

MUHLENBERG SCHOOL BOARD
Regular Meeting Minutes – December 14, 2011
Muhlenberg High School First Floor Lecture Hall
www.muhsdk12.org

Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District was called to order on Wednesday, December 14, 2011 at 7:38 p.m. by Board Vice President, Mr. Otto W. Voit, III, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Members Present

Vice President – Otto W. Voit, III
Treasurer – Cindy L. Mengle
Secretary – K. Scott Long
Assistant Secretary – Terry L. Heckman
Member – John W. Love
Member – Lee R. Reiniger
Member – Vicki L. Seidel
Solicitor – James M. Lillis, Esq.
Recording Secretary – Brenda A. Stein

Members Absent

President – Mark J. Nelson (work commitment)
Member – John A. DelCollo (family commitment)

Administration Present

Superintendent – Dr. Theresa D. Haught
Assistant Superintendent – Dr. Vlacía Z. Campbell
Supervisor of Special Education – Beverly Gallagher
High School Principal – Michael Mish
Middle School Principal – Donna Albright
Cole Intermediate School Principal – Dr. Ryan Giffing
Elementary Center Assistant Principal – Tim Moyer
Reading/Language Arts Supervisor K-12 – Lisa Langsdorf
Director of Technology – Daniel Houck
Food Service Coordinator – Tony Brochu
Buildings/Grounds/Transportation Coordinator – Greg Schneider

Visitors

Samantha Armstrong
Rich E. Stubblebine
Tracy Huey
Kim Nelson
Tara Nelson
Greg Eddinger
Hao Duong
Liam Migdail Smith, *Reading Eagle Reporter*

Student Council

No report.

D. PSBA Liaison

John W. Love

Mr. Love reported he and Mrs. Mengle attended the PSBA 2-day workshop – Ready, Set, Go – in Mechanicsburg last weekend. There were very informative sessions for new school directors.

E. Muhlenberg Community Library

Terry L. Heckman

Mr. Heckman reported the Library Board met on Monday, December 12. A short business meeting was held followed by a holiday party. The Board reported on a successful year in 2011.

F. Educational Programs

Dr. Vlacia Z. Campbell

- Alternative Education Committee

Dr. Campbell reported that an Alternative Education Committee was formed to explore alternative education programs for middle and high school students with behavior and attendance issues. The Committee is exploring options for an in-house alternative education program including the use of online curriculum. Three vendors were being considered. The number of students for this program can fluctuate from 2 to 12 depending on the individual student's needs. The middle school is currently piloting an online in-home program with 2 students who have been removed from the building due to significant behavior issues. In order to participate in this pilot parents were requested to agree to parental supervision in addition to District and online program support. The online program replaces students being assigned to an out of district alternative education school. In this pilot, Mrs. Albright worked with the online agency to customize courses to align with Muhlenberg's curriculum. The program also includes counseling services. If a district-run Alternative Education program is recommended by the Committee after exploring options for staffing, programming, eligibility, etc., Dr. Campbell will share this proposal at a future date.

The advantages for creating a district run alternative education program utilizing an online curriculum include:

- a) Better educational programming for students who would have been placed outside of the district.
- b) Cost savings to the district comparative to program run by outside organizations.

Board Discussion

Mrs. Seidel questioned the student's behavior modification plan?

Dr. Campbell responded that to some students a behavior plan may be applied. The students are referred to the SAP (Student Assistance Program) in the schools.

Solicitor's Comments

Mr. Lillis reported that the bond sale of the Series A, 2002 General Obligation Bond, was successful with a net savings of \$478,000. The addendum for the bond sale was approved at last month's meeting and is now ready for signature by the Board.

Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Theresa D. Haught, Superintendent, reported that tomorrow morning the Berks County superintendents will be meeting with our local legislators. This has become an annual event and an important one to the superintendents. It gives us the opportunity in an informal setting to discuss issues and concerns such as lack of funding, Act 1, Special Education, etc. Senators Argall, Schwank, Folmer, and Representative Gillen have confirmed attendance at the meeting.

Board Business

Personnel – Resolution Nos. 107A through 107J

Moved by Mengle and Reiniger that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve Personnel Resolution Nos. 107A through 107J in its entirety.

Yeas: Heckman, Long, Love, Mengle, Reiniger, Seidel, Voit.
Motion carried unanimously.

107A Classified Appointment

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following classified appointment as recommended:

- a) Ms. Jennifer Schaffer, transfer from 3.5 hour Cafeteria Worker at the Elementary Center to 4.0 hour Cafeteria Worker at Cole Intermediate School (F. Wummer), effective December 15, 2011
- b) Mrs. Marcia Stafford, 3.5 hour Cafeteria Worker at the Elementary Center, pay rate of \$15.14 per hour, effective December 19, 2011 (rehired from furlough)

107B Resignations

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District accept the following resignations:

- a) Ms. Lisa A. Langsdorf, Reading/Language Arts/ESL Supervisor K-12, effective within 60 days or upon replacement (January 16, 2012)
- b) Ms. Nina Stahl, Cafeteria Worker at High School, effective December 7, 2011
- c) Ms. Mirelys Tavarez, ESL Instructional Assistant/Spanish Translator, effective December 22, 2011
- d) Ms. Courtney St. Amand, Life Skills Teacher at High School, effective February 3, 2012

107C Co-Curricular Resignations

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District accept the following co-curricular resignations:

- a) Ms. Krista Bortz – Junior High Cheerleading Coach, effective November 15, 2011
- b) Mrs. Leslie Deatrich – Spring Musical Accompanist, effective December 5, 2011

107D Co-Curricular Appointments for 2011-12 School Year

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following co-curricular appointments for the 2011-12 school year:

- a) Ms. Stacy Galan – Junior High Cheerleading Coach - \$1,762 (year 2, 10% reduction)
- b) Ms. Alisse Kosloski – High School Girls' Soccer Assistant Coach (replaces S. Hampton) - \$2,642 (year 1, 10% reduction)
- c) Mr. Mark Keeley – Junior High Track Assistant Coach (replaced J. Winand, Jr.) - \$1,850 (year 1, 10% reduction)
- d) Ms. Krista Bortz – Volunteer Cheerleading Coach

107E Substitutes for the 2011-12 School Year

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the listing of additional substitutes for the 2011-12 school year (Exhibit #73).

107F Additional Bus Drivers and Assistants for the 2011-12 School Year

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the additional bus drivers and assistants for the 2011-12 school year as contracted with the Berks County Intermediate Unit:

- a) Janet Brown
- b) Julius Galan
- c) Randel Prosser

107G Guest Teachers for the 2011-12 School Year

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the listing of guest teachers for the 2011-12 school year (Exhibit #74).

107H Aquatics Personnel

Moved by that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following personnel for the aquatics program:

- a) Marianne Hertzog, part time Age Group Swim Coach, salary of \$250
- b) Heather Moser, volunteer diving coach for age group classes

Be it further resolved that the one remaining coaching salary be divided among the coaches at \$333 for full time and \$62 for part time personnel (Exhibit #75).

107I Change in Professional Position

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the change in professional position from half time Emotional Support Teacher to full-time Emotional Support Teacher at the High School effective the remainder of the 2011-12 school year.

107J Request for Medical Leave of Absence and FMLA Leave

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the request from Mrs. Kristina Antonellos for a medical leave and FMLA leave of absence effective on or about April 21, 2012 through January 1, 2013.

Management

Physical Plant and Transportation

108 Sunday Facility Use Requests

Moved by Seidel and Mengle that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Sunday facility use request (Exhibit #76):

- a) Set Point Tennis Organization – use Tennis Courts on Sunday, May 27, 2012 and June 24, 2012 for a tournament for the Life Skills Summer Mentor Program

Yeas: Heckman, Long, Love, Mengle, Reiniger, Seidel, Voit.
 Motion carried unanimously.

Budget and Finance

109 Approval of Financial Reports

Moved by Reiniger and Love that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following financial reports and that they become part of the permanent record of the meeting (Exhibit #77).

Fund	Treasurer's Report	Financial Report	Bills Paid Month	Investments	Budget Transfers
General	OCT 2011	OCT 2011	N/A	OCT 2011	OCT 2011
Capital Project	OCT 2011	OCT 2011	N/A	OCT 2011	
1996 Series "A"	OCT 2011	OCT 2011	N/A	OCT 2011	
2003 Construction	OCT 2011	OCT 2011	N/A	OCT 2011	
2007 Construction	OCT 2011	OCT 2011	N/A	OCT 2011	
2008 Construction	OCT 2011	OCT 2011	N/A	OCT 2011	
Cafeteria	OCT 2011	OCT 2011	N/A	OCT 2011	
Activity Fund	OCT 2011	OCT 2011		OCT 2011	

Yeas: Long, Love, Mengle, Reiniger, Seidel, Voit, Heckman.
 Motion carried unanimously.

110 Provider for Unemployment Compensation Benefits – PSBA Better Unemployment Compensation Program (BUCs) Comprehensive Program

Moved by Seidel and Reiniger that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the agreement with PSBA Better Unemployment Compensation Program (BUCs) Comprehensive Program as the district's provider for unemployment compensation benefits (Exhibit #78).

Yeas: Love, Mengle, Reiniger, Seidel, Voit, Heckman, Long.
Motion carried unanimously.

111 Appointment of Delegates to the Tax Collection Committee

Moved by Reiniger and Heckman,

Whereas, Act 32 § 505(b) requires the governing bodies of school districts, townships, boroughs, and cities that impose an earned income tax to appoint one voting delegate and one or two more alternate delegates to be their Tax Collection Committee (TCC) Representatives. The purpose of this resolution is to appoint the required delegates.

Resolved, by the governing body of the Muhlenberg School District, that the following individuals are appointed as TCC delegates for the Muhlenberg School District:

- a) Primary Voting Delegate: Diane E. Lucchese, CPA
- b) First Alternate Delegate: Cindy L. Mengle
- c) Second Alternate Delegate: Terry L. Heckman

Yeas: Mengle, Reiniger, Seidel, Voit, Heckman, Long, Love.
Motion carried unanimously.

Education

Resolution Nos. 112 through 114

Moved by Seidel and Reiniger that Resolution Nos. 112 through 114 be approved as presented in its entirety.

Yeas: Reiniger, Seidel, Voit, Heckman, Long, Love, Mengle.
Motion carried unanimously.

112 Counseling Services for Special Education Department

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the counseling services of Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams LLP for the special education department on an as needed basis at the rate of \$185/hour for non-routine matters and at \$140/hour for routine and general advice matters effective beginning July 1, 2012 for the 2012-13 school year (Exhibit #79).

113 Certificate of Support Students

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the enrollment of Certificate of Support Students as per the Pennsylvania School Code, Section 1302 (Exhibit #80).

114 CAPS Program with Albright College

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District authorize the district's participation in the *Creating Access to Postsecondary Schools Grant Program (CAPS)*, and as partnered with Albright College, for a grant amount of \$9,000.00 from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) (Exhibit #81).

Student Activities

Old Business

New Business

115 Memoriam of Mrs. Jean A. (Epting) Soumas

Moved by Mengle and Reiniger that we remember the passing of Mrs. Jean A. (Epting) Soumas who served as a Secretary in the Business Office at Muhlenberg School District and that we honor her memory for her twenty-seven years (1971 to 1998) of dedicated service to the school district and community.

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

Yeas: Voit, Heckman, Long, Love, Mengle, Reiniger, Seidel.
Motion carried unanimously.

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
October – Otto Voit
November – Richard Hoffmaster
December – Lee Reiniger

January – John DelCollo
February – John Love
March – Terry Heckman
April – Scott Long
May – Cindy Mengle

Review of Board Meetings and Calendar of Events

December 5	6:30 p.m.	Reorganization, Committee of the Whole
December 6	7:00 p.m.	CTC Annual Organization
December 14	7:00 p.m.	Regular Meeting
January 4	7:00 p.m.	Committee of the Whole
January 9	6:30 p.m.	CTC Committee & Regular Meetings
January 11	7:00 p.m.	Regular Meeting

Adjournment

116 Adjourn Meeting

Moved by Seidel and Reinger that there being no further business to come before the board the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Yeas: Heckman, Long, Love, Mengle, Reiniger, Seidel, Voit.
Motion carried unanimously.

Attest:



K. Scott Long
Board Secretary