

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL VOTING MEETING  
MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2022

Pursuant to notices sent to each member of the Board of Education, the special voting meeting was held in person on Wednesday, May 11, 2022 in the Library at Middletown High School North, 63 Tindall Road, Middletown, NJ.

**1. 6:00 PM Student Recognition - Auditorium**

**2. Call to Order by the Board President and Reading of the Sunshine Announcement at 7:00 p.m.**

*"Adequate notice of this meeting was provided by sending such notice to the Asbury Park Press, The Middletown Patch, and the Middletown Twp. Public Schools District Website and the posting of such notice at the August T. Miner Administrative Offices and each elementary, middle, and secondary school website in the district".*

**3. Roll Call**

Present: Leonora Caminiti, Kate Farley, Barry Heffernan, John Little, Joan Minnuies,  
Jacqueline Tobacco and Frank Capone

Absent: Michael Donlon, Deborah Wright

Also present: Mary Walker, Amy Doherty, and Bruce Padula, Esq.

**4. Resolution for Executive Session at 7:01 p.m. – Motion made by Mrs. Tobacco, seconded by Mr. Heffernan to go into executive session for; personnel and confidential legal matters. Motion carried on a voice vote.**

**5. Call to Order by the Board President and Re-Reading of Sunshine Notice at 8:15 p.m.**

**6. Roll Call**

Present: Leonora Caminiti, Michael Donlon, Kate Farley, Barry Heffernan, John Little,  
Joan Minnuies, Deborah Wright, Jacqueline Tobacco and Frank Capone

Absent:

Also present: Mary Walker, Amy Doherty, and Bruce Padula, Esq.

**7. Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

- *With sadness, we share that Dorothy Citarella passed away on May 2, 2022. Mrs. Citarella served the District as a paraprofessional and then a secretary at Nut Swamp Elementary School for several years until 2016. We extend our deepest condolences to the Citarella family.*
- *With great sadness, we share that Renate Mey passed away on May 9. Mrs. Mey served the District as an exemplary employee since 1979 and was the Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent for 20 years. She retired in January 2008. We extend our deepest condolences to the Mey family.*

**8. Opportunity for Public Comment on Agenda Items Only - limited to thirty minutes**

**9. Proclamations**

Special Education Week in New Jersey

**WHEREAS**, 237,344 children receive special education instruction in New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 18,000 special needs children are enrolled in preschool and early intervention programs in New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, thousands of parents, teachers, child study team members and school administrators give generously of their time and energy to support the learning needs of special education students; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1985, New Jersey has proclaimed the second week in May each year as Special Education Week in New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, the theme for Special Education Week 2022 is “Education, the Key to Success;” and  
**WHEREAS**, the public school districts of New Jersey make a major contribution to the public welfare by preparing thousands of exceptional persons to participate as citizens of this state and as members of society;  
**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Middletown Township Board of Education recognizes the students who have worked so hard and accomplished so much; and thanks their parents and educators, who have provided support to these children and continue to look for ways to improve our schools to promote the achievement of ALL students; and  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Middletown Township Board of Education proclaims May 8 - May 14, 2022 as Special Education Week in Middletown Township Public Schools.

## 10. Reports

### A. Report of the President

- Mr. Capone recognized School Nurses Day and congratulated the students who were recognized at the ceremony prior to the Board’s meeting.

### B. Report of the Superintendent

- Mrs. Walker congratulated and thanked the following:
  - Students whose academic and community achievements were recognized earlier this evening.
  - Middletown’s dual enrollment students who will receive their associate’s degree from Brookdale’s Early College Academy tomorrow.
  - Acme Supermarket and community members for a \$2500 donation in \$50 gift cards to assist students and families facing food insecurity.
  - Middletown Police Department for National Police Recognition Week for their collaboration with MTPS in both safety management and security issues.

## 11. Recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools

### A. Finance (Amy Doherty)

- 1) **BE IT RESOLVED**, per the recommendation of its group insurance broker-of-record, Brown & Brown, the Board of Education hereby resolves, effective July 1, 2022, to make the following changes to its group dental insurance carrier as shown in *Attachment Finance-1*:
  - a) Terminate its group dental insurance policy with Horizon, group # 97855
  - b) Select Delta Dental as its group dental insurance carrier, at the rates, benefits, terms, and conditions per their proposal: -8.8% on current premium rates. Benefits will be consistent with the requirements of the collective bargaining agreement.
  - c) Designate Brown & Brown, as the Board’s broker-of-record for our new Delta Dental group insurance program. Brown & Brown is authorized to act on behalf of the Board in all matters related to this program.
  - d) Brown & Brown’s responsibilities will include, but are not limited to, negotiating annual renewal rates, marketing our group insurance programs, and aiding our staff in the resolution of billing, enrollment, and claim problems.

Motion made by Mr. Donlon, seconded by Mr. Little for approval of **item #11A1**. Motion carried on a voice vote:  
Ayes: (9) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. Donlon, Mrs. Farley, Mr. Heffernan, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright,  
Mrs. Tobacco and Mr. Capone

Noes: (0)

### B. Facilities (Amy Doherty)

- 1) Approval of temporary Facilities Use/License Agreement between the Middletown Township Board of Education and Navesink River Productions LLC, as per *Attachment Facilities-1*.

Motion made by Mr. Donlon, seconded by Mrs. Farley for approval of **item #11B1**. Motion carried on a voice vote:

Ayes: (7) Mr. Donlon, Mrs. Farley, Mr. Heffernan, Mr. Little, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Tobacco and Mr. Capone  
Noes: (1) Mrs. Minnuies  
Abst: (1) Mrs. Caminiti

**C. Personnel (*Pat Rinella*) – See Personnel Report**

- 1) Approval of Retirements:
  - a. James Buchanan – Special Education, Thorne effective 1/1/23
  - b. Joanne Parsells – Paraprofessional, Harmony effective 7/1/22
  - c. Maureen Campbell – Grade 4, Nut Swamp effective 7/1/22
  
- 2) Approval of Resignations:
  - a. Jennifer Dellett – Assistant Principal, HS South effective 5/9/22
  - b. Debra Fiel – Family & Consumer Sciences, HS South effective 7/1/22
  - c. Matthew Florio – Maintenance Mechanic, District effective 5/9/22
  - d. Gabriella Kolodziej – Grade 5, New Monmouth effective 7/1/22
  - e. Kristen Luther – Co-Teacher, Ocean Avenue effective 7/1/22
  - f. Ghada Mitwasi – Paraprofessional, Harmony effective 5/12/22
  - g. Cynthia Morizzo – Music (Chorus), Thorne effective 7/1/22
  - h. Kristie Tapolow – SBSS, Ocean Avenue effective 7/1/22
  - i. Gillian Bazel – Co-Teacher, New Monmouth effective 7/1/22
  - j. Christine Crawford – Special Education, Middletown Village effective 7/1/22
  - k. Susanne Fitzgerald – Paraprofessional, Leonardo effective 5/7/22
  - l. Shereen Landau – Confidential Secretary, Business Office effective 7/1/22
  - m. Mirielle Pistilli – Paraprofessional, HS South effective 5/7/22
  
- 3) Approval of Adjustment of Salary, Assignment, and/or Dates of Employment:
  - a. Andrew Bane – Custodian (Part-Time), HS South  
Salary: \$15,000 (pro-rated)  
Effective: 5/2/22 – 6/30/22
  
  - b. Peter Blewett – Night Custodian, New Monmouth  
Salary: \$28,926 (pro-rated) (includes Night Differential)  
Effective: 5/2/22 – 6/30/22
  
  - c. Sean Fulton – Night Custodian, HS North  
Salary: \$29,926 (pro-rated) (includes Night Differential)  
Effective: 5/16/22 – 6/30/22
  
  - d. Dylan Murphy – Security Guard, District  
Salary: \$20.00 per hour  
Effective: 4/28/22 – 6/30/22
  
  - e. Christine Picarello – School Nurse, HS North (REPLACEMENT)  
Salary: \$56,548 (pro-rated)  
Effective: 1/27/22 – 6/30/22
  
  - f. Corey Reynolds – Social Studies/SpEd, HS South  
Salary: \$56,548 (pro-rated)

Effective: 6/1/22 – 6/30/22

Motion made by Mrs. Tobacco, seconded by Mr. Heffernan for approval of items #11C1a-b, 11C2a-h, 11C3 and Motion made by Mr. Heffernan, seconded by Mr. Donlon for approval of items #11C1c, 11C2i-m. Motions carried on a voice vote:

Ayes: (9) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. Donlon, Mrs. Farley, Mr. Heffernan, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Tobacco and Mr. Capone

Noes: (0)

4) Approval of New Hires (*Salaries subject to adjustment per negotiations*):

- a. Fran Carbone – Secretary (Cat. 2/12), Thorne  
Salary: Step 5 - \$45,467  
Effective: 7/1/22 – 6/30/23
- b. Wendy Faria – Grade 2, New Monmouth  
Certification(s): Elementary K-6 (Provisional)  
Salary: BA – Step 2 - \$57,048  
Effective: 8/29/22 – 6/30/23
- c. Naomi Holliday – Science/SpEd, HS South  
Certification(s): Biological Science (Standard), TOSD (Standard)  
Salary: MA – Step 8 - \$72,086  
Effective: 8/29/22 – 6/30/22
- d. Stephanie Karcz – Grade 5, Nut Swamp  
Certification(s): Elementary K-6 (Provisional)  
Salary: BA – Step 1 - \$56,548  
Effective: 8/29/22 – 6/30/23
- e. Anthony Martino – Language Arts, Bayshore  
Certification(s): English (Standard)  
Salary: BA – Step 4 - \$58,048  
Effective: 8/29/22 – 6/30/23
- f. Brittany Montgomery – Grade 3, Nut Swamp  
Certification(s): Elementary K-6 (Provisional), TOSD (Provisional)  
Salary: BA – Step 1 - \$56,548  
Effective: 8/29/22 – 6/30/23
- g. BriAnne Sciametta – Co-Teacher, Bayview  
Certification(s): Elementary K-6 (Provisional), TOSD (Provisional)  
Salary: MA+10 – Step 1 - \$70,316  
Effective: 8/29/22 – 6/30/23
- h. Aislinn Stodolski – Reading Development Teacher, Nut Swamp  
Certification(s): Elementary K-6 (Standard)  
Salary: MA+10 – Step 9 - \$74,466  
Effective: 8/29/22 – 6/30/23
- i. Josh Sulkowski – Grade 5, New Monmouth  
Certification(s): Elementary K-6 (Standard)  
Salary: BA – Step 8 - \$60,098  
Effective: 8/29/22 – 6/30/23

Motion made by Mrs. Farley, seconded by Mr. Heffernan for approval of **item #11C4**. Motion carried on a voice vote:

Ayes: (9) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. Donlon, Mrs. Farley, Mr. Heffernan, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Tobacco and Mr. Capone

Noes: (0)

5) Approval of Leave of Absence:

- a. Jena Calabrese – Speech, Middletown Village effective:  
6/13/22 – 6/30/22 – paid leave  
8/29/22 – 11/23/22 – unpaid by District, NJ Family Leave Act
- b. Sarah Derasmo – Math/SpEd, HS South effective:  
9/12/22 – 9/16/22 – paid leave  
9/17/22 – 12/16/22 – unpaid by District, NJ Family Leave Act
- c. Alexis Petite – Co-Teacher, Harmony effective:  
6/1/22 – 6/23/22 – unpaid by District, Federal Leave Act
- d. Julie Shapiro – Secretary (Cat. 2/10), HS South effective:  
5/2/22 – 6/30/22 – unpaid by District, NJ Family Leave Act  
8/15/22 – 9/9/22 – unpaid by District, NJ Family Leave Act
- e. Stuart Soimes – Custodian, Bayshore effective:  
4/28/22 – 5/12/22 – unpaid leave
- f. Jerome Sullivan – Security Guard, Bayshore effective:  
4/6/22 – 6/30/22 – unpaid by District, Intermittent NJ Family Leave Act
- g. Briana Yahara – Preschool, Harmony effective:  
9/6/22 – 10/14/22 – paid leave  
10/15/22 – 1/6/23 – unpaid by District, NJ Family Leave Act

6) Approval to Adjustment of Leave of Absence:

- a. Domenick D’Angelo – Music, Leo/Village/River Plaza effective:  
2/15/22 – 2/23/22 – paid leave  
2/24/22 – 4/4/22 – unpaid by District, NJ Family Leave Act
- b. Doloris DeMaio – Science, HS South effective:  
11/12/21 – 4/30/22 – paid leave  
5/1/22 – 6/30/22 – unpaid by District, Federal Leave Act

Motion made by Mr. Donlon, seconded by Mr. Heffernan for approval of **items #11C5-6a** and Motion made by Mr. Heffernan, seconded by Mr. Donlon for approval of **items #11C6b**. Motions carried on a voice vote:

Ayes: (9) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. Donlon, Mrs. Farley, Mr. Heffernan, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Tobacco and Mr. Capone

Noes: (0)

7) Approval of Promotion of Assignment (*Salaries subject to adjustment per negotiations*):

- a. Lisa Bock – Secretary (Cat. 1/10), Nut Swamp  
Salary: Step 6 - \$41,682  
Effective: 8/15/22 – 6/30/23
- b. Gina Cavanagh – Secretary (Cat. 1/10), New Monmouth

Salary: Step 5 - \$41,932 (incl. BA/BS degree stipend)  
Effective: 8/15/22 – 6/30/23

- c. Dawn Lehotsky – Secretary (Cat. 1/10), Bayview  
Salary: Step 1 - \$40,557  
Effective: 8/15/22 – 6/30/23
- d. Lauren Sweeney – Secretary (Cat. 1/10), Middletown Village  
Salary: Step 7 - \$42,482 (incl. BA/BS degree stipend)  
Effective: 8/15/22 – 6/30/23

Motion made by Mr. Heffernan, seconded by Mrs. Farley for approval of **item #11C7**. Motion carried on a voice vote:

Ayes: (9) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. Donlon, Mrs. Farley, Mr. Heffernan, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Tobacco and Mr. Capone

Noes: (0)

- 8) The Superintendent of schools recommends the appointment of Adam Nasr to serve as Director of Facilities at an annual salary of \$155,000 (pro-rated) effective pending release from current position through June 30, 2023.
- 9) The Superintendent of Schools recommends the appointment of Nicholas Trezza to Interim Assistant Principal of Thompson Middle School at an annual salary of \$118,500 (pro-rated) effective July 1, 2022 through December 23, 2022.
- 10) Approval of the following employment contracts:
  - a. Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction – *Attachment HR 1*
  - b. Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Operations – *Attachment HR 2*
  - c. Assistant Superintendent for Student Support Services – *Attachment HR 3*
  - d. Business Administrator/Board Secretary – *HR 4*

Motion made by Mr. Heffernan, seconded by Mrs. Farley for approval of **items #11C8-10**. Motion carried on a roll call vote:

Ayes: (9) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. Donlon, Mrs. Farley, Mr. Heffernan, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Tobacco and Mr. Capone

Noes: (2) Mrs. Caminiti (10a), Mrs. Minnuies (10a)

Abst: (1) Mrs. Minnuies (10d)

- 11) Approval of Reemployment of Staff for the 2022-2023 school year:
  - a. Non-Bargaining Unit Personnel – *Attachment HR 5*
  - a. Administrators – *Attachment HR 6*
  - b. Certificated Staff – *Attachment HR 7*
  - c. Secretarial Staff – *Attachment HR 8*
  - d. Facilities Staff – *Attachment HR 9*
- 12) Approval of Security Guards and Substitute Personnel for the 2022-2023 School Year – *Attachment HR 10*
- 13) Approval of Non-Bargaining Unit Personnel Terms and Conditions of Employment – *Attachment HR 11*

Motion made by Mr. Heffernan, seconded by Mr. Donlon for approval of **item #11C11-13**. Motion carried on a voice vote:

Ayes: (9) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. Donlon, Mrs. Farley, Mr. Heffernan, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Tobacco and Mr. Capone  
Noes: (2) Mrs. Caminiti (11a21), Mrs. Minnuies (11a21)

14) Approval of Job Descriptions:

- a. Director of Safety and Security – Attachment HR 12
- b. Registered Behavior Technician – Attachment HR 13
- c. Student Data Analyst (Revision) – Attachment HR 14
- d. Transition Specialist – Attachment HR 15

15) Approval of Increase, Decrease, and/or Transfer of Assignment for the 2022-2023 school year – *Attachment HR 16*

16) Approval of Paraprofessional Assignments (All paraprofessional appointments subject to budgetary constraints, enrollments, and IEP requirements and may be changed or eliminated during the term of this agreement) – *Attachment HR 17*

Motion made by Mr. Heffernan, seconded by Mr. Donlon for approval of **item #11C14-16**. Motion carried on a voice vote:

Ayes: (9) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. Donlon, Mrs. Farley, Mr. Heffernan, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Tobacco and Mr. Capone

Noes: (0)

**15. Old Business**

- Mrs. Caminiti discussed the upcoming Technology/CoCurriculum Committee Meeting on 5/23/22 and requested future meeting schedule changes be communicated via text as well as email.

**16. New Business**

- Mr. Donlon discussed the success of the Project Plus program at Croyden Hall with over 100 Middletown students attending.
- Mr. Donlon and Mrs. Walker reported on the \$10k Sustainable Jersey grant High School North received to enhance and improve their courtyard greenhouse project.
- Mrs. Minnuies requested all school events including fundraisers be added to the district calendar.

**17. Public Comment - limited to thirty minutes**

- Vera Piasecki commented on adding matinees to accommodate high attendance at the high school plays as well as building enrollment and class sizes for next school year and guidance and athletic staff at Thompson.

**18. Motion to Adjourn meeting at 8:46 p.m.** – motion made by Mr. Heffernan, seconded by Mr. Donlon to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted

  
Amy P. Doherty

APD/tn  
May 12, 2022

