

MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Regular Board Meeting  
Tuesday, February 27, 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: 45 beginning ~ 1 after presentation

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Mr. Bilker called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Dezzi led the Pledge of Allegiance

**3. PRESENT**

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

8 members present

Absent: Mrs. Pacell

**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 Mr. Siano

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Pacell

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Agenda Items Only)**

There was none.

**6. WE ARE PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS**

**Dr. Kane gave the following report:**

We would like to congratulate the members of the MNHS Mock Trial team and the faculty advisor, Mike Karpyn for winning both of their matches in a very intense competition last week at the Delaware County Courthouse in Media. With these wins, the team advances to the county playoffs for the first time in team history. Best of luck to the team!

Mr. Bilker ~ this was an awesome group. We should be very proud of these students. You should take the opportunity to see a Mock Trial.

**7. COMMENDATIONS****Dr. Kane gave the following report:**

Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union 2023 Teacher of Excellence Nominees:

- Culbertson – Jaime Reilly
- Loomis – Jena Foley
- Russell – Colleen Grinkiewicz
- Worrall – Lauren Kobylarz
- PHMS – Eileen Doyle (Winner)
- MNHS – Shannon Blessington

MNEA Teacher of the Year: Noelle Newton- Meehan

On behalf of the district, thank you to the Marple Newtown Board of School Directors for your commitment and service!

Each Principal gave a brief introduction of the nominee from their buildings and presented them with a certificate.

**8. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT**

The student representatives gave the following report:

- Marple held a blood drive in the gym throughout the school day on Friday, Feb 23rd where over 40 students donated their blood to the Red Cross
- Parent teacher conferences were held on the evening of February 22.
- Our annual Mini-THON is taking place this Friday, March 1st from 3-10pm. We have over 250 students registered and over \$30,000 raised. We have food trucks, special guest singers, sports tournaments, a DJ, and more all set to go. We sent out sign up geniuses on the parent Facebook and PTO pages for help with food pickups and various food donations. We would love to have any of our central admin or school board members stop by on Friday to check out this event and what our high school can create when students come together for a great cause as this is our 6th event.
  - This week is spirit week!
    - Monday: Pajama Day
    - Tuesday: Class Colors
    - Wednesday: Jersey Day
    - Thursday: Old Mini-THON Shirt
    - Friday: 2024 THON Shirts

- Marple's Hi-Q team will be hosting a home playoff meet this Thursday, February 29th after finishing the regular season in 2nd place out of 21 teams in the county.
- Spring sport tryouts start March 4th
- Prospective Student tours will be held on March 7th.
- Spring Musical tickets for Mamma Mia are on sale now, and it will be showed on March 7, 8, and 9
- SAT Testing is taking place at the high school on March 9th
- Murph basketball tournament will be held in the gym throughout the school day on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Spring Break for students is the week of the 25th-29th

## **9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **Dr. Kane gave the following report:**

There is a lot to be proud of for our students and teachers this past month.

Culbertson Elementary School has teamed up with the Ronald McDonald House for the month of February. To date, Culbertson has raised approximately \$7,000. This is a wonderful collaboration for our students and staff.

Loomis students were recognized for their beautiful artwork that is displayed in the board room. Loomis third, fourth, and fifth graders are dedicated to spreading KINDNESS to their Loomis neighbors. Each year, the children make handmade cards with positive messages and surprise the community by their thoughtful gesture. This year, I received a thank you note from one of the residents sharing how special she felt about the receiving a card.

Russell kindergarteners celebrated their 100<sup>th</sup> day of school, which was full of fun activities throughout the day. The students make adorable shirts with 100 items for a fashion show and participated in a Challenge Stations.

Worrall's staff is working to encourage the students with this year's Reading Incentive. So far the students have read over 750 books towards their goal of 1500 books. Readers are leaders, way to go Worrall!

Paxon Hollow is excited for their production of HONK! Jr the musical which begins this Friday evening, at 7:00 pm and a matinee performance on Saturday at 2:00 pm. There are over 60 cast and crew members in the production. Break a leg to the cast and crew!

Congratulations to the Hi-Q team and faculty advisor Liz Landes; their hard work sure is paying off. We ended the Hi-Q regular season in 2<sup>nd</sup> place, just 1 point behind Garnet Valley. MNHS will host a playoff competition this Thursday. If the team wins this playoff, they advance to the championship. Good luck the team as with the playoffs.

## **10. SECRETARY'S MINUTES**

Mrs. Altobelli asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2024 Regular Meeting.

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

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

## 11. OTHER REPORTS

Mrs. Altobelli asked that the following 7 motions be approved.

Motion to approve the Agreement between the District and Lalia Speech Therapy Services, a staffing agency used to fill Speech Therapist positions for students. This is a new agreement.

Motion to approve the Agreement between the District and PHSPartners LLC to provide consulting services to assist the District Administration of the School Based Access Programs (SBAP). This is a new agreement.

Motion to approve the Agreement between the District and Speech with Ease LLC, a staffing agency used to fill Speech Therapist positions for students. This is a new agreement.

Motion to approve the Agreement between the District and Delta-T Group, a staffing agency used to fill various positions such as Personal Care Assistants, RN's and LPNs for students. This is not a new agreement.

Motion to approve the Tuition Agreement for student 885454 to attend Approved Private School for the 2023-2024 school year. This is a new Agreement.

Motion to approve the Agreement between the District and Judge Healthcare, a staffing agency used to fill various positions such as Personal Care Assistants and Speech therapist positions for students. This is a new agreement.

Motion to approve the Confidential Settlement Agreement and Release for student 600033 to attend Extended School Year (ESY) Summer 2024. This is not a new agreement.

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

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

Mrs. Altobelli asked for a motion to approve the proposed Adjudication of Student No. 883989.

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

With no further discussion motion passed by Roll Call Vote 8 – 0  
Absent: Mrs. Pacell

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Attended/Read Transcript</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Mr. Dezzi	Read	Yes
Mr. McKenzie	Read	Yes
Mr. Bilker	Read	Yes
Mr. Siano	Read	Yes
Mrs. Harvey	Read	Yes
Mr. Maalouf	Read	Yes

Mrs. Altobelli  
Mr. Reynolds

Read  
Read

Yes  
Yes

## 12. 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 a structured literacy professional development opportunity between the Chester County Intermediate Unit and Marple Newtown School District in the amount of \$4,450.00, as presented.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Pacell

#### 12.03 New Course Description, Marple Newtown High School

Mr. Siano asked for a motion to approve the new AP Physics Class which is a calculus-based college-level physics course, as presented.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Pacell

#### 12.04 Administrative Trips

Mr. Siano asked for a motion to approve Dr. Tina Kane to attend the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators (PASA) Board of Governors Meeting on April 4 - 5, 2024 at the PASA Office in Harrisburg, PA. The cost to the district is \$104.90.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Pacell

#### 12.05 Student Trips

Mr. Siano asked that the following student trips be approved.

Motion to approve, Michael Karpyn, Advisor, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Mock Trial Team to compete at The Delaware County Courthouse in Media, PA on February 20, 2024, and on February 22, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$249.53 and paid by the district. The cost to the district is approximately \$249.53.

Motion to approve, Cynthia Petty, Allison Savage, Teresa Appleby, Alison Mezzanotte, and Jen Walsh, Teachers, to accompany the fourth and fifth grade gifted support students to compete in the STEM competition at the Delaware County Intermediate Unit in Morton, PA on March 4, 2024. The

cost of transportation is approximately \$194.35 and paid by the Ready to Learn grant. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Christine Roy, Advisor, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Science National Honors Society to help facilitate the K-5 STEM competition at Delaware Community Intermediate Unit in Morton, PA on March 4, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$181.99 and paid by the district. The cost to the district is approximately \$181.99.

Motion to approve, Christine Roy, Advisor, to accompany Marple Newtown High School Science National Honors Society to help facilitate the Delaware Community Intermediate Unit in Morton, PA on March 5, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$123.45 and paid by the district. The cost to the district is approximately \$123.45.

Motion to approve, Barbara O'Neill, Advisor, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Class of 2024 Officers for pre-prom planning at The Drexelbrook in Drexel Hill, PA on March 6, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$127.76 and paid by the Class of 2024. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, James Wigo, Principal, to accompany the Culbertson Elementary School students for a dress rehearsal of the Variety Show at Paxon Hollow Middle School in Broomall, PA on March 7, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$44.27 and paid by the PTO. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Daniel Peters, Larysa Dragonetti, Alexander Dragonetti, and Jonathan Ruths, Teachers, to accompany the fourth and fifth grade elementary school students to participate in the Pennsylvania Music Education Association Chorus FEST at Radnor High School in Radnor, PA on March 8, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$62.27 and paid by the district. The cost of the activity is approximately \$640.00 and paid by the district. The total cost to the district is approximately \$702.27.

Motion to approve, Christian Jaspersen, Assistant Principal, and Matthew Baker, Teacher, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Freshmen STEM Academy students for experiential learning at Expedition Escape in King of Prussia, PA on March 14, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$171.08 and paid by the Ready to Learn grant. The cost of the activity is approximately \$1,148.07 and paid by the Ready to Learn grant. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, James Wigo, Principal, to accompany the fifth-grade students of Culbertson Elementary School to tour Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia, PA on April 5, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$453.97 and paid by the PTO. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Jordan Marmelstein, Advisor, to accompany the Paxon Hollow Middle School Jazz Band to participate in the Jazz Festival at Drexel Hill Middle School in Drexel Hill, PA on April 5, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$207.51 and is paid by the district. The cost to the district is approximately \$207.51.

Motion to approve, Rachael Basescu, Advisor, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Choir to perform in Washington, DC on April 5, 2024, through April 7, 2024. The cost of transportation and activity per student is approximately \$642.00 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 to compete in the state competition in Hershey, PA on April 7, 2024, through April 10, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$1,108.20 and paid by the district. The cost of the activity is approximately \$5,676.00 and paid by the district. The cost to the district is approximately \$6,784.20.

Motion to approve, James Wigo, Principal, to accompany the third-grade students of Culbertson Elementary School to tour Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia, PA on April 10, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$680.96 and paid by the PTO. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Jordan Marmelstein, Advisor, to accompany the Paxon Hollow Middle School Orchestra to participate in the Annual String Fest to go to Marple Newtown High School in Broomall, PA on April 16, 2024. There is no cost of transportation, as parents are transporting. The cost of the activity is approximately \$22.00 per student and paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, James Wigo, Principal, to accompany the second-grade students of Culbertson Elementary School to go to The Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia, PA on April 17, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$571.19 and paid by the PTO. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Jordan Marmelstein, Advisor, to accompany the Paxon Hollow Middle School Jazz Band to participate in the Jazz Festival at Springton Lake Middle School in Media, PA on April 19, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$199.26 and paid by the district. The cost to the district is approximately \$199.26.

Motion to approve, Christian Jaspersen, Assistant Principal, and Christine Roy, Teacher, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Junior STEM Academy students to Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson Township, NJ on May 3, 2024 for Annual Physics Day. The cost of transportation is approximately \$471.93 and paid by the Ready to Learn grant. The cost of the activity is \$81.00 per student and paid by the Ready to Learn grant. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Teachers of Russell Elementary School fifth grade teachers, to accompany the fifth-grade students to a sixth-grade orientation at Paxon Hollow Middle School in Broomall, PA on May 9, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$181.62 and paid by the district. The cost to the district is approximately \$181.62.

Motion to approve, Kerri Confora, and Nikki Wagner, Advisors, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School World Language Honors Society students to go to New York, NY on May 22, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$1,600.00 and paid by the World Language Honors Society fund. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Dan Keehn, Assistant Principal and Melissa Ebersole, Teacher, to accompany the seventh-grade students of Paxon Hollow Middle School to tour the Constitution Center in Philadelphia, PA on May 23, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$1,222.29 and paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, James Wigo, Principal, to accompany the fifth-grade students of Culbertson Elementary School to Arrowhead Day Camp in West Chester, PA on May 28, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$363.97 and paid by the PTO. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Loomis Elementary School fifth grade teachers, to accompany the fifth-grade students to Arrowhead Day Camp in West Chester, PA on May 28, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$373.34 and paid by the PTO. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Christian Jaspersen, Assistant Principal, and Matthew Baker, Teacher, to accompany the Marple Newtown High School Freshmen STEM Academy for experiential learning at Expedition Escape in King of Prussia, PA on May 29, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$171.08 and paid by the Ready to Learn grant. The cost of the activity is approximately \$1,227.25 and paid by the Ready to Learn grant. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Jordan Marmelstein, Band Director and Georgie LaRue, Choir Director, to accompany the Paxon Hollow Middle School Band and Choir to compete at Dorney Park in Allentown, PA on May 31, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$14,706.00 and paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$65.00 per student and paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve, Dr. T.J. Gretchen, Principal, to accompany the Paxon Hollow Middle School eighth grade students to Hershey Park in Hershey, PA on June 6, 2024. The cost of transportation is approximately \$45.00 per student and paid by the student. The cost of the activity is approximately \$50.00 per student and paid by the student. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Michael Clancy, Math Club Advisor, to accompany Math Team students to compete at Conestoga High School on March 14, 2024. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Tracy Jacobson, Jennifer Cipollone, and Mary Dolenti, Advisors, to accompany Marple Newtown High School Renaissance Students to the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, PA on March 8, 2024. The cost of the activity is \$25.00 per student. The cost of transportation is \$5.00 per student. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Karen Pantle, Teacher, to accompany Family and Consumer Science students to the Restaurant School at Walnut Hill College in Philadelphia, PA on April 25, 2024. Transportation is \$10.00 per student, paid by the student. There is no cost to the district.

Motion to approve Jill Gill and Kristen DeNucci, Teachers, to accompany Best Buddies Club members to the Top Dance Studio in Newtown Square, PA and Joe's Pizza, Broomall, PA on March 7, 2024. The cost of transportation is \$132.83 and paid by the district. The cost of the activity is \$108.00 and paid by the district. The cost to the district is approximately \$240.83.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Pacell

## 12.06 Donations

Mr. Siano asked that the following motions be approved.

Motion to accept a donation to Paxon Hollow Middle School from the PTO in the amount of \$10,711.40, which will be used for wall padding, table and chairs, Sphero BOLT robots, and social media assembly, as presented.

Motion to accept a donation to Loomis Elementary School from the PTO in the amount of \$8,280.28, which will be used to purchase new benches for the playground area, as presented.



Motion to accept a donation to Loomis Elementary School from the PTO in the amount of \$720.00, which will be used to purchase new banners for the bus and car drop off area, as presented.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Pacell

#### 12.07 Clubs

Mr. Siano asked for a motion to approve the Red Cross Club at Marple Newtown High School, as presented.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Pacell

#### 12.08 Technology

Mr. Siano asked for a motion to approve the Gaggle.Net, Inc. contract for Safety Management Services and Integration, as presented.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Pacell

#### 12.09 Policy

Mr. Siano asked that the following motions be approved.

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

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

Motion to approve the second 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 second 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 first reading of Board Policy 200 Vol V 2023, Enrollment of Students, as recommended by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, as presented.

Motion to approve the first reading of Board Policy 202 Vol V 2023, Eligibility of Nonresident Students, as recommended by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, as presented.

Motion to approve the first reading of Board Policy 217 Vol V 2023, Graduation, as recommended by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, as presented.

Motion to approve the first reading of Board Policy 254 Vol V 2023, Educational Opportunity for Military Children, as recommended by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, as presented.

Motion to approve the first reading of Board Policy 810 Vol V 2023, Transportation, as recommended by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, as presented.

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

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

### **13. HUMAN RESOURCES AND POLICY COMMITTEE**

13.01 Committee Report – John P. McKenzie, Chairperson

Mr. McKenzie asked that motions 13.02 through 13.09 be approved.

13.02 Termination(s)

CLASSIFIED

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

- 1) Latania Outen - Special Education Assistant  
Pupil Services Department/Culbertson Elementary School  
Effective: January 12, 2024  
Reason: Job Abandonment

13.03 Retirement(s)

CLASSIFIED

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

- 1) Mary Facenda - Transportation Aide  
Transportation Department  
Effective: January 26, 2024  
Reason: Retirement
- 2) Rikard Larma - Bus Drivers  
Transportation Department  
Effective: February 12, 2024  
Reason: Retirement

**13.04** Resignation(s)

CONFIDENTIAL EMPLOYEES - ACT 93

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

- 1) Tiffany Bryson - Router/Dispatcher  
Transportation Department  
Effective: February 16, 2024  
Reason: Resignation
- 2) Joseph McDevitt - Security/Safety Personnel  
Marple Newtown High School/District-wide  
Effective: February 12, 2024  
Reason: Resignation

**CLASSIFIED**

Motion to approve the following classified resignation(s) item(s) 1 through 4.

- 1) Victoria Vadino - Special Education Assistant  
Pupil Services Department/Culbertson Elementary School  
Effective: January 24, 2024  
Reason: Resignation
- 2) Michael Kellar - Transportation Aide  
Transportation Department  
Effective: February 1, 2024  
Reason: Resignation
- 3) Jacqueline Milano - Van Driver  
Transportation Department  
Effective: January 31, 2024  
Reason: Resignation
- 4) Luanne Carlton - 12 Month Secretary  
Pupil Services Department  
Effective: March 15, 2024  
Reason: Resignation

**13.05 Leave(s)**

**ACT 93 CONFIDENTIAL EMPLOYEES**

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

- 1) Lisa Bradley - Pupil Services Coordinator  
Pupil Services Department  
Effective: March 7, 2024, through April 7, 2024  
Reason: Medical/FMLA: March 7, 2024, through April 7, 2024

**PROFESSIONAL**

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

- 1) Jennifer Philipp - Elementary Teacher  
Worrall Elementary School  
Effective: March 20, 2024, through May 24, 2024  
Reason: Medical: March 20, 2024, through April 24, 2024  
FMLA: March 20, 2024, through May 24, 2024
- 2) Keli Tull - Social Studies Teacher  
Marple Newtown High School  
Effective: May 20, 2024, through June 18, 2024  
Reason: Medical: May 20, 2024, through June 18, 2024  
FMLA: May 20, 2024, through June 18, 2024
- 3) Lisa Dowd - Elementary Teacher  
Worrall Elementary School  
Effective: February 15, 2024, through June 18, 2024  
Reason: Medical: February 15, 2024, through June 18, 2024  
FMLA: February 15, 2024, through May 15, 2024

CLASSIFIED

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

- 1) Debra Collings - Van Driver I  
Transportation Department  
Effective: January 20, 2024, through April 12, 2024  
Reason: Uncompensated Leave: January 20, 2024, through April 12, 2024
- 2) Kathleen Krall - Transportation Aide  
Transportation Department  
Effective: January 22, 2024, through March 1, 2024  
Reason: Uncompensated: January 22, 2024, through March 1, 2024
- 3) Fajr Minnis - Bus Driver  
Transportation Department  
Effective: November 14, 2023, through April 1, 2024  
Reason: Uncompensated Leave: November 14, through April 1, 2024

**13.06** Return from Leave

PROFESSIONAL

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

- 1) Stephanie Lappen - Special Education Teacher  
Marple Newtown High School  
Return date: February 7, 2024  
Returning from: FMLA

CLASSIFIED

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

- 1) Kathleen Mongeluzi - Special Education Assistant  
Pupil Services Department/Culbertson Elementary School  
Return date: January 29, 2024  
Returning from: FMLA
- 2) Dionisia Papapetridis - Special Education Assistant  
Pupil Services Department/Russell Elementary School  
Return Date: February 2, 2024  
Returning from: Uncompensated Leave

### **13.07 Appointments**

#### **ACT 93 CONFIDENTIAL EMPLOYEES**

Motion to approve the following confidential employee appointment(s), Item(s) 1 and 2.

- 1) Joseph McDevitt - Security/Safety Personnel  
Marple Newtown High School/District-wide  
Salary: \$18.00 per hour  
Effective: February 6, 2024  
Reason: Mark Graham (Resignation)
- 2) Cassidy Tucker - Dispatcher/Router  
Transportation Department  
Salary: \$41,000.00 (prorated)  
Effective: March 4, 2024  
Reason: Tiffany Bryson (Resignation)

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

Motion to approve the following professional appointment(s), pending the completion of all necessary pre-employment requirements, item(s) 1 through 10.

- 1) Marissa Massini - LTS Elementary Teacher  
Worrall Elementary School  
Salary: \$52,000.00 (BA; Step-1: prorated)  
Effective: January 29, 2024, through June 13, 2024  
Replacing: Kathleen Walker (Medical/FMLA)
- 2) Madison Walsh - LTS Elementary Teacher  
Worrall Elementary School  
Salary: \$52,000.00 (BA; Step-1: prorated)  
Effective: March 4, 2024, through June 13, 2024  
Replacing: Jennifer Philipp (Medical/FMLA)
- 3) Thomas Gorman - Social Studies Teacher  
Paxon Hollow Middle School  
Salary: \$52,000.00 (BA; Step-1: prorated)  
Effective: March 1, 2024  
Replacing: A. Jani's assignment/S. Rabbit's position

- 4) Matthew Cook - LTS Teacher  
Paxon Hollow Middle School  
Salary: \$52,000.00 (BA; Step-1: prorated)  
Effective: January 29, 2024, through June 18, 2024  
Replacing: S. Rabbit's assignment/ A. Jani's position
- 5) Kristine Maguire - LTS Special Education Teacher  
Culbertson Elementary School  
Salary: \$53,000.00 (BA+24; Step-1: prorated)  
Effective: February 29, 2024, through June 18, 2024  
Replacing: LTS position MNSD Board approved 10/23/2023
- 6) Ryan Baker - LTS Elementary Designed Thinking Teacher  
Culbertson Elementary School  
Salary: \$52,000.00 (BA; Step-1: prorated)  
Effective: February 20, 2024, through June 13, 2024  
Replacing: Sara Berl (Medical/FMLA)
- 7) Siobhan McDonough - LTS Elementary Teacher  
Loomis Elementary School  
Salary: \$52,000.00 (BA; Step-1: prorated)  
Effective: March 20, 2024, through June 18, 2024  
Replacing: Jena Foley (Medical/FMLA)
- 8) Julia Palmero - LTS Elementary Teacher  
Loomis Elementary School  
Salary: \$52,000.00 (BA; Step-1: prorated)  
Effective: April 22, 2024, through June 18, 2024  
Replacing: Brenna King (Medical/FMLA)
- 9) Jenna Hastings - LTS Special Education Teacher  
Russell Elementary School  
Salary: \$52,000.00 (BA; Step-1: prorated)  
Effective: February 27, 2024 through June 18, 2024  
Replacing: Lindsay Donaldson (Medical)
- 10) Britannia Worotikan - LTS Elementary Teacher  
Worrall Elementary School  
Salary: \$ \$52,000.00 (BA; Step-1: prorated)  
Effective: February 27, 2024, through June 18, 2024  
Replacing: Lisa Dowd (Medical/FMLA)

#### CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified appointment(s), pending the completion of all necessary pre-employment requirements, item(s) 1 through 12.

- 1) Kimberly Dobbins - Special Education Assistant  
Pupil Services Department/Worrall Elementary School  
Salary: \$19,570.00 (prorated)  
Effective: February 5, 2024

Replacing: Roisin Arnold (Retirement)

- 2) Konstantinos Kallioras - Custodian Leader  
Operations Department  
Salary: \$22.90 per hour  
Effective: February 4, 2024  
Replacing: Zaron Holbrook (Resignation)
- 3) Dolores Seavey - Classified Substitute  
Food Services Department  
Salary: TBD by Assignment  
Effective: February 5, 2024
- 4) Colleen Hough - Classified Substitute  
Food Services Department  
Salary: TBD by Assignment  
Effective: February 8, 2024
- 5) Nancy Caruso - Food Service Worker II  
Food Services Department /Paxon Hollow Middle School  
Salary: \$15.18 per hour  
Effective: February 12, 2024  
Replacing: Brianne Fanelli (Resignation)
- 6) Marcel Douglas - Transportation Aide  
Transportation Department  
Salary: \$18.93 per hour  
Effective: February 20, 2024  
Replacing: Michael Kellar (Resignation)
- 7) Janice Snipe - Transportation Aide  
Transportation Department  
Salary: \$18.93 per hour  
Effective: February 20, 2024  
Replacing: Mary Facenda (Retirement)
- 8) Harry Strand - Classified Substitute  
Operations Department  
Salary: TBD by Assignment  
Effective: February 28, 2024
- 9) Anthony Scott - Classified Substitute  
Operations Department  
Salary: TBD by Assignment  
Effective: February 28, 2024
- 10) Theodoros Tsitsios - Classified Substitute  
Operations Department  
Salary: TBD by Assignment  
Effective: February 28, 2024

- 11) Joseph Chandler - Classified Substitute  
Operations Department  
Salary: TBD by Assignment  
Effective: February 28, 2024
- 12) John Chaney - Custodian  
Operations Department/Loomis Elementary School  
Salary: \$20.16 per hour  
Effective: March 4, 2024  
Replacing: Konstantinos Kallioras (Reassigned)

### 13.08 Transfers

#### CLASSIFIED TRANSFERS

Motion to approve the classified transfers, item(s) 1 through 4:

<b>Name</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
1. Drew McCone	Russell	Special Educ. Asst.	PHMS	Special Educ. Asst.
2. Elena Argyros	PHMS	Special Educ. Asst.	Culbertson	Special Educ. Asst.
3. Lisa Miller	PHMS	Special Educ. Asst.	Culbertson	Special Educ. Asst.
4. Marlon Weathers	MNHS	Custodian	Culbertson	Custodian

### 13.09 Supplementary Contracts

Motion to approve the MNEA Supplemental Contract Unit Values and positions as presented, effective July 1, 2024.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Pacell

## 14. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

### 14.01 Committee Report - Barbara Harvey, Chairperson

Mrs. Harvey asked that motions 14.02 through 14.04 be approved.

### 14.02 Bills for Payment

Motion to approve and authorize payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$2,944,264.45, Capital Reserve Fund bills in the amount of \$421,654.05, and Food Service bills in the amount of \$180,279.99.

### 14.03 Monthly Reports

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

*Informational item monthly financial report for January 2024.*



#### 14.04 Tax Assessment Appeal

Motion to authorize the Solicitor to finalize resolution of the real estate tax assessment appeal for Folio No. 25-00-00761-00, 43 Church Lane, Marple Township as follows:

For tax year 2021, an assessment of \$2,950,000 and a fair market value of \$2,950,000.

For tax year, 2022, an assessment of \$2,950,000 and a fair market value of \$2,950,000.

For tax year 2023, an assessment of \$2,362,360 and a fair market value of \$3,245,000.

For tax year 2024, an assessment of \$2,135,210 and fair mark value of \$3,245,000.

Motion to authorize the Solicitor to finalize resolution of the real estate tax assessment appeal for Folio No. 30-00-02826-00, 0 West Chester Pike, Newtown Township as follows:

For tax year 2021, an assessment of \$3,500,000 and a fair market value of \$3,500,000.

For tax year 2022, an assessment of \$3,860,000 and a fair market value of \$3,860,000.

For tax year 2023, an assessment of \$2,948,400 and a fair market value of \$4,050,000.

For tax year 2024, an assessment of \$2,664,900 and a fair market value of \$4,050,000.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Pacell

### 15. FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

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

Mr. Bilker asked for motions 15.02 through 15.05 be approved.

15.02 Restroom Renovation Project, Gauntlett Community Center

Motion to approve F.W. Houser, Inc. as the general contractor for the Restroom Renovation Project at the Gauntlett Community Center in the amount of \$375,100.00 to be funded by Marple Newtown Leisure Service.

Motion to approve GEM Mechanical Services, Inc. as the HVAC contractor for the Restroom Renovation Project at the Gauntlett Community center in the amount of \$138,500 to be funded by Marple Newtown Leisure Service.

Motion to approve AKC Mechanical LLC as the plumbing contractor for the Restroom Renovation Project at the Gauntlett Community Center in the amount of \$154,750.00 to be funded by Marple Newtown Leisure Service.

Motion to approve Goldhorn Electric Construction, Inc. as the electrical contractor for the Restroom Renovation Project at the Gauntlett community Center in the amount of \$107,000.00 to be funded by the Marple Newtown Leisure Service.

Motion to approve the proposed agreement with Marple Newtown Leisure Services for cost reimbursement regarding the Gauntlett Community Center Restroom Project, subject to the approval of the final language by the Solicitor.

#### 15.03 Change Order Credits, Culbertson Elementary Addition

Motion to approve the following change order credit:

Myco Mechanical, Inc., Change Order No. MC-01, Quantity Allowance Credit, Deduct for Mechanical Contractor's Quantity Allowance remaining balance of \$45,347.65. Change Order MC-01 Total: \$45,347.65 Credit

Motion to approve the following change order credit:

Vision Mechanical, Change Order No. PC-01, COR 1 Cast Iron Joints Lead and Oakum Credit. Revision from lead and oakum joints for cast iron pipe to gasket joints in accordance with Vision Mechanical, Inc. proposal dated 1/30/2023 for a credit in the amount of \$5,499.00. Quantity Allowance Deduct for Plumbing Contractor's Quantity Allowance remaining balance of \$21,300.00. Change Order PC-01 Total: \$26,799.00 Credit

Motion to approve the following change order credit:

Electri-Tech, Inc., Change Order No. EC-01. Quantity Allowance Credit Deduct for Electrical Contractor's Quantity Allowance remaining balance of \$72,242.31. Change Order EC-01 Total: \$72,242.31 Credit

Motion to approve the following change order credit:

Accelerated Fire Protection, Inc., Change Order No. FP-01, Quantity Allowance Credit Deduct for Fire Protection Contractor's Quantity Allowance remaining balance of \$5,000.00. Change Order PC-01 Total: \$5,000.00 Credit

Motion to approve the following change order:

Balton Construction, Inc., Change Order No. GC-01. COR 33.1 Robbins Lane Access Road Modifications. Conversion of Robbins Lane emergency access road from grass paver system to asphalt pavement modifications to adjacent rain garden 3 in accordance with Pennoni Associates, Inc. drawing CS1501 dated 8/22/2023

issued on 2/13/2024 as requested by owner. Cost in accordance with Balton Construction, Inc. proposal 33.1 dated 2/15/2024 in the amount of \$69,250.19. Quantity Allowance Credit, Deduct for General Contractor's Quantity Allowance remaining balance of \$45,668.35. Change Order GC-01 Total \$23,581.84

#### 15.04 Facility Use

Motion to approve a Color Run at the Marple Newtown High School on April 7, 2024, sponsored by the High School PTO.

#### 15.05 Transportation - Bus Lease 2024-2025 School Year

Motion to approve the renewal of the three-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 year lease provides 55 buses at an annual lease cost of \$1,419,000.00.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Pacell

### 16. DELAWARE COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT REPORT

There was none.

### 17. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Mr. Maalouf gave the following report:

The legislative council met last week on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Topics discussed included the Governor's 2024 budget for Education. Still on the mind of the Governor and elected legislators is the ruling of the Commonwealth Court which found our State's current system of funding is unconstitutional.

Other matters covered included the composition of the Pennsylvania General Assembly. Since the start of 2023 one party has held a very slim majority which makes each vacancy (and there have been several) news. By my count the partisan composition has changed 9 times, a few of those changes have resulted in chambers divided 101-101. This is consequential because we're more likely to forecast the result of the Governor's proposal when it is settled who controls the lower chamber.

All the seats in the General Assembly are up for election this year and half the seats in the 50 member Pennsylvania Senate are up, as well as the office of Attorney General, Auditor General and Treasurer.

Legislation discussed included SB801, which aims to improve literacy capacity. HB1519 which would allow for excused absences for mental health (3) days without required documentation. HB1553, which would require schools to include the suicide prevention hotline number on student ID cards in grades 6 – 12 and displayed on the school website. Finally, HB1665 targets counseling services and would require schools to develop a robust comprehensive plan for

counseling. The proposed would require counselors to spend at least 80% of their time engaged with students. It creates something of an 80/20 rule.

**18. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD**

There was none.

**19. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

There was none.

**20. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD**

There was none.

**21. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business for the Board, Mr. Bilker adjourned the meeting at 7:19 PM

Respectfully submitted,

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Joseph Driscoll  
Board Secretary