

**MIDDLE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2017
4:24 p.m.**

MINUTES

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Middle Township School Board has a clearly articulated district mission statement incorporating the expectation that all students achieve the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (NJCCCS) at all grade levels.

Also, the mission of the Middle Township School District is to provide excellence in education while celebrating the strength of its diversity and upholding the values and traditions of the community in order to produce graduates who possess a love of learning and a sense of responsibility. This education aims to enable all students to reach their potential and become active, productive members of a dynamic, global society.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the rights of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, public notice of the meeting has been given by the Board Secretary in the following manner: Posting written notice to the Atlantic City Press, the Middle Township Gazette, written notice with the Clerk of the Township of Middle and posted on the Board Secretary's bulletin board.

II. ROLL CALL

 P Dennis Roberts
 P George DeLollis
 P Calvin Back
 P Robert Bakley II
 A Edward Dagney
 P Burgess Hamer
 A Gloria Hodges
 P Patricia Taylor
 P Stephanie Thomas
 P Jeffrey Trout

ATTENDANCE

<u>P</u>	Dr. David Salvo, Superintendent of Schools
<u>P</u>	Diane Fox, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
<u>P</u>	Kathleen McDonald, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
<u>A</u>	Robert F. Johnson, Director of Special Education
<u>P</u>	Christian Paskalides, Principal, Elementary #1
<u>P</u>	Douglas Penkethman, Principal, Elementary #2
<u>P</u>	Dr. Toni Lehman, Principal, Middle School
<u>A</u>	Frank Riggitano, Principal, High School
<u>A</u>	William Donio, Board Solicitor
<u>P</u>	Chris Barrett, Board Solicitor
<u>A</u>	Amy Elco, Board Solicitor

OTHERS

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOLLOWED BY A MOMENT OF SILENCE

Led by the President of the Middle Township Board of Education and followed by a moment of silence.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Doniger, Rio Grande, questioned the following maintenance reserve items:

- The switches for the internet and phone system—what is the purpose of this?
- Why do you need to spend a quarter of a million dollars on a new phone system, what's wrong with the existing system?

Ms. Fox explained that the switches are necessary to bring our system up to date as the current switches are ten years old, we cannot properly utilize the WIFI system, and they will be needed to power the new phone system that we plan to install. She further explained that the district is seeking Erate funding for that portion of the project and could receive up to 40% funding if successful.

As for the phone system, Ms. Fox explained that the current system is 10 years out of manufacturing and we cannot receive replacement parts or handsets for the system. The connectivity between buildings is poor and we cannot extend the current system into the new section of the building that is under construction. The amount you see is an estimate and we are currently seeking more quotes for the replacement.

V. FINANCIAL

Be it resolved that the Board of Education approves:

- A. The following maintenance reserve requests:

High School Main office	Flooring-Commercial Interiors Direct	\$10,834.83
High School Main Office	Partitions, file cabinets, seating-WB Mason	\$7,385.97
Grounds	New Golf Cart-Golf Carts Unlimited	\$3,900.00
Elementary #2	Music room Air Conditioning unit-CM3	\$18,574.00
Elementary #1	Demolition of Bus Garage	\$550,000.00
District Wide	Replacement of switches for internet and phone service	\$190,000.00
District Wide	New phone system	\$250,000.00
Administration Bldg.	Security upgrades	\$18,570.00
High School	Refinish of A Gym Floor	\$25,000
Total		\$1,074,289.80

Motion: Mr. Back Second: Ms. Thomas
 Vote: Roll Call Carried: Yes

- P Dennis Roberts
- P George DeLollis
- P Calvin Back
- P Robert Bakley II
- A Edward Dagney
- P Burgess Hamer
- A Gloria Hodges
- P Patricia Taylor
- P Stephanie Thomas
- P Jeffrey Trout

VI. REFERENDUM

Be it resolved that the Board of Education approves:

- A. Approve commissioning contract for Phase 1 and Phase 2 of referendum to Wright Commissioning for a total contract price inclusive of reimbursable expenses of \$45,825.

- B. The Construction change directive 001 for additions and renovations to Elementary #1. Change as follows: the floor finish in the Gymnasium will be changed from Wood Athletic Flooring to Indoor Resilient Athletic Flooring. Remove the 2" concrete slab depression at the Gymnasium. The slab thickness will remain the same. Adjustment cost to be determined in a manner agreed upon by the parties and a mutually acceptable fixed or percentage fee.

Motion:	Mr. Roberts	Second:	Ms. Taylor
Vote:	Roll Call	Carried:	Yes

<u>Y</u>	Dennis Roberts
<u>Y</u>	George DeLollis
<u>Y</u>	Calvin Back
<u>Y</u>	Robert Bakley II
<u>A</u>	Edward Dagney
<u>Y</u>	Burgess Hamer
<u>A</u>	Gloria Hodges
<u>Y</u>	Patricia Taylor
<u>Y</u>	Stephanie Thomas
<u>Y</u>	Jeffrey Trout

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Doniger, Rio Grande, questioned the board on how Charter schools would affect this district should they open here in Cape May County? The new federal administration seems to be leaning toward endorsing more charters to make schools better.

Mr. Roberts stated that in New Jersey Charter schools must be authorized by the state and go through a rigorous process to open. He commented that more charter schools have closed in the state due to mismanagement than have been approved.

Mr. DeLollis spoke to the level of qualifications that teachers in charter schools need compared to the public schools. The standards are different with the public schools being held to a higher standard.

Dr. Salvo confirmed this observation and stated that even the administrators are not held to the same level of certification as public school administrators.

Butch Hamer's mother, Bernice Brunson, commented that growing up in the city there were no charter schools, yet the public schools produced doctors, lawyers and other successful business people. She did not understand why they are pushing charter schools, as public schools have always been successful.

Mr. Hamer made an observation that having worked in both charter schools and public schools, there is a definite difference between the two with the public schools providing more for the students than a charter school did.

VIII. BOARD COMMENT

None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education meeting at 4:44 p.m.

Motion:	Mr. Hamer	Second:	Ms. Thomas
Vote:	Voice	Carried:	Yes

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane S. Fox
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary