

**Magnolia School District
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Minutes
April 16, 2024
7:00 P.M.**

Mr. Nick D’Amico opened the regular meeting at 7:01 p.m., leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Roll Call

Mrs. Rebecca Ammen	Present
Mr. Nick D’Amico	Present
Mr. Mark Godfrey	Absent
Mrs. Karen Sorbello	Present
Mrs. Alyssa Vazquez-Colon	Present
Mr. Dale Martin	Present

Other Attendees

Mrs. Karen Macpherson, Superintendent
Mr. Greg Gontowski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Mr. Frank Cavallo, Solicitor

Mission Statement

Mission Statement was read by Nick D’Amico.

**Approval of
Minutes**

A. Minutes of the Regular Session and Executive Session Board of Education meeting held on March 19, 2024

Motioned by Dale Martin, Second by Karen Sorbello

Vote: To approve Minutes

Voice Vote. All in favor

Motion Approved

Audit Presentation

PRESENTATION OF THE AUDIT

Presentation for the June 30, 2023 audit.

**Audience
Participation I**

Open Audience Participation I – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, Seconded by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon

Vote: To approve opening of Audience Participation I

Voice Vote. All in favor

NONE

Close Audience Participation I

Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, Seconded by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon

**Vote: To approve closing of Audience Participation I
Voice vote. All in favor**

BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS

Unfinished Business None

New Business Board Candidate Interviews

**State and Local School
Board Association** None

Executive Session **Executive Session**

RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION at approximately 7:30 p.m.

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a Public Meeting, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Magnolia Borough School District has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and

WHEREAS, the regular meeting of this Board of Education will reconvene at the conclusion of closed session, at approximately **7:50 p.m.** this evening.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Magnolia Borough School District will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting (Subject to the balancing of the public's interest and the employee's privacy rights under *South Jersey Publishing*, 124 N.J. 478, the employee(s) and nature of discussion is
Board Vacancy & STEAM Position)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Board Attorney advises the Board of Education that the disclosure of the discussion

will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the School District or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the Board Secretary to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, Seconded by Karen Sorbello

Vote: To Enter Executive Session

Voice Vote. All in favor (5-0-0)

Action will be taken after Executive Session

RESUMPTION OF PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING 7:42 pm

Motioned by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon, Seconded by Dale Martin

Vote: To approve Resumption of Public Portion of the Meeting

Voice vote. All in favor

**Jennifer Jackson-Fill
Board Vacancy**

Motion to approve Jennifer Jackson to fill the board vacancy

Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, Seconded by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon

Vote: To approve Jennifer Jackson to fill the board vacancy.

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mrs. Sorbello

Mr. Martin, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon and Mr. D'Amico (5-0-0)

**Superintendent's
Report**

Information Items:

A. Curriculum/Programs

1. Pilot ELA program
2. Math Night recap

1.

B. Interdistrict – None

C. Public Relations/Liaison – None

D. Student/Parental Issue and Concerns

1. Rescind the Motion passed on 3/19/2024 regarding student #9091356607 as new information has revealed they may remain in school at this time.

E. Buildings and Grounds.

1. A Shelter in Place was conducted on March 8, 2024
2. A fire drill was conducted on March 25, 2024

F. Negotiations/Contractual (Executive Session) -

1. Discussion of art position for the 24-25 school year

G. Misc

1. Strategic Plan Goals Update/ Next Steps
 - A. Inclusive Education
 - B. Math/STEAM/Problem Solving
 - C. Life Skills
1. No HIB to report

Principal's Report

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

Personnel

**Patrick Constantine -
Preschool Teacher
7/1/2024**

**Ashley Morris –
Preschool Teacher
6/30/24**

**Patrick Healy –
Preschool Teacher
9/1/24**

**Tufeka Potts –
Preschool Teacher
9/1/24**

**Colleen Roehr- 25
hours Magnolia Art
Show**

**Brooke Shatney –
Internship 2024**

**Summer Professional
Development**

Motion to Approve Personnel Items 1 through 14

1. The retirement of Patricia Constantine effective July 1, 2024 after 26 years of service to the district (**Attached**)
2. The resignation of Ashley Morris as 3rd grade special education teacher effective June 30, 2024 (**Attached**)
3. Patrick Healy as preschool teacher effective September 1, 2024 at a MA step 9 with a starting salary of \$72,526
4. Tufeka Potts as preschool teacher effective September 1, 2024 at a Ma step 10 with a starting salary of \$74,526
5. Colleen Roehr to be paid \$40.00 an hour not to exceed 25 hours to prepare for the Magnolia Art show for a total of \$1000
6. Brooke Shatney, a graduate speech pathology student from Calvin University to do her internship with Emily Green-Hamilton beginning April 24th through 2024
7. All Teaching staff and teaching assistants/aides not to exceed 10 hours for summer professional development to be aligned with our SE,math and language arts initiatives. Teachers to be paid \$20.00 an hour and teaching

New Hires and Teachers making a Grad/Subject Change not to exceed 20 hours Summer Professional Development

assistants/aides to be paid their hourly rate (to be taken out of Title II)

Leader in Me Lighthouse Committee

Lezley Turnbull & Jamie Devecchis – July and August 20 Hours HIB and SEL Planning for 24-25

220 Hours of Summer Curriculum

Sophia Capinha – 20 Hours July and August for Spanish Enrichment Camp

Ashton Whitaker – 12 Hours for Creating and Planning Summer 2024 Enrichment Program

Summer Programs and Staff for the 2024-2025 School Year

8. All new hires and any teacher making a grade/subject change not to exceed 20 hours of summer professional development to be aligned with our SEL, math and language arts initiatives at \$20.00 an hour (to be taken out of Title II)
9. Leader in Me Lighthouse Committee to work an additional 10 hours during the summer at \$20.00 an hour for participating in meetings and trainings (to be taken out of Title II)
10. Lezley Turnbull and Jamie Devecchis to work over the months of July and August be paid \$20.00 an hour not to exceed 20 hours, for HIB and SEL planning purposes for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year (to be taken out of Title II)
11. 220 hours of summer curriculum at \$40.00 an hour for a total of \$8800 for the following curriculums:

Visual Performing Arts, Math K-2, 3-5, 6-8, ELA, k-2, 3-5, 6-8, Science K-2, 3-5, 6-8, Social Studies K-2, 3-5,6-8, and STEAM grades 4 and 6
12. Sophia Capinha to work 20 hours during the months of July and August at a rate of \$40.00 an hour for Spanish Enrichment Camp
13. Ashton Whitaker to be paid \$40.00 an hour for 12 hours at a total of \$480.00 for creating and planning our summer 2024 enrichment program
14. The following summer programs and staff for the 2024-2025 school year which will run from July 9th through August 1, 2024 (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) Extended School Year

Teachers

Gail Walters - 32 hours at a rate \$40.00 an hour for a total of \$1280.00

Sandy Marlys - 36 hours at a rate \$40.00 an hour for a total of \$1440.00

Emily Green Hamilton -12 hours at a rate of \$40.00 an hour for a total of \$480.00

Carly Bond- 48 hours at a rate of \$40.00 an hour for a total of \$1920.00

ABA

Wendy Lombard - 48 hours at a rate of contracted hourly rate of \$23.15 an hour or a total of \$1,111.20

Teachers Aide

Vicki Scott - 48 hours at a rate of \$16.30 an hour \$782.40

Summer Enrichment

Ashton Whitaker - Director of Program \$2500.00

Haley Attanasi - 44 hours at a rate of \$40.00 an hour for a total of \$1760.00

Jordan Hafto - 48 hours at a rate of \$40.00 an hour for a total of \$1920.00

Dylan Smith - 48 hours at a rate of \$40.00 an hour for a total of \$1920.00

William Keane - 48 hours at a rate of \$40.00 an hour for a total of \$1920.00

Emily Kozeniewski - 48 hours at a rate of \$40.00 an hour for a total of \$1920.00

Steve Kreal - 48 hours at a rate of \$40.00 an hour for a total of \$1920.00

Gunner Loper - 48 hours at a rate of \$40.00 an hour for a total of \$1920.00

Colleen Roehr - 48 hours at a rate of \$40.00 an hour for a total of \$1920.00

Steve Taylor - 48 hours at a rate of \$40.00 an hour for a total of \$1920.00

Leah Hallahan - 48 hours at a rate of \$40.00 an hour for a total of \$1920.00

Teaching Assistants

Caterina Macrina - 48 hours at a rate of \$18.41 a hour for a total of \$883.70

Christine Radcliff - 48 hours at a rate of \$16.30 an hour for a total of \$782.4

Erin Hobbs - 48 hours at a rate of \$24.27 an hour for a total of \$1165.00

Summer SEL/Counseling

Jamie Devecchis - 12 hours at \$40.00 an hour for a total of \$480.00

Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, second by Dale Martin

Vote: To approve Personal Items 1 through 14

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mrs. Sorbello

Mr. Martin, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon and Mr. D'Amico (5-0-0)

Motion Approved

Motion to Approve Workshops/Conferences Item 1, Job Descriptions Items 1 & 2

Workshops/Conferences

1. Karen Macpherson to attend the NJASA Spring Conference at Caesars in Atlantic City NJ from May 15, 2024 to May 17, 2024 at a cost of a \$100.00 a night

Job Descriptions

1. Interventionist - Elementary School job description (attached)
2. Part time art **(Attached)**

Motioned by Karen Sorbello, second by Rebecca Ammen

**Vote: To approve Workshops/Conferences Item 1, Job Descriptions Items 1 & 2
Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mrs. Sorbello
Mr. Martin, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon and Mr. D'Amico (5-0-0)**

Motion to Approve Item D

D. Student/Parental Issue and Concerns

**Rescind the Motion
Passed on 3/19/24
Regarding Student
#9091356607**

1. Rescind the Motion passed on 3/19/2024 regarding student #9091356607 as new information has revealed they may remain in school at this time.

Motioned by Karen Sorbello, second by Rebecca Ammen

**Vote: To approve Item D
Roll Call Vote. All in favor:**

**Board Secretary
Report**

BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Informational Items:

-Financial Disclosures – Due April 30, 2024 – email was sent pins and instructions

Board Actions

Board Actions:

Motion to Approve Items A and F

Bill List

A Warrants

The attached bill lists:

- April 2024 warrants (**Attachment A1**)

**WJ Gross – Cafeteria
Counter Replacement**

B WJ Gross - Cafeteria

To approve purchase through CCESC Contract #66CCEPS with WJ Gross for serving counter replacement project in the amount of \$40,390.00.

**WJ Gros – Cafeteria
Cabinet and Oven
Replacement**

C WJ Gross - Cafeteria

To approve purchase through CCESC Contract #66CCEPS with WJ Gross for range, heated cabinet, and oven replacement project in the amount of \$40,740.00.

Audit 6/30/2023

- D Audit** – To approve acceptance of the June 30, 2023 audit report with one recommendation. The audit was officially presented at the April 16, 2024 meeting and a summary of audit was made available to the public.

CAP 6/30/2023

- E CAP** – To approve the corrective action plan for the June 30, 2023 audit (**Attachment E1**).

**Risk Management
Consultant**

F Risk Management Consultant

To approve the attached resolution appointing Hardenbergh Insurance Group as Risk Management Consultant for the 2024-2025 school year (Attachment F1).

Motioned by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon Second by Rebecca Ammen

Vote: To approve Items A through F

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

Motion Approved

**Audience
Participation II**

Open Audience Participation II- Public Comment

Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, Seconded by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon

**Vote: To approve opening of Audience Participation II
Voice Vote. All in favor**

NONE

Close Audience Participation I

Motioned by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon, Seconded by Rebecca Ammen

**Vote: To approve closing of Audience Participation I
Voice vote. All in favor**

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

**Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:54 pm by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon, Second by
Rebecca Ammen**

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

Respectfully submitted,

**Greg Gontowski
Board Secretary**

