

MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 23, 2024
Marple Newtown School District Board Room
Minutes

Board: Mrs. Dana Altobelli,, Mr. Matthew Bilker, President, Mr. David Dezzi, Mrs. Barbara Harvey, Mr. Anthony Maalouf, Mr. John McKenzie, Mrs. Lisa Pacell, Mr. Nicholas Reynolds, Mr. Nicholas Siano, Vice President,

Solicitor: Mr. Mark Sereni, Esquire (by phone)

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 a brief Executive Session to discuss some legal matters.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Bilker led the Pledge of Allegiance

3. PRESENT

Mr. Bilker, Mr. Dezzi, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Maalouf, Mr. McKenzie, Mrs. Pacell, Mr. Reynolds, (by phone), Mr. Siano

8 members present.

Absent: Mrs. Altobelli

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

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

Mr. Maalouf asked that motion 15.08 be tabled at this time.

Mr. Bilker asked for a motion to approve the agenda as amended.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Altobelli

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Agenda Items Only)

There was none.

5. WE ARE PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

Dr. Kane gave the following report:

This month, Russell Elementary School's 5th graders teamed up with Kids Against Hunger for their annual grade level service project. The project is funded by Russell families with their contributions during a Penny War fundraiser. This year the students raised \$2,300 during the Penny Wars!

Last year, students and teachers worked together to pack 6,800 meals for local families in need. This year their goal was 7,000 meals. Congratulations to the students for exceeding their goal of packed over 7,600 meals!

6. COMMENDATIONS

Dr. Kane gave the following report:

In recognition of School Board Recognition Month designated by The Pennsylvania School Boards Association, we want to express our appreciation for the School Board Directors of Marple Newtown. Our Board Directors generously give their time to govern our schools. They make important decisions on budgeting, finance, policy, and personnel matters. Many are also graduates and parents in the district. Board service is unpaid and our Directors spend countless hours devoted to our schools and community. On behalf of the district, thank you to the Marple Newtown Board of School Directors for your commitment and service!

7. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

Student Representatives gave the following report:

- Held Prospective Student Tours on January 4th
- Keystones on January 9th and 10th
- Annual Junior Ring Ceremony January 11th at the MNHS Auditorium
- In service Half Day today, January 22nd
- MNHS Winter Concert is this Wednesday, January 24th
- MN District Choral Night will be on Wednesday, January 31st
- The Second Marking Period has been extended to Wednesday, January 24th, meaning the second semester of classes will begin Thursday, January 25th
 - Final Exams will take place this week.
- The Junior and Senior Prom will be held at the Drexelbrook on Friday, 5-10-24
- Mini-Thon registration was extended to tomorrow, Wednesday, January 24th. There are currently almost 250 students registered.
- The student representatives wanted to thank the Board for their support in the community and for the students.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Kane gave the following report:

Kindergarten registration for the 2024-2025 school year opens on February 1, 2024. The registration process begins online by accessing our student registration tab on the district website. We look forward to meeting our newest little Tigers, who will be the class of 2037!

Culbertson is preparing to Read for the Ronald McDonald House during the month of February. Over the past 8 years, Culbertson has raised close to \$30,000.

Earlier this month, Loomis students showed their appreciation for Marple Township law enforcement by wearing blue. Many students also made cards for the officers to thank them for keeping our schools and community safe.

Worrall's Holiday Toy Drive was a great success with collecting almost 200 toys for local children in need.

Paxon Hollow Middle School has already begun the 6th grade transition process for the current 5th grade students by visiting the elementary schools and sharing information as well as answering questions. The transition process includes several events including a visit to the middle school to tour the building and an orientation.

Congratulations to the MNHS Future Business Leaders of America who competed last week at the Regional Leadership Conference. Within their categories (7 students placed 1st, 2 students placed 2nd, and 4 students placed 3rd).

9. SECRETARY'S MINUTES MOTION: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting.

Mr. Bilker asked that a motion approve the minutes from the November 28, 2023 and the Reorganization meeting on December 4, 2023 meetings.

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0
Absent: Mrs. Altobelli

10. OTHER REPORTS

Mr. Bilker asked for a motion to approve the Adjudication of Student No. 882455.

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

Board Member	Read Transcript/Attended	Vote
Mr. Bilker	Read	Yes
Mr. Dezzi	Read	Yes
Mrs. Harvey	Read	Yes
Mr. Maalouf	Read	Yes
Mr. McKenzie	Did not read/attended	Abstain
Mrs. Pacell	Read	Yes
Mr. Reynolds	Did not read/attended	Abstain
Mr. Siano	Read	Yes

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0 – 2
Abstention: Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Reynolds
Absent: Mrs. Altobelli

Mr. Bilker asked for a motion to approve the Adjudication of Student No. 885958.

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

Board Member	Read Transcript/Attended	Vote
Mr. Bilker	Read	Yes
Mr. Dezzi	Read	Yes
Mrs. Harvey	Read	Yes
Mr. Maalouf	Read	Yes
Mr. McKenzie	Did not read/attended	Abstain
Mrs. Pacell	Read	Yes
Mr. Reynolds	Did not read/attended	Abstain
Mr. Siano	Read	Yes

Motion passed 6 – 0 – 2

Abstention: Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Reynolds

Absent: Mrs. Altobelli

Mr. Bilker asked that the following motions be approved.

Motion to approve the Settlement Agreement and Release for student 804655 to attend Private School for the 2023-2024 school year. This is not a new agreement.

Motion to approve the One-to-One Service Agreement Addendum "D2" for student 881873 attending Approved Private School for the 2023-2024 school year. This is a new Agreement.

Motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the District and Widener University for the District to provide Multi-Tiered System of Supports to students with articulation needs. This is a new agreement.

Motion to approve the Master Services Agreement for students 803838, 804035, 804444, 803897, 600018, 881384 attending Approved Private School for the 2023-2024 school year. This is not a new agreement.

Motion to approve the Confidential Settlement Agreement and Release between the District and the Parents of student 884404. This is a new Agreement.

Motion to approve the Supplemental Staffing Provider Agreement between the District and Aya Healthcare, a staffing agency used to fill various positions such as Personal Care Assistants, Psychologists, Speech Therapists and Nurses for students. This is a new Agreement.

Motion to approve the Staffing agreement between the District and Abington Speech Pathology Services, Inc., a staffing agency used to fill various positions such as Speech Therapist, Occupational and Physical Therapists for students. This is a new Agreement.

Motion to approve the Agreement with Pediatric Services of America, LLC (Aveanna Healthcare), a staffing agency used to fill various positions such as nurses or Personal Care Assistants for students placed out of District. This is not a new Agreement.

Motion to approve the Agreement with Epic Health Services, (PA) LLC, (Aveanna Healthcare), a staffing agency used to fill various positions such as nurses or Personal Care Assistants for students placed out of District. This is not a new Agreement.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Altobelli

11. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

12.01 Committee Report – Nicholas V. Siano, Chairperson

12.02 Affiliation Agreements

Mr. Siano asked for a motion to approve the Affiliation Agreement with Widener University for field experience and student teaching, as presented. This Agreement has been reviewed by district counsel.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Altobelli

12.03 Administrative Trips

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

Motion to approve, Sheila Amodei, Teaching and Learning Supervisor, to attend the Pennsylvania Educational Technology Expo & Conference at The Hotel Hershey on February 5, 2024, through February 7, 2024. The cost to the district is \$455.69.

Motion to approve, Michelle Lydon, Supervisor of Special Education, to attend the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Annual Conference at The Hotel Hershey on February 28, 2024, through March 1, 2024. The cost to the district is \$542.49.

Motion to approve, Rachel Basescu, Teacher, to attend the American Choral Directors Association Eastern Conference in Providence, RI on February 28, 2024, through March 2, 2024. The cost to the district is \$322.50.

Motion to approve, Dr. Joel DiBartolomeo, Assistant Superintendent, to attend the PASA Leadership Forum in Hershey, PA on March 13, 2024, through March 15, 2024. The cost to the district is \$729.84.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 7 – 1

No: Mr. Maalouf

Absent: Mrs. Altobelli

12.04 Student Trips

Mr. Siano asked that the following motions be approved.

Motion to approve, Jonathan Ruths, Teacher, to accompany the Russell Elementary Cub Choir to Christmas carol at Lu and Aug's in Ardmore, PA on December 19, 2023. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Arty Erle, Coach, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Wrestling team to go to the Bohemia Manor High School Wrestling Tournament in Chesapeake City, MD on January 5, 2024, through January 6, 2024. The cost of transportation is being paid by wrestling boosters and fundraising. The cost of the activity is approximately \$375.00 and paid by the Athletic Department. The cost to the district is approximately \$375.00.

Motion to approve, Linda Johnson, Advisor, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Debate Team to go to Sun Valley High School in Aston, PA on January 18, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$164.72. The cost to the district is approximately \$164.72.

Motion to approve, Michael Karpyn, Advisor, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Mock Trial Team to go to the Annual Mock Trial Benjamin Franklin Invitational at University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA on January 20, 2024, through January 21, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$758.67. The cost of the activity is approximately \$350.00. The cost to the district is approximately \$1108.67.

Motion to approve, Michael Snow, Advisor, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Ski and Outdoor Club to go to Bear Creek Mountain Resort in Macungie, PA on February 7, 2024. The total cost of transportation is approximately \$10.00 per student and paid by the student. The cost of the activity is approximately \$30.00 per student and paid by the student. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Michael Winterbottom, Advisor, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Best Buddies and Bocce Club to go to the Special Olympics Polar Plunge at Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia, PA on February 9, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$228.49 and paid by the Athletic Department. The cost to the district is approximately \$228.49.

Motion to approve, Jordan Marmelstein, Advisor, to accompany the Paxon Hollow Middle School Band to participate in three band rehearsals for the county-wide honors band concert at E.T. Richardson Middle School in Springfield, PA for the following dates of February 14, 2024, February 20, 2024, and February 22, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$493.05 and paid by the district. The cost of the activity is approximately \$22.00 per student and paid by the student. The cost to the district is approximately \$493.05.

Motion to approve, Michael Snow, Advisor, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Ski and Outdoor Club to go to White Face Mountain in Lake Placid, NY on February 23, 2024, through February 25, 2024. The cost of transportation and the cost of the activity is approximately \$575.00 per student and is paid by the student. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Toby MacCart, Coach, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Baseball team to go to Baseball Spring Training in Orlando, FL on March 13, 2024, through March 17, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$525.00 per student and paid by the student. The cost of the activity is approximately \$1,275.00 per student and is paid by the student. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Amy Gallagher and Galen Mooney, Teachers, to accompany the Marple

Newtown High School AP Literature and Composition students to go to the Broadway show, "An Enemy of the People", in New York, NY on April 10, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$60.00 per student and paid by the student. The cost of the activity is approximately \$100.00 per student and is paid by the student. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Tracy Jacobson, Michael Winterbottom, and Steven Smilk, Advisors, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School L.I.N.K. students to go to South Mountain YMCA in Reinholds, PA on April 13, 2024, through April 15, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$25.00 per student and paid by the student. The cost of the activity is approximately \$150.00 per student and is paid by the student. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Daniel Peters, Jonathan Ruths, Joseph Borell, and Morganne Piestrak, Teachers, to accompany the 4th and 5th grade students from all four elementary schools to go to Dorney Park for the High Notes Festival Performance in Allentown, PA on May 31, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$52.00 per student and paid by the student. The cost of the activity is approximately \$65.00 per student and is paid by the student and fundraising. There is no cost to the district.

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

With no further discussion motions passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Altobelli

12.05 Disposals

Mr. Siano asked that the following motions be approved.

Motion to approve the disposal of books from Culbertson Elementary Library, as presented.

Motion to approve the disposal of books from Loomis Elementary Library, as presented.

Motion to approve the disposal of books from Worrall Elementary Library, as presented.

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

With no further discussion motions passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Altobelli

12.06 Academic Calendar

Mr. Siano asked for a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Marple Newtown School District Academic Calendar, as presented by Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Joel DiBartolomeo.

There was a brief discussion regarding two full days being made half days just at the high school and middle school. The was for parent conferences.

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

With no further discussion motions passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Altobelli

12.07 Policy

Mr. Siano asked that the following motions be approved.

Motion to approve the first reading of Board Policy 006, Local Board Procedures, as recommended by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, as presented.

Motion to approve the first reading of Board Policy 210, Medications, as recommended by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, as presented.

Motion to approve the first reading of Board Policy 815 Vol IV 2023, Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers, and Network Resources, as recommended by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, as presented.

Motion to approve the first reading of Board Policy 819 Vol IV 2023, Suicide Awareness, Prevention and Response, as recommended by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, as presented.

Motion to approve the second reading of Board Policy 251, Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care, and Other Educational Instability, as recommended by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, as presented.

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

Mr. Bilker asked for a recap of the changes.

Dr. DiBartolomeo gave a brief explanation of each of the policy changes. He noted that these are policy changes from the Pennsylvania School Board Association. These updates, some are mandated, some are recommendations.

Policy 006 ~ is relating to voting under the Sunshine laws and aligns our committee meeting and our board meeting.

Policy 210 ~ what is a medical provider who can administer medication to students, it outlines procedures for the district to allow a provider for the district or a student to self-medicate.

Policy 815 ~ what is the definition of a computer, what is appropriate matter, brings us up to date with our e-rate requirement and terminology. Brings a lot into more layman terms.

Policy 819 ~ outlines our safety and threat procedures, how we would put the policy into effect to support the students and student's families. Using existing resources to put into place by our school safety teams and school threat assessment teams and where we can go for additional resources.

Policy 251 ~ this is the second reading and once approved tonight will be policy and will be posted to the website tomorrow.

Mr. Bilke's concern is with the technology of AI coming into play, being a major concern and if we should contact someone at PSBA and see if they are considering to adapting a policy that would protect both districts and more importantly students.

Mr. Maalouf questioned Board policy 006, under other reports and action items, is that where the Legislative report and DCIU report would go. I don't see them listed under other business. I just want to make sure that the intention of the Board is clear.

Response ~ it could or could go under comments from the Board or as you are saying it is other reports and action items. It is worth ironing out over the next month. We can contact PSBA as well.

With no further discussion motions passed 7 – 1

No: Mr. Maalouf

Absent: Mrs. Altobelli

12.08 Technology

Motion to approve the purchase of one (1) multifunction printer and 12 printers to our existing Print Fleet Management contract with Fraser Advanced Information Systems in the amount of \$12,086.75 per year (equipment and supply costs are included), as presented.

12. HUMAN RESOURCES AND POLICY COMMITTEE

13.01 Committee Report – John P. McKenzie, Chairperson

Mr. McKenzie asked for the following motions 13.02 through 13.14 to be approved.

13.02 Position Reinstatement

ADMINISTRATIVE

Motion to approve the reinstatement of the following MNAA administrative position, effective February 1, 2024: One (1) Director of Pupil Services (Pupil Services Department)

13.03 Retirement(s)

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified retirement(s) item(s) 1 through 3.

- 1) Michael Elia - Van Driver II
Transportation Department
Effective: December 6, 2023
Reason: Retirement
- 2) Michael Shemeld - Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: January 5, 2024
Reason: Retirement
- 3) Selena Poiesz - Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: January 22, 2024
Reason: Retirement

13.04 Resignation(s)

CONFIDENTIAL EMPLOYEES - ACT 93

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

- 1) Mark Graham - Security/Safety Personnel
Marple Newtown High School
Effective: December 22, 2023
Reason: Resignation

PROFESSIONAL

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

- 1) Theresa DeGregory - Substitute Nurse
Pupil Services Department
Effective: December 11, 2023
Reason: Resignation
- 2) Shaun Rabbit - Social Studies Teacher
Paxon Hollow Middle School
Effective: January 26, 2024
Reason: Resignation
- 3) Michael Gaffney - Art Teacher
Marple Newtown High School
Effective: February 12, 2024
Reason: Resignation

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified resignation(s) item(s) 1 through 7.

- 1) AnnaMarie McCann - Special Education Assistant
Pupil Services Department/Russell Elementary School
Effective: December 8, 2023
Reason: Resignation
- 2) Brianne Fanelli - Food Service Worker II
Food Services Department/Paxon Hollow Middle School
Effective: December 8, 2023
Reason: Resignation
- 3) Maria Siegert - School Assistant
Culbertson Elementary School
Effective: December 22, 2023
Reason: Resignation
- 4) Britnee Walker - Special Education Assistant
Pupil Services Department/Culbertson Elementary School
Effective: January 12, 2024
Reason: Resignation

- 5) Dana McGee - School Assistant
Worrall Elementary School
Effective: January 12, 2024
Reason: Resignation
- 6) Donna Sweeney - Special Education Assistant
Pupil Services Department/Culbertson Elementary School
Effective: January 19, 2024
Reason: Resignation
- 7) William Clifford - Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: January 11, 2024
Reason: Resignation

13.05 Leave(s)

PROFESSIONAL

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

- 1) Rachel Henriques - Elementary Teacher
Loomis Elementary School
Effective: April 1, 2024, through January 2, 2025
Reason: Medical: April 1, 2024, through April 19, 2024
FMLA: April 1, 2024, through August 30, 2024
Child Rearing Leave: September 3, 2024, through January 2, 2025
- 2) Brenna King - Elementary Teacher
Loomis Elementary School
Effective: May 20, 2024, through October 20, 2024
Reason: Medical: May 20, 2024, through June 18, 2024
FMLA: August 26, 2024, through October 20, 2024
- 3) Brittany Horton - Elementary Teacher
Worrall Elementary School
Effective: January 12, 2024, through June 18, 2024
Reason: CRL
- 4) Amy Hornberger - French Teacher
Paxon Hollow Middle School
Effective: January 24, 2024, through June 18, 2024
Reason: CRL
- 5) Kathleen Walker - Elementary Teacher
Worrall Elementary School
Effective: February 5, 2024, through May 2, 2024
Reason: Medical/FMLA
- 6) Jessica Civitello - Elementary Teacher
Russell Elementary School

Effective: August 26, 2024, through June 19, 2025
Reason: Sabbatical Leave for Professional Development

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified leave(s) item(s) 1 through 5.

- 1) Debra Collings - Van Driver I
Transportation Department
Effective: October 19, 2023, through January 19, 2024
Reason: Uncompensated Leave: October 19, 2023, through January 19, 2024
- 2) Robert Naimoli - Transportation Aide
Transportation Department
Effective: December 4, 2023, through January 8, 2024
Reason: Uncompensated Leave: December 4, 2023, through January 8, 2024
- 3) Selena Poiesz - Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: January 8, 2024, through January 19, 2024
Reason: Uncompensated Leave: January 8, 2024, through January 19, 2024
- 4) Fajr Minnis - Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: November 14, 2023, through February 1, 2024
Reason: Uncompensated Leave: November 14, through February 1, 2024
- 5) Vittoria Jaggars - Special Education Assistant
Pupil Services Department/Culbertson Elementary School
Effective: January 16, 2024, through April 16, 2024
Reason: Uncompensated Leave: January 16, 2024, through April 16, 2024

13.06 Return from Leave

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified return from leave(s) item(s) 1 through 4.

- 1) Patricia Tomczak - Special Education Assistant
Pupil Services Department/Marple Newtown High School
Return date: January 2, 2023
Returning from: FMLA/Medical
- 2) Lilyan DeVito - Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Return Date: December 8, 2023

Returning from: Uncompensated leave

- 3) Robert Naimoli - Transportation Aide
Transportation Department
Return Date: January 9, 2024
Returning from: Uncompensated leave
- 4) Danielle Pearson - Pupil Services Clerk
Pupil Services Department
Return date: January 4, 2024
Returning from: FMLA

13.07 Appointments

ADMINISTRATIVE

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

- 1) Kerri McGinley - Director of Pupil Services
Pupil Services Department
Salary: \$191,000.00 (prorated)
Effective: March 1, 2024
Replacing: Gina Ross (Resignation)

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the following professional appointment(s), pending the completion of all necessary pre-employment requirements, item(s) 1 through 7.

- 1) Kristine Maguire - LTS Special Education Teacher
Culbertson Elementary School
Salary: \$53,000.00 (BA+24; Step-1: prorated)
Effective: December 18, 2023, through February 28, 2024
Replacing: Maria Bradley (Medical)
- 2) Sophia Grigorakakis - LTS Elementary Teacher
Culbertson Elementary School
Salary: \$52,000.00 (BA; Step-1: prorated)
Effective: February 16, 2024, through June 13, 2024
Replacing: Marykate Grande (Medical/FMLA)
- 3) Hanna Crowley - LTS Elementary Teacher
Worrall Elementary School
Salary: \$56,600.00 (MA; Step-1: prorated)
Effective: January 29, 2024, through June 13, 2024
Replacing: Kathryn Mui (Medical/FMLA)
- 4) Sydney Torresson - LTS Elementary Teacher

Worrall Elementary School
 Salary: \$52,000.00 (BA; Step-1; prorated)
 Effective: January 29, 2024, through June 18, 2024
 Replacing: Brittany Horton (CRL)

- 5) Allison Rollo - LTS French Teacher
 Paxton Hollow Middle School
 Salary: \$52,000.00 (BA; Step-1; prorated)
 Effective: January 29, 2024, through June 18, 2024
 Replacing: Amy Hornberger (CRL)
- 6) Karin McCurdy-Melfi - LTS English as Second Language Teacher
 Loomis & Worrall Elementary Schools
 Salary: \$61,800.00 (MA+40; Step-1; prorated)
 Effective: February 20, 2024, through June 18, 2024
 Replacing: Jenny Kim (CRL)
- 7) Rebekah Myers - Art Teacher
 Marple Newtown High School
 Salary: \$52,000.00 (BA; Step-1; prorated)
 Effective: February 12, 2024
 Replacing: Michael Gaffney (Resignation)

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified appointment(s), pending the completion of all necessary pre-employment requirements, item(s) 1 through 7.

- 1) Dana DeRentz - School Assistant
 Russell Elementary School
 Salary: \$13,246.00 (prorated)
 Effective: December 4, 2023
 Replacing: Christine Tallon (Reassigned to Title I Assistant)
- 2) Maria Siegert - Classified Substitute
 Pupil Services Department/District-wide
 Salary: TBD by Assignment
 Effective: January 2, 2024
- 3) Ronald Berman - Van Driver II
 Transportation Department
 Salary: \$27.32 per hour
 Effective: December 10, 2023
 Replacing: Michael Elia (Retirement)
- 4) George Tagkalidis - Bus Driver in Training
 Transportation Department
 Salary: \$18.93 per hour
 Effective: January 4, 2024
 Replacing: Ronald Burman (Reassigned to Van Driver position)

- 5) Ara Jaderjian - Bus Driver in Training
Transportation Department
Salary: \$18.93 per hour
Effective: January 24, 2024
Replacing: Michael Shemeld (Retirement)
- 6) Sophia Pfeffer - Special Education Assistant
Pupil Services Department/Culbertson Elementary School
Salary: \$19,570.00
Effective: January 18, 2024
Replacing: Britnee Walker (Resignation)
- 7) Nanette DeFedericis - Classified Substitute
Food Services Department/District-wide
Salary: TBD by Assignment
Effective: January 24, 2024

13.08 Elementary Tutoring Program 2023-2024

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the appointment, pending the completion of all necessary pre-employment requirements, of the following professional personnel for the 2023-2024 Elementary Tutoring Program as presented. The staff will be used on an as-needed basis as determined by student enrollment and program needs.

13.09 Extended School Year (ESY) 2024

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the appointment of the following professional personnel for the 2024 ESY Program. The following staff will be used on an as-needed basis as determined by student enrollment, Item(s) 1 and 2.

- 1) Danelle Marchese - ESY Co-Coordinator
Culbertson Elementary School
Salary: \$40.00 per hour
Effective: February 1, 2024, through August 5, 2024
Reason: 2024 ESY Program
- 2) Noelle Newton - ESY Co-Coordinator
Culbertson Elementary School
Salary: \$40.00 per hour
Effective: February 1, 2024, through August 5, 2024
Reason: 2024 ESY Program

13.10 Summer Learning Program 2024

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the appointment, pending the completion of all necessary pre-employment requirements, of the following professional personnel for the 2024 Summer Learning Program item(s) 1. (The staff will be used on an as-needed basis as determined by student enrollment and program needs.)

- 1) Kelly Miller - Summer Learning Co-Coordinator
Culbertson Elementary School
Salary: \$40.00 per hour
Effective: February 1, 2024, through August 5, 2024
Reason: 2024 Summer Learning Program

13.11 Tuition Reimbursement

Motion to approve the attached tuition reimbursement, in accordance with Act 93, MNEA, MNAA and MNESPA negotiated agreements.

13.12 School Psychological Summer Hours

Motion to approve summer hours for six (6) school psychologists at a rate of \$40.00 per hour for a maximum of 40 hours per psychologist for the period of June 2024 through August 2024.

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.

13.14 Tenure

Motion to record in the records of the Board the attainment of tenure and the awarding of a Professional Employee Contract to the following temporary professional employees who have been certified by the Superintendent of Schools as having completed three (3) years of satisfactory service in the Marple Newtown School District in accordance with Section 1108 of the School Code, item(s) 1.

- 1) Derek Vannicolo
Paxon Hollow Middle School
Achieved: January 31, 2024

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

Mr. Bilker asked Dr. Kane to explain the reinstatement of the Director of Pupil Service

Dr. Kane explained that the position requires certain certifications and through our applicant pool most of the applicants did not have that so we came to the Board to ask if we could split the position into two titled positions where people with different credentials would be qualified through our application process. We found this applicant who has the credentials and is very qualified to

be the Director of Pupil Services, so we are asking the Board to reinstate for one position versus two.

13. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

14.01 Committee Report – Barbara Harvey, Chairperson

Mrs. Harvey asked that the following motions 14.02 through 14.05 be approved.

14.02 Bills for Payment

Motion to approve and authorize payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$7,883,980.68, Capital Reserve Fund bills in the amount of \$728,322.88, and Food Service bills in the amount of \$233,900.36.

14.03 Monthly Reports

Motion to approve the monthly financial reports for October 2023 and November 2023, Treasurer's Reports for November 2023 and December 2023, Investment Schedules for November 2023 and December 2023 and Budget Transfers.

Informational item monthly financial report for December 2023.

14.04 Request for Abatement of Penalty

Motion to request to abate and refund the penalty on Folio 25-00-00614-04 in the amount of \$583.80.

Motion to request to abate and refund the penalty of Folio 25-00-02843-13 in the amount of \$659.99.

Motion to request to abate and refund the penalty of Folio 25-00-05520-00 in the amount of \$546.70.

Motion to request to abate and refund the penalty of Folio 25-00-04440-01 in the amount of \$468.88.

Motion to request to abate and refund the penalty of Folio 30-00-02798-00 in the amount of \$580.42.

Motion to request to abate and refund the penalty of Folio 25-00-03050-00 in the amount of \$354.24.

14.05 Tax Appeal

Motion to authorize the Solicitor to prosecute the following real estate assessment appeals for the Tax Year 2024 regarding the following properties:

1. 30-00-02840-00 - 0 West Chester Pike, Newtown Township
2. 30-00-02840-10 - 0 West Chester Pike, Newtown Township
3. 30-00-02840-16 - 0 West Chester Pike, Newtown Township
4. 30-00-02840-76 - 3875 West Chester Pike, Newtown Township

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

With no further discussion motions passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Altobelli

14. FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

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

Mr. Bilker asked for the following motions 15.02 through 15.07 to be approved as amended.

15.02 Facility Use

Motion to approve Marple Newtown High School to host track meets with the Delaware County Girls Track for the Delco Relays on Saturday, April 13, 2024, as presented.

15.03 Classroom Addition Project Change Order - Culbertson

Motion to approve Guy M Cooper with the credit change order in the amount of \$1,026.85.

15.04 Lower Turf Fields Project Change Order - Marple Newtown High School

Motion to approve Shaw Sports Turf with the credit change order in the amount of \$16,525.00.

15.05 Water Proofing and Foundation Repair - Marple Newtown High School

Motion to approve Pereira Construction LLC., installing the water proofing and foundation repair along the front of the high school (75 linear feet) along with the French drain and sump pump installation in the crawl space in the amount of \$25,175.00 under Costars Contract # 536618 and paid through capital reserve.

15.06 Auditorium Audio-Visual Replacement - Paxon Hollow Middle School

Motion to approve Delco Solutions LLC., with the audio-visual equipment and installation upgrade in the Paxon Hollow auditorium in the amount of \$36,540.00 under Costars Contract # 033-E22 159 and paid through general fund.

15.07 Installation of Band Lot and Tennis Court Lighting - Marple Newtown High School

Motion to approve Goldhorn Electrical Construction, Inc. with the installation of the band lot and tennis court lighting at Marple Newtown High School in the amount of \$24,000.00 under Costars Contract # 008-638 and paid through general fund.

15.08 Bus Lease (2024-2025 School Year) **THIS MOTION WAS TABLED.**

Motion: Motion to approve the renewal of the three (3) year bus lease agreement with Santander Bank and to approve the related agreement with Wolfington Body Company, under the same terms and conditions as set forth in the original lease agreement approved on February 26, 2013. This three (3) year lease provides 55 buses at an annual lease cost of \$1,419,000.00.

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

With no further discussion motions passed 8 – 0 as amended
Absent: Mrs. Altobelli

15. DELAWARE COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT REPORT

There was none.

16. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

There was none.

17. BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT TO THE BOARD

There was none.

18. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There was none.

19. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Maalouf wanted to clarify that the addresses on motion 14.05 are in fact 0 and will be given permanent numbers later. He also wanted to give the Drama Department a shout out, specifically Miss Tiffany Caprice, Brian Welsh, and Emily Grim who invited the members of the Board to this wonderful production and Dr. Kane for extending the invitation. I would conclude by saying Bye, but I am going to conclude by saying Hi.

20. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business for the Board, Mr. Bilker adjourned the meeting at 7:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Joseph Driscoll
Board Secretary