MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 13, 2026
Budget and Finance Committee Meeting – 6:30pm
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. Siano, Mrs. Harvey, Mrs. Altobelli, Mrs. Byrne

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

Press: 0

Audience: 0

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Siano led the Pledge of Allegiance

3. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

3.01 Committee Report – Barbara Harvey, Chairperson

Mrs. Harvey turned the meeting over to Mr. DuVernois

3.02 Additions to the Agenda ~ there was none

3.02 Bills for Payment

Mr. DuVernois explained that these are the normal monthly payments and are from December 1st through today.

MOTION: To approve and authorize payment of General Fund bills in the amount of $8,695,045.57, Capital Reserve Fund bills in the amount of $374,386.60, and Food Service bills in the amount of $314,085.79.

3.03 Financial Reports

Mr. DuVernois explained the financial reports and advised that if there are any questions, please contact him.

MOTION: To approve the monthly financial reports for October 2025 and November 2025, Treasurer's Report for October 2025 and November 2025, Investment Schedule for October 2025 and November 2025, and Budget Transfers.

3.04 Budgetary Reserve Transfers

Mr. DuVernois explained that on the second motion an insurance claim has been submitted.

MOTION: To approve a transfer from Budgetary Reserve in the amount of $120,336.05 for the repairs and maintenance of district generators.

MOTION: To approve a transfer from Budgetary Reserve in the amount of $25,000 for sewage remediation at Marple Newtown High School.

3.06 Disposal of Van

MOTON: To approve the public auction of a district van. In the event the auction does not result in a sale the Superintendent or her designee is permitted to use any other means to divest the District of its ownership of the van.

3.07 Box Truck Purchase, Food Service

Mr. DuVernois explained that other districts use these types of trucks and the cost will be paid by food service.

MOTION: To approve the purchase of a Box Truck for the Food Service department in the amount of $79,325.18 from Peoria Ford under KPN contract 024-G. The purchase will be funded from the Food Service Fund.

3.08 Request for Abatement of Penalty

Mr. DuVernois asked that the following motions be approved. They will be checked to make sure that they are first time request.

MOTION: To request to abate and refund the penalty on Folio 25-00-01891-00 in the amount of $331.06.

MOTION: To request to abate and refund the penalty on Folio 25-00-03938-09 in the amount of $647.22.

MOTION: To request to abate and refund the penalty on Folio 25-00-00519-00 in the amount of $483.90.

MOTION: To request to abate and refund the penalty on Folio 25-00-01837-64 in the amount of $662.21.

MOTION: To request to abate and refund the penalty on Folio 25-00-04581-34 in the amount of $715.04.

MOTION: To request to abate and refund the penalty on Folio 25-00-003316-00 in the amount of $353.80.

MOTION: To request to abate and refund the penalty on Folio 30-00-01802-67 in the amount of $1,046.51.

MOTION: To request to abate and refund the penalty on Folio 30-00-01806-62 in the amount of $1,029.43.

MOTION: To request to abate and refund the penalty on Folio 30-00-01695.85 in the amount of $495.98.

MOTION: To request to abate and refund the penalty on Folio 30-00-003158-10 in the amount of $370.66.

MOTION: To request to abate and refund the penalty on Folio 30-0002247-00 in the amount of $382.71.

MOTION: To request to abate and refund the penalty on Folio 30-00-01802.94 in the amount of $1,013.33.

MOTION: To request to abate and refund the penalty on Folio 30-00-02906-00 in the amount of $2,666.80.

3.09 Donation, Marple Newtown High School

Mr. DuVernois thanked the Newtown Township Police for this donation

MOTION: To accept a donation to Marple Newtown High School in the amount of $1,000 from the Newtown Township Police Department for the High School Life Skills program.

3.10 Donation, Culbertson Elementary School

Mr. DuVernois explained that this is not an actual fish tank, it is sensory.

MOTION: To accept a donation to Culbertson Elementary School in the amount of $350 for an Autistic Support Classroom Sensory Fish Tank in memory of Maddy Gilligan from Jenn Tate and friends.

3.11 2022 Tax Appeal

Mr. DuVernois asked that the following motion be approved.

MOTION: To authorize and direct the Solicitor to finalize resolution on Folio 30-00-02840-75 as follows:

For tax year 2022, an exemption of 68% and a taxable portion of the subject property at 32%.

For tax year 2023, an exemption of 60.3% and a taxable portion of the subject property at 39.7%.

For tax year 2024, an exemption of 56.1% and a taxable portion of the subject property at 43.9%.

For tax year 2025, an exemption of 50.4% and a taxable portion of the subject property at 49.6%.

For tax year 2026, an exemption of 60% and a taxable portion of the subject property at 40%.

This resolution represents an increase in the taxable portion of the subject property and a total increase in tax revenue for the School District of approximately $190,017 for tax years 2022 through 2025.

3.12 Other Business ~there was none

3.13 Public Comment ~ there was none

3.14 Adjournment

4. FACILIITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

4.01 Committee Report – David Dezzi, Chairperson

Mr. Dezzi turned the meeting over to Mr. Gallagher

4.02 Additions to the Agenda ~ there was none

4.02 Policy

Mr. Gallagher asked that the following motion be approved.

MOTION: To approve the second reading of School Board Policy 810, as presented. District Solicitor has reviewed.

Mr. Gallagher explained that the bid process is open and all work would be done over the summer on the boiler room and tree branches fell on the backstop and needs to be repaired before baseball season

4.04 Discussion Item: Paxon Hollow boiler room bid.

4.05 Discussion Item: Paxon Hollow baseball backstop fence replacement.

4.06 Worrall Elementary School Project

Mr. Gallagher explained that this is a small picture of the project, not the entire project and more approvals will be coming in March.

MOTION: To approve Worrall Elementary School project in accordance with the requirements of Act 34 of 1973.

4.07 Hot Water Heater System Replacement, Marple Newtown High School

MOTION: To approve Innovating Solutions with removal and installation of the hot water heater systems at Marple Newtown High School in the amount of $119,500 under Costars contract #008-E25-1541 paid from capital reserve.

4.08 Other Business ~ there was none

4.09 Public Comment ~ there was none

4.10 Adjournment

5. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

5.01 Committee Report – Dana Altobelli, Chairperson

Mrs. Altobelli turned the meeting over to Dr. Fagan

5.02 Additions to the Agenda ~ there was none

Dr. Fagan asked that the following motions under 5.03 through 5.07 be taken to the full Board for approval.

5.03 Administrative Trips

MOTION: To approve Sara Berl, Michelle Lizun, and Tim McCullough, Design Thinking teachers, to attend and present at PETE&C conference in Hershey, PA on February 3, 2026. The cost to the district is approximately $763.56, as presented.

MOTION: To approve three elementary teachers and one supervisor to attend Enjoy Thinking: The Power of Fluency professional learning session at West Chester University on Tuesday, January 13, 2026. The total cost is $200.00 to be paid from Title II funds, as presented.

MOTION: To approve To approve Chase Guerrera to attend the ASHA conference, November 20-22, 2025, in Washington D.C. The cost to the district is $797.80

5.04 Affiliation Agreement

MOTION: To approve the Institute for Speech- Language Pathology affiliation agreement with Widener University for student teaching and field experience, as presented.

MOTION: To approve an affiliation agreement with Villanova University student teacher program, pending District Solicitor review, as presented.

5.05 Curriculum Purchase

MOTION: To approve the purchase of the standards-aligned software, Typing.com, for all students in grades 2–5. The total cost to the district is $1,806, as presented.

5.06 Student Trips, Marple Newtown High School

MOTION: To approve Andrew Butler, coach, to accompany Marple Newtown High girls indoor track to Penn State University from February 28, 2026, through March 1, 2026. The cost of transportation is $1,083 to be paid by the District. The cost of the activity is $995 to be paid by the District. The total cost to the District is $2,078, as presented.

MOTION: To approve Kim Reynolds, coach, to accompany Marple Newtown High School cheerleading team to Burlington Township Middle School on December 20, 2025. The cost of transportation is $278.70 to be paid by the District. The total cost to the District is $278.70, as presented.

MOTION: To approve Joseph Becker, coach, to accompany Marple Newtown High School Wrestling team to Chesapeake, MD from January 9-10, 2026. The cost of transportation is $567.60 to be paid by the District. The cost of the activity is $1,956.80 to be paid by both the District and students. The total cost to the District is $967.60, as presented

MOTION: To approve Kim Reynolds, coach, to accompany Marple Newtown cheerleading team to Somerset, PA from January 8-10, 2026. The cost of transportation is $4,180 to be paid by the District. The cost of the activity is $3,619.28 to be paid by the District. The total cost to the District is $7,799.80, as presented.

MOTION: To approve Michael Clancy, advisor, to accompany Marple Newtown High School math club to Millersville University on February 25, 2026. The cost of transportation is $428.40 to be paid by the District. The total cost to the District is $428.40, as presented.

5.07 Elevator Door Decal, Marple Newtown High School

MOTION: To approve the installation of elevator door decals at Marple Newtown High School. There is no cost to the district, as presented.

5.08 Informational Items

MOTION: Presentation of two new courses to be implemented at Marple Newtown High School for the 2026-2027 school year, presented by Christian Jaspersen, Assistant Principal.

Mr. Jaspersen gave a brief presentation on the Aligning Curriculum to Future Careers

- Advanced placement (AP) Cybersecurity, explained the course overview and student benefits
- Coding for the future, AL~Assisted Learning, Project driven design and interdisciplinary focus
- PDE Mandated Personal Finance course
- Curriculum alignment with future ready skills

- Next steps, Board approval, course guide updates, student registration, teacher training, schedule integration, personal finance preparation

Any questions please reach out to Mr. Jaspersen ~ cjaspersen@mnsd.org

MOTION: Presentation of the annual Marple Newtown School District Student Achievement Report, presented by Dr. Kevin Fagan, Assistant Superintendent.

Dr. Fagan gave a brief presentation of the State testing report for 2025

- Review of MNSD Achievement data, comparison by school, cohort tracking
- Review of MNSD growth data
- Review of the SAT, AP, ACT data
- Review of the schools and grade level results in the PSSA scores
- Review of Keystone Exam and overall gain in Biology, Literature and Algebra
- New ELA and Science program at the Elementary level
- New Middle school schedule with intervention period to address student areas of need
- Multi-Tiered Support at the Elementary level
- Continuation of focused classroom walkthroughs to help build continuity and deepen connections across the district
- As of November 2025, MNSD Niche rating: 21/494 and Great Schools rating 8/10
- As of January 2026, MNSD Niche rating: 5/15 for Delaware County and MNHS 4/17 for Delaware County for college preparation.

MOTION: Presentation of the MNSD annual Goals Report, presented by Dr. Kevin Fagan, Assistant Superintendent.

Dr. Fagan gave the following brief presentation:

- Elementary schools ~ Initiated the transition to PA Common Core Standards, established a new and improved 1 – 5 report card, implementation of a new ELA structured literacy program, piloted a new STEELS-based science program, prepared for implementation of a Multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS), adherence to a singular student assessment calendar, and increase in the frequency of documented classroom walkthroughs.
- Middle school ~ Implementation of a revised schedule for 2025-2026 school year, implementation of intervention periods, collaboratively developed Artificial Intelligence guidelines and pilot tool, Magic School, routine usage of IXL as math and ELA resources, re-engaging staff on the topic of Restorative Practices, implemented regular documented classroom walkthroughs, and significant improvement in student participation.
- High school ~ Continued refinement of the MNHS STEM program, implementation of Artificial Intelligence pilot tool, Magic School, training for staff and students on new AI procedures, meaningful, efficient and timely professional development, dual credit opportunities, increased number of students completing an AP exam and overall score, implementation of a device-free procedure for 2025-2026, overall improvement in Keystone Exam, and students pursuing admission to a college or university.

5.09 Other Business ~ there was none

5.10 Public Comment ~ there was none

5.11 Adjournment ~ with no further business for the Board, Mr. Siano adjourned the meeting at 7:21 PM