

**MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL VOTING MEETING
HIGH SCHOOL NORTH LIBRARY
WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2022 7:00 PM
PUBLIC MEETING APPROXIMATELY 8:00 PM**



Middletown Township Board of Education

Frank Capone, President
Jacqueline Tobacco, Vice President
Leonora Caminiti
Michael Donlon
Kate Farley
H. Barry Heffernan
John Little
Joan Minnuies
Deborah Wright

Mary Ellen Walker
Superintendent of Schools

Amy P. Doherty, CPA
Business Administrator / Board Secretary

Mission Statement

The Middletown Township Public School District will work as a united community to empower each student by providing an engaging, inclusive, and safe educational environment. The District will utilize available resources, responsibly and effectively, to enable students to reach their full potential as life-long learners and responsible citizens. The District will encourage students to develop their imagination and creativity, aspire to greatness, value diverse perspectives, and demonstrate cultural competence as global citizens to prepare for future academic, career, and personal success.

Guidelines for Public Comment

Please remember this is a public meeting. Anything you say will be a public record. As a result, pursuant to law, the Board of Education cannot respond to you publicly concerning certain matters, such as those regarding an individual student. If there is a matter that you wish to remain private concerning personnel or students, please contact the Superintendent's office. Public comment periods shall also be governed by the following rules:

1. A participant must be recognized by the Board President or presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his/her name, address or municipality of residence, and group affiliation, if applicable;
2. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to THREE minutes' duration;
3. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard;
4. All statements, questions, or inquiries shall be directed to the Board President and any questions or inquiries directed by a participant to another Board member shall be redirected to determine if such statement, question, or inquiry shall be addressed on behalf of the Board or by the individual Board member; and
5. Questions requiring investigation shall be referred by the Board to the Superintendent's office for consideration and later response. A participant may be asked to submit such questions in written format.

Code of Ethics for School Board Members (Statute 18A:12-24.1):

- I will uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
- I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing.
- I will confine my board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
- I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.
- I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board.
- I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
- I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. In all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its school.
- I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
- I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.
- I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

1. **6:00 PM Student Recognition - Auditorium**
2. **7:00 PM Opening of Meeting - Call to Order by Board Secretary and Reading of the Sunshine Announcement:**

“Adequate notice of this meeting was provided by sending such notice to the Asbury Park Press, The Middletown Patch, and the Middletown Twp. Public Schools District Website and the posting of such notice at the August T. Miner Administrative Offices and each elementary, middle, and secondary school in the district”.
3. **Roll Call**
4. **Resolution for Executive Session**
5. **Call to Order by the Board President and Re-Reading of Sunshine Announcement**
6. **Roll Call**
7. **Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**
 - *With sadness, we share that Dorothy Citarella passed away on May 2, 2022. Mrs. Citarella served the District as a paraprofessional and then a secretary at Nut Swamp Elementary School for several years until 2016. We extend our deepest condolences to the Citarella family.*
 - *With great sadness, we share that Renate Mey passed away on May 9. Mrs. Mey served the District as an exemplary employee since 1979 and was the Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent for 20 years. She retired in January 2008. We extend our deepest condolences to the Mey family.*
8. **Opportunity for Public Comment on Agenda Items Only - limited to thirty minutes**
9. **Proclamations**

Special Education Week in New Jersey

WHEREAS, 237,344 children receive special education instruction in New Jersey; and
WHEREAS, more than 18,000 special needs children are enrolled in preschool and early intervention programs in New Jersey; and
WHEREAS, thousands of parents, teachers, child study team members and school administrators give generously of their time and energy to support the learning needs of special education students; and
WHEREAS, since 1985, New Jersey has proclaimed the second week in May each year as Special Education Week in New Jersey; and
WHEREAS, the theme for Special Education Week 2022 is “Education, the Key to Success;” and
WHEREAS, the public school districts of New Jersey make a major contribution to the public welfare by preparing thousands of exceptional persons to participate as citizens of this state and as members of society;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Middletown Township Board of Education recognizes the students who have worked so hard and accomplished so much; and thanks their parents and educators, who have provided support to these children and

continue to look for ways to improve our schools to promote the achievement of ALL students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Middletown Township Board of Education proclaims May 8 - May 14, 2022 as Special Education Week in Middletown Township Public Schools.

10. Reports

A. Report of the President

B. Report of the Superintendent

11. Recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools

A. Finance (*Amy Doherty*)

- 1) **BE IT RESOLVED**, per the recommendation of its group insurance broker-of-record, Brown & Brown, the Board of Education hereby resolves, effective July 1, 2022, to make the following changes to its group dental insurance carrier as shown in *Attachment Finance-1*:

- a) Terminate its group dental insurance policy with Horizon, group # 97855
- b) Select Delta Dental as its group dental insurance carrier, at the rates, benefits, terms, and conditions per their proposal: -8.8% on current premium rates. Benefits will be consistent with the requirements of the collective bargaining agreement.
- c) Designate Brown & Brown, as the Board's broker-of-record for our new Delta Dental group insurance program. Brown & Brown is authorized to act on behalf of the Board in all matters related to this program.
- d) Brown & Brown's responsibilities will include, but are not limited to, negotiating annual renewal rates, marketing our group insurance programs, and aiding our staff in the resolution of billing, enrollment, and claim problems.

B. Facilities (*Amy Doherty*)

- 1) Approval of temporary Facilities Use/License Agreement between the Middletown Township Board of Education and Navesink River Productions LLC, as per *Attachment Facilities-1*.

C. Personnel (*Pat Rinella*) – See Personnel Report

12. Old Business

13. New Business

14. Public Comment - *limited to thirty minutes*

15. Motion to Adjourn