

MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Budget and Finance Committee Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting – Immediately following Budget and Finance

Curriculum, Instruction and Technology Committee Meeting – Immediately following Facilities and Transportation

Administration Building – Board Room

MINUTES

Present:

Board: Mr. Dezzi, Mr. Bilker, Mrs. Harvey, Mrs. Altobelli, Mr. Raymond

Administration: Dr. Tina Kane, Dr. Kevin Fagan, Dr. Joel DiBartolomeo, Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Mr. Jake Gallagher, Dr. Kerry McGinley

Press: 0

Audience: 0

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Bilker led the Pledge of Allegiance

3. COMMENDATIONS

Mrs. Tocci presented students with certificates for the following: Young Authors Writing Contest, Young Poets of Delaware County Poetry Contest, Daughters of the American Revolution Essay Contest, and the Law Day Poster Contest.

Mrs. Amodei presented students with certificates for K'nex STEM Design Challenge.

4. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

4.01 Committee Report – Barbara Harvey, Chairperson

Mrs. Harvey turned the meeting over to Mr. Driscoll.

4.02 Additions to the Agenda ~ There was none

4.03 Bills for Payment

Mr. Driscoll explained that this is the first run for paying bills, a final one will be presented at the regular meeting. Also, the motion to release checks is done yearly so that vendors are paid on time.

MOTION: To approve and authorize payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$8,846,198.17 and Food Service bills in the amount of \$79,129.51.

MOTION: To authorize the Business Administrator to release checks for payment during the month of July, as needed.

4.04 Financial Reports

MOTION: To approve the Monthly Financial Reports for April 2025, Treasurer's Report for April 2025, Investment Schedule for April 2025, and Budget Transfers.

4.05 Budgetary Reserve Transfer

Mr. Driscoll explained that we were a little short on this budget for substitute teachers for this year.

MOTION: To approve a transfer from Budgetary Reserve in the amount of \$90,000 for substitute teacher services.

4.06 Fund Balance

Mr. Driscoll explained that this is another yearly function that takes place in preparation for the audit.

MOTION: To commit and/or assign a portion of the audited general fund balance as of June 30, 2025, towards future capital purchases and improvements, assessment reductions and/or capital reserve funding, and approve any necessary transfer to the Capital Reserve Fund in 2025-2026.

4.07 Designation of Depositories

Mr. Driscoll explained that this is done yearly according to School Code.

MOTION: To approve the following Financial Institutions for the 2025-2026 fiscal year as required by School Code:

TD Bank
Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLGIT)
Pennsylvania State District Liquid Asset Fund (PSDLAF)

4.08 Policies

Mr. Driscoll explained that a School Board Policy needs to be established for the use of the Credit Card. We have never had a credit card, but things are changing. There are

certain organizations that need a credit card to the registration of students to participate in specific events. This card will be kept in the business office under Mr. DuVernois control.

MOTION: To approve the first reading of School Board Policy 625, Credit Card, as presented. District Solicitor has reviewed.

4.09 Closure of Student Activity Accounts

Mr. Driscoll explained that this is happening a lot lately and this is the final work on closing student accounts

MOTION: To approve the closure of Class accounts at Marple Newtown High School and to distribute the funds into Marple Newtown High School Student Activity accounts, as presented.

4.10 2024 Tax Assessment Appeal

Mr. Driscoll explained that these motions are given to the solicitor to review.

MOTION: To authorize and direct the Solicitor to finalize resolution on Folio 30-00-02442-00 real estate tax assessment appeal as follows:

For tax year 2024, an assessment of \$1,086,700 and a fair market value of \$1,650,000.

For tax year 2025, an assessment of \$1,014,750 and a fair market value of \$1,650,000.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$85,110 below the 2024 assessment and yields a tax dollar loss of approximately \$1,026.26 to our District for tax year 2024.

4.11 2025 Tax Assessment Appeal

MOTION: To authorize and direct the Solicitor to finalize resolution on Folio 30-00-00635-85 real estate tax assessment appeal as follows:

For tax year 2025, an assessment of \$150,675 and a fair market value of \$245,000.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$12,300 below the 2025 assessment and will yield an approximate \$150.00 tax loss to the District for tax year 2025. (estimated based upon 2024 millage rate).

4.12 Information Item

Food Services 2025-2026 school lunch prices.

Mr. Driscoll explained that we cannot set new lunch prices until the federal government releases the school price equity tool. This is a calculation that allows us to determine how much we are allowed to increase the lunch prices.

4.13 Other Business ~ there was none

4.14 Public Comment ~ there was none

4.15 Adjournment

5. FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

5.01 Committee Report – David Dezzi, Chairperson

5.02 Additions to the Agenda

Mr. Gallagher explained that there is one item that he wanted to bring to the Board's attention. On May 11th there was a minor water main break at Russell. We are working with the administrative team with the insurance company to do the remediation of some damaged areas. We are to present at the next voting meeting some budgetary numbers to get accepted for renovations. Possibly use Capital reserve and once settled with the insurance company reimburse those funds.

5.03 Other Business ~ there was none

5.04 Public Comment ~ there was none

5.05 Adjournment

6. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

6.01 Committee Report – Dana Altobelli, Chairperson

6.02 Additions to the Agenda

Mrs. Altobelli turned the meeting over to Dr. Fagan

Dr. Fagan ~ there are a couple of trips for our teachers, we have a couple of new clubs, these are volunteer clubs run by teachers at the high school. We are asking for a program called Branching Minds, we are excited about this opportunity with Branching Minds. They are the leader in the field of MTSS which is a multi-tiered system of support. We will be implementing this across the four elementary schools this fall. Along the curriculum standpoint we are also bringing in this amplified Desmos to the middle school and high school. This is a math support system for our students in both schools. We have STEALS training which is our Science standards. All schools in Pennsylvania are required to implement STEAL standards next year. We have training sessions for TWIG as well.

6.03 Student Trips, Marple Newtown High School

MOTION: To approve Michael Winterbottom, advisor, to accompany Marple Newtown High School Best Buddies to Indiana University from July 18-21, 2025. The cost of transportation is \$400, to be paid by the club account. The cost of the activity is \$400, to be paid by the District. The total cost to the District is \$400, as presented.

6.04 Student Clubs, Marple Newtown High School

MOTION: To approve MN Pickleball Club at Marple Newtown High School, as presented.

MOTION: To approve Sports Photography Club at Marple Newtown High School, as presented.

6.05 Agreement

MOTION: To approve a three-year contract with Branching Minds for Multi-Tiered Support Services related services in the amount of \$33,662.50. The cost is to be paid by both District and Grant funds, as presented.

6.06 Curriculum Purchase, Paxon Hollow Middle School

MOTION: To approve the purchase of Amplify Desmos as the core instructional resource for Math Lab, the new mathematics intervention course for grades 6–8 at Paxon Hollow Middle School, beginning in the 2025–2026 school year. The cost to the District is \$8,100, as presented.

6.07 Professional Development

MOTION: To approve a virtual training session for the new STEELS-aligned curriculum resource for the Marple Newtown High School Biology courses. The cost to the District is \$750, as presented.

MOTION: To approve training for Algebra 1 and Math Lab teachers on the effective implementation of the Amplify Desmos resource. The cost to the District is \$2,500, as presented.

6.08 Book Title Adoptions

MOTION: To approve new book titles to Worrall Elementary School, as presented.

MOTION: To approve new book titles to Culbertson Elementary School, as presented.

6.09 Disposals, Culbertson Elementary School

MOTION: To approve the disposal of books at Culbertson Elementary School, as presented.

6.10 Other Business

There was none

6.11 Public Comment

There was none

6.12 Adjournment

With no further business for the Board, Mr. Bilker adjourned the meeting at 6:59