

MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 28, 2026
Marple Newtown School District Board Room
Minutes

Board: Mrs. Dana Altobelli, Mr. Matthew Bilker, President, Ms. Kathleen Byrne,
Mr. David Dezzi, Mrs. Barbara Harvey, Mr. John McKenzie, Mrs. Lisa Pacell,
Mr. Nicholas Reynolds, Mr. Nicholas Siano, Vice President

Solicitor: Mr. Mark Sereni, Esquire

Administration: Dr. Tina Kane, Dr. Kevin Fagan, Dr. Joel DiBartolomeo,
Mr. Dominick DuVernois, Mr. Jake Gallagher, Dr. Kerri McGinley,

Press: 0

Audience 25 for presentations
4 for meeting

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mr. Bilker called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and advised that the Board met in Executive session to discuss Personnel and Legal matters.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Bilker led the Pledge of Allegiance

3. PRESENT

Mrs. Altobelli, Mr. Bilker, Ms. Byrne, Mr. Dezzi, Mrs. Pacell, Mr. Siano

6 members present

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Bilker asked for a motion to accept the agenda as presented.

Motion was made by Mr. Dezzi, seconded by Mrs. Altobelli

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Agenda Items Only)

There was none.

6. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

- On Friday, March 27th, student council hosted the annual Murf tournament, honoring former teacher Mr. Murphy and raising over \$2,500 for an engineering scholarship fund. Students look forward to this event as their class can choose to enter a basketball game and challenge another class during the day, or classes can come down to watch.
- School was closed on March 30th - April 3 due to spring break
- The second marking period ended April 8th
- District wide Choral Night was held on April 8th where all levels of the district came together to perform
- The high school hosted another successful L.I.N.K trip the weekend of the 11th-13th
- Students traveled to the PA FBLA State Leadership Conference where multiple students placed the top finishers
- Student Council started selling prom tickets in the weeks of April 15-17 and 20-24th
- Paxton Hollow Tiger Tones and elementary choir performed at the Wings game on April 12th
- PTO hosted the third annual color fun run on April 19th where we had over 100 runners participate
- Russell hosted their annual Fun Fair on April 18th with NHS volunteers helping out
- Sophomores started their planning for their Project 10 event supporting the charity the "Kindness Project" which provides free clothing, necessities, and meaningful experiences to children in foster care.
- April 20th-30th is PSSA's and makeup for Math, ELA, and Science
- World Language Honor Society induction was on April 23rd, where new inductees were initiated and seniors were awarded their graduation chords
- The Hi Q team won the national championships beating teams from Alabama, Wisconsin, and Washington
- This Friday May 1st is Decision Day where STUCO and the CCAC encourage all seniors to wear apparel representing their chosen college, university, military branch, or trade school
- Student Council is pleased to announce a structured, celebratory final day for the Class of 2026, approved by administration on May 15th. The day features a 1st-period tailgate breakfast, a 2nd-block volleyball tournament and other activities, followed by a combined senior lunch. The afternoon includes time for yearbook signings with faculty, culminating in an outdoor field day with water ice, followed by a final walkthrough of the school during advisory for last visits before gathering at the back doors for the final bell.

7. COMMENDATIONS

FBLA State Winners
Hi-Q National Championship Team
National Merit Finalists

Dr. Kane had Mr. Beltrante introduce each teacher advisor for each group and the students were given certificates for their accomplishments.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Kane gave the following report:

Our elementary and middle school students began Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) testing last week and will continue assessments throughout this week. Schools have been focused on maintaining a calm and supportive environment to help students do their best, and we appreciate the efforts of our staff and families in ensuring a smooth and successful testing process.

Marple Newtown School District has been named a 2026 Best Community for Music Education by The National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation for the 12th year.

Spring sports are underway and we wish everyone a great season.

9. SECRETARY'S MINUTES

Mrs. Altobelli asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2026 Regular Meeting.

Motion was made by Ms. Byrne, seconded by Mrs. Pacell

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

Mr. Bilker asked for all motions until number 10 be approved.

10. OTHER REPORTS

Motion to approve the Delaware County Intermediate Unit (DCIU) resolution approving the election of the DCIU Board Members for the term July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2029, as presented.

Motion to approve the Confidential Settlement Agreement and Release for student 882393 for the 2026-2027 school year. This is not a new agreement.

Motion to approve the Service Agreement Extension with Criticare for the 2026-2027 school year. This is not a new agreement.

Motion approve the Confidential Settlement Agreement and Release for student 884337. This is a new agreement.

Motion to approve the Contract for Speech Therapy Services with Lalia Speech Therapy Services for the extended school year from 6/17/2026-7/16/2026. This is not a new agreement.

Motion to approve the Independent Educational Evaluation Contract for student 886558.

Motion to approve the DCIU contract for the 2026 Extended School Year Programs.

Motion was made by Mr. Dezzi, seconded by Mrs. Altobelli

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

11. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

11.01 Committee Report – Barbara Harvey, Chairperson

Mr. Bilker asked for motions under 11.02 through 11.11 be approved.

11.02 Bills for Payment

Motion to approve and authorize payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$8,976,338.77, Capital Reserve Fund bills in the amount of \$283,793.46, and Food Service bills in the amount of \$240,567.96.

11.03 Monthly Reports

Motion to approve the monthly financial reports for March 2026, Treasurer's Report for March 2026, Investment Schedule for March 2026, and Budget Transfers.

11.04 Budgetary Reserve Transfer

Motion to approve a transfer from Budgetary Reserve in the amount of \$25,000 for remediation at Marple Newtown High School related to the fire suppression system leak.

Motion to approve a transfer from Budgetary Reserve in the amount of \$5,840 for the PA System at Paxon Hollow Middle School.

11.05 Tax Litigation

Motion to approve the proposed settlement of the Ashford Land Co., LP litigation, Delaware County C.C.P. No. CV-2023-001044, whereby the District will pay Ashford Land Co., LP the amount of \$20,700 (inclusive of all claimed interest and claimed legal fees and costs) and to authorize the Board President to execute a corresponding written settlement agreement and release after the Solicitor reviews and approves its final language.

11.06 Donation, Districtwide

Motion to accept a donation from the Giant Company in the amount of \$17,828.63 from previous Giant programs.

11.07 Donation, Loomis Elementary

Motion to accept a donation from Adopt A Classroom in the amount of \$7,500 for classroom supplies and materials.

11.08 MNSD Activity Fee

Motion to approve the MNSD Activity Fee form and the amount of \$100 per student, with a maximum of \$200 per family, effective July 1, 2026.

11.09 One2One Program

Motion to approve reducing the annual One2One enrollment from \$50 to \$25 per student, effective July 1, 2026.

11.10 Expense Report Form

Motion to approve the expense report form as presented, effective July 1, 2026.

11.11 Bus Lease 2026-2027 school year

Motion to approve a one-year renewal of a bus lease agreement with Santander Bank and to approve the related agreement with Wolfington Body Company, under the same terms and conditions set forth in the original lease agreement approved on. This one-year lease provides two (2) buses at an annual lease cost of \$39,000.

Motion was made by Ms. Byrne, seconded by Mrs. Pacell

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

11.12 2026 Bonds

Mr. Bilker asked for a motion to authorize issuance of Bonds subject to parameters; authorization to send Notice of Conditional Optional Redemption of 2016 bonds; and accepting the Bonds Purchase Contract.

A brief presentation was given regarding the General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2026. The presentation included Capital projects, Bond sizing and debt service summary. It also included the schedule and rate outlook.

After the presentation a motion was made by Ms. Byrne, seconded by Mr. Dezzi

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

11.13 Proposed Budget

Mr. Bilker asked for motion to adopt the 2026-2027 Proposed Final Budget, as presented on PDE 2028, in the amount of \$119,320,000, and to give notice that it is available for public inspection. The 2026-2027 Proposed Final Budget may change prior to the adoption of the Final Budget.

Motion was made by Ms. Byrne, seconded by Mr Dezzi

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

12. FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

12.01 Committee Report – David Dezzi, Chairperson

Mr. Dezzi asked for a motion for 12.02 to be approved

12.02 Policy

Motion to approve the First Reading of School Board Policy 805.1-NEW, as presented. District Solicitor has reviewed.

Motion to approve To approve the First Reading of School Board Policy 805.2 Vol VI 2025, as presented. District Solicitor has reviewed.

Motion to approve the First Reading of School Board Policy 822, as presented. District Solicitor has reviewed.

Motion to approve the First Reading of School Board Policy 823 Vol VI 2024, as presented. District Solicitor has reviewed.

Motion was made by Mr. Bilker, seconded by Mr. Siano

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

12.03 Change Order, Public Announcement System, Paxon Hollow Middle School

Mr. Dezzi asked for a motion to approve Delco Solutions, LLC., for the installation of additional paging clocks in the library and auditorium, and additional speakers in the nurse's office, athletics, and locker rooms in the amount of \$5,840 under Costars contract #034-E22-159, funded through

the general fund.

Motion was made by Mrs. Pacell, seconded by Mr. Siano

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

12.04 Renovation Project, Worrall Elementary School

Mr. Dezzi asked for a motion for items under 12.04 be approved.

Motion to approve John S. McManus, Inc., as the general contractor for the renovation project at Worrall Elementary School in the amount of \$18,597,000 to be paid from capital projects, as presented.

Motion to approve Tri-County Mechanical, Inc., as the HVAC contractor for the renovation project at Worrall Elementary School in the amount of \$6,395,000 to be paid from capital projects, as presented.

Motion to approve Jay R. Reynolds, Inc., as the plumbing contractor for the renovation project at Worrall Elementary School in the amount of \$2,223,700 to be paid from capital projects, as presented.

Motion to approve Schipsi Electrical LLC., as the electrical contractor for the renovation project at Worrall Elementary School in the amount of \$4,103,276 to be paid from capital projects, as presented.

Motion to approve Accelerated Fire Protection Inc., as the fire protection contractor for the renovation project at Worrall Elementary School in the amount of \$366,600 to be paid from capital projects, as presented.

Motion to approve O'Donnell Roofing Co., as the roofing contractor for the renovation project at Worrall Elementary School in the amount of \$1,655,000 to be paid from capital projects, as presented.

Motion was made by Ms. Bryne, seconded by Mrs. Pacell

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

12.05 Modular Classrooms, Worrall Elementary School

Mr. Dezzi asked for a motion for items under 12.05 be approved.

Motion to approve Mobilease Modular Space, Inc., with the delivery and installation of eight

modular classrooms, and the teardown and removal of the modular classrooms at Worrall Elementary School in the amount of \$274,000 to be paid from capital reserve, as presented.

Motion to approve Mobilease Modular Space, Inc., 12-month lease agreement on the rental of eight modular classrooms for Worrall Elementary School in the amount of \$210,000 to be paid from capital projects, as presented.

Motion was made by Ms. Bryne, seconded by Mrs. Altobelli

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

12.06 Door and Hardware Replacement Project, Russell Elementary School

Mr. Dezzi asked for a motion to approve L.J. Paoella Construction Inc., as the general contractor for the door and hardware replacement project at Russell Elementary School in the amount of \$365,400 to be paid from the 2025-2026 Mental Health and Safety Grant and capital reserve, as presented.

Motion was made by Mrs. Pacell, seconded by Mr. Siano

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

12.07 Transportation

Mr. Dezzi asked for a motion to approve the agreement between MNSD and First Student Inc., to service displaced MNSD students. The terms of this agreement will be effective April 29, 2026 through June 30, 2028, as presented. This agreement has been reviewed by the District's solicitor's office.

Motion was made by Mr. Bilker, seconded by Mr. Siano

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

13. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

13.01 Committee Report – Dana Altobelli, Chairperson

Mrs. Altobelli asked for a motion to approve 13.02 through 13.05

13.02 Student Trips

Motion to approve, Nicole McCarthy, advisor, to accompany Marple Newtown High School Mini THON club to Hershey, PA on September 16, 2026. The cost of transportation is \$579.94, to be paid by the club account. There is no cost to the District, as presented.

Motion to approve Alexandra Labutis, Jennifer Philipps, and Alexa Logothetis, teachers, to accompany Worrall Elementary 2nd grade students to the Delaware Children's Museum in Wilmington, DE on April 22, 2026. The cost of transportation is \$438.45 to be paid by the PTO. The cost of the activity is \$810 to be paid by the PTO. There is no cost to the District, as presented.

Motion to approve Stephanie DeLiberty, Melissa Klodarska, and Jamie Micewski, teachers, to accompany Loomis Elementary 2nd grade students to the Delaware Children's Museum in Wilmington, DE on May 29, 2026. The cost of transportation is \$242.78 to be paid by the PTO. The cost of the activity is \$10 per student to be paid by the student. There is no cost to the District, as presented.

13.03 Student Club, Marple Newtown High School

Motion to approve Investment Club at Marple Newtown High School, as presented

13.04 Summer ELL Program

Motion to approve the Marple Newtown School District ELL Summer Learning Program, as presented.

13.05 Book Title Adoption

Motion to approve new book titles to Loomis Elementary School, as presented.

Motion to approve new book titles to Worrall Elementary School, as presented.

Motion was made by Mr. Siano, seconded by Mrs. Pacell

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

13.06 Kindergarten Report Card

Mrs. Altobelli asked for a motion to approve the new Kindergarten Report Card beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, as presented.

Motion was made by Mr. Bilker, seconded by Mr. Siano

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie

Mr. Reynolds

Mrs. Altobelli asked for a motion to approve 13.07 and 13.08

13.07 Contract

Motion to approve contracted services with H6 Trivia, LLC. for the 2026 teacher in-service in the amount of \$1,850.

13.08 Affiliation Agreement

Motion to approve the affiliation agreement with Capella University for student teaching, as presented.

Motion was made by Ms. Bryne, seconded by Mrs. Pacell

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

14. HUMAN RESOURCES AND POLICY COMMITTEE

14.01 Committee Report – Nicholas V. Siano, Chairperson

Mr. Siano asked for a motion for 14.02 through 14.04 be approved.

14.02 Resignations

PROFESSIONAL

Moton to approve the following professional resignation(s), item(s) 1 through 2:

- 1) Sierra Coakley – English Teacher
Marple Newtown High School
Effective: March 27, 2026
- 2) Briana Graziola – Elementary Teacher
Russell Elementary School
Effective: April 7, 2026

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified resignation(s), item(s) 1 through 4:

- 1) Joselina Perez – Bus Driver in Training
Transportation Department
Effective: April 8, 2026
- 2) Mary Kane-Weist – Transportation Aide

Transportation Department
Effective: March 11, 2026

- 3) Robert Smith – Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: April 13, 2026
- 4) Charles Carpenter – Transportation Aide
Transportation Department
Effective: April 22, 2026

14.03 Retirements

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the following professional retirement(s), item(s) 1 through 3:

- 1) Judith Haines – Elementary Teacher
Culbertson Elementary School
Effective: June 16, 2026
- 2) Maureen Leon – Elementary Teacher
Worrall Elementary School
Effective: June 16, 2026
- 3) Diane Freeman – Certified School Nurse
Russell Elementary School
Effective: June 16, 2026

14.04 Terminations

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the following professional termination(s), item(s) 1:

- 1) Victoria Zielke – LTS Design Thinking Teacher
Loomis Elementary School
Effective: April 28, 2026
Reason: End of substitute assignment for Grace DeRosa

Motion was made by Mr. Bilker, seconded by Ms. Bryne

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

Mr. Siano asked for a motion for 14.05 through 14.07 be approved.

14.05 Appointments

ADMINISTRATION

Motion to approve the following administrative appointment(s) upon successful completion of required paperwork, item(s) 1:

- 1) Emma Clancy - Administrator of Employee Programs and Compliance
Human Resources Department
Effective: May 11, 2026
Salary: \$87,500.00
Reason: Replacing Jennifer Canavan

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the following professional appointment(s) upon successful completion of required paperwork, item(s) 1 through 2:

- 1) Samantha Beale – LTS Elementary Teacher
Russell Elementary School
Effective: April 8, 2026, through June 16, 2026
Salary: \$55,500.00, BA Step 1
Reason: Change in substitute assignment. Substitute for Briana Graziola
- 2) Victoria Zielke – Design Thinking Teacher
Loomis Elementary School
Effective: April 29, 2026
Salary: \$55,500.00, BA Step 1
Reason: Replacing Grace DeRosa

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified appointment(s) upon successful completion of required paperwork, item(s) 1 through 8:

- 1) Brandon Murrell – Custodian
Worrall Elementary School
Effective: April 6, 2026
Salary: \$21.38/hr.
Reason: Replacing Thomas Sewter
- 2) Stephen Bush – Bus Driver in Training
Transportation Department
Effective: April 29, 2026
Salary: \$20.09/hr.
Reason: Replacing Destene Green
- 3) Stephanie Adams – Transportation Aide
Transportation Department
Effective: April 29, 2026
Salary: \$20.09/hr.
Reason: Replacing Mary Kane-Weist

- 4) Naseer Khalid – Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: April 29, 2026
Salary: \$31.05/hr.
Reason: Replacing Joselina Perez
- 5) Patricia Gambone – Substitute Custodian
District-Wide
Effective: April 29, 2026
Salary: \$21.38/hr.
- 6) Ali Boulakhdart – Substitute Custodian
District-Wide
Effective: April 29, 2026
Salary: \$21.38/hr.
- 7) Jessie Poon – Classified Substitute
District-Wide
Effective: April 29, 2026
Salary: Determined by assignment
- 8) Mackenzie Ginter – 12-Month Secretary
Marple Newtown High School
Effective: April 29, 2026
Salary: \$29,144.00
Reason: Replacing Renee Palace

14.06 Leaves of Absence

ACT 93

Motion to approve the following Act 93 leave(s) of absence, item(s) 1:

- 1) Adolf Dreyer- Custodial Supervisor
Paxon Hollow Middle School
Effective: April 7, 2026, through April 24, 2026
Reason: FMLA

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified leave(s) of absence, item(s) 1 through 9:

- 1) Sandeep Kumar – Custodian
Culbertson Elementary School
Effective: March 23, 2026
Reason: Intermittent FMLA
- 2) Sophia Pfeffer – Special Education Assistant
Culbertson Elementary School
Effective: April 6, 2026 through June 12, 2026
Reason: FMLA

- 3) John Duthie – Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: April 10, 2026 through April 24, 2026
Reason: Uncompensated Leave
- 4) Rose Marie McCoach – School Assistant
Culbertson Elementary School
Effective: April 6, 2026 through June 12, 2026
Reason: Extending Uncompensated Leave
- 5) Maureen Deegan – Special Education Assistant
Marple Newtown High School
Effective: April 9, 2026 through June 12, 2026
Reason: FMLA
- 6) Richard Penater – Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: March 5, 2026 through April 17, 2026
Reason: Uncompensated Leave
- 7) Laura Barnett – Special Education Assistant
Culbertson Elementary School
Effective: April 27, 2026 through TBD
Reason: FMLA
- 8) Maria Thompson – School Assistant
Worrall Elementary School
Effective: April 20, 2026 through May 5, 2026
Reason: Uncompensated Leave
- 9) James Padusis – Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: April 1, 2026 through June 12, 2026
Reason: Uncompensated Leave

14.07 Return from Leaves of Absence

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the following professional return from leave(s), item(s) 1 through 2:

- 1) Nichole Shoch – Special Education Teacher
Marple Newtown High School
Effective: April 27, 2026
Reason: Return from FMLA
- 2) Keli Tull – Social Studies Teacher
Marpe Newtown High School
Effective: May 4, 2026
Reason: Return from FMLA

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified return from leave(s), item(s) 1:

- 1) Richard Penater – Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: April 20, 2026
Reason: Return from Uncompensated Leave

Motion was made by Mr. Bilker, seconded by Ms. Bryne

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

Mr. Siano asked for motion for 14.08 through 14.10 to be approved.

14.08 Transfers

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the recommended classified transfer(s), effective for the 2025 – 2026 School Year, item(s) 1:

	<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
1)	Debra Goodyear	Russell	Spec. Ed. Assistant	Culbertson	Spec. Ed. Assistant

14.09 Supplementary Contracts

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the appointment of personnel to activity contracts in accordance with the MNEA negotiated agreement, as presented.

14.10 Athletic Event Payroll Sheet Adoption

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the adoption of the updated Athletic Event Payroll Report form and pay rates effective July 1, 2026, as presented.

Motion was made by Mr. Bilker, seconded by Ms. Bryne

With no further discussion motion passed 6 – 0

Absent: Mrs. Harvey
Mr. McKenzie
Mr. Reynolds

15. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

Mr. Bilker gave a brief comment about the project at Worrall. It was scheduled in 2022 and was stopped because parents of the students at Culbertson did not want them moved to Worrall, so we approved to increase the size of Culbertson. I wanted to let the new Board members know that the process of watching the project is enjoying and he wanted to thank the administrative team for the help in getting this done.

16. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There was none.

17. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

There was none.

18. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business for the Board, Mr. Bilker adjourned the meeting at 7:14 PM

Respectfully submitted

Dominick DuVernois
Board Secretary