



Dr. Theresa D. Haught

## From the Superintendent ...

Thank you for your continued support of the Muhlenberg School District. As we begin the 2009-10 school year I look forward to working with you in providing Muhlenberg students with rewarding and relevant educational experiences. The faculty and staff continue to academically assess our students

in Grades K through 12 to ensure skills are being acquired for success in school and the work place. Students are closely monitored so that every school can provide remediation and assistance to children who require it.

The Middle School project is moving along and will

continue throughout the school year. Completion is set for summer of 2010 with ninth grade students moving to the Middle School at the start of the 2010-11 school year. This should help alleviate crowding at the High School due to increasing enrollments. The completed Middle School project will result in a two-story classroom addition, a cafeteria expansion, auditorium and science classroom renovations, and the air conditioning of the gym.

It is important for all of us to work together to make our students succeed academically, socially, and in extra curriculars. Your support is vital as we face academic, fiscal, and social challenges. The faculty, staff, and administration are committed to providing the best education possible to each and every student.

Muhlenberg truly is *Excellence in Action*. Have a great year!

Dr. Theresa D. Haught

## Fourth grade students become Pen Pals with Marine unit

Following a conversation at a parent-teacher conference last fall, Mr. Charles Payne, a fourth grade teacher at Muhlenberg Elementary Center, designed a project to allow his students to learn about Afghanistan and to exchange PenPal letters with Marines stationed in that country.

The project began when Mr. Payne learned the parent of one of his students is a Marine serving in the Special Operations Command Task Force and was to be stationed in Afghanistan in early March 2009.

In February, the class began to research the war efforts and the reasons why the United States is involved. Then the class began writing letters to the marines, including many inquiries based on their research. The letters were sent in March and the students received a response in late May.

The package sent to the class included two certificates, a letter to the class answering some commonly asked questions and a flag that was flown over their base in

Afghanistan. One of the certificates awarded the class with a "Certificate of Appreciation, Presented to Mr. Charles Payne and Class." It read:

*Thank you for your support of Marine Special Operations Company Delta. The appreciation you portrayed in your letters is comforting during this time of conflict. They are a constant reminder as to why our freedom and way of life is worth serving and protecting. Your letters are a true statement to your patriotism and dedication to our country.*

*Semper Fidelis!*

The second certificate certifies that the American Flag the class received had flown over FOB Delaram in Farah Province of Afghanistan. This assignment instilled patriotism in our students and a healthy understanding of the military's presence in the Middle East. As a class, the teacher and students were truly amazed, honored and excited about the response the Marines had provided.

## Best of Luck to our 2009 Scholar-Athletes!

The following 2009 graduates will be playing a sport at their respective colleges. Best of luck to these student athletes!



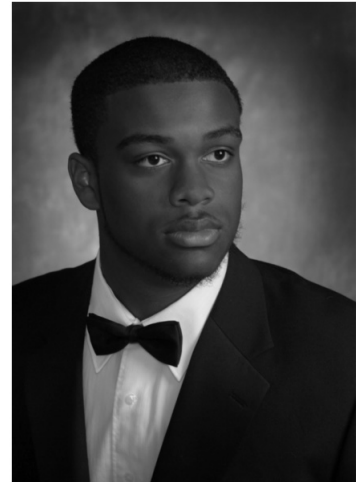
**Ashley Bauer**  
Bloomsburg University  
Swimming



**Nathan Daniels**  
East Stroudsburg University  
Football



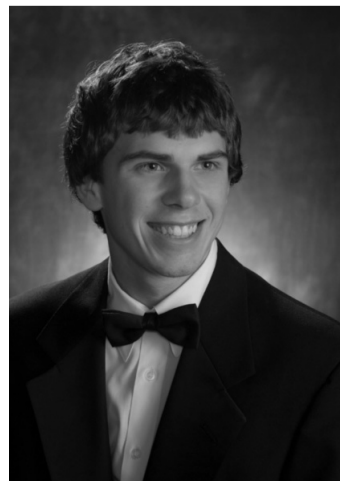
**Caitlin DeAngelo**  
Lycoming College  
Swimming



**Byron Dovaes**  
Indiana University of  
Pennsylvania • Football



**Dylan Etzel**  
Naval Academy Prep School  
Football



**Brandon Esterly**  
Lock Haven University  
Baseball



**Gabriel Fellen**  
Lock Haven University  
Baseball



**Brett Fox**  
College of  
William and Mary • Football



**Kelly Geras**  
California University of  
Pennsylvania • Swimming



**Ashley Homan**  
Messiah College  
Tennis



**Pamela Jaraczewski**  
Elizabethtown College  
Field Hockey/Track



**Amanda Mikatavage**  
Slippery Rock University  
Girls Basketball

## Best of Luck to our 2009 Scholar-Athletes!

The following 2009 graduates will be playing a sport at their respective colleges. Best of luck to these student athletes!



**Robert Pennypacker**  
Cecil College  
Baseball



**Ellen Polyniak**  
East Stroudsburg University  
Softball



**Shane Puhlman**  
Shippensburg University  
Swimming



**Victoria Rehr**  
Penn State Berks  
Volleyball



**Jay Santo Domingo**  
Massachusetts Maritime  
Academy  
Lacrosse



**Theresa Selmer**  
Millersville University  
Tennis



**Michele Schrift**  
West Chester University  
Field Hockey



**Emily Vogel**  
Elizabethtown College  
Softball

### **Sports Tickets Available**

Multiple Event Sports Tickets are now available in the Athletic Office between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. daily.

Cost is \$20 for students and \$40 for adults. These tickets can be used for any ten (10) Muhlenberg home athletic contests throughout the school year. Regular admission prices are now \$3 for students and \$5 for adults.

Stop by the Athletic Office to pick up your Multiple Event Sports Tickets and enjoy the savings.

## Fall aquatics registration scheduled for September

Registration for all fall classes will be held Wednesday, September 2 from 6-8 pm in the Pool Lobby at the High School. You may register for classes AFTER these dates by phone as long as spaces are still available; some classes fill quickly so don't wait too long to sign up. All activities require a minimum number of participants in order for them to run.

**REGISTRATION:** *\*Please bring identification of District Residency. There is an additional \$5 fee for Non-Residents interested in any classes except Recreational Swimming, which is only offered to residents of the Muhlenberg School District.*

**All fees are non-refundable  
unless classes are cancelled!**

**Payment: All checks must be made out to Muhlenberg School District**

### Swimming Lessons

There will be two three-week sessions to choose from:

- September 14 to 24
- September 28 to October 8
- October 12 to 22

Classes held Monday through Thursday from 6 to 6:30 p m

*The first night of each session children that don't know their level will be tested so they are in their appropriate levels.*

There are a limited number of spaces available; classes are filled on a first-come/first-served basis.

**COST:** \$40 per session

### Parent/Tot Swim Classes

September 29 to October 29

Classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday from 5:20 to 5:50 pm

This class will be available for children 6 months to 4 years old. Each child must be accompanied in the water by

an adult. Basic swim skills and water adaptation will be taught.

**COST:** \$40

### Water Aerobics

Monday/Wednesday  
(deep water)

Classes begin at 7:10 pm  
(50 min class)

September 14 to October 28

This is a 50-minute mid- to high-energy cardiovascular and muscular endurance class in the shallow and/or deep water. Water equipment is used in the toning portion of both classes along with flotation belts in the deep end.

**COST:** \$40 per session

### Water Walking

Monday and Wednesday  
(deep water)

Classes begin at 8 pm  
(30 minute class)

September 14 to October 28

This is a 20-minute striding movement class through the shallow water. This class offers a low cardiovascular and muscular toning workout with low impact movements. Great for all fitness levels, but especially for beginners or anyone with rehabilitative needs.

**COST:** \$30 per session

*(If you wish to combine this with water aerobics your cost would be \$60)*

### Recreational Swimming

September 11 to November 6  
Friday 6:30 to 8:30 pm

REC swim is provided for Muhlenberg School District Residents only of all ages. Proof of residency is required at all Recreational Swims. Memberships will be given to those who wish to join for the session. Otherwise, the cost is on a daily basis. Children 13 years of age or younger must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Two

(continued on next page)

## Fall aquatics registration scheduled for September *(continued)*

lanes will be available for those who wish to swim laps.

### **NO NON-RESIDENT GUESTS**

**COST:** Family Membership \$70 •  
Individual Membership \$35 •  
Daily \$3

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#### **Competitive Stroke Clinic**

Monday, November 16 through  
Friday, November 20  
6 to 7:30 pm  
For all ages

This clinic is designed for those interested in working on their stroke technique along with starts and turns to get a head start on winter season. This clinic is designed for students who can swim at least 50 yards (2 laps) of 2 or more competitive strokes.

**COST:** \$25

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#### **Competitive Diving Clinic**

Every Saturday, 9 to 10:15 am  
October 12 to November 21  
All ages

This clinic is designed for students who want to learn or improve on their competitive diving skills.

**COST:** \$40.00

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#### **Middle School Water Polo Clinic**

Monday and Wednesday,  
5 to 5:50 pm  
September 7 through  
October 21  
Ages:  
5th through 8th grade

Water Polo is open to students interested in learning the game or improv-

ing their skills. No experience is necessary. Basic swimming ability required. If you play a fall sport other than water polo but would still like to play water polo, we welcome your participation and would love to have you involved. The practice schedules are very light and we like to keep the fall season very flexible to accommodate as many people as possible.

*We would like to invite all athletes that are going into 5th, 6th, 7th or 8th grade to participate in the 2009 East Coast Middle School Water Polo League.*

All games are held on Sundays between 12 noon and 5 pm

**COST:** \$40.00

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#### **Age Group Swimming and Diving Program**

- Registration will be held Wednesday, October 28 at 7 pm.
- The meeting will include a *very important* parents meeting.
- Flyers will be distributed regarding the upcoming Age Group swimming and diving season. Payment will be due at this registration.

If you have any questions regarding this program, feel free to contact the pool office at 610-921-8078, ext. 4163

#### **Cost:**

*Swimming:*

\$75 first child in family \$50 for second child in family  
\$25 each additional child

*Diving:* \$50

*Swimming and Diving:* \$110

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#### **Pool Rentals**

The pool is available to hold birthday parties or pool rentals. Rental is by hourly time slots. For available pool time, please call the pool office at 610-921-8078, ext. 4223

**COST:** \$100 hour

If you have any questions regarding any of our programs please feel free to contact the pool office at 610-921-8078 ext. 4223 or e-mail Chuck Stricker at [strickerc@mail.muhlsdk12.org](mailto:strickerc@mail.muhlsdk12.org)

## Students pick 10th annual Muhl Medal Contest winner

Students at Muhlenberg Elementary Center elected Burger Boy by Alan Durant as the winner of the 10th Annual Muhl Medal Contest. Congratulations to the fourth graders in Mrs. Raudabaugh/Ms. Zaborowski's class who ran the winning campaign. Burger Boy and the other nominees from the contest will fly off the library shelves come September.



*Muhlenberg Elementary Center students display the winner of the 10th annual Muhl Medal Contest.*



## Western Art History at the MEC

This year third and fourth grade students will travel through time as they study Western Art History in art class. The school year begins with the art of the Ancient Egyptians. MEC students will learn about the belief in eternal life in Ancient Egypt

by looking at mummies, Pyramids and the treasures from the tomb of Tutankhamen. Student artworks are interpretations of ancient art; they apply the Elements and Principles of Art in their paintings, sculptures, and crafts.

MEC showcases and bulletins boards display student art work throughout the year, when visiting the MEC be sure to check out the student masterpieces!

## Muhlenberg School District 2009-2010 Calendar

### August

- 26 Teacher Clerical Day
- 27 Teacher In-Service Day
- 31 First Day of School for Students

### September

- 4 Holiday - Labor Day
- 7 Holiday - Labor Day
- 25 Act 80 Early Dismissal K-12

### October

- 12 Teacher In-Service Day

### November

- 3 Teacher In-Service Day
- 5 End of First Quarter
- 23 Act 80 Early Dismissal K-6
- 24 Act 80 Early Dismissal K-6
- 25 Act 80 Early dismissal K-8
- 26 Holiday - Thanksgiving
- 27 Holiday - Thanksgiving
- 30 Holiday - Thanksgiving

### December

- 24 Holiday - Winter Break
- 25 Holiday - Winter Break
- 28 Holiday - Winter Break
- 29 Holiday - Winter Break
- 30 Holiday - Winter Break
- 31 Holiday - Winter Break

### January

- 1 Holiday - Winter Break
- 15 Act 80 Early Dismissal K-12
- 18 Teacher In-Service Day
- 22 Early Dismissal 9-12
- 22 End of Second Quarter

### February

- 15\* Teacher In-Service Day

### March

- 19 Act 80 Early Dismissal K-12
- 29\* Holiday - Spring Break
- 30\* Holiday - Spring Break
- 31\* Holiday - Spring Break

### April

- 1\* Holiday - Spring Break
- 2 Holiday - Spring Break
- 5\* Holiday - Spring Break
- 6 End of Third Quarter

### May

- 31 Holiday - Memorial Day

### June

- 8 Early Dismissal 9-12
- 9 Pupils' Last Day
- 9 End of Fourth Quarter
- 9 Early Dismissal K-12
- 10 Teacher Clerical Day

\* Snow Make Up Day

## On-call school crossing guards needed

Muhlenberg Township Police Department is seeking on-call school crossing guards for Muhlenberg Elementary School and Holy Guardian Angels School. These crossing guards would be used on an as needed basis. These alternates will be able to become full time as positions become available. Salary is \$9.64 per hour.

For Muhlenberg School District, hours are 8 to 9 am and 3 to 4 pm or 7:15 to 9 am and 2:30 to 4 pm depending on the location. Holy Guardian Angels School has hours of 7:15 to 8:15 am and 2 to 3 pm.

If interested, please contact Pat at the Muhlenberg Township Police Department or call 610-929-5454 (Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm) or call 610-685-0633 (anytime, can leave a message).

## Open Houses planned at district schools

Parents are invited to attend the Open House scheduled for their child's school this fall. Come see your student's classroom, meet your child's teacher and learn about our curriculum

Open Houses are scheduled on the following dates:

### Elementary Center

*grades 3 & 4*

September 15 • 7-9 pm

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### Elementary Center

*grades 1 & 2*

September 16 • 7-9 pm

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### CE Cole Intermediate School

September 23 • 6:30-8:30 pm

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### Middle School

September 10 • 6 to 8 pm

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### High School

September 17 • High School • 7 pm

# District NEWS

## Muhlenberg School District Foundation needs your help

About two-and-a-half years ago, the executive board of the Muhlenberg School District Foundation was approached with an idea for a fundraising project – a book called “Muhlenberg and Me,” a volume filled with pictures, good memories and reminiscences about experiences in the Muhlenberg schools over the past decades. Many Muhlenberg graduates provided interesting photographs and historical information was gathered.

A large amount of work has been completed, including scanning photos and designing page layouts. However, due to circumstances beyond our control, “Muhlenberg and Me” has lost its editor. Our executive board feels this book would provide a memorable publication and be well received in our community. The partially completed manuscript has too much potential to simply be tossed aside.

We are therefore, appealing to anyone in our community with a desire to help and with a computer background who would be willing to jump in and help finish the project. If you or someone you know would like more information on this project, please contact Nate DeLuca at 610-921-0419.

## Community Assistance – Change Challenge

Staff members here at Muhlenberg are participating in an event at school to benefit the Berks County United Way.

Our schools will host a “Change Challenge” event for all students to participate. We would like to ask the parents/guardians and grandparents in the community to support us by donating your change to the students who will contribute the donations to the district's United Way campaign.

The event will run for two weeks starting the first day of school and ending on September 11. Prizes will be awarded to highest contributing homeroom and/or grade. On behalf of our United Way Campaign Committee we would like to thank you for your assistance in this charity event.

## MISSION

Muhlenberg School District is dedicated to providing a program of educational excellence that enables all students to attain their potential.

## SHARED VALUES

- All students have the potential to become responsible citizens in our society.
- The home, school and student have shared responsibility for student achievement.
- An informed and involved community is essential to the development of strong educational partnerships and quality programs.
- An effective school provides a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment.
- Embracing diversity and individuality within the context of mutual respect promotes a positive learning environment.
- Outstanding programs and effective instruction produce academic excellence.
- Participation in extra-curricular activities fosters self-confidence and positive attitudes.
- Learning opportunities that integrate technology and develop higher level thinking skills empower students to succeed in a global society.
- High expectations and commitment to continuous improvement are fundamental for high achievement.

## VISION STATEMENT

The Muhlenberg School Community will promote academic excellence in a safe and nurturing environment, while celebrating unity, respecting diversity, and empowering all students to become contributing citizens in a global society.

## SCHOOL BOARD

Otto W. Voit III, *president*  
Lee R. Reiniger, *vice president*  
K. Scott Long, *secretary*  
Richard E. Hoffmaster, *treasurer*  
Terry L. Heckman, *assistant secretary*  
Cindy L. Mengle  
Barbara A. Nagle  
Chris W. Okonski  
Donald B. Raifsnider Jr.

## ADMINISTRATION

Theresa D. Haught, Ed.D., *Superintendent*  
Vlacia Z. Campbell, Ed.D.,  
*Asst. Superintendent*

## CALENDAR

### August

- 25 EC New Student Orientation, 7 pm
- 26 Teacher Clerical Day
- 27 Teacher In-Service Day  
Kindergarten Open House & Bus Night, 5:30 & 7 pm
- 31 First Day of School for Students

### September

- 1 Music Assoc, HS, 7 pm
- 2 Committee-of-the-Whole, HS, 7 pm
- 4 **No School - Holiday**
- 7 **Labor Day - No School**
- 8-11 4Sight Testing Window (gr 3-11)
- 9 Registration Deadline for 10/10 SAT  
School Board mtg, HS, 7 pm
- 10 MS Open House, 6-8 pm
- 14 Guidance Night for Parents of Seniors, HS A117, 7-9 pm

- 15 EC Open House (Grades 3 & 4) and Title I Informational Mtg, 7-9 pm
- 16 EC Open House (Grades 1 & 2) and Title I Informational Mtg, 7-9 pm
- 17 EC Picture Day  
HS Open House, 7 pm
- 18 Registration Deadline for 10/24 SAT
- 21-22 Meet the Instrument Night,  
EC cafeteria, 6:30 pm
- 23 EC Beginning Band Registration  
Forms Due  
CIS Open House, 6:30-8:30 pm
- 24 Beginning Band Parent mtg, EC  
cafeteria, 6:30 pm
- 25 Graduation Project mtg  
**Early Dismissal - Act 80 Day, K-12**
- 28 EC Beginning Band Lessons Start

## Muhlenberg

*Excellence in Action*

*Heads*  
**UP!**

### Fall Aquatics Schedule page 4

**Newsletter** Deadline for next newsletter: September 11. Published for citizens of the Muhlenberg School District, **Newsletter** is printed at Key Printing, Reading, Pa. Submit news of school or community interest to Brenda Stein, Newsletter, at return address. Include your name and phone number for verification purposes. Timely articles will be used as space allows. <http://www.muhsdk12.org>

Muhlenberg School District  
801 Bellevue Avenue  
Laureldale, PA 19605  
(610) 921-8000

Non-Profit Organization  
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PAID  
Reading, PA  
PERMIT NUMBER 69

# Resident

It is the policy of the Muhlenberg School District not to discriminate on the basis of gender, disability, race, color, and national origin in its education programs, activities, or employment policies as required by Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments. Inquiries regarding compliance with Title IX should be directed to office of the assistant superintendent, Title IX Coordinator, Muhlenberg School District, 801 Bellevue Ave., Laureldale, PA 19605, telephone (610) 921-8000, or to the Director of Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education, Washington, DC.