPORTS

Mr. James Lanzalotto then asked for a motion to approve Student No. 880307, to attend the Melmark School, an Approved Private School (APS), for the 2013-2014 school year. (This is a new contract.)

Motion was made by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith and seconded by Mrs. Kathryn Chandless.
With no further discussion, motion passed, 8-0

12. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

12.01 Committee Report – Nancy M. Galbraith, Chairperson

12.02 Field Trips

Mrs. Nancy Galbraith asked for a motion to approve the following field trips:

- Mr. Dennis Reardon, Athletic Director/Assistant Principal, to attend the 2013 Academics and Athletics Workshop in State College, PA on September 26-27, 2013. The total cost to the district is \$300.
- Ms. Kerren Vosheski, Cheerleading Coach, to accompany the High School Cheerleading Team to travel to Southern Lehigh HS in Center Valley, PA on November 9, 2013 for an interscholastic activity. There is no cost per pupil.
- Ms. Kerren Vosheski, Cheerleading Coach, to accompany the High School Cheerleading Team to travel to Tom's River, NJ on November 23, 2013 to participate in the Regional Competition. There is no cost per pupil.
- Ms. Kerren Vosheski, Cheerleading Coach, to accompany the High School Cheerleading Team to travel to Kutztown University, in Kutztown, PA on December 8, 2013 to participate in the Regional Cheerleading Competition. There is no cost per pupil.
- Ms. Kerren Vosheski, Cheerleading Coach, to accompany the High School Cheerleading Team to travel to Bridgewater-Raritan HS in Bridgewater Township, NJ on January 12, 2014 to participate in the Regional Cheerleading Competition. There is no cost per pupil.
- Ms. Kerren Vosheski, Cheerleading Coach, to accompany the High School Cheerleading Team to travel to Orlando, FL on February 6-10, 2014 (pending qualification), to participate in the National High School Cheerleading Competition. The total cost per pupil is TBD.
- Mr. Michael Miller, Boys' Lacrosse Coach to accompany the Boys' Lacrosse Team to travel to St. Andrews Episcopal School in Potomac, MD on March 8, 2014 for a Pre-season Play Day. There is no cost per pupil.
- Ms. Kerren Vosheski, Cheerleading Coach, to accompany the High School Cheerleading Team to travel to Burlington Twp. HS in Burlington Twp., NJ on Sunday, November 10, 2013 for an interscholastic activity. There is no cost per pupil.

Motion was made by Mr. Robert Sack and seconded by Mrs. Kathryn Chandless.
With no further discussion, motion passed, 8-0

12.03 Professional Development Agreement

Mrs. Nancy Galbraith asked for a motion to approve a contract between Marple Newtown School District and TLS Teaching Learning Succeeding, LLC for a Professional Development Agreement for Differentiated Supervision Training for the 2013-2014 school year. The cost of this service is \$1,000 per day plus mileage at IRS rate and tolls between (3.5-6.5 days).

Motion was made by Mrs. Kathryn Chandless and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Harvey.
With no further discussion, motion passed 8-0

12.04 Intramural Sports

Mrs. Nancy Galbraith asked for a motion to approve the offering of the following intramural sports at Paxon Hollow Middle School:

CO-ED floor hockey, Girls 6th grade basketball and Boys 6th grade basketball at a cost of \$20.00 per student for the purchase of a team t-shirt. The cost to the district for this program will not exceed \$3,000.

Motion was made by Mr. James Lanzaletto and seconded by Mr. John McDevitt.
Mr. Lanzaletto expressed gratitude that some programs are able to be re-instated, and that we should commit to finding new ways to get students involved. Mr. McDevitt asked if Flag Football could be re-instated as well, as but was informed the interest did not support it.
With no further discussion, motion passed, 8-0

13. HUMAN RESOURCES AND POLICY COMMITTEE

13.01 Committee Report – Sherry-Lee McAuliffe, Chairperson

At this point, Mrs. Sherry-Lee McAuliffe joined the meeting by phone. Mrs. Kathryn Chandless assumed the Committee Chair role, and read the motions.

13.02 RETIREMENTS

CLASSIFIED

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following classified retirement, item 1.

- 1) Gloria Frederickson – Pupil Services Accounting Clerk
Pupil Services
Effective: December 2, 2013
Reason: Retirement

Motion was made by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith and seconded by Mr. Atsushi Baker.
With no further discussion, motion passed 9-0

13.03 RESIGNATIONS

CLASSIFIED

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following classified resignations, items 1 through 2.

- 1) Teresa Baxter – Cafeteria Worker
Food Services
Effective: August 26, 2013
Reason: Personal
- 2) Christina Schwartz – Title I Assistant
Loomis Elementary
Effective: September 13, 2013
Reason: Personal

Motion was made by Mr. Atsushi Baker and seconded by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith.
With no further discussion, motion passed 9-0

13.04 LEAVES

ADMINISTRATIVE

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following administrative leave, item 1.

- 1) Michael Facciolo – Building Supervisor
Operations
Effective: September 6, 2013 through October 25, 2013
Reason: FMLA

Motion was made by Mrs. Barbara Harvey and seconded by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith.
With no further discussion, motion passed 9-0

PROFESSIONAL

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following professional leave, item 1.

- 1) Kimberly Trigone – Art Teacher
Loomis Elementary
Effective: September 17, 2013 through October 30, 2013
Reason: Medical Leave With Pay

Motion was made by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith and seconded by Mr. James Lanzalotto.
With no further discussion, motion passed 9-0

CLASSIFIED

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following classified leaves, items 1 through 2.

- 1) Konstantinos Papakonstantinou – Custodian
Operations
Effective: August 29, 2013 through November 21, 2013
Reason: FMLA
- 2) Vasiliki Kontaxis – Custodian
Operations
Effective: August 21, 2013 through November 13, 2013

Reason: FMLA

Motion was made by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith and seconded by Mr. James Lanzalotto.
With no further discussion, motion passed 9-0

13.05 POSITION CREATION

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless asked for a motion to approve the creation of two (2) Special Education Assistant positions, one Full-time and one Part-time, in accordance with the Bargaining Unit Agreement between the Marple Newtown School District and the Marple Newtown Educational Support Professionals Association (MNESPA), to comply with IEP needs.

****Note, these positions have already been filled**

Motion was made by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith and seconded by Mr. Atsushi Baker.
With no further discussion, motion passed 9-0

13.06 APPOINTMENTS

CLASSIFIED

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following classified appointments, items 1 through 10.

- 1) John Pearce – Secretary
High School
Salary: \$22,432.00
Effective: August 8, 2013
Reason: Replaces Lydia Foreman (Retired)
- 2) Michael DeRosa –Custodian
Operations
Salary: \$14.76 per hour
Effective: August 1, 2013
Reason: Replaces Abdulkareem Diarra (Resigned)
- 3) Kathleen McGee – Non-Instructional Assistant
Russell Elementary
Salary: \$10.34 per hour
Effective: September 3, 2013
Reason: Replaces Suzanne Carini (Reassigned)
- 4) Deborah Boppell – Non Instructional Assistant
Worrall Elementary
Salary: \$10.34 per hour
Effective: September 3, 2013
Reason: Replaces Rosemary Lucas (Resigned)
- 5) Nicole Scali – Special Education Assistant
Russell Elementary
Salary: \$13,640.00
Effective: September 3, 2013
Reason: Replaces William Davis (Resigned)

- 6) Thomas Caleix – Substitute Custodian
Operations
Salary: \$14.77 per hour
Effective: September 9, 2013
Reason: As Needed
- 7) Theresa Charles – Substitute Custodian
Operations
Salary: \$14.77 per hour
Effective: September 9, 2013
Reason: As Needed
- 8) Kristin Solanick – Theme Editor
High School
Salary: \$15.00 per our
Effective: October 1, 2013
Reason: Replaces Beth Cope (Reassigned)
- 9) Brittany Connor – Cafeteria Worker
Food Services
Salary: \$11.83 per hour
Effective: September 24, 2013
Reason: Replaces Jose Colon (Resigned)
- 10) Garry Wilson – Bus Aide
Transportation
Salary: \$14.75
Effective: September 23, 2013
Reason: Replaces Nancy Kenny (Retired)

Motion was made by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith and seconded by Mr. Leonard Altieri.
With no further discussion, motion passed 9-0

13.07 REASSIGNMENTS

PROFESSIONAL

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following professional reassignment, item 1.

- 1) Michelle Lizun
From: Special Education Assistant
To: Elementary Teacher
M.Ed. – Reading: East Stroudsburg University; Certification: Elementary K-6;
0 Yrs. Experience
Russell Elementary
Salary: \$47,849.00
Effective September 3, 2013
Reason: New Position

Motion was made by Mr. Robert Sack and seconded by Mr. Leonard Altieri.

With no further discussion, motion passed 9-0
CLASSIFIED

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following classified reassignments, items 1 through 2.

- 1) Robert Shoemaker
From: Van Driver
To Bus Driver
Transportation
Salary: \$ 22.82 per hour
Effective: September 9, 2013
Reason: Replaces Thomas McKenna (Retired)
- 2) Dante Purifico
From: Bus Driver
To: Van Driver
Transportation
Salary: \$21.31
Effective: September 16, 2013
Reason: Replaces Robert Shoemaker (Reassigned)

Motion was made by Mr. Robert Sack and seconded by Mr. Leonard Altieri.
With no further discussion, motion passed 9-0

13.08 SALARY ADJUSTMENTS

ADMINISTRATIVE

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless asked for a motion to approve the 2013-2014 Marple Newtown Administrative Association (MNAA) salary changes, effective July 1, 2013.

Motion was made by Mr. Robert Sack and seconded by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith.
A discussion took place between several Board members regarding the structure and distribution of the salary increases.

A roll call vote was requested:

Ayes: Mr. Atsushi Baker, Mrs. Sherry-Lee McAuliffe, Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mrs. Kathryn Chandless, Mr. Robert Sack, Mrs. Barbara Harvey, Mr. James Lanzalotto

Nays: Mr. John McDevitt, Mr. Leonard Altieri

Abstentions: 0

Motion passed, 7-2

PROFESSIONAL

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless asked for a motion to approve the following professional salary adjustment, item 1.

- 1) David McFadden – Mathematics Teacher
Paxon Hollow
Salary: \$46,141.00

Effective: August 27, 2013
Reason: Five Years' Experience

Motion was made by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith and seconded by Mr. James Lanzalotto.
With no further discussion, motion passed 9-0

13.09 TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless asked for a motion to approve tuition reimbursement, in accordance with the MNEA negotiated agreement.

Motion was made by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Harvey.
With no further discussion, motion passed 9-0

13.10 ACTIVITY CONTRACTS

APPOINTMENTS

Mrs. Kathryn Chandless asked for a motion to approve the appointment of personnel to activity contracts for the 2013-2014 school year. The amount of each contract is in accordance with the MNEA negotiated agreement.

Motion was made by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith and seconded by Mr. Atsushi Baker.
With no further discussion, motion passed 9-0

Mrs. Sherry-Lee McAuliffe then left the meeting.

14. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

14.01 Committee Report – Robert Sack, Chairperson

14.02 Bills for Payment

Mr. Robert Sack asked for a motion to approve and authorize payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$1,741,771.00, Capital Fund bills in the amount of \$64,078.19, Capital Reserve bills in the amount of \$92,178.68 and Food Service bills in the amount of \$69,174.16.

Motion was made by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith and seconded by Mrs. Kathryn Chandless.
With no further discussion, motion passed 8-0

14.03 Transfers and Monthly Reports

Mr. Robert Sack asked for a motion to approve monthly financial reports for July and August 2013, Treasurer's Report for July 2013.

Motion was made by Mr. Atsushi Baker and seconded by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith .
With no further discussion, motion passed 8-0

14.04 Donations

Mr. Robert Sack asked for a motion to accept \$200.00 from Bonnett Associates Inc. for "Raise the Bar".

Motion was made by Mr. Leonard Altieri and seconded by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith .
With no further discussion, motion passed 8-0

Mr. Robert Sack asked for a motion to accept \$250.00 from Beneficial Bank for “Raise the Bar”.

Motion was made by Mrs. Barbara Harvey and seconded by Mrs. Kathryn Chandless.
With no further discussion, motion passed 8-0

Mr. Robert Sack asked for a motion to accept \$1,000.00 from Louis and Theresa Montanaro to be used at Worrall Elementary School.

Motion was made by Mrs. Barbara Harvey and seconded by Mrs. Kathryn Chandless.
The Board thanked all of the donors.
With no further discussion, motion passed 8-0

Mr. Robert Sack asked for a motion to accept \$9,104.00 from The Tiger Foundation for 2013-2014 grants.

Motion was made by Mrs. Barbara Harvey and seconded by Leonard Altieri.
With no further discussion, motion passed 8-0

Mr. Robert Sack asked for a motion to accept from the Marple Newtown Soccer Association a used set of two 8 feet by 24 feet regulation goals for use at Paxon Hollow Middle School.

Motion was made by Mrs. Barbara Harvey and seconded by Mr. Leonard Altieri.
Thanks were expressed to the Soccer Association.
With no further discussion, motion passed 8-0

Mr. Robert Sack asked for a motion to accept \$10,290.00 from Russell School PTO for three Smartboards for Russell Elementary School.

Motion was made by Mrs. Barbara Harvey and seconded by Mrs. Kathryn Chandless.
With no further discussion, motion passed 8-0

14.05 Capital Fund

Mr. Robert Sack asked for a motion to commit an additional \$2,800,000.00 of excess fund balance to the capital reserve fund balance and to authorize the transfer of funds during the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

Motion was made by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith and seconded by Mr. Robert Sack.
An explanation was requested of and given by Mr. Joseph Driscoll on the meaning of capital reserve balance and what it means to the district to have that money, i.e. ready payment for unforeseen repairs and maintenance costs.
With no further discussion, motion passed, 8-0

15. FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

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

15.02 Facilities

Mr. Leonard Altieri asked for a motion to approve the purchase of two replacement minivans, from Sands Auto Group, 601 N. West End Blvd., Quakertown, PA 18951, a COSTAR vendor, at a cost of \$ 41,725.00 and the trade-in of two minivans VIN numbers 1D8GP25B73B297682 and 1D8GP25B23B297685.

Motion was made by Mrs. Kathryn Chandless and seconded by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith.
With no further discussion, motion passed 8-0

Mr. Leonard Altieri asked for a motion to approve the purchase of one replacement pick-up truck, from Fred Bean's Ford West Chester, 1155 West Chester Pike, West Chester, PA 19382, a COSTAR vendor, at a cost of \$ 22,150.00.

Motion was made by Mrs. Barbara Harvey and seconded by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith.
With no further discussion, motion passed 8-0

Mr. Leonard Altieri asked for a motion to approve the disposal of a Ford Ranger pick-up truck, VIN number 1FTCR11U9STA39357.

Motion was made by Mrs. Barbara Harvey and seconded by Mr. Robert Sack
Mrs. Nancy Galbraith asked what would happen to the truck. Mr. Michael Dumin replied that it would be disposed of for a gain to the district of a few hundred dollars.
With no further discussion, motion passed 8-0

Mr. Leonard Altieri asked for a motion to approve the 2013-2014 bus routes which are subject to change due to safety issues, student enrollment, route optimization, special education placements, and other changes as needed.

Motion was made by Mrs. Nancy Galbraith and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Harvey.
With no further discussion, motion passed 8-0

16. DELAWARE COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT REPORT

There was no report.

17. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

There was no report.

18. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

There was no report.

19. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There were no comments at this time.

20. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Dr. Merle Horowitz announced that, in honor of the new school year, the World Language Department had delivered homemade Spanish cheesecake, and offered a piece to all in attendance.

Mr. Leonard Altieri announced that the Class of 2008 would be celebrating its Five Year Reunion on November 30, 2013 from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the Ardmore Music Hall.

Mr. James Lanzalotto addressed the discussion from the previous month regarding the vandalism to the letters on the High School. He asked if the district has moved forward with the reward for information, and if there were any leads. Dr. Horowitz responded that the district had moved forward with the reward, but there was no resolution at this time.

Mr. Robert Sack asked if the letters had been replaced yet. Mr. Michael Dumin responded that they have been ordered and as soon as they are received, they will be replaced.

21. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, President Kathryn Chandless adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Board Secretary