







### MUHLENBERG SCHOOL DISTRICT

# THE 2016 STATE OF THE 2016 STA



# **Welcome New Staff to MSD!**

From Left to Right: Timothy Klawiter, Jr. (COLE Guidance Counselor); Kristen Quimby (MEC Special Education); Christine Herner (MEC ESL): Kasey Dawson (MEC K Learning Support); Sarah Aduddell (MEC Psychologist)

more new staff on page 3





# NASA Intern Lands Back at MHS

Skylar Radka, a senior at Muhlenberg High School, participated in an internship with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration this summer. "NASA, Texas Space Grant Consortium, and The University of Texas at Austin Center for Space Research Summer Intern Program is a nationally competitive STEM program for high school students. The program provides selected students with exposure to Earth and space research. Interns learn how to interpret NASA satellite data while working with scientists and engineers in their chosen area of work." We are so proud of Skylar as only 30 students were selected from more than 600 applicants.

LAURELDALE, PA



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Dr. Joseph Macharola Superintendent 610-921-8000, Ext. 1271 macharolaj@mail.muhlsdk12.org

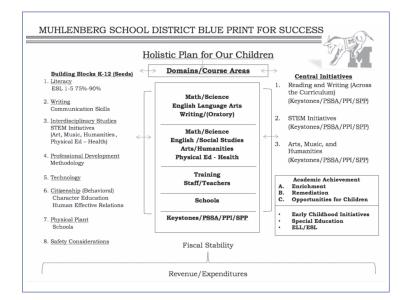




We are excited, hopeful, and extremely optimistic as we commence our new school year. Muhlenberg School District continues to emerge with new, creative and meaningful opportunities for our students.

In April 1983, the National Commission on Excellence in Education formed by then – U. S.





MSD's Blueprint for Success is the cornerstone of our district, creating change and fostering a new literacy program, math pilot, and technology initiatives for our students for the 2016-17 school year.

Secretary of Education Terrel H. Bell released the report, A Nation at Risk. The most famous line of the widely publicized report declared that "the educational foundations of our society are presently being eroded by a rising tide of mediocrity that threatens our very future as a Nation and a people" (U.S. Department of Education, 1983).

Thirty-three years have passed since this monumental report was delivered by the Reagan Administration and yet, today, this study is frequently quoted as a current reflection and state of public education. The Muhlenberg School District is committed to developing holistic learning initiatives which empower growth in our children. We are talking about human beings and their journey in life. As a public school district, and "beacon of light" for our children, it is our mission to underscore the importance of education and its role in the future of our nation. In this edition, you will find interesting articles that include an empowering presentation of Muhlenberg High School senior Skylar Radka and his NASA experience and our outstanding new staff members. Additionally, please take a moment to review our new district website.

Our Blueprint for Success, Muhlenberg School District's cornerstone, is creating change which is fostering a first year literacy program - Wonders, an initial math pilot and new technology with STEM initiatives for our students. As our schools are reflective of our magnificent community, and as we stand together as one, we are bringing hope for our children's future.

In many ways, the report presented in 1983 still creates concern for public education; however, in the Muhlenberg School District we are taking the necessary steps to stimulate growth and champion hope in our education system. I wish you the very best in the spirit of the Muhlenberg School District.

Dr. Joseph Macharola
SUPERINTENDENT

# Welcome New Staff to MSD! continued



#### MUHLENBERG MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLS

First Row - Left to
Right: Ashley Rosa
(MHS LTS Guidance);
lesha Thompson (MHS
English); Ryan Gredjus
(MMS Emotional
Support 7-9); Erin
Barnett (MMS LTS
Social Studies);
Sharon Lountzis (MHS
Nurse); Jennie Snyder
(MMS Speech);
Corrie Speakman (MHS
Learning Support)

**Second Row - Left to Right: Patrick Sisk** (MHS Social Studies); **Amanda Kemmerer** (MHS Special Education Math); **Shane Shaffer** (MMS Technical Education); **Andrew Kane** (MHS English); **John Barr** (MHS Math); **Jeffrey Faeder** (MHS Special Education English)



JEFF EBERT
PRINCIPAL
MUHLENBERG MIDDLE SCHOOL
"I am excited for the opportunity and enthusiastic to begin my new position."

As of October 2016, I will serve as the Muhlenberg Middle School Principal. Prior to this, I served for six years as an assistant principal at Wilson High School in West Lawn. And before that, I was an 8th grade social studies teacher and dean of students at Upper Adams

Middle School in Biglerville, PA. While at Upper Adams, I served as the director of *Project Venture*, a drug and alcohol prevention program utilizing experiential and outdoor education to help reduce the use of drugs and alcohol by students. I also coached high school and collegiate baseball and worked as the middle school basketball coach.

In my undergraduate work I studied Political Science and Secondary Education at Gettysburg College and received my BA in 2003. I received my master's degree in Educational Leadership and PA Principal certification from Shippensburg University in 2009. I continue my studies in educational leadership at Immaculata University in the Education Doctoral program.

My wife, two daughters and I reside in Berks County, where we are active in the youth soccer and field hockey programs. In our free time, we enjoy a variety of outdoor activities. I look forward to serving the staff, community and students of MMS!



# **Everyone Loves Bacon!**

Everyone Loves Bacon by Kelly DiPucchio is the winner of the 2016 Muhl Medal! The 17th Annual Muhl Medal Contest took place at the elementary center during the last two weeks of the school year. Each fourth grade class nominated a favorite book for the contest, created campaign materials to advertise their choice, and read their nomination to kindergarten through third grade classes. The whole school voted for their favorite book on the second to last day

of school, and the winning title was announced on the last day of school. Congratulations to **Miss Gattone**'s fourth grade class who "brought home the bacon" with their winning selection. All of the fourth grade classes did an excellent job reading and campaigning for their books, and *Everyone Loves Bacon* and the nine other nominees will be in high demand during the 2016-2017 school year.



## Welcome New Staff to MSD! continued

#### **LORI BIGNOTTI**

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, MUHLENBERG ELEMENTARY CENTER
"I am incredibly grateful and excited for the opportunity to become a
'Muhl' and to be able to work with the amazing students, familes and
staff members of MSD."

Ms. Lori Bignotti is a graduate of Exeter Township High School and Alvernia University, Reading. In 2009, she earned, with distinction, her master's degree in Education and principal certification from Cabrini College, Radnor, PA. Prior to coming to Muhlenberg School District, Ms. Bignotti taught in Exeter Township School District for the past nineteen years, two years at The Wyndcroft School (Pottstown), and a year and half at Sacred Heart Parish School (West Reading). She taught all levels from pre-kindergarten through eighth grade, excelling and presenting topics to her colleagues in the area of Communication Arts.

As a resident of Exeter, Ms. Bignotti lives with her two teenage daughters, Ariana (16) and Maurina (13), along with their two dogs, Tony and Cookie. She loves spending her free time at the beach, socializing with her friends and family, watching Ariana dance, and supporting Maurina in softball and cheerleading.



#### **INDUCTEES:**

JENNIFER BEHM-LAZZARINI '94 **NATHAN DANIELS '09** MEGAN FOX (BAUER) '05 **BRANDON FOX '06 BRETT FOX '09 RACHEL GRAEFF '07 NICOLE HENNINGER '06 KRAIG KEMP '99 SCOTT KELLER '68** ED LLOYD '60 **TIMOTHY ROWLEY '73** 

| MUHLENBERG HALL OF FAME IND  | OUCTEE DINNER   NOVEMBER 25, 2016    |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Adult x \$25 = \$  |                                      |
| Child x \$18 = \$  |                                      |
| TOTAL ENCLOSED = \$  |                                      |
| Your name  | Address                              |
| City, State, ZIP   | Phone                                |
| PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: M<br>Return completed form with payment to: Timoth<br>Muhlenberg High School, 400 Sharp Avenue, Lau | hy Moyer, Athletic Director          |
| BANQUET DATE: Friday, November 25, 2016  | 5:30 P.M. Cash Bar, 6:30 P.M. Dinner |
| DOUBLETREE BY HILTON: 701 Penn Street,   | Reading, PA 19601                    |



#### **Gifts Galore & More Craft Fair**

Saturday, October 15, 2016 8 am to 2 pm MUHLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL

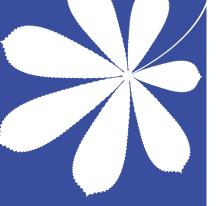
Sharp and Frances St., Laureldale, PA

FREE ADMISSION

**Looking for Crafters and Vendors** 

For more information, email:muwcraft@gmail.com

Lunch concession available Proceeds benefit Berks County United Way



# fallsports fallschedule

|     | VA                   | RSITY FOOTBALL         |   |       |
|-----|----------------------|------------------------|---|-------|
| FRI | 9/23/2016            | DANIEL BOONE           | Н | 7:00  |
| FRI | 9/30/2016            | Conrad Weiser          | Α | 7:00  |
| FRI | 10/7//2016           | EXETER                 | Н | 7:00  |
| FRI | 10/14/2016           | Governor Mifflin       | Α | 7:00  |
| FRI | 10/21/2016           | FLEETWOOD (Homecoming) | Н | 7:00  |
| FRI | 10/28/2016           | ELCO (SN)              | Н | 7:00  |
| FRI | 11/4/2016            | Reading                | Α | 7:00  |
|     |                      | *Coach Pat Sisk        |   |       |
|     |                      | <b>GIRLS' TENNIS</b>   |   |       |
| WED | 9/21/2016            | GOVERNOR MIFFLIN       | Н | 3:30  |
| FRI | 9/23/2016            | Tulpehocken            | Α | 3:30  |
| MON | 9/26/2016            | Daniel Boone           | Α | 3:30  |
| WED | 9/28/2016            | EXETER                 | Н | 3:30  |
|     |                      | *Coach Melissa Graeff  |   |       |
|     | VARS                 | SITY GIRLS' SOCCER     |   |       |
| WED | 9/21/2016            | Berks Catholic         | Α | 5:45  |
| SAT | 9/24/2016            | Northern Lebanon       | Α | 5:30  |
| MON | 9/26/2016            | Fleetwood              | Α | 5:45  |
| WED | 9/28/2016            | SCHUYLKILL VALLEY      | Н | 5:45  |
| SAT | 10/1/2016            | YORK SUBURBAN          | Н | 11:00 |
| MON | 10/3/2016            | Conrad Weiser          | Α | 5:45  |
| WED | 10/5/2016            | Hamburg                | Α | 5:45  |
| MON | 10/10/2016           | BERKS CATHOLIC         | Н | 5:45  |
| WED | 10/12/2016           | FLEETWOOD              | Н | 5:45  |
|     |                      | *Coach Dave Leinbach   |   |       |
|     |                      | JV FOOTBALL            |   |       |
| MON | 9/26/2016            | Daniel Boone           | Α | 7:00  |
| SAT | 10/1/2016            | CONRAD WEISER          | Н | 10:00 |
| SAT | 10/8/2016            | Exeter                 | Α | 10:00 |
| SAT | 10/15/2016           | GOVERNOR MIFFLIN       | Н | 10:00 |
| SAT | 10/22/2016           | Fleetwood              | Α | 10:00 |
| MON | 10/31/2016           | ELCO                   | Н | 4:00  |
|     | *Coach Ken Romberger |                        |   |       |
|     |                      |                        |   |       |

\*All dates and times are subject to change

**BCIAA.com:** Directions to schools

**Schedulestar.com:** Schedules and Cancellations **www.muhlsdk12.org:** School website, Athletic Forms

and Publications

| WED  | 9/21/2016  | <b>CUMBERLAND VALLEY</b> | Н | 5:00 |
|------|------------|--------------------------|---|------|
| FRI  | 9/23/2016  | Beast of the East        | Н | TBA  |
| SAT  | 9/24/2016  | Beast of the East        | Н | TBA  |
| MON  | 9/26/2016  | WILSON                   | Н | 5:00 |
| SAT  | 10/1/2016  | MUSTANG/MUHL INVITE.     | Н | TBA  |
| WED  | 10/5/2016  | POTTSTOWN                | Н | 5:00 |
| THUR | 10/6/2016  | Central York             | Α | 5:00 |
| WED  | 10/12/2016 | UPPER PERK               | Н | 5:00 |
| MON  | 10/17/2016 | Governor Mifflin         | Α | 5:00 |
| WED  | 10/19/2016 | Reading                  | Α | 5:00 |
|      |            | *Coach Steve Stambaugh   |   |      |

**WATER POLO** 

#### **VARSITY BOYS' SOCCER**

THIR 0/00/0016 Deniel Deepe

E. 4E

| THUK | 9/22/2016  | Daniei Boone            | Α | 5:45  |
|------|------------|-------------------------|---|-------|
| SAT  | 9/24/2016  | DONEGAL                 | Н | 11:00 |
| TUE  | 9/27/2016  | Reading                 | Α | 5:45  |
| THUR | 9/29/2016  | Exeter                  | Α | 5:45  |
| SAT  | 10/1/2016  | York Suburban           | Α | 10:00 |
| TUE  | 10/4/2016  | <b>GOVERNOR MIFFLIN</b> | Н | 5:45  |
| THUR | 10/6/2016  | Wilson                  | Α | 5:45  |
| SAT  | 10/8/2016  | Fleetwood               | Α | TBA   |
| TUE  | 10/11/2016 | DANIEL BOONE            | Н | 5:45  |
|      |            | *Coach David Angove     |   |       |
|      |            |                         |   |       |

#### **VARSITY BOYS' SOCCER**

| TUE  | 9/20/2016  | WILSON                  | Н | 5:45  |
|------|------------|-------------------------|---|-------|
| THUR | 9/22/2016  | Daniel Boone            | Α | 5:45  |
| SAT  | 9/24/2016  | DONEGAL                 | H | 11:00 |
| TUE  | 9/27/2016  | Reading                 | Α | 5:45  |
| THUR | 9/29/2016  | Exeter                  | Α | 5:45  |
| SAT  | 10/1/2016  | York Suburban           | Α | 10:00 |
| TUE  | 10/4/2016  | <b>GOVERNOR MIFFLIN</b> | Н | 5:45  |
| THUR | 10/6/2016  | Wilson                  | Α | 5:45  |
| SAT  | 10/8/2016  | Fleetwood               | Α | TBA   |
| TUE  | 10/11/2016 | DANIEL BOONE            | Н | 5:45  |

# \*Coach David Angove VARSITY CROSS COUNTRY

| TUE | 9/27/2016  | FLWOOD, KUTZTOWN       | H | 4:30 |
|-----|------------|------------------------|---|------|
| TUE | 10/4/2016  | Oley, Rdg, Hamburg     | Α | 4:30 |
| TUE | 10/11/2016 | G.Mifflin, Wyo, Exeter | Α | 4:30 |

\*Coach Matt DeAngelis



#### **GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL**

| TUE  | 9/20/2016  | GOVENOR MIFFLIN              | Н | 6:00 |
|------|------------|------------------------------|---|------|
| THUR | 9/22/2016  | Wilson                       | Α | 6:00 |
| SAT  | 9/24/2016  | Oley Tourney (JV only)       | Α | 8:00 |
| SAT  | 9/24/2016  | Wyomissing Tourney (Varsity) | Α | 6:00 |
| MON  | 9/26/2016  | Ephrata                      | Α | 6:00 |
| TUE  | 9/27/2016  | READING                      | Н | 6:00 |
| THUR | 9/29/2016  | CONRAD WEISER                | Н | 6:00 |
| MON  | 10/3/2016  | DANIEL BOONE                 | Н | 6:00 |
| TUE  | 10/4/2016  | Exeter                       | Α | 6:00 |
| THUR | 10/6/2016  | TWIN VALLEY                  | Н | 6:00 |
| TUE  | 10/11/2016 | Governor Mifflin             | Α | 6:00 |
| THUR | 10/13/2016 | WILSON                       | Н | 6:00 |
| MON  | 10/17/2016 | OLEY                         | Н | 6:00 |
| TUE  | 10/18/2016 | Reading                      | Α | 6:00 |
|      |            | *Coach Erin Wentzel          |   |      |

#### **JUNIOR HIGH VOLLEYBALL**

| WED | 9/21/2016  | Wilson             | Α | 4:00 |
|-----|------------|--------------------|---|------|
| MON | 9/26/2016  | READING            | Н | 4:00 |
| WED | 9/282016   | Governor Mifflin   | Α | 4:00 |
| SAT | 10/1/2016  | Wilson Tourney     | Α | 4:00 |
| MON | 10/3/2016  | Wyomissing         | Α | 4:00 |
| WED | 10/5/2016  | TWIN VALLEY        | Н | 4:00 |
| WED | 10/12/2016 | Oley Valley        | Α | 4:00 |
| FRI | 10/14/2016 | Conrad Weiser      | Α | 4:00 |
| MON | 10/17/2016 | WILSON SO          | Н | 4:00 |
| WED | 10/19/2016 | Exeter             | Α | 4:00 |
| MON | 10/24/2016 | BRANDYWINE         | Н | 4:00 |
|     |            | *Coach Dan Solvino |   |      |

#### **JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS SOCCER**

| FRI | 9/23/2016  | <b>CONRAD WEISER</b> | Н | 3:45 |
|-----|------------|----------------------|---|------|
| WED | 10/28/2016 | Daniel Boone         | Α | 3:45 |
| FRI | 9/30/2016  | EXETER               | Н | 3:45 |
| WED | 10/5/2016  | Governor Mifflin     | Α | 3:45 |
| FRI | 10/7/2016  | BERKS CATHOLIC       | Н | 3:45 |
| WED | 10/12/2016 | Reading              | Α | 3:45 |
| FRI | 10/14/2016 | TWIN VALLEY          | Н | 3:45 |
| WED | 10/19/2016 | Wilson               | Α | 3:45 |
| FRI | 10/21/2016 | WILSON WEST          | Н | 3:45 |
| WED | 10/26/2016 | Conrad Weiser        | Α | 3:45 |

#### \*Coach TBA

#### **JUNIOR HIGH FOOTBALL**

| THUR | 9/22/2016  | Exeter               | Α | 4:00 |
|------|------------|----------------------|---|------|
| THUR | 9/29/2016  | DANIEL BOONE         | Н | 4:00 |
| THUR | 10/6/2016  | Governor Mifflin     | Α | 4:00 |
| THUR | 10/13/2016 | FLEETW00D            | Н | 4:00 |
| THUR | 10/20/2016 | Conrad Weiser        | Α | 4:00 |
| THUR | 10/27/2016 | <b>BLUE MOUNTAIN</b> | H | 4:00 |
|      |            | *Coach Matt Witotsky |   |      |

#### **JUNIOR HIGH BOYS' SOCCER**

| WED | 9/21/2016  | WILSON WEST              | Н | 3:45 |
|-----|------------|--------------------------|---|------|
| FRI | 9/23/2016  | Conrad Weiser            | Α | 3:45 |
| WED | 9/28/2016  | DANIEL BOONE             | Н | 3:45 |
| FRI | 9/30/2016  | Exeter                   | Α | 3:45 |
| WED | 10/5/2016  | GOVERNOR MIFFLIN         | Н | 3:45 |
| FRI | 10/7/2016  | Berks Catholic           | Α | 3:45 |
| WED | 10/12/2016 | READING                  | Н | 3:45 |
| FRI | 10/14/2016 | Twin Valley              | Α | 3:45 |
| WED | 10/19/2016 | WILSON SO                | Н | 3:45 |
| FRI | 10/21/2016 | Wilson West              | Α | 3:45 |
| WED | 10/26/2016 | CONRAD WEISER            | Н | 3:45 |
|     |            | *Coach Steve Scicchitano |   |      |

#### **JUNIOR HIGH FIELD HOCKEY**

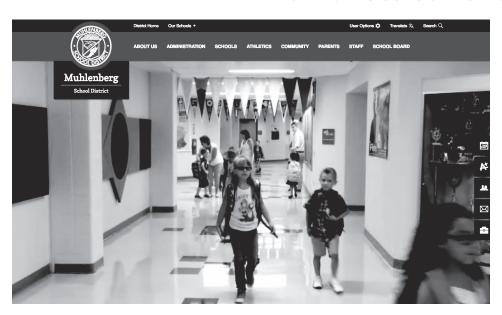
| TUE  | 9/20/2016  | Reading             | Α | 4:00 |
|------|------------|---------------------|---|------|
| TUE  | 9/27/2016  | Conrad Weiser       | Α | 4:00 |
| THUR | 9/29/2016  | DANIEL BOONE        | Α | 4:00 |
| TUE  | 10/4/2016  | Exeter              | Α | 4:00 |
| THUR | 10/6/2016  | GOVERNOR MIFFLIN    | Н | 4:00 |
| SAT  | 10/8/2016  | MUHLENBERG TOURNEY  | Н | 8:00 |
| TUE  | 10/11/2016 | Berks Catholic      | Α | 4:00 |
| THUR | 10/13/2016 | TWIN VALLEY         | Н | 8:00 |
| TUE  | 10/18/2016 | Wilson              | Α | 4:00 |
| THUR | 10/20/2016 | READING             | Н | 4:00 |
|      |            | *Coach Patty Keiper |   |      |

#### **PONY FOOTBALL**

| TUE | 9/20/2016  | EXETER                  | Н | 4:00 |
|-----|------------|-------------------------|---|------|
| TUE | 9/27/2016  | Daniel Boone            | Α | 4:00 |
| TUE | 10/4/2016  | <b>GOVERNOR MIFFLIN</b> | Н | 4:00 |
| TUE | 10/11/2016 | Fleetwood               | Α | 4:00 |
| TUE | 10/18/2016 | <b>CONRAD WEISER</b>    | Н | 4:00 |
| TUE | 10/25/2016 | Blue Mountain           | Α | 4:00 |
|     |            | *Coach Jordan Kipp      |   |      |

#### **JUNIOR HIGH CROSS COUNTRY**

| TUE | 9/20/2016  | S. VALLEY, TULPEHOCKEN  | Н | 4:00 |
|-----|------------|-------------------------|---|------|
| TUE | 9/27/2016  | FLTWOOD, KUTZTOWN       | Н | 4:00 |
| TUE | 10/4/2016  | Oley, Reading, Hamburg  | Α | 4:00 |
| TUE | 10/11/2016 | G. Mifflin, Wyo, Exeter | Α | 4:00 |
|     |            | *Coach Brian Hendricks  |   |      |



# **District Classrooms Pilot Exciting New Math Programs**

A pilot program in mathematics is underway and will continue through the 2016-2017 school year. Early in May, 2016, research was conducted to determine the success and level of satisfaction among math programs currently in use in Berks County and several surrounding counties. As a result, we requested samples from four programs: Math in Focus (Houghton, Mifflin, Harcourt), GoMath (Houghton, Mifflin, Harcourt), enVisionMATH (Pearson), and Eureka Math (Great Minds). On May 19, publishers' representatives presented their programs to a group of MSD teachers and administrators. On May 27, the decision was made to pilot enVision MATH and Eureka Math.

Teachers were asked to indicate a preference as to the program they would be most interested in piloting this year. In all, 42 teachers in grades K-8 are participating.

Twenty-one teachers have been assigned to each program. In addition, another study is taking place in Algebra 1 between Eureka Math and College Preparatory Mathematics (CPM).

On June 9, our last professional development day, five presenters were onsite training the pilot teachers in the use of these math programs. More professional development will take in October, November, January, and February. The expected date for the determination of our new mathematics program is April 1, 2017.

#### SCHOOL DISTRICT UNVEILS SPECTACULAR NEW WEBSITE

MSD unveiled a brand new website on August 30, providing our community with a dynamic and exciting look that will allow for an easier way to find all of the information on our schools.

Anyone who logs on to **www.muhlsdk12.org** will see a n enhanced home page with a built-in video box, larger photos for updates and rotating videos with thumbnails. All of our live twitter action will be featured on the bottom of the home page. Please follow us at Muhlsd.

This is a great opportunity for the Muhlenberg School District to continue to upgrade our services. With the increased capabilities of our website, our community will have many new features that will enhance the website experience.

#### **Substitutes Needed**

MUHLENBERG SCHOOL DISTRICT IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS, SUBSTITUTE TEACHER ASSISTANTS AND SUBSTITUTE CAFETERIA PERSONNEL. PLEASE SEND RESUME, PROFESSIONAL OR CLASSIFIED APPLICATION, AND UP TO DATE CLEARANCES TO DR. JOSEPH E. MACHAROLA, SUPERINTENDENT, C/O PAT LAW 801 BELLEVUE AVENUE, LAURELDALE, PA 19605.







2615 Warren Road Reading, PA 19604 610-921-7300 www.rmctc.org

The Reading Muhlenberg Career & Technology Center (RMCTC) offers Muhlenberg students 31 unique programs of study, each leading to fulfilling and rewarding careers. All programs offer the opportunity for students to obtainindustry certifications prior to graduation and provide pathways for students to continue their education at both two and fouryear trade schools and colleges.

#### CONSTRUCTION CLUSTER

Bricklaying **Building & Property** Maintenance Carpentry **Electrical Technology Painting & Decorating** Plumbing & Heating

#### **GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION CLUSTER**

Advertising Design & **Commercial Art Printing & Graphic Communications** 

#### **HEALTH SCIENCES CLUSTER**

**Health - Dental Occupations** Health - Medical Office Health – Medical Professions Health - Nursing Careers

#### MANUFACTURING CLUSTER

**Engineering & Automation Technology** Machine Shop Technology Welding & Metal Fabrication Please join us and discover for yourself the rewarding opportunities available through career and technical education.

RMCTC **OPEN HOUSE** THURSDAY OCTOBER 27, 2016 5:30 P.M.

#### PERSONAL SERVICES CLUSTER

**Baking & Pastry Arts** Cosmetology **Culinary Arts Early Childhood Education** Horticulture **Public Safety & Security** Service Occupations Education\* **Sewing & Clothing Manufacturing** 

#### **TECHNICAL CLUSTER**

**Computerized Drafting Technology Electronics & Communication Technology** Information Technology-**Applications** Information Technology-Web Design

#### TRANSPORTATION CLUSTER

**Auto Body Repair Automotive Technology Diesel Truck Technology** Motorcycle, Marine & **Small Engine Technology** 

<sup>\*</sup>Counselor Recommendation Required

# What's new in 2016-2017 for MSD?

Muhlenberg School District's central focus is 21st Century Teaching and Learning. We are making significant strides to equip our staff and students with the most appropriate resources, cutting edge technology, and an effective professional development plan.

It's no secret, teachers make the difference. Teachers, with the support of our professional development plan, will stay current with the most effective pedagogy, cutting-edge curricula and the most relevant experiences and resources that connect our content to the needs of the MSD community.

When we think about the future we begin with providing our students a strong foundation, centered on rich, authentic experiences that foster critical thinking, innovation, collaboration, communication, and literacy.

Our Technology and Engaged Classroom Initiative has been established to create the proper conditions necessary for students to thrive in a 21st century environment. Sixty-three kindergarten to K–12th grade classrooms have been strategically outfitted with iPads, Chromebooks or TI-Nspire technology and software that will help deepen students' understanding through classroom exploration of STEM concepts.

In Math, we will be piloting two Math programs this year. Eureka Math and Envision Math will be piloted in all K–8th grade classrooms. Our intent is to identify and select the most appropriate resource that supports our teachers implementing the curriculum.

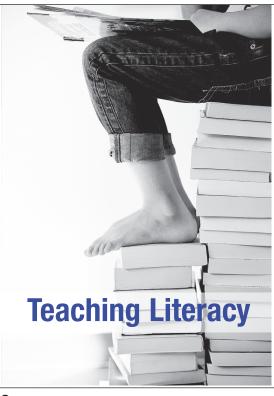
With Literacy, we are emerging with the development of a comprehensive, researched based English Language Arts program.

This past year, we updated all of our ELA and Social Studies curricula to match 21st



century learning expectations. The result was the creation of rich, rigorous and relevant curricula that will provide our students with a plethora of learning experiences and opportunities to develop their communication and critical thinking skills. To support the curriculum, our K–6th grade teachers will be using a new resource, *Reading Wonders*, that uses an integrated approach to build all of our students into stronger readers.

Dr. Alan Futrick
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT



Our elementary teachers and students in grades K to 6 have an exciting year ahead of them!
Learning to read is not something innate, or something we are born with; reading needs to be taught. As a reader begins the journey of learning to read, many things happen simultaneously in the brain. Researchers know that learning to read is complex.

Educators understand that instructional materials matter. Following a year of trial and informed decision-making, MSD has purchased McGraw Hill's *Wonders* program for K–6th grades. This program is the only published program totally aligned with Common Core Standards. It includes a plethora of

materials to support our teachers and students. Materials are interesting and will raise the bar for our students. The first year of full implementation will be exciting as we navigate the program and challenge our students.

Developing skills of literacy is one of our main jobs in our classrooms. Literacy skills include reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Each of us uses these skills on a daily basis. Wonders includes resources to reinforce school-day learning at home. Parents can play an integral part in a child's reading development by setting up an expectation of daily practice with text. Together, we can and will develop literacy in our students.



#### **SEPTEMBER**

- 11-16 MEC Grandparents' Days
- Regular Board Meeting, MHS, 7:00 PM
- Berks County College Fair,Albright College, 6 8:00 PM
- 15 Meet the Instrument Night, C. E. Cole, 6:00 – 8:00 PM
- 20 Meet the Instrument Night, MEC Cafe, 6:00 – 8:00 PM
- 22 Beginning Band Sign-Up/ Parent Mtg., MEC Café, 7:00 PM
- Senior Parent Financial Aid Night, MHS, RM A-117, 6:00 – 8:00 PM
- 23 Early Dismissal, Grades K-12

#### **OCTOBER**

- 4 Music Assoc. Mtg., MHS Chorus RM, 7:00 PM
- 5 Committee of the Whole Mtg., MHS, 7:00 PM
- 9 MEC Fall Block Party, 2:00 - 4:00 PM
- Teacher In-Service Day;No School
- Regular Board Meeting, MHS, 7:00 PM
- 13 MEC Fall ESL Night, Café, 6:30 PM
- 19 PSAT, MHS, 8:00 AM
- 21 MMS Career Fair
- 21 Homecoming Football Game and Festivities, MHS Stadium, 6:30 PM
- Homecoming Dance, MHS, GYM, 7:00 10:00 PM
- 24 MHS Picture Re-take Day
- 28 MEC Picture Re-Take Day
- 31 MEC Career Day

#### **NOVEMBER**

- 1 Music Assoc. Mtg., MHS Chorus RM, 7:00 PM
- 2 End of First Quarter
- Committee of the Whole Mtg., MHS, 7:00 PM
- 3 MMS Picture Re-take Day
- 3 Fall Family Literacy Event, MEC Café, 6:30 PM
- 5 FAFSA Completion Day,
   11:00 AM 1:00 PM,
   MHS, RM A-245
- 8 Teacher In-Service Day, No School
- 9 Regular Board Meeting, MHS, 7:00 PM
- 11 Veterans' Day Breakfast, MMS, Café, 8:00 AM
- 16 C. E. Cole Picture Re-Take Day
- 17 SHREK, JR.
  Senior Citizen
  Performance,
  MMS Auditorium, 4:00 PM
- 18 SHREK, JR. MMS Auditorium, 7:30 PM
- 19 SHREK, JR. MMS Auditorium 1:30 PM & 7:30 PM
- 21-23 K-6 Parent Conferences; Early Dismissal
- 23 K-9 Parent Conferences; Early Dismissal
- 24-28 Thanksgiving Break, No School

#### **DECEMBER**

- 5-16 Keystone Exam Wave I
- 7 Annual Organization & Committee of the Whole Mtg., MHS, 6:30 PM
- Winter Concert, MHS, 3:00 PM
- 13 MEC Holiday Caroling, 6:30 PM (rain date 12/15/2016)
- Regular Board Meeting, MHS, 7:00 PM
- 15 MMS Winter Concert, 7:00 PM
- C. E. Cole Winter Concert, MHS Auditorium, 7:00 PM
- 22 K-12, Early Dismissal

DEC 23-

JAN 2 Winter Break, No School

#### MUHLENBERG MIDDLE SCHOOL

# SHREK THE MUSICAL, JR. PERFORMANCE

**November 17, 2016** at 4:00 PM

Senior Citizen Performance

**November 18, 2016** at 7:30 PM

November 19, 2016

at 1:30 PM and 7:30 PM

All performances held in the Muhlenberg Middle School Auditorium

Tickets can be purchased beginning October 17, 2016 at http://bit.ly/mmsmusical

Tickets will be \$8 for adults and \$5 for students.



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# Deadline for next newsletter is November 4, 2016.

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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 educational programs, activities, or employment policies as required by Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments. Inquires regarding compliance with Title IX should be directed to the office of the assistant superintendent, Title IX Coordinator, Muhlenberg School District, 801 Bellevue Avenue, Laureldale, PA 19605, telephone (610)921-8000, or to the Director of Civil Rights , Department of Education,



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#### **EQUIPPING. ENGAGING. EMPOWERING**

MISSION: Excellence in Action

#### **VALUES & BELIEFS**

Students learn differently.

Students learn best with challenging and relevant curriculum.

Students thrive in a safe learning environment.

Teachers lead learning through passion, perseverance and personality.

Teachers create a culture of high expectations. Teachers are inspirational role models.

Students, parents and families, the school, the school board, the community and business leaders

create partnerships that drive students success.

An informed and involved learning community is essential to the development of strong educational partnerships and quality programs.

The learning community equips, engages and empowers learners.

#### **VISION STATEMENT**

The Muhlenberg School District is committed to guiding all students on a path of excellence with active and purposeful learning experiences, a growing and comprehensive curriculum, collaborative and innovative staff and creative use of technology and resources coupled with an unrelenting desire for success.

#### **SCHOOL**BOARDMEMBERS

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OTTO W. VOIT, III VICE PRESIDENT

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