

## **PIC Meeting**

**Minutes for 3/6/2012**

**Co-Chairs Judy Saydah/Maria Wheaton**

**2012/13 School Budget Presentation**

Copy of detailed presentation is on the District website: [www.middlestownk12.org](http://www.middlestownk12.org).

### **Dr. George/Superintendent**

- Reviewed pros for 0% increase, reviewed pros for 2% increase, explained why the Administration & BOE decided to balance both sides by choosing a .98% increase. Administration and BOE being fiscally responsible with budget
- Importance of Chain of Command. Parent concerns dealing with specific school building issues should first be addressed with their individual schools (teacher/Principals) Check facts prior to sharing information through emails and face book.

### **Dr. Takacs/Assistant Superintendent**

- Parent Survey online for all schools. Currently have statistically significant number of completed surveys (20-30%). Would like to see a greater number of Parental input.
- “Suicide Prevention and the Signs and Symptoms of Drug Use” Parent Workshop  
April 25 at High School North time: 7:00 – 8:00pm
- Curriculum webpage includes math grade level newsletter primarily for teachers but for parents as well. Additional monthly parent newsletter in works. By April, a language arts newsletter should also be available.
- Administration working on updating and improving District website to be more user friendly.

### **Amy Gallagher/Business Administrator**

Discussed improvements in District from 2011/12 budget that are being continued.

- 2012/13 budget focuses on curriculum / special education review, technology/ network infrastructure and facilities. Additional state aid of \$1.4 million given to District in 2011/12 was used in part to fund the new math and social behavior support specialists and to fund 2012/13 technology improvements and updates that will provide benefit in the current and future years.
- 4 year budget history review of revenue. This budget also reflects an increase in state aid for 2012/13. Entire budget is funded 86% by tax levy, 12% state aid and 1.5 by surplus and .5% by other sources.
- Detailed expenses are not included in presentation Administration will provide details to PIC Chairs (J.Saydah & M.Wheaton) for distribution. Overall 79% is salaries/benefits, 7% transportation, 3% tuition, 3% utilities, 3% curriculum and remaining 5% technology, capital expenditures, athletics, etc. This includes 11.6 new hires to address special education and class size needs and an additional student services supervisor Other personnel shifts may occur based on enrollment needs.
- Tax increase of .98 % compared to the allowed 2% cap imposed by Governor Christie (R). Administration and BOE being fiscally responsible with budget
- Additional curricular improvements include a new language arts pilot for elementary schools, summer enrichment , after school tutoring for targeted student populations, expanded technology, literacy help for K-2 students with “decoding” issues, curricular revisions /update/ rewrites (prioritized by meeting common core standards), the addition of parent/family workshops, Digits math program, additional AP class (statistics) and improved integrated algebra program.

- Additional initiatives include upgraded technology infrastructure to increase capacity for electronic devices, mounting projectors, Columbia language arts teacher training and facilities improvements. Improvements include a \$250,000 geothermal repiping at North, planning and design for a New Monmouth pod renovation, replacing flooring @ Navesink Elementary, painting & bathroom projects at various schools. Major roofing repairs will be done at North, South & Harmony. Solar initiatives can then be investigated as soon as repairs are completed.
- Will shortly be undergoing state monitoring (QSAC)
- Public hearing on the budget will be held Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pm at High School North. Budget was tentatively approved at special voting meeting and submitted to County for approval.
- School Board elections will take place November 6 with the General Election.
- April 3 Ask Strategy Fair grades k-8
- **Mary Ellen Walker/District Director for Operations**

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Thompson bus- Verified Police involvement /Issue dealt with at school level, Principal & Parents were notified District Policy/Procedures were followed as far as disciplinary action.
- High School students that drive to school and are believed to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol are not permitted to drive their vehicles off school property a parent is contacted for pickup
- High School South – Freshmen Renaissance Fair – early bus departure from RF was for all student athletes who had practice that day not just for the football team.
- High school sports uniform updates will begin for the 2012-13 school year with home uniforms for basketball, field hockey, football, and soccer. Also uniforms for gymnastics, track, cross country, baseball, and softball will be purchased. For the 2013-14 school yr away uniforms will be purchased for basketball, field hockey, football, and soccer. A regular five year rotation will begin in the 2014-15 school year. Please note that varsity uniforms are passed down to JV, JV to Freshman as new varsity uniforms are purchased. Also, shirts are purchased annually for bowling, tennis, and golf as are swim suits.
- Lacrosse survey online for grades 8 -12 Middle and High School families that are interested in Lacrosse should fill out survey on District Web site.

#### **Joan Minniues/Board of Education President**

- Increased professional development for Teachers. First voluntary workshop offered over 100 teachers attended. Received positive and informative teacher feedback.
- Great Race checks being handed out at B.O.E. March 21 workshop. \$38,000 will be distributed to various schools PFO/PFA/PTA. All are encouraged to attend.
- Shared Services- held meeting with community sports league presidents issue potential field usage fee.
- Teacher Contract-No information can be released to public at this time.

#### **Barbara Augusta/Middletown Township Friends Of Different Learner** [MTFODL@gmail.com](mailto:MTFODL@gmail.com)

Meetings: March 13<sup>th</sup> 7:00-8:30pm@Panera                      March 14<sup>th</sup> 12:30-2pm @Talienco/Union Sq.  
                    March 15<sup>th</sup> 9:15-11:15am or 12:30-2:30pm Basic Rights Workshop @New Monmouth School

**Please note items discussed at PIC that are in the developing and or a transition state are subject to change.**

Minutes by Thompson School Reps