

**Magnolia School District
Board of Education
Reorganization/Regular Meeting
Minutes
January 2, 2025
6:30 P.M.**

Mr. Greg Gontowski opened the regular meeting at 6:32 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	Present
Mr. Dale Martin	Present
Mrs. Karen Sorbello	Present
Mrs. Alyssa Vazquez-Colon	Absent – Arrived at 6:36
Mrs. Jennifer Jackson	Present

Other Attendees

Mrs. Karen Macpherson, Superintendent
Mr. Greg Gontowski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Mrs. Emily Strawbridge, 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 Karen Sorbello 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. Jackson, Mr. Martin, and Mrs. Sorbello (5-0-1) **D'Amico - Abstained

Motion Approved

Allyssa Vazquez-Colon – Arrived at 6:36

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 Karen Sorbello, Second by Mark Godfrey 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. Jackson, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon, Mr. Martin and Mrs. Sorbello (6-0-1) *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 2025.

Motioned by Mark Godfrey, Second by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon

Vote: To approve Nomination

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. D'Amico, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon, Mr. Martin and **Mrs. Sorbello (6-0-1) **Mrs. Karen Sorbello - Abstained

Motion Approved

Appoint **Jennifer Jackson** as Alternate Delegate of New Jersey School Boards Association for 2025.

Motioned by Karen Sorbello, Second by Mark Godfrey

Vote: To approve Nomination

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. D'Amico, Mr. Godfrey, **Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon, Mr. Martin and Mrs. Sorbello (6-0-1) **Mrs. Jennifer Jackson - Abstained

Motion Approved

Appoint **Alyssa Vazquez Colon** as Legislative Chairperson of New Jersey School Boards Association for 2025.

Motioned by Dale Martin, Second by Rebecca Ammen

Vote: To approve Nomination

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. D'Amico, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Jackson, **Mrs. Vazquez-Colon, Mr. Martin and Mrs. Sorbello (6-0-1) **Mrs. Vazquez-Colon - Abstained

Motion Approved

Appoint **Karen Sorbello** as Representative to Camden County School Boards Association for 2025.

Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, Second by Mark Godfrey

Vote: To approve Nomination

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. D’Amico, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon, Mr. Martin and Mrs. Sorbello (7-0-0)

Motion Approved

Appoint **Alyssa Vazquez-Colon** as Alternate Representative to Camden County School Boards Association for 2025.

Motioned by Mark Godfey, Second by Karen Sorbello

Vote: To approve Nomination

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. D’Amico, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Jackson, **Mrs. Vazquez-Colon, Mr. Martin and Mrs. Sorbello (6-0-1) **Mrs. Vazquez-Colon – Abstained

Motion Approved

Appoint **Rebecca Ammen** as Representative to Camden County Educational Services Commission for 2025.

Motioned by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon, Second by Mark Godfrey

Vote: To approve Nomination

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: ** Mrs. Ammen, Mr. D’Amico, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon, Mr. Martin and Mrs. Sorbello (6-0-1) **Mrs. Rebecca Ammen – Abstained

Motion Approved

Mission Statement

Mission Statement was read by Mr. Nick D’Amico

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of the Regular Session and Executive Session Board of Education meeting held on December 17, 2024.

Motioned by Karen Sorbello, Second by Rebecca Ammen

Vote: To approve Minutes

Voice Vote. All in favor

Motion Approved

Audience Participation I

Open Audience Participation I – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY – None

Board of Education Business

BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS

**Unfinished
Business**

None

New Business

None

State and Local

None

**Superintendent's
Report
Board Secretary
Report**

Superintendent's Report – None

BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Informational Items

Board Actions

Board Actions:

Motion to approve Items A through C

Bill List

A. Warrants

The attached bill lists:

- January 2025 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 18, 2025 meeting. The bill lists for those payments will be submitted at the next Board of Education meeting.

**Board Meeting Dates
2025**

- C. Meeting Dates** – It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the Regular meeting dates for the 2025 year and the 2026 Reorganization meeting, to typically take place on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM, at the Magnolia School, unless otherwise noted.

	August 5, 2025 (First Tuesday)
February 18, 2025	September 16, 2025
March 18, 2025	October 28, 2025 (Fourth Tuesday)
April 15, 2025	November 18, 2025
May 6, 2025 ** (First Tuesday)	December 16, 2025
June 12, 2025 (Second Thursday)	January 7, 2026 * (First Wednesday)

* Reorganization must take place between January 1 – 7, 2026

** Rehiring of staff before May 15th and Public Budget Presentation

Motioned by Mark Godfrey, Seconded by Karen Sorbello

Vote: To approve Items A through C

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, **Mr. D'Amico, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs.

Jackson, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon, Mr. Martin and Mrs. Sorbello (7-0-0) ** Nick D'Amico

– Abstained from payments to ESS

Motion Approved

**Audience
Participation II**

Audience Participation II - None

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:53 pm by Rebecca Ammen, Seconded by Mark Godfrey

Vote: To Adjourn meeting

Voice Vote. All in favor

Respectfully submitted,

**Greg Gontowski
Board Secretary**

