

**MIDDLE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
PUBLIC HEARING**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2013
6:01 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, written notice with the Clerk of the Township of Middle and posted on the Board Secretary's bulletin board.

II. ROLL CALL

 P Calvin Back
 P Dennis Roberts
 P Robert Bakley II
 P George DeLollis
 A Burgess Hamer
 P Linda Koch
 P Andrew Melchiorre
 P Patricia Taylor
 P Stephanie Thomas
 A Patricia Ziolkowski

ATTENDANCE

- P Michael J. Kopakowski, Superintendent
- A Dr. David Salvo, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services
- P Diane Fox, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
- A Lyn Langford, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
- A Christian Paskalides, Principal, Elementary #1
- A Douglas Penkethman, Principal, Elementary #2
- A Amos Kraybill, Principal, Middle School
- A Richard Falletta, Principal, High School
- P William Donio, Board Solicitor
- A Amy Houck, 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. PRESENTATION

- A. 2013-2014 School Year Budget
Exhibit P 13:05:3/28/13

Mr. Kopakowski presented the 2013-2013 School Year Budget accompanied with a PowerPoint presentation.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Charlotte Sadler, President MTEA, questioned, what is the SDA and the assessment? She also, asked the board to consider not privatizing such things as the lawn cutting, refinishing of gym floors, etc. If the district truly needs more money why don't we go to vote for the extra money?

Diane Fox explained the SDA—School Development Authority and the assessment that is placed on the district for the grant money that was given for the expansion of the high school, middle school and various repairs on the other schools. She further stated that going to vote in not an option for more money as there is no new program or service that we are instituting to warrant a vote or approval from the Executive County Superintendent.

Linda Bakley, Middle Township, read the district mission statement and expressed her concerns that we are not meeting the academic needs of the students now and with more

cuts it would not be any better. She cautioned the board to look at where we spend our money and that we need to meet our mission statement.

Mr. Kopakowski, Superintendent, responded by reiterating that the cuts were focused where we have seen decreased enrollment mainly the high school and that we tried to balance the cuts so as to make the school attractive for incoming students.

Mary Engiles, teacher, questioned how many retirements has the district received so far? She was told that at this point there was only one official retirement.

Mr. Melchiorre, Board member, thanked the teachers, administrators and parents in the district for always accomplishing what is asked when they are asked to do more with less. He expressed that no one on this board wants to hurt anyone.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

VII. FINANCIAL

A. Approval of the 2013/2014 School Budget

		Local Tax Levy
General Fund	\$40,176,407	\$23,568,769
Special Revenue Funds	\$ 1,831,404	\$ N/A
Debt Service	\$ 1,606,050	\$ 1,606,050
 Total Budget	 \$43,613,861	

AND to set the General Fund tax levy at \$23,568,769 using banked CAP \$453,256 in order to support and maintain the comprehensive academic programs that currently serve the students of Middle Township.

Exhibit F 13:28:3/28/13

Motion:	Mr. Melchiorre	Second:	Mr. DeLollis
Vote:	Roll Call	Carried:	Yes

- Y Calvin Back
- Y Dennis Roberts
- N Robert Bakley II
- Y George DeLollis
- A Burgess Hamer
- Y Linda Koch
- Y Andrew Melchiorre
- Y Patricia Taylor
- Y Stephanie Thomas
- A Patricia Ziolkowski

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

A discussion ensued after the board vote on the budget about various ways to possibly fundraise for money, staff various Schedule B positions with volunteers, remove assistant coaches positions, and more.

The board said they would entertain any ideas for fundraising. One of the ways the board is looking at increasing enrollment is by submitting the application to be a Choice school.

IX. BOARD COMMENT

X. RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to move to closed session at 7:00 p.m. for approximately 20 minutes for

- 1. Personnel
- 2. Litigation

Motion:	Mr. Roberts	Second:	Mr. Melchiorre
Vote:	Voice	Carried:	Yes

XI. RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

Motion to reconvene to regular session at 7:34 p.m.

Motion:	Mr. Roberts	Second:	Mr. Bakley
Vote:	Voice	Carried:	Yes

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Motion:	Mr. Melchiorre	Second:	Mr. Roberts
Vote:	Voice	Carried:	Yes

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane S. Fox
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary