

**Magnolia School District  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
March 15, 2023  
7:00 P.M.**

Mr. Nick D'Amico opened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m., leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

<b>Roll Call</b>	Mrs. Rebecca Ammen Present Mr. Nick D'Amico Present Mr. Mark Godfrey Present Mrs. Rebeca Lang Staffieri Present Mrs. Karen Sorbello Absent Mrs. Alyssa Vazquez-Colon Present Mr. Dale Martin Absent
<b>Other Attendees</b>	Mrs. Karen Macpherson, Superintendent Mr. Greg Gontowski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary Mr. Bill Morlok, Solicitor
<b>Mission Statement</b>	Mission Statement was read by Nick D'Aminco.
<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Minutes of the Regular Board of Education meeting held on February 21, 2023</li></ul> <p><b>Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, Seconded by Rebecca Lang Staffieri</b></p> <p><b>Vote: To approve Minutes</b> <b>Voice Vote. All in favor</b></p>
<b>Audience Participation I</b>	<b>Motion Approved</b>
<b>Board of Education Business</b>	None
<b>Unfinished Business</b>	<b><u>BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS</u></b> None
<b>New Business</b>	None
<b>State and Local School Board Association</b>	None

**Superintendent's Report**

**Superintendent's Report**

**Information Items:**

**A. Curriculum/Programs**

1. Teachers are piloting two programs. Decision will be made soon

**B. Interdistrict**

1. Discuss meeting from 2/22.

**C. Public Relations/Liaison- None**

**D. Student/Parental Issue and Concerns - None**

**E. Buildings and Grounds**

1. A fire drill was conducted on February 8, 2023
2. A lockdown was February 22, 2023

**F \*Negotiations/Contractual (Executive Session) None**

**G. Misc- - None**

**H. HIB**

No HIB to report at this time

**I Principal's Report –**

1. Mrs. Marly's report (**Attached**)
2. Mr. Sorrentino's report (**Attached**)

**Personnel**

**Motion to Approve Personal Items 1 through 5**

**Susan Ortiz –  
School Social  
Worker 4/3/23**

1. Susan Ortiz as school social worker to begin Monday, April 3, 2023 with a starting salary of a MA step 9 of \$83,323.

**Jennifer Pontarelli  
Maternity Leave  
5/27/23 and Invoke  
the Family Leave  
Act**

2. Jennifer Pontarelli to take maternity leave effective May 27, 2023 and invoke the family leave act.

**Jennifer Pontarelli –  
Leave of Absence  
2023-2024 – Return  
7/24**

3. Jennifer Pontarelli to take a leave of absence for the 2023-2024 school year with a return date of July 1, 2024.

**Emily Green  
Hamilton – Graduate  
Level Coursework  
online**

4. Emily Green-Hamilton to take five graduate level coursework online at speechpathology.com and the University of the Pacific to continue her education in Speech Language Pathology ( to be paid as per contract).

**Gail Walters – Take  
Fall 2023 and Spring  
2021 Coursework**

5. Gail Walters to take a fall 2023 and spring 2024 coursework at Rutgers University in pursuit of her Masters in Cognition Learning and Development ( to be paid as per contract)

**Motioned by Rebecca Lang Staffieri, Seconded by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon**

**Vote: To approve Personnel Items 1 through 5**

**Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mrs. Lang Staffieri , Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon and Mr. D’Amico (5-0-0)**

**Motion Approved**

**Submission to State  
23-24 Early  
Childhood Preschool  
Plan Aid**

**Motion to Approve Plans Item 1**

1. The submission to the state the 2023-2024 Early Childhood Preschool Plan Aid (ECPA)

**Motioned by Rebecca Lang Staffieri, Seconded by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon**

**Vote: To approve Plans Item 1**

**Voice Vote. All in favor**

**Motion Approved**

**Motion to Approve Curriculum Item 1**

**Curriculum**

**Updated Addendum  
to Existing Social  
Studies Curriculum**

1. An updated addendum to our existing social studies curriculum to meet Governor Murphy’s AAPI mandate to include all grade levels

**Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, Seconded by Rebecca Lang Staffieri**

**Vote: To approve Curriculum Item 1**

**Voice Vote. All in favor**

**Motion Approved**

**Steve Taylor and  
Haley Attanasi –  
Attend 3 Day  
Virtual Workshop  
3/21/23-3/23/23**

**Motion to Approve Workshop Item 1**

1. Steve Taylor and Haley Attanasi to attend a 3 day virtual workshop at Magnolia School for Wilson Reading System Introductory Course on March 21st through March 23rd at a rate of \$679.00 each (to be taken out of Title II)

**Motioned by Rebecca Lang Staffieri, Seconded by Mark Godfrey**

**Vote: To approve Workshop Item 1**

**Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon and Mr. D'Amico (5-0-0)**

**Motion Approved**

**Revision to Policy  
#5111**

**Motion to Approve Policies Item 1**

1. Revision to policy #5111 to include #5 Attendance by Privilege (**Attached**)

**Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, Seconded by Mark Godfrey**

**Vote: To approve Policies Item 1**

**Voice Vote. All in favor**

**Motion Approved**

**Board Secretary  
Report**

**BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

**Informational Items:**

Financial Disclosure Reminder!!! – Due April 30th

**Board Actions**

**Board Actions:**

**Bill List**

**Motion to Approve Item A**

**A . Warrants**

The attached bill lists:

- March 2023 warrants (**Attachment A1**)

**Motioned by Mark Godfrey, Seconded by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon**

**Vote: To approve Warrants Item A**

**Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon and \*\*Mr. D'Amico (4-0-1)\*\* Nic D'Amico Abstained**

**Motion Approved**

**2023-2024 Budget  
and Resolution**

**Motion to Approve Items B through D**

**B 2023-2024 Budget and Resolution**

It is recommended that the Magnolia Board of Education approve 2023-2024 School Year Budget, and Resolution, for submission to the Executive County Office of Education.

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Magnolia Board of Education has developed its 2023-2024 School Budget,

WHEREAS, NJAC 6:19-2.7 (a) requires Magnolia Board of Education to adopt and submit a formal Board resolution.

BE IT RESOLVED to approve the 2023-2024 school budget as presented by the administration which includes the following:

	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Local Tax Levy</b>
General Fund	\$10,535,483.00	\$4,660,380.00
Special Revenue Fund	\$278,740.00	-
Debt Service Fund	\$257,825.00	\$204,374.00
Total Base Budget	\$11,072,048.00	\$4,864,754.00

Included in budget line 620, Budgeted Withdrawal from Capital Reserve – for Excess Cost & Other Capital Projects, is \$500,000.00 for other capital project costs of building renovations and repairs including but not limited to, exterior renovations (concrete, brick, etc.), and interior renovations (floors, bathrooms, etc.). The total costs of this project is \$500,000.00 which represent expenditures for construction elements or projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the core curriculum content standards.

**Maximum Travel  
Budget**

**C Maximum Travel Budget** – It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Magnolia Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$200 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq., but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b), to a maximum expenditure of \$25,000.00 for all staff and board members.

The maximum travel expenses for all staff for the 2022-2023 school year is limited to \$25,000.00 and the amount spent year to date is \$833.64.

**Preschool  
Education Aid**

**D Preschool Education Aid**

To approve submission of the 2023-2024 Preschool Education Aid application and acceptance of the award in the amount of \$54,420.00.

**Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, Seconded by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon**

**Vote: To approve Items B through D**

**Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon and Mr. D'Amico (5-0-0)**

**Motion Approved**

**Open Audience Participation II – None**

**Executive Session – None**

**Adjournment**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:32 pm by Mark Godfrey Seconded by Rebecca Lang-Staffieri**

**Vote: To Adjourn meeting  
Voice Vote. All in favor**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Greg Gontowski  
Board Secretary**

