

MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 28, 2023
Marple Newtown School District Board Room
Minutes

Board: Mrs. Tracy Alberti, Mr. Matthew Bilker, President, Mr. David Dezzi, Mrs. Barbara Harvey, Vice President, Mr. Anthony Maalouf, Mr. John McKenzie, Mr. Nicholas Reynolds, Mr. Nicholas Siano, Mrs. Desiree Tomasco

Solicitor: Mr. Mark Sereni, Esquire

Administration: Dr. Tina Kane, Dr. Joel DiBartolomeo, Mr. Joe Driscoll, Mr. Jim Orwig, Mr. Jake Gallagher.

Press: 0

Audience: 0

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mr. Bilker called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and advised that the Board met in Executive session to discuss Legal and Personnel issues.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Bilker led the Pledge of Allegiance

3. PRESENT

Mrs. Alberti, Mr. Bilker, Mr. Dezzi, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Maalouf, Mr. Siano, Mrs. Tomasco

Absent: Mr. McKenzie, Mr. Reynolds

Mr. McKenzie arrived at 6:40 PM.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Bilker asked for a motion to accept the agenda, as presented.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 0

Absent: Mr. McKenzie, Mr. Reynolds

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Agenda Items Only)

A member of the Tennis team requested that light be put on the tennis courts. The member has spoken to Mr. Gicking.

The Board will look into this request.

6. WE ARE PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

Dr. Kane gave the following report:

The Paxon Hollow Marching Band participated in the annual Veteran's Day Parade in Media. Our marching band was proudly led by Mr. Marmelstein as they played patriotic music for everyone to

enjoy.

The PHMS Tiger Tones Choir, led by Mrs. LaRue performed during the annual channel 6 Thanksgiving Day Parade in front of the Philadelphia Art Museum. You can stream their incredible performance on Hulu through December

7. COMMENDATIONS

Bell Presentation

Dr. Kane thanked Desiree Tomasco and Tracy Alberti for the 4 years of service to the Marple Newtown School District. Dr. Kane presented them each a school bell and spoke of their commitment and dedication.

8. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

The following report was given:

- Senior Class Pie Fundraiser
- Kan Jam Tournament; over 1,000 canned goods raised for local food bank
- Powderpuff game: 11/16 followed by the championship game, 11/17: Seniors Won
- Parent teacher conferences last week, directed by Tiger Guides
- Prospective Student Tours: December 7th
- Senior Class picture: December 8th
- Bocci Pep Rally: December 8th
- Renaissance POP Breakfast: December 13th
- Fall Play: December 14, 15, 16 (Puffs)

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Kane gave the following report:

The four elementary schools celebrated World Kindness Week with various activities to spread kindness throughout their school community. This included writing notes to teachers that helped them over the years as well as doing things to help those around them.

Culbertson

The Culbertson Elementary students donated their Halloween to less fortunate families. Every year the Culbertson students donate their candy to less fortunate families through our CandyCares Program. This year the students collected over 350 pounds of candy.

Loomis

Our Annual Pajama Drive was a success! Loomis Elementary School partners with Barnes and Noble, Carters, and the Pajama Program to collect and donate pajamas for children in need. Loomis students learn that not everyone is as fortunate as them to have a pair of pajamas to wear each night. This is a wonderful cause with positive lasting effects about the importance of giving to others. This year the total donations included 1,586 pajamas and 500 books.

Russell

We held a drive "Socktober" to provide new socks and gently used winter gear to those in need.

Worrall

The Worrall Book Fair in mid-November was a great success, with students getting to purchase some fantastic books during their Library day and families having the opportunity to shop at the Book Fair Family Night.

Paxon

In addition, Paxon Hollow is proud to share that we were able to collect several hundred pounds of food during their food drive leading up to the Thanksgiving holiday. Students brought in canned goods and non-perishable food items to support families in need during the holiday season. We are able to help support families in need in the Marple Newtown School District thanks to the efforts of our students and their families.

MNHS

Congratulating to the three students who successfully auditioned to be a part of the PMEA District 12 Band and Chorus. Students auditioned on Saturday 11/18 amongst hundreds of other students from Delaware, Philadelphia, and Chester County.

Each year there is a local student Cappies team who attends area plays and musicals to write a review of the show similar to a newspaper critic. The Cappies Mentors choose four reviews from all the reviews submitted. This year, one of our MNHS student's review was chosen as the four to be published.

10. SECRETARY'S MINUTES

Mrs. Tomasco asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2023 Regular Meeting.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. McKenzie, Mr. Reynolds

11. OTHER REPORTS

Mrs. Tomasco asked for a motion to approve the Tuition Agreement for student 882842 to attend Private School for the 2023-2024 school year. This is a new agreement.

Mrs. Tomasco asked for a motion to approve the One-to-One Service agreement addendum "D1" for student 882421 attending Approved Private School for the 2023-2024 school year. This is a new agreement.

Motions were made by Mr. Bilker, seconded by Mrs. Alberti

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

12. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

12.01 Committee Report – Nicholas V. Siano, Chairperson

Mr. Siano asked for the following motions to be approved.

12.02 Administrative or Teacher Trips

Motion to approve Dr. Tina Kane to attend the PASA Board of Governors Dinner and Meeting in Harrisburg, PA on January 25-26, 2024. The cost to the district is \$70.49.

Motion to approve Dr. Tina Kane to attend the Suburban Schools Study Council Conference in San Diego, CA on February 12-14, 2024. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Dr. Tina Kane to attend the National Conference on Education presented by

AASA in San Diego, CA on February 15-17, 2024. The cost to the district is \$780.00.

Motions were made by Mr. Bilker, seconded by Mrs. Tomasco

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

Mr. Siano asked for the following motions to be approved.

12.03 Athletic Trips

Motion to approve Kimberly Foster, Coach, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Cheerleading team to go to the UCA Regional Competition in Allentown, PA on December 3, 2023. The cost of transportation is approximately \$521.41 and paid by the athletic department. The cost of the activity is \$1,312.00 and paid by the athletic department. The cost to the district is approximately \$1,833.41.

Motion to approve Kimberly Foster, Coach, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Cheerleading team to go to Clean Sweep at Burlington Township High School in Burlington, NJ on December 16, 2023. The cost of transportation is approximately \$491.41 and paid by the athletic department. The cost of the activity is \$80.00 per student and paid by the students and boosters. The cost to the district is approximately \$491.41.

Motion to approve Kimberly Foster, Coach, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Cheerleading team to go to the PIAA State Championship in Hershey, PA from January 25, 2024 to January 27, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$787.46 and paid by the athletic department. The cost of the activity is \$2,859.36 and paid by the athletic department. The cost to the district is approximately \$3,646.82.

Motion to approve Kimberly Foster, Coach, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Cheerleading team to go to the UCA High School National Cheerleading Championship in Orlando, FL from February 8, 2024 to February 13, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$336.00 per student and paid by the students and parents. The cost of the activity is \$927.00 per student and paid by the students and parents. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Michael Snow, Coach, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Softball team to go to The Ripken Experience in Myrtle Beach, SC on March 13, 2024, to March 17, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$300.00 and paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$700.00 - \$850.00 per student and paid by the students and boosters. There is no cost to the district.

Motions were made by Mr. Bilker, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

12.04 Student Trips

Mr. Siano asked for the following motions to be approved.

Motion to approve Stephanie Murray, Teacher, to accompany the fifth grade of Loomis Elementary School to go to Treehouse World in Phoenixville, PA on November 8, 2023. The cost of transportation is approximately \$397.34 and paid by the PTO. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Linda Wigo, Advisor, to accompany the Renaissance Club of Paxon Hollow Middle School to go to Urban Air in Springfield, PA on November 9, 2023. The cost of transportation

is approximately \$499.05 and paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$25.00 per student and paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Georgia LaRue, Teacher, to accompany the Tiger Tones Club to Beaumont in Bryn Mawr, PA on November 10, 2023. The cost of transportation is proximately \$129.45 and paid by the district. The cost to the district is approximately \$129.45.

Motion to approve Linda Johnson, Advisor, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Debate Club to Lower Merion High School in Ardmore, PA on November 16, 2023. The cost of transportation is approximately \$165.85 and paid by the district. The cost to the district is approximately \$165.85.

Motion to approve Dr. TJ Gretchen, Principal, to accompany the Paxon Hollow Middle School students to go to Top Golf in King of Prussia, PA on November 28, 2023. The cost of transportation is approximately \$359.43 and paid by the PTO. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Sheila Amodei, Teaching and Learning Supervisor, to accompany the students within the STEM Academy to Fluxspace in Norristown, PA on November 29, 2023. The cost of transportation is approximately \$417.98 and paid by funds available in the Ready to Learn grant. The cost to the district is approximately \$417.98.

Motion to approve Rachel Basescu, Teacher, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Choir to Haverford School in Haverford, PA on November 29, 2023. The cost of transportation is approximately \$151.22 and paid by the Academy of Vocal Arts. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Michael Snow, Advisor, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Ski Outdoor Club to go to Skirmish USA in Albrightsville, PA on December 2, 2023. The cost of transportation is approximately \$642.24 and paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$50.00 per student and paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Jill Gill and Kristen DeNucci, Teachers, to accompany the Life Skills class to Boscov's and Chick-Fil-A in Media, PA on December 6, 2023. The cost of transportation is approximately \$152.71 and paid by the Special Education Department. The cost of the activity is \$95.00 and paid by the Special Education Department. The cost to the district is approximately \$247.71

Motion to approve Jill Gill and Kristen DeNucci, Teachers, to accompany the Life Skills class to BJ's Wholesale Club in Springfield, PA and to Wendy's in Broomall, PA on December 13, 2023. The cost of transportation is approximately \$143.83 and paid by the Special Education Department. The cost of the activity is \$68.00 and paid by the Special Education Department. The cost to the district is approximately \$211.83.

Motion to approve Matt Baker and Bob Smythe, Teachers, to accompany the 10th grade AP European and World History classes to the Philadelphia Art Museum in Philadelphia, PA on December 14, 2023. The cost of transportation is approximately \$621.97 and paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$17.00 per student and paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Michael Snow, Advisor, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Ski Outdoor Club to go to Bear Creek Mountain Resort in Macungie, PA on January 5, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$807.92 and paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$50.00 per student and paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Anita Stum and Tyler Mertens, Advisors, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Future Business Leaders of America Club to go to Widener University in Chester, PA on January 9, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$175.03 and paid by the district.

The cost to the district is approximately \$175.03.

Motion to approve Michael Snow, Advisor, to accompany The Marple Newtown High School Ski Outdoor Club to go to Elk Mountain Ski Resort in Union Dale, PA on January 27, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$833.64 and paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$90.00 per student and paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Lori Friedman, Teacher, to accompany the Greek Literature class to go to The Philadelphia Art Museum in Philadelphia, PA on February 1, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$183.08 and paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$180.00 and paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Christian Jaspersen, Assistant Principal and Riley McSorley, Teacher, to accompany The Stem Academy to iFly in King of Prussia, PA on February 14, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$208.99 and paid by funds available in the Ready to Learn grant. The cost of the activity is \$45.00 per student and paid by the students. The cost to the district is approximately \$208.99.

Motion to approve Michael Snow, Advisor, to accompany The Marple Newtown High School Ski Outdoor Club to go to Bear Creek Mountain Resort in Macungie, PA on February 15, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$807.92 and paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$50.00 per student and paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Rachel Basescu, Teacher, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Choir to Princeton University in Princeton, NJ on March 13, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$511.67 and paid by the district. The cost to the district is approximately \$511.67.

Motion to approve Rachel Basescu, Teacher, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Choir to New York City in New York, NY on April 27, 2024. The cost of transportation and the activity is \$319.00 per student and paid by the students and choir parent booster clubs. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Douglas Killough, Advisor, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School National Honors Society to Washington, DC on May 14, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$2,460.00 and paid by the students and parents. The cost of the activity is \$55.00 per student and paid by the students and parents. There is no cost to the district.

Motions were made by Mr. McKenzie, seconded by Mr. Bilker

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0
Absent: Mr. Reynolds

12.05 Purchase

Mr. Siano asked for a motion to approve the purchase of books for the Paxton Hollow Middle School Library, as presented.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0
Absent: Mr. Reynolds

12.06 Marple Newtown High School Commencement

Mr. Siano asked for a motion to approve a change to the high school graduation date to the District Calendar from June 12, 2024 to June 13, 2024.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

Mr. Siano asked for a motion to approve an agreement between the Marple Newtown School District and Villanova University for the purpose of Villanova hosting MNSD's class of 2024 high school graduation. This agreement has been reviewed by our District Solicitor. The estimated cost is \$25,560.00.

Moton was made by Mrs. Tomasco, seconded by Mrs. Alberti

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

12.07 Marple Newtown High School Course Description Changes

Mr. Siano asked for a motion to approve the Marple Newtown High School course description changes as presented.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

12 HUMAN RESOURCES AND POLICY COMMITTEE

13.01 Committee Report – John P. McKenzie, Chairperson

Mr. McKenzie asked for the following motions to be approved 13.02, 13.03, and the first motion in 13.04.

13.02 Position Creation

ADMINISTRATIVE

Motion to approve the creation of one (1) Director of Special Education position, in accordance with the current MNAA Agreement, due a realignment of the Pupil Services Department, increased special education programming needs and services, effective January 2, 2024, as presented.

Motion to approve the creation of one (1) Director of Student Services position, in accordance with the current MNAA Agreement, due a realignment of the Pupil Services Department, increased special education programming needs and services, effective January 2, 2024, as presented.

13.03 Position Reduction/Abolishment

ADMINISTRATIVE

Motion to approve the abolishment of the following MNAA administrative position due to a realignment of the department, effective December 31, 2023:

One (1) Director of Pupil Services (Pupil Services Department)

13.04 Termination(s)

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the following professional termination(s) item(s) 1 through 3.

Hanna Crowley - LTS Special Education Teacher
Worrall Elementary School
Effective: January 26, 2024
Reason: End of Assignment (Kelsey Sun)

Jennifer Santangelo - LTS Science Teacher
Paxon Hollow Middle School
Effective: December 22, 2023
Reason: End of Assignment (Kathryn Disharoon)

Matthew Cook - LTS Social Studies Teacher
Paxon Hollow Middle School
Effective: January 26, 2024
Reason: End of Assignment (Dana Locher)

Motions were made by Mrs. Harvey, seconded by Mrs. Alberti

With no further discussion motions passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

CLASSIFIED

Mr. McKenzie asked for a motion to approve the proposed Adjudication relating to the termination of employment of Employee #1308.

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

Roll Call Vote ~

Member	Attended Meeting/Read Transcript	Vote
Mrs. Alberti	Attended Meeting	Yes
Mr. Bilker	Attended Meeting	Yes
Mr. Dezzi	Attended Meeting	Yes
Mrs. Harvey	Attended Meeting	Yes
Mr. McKenzie	Read Transcript	Abstain
Mr. Maalouf	Did not attend/did not read	Abstain
Mrs. Siano	Read Transcript	Yes
Mrs. Tomasco	Attended Meeting	Yes

With no further discussion, motion passed 6 – 0 – 2 abstention.

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

Mr. McKenzie asked the following motions be approved, 13.05 through 13.13

13.05 Resignation(s)

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the following professional resignation(s) item(s) 1.

- 1) Elizabeth Batchelor – LTS Special Education Teacher
Paxon Hollow Middle School
Effective: October 26, 2023
Reason: Resignation

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified resignation(s) item(s) 1 and 2.

- 1) Robert Meiklejohn - Bus Driver in Training
Transportation Department
Effective: October 25, 2023
Reason: Resignation
- 2) Emarie Smith – School Assistant
Russell Elementary School
Effective: November 6, 2023
Reason: Resignation

13.06 Retirement(s)

ADMINISTRATIVE

Motion to approve the following administrative retirement(s) item(s) 1.

- 1) James Orwig – Director of Human Resources
Human Resources Department
Effective: June 30, 2024
Reason: Retirement

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified retirement(s) item(s) 1.

- 1) Roisin Arnold – Special Education Assistant
Pupil Services Department/Worrall Elementary School
Effective: January 5, 2024
Reason: Retirement

13.07 Leave(s)

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the following professional leave(s) item(s) 1 through 3.

- 1) Kelsey Sun – Special Education Teacher Worrall Elementary School Effective: December 11, 2023, through January 23, 2024 Reason: Child Rearing Leave (CRL)
- 2) Jenny Kim – English as Second Language Teacher (ESL) Loomis & Worrall Elementary Schools
Effective: March 4, 2024, through June 18, 2024
Reason: Medical: March 4, 2024, through April 19, 2024
FMLA: March 4, 2024, through May 31, 2024
Child Rearing Leave (CRL): June 3, 2024, through June 18, 2024
- 3) Catherine Green – Speech & Language Pathologist Paxon Hollow Middle School
Effective: October 21, 2023, through January 9, 2024

Reason: Medical Leave

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified leave(s) item(s) 1 through 6.

- 1) Jacqueline Milano - Van Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: January 3, 2024, through February 9, 2024
Reason: Uncompensated Leave: January 3, 2024, through February 9, 2024
- 2) Kathleen Mongeluzi – Special Education Assistant
Pupil Services Department/Culbertson Elementary School
Effective: October 30, 2023, through January 31, 2024
Reason: FMLA: October 30, 2023, through January 31, 2024
- 3) Dionisia Papapetridis – Special Education Assistant
Pupil Services Department/Russell Elementary School
Effective: December 18, 2023, through January 31, 2024
Reason: Medical: December 18, 2023, through January 12, 2024
Uncompensated Leave: January 16, 2024, through January 31, 2024
- 4) Lilyan DeVito – Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: October 6, 2023, through November 20, 2023
Reason: Uncompensated Leave: October 9, 2023, through December 1, 2023
- 5) Michael Elia – Van Driver II
Transportation Department
Effective: November 27, 2023, through March 1, 2024
Reason: Uncompensated Leave: November 27, 2023, through March 1, 2024
- 6) Debra Collings – Van Driver I
Transportation Department
Effective: October 19, 2023, through November 22, 2024
Reason: Uncompensated Leave: October 19, 2023, through November 22, 2024

13.08 Return from Leave

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the following professional return from leave(s) item(s) 1 through 3.

- 1) Kelsey Sun Special Education Teacher
Worrall Elementary School
Return date: January 24, 2024
Reason: FMLA
- 2) Kathryn Disharoon –Science Teacher
Paxon Hollow Middle School
Return date: December 19, 2023

Returning from: CRL

- 3) Dana Locher– Social Studies Teacher
Paxon Hollow Middle School
Return date: January 24, 2024
Returning from: Sabbatical Leave for Professional Development

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified return from leave(s) item(s) 1 and 2.

- 1) Robert Uff – Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Return Date: November 6, 2023
Returning from: Uncompensated leave
- 2) Michael Shemeld – Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Return Date: November 27, 2023
Returning from: Uncompensated leave

13.09 Appointments

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the following professional appointment(s), pending the completion of all necessary pre-employment requirements, item(s) 1 through 5.

Mia Ziebis - Special Education Teacher
Paxon Hollow Middle School
Salary: \$83,000.00 (MA; Step-13: prorated)
Effective: November 1, 2023
Replacing: Danielle Donovan (Resignation)

Victoria Carrell - School Psychologist
Marple Newtown High School
Salary: \$61,800.00 (MA+40; Step-1: prorated)
Effective: December 4, 2023
Replacing: Mary Henigan (Retirement)

Thomas Gorman - LTS Special Education Teacher
Paxon Hollow Middle School
Salary: \$52,000.00 (BA; Step-1: prorated)
Effective: November 8, 2023, through June 18, 2024
Replacing: Anne Jani (Sabbatical Leave for Professional Development)

Hanna Crowley - LTS Elementary Teacher
Worrall Elementary School
Salary: \$56,600.00 (MA; Step-1: prorated)
Effective: January 29, 2024, through May 10, 2024
Replacing: Kathryn Mui (Medical/FMLA)

Leslie Levy – Homebound Instructor
Pupil Services Department
Salary: \$40.00 per hour
Effective: November 13, 2023

Reason: As assigned

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified appointment(s), pending the completion of all necessary pre-employment requirements, item(s) 1 through 13.

- 1) Nancy Akers - Special Education Assistant
Pupil Services Department/Loomis Elementary School
Salary: \$19,570.00 (prorated)
Effective: October 30, 2023
Replacing: Biju Thomas (Resignation)
- 2) Archie Zoegar - Bus Driver in Training
Transportation Department
Salary: \$18.93 per hour
Effective: November 8, 2023
Replacing: Reclassified Transportation Aide position; Board approved 10/24/2023
- 3) Stacey Park - Registered Behavioral Technician
Pupil Services Department/Russell Elementary School
Salary: \$35,000.00 (prorated)
Effective: October 30, 2023
Replacing: Ryan Aiken (Resignation)
- 4) Nicholas Bruni – Classified Substitute
Operations Department
Salary: TBD by Assignment
Effective: November 6, 2023
- 5) Bashir Bazemore - Bus Driver in Training
Transportation Department
Salary: \$18.93 per hour
Effective: November 20, 2023
Replacing: Reclassified Transportation Aide position; Board approved 10/24/2023
- 6) Marlon Weathers - Custodian
Operations Department/Marple Newtown High School
Salary: \$20.16 per hour
Effective: November 12, 2023
Replacing: Robyn Walker (Resignation)
- 7) Delourdes Etienne - Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Salary: \$29.27 per hour
Effective: November 26, 2023
Replacing: Reclassified Transportation Aide position; Board approved 10/24/2023
- 8) Karena Sims - Bus Driver in Training
Transportation Department
Salary: \$29.27 per hour
Effective: November 16, 2023
Replacing: Lynne Hayes (Resignation)

- 9) Katerina Kotopoulos - School Assistant
Russell Elementary School
Salary: \$13,246.00 (prorated)
Effective: November 27, 2023
Replacing: Emarie Smith (Resignation)
- 10) Latania Outen - Special Education Assistant
Pupil Services Department/Culbertson Elementary School
Salary: \$19,570.00 (prorated)
Effective: November 13, 2023
Replacing: Elizabeth Pro (Reassigned)
- 11) John Chaney – Classified Substitute
Operations Department
Salary: TBD by Assignment
Effective: November 29, 2023
- 12) William Clifford - Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Salary: \$29.27 per hour
Effective: January 2, 2024
Replacing: Michael Zolochik (Reassigned to Van Driver)
- 13) Kathleen Krall - Transportation Aide
Transportation Department
Salary: \$18.93 per hour
Effective: November 27, 2023
Replacing: Jeffery Seggern (Resignation)

13.10 Transfers

CLASSIFIED TRANSFERS

Motion to approve the classified transfers, effective for the 2023-2024 school year, item(s) 1:

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
1. Deborah Fitzsimmons	Loomis	Special Educ. Asst.	Russell	Special Educ. Asst.

13.11 Annual Evaluation

ADMINISTRATIVE

Motion to approve the Superintendent's annual performance evaluation for the 2022-2023 school year. The Marple Newtown School District Board of School Directors determined that Dr. Tina Kane satisfied the mutually agreed performance standards. In accordance with PA School Code, the Marple Newtown School District is required to conduct an annual evaluation of the superintendent based on a set of objective performance standards.

13.12 Administrative Salary Adjustments

ADMINISTRATIVE

Motion to approve the 2023-2024 Marple Newtown Administrative salary changes

effective July 1, 2023, as presented.

13.13 Supplementary Contracts

Motion to approve the appointment of personnel to activity contracts for the 2023-2024 school year as attached. The amount of each contract is in accordance with the MNEA negotiated agreement. In the event of any COVID-19 related school closure or cessation of the activities which are the subject of each contract, these activities contracts are subject to suspension or cancellation, with payments due thereunder prorated for services provided.

Motions were made by Mr. Bilker, seconded by Mr. Maalouf

With no further discussion motions passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

14 BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

14.01 Committee Report – Tracy A. Alberti, Chairperson

Mrs. Alberti asked for the following motions to be approved 14.02 through 14.05

14.02 Bills for Payment

Motion to approve and authorize payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$2,839,099.44 Capital Reserve Fund bills in the amount of \$652,961.51, Capital Fund bills in the amount of \$2,300.00, and Food Service bills in the amount of \$182,268.06

Motion to authorize the Business Administrator to release checks for payment during the month of December, as needed.

14.03 Monthly Reports

Motion to approve the monthly financial reports for September 2023, Treasurer's Report for October 2023, Investment Schedule for October 2023, and Budget Transfers.

Informational item monthly financial report for October 2023.

14.04 Request for Abatement of Penalty

Motion to request to abate and refund the penalty on Folio 25-00-02363-00 in the amount of \$186.25.

14.05 Budgetary Reserve – Transfer

Motion to approve a transfer from Budgetary Reserve in the amount of \$423,450.43 for the purchase of six vans, furniture for the new wing at Culbertson Elementary, and Paxon hollow Middle School water mediation costs.

Motions were made by Mr. Bilker, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

With no further discussion, motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

14.06 Preliminary Budget 2024-2025

Mrs. Alberti asked for a motion to adopt the resolution, pursuant to Section 311 of Act 1, limiting

the increase in the rate of tax for the 2024-2025 fiscal year to no more than the index of 5.3%, as established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education for the School District.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

15 FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

15.01 Committee Report – Nicholas J. Reynolds, Sr., Chairperson

Mr. Bilker asked for the following motions be approved under 15.02

15.02 Boiler and Chiller Replacement – Russell Elementary School

Motion to approve Bonnett and Associates engineering and architectural service contract for the Russell Boiler and Chiller Replacement in the amount of \$142,500.00.

Motion to solicit bids for the Russell Boiler and Chiller Replacement.

Motions were made by Mrs. Tomasco, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

Mr. Bilker asked for the following motions be approved, 15.03 through

15.03 Transportation Vehicle Purchase

Motion to authorize the administration and to approve the purchase of the following vehicles in the total amount of \$123,646.74 (average price per vehicle is \$41,215.58) from Abeloff GMC and to approve the necessary transfer from budgetary reserve. Prices are in accordance with Co-Stars Contract No. 025-E23- 601. (This motion replaces all prior motions for van purchases which were not fulfilled by the manufacturer.)

Quantity (3) = 2024 Kia Carnival 4D Wagon EX

15.04 Authorizing Future Transportation Vehicle Purchases

Motion to authorize the administration and to approve the future purchase of the following vehicles in the total amount not to exceed of \$125,000.00 from Abeloff GMC and to approve the necessary transfer from budgetary reserve. Prices are in accordance with Co-Stars Contract No. 025-E23-601. (This motion replaces all prior motions for van purchases which were not fulfilled by the manufacturer.)

Quantity (3) = 2024 Kia Carnival 4D Wagon EX

15.05 BusPatrol America LLC Agreement

Motion to approve the five (5) year agreement between Marple Newtown School District and BusPatrol America, LLC, regarding the bus stop arm safety program at no cost to the district, effective February 1, 2024 through January 30, 2029, subject to the review and approval of the District Solicitor. During the duration of the contract, the cost of the program is generated via the violators-funded business model as defined in the contract.

15.06 Intergovernmental Agreement with Local Law Enforcement Agencies

Motion to approve the five (5) year Intergovernmental Agreement between Marple Newtown School District, Marple Township Police Department, Newtown Township Police Department and BusPatrol America, LCC, regarding the bus stop arm safety program at no cost to the district, effective February 1, 2024 through January 30, 2029, subject to the review and approval of the District Solicitor and each Townships legal counsel. During the duration of the contract, the cost of the program is generated via the violators-funded business model as defined in the Bus Patrol contract.

Motions were made by Mrs. Harvey, seconded by Mr. McKenzie

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

16 DELAWARE COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT REPORT

There was none.

17 LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Mr. Maalouf gave the following report:

As three members of this board have been re-elected last month, it may be appropriate to remind you that both Act 53 and Act 18 of the PA School Code mandate three hours of advanced training within one year of being re-elected. The Pennsylvania School Board Association is the statewide designated facilitator of these trainings, available in both in person and online learning formats. Visit www.psba.org for additional information. I'll also add that the in-person session are going to be offered across the Commonwealth with our neighbors to the north, the Tredyffrin Easttown School District playing host to a training session on January 13, 2024.

18 BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

There was none.

19 COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There was none.

20 COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Maalouf gave the following statement:

I would like to offer my own thanks to Mrs. Tomasco for her service to the Board. When I first considered serving on this Board, Mrs. Tomasco was the first person I called and was very welcoming when I became a member. What I like about Mrs. Tomasco and what I'll miss is her spirited participation on this Board. I've noticed that several members of the Board adopt a stoic and non-responsive approach to public comments. As one member of this Board once told me, "It's called public comment, not public comment and Board response", but as a Board member, I think there are times when we do need to increase our responsiveness, even when its something as simple as telling a student upon the completion of a report, "thank you, we're proud of you". That's what I like the most about Mrs. Tomasco, the alertness, the activeness, and the responsiveness that told the community, hey, she's here and she's listening and after she leaves I hope we all emulate that.

21 ADJOURNMENT

With no further business for the Board, Mr. Bilker adjourned the meeting at 6:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Joseph Driscoll
Board Secretary

