

**Magnolia School District
Board of Education
Reorganization/Regular Meeting
Minutes
January 4, 2024
7:00 P.M.**

Mr. Greg Gontowski opened the regular meeting at 7:02 p.m., leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Oath of Office

Oath of Office - Karen Sorbello and Dale Martin

Roll Call

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

Other Attendees

Mrs. Karen Macpherson, Superintendent
Mr. Greg Gontowski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Mr. Bill Morlok, Solicitor

**Election of
President of the
Board**

Election of President of the Board

Mr. Greg Gontowski called for Nomination of President of the Board

Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, Second by Rebecca Land Staffieri to nominate Nick D'Amico.

Vote: To approve Nomination of President of the Board

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, **Mr. D'Amico, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mr. Martin, and Mrs. Sorbello (5-0-1) **D'Amico - Abstained

Motion Approved

Mr. Greg Gontowski turned the meeting over to the President Nick D'Amico

Election of Vice-President of the Board

**Election of Vice-
President of the
Board**

Nick D'Amico called for Nomination of Vice-President of the Board Rebecca Ammen

Motioned by Rebecca Lang Staffieri, Second by Dale Martin to nominate Rebecca Ammen

Vote: To approve Nomination of Vice President of the Board

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: **Mrs. Ammen, Mr. D'Amico, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mr. Martin and Mrs. Sorbello (5-0-1) *Mrs. Rebecca Ammen - Abstained

Motion Approved

**Appointment of
Board Committee
Members**

Nomination and Election of Board Committee Members

Appoint **Karen Sorbello** as Delegate of New Jersey School Boards Association for 2024.

Motioned by Mark Godfrey, Second by Rebecca Lang Staffieri

Vote: To approve Nomination

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. D'Amico, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mr. Martin and **Mrs. Sorbello (5-0-1) ** Mrs. Sorbello - Abstained

Motion Approved

Appoint **Rebecca Lang Staffieri** as Alternate Delegate of New Jersey School Boards Association for 2024.

Motioned by Mark Godfrey, Second by Rebecca Ammen

Vote: To approve Nomination

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. D'Amico, Mr. Godfrey, **Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mr. Martin and Mrs. Sorbello (5-0-1)Rebecca Lang Staffieri – Abstained**

Motion Approved

Appoint **Alyssa Vazquez Colon** as Legislative Chairperson of New Jersey School Boards Association for 2024.

Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, Second by Karen Sorbello

Vote: To approve Nomination

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. D'Amico, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mr. Martin and Mrs. Sorbello (6-0-0)

Motion Approved

Appoint **Karen Sorbello** as Representative to Camden County School Boards Association for 2024.

Motioned by Dale Martin, Second by Rebecca Lang Staffieri

Vote: To approve Nomination

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. D'Amico, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mr. Martin and **Mrs. Sorbello (5-0-1) **Karen Sorbello - Abstained

Motion Approved

Appoint Alyssa Vazquez-Colon as Alternate Representative to Camden County School Boards Association for 2024.

Motioned by Rebecca Lang Staffieri, Second by Mark Godfrey

Vote: To approve Nomination

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. D'Amico, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mr. Martin and Mrs. Sorbello (6-0-0)

Motion Approved

Appoint Rebecca Ammen as Representative to Camden County Educational Services Commission for 2024.

Motioned by Karen Sorbello, Second by Rebecca Lang Staffieri

Vote: To approve Nomination

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: **Mrs. Ammen, Mr. D'Amico, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mr. Martin and Mrs. Sorbello (5-0-1) **Rebecca Ammen - Abstained

Motion Approved

Mission Statement Mission Statement was read by Mr. Nick D'Amico

Audience Participation I **Open Audience Participation I – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY – None**

Board of Education Business **BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS**

Unfinished Business None

New Business Discussion regarding board solicitor

State and Local None

Superintendent's Report **Superintendent's Report**

Safe Return Plan Motion to approve the Safe Return Plan.

Motioned by Rebecca Lang Staffieri, Seconded by Mark Godfrey

Vote: To approve the Safe Return Plan

Voice Vote. All in favor

Motion Approved

**Board Secretary
Report**

BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Board Actions

Informational Items

Board Actions:

Motion to approve Items A through D

Bill List

A. Warrants

The attached bill lists:

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

**Approval of the BA
to continue payment
of all bills thru Next
Board Meeting**

B. Warrants

Approval of the Business Administrator to continue payment of all bills through the February 20, 2024 meeting. The bill lists for those payments will be submitted at the next Board of Education meeting.

**Bancroft Tuition &
1:1 Aide – Student
#65585014679 2023-
2024**

C. Tuition - Bancroft

To approve a tuition contract with Bancroft for student #6558504679 in the amount of \$82,250.70 for tuition and \$46,200.00 for a 1:1 aide for the 2023-2024 school year (to be prorated due to partial year).

**Board Meeting Dates
2024**

D. Meeting Dates – It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the Regular meeting dates for the 2024 year, to typically take place on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM, at the Magnolia School, unless otherwise noted.

	August 6, 2024 (First Tuesday)
February 20, 2024	September 17, 2024
March 19, 2024	October 15, 2024
April 16, 2024	November 19, 2024
May 7, 2024 **6:00 :PM	December 17, 2024
June 13, 2024 (Second Thursday)	January 2, 2025 * (First Thursday)

*Reorganization must take place between January 1 – 7, 2025

** Rehiring of staff before May 15th (may change once budget guidelines are available)

Motioned by Dale Martin, Seconded by Rebecca Ammen

Vote: To approve Items A through D

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. D’Amico, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mr. Martin and Mrs. Sorbello (6-0-0)

Motion Approved

Motion to Approve Addendum Item A

**Gorman, D’Anella
& Morlock - Non
Fair and Open
2023-2024**

A. Non Fair and Open

To award a non fair and open contract to Gorman, D’Anella, & Morlock, LLC for legal services for the 2023-2024 school year in an amount to exceed \$17,500.00.

Motioned by Mark Godfrey, Seconded by Rebecca Lang Staffieri

Vote: To approve Addendum Item A

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. D’Amico, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mr. Martin and Mrs. Sorbello (6-0-0)

Motion Approved

**Audience
Participation II**

Audience Participation II - None

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:28 pm by Mark Godfrey, Seconded by Rebecca Ammen

Vote: To Adjourn meeting

Voice Vote. All in favor

Respectfully submitted,

**Greg Gontowski
Board Secretary**

