

**Magnolia School District  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
March 15, 2022  
7:00 P.M.**

Mr. Nick D’Amico opened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m., leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**Oath of Office**

**Oath of Office**

Mrs. Joyce Albrecht Absent

**Roll Call**

Mrs. Rebecca Ammen Present  
Mrs. Vazquez-Colon Present  
Mr. Nick D’Amico Present  
Mr. Mark Godfrey Present  
Mrs. Rebecca Lang Staffieri Present  
Mrs. Karen Sorbello Present

**Other Attendees**

Mrs. Karen Macpherson, Superintendent  
Mr. Greg Gontowski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Ms. Emily Schrank Solicitor

**Mission Statement**

Mission Statement was read by Nick D’Amico.

**Approval of Minutes**

- Minutes of the Regular Board of Education meeting held on February 15, 2022.

**Motioned by Mark Godfrey, Seconded by Rebecca Ammen**

**Vote: To approve Minutes  
Voice Vote. All in favor**

**Audience Participation I**

**Motion Approved**

**Board of Education Business**

None

**BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS**

**Unfinished Business**

None

**New Business**

Rebecca Ammen –Chromebook and electronic Agendas

Rebecca Ammen – Complemented Mr. Looper and the booster club on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade promenade.

State and Local  
School Board  
Association

**Karen Sorbello** – County meeting update

Superintendent's  
Report

**Superintendent's Report**

**Information Items:**

**A. Curriculum/Programs**

1. Summer program survey went out

**B. Interdistrict**

1. Received shared service contract with Sterling for Spanish teacher

**C. Public Relations/Liaison** - None

**D. Student/Parental Issue and Concerns** - None

**E. Buildings and Grounds**

1. A fire drill was conducted on February 10, 2022
2. A lockdown was conducted on February 23, 2022

**F. Negotiations/Contractual (Executive Session)**

**G. Misc.** – None

**H. HIB**

1. Two HIB to report ( 1 founded and 1 unfounded)

**I. Principal's Report**

1. Mr. Sorrentino's principal's report attached

**Board Actions**

**Personnel**

William Keane  
– Chair and  
Additional  
Computer Club

**Motion to Approve, Superintendent, Personnel Items 1 through 3**

1. William Keane to chair an additional computer club at the contracted rate of \$625.00.

**Jamie  
Deyecchis  
Work  
Additional Day**

2. Jamie Devecchis to work an additional one day week until the end of the 2021-2022 school year for additional counseling at her per diem rate of \$297.20.

**Ashley Marie  
Morris –  
Rowan Student  
to do Clinical  
Practice 22-23**

3. Ashley Marie Morris, a student from Rowan University, to do her Clinical Practice with Leah Hallihan during the 2022-2023 school year.

**Motioned by Karen Sorbello Second by Rebecca Ammen**

**Vote: To approve Personnel Items 1 through 3**

**Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon, Mrs. Sorbello and Mr. D’Amico (6-0-0)**

**Motion Approved**

**Motion to Approve, Conference/Workshops Items 1 and 2**

**Karen  
Macpherson –  
Attend the  
NJASA 5/19/22**

1. Karen Macpherson to attend the NJASA (NJ Association of School Administrators) Spring 2022 conference in Atlantic City on May 19-20,2022 at a cost of \$100.00 for one night.

**Lezley  
Turnbull –  
Webinars  
4/19/22 &  
4/27/22**

2. Lezley Turnbull to attend the following Webinars  
Dealing with Angry Students and Tantrums Effectively on April 19, 2022 at a cost \$60.00 ( to be taken out of Title II).  
Creative Interventions for Children and Adolescents with Anxiety on April 27, 2002 at a cost of \$60.00 ( to be taken out of Title II).

**Motioned by Karen Sorbello, Second by Rebecca Lang Staffieri**

**Vote: To approve Conference/Workshops Items 1 and 2**

**Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon, Mrs. Sorbello and Mr. D’Amico (6-0-0)**

**Motion Approved**

**Motion to Approve, Contracts Item 1**

**Contracts**

**Addendum to –  
ESS Contract**

1. An Addendum to our current ESS (substitute service) contract to include using them to provide long term substitute coverages

**Motioned by Rebecca Lang Staffieri, Second by Rebecca Ammen**

**Vote: To approve Contracts Item 1**

**Roll Call Vote. All in favor: \*\* Nick D’Amico – Abstained**

**Motion Approved**

**Motion to Approve, Policies Item 1**

**Policies**

**Second Reading  
Regulations 2622**

- 1. Second reading of Regulation 2622 Student Assessment (Attachment).**

**Motioned by Alyssa Vazquez-Colom, Second by Mark Godfrey**

**Vote: To approve Policies Item 1**

**Roll Call Vote. All in favor:**

**Motion Approved**

**Board Secretary  
Report**

**BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

**Informational Items:**

**Board Actions**

**Board Actions:**

**Motion to approve Addendum Items A through C**

**Addendum**

**Budget 2022-  
2023**

**A 2022-2023 Budget and Resolution**

It is recommended that the Magnolia Board of Education approve 2022-2023 School Year Budget, and Resolution, for submission to the Executive County Office of Education.

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Magnolia Board of Education has developed its 2022-2023 School Budget,

WHEREAS, NJAC 6:19-2.7 (a) requires Magnolia Board of Education to adopt and submit a formal Board resolution.

BE IT RESOLVED to approve the 2022-2023 school budget as presented by the administration which includes the following:

	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Local Tax Levy</b>
General Fund	\$10,663,705.00	\$4,569,000.00
Special Revenue Fund	\$1,047,253.00	
Debt Service Fund	\$258,000.00	\$204,513.00
<b>Total Base Budget</b>	<b>\$11,968,958.00</b>	<b>\$4,773,513.00</b>

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the **Magnolia** Board of Education includes in the budget the enrollment adjustment in the amount of \$67,915.00. The additional funds are included in the base budget and will be used to pay for additional staff.

Included in budget line 620, Budgeted Withdrawal from Capital Reserve – for Excess Cost & Other Capital Projects, is \$800,000.00 for other capital project costs of building renovations and repairs including but not limited to, exterior renovations (concrete, brick, etc.), and interior renovations (floors, bathrooms, etc.). The total costs of this project is \$800,000.00 which represent expenditures for construction elements or projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the core curriculum content standards.

**Travel Budget**

**B. Maximum Travel Budget** – It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Magnolia Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$200 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq., but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b), to a maximum expenditure of \$20,000.00 for all staff and board members.

The maximum travel expenses for all staff for the 2021-2022 school year is limited to

**Preschool Education Aid**

\$20,000.00 and the amount spent year to date is \$17.26.

**C. Preschool Education Aid**

To approve submission of the 2022-2023 Preschool Education Aid application and acceptance of the award in the amount of \$38,556.00.

**Motioned by Karen Sorbello, Second by Alyssa Vaque-Colon**

**Vote: To approve Addendum Items A through C**

**Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon, Mrs. Sorbello and Mr. D’Amico (6-0-0)**

**Motion Approved**

**Board Actions:**

**Bill List**

**A. Warrants**

The attached bill lists:

- March 2022 warrants (**Attachment A1**)

**Voided Check**

- B. Void Check –To approve voiding of the attached list of student activity checks (**Attachment B1**).**

**Shared Service with Sterling BOE**

- C. Shared Service - To approve shared service agreement with Sterling Board of Education in the amount of \$21,671.51for a foreign language teacher for the 2022-2023 school year.**

**Motioned by Mark Godfrey, Second by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon**

**Vote: To approve Items A through C**

**Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon, Mrs. Sorbello and \*\*Mr. D’Amico (5-0-1) \*\*Nick D’Amico – Abstained to ESS and Budget**

**Audience Participation II**

**Audience Participation II - None**

**Recess into Closed Session**

**RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION at approximately 7:24 p.m.**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a Public Meeting, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the Magnolia Township School District has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and

**WHEREAS**, the regular meeting of this Board of Education will reconvene at the conclusion of closed session, at approximately **7:45 p.m.** this evening.

Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting (Subject to the balancing of the public's interest and the employee's privacy rights under *South Jersey Publishing*, 124 N.J. 478, the employee(s) and nature of discussion is Superintendents Contract);

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Board Attorney advises the Board of Education that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the School District or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the Board Secretary to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

**Motioned by Rebecca Lang Staffieri, Seconded by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon**

**Vote: To Enter Executive Session  
Voice Vote. All in favor (6-0-0)**

**Action will be taken after Executive Session**

**Resumption to  
Public Portion  
of the Meeting**

**RESUMPTION OF PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING –7:46 pm**

**Motioned by Karen Sorbello, Seconded by Alyssa Vazquez-Colon**

**Vote: To approve Resumption of Public Portion of the Meeting  
Voice vote. All in favor (6-0-0)**

**Motion to approve submission of the Superintendent's contract to the county.**

**Motioned by Alyssa Vazquez – Colon , Second by Karen Sorbello**

**Vote: To approve Submission of the Superintendent's Contract to the county.**

**Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon, Mrs. Sorbello and Mr. D'Amico (6-0-0)**

**Motion Approved**

**Adjournment      ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:46 pm by Mark Godfrey, Seconded by Rebecca Ammen.**

**Vote: To Adjourn meeting  
Voice Vote. All in favor**

**Motion Approved**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Greg Gontowski  
Board Secretary**



