

**Magnolia School District  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
September 19, 2023  
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**

**Roll Call**

|                            |         |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Mrs. Rebecca Ammen         | Present |
| Mr. Nick D’Amico           | Present |
| Mr. Mark Godfrey           | Present |
| Mrs. Rebeca Lang Staffieri | Present |
| Mrs. Karen Sorbello        | Present |
| Mrs. Alyssa Vazquez-Colon  | Present |
| Mr. Dale Martin            | Present |

**Other Attendees**

Mrs. Karen Macpherson, Superintendent  
Mr. Greg Gontowski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**Mission Statement**

Mission Statement was read by Nick D’Amico.

- Minutes for the Regular Board of Education meeting held on **August 15, 2023**.

**Motioned by Dale Martin, Seconded by Rebecca Ammen**

**Approval of Minutes**

**Vote: To approve Minutes**  
**Voice Vote. All in favor \*\* Mark Godfrey – Abstained**

**Motion Approved**

**Audience  
Participation I**

**Open Audience Participation I – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

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

**Vote: To approve opening of Audience Participation I**  
**Voice Vote. All in favor**

**Close Audience Participation I**

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

**Vote: To approve closing of Audience Participation I  
Voice vote. All in favor**

**Superintendent's  
Report**

**Superintendent's Report**

**Presentation**

**Presentations:**

1. Mr. Sorrentino and Mrs. Turnbull gave a brief presentation on the 2022-2023 HIB grades

**Information Items:**

1. Superintendent discussed Ms. Judith Wilson's proposal for updating Magnolia School's Strategic Goals (**Attached**)

**A. Curriculum/Programs**

1. Universal screening/testing has begun

**B. Interdistrict**

1. Curriculum quarterly meetings to be reinstituted post covid

**C. Public Relations/Liaison**

**E. Buildings and Grounds**

1. Gym updates

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

**G. Misc**

1. School Board Convention - October 23-26

**H. HIB**

1. No HIB to report

**Principal's Report**

1. Mr. Sorrentino's monthly principal's report and nursing report will resume in October.

**Personnel**

**Lucas Burkhardt –  
Unpaid Volunteer to  
Assist Co-Ed Soccer  
23-24**

**Motion to Approve Personnel Items 1 through 5**

1. Ratification of Lucas Burkhardt as a unpaid volunteer to assist Erin Hobbs with our co-ed soccer program for the 23-24 school year.
2. Ratification to accept the resignation of Charles Penberthy as Behaviorist Aide effective August 28, 2023.

**Charles Penberthy –  
Behaviorist Aid**

**Kate Forte, Nicholas Hamuscin, Jordan Hafto and Ashley Morris – Paid \$40 for New Teacher Orientation**

3. Ratification of Kate Forte, Nicholas Hamuscin, Jordan Hafto, and Ashley Morris to be paid \$40.00 for new teacher orientation.

**Dave Cogan – Paid \$20 for New Teacher Orientation**

4. Ratification of Dave Cogan to be paid \$20.00 for new teacher orientation.

**Christine Radcliff – Part Time Teachers Aide 10/1/23**

5. Christine Radcliff as part time teachers aide effective October 1, 2023 at step 14 at a salary of \$21,626.00 pro-rated to \$10,813.00

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

**Vote: To approve Personnel Items 1 through 6**

**Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon, Mrs. Sorbello and Mr. D’Amico (7-0-0)**

**Motion Approved**

**Renaissance Trips**

**Motion to Approve Trips/Activies, Workshops, Self-Medication and Plan**

**Trips/Activities**

1. The following Renaissance trips:  
30 Strikes Bowling - September 28, 2023  
Shady Brook Farms - October 5, 2023  
Duffield’s Farm - October 18, 2023  
Cinemark Theatre - November 21, 2023  
Skate Zone - December 22, 2023  
Blue Mountain - February 1, 2024

**Susan Ortiz and Marissa Greenberg – to Attend a Webinar 11/2/23**

**Workshops/Professional Development**

2. Susan Ortiz and Marissa Greenberg to attend a webinar on November 2, 2023 at a cost of \$89.00 each entitled No More Meltdowns! Managing Overwhelming Frustrating and Anxiety.

**Self-Medication of Student #23-01**

**Self-Medication**

1. The self-medication of student #23-01

**Judith Wilson’s Proposal for updating Strategic Goals 24-28**

**Plan**

1. Judith Wilson's proposal in the amount of \$3600 for updating Magnolia Public Schools Strategic Goals for the 2024-2028 school years.

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

**Vote: To approve Trips through Plan**

**Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon, Mrs. Sorbello and Mr. D'Amico (7-0-0)**

**Motion Approved**

**Resolution to Support the Borough's Grant Application for the Safe Route to Schools Program**

**Motion to Approve Resolution Item 1**

**Resolution**

1. To accept the attached draft resolution to support the Borough's grant application for the Safe Route to Schools Program (**Attached**)

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

**Vote: To approve Resolution Item 1**

**Voice Vote. All in favor**

**Motion Approved**

**Unfinished Business**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS**

**New Business**

**None**

**State and Local School Board Association**

**None**

**Board Secretary Report**

**None**

**BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

**Board Actions**

**Informational Items:**

**Board Actions:**

**Bill List**

**Motion to Approve Items A through E**

**Business**

**Administrator to Continue Payment of all Bill until next BOE Meeting**

**A. Warrants**

The attached bill lists:

- June through September 2023 warrants (**Attachment A1**)

**Brookfield Tuition –  
Student #3470500203**

**B. Bills** – Approval to pay bills prior to the next board meeting due to the time length between meetings being greater than one month.

**C. Tuition** - To approve a tuition contract with Brookfield Elementary for student #3470500203 in the amount of \$82,998.00 for tuition and \$32,260.00 for a 1:1 aide for the 2023-2024 school year

**Fixed Asset Disposal**

**D. Fixed Asset Disposal** - To approve deletion of the following fixed assets:  
-1998 Chevrolet Pickup  
-Powr-Flite Floor Scrubber PAS20-DXBC 20”

**Convention 10/23-  
10/26**

**E. Convention** - To approve BOE members and the Superintendent to attend NJ School Boards Association Workshop from October 23-26, 2023 at a group rate of \$2,200.00 plus related travel expenses.

**Motioned by Mark Godfrey, Seconded by Dale Martin**

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

**Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Lang Staffieri, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Vazquez-Colon, Mrs. Sorbello and Mr. D’Amico (7-0-0)**

**Audience  
Participation II**

**Motion Approved**

**Audience Participation II** None

**Executive Session** – None

**Adjournment**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:39 pm by Rebecca Lang Staffieri Seconded by Rebecca Ammen**

**Vote: To Adjourn meeting**

**Voice Vote. All in favor**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Greg Gontowski  
Board Secretary**



