

MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Tuesday, August 12, 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: Mrs. Pacell, Mr. Dezzi, Mr. Bilker, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Raymond
Mr. Siano

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 6:31 PM

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Bilker led the Pledge of Allegiance

3. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

3.01 Committee Report – Barbara Harvey, Chairperson

3.02 Additions to the Agenda ~ there was none

Mr. DuVernois explained the following motions

3.03 Bills for Payment

MOTION: To approve and authorize payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$13,083,906.14, Capital Reserve Fund bills in the amount of \$927,856.95 and Food Service bills in the amount of \$160,600.62.

Larger than normal due to the beginning of a new school year

3.04 Financial Reports

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

Typical reports, getting ready for the end of year audit.

3.05 Policies

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

Will need the credit card in order to purchase items from some vendors

MOTION: To approve the first reading of School Board Policy 626, as presented. District Solicitor has reviewed.

MOTION: To approve the first reading of School Board Policy 626.1, as presented. District Solicitor has reviewed.

Nothing new on the above, cleaning up Board policies

3.06 2025 Tax Assessment Appeal

MOTION: To authorize and direct the Solicitor to finalize resolution on Folio 25-00-05346-02 real estate tax assessment appeal as follows:

For tax year 2025, an assessment of \$1,045,500 and a fair market value of \$1,700,000.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$1,029,500 below the 2025 assessment and yields a tax dollar increase of approximately \$12,842.09 to our District for tax year 2025.

3.07 2024 Tax Assessment Appeal

MOTION: To authorize and direct the Solicitor to finalize resolution on Folio 30-00-01799-00 real estate tax assessment appeal as follows:

For tax year 2024, an assessment of \$0.00 and a fair market value of 0.00.

For tax year 2025, an assessment of \$0.00 and a fair market value of 0.00.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$347,830 below the 2024 assessment and yields a tax dollar loss of approximately \$4,194.17 to our District for tax year 2024. The value of this property is already included as part of the underlying assessment of the surrounding condominiums and thus taxed as part of the condominium units within the community.

3.08 2024 Tax Assessment Appeal

MOTION: To authorize and direct the Solicitor to finalize resolution on Folio 30-00-01738-00 real estate tax assessment appeal as follows:

For tax year 2024, an assessment of \$1,151,500 and a fair market value of \$1,750,000.

For tax year 2025, an assessment of \$1,107,000 and a fair market value of \$1,800,000.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$238,370 below the 2024 assessment and yields a tax dollar loss of approximately \$2,874.29 to our District for tax year 2024.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$282,870 below the 2025 assessment and yields a tax dollar loss of approximately \$3,528.55 to our District for tax year 2025.

3.09 2023 Tax Assessment Appeal

MOTION: To authorize and direct the Solicitor to finalize resolution on Folio 30-00-02838-01 real estate tax assessment appeal as follows:

For tax year 2023, an assessment of \$3,676,400 and a fair market value of \$5,050,000.

For tax year 2024, an assessment of \$3,322,900 and a fair market value of \$5,050,000.

For tax year 2025, an assessment of \$3,105,750 and a fair market value of \$5,050,000.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$1,373,600 below the 2023 assessment and yields a tax dollar loss of approximately \$15,945.99 to our District for tax year 2023.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$1,727,100 below the 2024 assessment and yields a tax dollar loss of approximately \$20,825.54 to our District for tax year 2024.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$1,944,250 below the 2025 assessment and yields a tax dollar loss of approximately \$23,443.96 to our District for tax year 2025 (estimated using the 2024 millage rate).

3.10 2021 Tax Assessment Appeal

MOTION: To authorize and direct the Solicitor to finalize resolution on Folio 25-00-02455-01 real estate tax assessment appeal as follows:

For tax year 2021, an assessment of \$35,000 and a fair market value of \$35,000.

For tax year 2022, an assessment of \$35,000 and a fair market value of \$35,000.

For tax year 2023, an assessment of \$28,028 and a fair market value of \$38,500.

For tax year 2024, an assessment of \$26,484 and a fair market value of \$40,250.

For tax year 2025, an assessment of \$24,753 and a fair market value of \$40,250.

The proposed resolution is a decrease of \$154,950 below the 2021 assessment and yields a tax dollar loss of approximately \$1,699 to our District for tax year 2021.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$154,950 below the 2022 assessment and yields a tax dollar loss of approximately \$1,748 to our District for tax year 2022.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$161,922 below the 2023 assessment and yields a tax dollar loss of approximately \$1,879 to our District for tax year 2023.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$163,466 below the 2024 assessment and yields a tax dollar loss of approximately \$1,971 to our District for tax year 2024.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$165,197 below the 2025 assessment and yields a tax dollar loss of approximately \$2,060 to our District for tax year 2025.

3.11 2021 Tax Assessment Appeal

MOTION: To authorize and direct the Solicitor to finalize resolution on Folio 30-00-02828-01 real estate tax assessment appeal as follows:

For tax year 2021, an assessment of \$744,970 and a fair market value of \$744,970.
For tax year 2022, an assessment of \$744,970 and a fair market value of \$744,970.
For tax year 2023, an assessment of \$617,000 and a fair market value of \$847,527.
For tax year 2024, an assessment of \$617,000 and a fair market value of \$937,389.
For tax year 2025, an assessment of \$617,000 and a fair market value of \$1,003,252.

This proposed resolution keeps the current assessment the same for tax years 2021 and 2022.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$127,970 below the 2023 assessment and yields a tax dollar decrease of approximately \$1,485 to our District for tax year 2023.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$127,970 below the 2024 assessment and yields a tax dollar decrease of approximately \$1,543 to our District for tax year 2024.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$127,970 below the 2025 assessment and yields a tax dollar decrease of approximately \$1,596 to our District for tax year 2025.

3.12 2021 Tax Assessment Appeal

MOTION: To authorize and direct the Solicitor to finalize resolution on Folio 30-00-01165-00 real estate tax assessment appeal as follows:

For tax year 2021, an assessment of \$2,728,980 and a fair market value of \$2,728,980.
For tax year 2022, an assessment of \$2,728,980 and a fair market value of \$2,728,980.
For tax year 2023, an assessment of \$2,200,000 and a fair market value of \$3,021,978.
For tax year 2024, an assessment of \$2,200,000 and a fair market value of \$3,343,465.

For tax year 2025, an assessment of \$2,200,000 and a fair market value of \$3,577,235.

This proposed resolution keeps the current assessment for tax years 2021 and 2022.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$528,980 below the 2023 assessment and yields a tax dollar decrease of approximately \$6,140 to our District for tax year 2023.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$528,980 below the 2024 assessment and yields a tax dollar decrease of approximately \$6,378 to our District for tax year 2024.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$528,980 below the 2025 assessment and yields a tax dollar decrease of approximately \$6,598 to our District for tax year 2025.

Any questions on the tax appeals please contact him.

3.13 Transfer to Food Service

MOTION: To approve a transfer of \$3,064.05 from the General Fund to the Food Service Fund for negative student lunch balances.

Explained that these are Federal dollars

3.14 Donations

MOTION: To accept a donation from Michael and Theresa Altschuler in the amount of \$5,000 for the purchase of weight room equipment for Marple Newtown High School.

MOTION: To accept a donation from the Marple Newtown Football Boosters in the amount of \$2,872.50 for the purchase of High School Football Guardian Caps.

Thank you for the donations.

Dr. Kane advised that Michael is an Alumni, as well as hall of fame.

3.15 Request to Establish a Scholarship Account

BF-11

MOTION: To form the Jennifer Bower Fuqua Heart and Soul Award scholarship, as presented.

This will be for a female athlete. Also, Dr. Kane advised that Jen is a 1987 Alumni

3.16 Other Business ~ there was none.

3.17 Public Comment ~ there was none.

3.18 Adjournment

4. FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

4.01 Committee Report – David Dezzi, Chairperson

Mr. Gallagher explained the motions below.

4.02 Change Order, Gauntlett Center Bathrooms

MOTION: To approve a change order credit for F.W. Houder, INC., in the amount of \$6,000.

4.03 Lighting, Russell Elementary School

MOTION: To approve Goldhorn Electrical Construction, Inc., for the removal and installation of new LED lighting at Russell Elementary School, under Costars contract #008-E23 in the amount of \$29,825, funded through capital reserve, as presented.

4.04 Classroom Doors and Paint, Russell Elementary School

MOTION: To approve Periera Construction LLC, for the installation of new doors for the classroom renovation at Russell Elementary School, under Costars contract #536618 in the amount of \$26,884, funded through capital reserve, as presented.

4.05 Changer Order, Boiler Room, Russell Elementary School

MOTION: To approve Gem Mechanical Services for the removal and installation of mechanical insulated piping in the amount of \$10,734.10, as presented.

4.06 Change Order, Library, Paxon Hollow Middle School

MOTION: To approve Periera Construction LLC, for the installation of new sink, faucet and HVAC registers in the amount of \$4,220, under Costars contract #536618, as presented.

4.07 Fire Alarm Cellular Dialer Installation, District wide

MOTION: To approve Johnson Controls Fire Protection LP., with the Installation of cellular dialers at each district building, under Costars #008-145 in the amount of \$21,600, funded through capital reserve, as presented.

4.08 Transportation Schedules

MOTION: To approve the recommended transportation schedules for the 2025-2026 school year, for the public/private/parochial school students and authorization for the Transportation Department to make changes when appropriate.

4.09 Other Business ~ there was none

4.10 Public Comment ~ there was none

4.11 Adjournment

5. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

5.01 Committee Report – Dana Altobelli, Chairperson

5.02 Additions to the Agenda

There was none

Dr. Fagan explained the below motions.

5.03 Administrative Trips

MOTION: To approve Dr. Tina Kane to attend the PASA Board of Governors Meeting in Harrisburg, PA on September 11-12, 2025. The cost to the Districts is \$70.49.

5.04 Student Trips, Marple Newtown High School

MOTION: To approve Rachael Basescu and Brian Walden, advisors, to accompany Marple Newtown High School Choir and Drama Club to New York City on December 10, 2025. The cost for the activity is \$375 per student paid by the student. There is no cost to the district, as presented.

MOTION: To approve Steven Smilk, Tracy Jacobson, and Michael Winterbottom, advisors, to accompany Marple Newtown LINK to South Mountain YMCA from October 11-13, 2025. The cost of transportation is \$1,291 to be paid by the student. The cost of the activity is approximately \$270 per student to be paid by the student. There is no cost to the district, as presented.

5.05 Professional Development

MOTION: To approve in-person, IXL Live Training for all K-12 teachers on August 28, 2025. The cost to the District is \$3,600, as presented.

5.06 Other Business ~ there was none

5.07 Public Comment ~ there was none

5.08 Adjournment

With no further business for the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:39 PM.