

**THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
METUCHEN, NEW JERSEY**

TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2022

**MEETING MINUTES
of the Metuchen Board of Education**

Metuchen High School
400 Grove Avenue
Metuchen, NJ 08840

1. Call to Order

2. Flag Salute

3. Notice of Meeting

I hereby make this statement to indicate compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act known as Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of New Jersey, 1975, which became effective 90 days after enactment, January 19, 1976.

Notice of this meeting was given by providing the location, time and date of this meeting, and posting of the same on the front door of the Board of Education offices, by delivering copies to the Borough Hall and the Metuchen Public Library, The Home News and Tribune, The Criterion Sentinel, The Star Ledger, and by filing a copy with the Borough Clerk as prescribed by this law.

4. Roll Call

Mr. Benderly	P	Ms. Killean	P
Ms. Cook	A	Mr. Lifton	P
Mr. Derflinger	P	Dr. Spigner	P
Mr. Glassberg	P	Mr. Suss	P
Dr. Johnson-Marcus	P		

5. Showcase of Success

❖ 2021-2022 Student Advisory Board

Carly Pichalski, Senior
Cecilia Zuniga, Senior
Raghav Potdar, Junior
Keira Dowd, Junior
Kyle Rutter, Sophomore
Danny Galligan, Freshman

Keira Caccavano, 8th Grade
Eashaan Bhattacharyya, 7th Grade
Sama Samim, 6th Grade
Drew Chonka, 5th Grade
Ayomi Cole, 4th Grade
Alex Hermans, 3rd Grade

❖ Seal of Biliteracy

Seniors

Sophie Calish - Spanish
Khalani Edwards - Spanish
Kaitlin Iong - Spanish
Daniel Jamison - Spanish
Alisha Khan - French

Molly Malague - Spanish
Kaitlyn O'Brien - Spanish
Lilia Ould-Hammou - French
Skyler Pearsall - Spanish
Jace Rivera - Spanish

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Andrea Kobayashi -	Spanish	Caroline Schleif -	German
Emmett Koskoski -	Spanish	Isabella Terracina -	Spanish
Sara Lignell -	German	Nicole Trolaro -	Spanish
Veronica Lijeron -	Spanish	Sofia Wolfel -	French and Chinese
Daniel Liss-	Spanish and German	Cecilia Zuniga-	Spanish

Juniors

Priya Aggarwal-	Spanish	Deanna Kochy-	Spanish
Sebastian Aparicio-	Spanish	Abigail Kozo-	Spanish
Rachel Chen-	Spanish	Harsh Monga-	Spanish
Jake Chinchar-	Spanish	Samantha Morillo-	Spanish
Jillian Cruz-	Spanish	Madison Orozco-	Spanish
Nithya Devarajan-	Spanish	Alexandra Osborn-Jones-	French
Victoria Espinosa-	Spanish and French	Anna Pierson-	Spanish
Kylie Flaherty-	Spanish	Vivien Rybanska-	Spanish
Brooke Fuccile-	Spanish	Steven Samame-	Spanish
Jun Gesteland-	Japanese	Benjamin Solasky-	Spanish
Kai Gesteland-	Japanese	Jane Swykowski-	Spanish
Sena Gesteland-	Japanese	Mia Szap-	Spanish
Sylvia Gredzinski-	Spanish	Ashvin Trehan-	Spanish
Aaron Honig-	Spanish	Emily Wu-	Spanish and Chinese
Marcus Iong-	Spanish	Jared Wyetzner-	Spanish
Aaron Kass-	Spanish		

- ❖ Perfect SAT and ACT scores

Perfect SAT Score

Jared Wyetzner - 11th Grade

Perfect ACT Score

Noah Strathman - 12th Grade

- ❖ Sports Champions

Girls Spring Track and Field Team

GMC White Division Champions, Central Jersey Group 2 Champions, Group 2 State Champions

Marina Armour	Gianna Hernandez	Molly Malague
Zoey Brown	Sarah Hyman	Nelagh Matthews
Kaitlyn Connors	Johanna Indyk	Lilia Ould-Hammou
Sophia De La Cruz	Carol Johnson-Fish	Ella Polakowski
Kaya Gredzinski	Lilly Kupersmit	Maggie Rivera
Sarah Hausser	Sara Lignell	Caroline Schleif

4x800 Relay GMC Champions, Central Jersey Group 2 Sectional Champions

Gianna Hernandez
Sara Lignell
Molly Malague
Caroline Schleif

800 Meter GMC Champion, Central Jersey Group 2 Sectional Champion

Caroline Schleif

1600 Meter GMC Champion, Central Jersey Group 2 Sectional Champion

Molly Malague

3200 Meter GMC Champion, Central Jersey Group 2 Sectional Champion

Molly Malague

Boys Spring Track and Field
4x800 Relay Group 2 State Champions

Nico Hidalgo
Alex Patelski
Eric Schleif
Brandon Sinclair

800 Meter Group 2 State Champion

Brandon Sinclair

Boys Spring Tennis Team
GMC White Division Champions

Abhishek Bansal
Heshaam Basha
Ethan Byrne
Matt Byrne
Ricard Halvorson

Matthew Han
Grayson Kahng
Michael McNamara
Josh Puerzer
Nate Schilowitz

Aravind Sriram
Noah Strathman
Ashvin Trehan

Spring Softball Team
GMC White Division Champions

Ava Barasch
Brianna De La Fuente
Kylie Flaherty
Leslie Flaherty

Deanna Kochy
Abby Kozo
Mary McGrath
Hannah Mindler

Skyler Pearsall
Carly Pichalski
Eva Szap
Mia Szap

Boys Spring Golf Team

GMC Golf Champions, State Group 1 Champions, Red Division Champions, Central Jersey

Group 1 Champions

Shawn Ahn
Jacob Blom
Joshua Blom

Kyle Blom
Matthew DeCerbo
Jakob Krombholz

Luke Krombholz

Group 1 State Champion First Place

Kyle Blom

Group 1 Central Jersey First Place

Jakob Krombholz

Edgar Spring GMC Track Team
Undefeated Season

Tariq Alisammond
Julia Armour
Kadijata Bah
Katie Chen
John Cummings
Alanna Edwards
Christopher Edwards
Sophie Ferrara

Ian Jung
Angelica Kiesche
Arturs Krumins
Sarah Martin
Erica Merzlyakov
Neela Myers
Tyler Nicholson
Lucy Ongteco

Lola Petro
Sammie Powers
Nate Villanueva
Taylor Zaneto
Allen Zheng

6. Meeting Open to the Public *(for any topic)*

Mr. Lucas Rabinowitz of 71 Woodbridge Ave spoke of his concerns about Campbell Elementary School.

7. Presentations

8. Reports

- ❖ President's Report -None
- ❖ Superintendent's Report - Dr. Caputo gave a report.
- ❖ Committee Reports

Mr. Benderly gave a report on the Garden State Coalition of Schools.
Dr. Johnson Marcus gave a report on the Human Relations Commission.
Ms. Killean gave a report on the Extra-Curricular Committee.
Mr. Lifton gave a report on the Referendum/Facilities Committee.
Mr. Suss gave a report on the Finance/Tech Committee.

9. Old Business

10. New Business

11. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Education Meetings

May 24, 2022	Special Business Meeting (1)
May 24, 2022	Special Business Meeting (2)
May 24, 2022	Board Meeting

Mr. Glassberg motioned. Mr. Benderly seconded. Motion carried 7-0-1. Mr. Suss abstained.

12. Meeting Open to the Public *(for any topic)*

13. Recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools

(at this time the Board will take formal action on the following items – see attachments)

Often times it may appear to members of our audience that the Board of Education takes action with very little comment and in many cases a unanimous vote. Before a matter is placed on the agenda at a public meeting, the administration has thoroughly reviewed the matter with the Superintendent of Schools. If the Superintendent is satisfied that the matter is ready to be presented to the Board of Education, it is then referred to the appropriate board committee. The members of the board committee work with administration and the Superintendent to assure that the members fully understand the matter. When the committee is satisfied with the matter, it is presented to the Board of Education for discussion before any final action is taken. Only then, is it placed on the agenda for action at a public meeting.

A. PERSONNEL

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Resignation - Certificated Staff

Move to accept the resignation of Mark Stack, English Teacher at Metuchen High School, effective June 30, 2022.

2. Medical Leave of Absence - Certificated Staff

Move to approve a medical leave of absence of Virginia Wetzel, Science Teacher at Edgar Middle School, through June 21, 2022.

3. Appointment – Leave Replacement

Move to approve the appointment of Ashlyn Jarius, Leave Replacement for Virginia Wetzel, Science Teacher at Edgar Middle School, effective May 19, 2022 through June 21, 2022, at a rate of \$150/day.

4. Resignation - Certificated Staff

Move to accept the resignation of Laura Camargo, Spanish Teacher at Edgar Middle School, effective June 30, 2022.

5. Medical Leave of Absence - Administrator

Move to approve the medical leave of absence of Neyda Evans, Assistant Principal at Edgar Middle School, from May 18, 2022 through June 16, 2022.

6. Appointment Extension - Interim Assistant Principal

Move to extend the appointment of Mike Knoth, Interim Assistant Principal at Edgar Middle School, through June 16, 2022 (Agenda 5/24/22, Section 13 A8).

7. Medical Leave of Absence - Administrator

Move to approve the medical leave of absence of Brooke Kirschner, Assistant Principal at Campbell Elementary School, from June 7, 2022 through approximately July 1, 2022.

8. Appointment - Interim Assistant Principal

Move to approve the appointment of Kathy Glutz, as Interim Assistant Principal at Campbell Elementary School, at a rate of \$515/day, effective June 6, 2022 through approximately June 21, 2022.

9. Resignation - Paraprofessional

Move to accept the resignation of Rene Flynn, Paraprofessional at Edgar Middle School, effective June 3, 2022.

10. Family Medical Leave of Absence - Custodian

Move to approve the family medical leave of absence of Chad Lesniak, Custodian at Campbell School, effective July 5, 2022 through August 26, 2022.

11. Appointment - Substitutes

Move to approve the additional substitute teachers for the 2021-2022 school year, effective May 26, 2022, (Agenda 8/24/2021, Section 13 A5):

Substitute Teacher	Certification	Ray Rate
Rachel Bruno	Sub with college credits	\$85/day
Gabriella Camiolo	Sub with college degree	\$90/day

12. Substitutes Rate Increase for 2022-2023

Move to approve a rate increase for substitute teachers, paraprofessionals, secretaries and nurses, as follows, effective July 1, 2022:

Position	Rate
Substitute Teacher w/30+ college credits	\$100/day
Substitute Teacher w/college degree	\$105/day
Substitute Teacher w/teacher certification	\$110/day
Substitute Paraprofessional	\$15/hour
Substitute Secretary	\$15/hour

Substitute Nurse	\$200/day
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13. Medical Leave of Absence - Custodian

Move to approve the medical leave of absence of Paula Butler, Custodian at Metuchen High School, from May 4, 2022 through approximately June 30, 2022.

14. Reappointment - Tenured Teachers

Move to approve the reappointment of the following as tenured teachers for the 2022-2023 school year, as shown on the attachment.

15. Reappointment - Tenured Principals/Assistant Principals

Move to approve the reappointment of the following tenured Principals/Assistant Principals for the 2022-2023 school year, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 at the annual salaries as follows:

Name	Position	Salary
Edward Porowski	MHS Principal	\$163,170
Brian Stike	MHS Assistant Principal	\$130,751
Brooke Kirschner	CES Assistant Principal	\$134,902

16. Reappointment - Tenured Supervisors

Move to approve the reappointment of the following tenured supervisors for the 2022-2023 school year, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 at the annual salaries as follows:

Name	Position	Salary
John Cathcart	Supervisor	\$161,088
Kathleen Henn	Supervisor	\$131,176

17. MHS Weight Room Supervisors

Move to approve the following as weight room supervisors for the 2022-2023 school year, effective July 1, 2022, at the rate of \$25/hour, as needed:

Nick Zaneto	Molly Yelencsics	Bob Ulmer
Joe Keagle	Hannah Thomas*	Marcus Farris
Joelle Williams*	Jordan Leitner	Julie Youngman

*adjunct coach (not a member of district staff)

18. Appointment - Certificated Staff

Move to approve the appointment of Ariana Heinsdorf, Library Media Specialist for Metuchen Schools District, for the 2022-2023 school year, at a salary of \$56,700, Step 3A, effective August 31, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

19. Transfer - Certificated Staff

Move to approve the transfer of Janelle Fisher, current Campbell School Teacher, to tenure track Teacher of RtI/ESL at Moss School, for the 2022-2023 school year, effective August 31, 2022.

20. Turn-Key Trainers for the 2022 – 2023 School Year

Move to approve the following teachers to serve as turn-key trainers for all K-5 staff on how to embed coping skills for the 2022-2023 school year at the hourly rate of \$48 per hour. Not to exceed 9 hours each. To be paid by the ESSER III grant.

Erica Hsu
Sofia Lopes
Sarah Masters
Katie McKenna
Emily Presuto
Kelsee Young

21. Student Observers/Interns

Approve the following Observers and Interns in the Metuchen Public Schools district for the 2022-2023 school Year:

Name	School
Breanna Fabriczi, Observer, Rutgers University	CES
Anthony Paterno, Observer, Rutgers University	CES
Kelly Zyglar, Intern, Seton Hall University	MHS

22. School Transfer - Certificated Staff

Move to approve the school transfer of Raquel Williams, Spanish Teacher at Campbell School, to Spanish Teacher at Edgar Middle School, for the 2022-2023 school year, effective August 31, 2022.

23. Resignation - Bus Driver

Move to accept the resignation of Ivon Macayza, Bus Driver for Metuchen Public Schools, effective June 27, 2022.

Mr. Glassberg motioned. Mr. Suss seconded. Items 1-15 and 17-23 motion carried 8-0-0. Item 16 motion carried 7-1-0. Mr. Suss voted no on item 16.

-----end of personnel section-----

B. FINANCE

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Resolution – NJSIG

The Metuchen Board of Education hereby approves the submission of a grant submission for the 2022 Safety Grant Program through the New Jersey Schools Insurance Group’s ERIC NORTH Subfund for the purposes described in the application in the amount of \$14,286.00 for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

2. Nonpublic Technology Aid

Move to approve the following nonpublic technology aid for the 2021-2022 school year. These expenditures are required for the district to fulfill certain legal obligations under state legislation to administer federal or state funds provided to nonpublic schools within our jurisdiction.

School	Vendor	QTY	Item #	Description	Price	Total
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Apple Montessori School	CDW	1	6693086	MSI Modern AM241 All in one	\$634.97	\$634.97
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3. Professional Development

Move to approve the following professional development activities as shown on the following chart:

Start Date	End Date	Activity Title	Name	Building	Approved	Payment	FFPI Proposal #
6/2/2022	6/2/2022	NJPSA Roundtable: Gifted and Talented	Jaye, Ashley	Central Office	\$0	No cost	
6/23/2022	6/23/2022	NJASCD Annual Retreat	Dougherty, Natalie	Central Office	\$0	No cost	
7/6/2022	7/7/2022	Conference for First and Second Grade Teachers	Spring, Christina	Campbell	\$489	FFPI	23-001
7/25/2022	7/25/2022	Cutting-Edge Best Strategies for Second Grade	Spring, Christina	Campbell	\$279	FFPI	23-002
10/20/2022	10/20/2022	The Geraldine R. Dodge Poetry Program	Elton, Andrea	Edgar	\$0	No cost	
6/15/2022	6/15/2022	Staying Connected: Facilitating the Learning Experience During and After Cancer Treatment	Pham, Nga	Moss	\$148.50	No cost	22-114

4. Interlocal Services Agreement

Move to approve the interlocal service agreement between the Metuchen Public Library and the Metuchen Board of Education to share the cost of certain library databases.

5. Nonpublic Security Aid

Move to approve the following nonpublic security aid for the 2021-2022 school year. These expenditures are required for the district to fulfill certain legal obligations under state legislation to administer federal or state funds provided to nonpublic schools within our jurisdiction.

School	Vendor	QTY	Item #	Description	Price	Total
Apple Montessori School	CDW	1	6732134	Airphone 7" Touchscreen Hndst	\$1,808.96	\$1,808.96
		1	1946609	Motorola CP185 two way radio	\$224.09	\$224.09
		1	4447958	CBC Wingline Shredder	\$160.98	\$160.98

Mr. Suss motioned. Mr. Benderly seconded. Motion carried 8-0-0.

-----end of finance section-----

C. POLICY

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. District Calendar Change

Move to approve a district calendar change to make new teacher orientation August 29, 2022, August 30, 2022 and September 2, 2022 with Inservice days August 31, 2022 and September 1, 2022.

2. Suspensions

The Board hereby acknowledges receipt of the suspension report summary for May 23-June 10, 2022.

3. Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

Move to affirm the findings of the previously reported case:

- METHS050322001

Mr. Glassberg motioned. Mr. Derflinger seconded. Item 1 carried 7-0-1. Mr. Suss abstained from item 1. Item 2 carried 8-0-0. Item 3 carried 6-1-1. Mr. Suss abstained from item 3 and Mr. Benderly voted no on item 3.

-----end of policy section-----

D. CURRICULUM

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Field Trips

Move to approve the following field trips for students in the Metuchen School District as shown:

School	Destination	Class/Group/ Purpose	Teachers/ Advisors	Date (s)	No. Of Students	Board Cost- Transportation	Board Cost- Subs.
MHS	Galapagos Islands	10 th – 12 th Grade - EF Tours trip to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands.	Giddes Cathcart	6/30/ 2022	12	\$500 Bus Cost to Students	\$0
MHS	Spain	11 th – 12 th Grade - students will be visiting Madrid, Barcelona, and the Basque Country. This allows them to see a wide variety of Spanish culture in terms of art, history, architecture, and food	Vosinas Flores TBD Additional Teachers	3/31/ 2023	40	TBD	TBD
MHS	France	9 th – 12 th Grade - Students will spend 10 days exploring various regions of France.	Girin TBD 6-7 Additional Teachers	6/25/ 2023	36-40	\$0	\$0

2. 2022 Curriculum Summer Writing

Move to approve the following curriculum writing documents, writers and amounts for Summer 2022:

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Course	Written By	Amount
Social Studies Kindergarten	Emily Sporer, Sarah Masters	\$650 each writer
Social Studies Grade 2	Lisa Levin, Jennifer Spak	\$650 each writer
Social Studies Grade 3	Sarah Anderson, Danielle Rubinowitsch	\$650 each writer
Social Studies Grade 4	Jennifer Pasquale, Lindsey Omark	\$650 each writer
Social Studies Grade 5	Jennifer Muller, Emily Mertz Tzetzos, Emily Presuto	\$525 each writer
Civics & The Foundation of our Nation Grade 6	Ken Smith, Debbie Brown	\$650 each writer
World History & Civic Engagement	Pamela Stead, Michael Butler	\$650 each writer
High School World History	Laura Connolly	\$1,000
The Holocaust	Christopher Giddes, William Schlavis	\$400 each writer
Genocide after WWII	Christopher Giddes, William Schlavis	\$400 each writer
Financial Literacy	Christopher Giddes	\$500
German Grade 7	Susan Paredes	\$500
German Grade 8	Susan Paredes	\$1,000
German 2	Susan Paredes	\$1,000
German 3	Susan Paredes	\$1,000
German 4 Honors	Susan Paredes	\$1,000
Elementary PE/Dance/Health Kindergarten	Jennifer Azzara	\$1,000
PE Grade 5	Melanie Gilbert	\$1,000
PE Grade 5	John Butler and Kristen Kulthau	\$650 each writer
PE Grade 6	Rick Carter	\$1,000
PE Grade 7	Melanie Gilbert	\$1,000
PE Grade 8	Melanie Gilbert	\$1,000
Health Grade 5	Melanie Gilbert	\$350
Health Grade 7	Rick Carter	\$350
Health Grade 8	Melanie Gilbert	\$350
Web Programming	Jonathan Stevens	\$500
Python	Jonathan Stevens	\$500

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Mr. Derflinger motioned. Dr. Johnson Marcus seconded. Motion carried 8-0-0.

-----end of curriculum section-----

14. Meeting Open to Public *(for any topic)*

15. Announcements -Dr. Spigner made announcements.

16. Motion to Go Into Executive Session *(when applicable)*

Resolution to Close Meeting

BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to the Sunshine Act, N.J.S. 10:4-12 and 13, that the Board of Education will now meet in executive session to discuss _____ and that matters discussed will be disclosed to the public as soon as the reason for confidentiality no longer exist.

17. Adjournment

Mr. Glassberg motioned to adjourn. All in favor. Adjournment 9:08pm.