

**Magnolia School District
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Minutes
April 15, 2025
6:30 P.M.**

Mr. Nick D’Amico opened the regular meeting at 6:30 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
	Mrs. Karen Sorbello	Present
	Mrs. Alyssa Vazquez-Colon	Present
	Mr. Dale Martin	Present
	Mrs. Jennifer Jackson	Present
Other Attendees	Mrs. Karen Macpherson, Superintendent	
	Mr. Greg Gontowski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary	
	Mrs. Emily Strawbridge, Solicitor	
Mission Statement	Mission Statement was read by Nick D’Amico.	
Approval of Minutes	Minutes of the Regular Session and Executive Session Board of Education meeting held on March 18, 2025	
	Motioned by Karen Sorbello, Second by Dale Martin	
	Vote: To approve Minutes Voice Vote. All in favor	
Audience Participation I	Motion Approved	
	<u>BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS</u>	
	Open Audience Participation I – <u>AGENDA ITEMS ONLY</u>	
	Motioned by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon, Seconded by Dale Martin	
	Vote: To approve opening of Audience Participation I 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**

Unfinished Business None

New Business None

**State and Local
School Boards
Association** Karen Sorbello – Provided Updated

**Superintendent's
Report**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Information Items:

A. Curriculum/Programs

1. STAR/Renaissance Program
2. Researching Whole School Intervention period
3. Preschool benchmark tool

B. Interdistrict

1. Sharing ELL with Sterling will continue

C. Public Relations/Liaison

1. Community letter sent on Friday.

D. Student/Parental Issue and Concerns

E. Buildings and Grounds

2. A shelter in place was conducted on March 11, 2025
3. A fire drill was conducted on March 26, 2025

F. Negotiations/Contractual (Executive Session)

G. Miscellaneous

1. School Board's Convention
2. School Calendar (**attached**)

H. HIB

1. No HIB to report

I. Principal's/ Nurse's Report

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

Personnel

Motion to Approve Personnel Items 1 through 15

**Accept with regret
the Resignation of
Andrea Geonnotti
3/31/25**

1. The resignation of Andrea Geonnotti as lunch aide effective 3/31/2025 (**attached**).

**Accept with regret
the Retirement of
Merri Hansen 8/1/25**

2. The retirement of Merri Hansen as confidential secretary effective August 1, 2025 (**attached**).

**Rebecca Kitchmire –
Confidential Secretary
1/1/25**

3. Rebecca Kitchmire as confidential secretary effective July 1, 2025 at a starting salary of \$65,000.

**Erin Hobbs – Pre-K
Teacher 5/1/25**

4. Erin Hobbs as pre-k teacher effective May 1, 2025 as a BA step 1 with a starting salary of \$59,09.

**Jack Cline –
Custodian 6/1/25**

5. Jack Cline as custodian effective June 1, 2025 at step 4 with a starting salary of \$43,330.

**Nicholas Meehl – PSD
Teacher 9/1/25**

6. Nicholas Meehl as PSD teacher effective September 1, 2025 as a MA step 4 at a starting salary of \$67,321.

**Kelly Neckonchuk –
Pre K- Teacher 9/1/25**

7. Kelly Neckonchuk as pre-k teachers assistant effective September 1, 2025 on step 16 at a salary of \$26,273.

**Erin Hobbs, Elena
DiBlasio and Gail
Walters – Complete
Their Program –
PreK-3**

8. Erin Hobbs, Elena DiBlasio, and Gail Walters to attend Brookdale Community College to complete their program for their Pre k-3 standard certification. To be reimbursed upon the completion of course. This is a two year program.

**Patrick Healy – Fall
and Spring Course
Work**

9. Patrick Healy to take fall and spring coursework at Wilmington University in pursuit of his masters in educational leadership (payment as per contract).

**Courtney Branco –
Substitute Nurse
4/6/25**

10. Courtney Branco as substitute nurse effective April 16, 2025 at a rate of \$250.00 a day.

Teaching Staff and Teaching Assistants/Aids - Summer Professional Development

11. All Teaching staff and teaching assistants/aides not to exceed 10 hours for summer professional development to be aligned with our SEL, math and language arts initiatives. Teachers to be paid \$20.00 an hour and teaching assistants/aides to be paid their hourly rate (to be taken out of Title II).

New Hires and Teachers Making Grade/Subject Change – Summer Professional Development

12. 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).

Lezley Turnbull and Jamie Devecchis – July and August – HIB and SEL Planning 25-26

13. 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 2025-2026 school year (to be taken out of Title II).

Sandy Marlys – July and August - To complete and Update Health Records

14. Sandy Marlys to be paid her hourly rate of \$53.97 to work July and August not to exceed 20 hours to complete and update health records, parent correspondence, nursing reports and school safety meetings.

Lorraine Sheilds and Kelly McIlvaine – Preschool Screening over the Summer

15. Lorraine Sheilds and Kelly McIlvaine to do preschool screening over the summer at \$40.00 an hour not to exceed 6 hours each .

Motioned by Mark Godfrey, second by Jennifer Jackson

Vote: to Approve Personnel Items 1 through 15

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

Motion Approved

Motion to Approve Trips Item 1

Trips

**Great Adventure
6/3/25**

1. The Magnolia Performing Arts trip to Great Adventure on June 3, 2025 from 9:30am to 8:00pm (this is not a board expensed trip)

Motioned by Karen Sorbello, Seconded by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon

Vote: to Approve Trips Item 1

Voice vote. All in favor

Motion Approved

Motion to Approve Policies Item 1

Policies

**2nd Reading of
Regulation #2415**

The following updated policies and regulations from Strauss Esmay Associates (Approval was given at the Special Meeting on May 25, 2010 to allow the Superintendent to update policy alerts from Strauss Esmay Associates.)

1. 2nd reading of regulation #2415 Title 1 Services (**Attached**)

Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, second by Dale Martin

**Vote: To Approve Policies Items 1
Voice Vote. All in favor**

Motion Approved

**Board Secretary
Report**

BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Informational Items:

-Financial Disclosures – Due April 30, 2025

Board Actions

Board Actions:

Motion to Approve Items A Through D

Transfers

A. Monthly Reports

The Budget Summary and Revenue Summary for the month of February 2025. (**Attachment A1 & A2**)

B. Transfer of Funds

The attached transfer list, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, for the month of February 2025. (**Attachment B1**)

C. Financial Reports

Board Secretary's Report in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of February 2025. The Board Secretary certifies that no line item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A – 16.10 (c) 3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. (**Attachment C1**).

Treasurer's Report in accordance with 18A:17-36 and 18A:17-9 for the month of February 2025. The Treasurer's Report and Secretary's report are in agreement for the month of February 2025. **(Attachment C2).**

Board Secretary in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (c) 2 certifies that there are no changes in anticipated revenue amounts or revenue sources.

Board of Education Certification – pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (c) 4 We certify that after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major accounts or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

D. Warrants

Bill List

The attached bill lists:

- i. Warrants **(Attachment D1)**
- ii. Payroll **(Attachment D2)**

Motioned by Karen Sorbello, second by Mark Godfrey

Vote: To approve Items A through D

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

Motion to Approve Items E through N

**Renaissance – Non
Fair and Open 25-26
through 27-28**

E. Non Fair and Open – Renaissance

To award a non fair and open contract to Renaissance in an amount of \$43,984.00 for a multi year Subscription Program for the 2025-2026 through 2027-2028.

**White Glove – Non
Fair and Open 25-26**

F. Non Fair and Open – White Glove

To award a non fair and open contract to White Glove for 1:1 nursing services for student #3963950202 in an amount to exceed \$17,500.00 for the 2025-2026 school year.

**Clementon BOE –
Shared Service 25-26**

G. Shared Service Agreement – Clementon BOE – Preschool Coach

To approve shared service agreement with Clementon Board of Education for a shared Preschool Instructional Coach in the amount of \$50,000.00 for the 2025-2026 school year. **(Attachment G1)**

Woodlynne BOE –
Shared Service 25-26

H. Shared Service Agreement – Woodlynne BOE – Business Office

To approve shared service agreement with Woodlynne Board of Education for Business Office Services in the amount of \$162,000.00 per the attached contract for the 2025-2026 school year **(Attachment H1)**.

Woodlynne BOE –
Kitchen Rental

I. Interlocal Agreement – Woodlynne BOE – Kitchen Rental

To approve the Interlocal Service Agreement with Woodlynne Board of Education for kitchen facility usage for the 2025-2026 school year in the amount of \$15,000.00 **(Attachment I1)**.

WJ Gross – Asphalt
Repair

J. CCESC – WJ Gross – Asphalt Repair

To approve the purchase through CCESC Contract #66CCEPS with WJ Gross, Inc. for asphalt repaving of the main driveway in the amount of \$57,290.00.

EMEX

K. EMEX

To approve the attached resolution authorizing the purchase of electricity supply services for public use on an online auction website. **(Attachment K1)**

Sodexo 25-26

L. Sodexo - Renewal

Be it resolved that the Magnolia Board of Education approves the renewal contract to Sodexo Management, Inc. as the Food Service Management Company for the 2025-2026 school year. The management fee will be a flat fee of \$30,669.03. Sodexo Management, Inc. guarantees a return of \$9,000.00. The total cost of the contract for all expenses is estimated to be \$157,223.02.

Hardenbergh
Insurance 25-26

M. Risk Management Consultant - Hardenbergh

To approve the attached resolution appointing Hardenbergh Insurance Group as Risk Management Consultant for the 2025-2026 school year. **(Attachment M1)**

Grant Amendment

N. Grant Amendment

To approve an amendment to the following grant application:

-ESEA Consolidated – Title II

Motioned by Karen Sorbello, second by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon

Vote: To approve Items E through N

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

Open Audience Participation II – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Motioned by Mark Godfrey, Seconded by Rebecca Ammen

**Vote: To approve opening of Audience Participation I
Voice Vote. All**

Zach Camerieri - Commented if Magnolia could be the leader in a shared service agreement for music/instrumental program and summer program.

Close Audience Participation II

Motioned by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon, Seconded by Mark Godfrey

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

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:06 pm by Mark Godfrey, Second by Rebecca Ammen

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

Respectfully submitted,

**Greg Gontowski
Board Secretary**

