MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 22, 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	20

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mr. Bilker called the meeting to order at 6:29 PM and advised that the Board met in Executive session to discuss personal and legal matters.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. McKenzie led the Pledge of Allegiance

3. PRESENT

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

8 members present
Absent: Mr. Reynolds

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

Motion was made by Mr. McKenzie, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Agenda Items Only)

Several community members and students again wanted to show their support for Mr. Snow and wanted to know why the candidate that was approved candidate did not have the same qualifications as Mr. Snow**.**

Mr. Sereni again explained the process of the hiring of the supplemental contracts, that the Board takes the recommendation of the high school administration and the athletic director.

After a brief discussion between the parents, students and the Board, the Board took a 10-minute break to discuss this matter.

6. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

Marleigh isn't here because of her senior night

Orientation for freshmen and new students was held on August 28th, run by our tiger guides and with students representing their clubs to help ease the transition to the high school

The first day of school for students was September 1st. So far, the start to the school year has gone smooth and successful.

Back to School night for Paxon was on September 2nd

All students had off September 4th

Students also had off September 7th because of Labor Day

September 9th and 10th was back to school night for Culbertson

Worrall hosted their annual Big Buddy Breakfast on September 10th

The high school hosted an amazing ceremony remembering 9/11 during the first block of school

Health screens were held the week of the 14th at MNHS

That same day MNHS had their annual senior sunrise where all seniors came together at Rose Tree Park and enjoyed the sunrise together

Back to school night for the high school was on September 16th with tiger guides and NHS volunteers there to help navigate parents.

Culbertson had their sweet treat social on September 17th where they had ice-cream, water ice and churros

September 17th was Loomis's back to school night

Schools and offices were closed on September 21st due to a religious holiday

MNHS Picture day is this Thursday, September 24th

7. COMMENDATIONS

There was none

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Kane gave the following report:

The Marple Newtown School District came together to mark the 25th anniversary of September 11 by honoring those who lost their lives, those who worked courageously to save others, and all who were affected by that tragic day. Across the district, students showed their support by dressing in red, white, and blue in observance of Patriot Day

9. SECRETARY'S MINUTES

Mrs. Altobelli asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2026 Regular Meeting.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

10. OTHER REPORTS

Mr. Bilker asked that the following motions be approved.

Motion to approve the Confidential Settlement and Release for student 883697. This is not a new agreement.

Motion to approve the Confidential Settlement and Release for student 882350. This is not a new agreement.

Motion to approve the School-Based Services Agreement with Peter's Place for the 2026-2027 school year. This is not a new agreement.

Motion to approve the Placement Agreement with Elwyn for student 886901 for the 2026-2027 school year. This is not a new agreement.

Motion to approve the Contract for Additional or Related Services for students 881429 and 882413. These are not new agreements.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

11. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

11.01 Committee Report – Barbara Harvey, Chairperson

Mrs. Harvey asked for a motion for 11.02 through 11.07 be approved.
11.02 Bills for Payment

Motion to approve and authorize payment of General Fund bills in the amount of $4,170,631.30, Capital Reserve Fund bills in the amount of $795,742.80, Capital Fund bills in the amount of $2,104,107.39, and Food Service bills in the amount of $104,372.82.

11.03 Monthly Reports

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

11.04 Bus Leasing Agreement

Motion to authorize the Business Administrator to move forward with approving and entering into on behalf of the District four-year and five-year bus financing agreement(s) with KS State Bank, and any related agreements with Roher Bus Sales, for 29 C2 buses and 29 Minotour buses at estimated annual costs of $584,887.02 and $468,309.77, respectively, depending upon applicable interest rates. This authorization is subject to review and approval of the final language of these agreements by the Solicitor.

11.05 Donation, Russell Elementary School

Motion to accept a donation from the Russell Elementary PTO for decorations, teachers' desk, cubbies, and standing desk.

11.06 Delaware County Intermediate Unit 2026-2027 IDEA Section 611

Motion to approve the pass-through agreement for the 2026-2027 Special Education IDEAB Section 611 funds in the amount of $814,154.37.

11.07 Delaware County Intermediate Unit 2026-2027 IDEA Section 619

Motion to approve the pass-through agreement for the 2026-2027 Special Education IDEAB Section 619 funds in the amount of $3,801.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

12. FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

12.01 Committee Report – David Dezzi, Chairperson

Mr. Dezzi asked for a motion for 12.02 through 12.05 be approved

12.02 Heat Exchanger Cleaning and Re-gasketing, Marple Newtown High School

Motion to approve Johnson Controls Building Solutions, LLC., with the complete cleaning and re gasketing of the heat exchanger for the air conditioning at Marple Newtown High School, under Costars contract #008-145, in the amount of $39,860, funded through capital reserve, as presented.

12.03 Main Stadium Light Replacement, Marple Newtown High School

Motion to approve Goldhorn Electrical Construction, Inc., with the main stadium light replacement

at the Marple Newtown High School. Parts provided by Musco Lighting in the amount of $7,512, labor provided by Goldhorn in the amount of $17,150, under contract #008-E23-1100, in the amount of $24,662, funded through capital reserve, as presented.

12.04 Corridor, Hallway, and Bathroom Painting, Russell Elementary School

Motion to approve Tanglewood Painting Corporation, with the corridor, hallway, and bathroom painting at Paxon Hollow Middle School, under Costars contract #534165, in the amount of $34,000, funded through capital reserve, as presented.

12.05 Transportation Vehicle Purchase

Motion to approve the purchase of a passenger van from Abeloff GMC in the amount of $41,500.01 and to approve the necessary transfer from budgetary reserve. Price is in accordance with Co Stars Contract No. 025-E23-601.

Motion to authorize administration to either trade-in or dispose of the following vehicle at a total value to be determined at time of trade-in or disposal date:

Vehicle 205S: 2018 Dodge Caravan VIN# 2C4RDGBG8JR192211

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

13. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

13.01 Committee Report – Dana Altobelli, Chairperson

Mrs. Altobelli asked for a motion for 13.02 through 13.04 be approved

13.02 Disposals

Motion to approve the disposal of social studies books from Paxon Hollow Middle School, as presented.

Moton to approve the disposal of outdated books from Marple Newtown High School, as presented.

Motion to approve the disposal of outdated equipment from Marple Newtown High School, as presented.

Motion to approve the disposal of library books from Culbertson Elementary School, as presented.

13.03 Book Adoption, Marple Newtown High School

Motion to approve a new book title for Marple Newtown High School, as presented.

13.04 PSAT Schedule, Marple Newtown High School

Motion to approve the PSAT schedule for Marple Newtown High School to include grades 9-11 as test takers and grade 12 to participate in a senior project day on October 14, 2026.

Motion was made by Mr. Bilker, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0
Absent: Mr. Reynolds

13.05 Curriculum Purchase, Marple Newtown High School

Mrs. Altobelli asked for a motion to approve the purchase of a digital teacher resource for AP courses at Marple Newtown High School from Learn by Doing, Inc. The total cost to the District is $900, as presented.

Motion was made by Mrs. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Bilker

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

13.06 Marple Newtown High School Commencement

Mrs. Altobelli asked for a motion to approve the agreement with Villanova University to host the 2027 Marple Newtown High School Commencement. The total cost to the District is $35,250, as presented.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

13.07 Academic Calendar

Mr. Altobelli asked for a motion to approve the 2027-2028 academic calendar, as presented.

Motion was made by Mrs. Byrne, seconded by Mrs. Harvey

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: 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 14.08 be approved

14.02 Resignations

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the following professional resignation, item1:

1) Christina Rainville – History Teacher
Paxon Hollow Middle School
Effective: Based upon hiring of replacement

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified resignations, items 1 through 6:

1) Naseer Khalid – Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: September 1, 2026

2) Diane Anderson – School Assistant
Russell Elementary School
Effective: September 3, 2026

3) Marcus Weathers – Special Education Assistant
Culbertson Elementary School
Effective: September 1, 2026

4) Martin Roach – Bus Driver in Training
Transportation Department
Effective: September 4, 2026

5) Ubayd Steed – Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: September 11, 2026

6) Brian Lansberry – Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: September 18, 2026

14.03 Retirements

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified retirements, items 1 through 2:

1) Gregory Hagen – Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: August 28, 2026

2) Maureen Deegan – Special Education Assistant
Marple Newtown High School
Effective: September 22, 2026

14.04 Terminations

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified terminations, items 1 through 5:

1) Annette Brady – Substitute Nurse
District Wide
Effective: September 2, 2026
Reason: Unavailable for work

2) Ryan Strain – Substitute Custodian
District Wide
Effective: September 2, 2026
Reason: Unavailable for work

3) Susan Mackie – Homebound Instructor
District Wide
Effective: September 2, 2026
Reason: Unavailable for work

4) Sandi Chiusa – Classified Substitute
District Wide
Effective: September 2, 2026
Reason: Unavailable for work

5) Daniel Flaherty – Substitute Custodian
District Wide
Effective: September 2, 2026
Reason: Unavailable for work

14.05 Appointments

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified appointments upon successful completion of required paperwork, items 1 through 8:

1) Daria Young – Special Education Assistant
Culbertson Elementary School
Effective: September 16, 2026
Salary: $22,216.00
Reason: Replacing Nikeyah Stafford

2) Samuel Rennix – School Assistant
Worrall Elementary School
Effective: September 1, 2026
Salary: $15,036.00
Reason: Replacing Jennifer Warner

3) Kristen Mancini – School Assistant
Worrall Elementary School
Effective: September 23, 2026

Salary: $15,036.00
Reason: Replacing Nicole Iacovelli

4) Diane Anderson – Special Education Assistant
Russell Elementary School
Effective: September 8, 2026
Salary: $22,216.00
Reason: Replacing Eileen Fox

5) Michele LaVerghetta – Substitute Food Service Worker
District Wide
Effective: September 23, 2026
Salary: $16.67/hr.
Reason: Substitute

6) Judy Gentile – Substitute Food Services Worker
District Wide
Effective: September 23, 2026
Salary: $16.67/hr.
Reason: Substitute

7) Mitchelynn Dessus – Substitute Food Services Worker
District Wide
Effective: September 23, 2026
Salary: $16.67/hr.
Reason: Substitute

8) William Calderwood – Bus Driver in Training
Transportation Department
Effective: Based upon completion of required paperwork
Salary: $20.69 /hr.
Replacing: Tashiya Harris

14.06 Leaves of Absence

PROFESSIONAL

Motion to approve the following professional leaves of absence, items 1 through 3:

1) Alexa Coyne – Elementary Teacher
Culbertson Elementary School
Effective: October 6, 2026 through January 1, 2027
Reason: Child Rearing Leave

2) Jessica Civitello – Elementary Teacher
Loomis Elementary School
Effective January 4, 2027 through June 15, 2027
Reason: FMLA and Child Rearing Leave

3) Jaclyn Oestreich – Certified School Nurse
Episcopal Academy

Effective: January 27, 2027 through June 15, 2027
Reason: Child Rearing Leave

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the following classified leaves of absence, items 1 through 4:

1) Nancy Caruso – School Assistant
Russell Elementary School
Effective: September 1, 2026 through September 11, 2026
Reason: Uncompensated Leave

2) Raymond Haffelfinger – Bus Driver
Transportation Department
Effective: October 12, 2026 through January 11, 2027
Reason: Uncompensated Leave

3) Price Carter – Transportation Aide
Transportation Department
Effective: November 23, 2026 through February 12, 2027
Reason: Uncompensated Leave

4) Anne Teta – 12 Month Secretary
Transportation Department
Effective: August 14, 2026 through TBD
Reason: Uncompensated Leave

14.07 Return from Leaves of Absence

CLASSIFIED

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

1) Nancy Caruso – School Assistant
Russell Elementary School
Effective: September 14, 2026
Reason: Return from Uncompensated Leave

14.08 Transfers

CLASSIFIED

Motion to approve the recommended classified transfers, effective for the 2026 – 2027 School Year, item 1:

	Name	From	Assignment	To	Assignment
1)	Albert Keifer	Transportation	Driver in Training	Transportation	Driver

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

14.09 Supplementary Contracts

PROFESSIONAL

Mr. Siano asked for a motion to approve the appointment of personnel to activity contracts for the 2026-2027 school year, in accordance with the MNEA negotiated agreement, as attached.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

14.10 Tuition Reimbursement

Mr. Siano asked for a motion to approve the attached tuition reimbursement, in accordance with the Act 93, MNEA, MNAA, and MNESPA negotiated agreements, as attached.

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

With no further discussion motion passed 8 – 0

Absent: Mr. Reynolds

15. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

There was none

16. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

A community member thanked the Board for hearing them even though we disagree.

17. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

A Board member commented that we have great players, and great things going on in the district. He also wished the girls a great season.

18. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business for the Board, Mr. Bilker adjourned the meeting at 7:42 PM

Respectfully submitted

_____

Dominck DuVernois
Board Secretary