

MUHLENBERG SCHOOL BOARD
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – August 11, 2010
Muhlenberg High School First Floor Lecture Hall

Call to Order

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District was called to order on Wednesday, August 11, 2010 at 6:40 p.m. by Board President, Mr. Donald B. Raifsnider, Jr. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Members Present

President – Donald B. Raifsnider, Jr.
Treasurer – Richard E. Hoffmaster
Assistant Secretary – Cindy L. Mengle
Member – John A. DelCollo
Member – Barbara A. Nagle
Solicitor – James M. Lillis, Esq.
Recording Secretary – Brenda A. Stein

Members Absent

Vice President – Terry L. Heckman (illness)
Secretary – K. Scott Long (vacation)
Member – Lee R. Reiniger (vacation)
Member – Otto W. Voit, III (vacation)

Administration Present

Superintendent – Dr. Theresa D. Haught
Assistant Superintendent – Dr. Vlacia Z. Campbell
High School Principal – Michael Mish
High School Assistant Principal – Kevin Vanino
Middle School Principal – Donna Albright
Middle School Assistant Principal – Michael Kelly
Cole Intermediate School Principal – Dr. Ryan Giffing
Elementary Center Principal – Steven Baylor
Elementary Center Assistant Principal – Tim Moyer
Supervisor of Special Education – Michael Barr
Technology Coordinator – Daniel Houck
Buildings/Grounds/Transportation Coordinator – Greg Schneider

Visitors

Creg Eddinger
Colleen Russo
Martha Rempath
Hao Duong
Dave Mersinger
TJ Mersinger
Greta Cuyler, *Reading Eagle Reporter*

Executive Session

The Board recessed for an Executive Session at 6:41 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

President Raifsnider resumed the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Education Presentation

A. Strategic Plan Midpoint Review – Dr. Vlacía Z. Campbell

Dr. Campbell presented the Mid-Point Review of the Strategic Plan 2007-2013. Included in the plan is the district's updated committees, goals, strategies, and activities.

Changes to the Strategic Plan include:

- a) Academic Standards and Assessment Report – The Graduation Plan has been updated to remove the requirement to have seniors retake PSSA exams. The new Keystone Exams will begin to be phased in during the 2010-11 school year, and we feel that the PSSA retake is unnecessarily over testing our students. Therefore, senior students will be offered the opportunity to retake the PSSA exam rather than be required to retake the assessment.
- b) Educational Technology Report – The report includes the continuance of upgrading technology programs and training staff.
- c) Student Services Report – The report highlights a focus on guidance counselors, home school visitors, school nurses, and school psychologists.
- d) Professional Education Report – The report was developed based on needs identified via student data and the results of the professional education (teacher) survey.
- e) Special Education Report – The report was submitted to the State in May and has been approved.

The Strategic Plan Mid-Point Review will require board approval for submission to the state by the deadline of September 30.

B. PSSA Adequate Yearly Progress Report – Dr. Vlacía Z. Campbell

Dr. Campbell reviewed the results of our Pre-Appeals PSSA Adequate Yearly Progress Report (Exhibit A) for the 2009-10 school year. The district is not planning to appeal this report, it is an accurate report. Based on the grade span status the district has one group that did not meet the target performance level – Grade 9-12 Mathematics. However, the district as a whole did meet AYP status for the Math/Reading assessments and the attendance and graduation rates.

The state target performance levels for 2009-10 school year are: Math 56%/Reading 63%.

The following is the summary for each school:

✖Elementary Center achieved AYP status in all areas and is now making progress in School Improvement I.

✖The Cole Intermediate School in its second year achieving AYP status in all areas.

✖The Middle School met AYP for all performance targets and is now making progress in School Improvement II.

✖The High School Latino/Hispanic and Economically Disadvantaged subgroups, as well as all students, did not achieve AYP in Mathematics; therefore, the school is in warning status.

A complete PSSA report will be submitted to the school district later in the fall.

C. Electrical Energy Report – Mr. Greg Schneider

Mr. Schneider reported that last month’s electric bill of \$30,000 was \$17,000 less than previous month. The district is making a concentrated effort to limit use of electricity.

Mr. Schneider also reported on the progress of the 4 construction projects:

- *bleachers and walkways have been installed
- *roofing replacement at High School – should be completed by the start of school
- *stage rigging at High School – will be completed for the start of the school year
- *demolition on Kent Street – trees were cut down, utilities capped, and house razed

Hearing of Visitors - Muhlenberg School District taxpayers and residents have an opportunity, at this time, to comment on matters of concern, official action, or deliberation which are or may be before the Muhlenberg School Board. The Board retains the option to accept all public comment at this time. Presentations should be limited to two minutes per person. In the event that the Board determines that there is not sufficient time for residents or taxpayers of the School District to comment, the Board may defer the comment period to the next regular meeting.

No public comment at this time.

Board Business

A. Personnel–Board members met in Executive Session to discuss personnel items.

B. Management

1. Act 80 Day Exception for 2010-11 School Year

C. Physical Plant and Transportation

1. Construction Change Order for Middle School (funding from 2008 Construction Fund):
 - a) Gordon H. Baver, Inc. - (CREDIT) (\$23,313.56)

D. Budget and Finance

1. Approval of Financial Reports

Fund	Treasurer’s Report	Financial Report	Bills Paid Month	Investments	Budget Transfers
General	June 2010	June 2010	July 2010 #24613-24832	June 2010	N/A
Capital Reserve	June 2010	June 2010	July 2010 #512-518	June 2010	
1996 Series “A”	June 2010	June 2010	N/A	June 2010	
2003 Construction	June 2010	June 2010	N/A	June 2010	
2007 Construction	June 2010	June 2010	N/A	June 2010	
2008 Construction	June 2010	June 2010	July 2010 #262-267	June 2010	
Cafeteria	N/A	N/A	July 2010 #1683-1685	June 2010	
Activity Fund	June 2010	June 2010		June 2010	

2. Student Insurance Coverage for 2010-11 School Year:
 - a) Voluntary Student Accident Insurance for School Time - \$22.00
 - b) Voluntary Student Accident Insurance 24-Hour - \$88.00
3. Reimbursement of Transfer Tax for property located at 1163 Fredrick Boulevard, Muhlenberg Township, in the amount of \$524.66

E. Education

1. Submission of Strategic Plan Midpoint Review to PDE
2. Tuition Contract Agreement with Opportunities School for a student to receive educational services during the 2010-11 school year at an annual tuition fee of \$26,781.30
3. Contractual Agreement with Alvernia University for Certified School Nurse Programs for the 2010-11 School Year
4. Conference Request for Mr. Donald B. Raifsnider, Jr. to attend the PASA-PSBA School Leadership Conference at Hershey, PA on October 12-15, 2010 at an estimated cost of \$637.75 (budgeted – Board Conference Account, registration paid by PSBA)
5. Appointment of Voting Delegates to PSBA Legislative Policy Council (2 slots)
Appointments _____

F. Student Activities

Minutes

Review minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting and Regular Meeting of July 14, 2010.

Old Business

New Business

1. Memoriam of Mr. J. Albert Leader, Jr.

Resolved, that we remember the passing of Mr. J. Albert Leader, Jr. who served as a Music Teacher in the Muhlenberg School District for 27 years (1959 to 1971 and 1972 to 1987) and that we honor his memory for his dedicated service to the school district and community.

Be it further resolved that we convey through this resolution our deepest sympathy to his family, and this resolution be made part of the permanent record in the minutes of the Muhlenberg School District.

2. Memoriam of Mr. Christie L. Mills

Resolved, that we remember the passing of Mr. Christie L. Mills who served as a Director on the Reading Muhlenberg Career & Technology Authority Board for 18 years (1991 to 2009) and Business Manager for the High School Spring Musical for 27 years (1984 to 2010) that we honor his memory for his dedicated service to the school district and community.

Be it further resolved that we convey through this resolution our deepest sympathy to his family, and this resolution be made part of the permanent record in the minutes of the Muhlenberg School District.

Hearing of Visitors

Presentation is limited to approximately two minutes per person. Should any citizen require more than the two minutes allocated, please contact the Superintendent prior to the meeting. She will coordinate such requests for the Board. Citizens addressing the Board should be aware that the meeting is being taped.

No public comment at this time.

Board Visitor of the Month

September – Don Raifsnider	January – Otto Voit
October – Barb Nagle	February – John DelCollo
November – Rick Hoffmaster	March – Terry Heckman
December – Lee Reiniger	April – Scott Long
	May – Cindy Mengle

Review of Board Meetings and Calendar of Events

August 11	6:30 p.m.	Committee of the Whole & Regular Meeting
September 1	7:00 p.m.	Committee of the Whole
September 8	7:00 p.m.	Regular Meeting
September 13	6:30 p.m.	RMCTC Committee & Regular Meetings
October 6	7:00 p.m.	Committee of the Whole
October 11	6:30 p.m.	RMCTC Committee & Regular Meetings
October 13	7:00 p.m.	Regular Meeting

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Attest:

K. Scott Long
Board Secretary