

MUHLENBERG SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes  
May 8, 2024  
Lecture Hall, Muhlenberg High School  
[www.muhlsdk12.org](http://www.muhlsdk12.org)

**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, May 8, 2024 at 6:30 PM by Board President, Mr. Garrett E. Hyneman.

**Members Present**

President – Mr. Garrett E. Hyneman  
Vice President – Mrs. Kristyna Eagle  
Treasurer - Mr. Miguel Vasquez  
Assistant Secretary – Ms. Janet Howard  
Member – Mr. Andrew L. Eaton, Sr.  
Member – Mr. Ronald J. Haas, Sr.  
Member – Mr. S. Wayne Hardy  
Member – Mr. Otto W. Voit, III  
Solicitor – Mr. Brian F. Boland, Esq.  
Recording Secretary – Mrs. Tara L. Flowers

**Members Absent**

Secretary – Mrs. Cindy L. Mengle

**Administration Present**

Superintendent – Dr. Joseph E. Macharola  
Assistant Superintendent - Dr. Alan S. Futrick  
Assistant Business Manager - Mrs. Susan Hawkins  
Director of Physical Plant – Mr. Ken Patterson  
Director of Federal Programs - Dr. Cathy Shappell  
Director of Special Education - Ms. Nicole Huntbach  
Supervisor of Special Education - Dr. Janet Heilman  
Supervisor of Special Education - Ms. Lori Morris  
Director of Clinical Services - Mr. Zachariah Milch  
Director of Technology - Mr. Daniel Houck  
Director of Food Services - Mr. Carey Kline  
Director of Pupil Services - Mr. Michael Mish  
Director of Human Resources - Dr. Jessica Heffner  
Director of Curriculum & Instruction K-12 - Mr. Kyle Crater  
Athletic Director - Dr. Timothy Moyer  
Community & Family Outreach Coord. & Distr. Interpreter – Ms. Elizabeth Laviena  
High School Principal - Mr. Haniff Skeete  
Junior High School Assistant Principal - Ms. Jennifer Doyle  
Junior High School Assistant Principal - Mr. Daniel Kramer  
C.E. Cole Intermediate Principal - Mr. Christopher Becker  
C.E. Cole Intermediate Assistant Principal - Ms. Jaclyn Bellanca

C.E. Cole Intermediate Assistant Principal - Mr. Joseph Scoboria  
Elementary Principal - Ms. Ginny Hornberger  
Elementary Assistant Principal - Ms. Leila McGill  
Social Worker - Ms. Lauren Heydt  
Social Worker - Ms. Liliana Moore  
Social Worker - Ms. Emily Carmichael  
Social Worker - Ms. Amanda Foulds

### **Visitors**

Diane Benson	Melissa Carroll
Linda Roebuck	Marc Wolfe
Melissa Weaver	Jacqueline Ellis
Michele McCammitt	Hugh Cadzow
Nicholas Gerhringer	Max Quinter
Joshua Rankin	Carley Rankin
Rick Hoffmaster	Gabrielle Ramirez
Michelle Eaton	Jaela Eaton
Daniel Gunther	Jennifer Gunther
Jessica Steffy	Hailie Gunther

### **Educational Presentations**

#### Questions/Comments/Concerns

*Dr. Macharola took a moment to discuss the recent assaults on staff members. He spoke about a parent who reached out to him most recently. He talked about too many of these incidents happening and it's not just here in the District, it's across the country. Dr. Macharola advised that the District has zero tolerance when it comes to anyone attacking and assaulting any of the District's staff members. He talked about this being unacceptable and the District will prosecute anyone to the fullest degree and they will get expelled. He spoke about there being an overwhelming amount of incidents that occurred in the junior high school, seven assaults, most of the students being in 7th grade and most with intellectual disabilities. He explained nonetheless this is something he needed to address publicly and the District will find the appropriate placement for these students according to their disability; there has to be a manifestation determination, which is all IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act); federal law that comes right from down front he state and the District has to follow it. Dr. Macharola spoke about someone questioning why the District lets this happen in the schools. He advised the District does not let this happen as the District does not teach how to attack the faculty; this comes from outside of the school. Dr. Macharola explained that this is not okay, the District will not accept it and the student will get expelled. He spoke about many of the parents thinking this is not okay and should not be expelled for striking a teacher and the District is getting sued. Dr. Macharola advised the District's solicitors are active in defending the District; four cases right now to address what is proper and what is appropriate outside of the fact that they were expelled. He explained that if the student cannot make the right decisions, then the District will get the right clinical services they need in order to make the right decisions.*



*Dr. McAhrola reiterated that the District does not tolerate assaulting a staff member. Dr. Macharola asked Mr. Boland, solicitor, of four cases currently that are being challenged as the parents are trying to get the expulsions overthrown. Mr. Boland responded that this is correct. He discussed these behaviors starting at home; schools reflect society, society does not reflect the schools. Dr. Macharola also spoke about parents who allow their child when participating in sports, especially against the District's students, to use ethnic slurs is okay, it is not okay. He talked about also not tolerating this from the District's students engaged in sporting activities with other teams using ethnic slurs. He spoke about trash talking as one thing, but putting on a Muhlenberg jersey and participating in organized sports is not acceptable. He advised if a parent is going to tell him that it is okay to call a Muhlenberg student an ethnic slur because of where their family comes from, he is the wrong guy to approach as this is not right.*

*Mr. Voit advised that the board members share the same sentiment and they stand with him to support these actions that the District needs to take.*

*A. Act 34 Hearing - Mr. Scott Eldridge, Marotta/Main Architects*

*Mr. Eldridge reported:*

- *The purpose of Act 34 is to provide public transparency for public school building projects. Act 34 is triggered by any new construction school project as well as any significant addition project which is defined as a building project that touches more than twenty percent of the floor area of an existing building. For the new grades 5-6 school that they have been working with the District's team to plan and prepare, this does fall under the Act 34 requirement and guidelines. The resolution the board has in front of them this evening, the purpose of this document is to schedule the public hearing for Act 34 which will take place on June 12th; it provides for advertising the notice of public hearing so the public is aware that this will take place. It also outlines approval of the maximum building construction cost. It authorizes Marotta/Main Architects and several other firms to prepare the project description which will be available for the public to see for twenty days prior to the public hearing. Once this is adopted, if the board approves to adopt this resolution, they will publish the notice of hearing and then the documents will be available to the public as they are planning to make this happen next Friday the 17th.*

*Questions/Comments/Concerns*

*Dr. Macharola recapped the presentation by saying the Act 34 Hearing will take place June 12th at 6PM and invited all of the board in attendance. He advised the Committee of the Whole Meeting will begin at 6:30PM, followed by the traditional board meeting.*

*Mr. Boland advised the key to the resolution that the board will be adopting is that the District is establishing the maximum construction cost and the maximum project cost which is a part of the Act. He explained in addition to authorizing and advertising the*

*hearing, this is one piece that the District is setting the maximum construction and maximum project cost.*

B. Raymond James Public Finance - Mr. Scott Kramer and Ms. Allie Macchi

Mr. Kramer and Ms. Macchi reported:

- Mr. Kramer advised they have been present here talking about the plan and sticking to the plan for the financing of these projects phased out over the next several years. As the District continues to plan for the projects with the architect, they will revise the plan accordingly, make amendments should certain market conditions present themselves in the District's favor. This is one of those things Ms. Macchi will discuss the good news. They are present this evening as they are getting ready for the next part of the financing; borrowing fifteen million last year is kind of the "seed money" for the project, now coming back for the next larger piece of the financing part of the plan and wanting to revisit the need to stick to the plan as much as the District can. He discussed meeting with Mr. Mathias and administration to discuss when planning the school budget, that all the other stresses the District is feeling on the budget fit within the context of planning for this project; which is a very important piece of the puzzle. Ms. Macchi discussed the chart they prepared and explained what the market is doing. They all have heard that the Fed is not cutting interest rates; when they presented back in October board meeting when they did the first piece of the borrowing, the edict at this point was six to eight rate cuts in 2024. Inflation has been particularly stubborn, that has not happened and are sitting at the same level when they did the last bond. The good news is that it presents the opportunity for them to invest the bond proceeds that were not spending down yet at a rate that's higher than the rate that it was borrowed at. This is also allowing them to earn an additional interest that would be able to offset the future borrowings so at the end according to the plan, the first two borrowings last year and this year, one next year and then the final one will be what is called the "clean up." If there is any grant money, if the District wants to put any cash towards it, if there is additional interest earnings they can downsize that borrowing accordingly once they know exactly what all the projects coming in at once bids are in and the final scope has been determined. The fifteen million the District borrowed in October has been earning more interest than they initially anticipated because the Fed has left those rates higher for longer; that's still kind of the mantra at the moment that they are saying they expect maybe one rate cut yet this year, however they will see what happens. On the graph presented, the light blue line is the rate that the District can currently borrow at, and the dark blue line is where the District can invest the proceeds. Basically when the District borrows the money now, put it in the bank, the District will be able to earn something like one percent on this money that is in excess of what is costing the District to service the debt on the borrowing side. They are ready to go ahead and authorize the next piece of the borrowing, fifty million is the next according to the draw schedule that Marotta/Main had given them. The District still has some of the fifteen million



dollars left, according to Mr. Mathias about thirteen remaining, but what they are wanting to do is to borrow under that small issuer exemption that they had previously discussed, where the District does not need to meet any sort of spend down test to be able to keep the positive arbitrage on that money. They would like to put this on the back burner, start spending the new pot of money, let that continue to earn more interest earnings for that final piece, and they will start to borrow the next fifty million and start to spend this down over the next twelve months or so. This is currently the plan. Mr. Kramer discussed when speaking with Mr. Mathias and Dr. Macharola previously, if borrowing the fifty million now at roughly 4.5 percent and reinvesting hopefully at 5.5 percent, creates this opportunity for the District. One of the things that they want to be very mindful of is with this new fifty million, they have to meet certain benchmarks for how quickly they spend those proceeds. So they are going to work very closely with Marotta/Main to make sure they meet those benchmarks; maximize interest earnings, but make sure along the way they are meeting the benchmarks so the interest that they are earning the District gets to keep. They will make sure whether it is PLGIT, Liquid Assets, or whomever, to maximize those earnings. The other small tweak to the plan is they don't know where interest rates are going to be next year and the following year, but what they do know is where they are today. So by moving up this financing by a month or two to take advantage of what they presented this evening, also reduces some of the interest rate risk that the District has in this overall scope of the project. Next year when they come back, the plan is for the issue to be seventy-five million and already have sixty-five million locked up at rates that they know and hopefully can catch a break that are equal to or less than this time next year. This is another way of dollar cost averaging into the overall plan. The plan in terms of how the District builds the budget is going accordingly. The District has done what was needed in the last budget, what the District was planning to build in this year's budget, it is all coming along; reiterating to stick to the plan as it is very important on a project of this size.

#### Questions/Comments/Concerns

*Mr. Voit commented this is an excellent plan and questioned where the thirteen million is currently sitting. Ms. Macchi responded currently at PLGIT. Mr. Voit asked if they could look at PSDLAF. Ms. Macchi responded yes. Mr. Voit advised wherever the best return is.*

#### C. Physical Plant Update - Mr. Ken Patterson

Mr. Patterson reported:

- Maintenance and Custodial Staff update - Outside grounds crews continue to be busy supporting spring sports activities and maintaining the campus grounds. With the weather change, inside maintenance techs have gotten the buildings ready for the cooling season. As the current school year winds down, the techs are completing works orders issued by the instructional staff to help

ensure the campus is ready for the Summer Style program and various off season training programs. The inside custodial crews are preparing to tackle the upcoming summer cleaning facilities. In addition the crew is heavily involved in the activities taking place in all the buildings in the evening and weekends. The inside custodians continue to keep the campus facilities safe, clean and sanitized for the staff, students and community.

- Multi-Purpose Turf Field and Stadium Lighting Upgrade Project - The turf fields are being installed in the back of the high school. This is the second part of the first phase in the preparation of the new grade 5-6 building as this location will eliminate the varsity baseball field. If approved, the work will begin in September.
- Repair of the High School Dectron Unit for the High School Pool Area - The major repair of the Decton Unit that conditions air for the high school pool area. The unit is currently down and needs the repair to become fully functional again.
- Act 34 Resolution - Marotta/Main has already explained the purpose for the Act 34 Resolution.

D. Preliminary Budget Review - Dr. Joseph E. Macharola and Mrs. Susan Hawkins

Dr. Macharola reported:

- Dr. Macharola spoke about the District continuing to manage the revenues and expenditures; in following the District's plan there are good budgeting practices there will be an adjusted revenue over and under expenditures at zero. The District is well on the way to following the plan; just as a preliminary number the District would be at \$83,176,147 for next year's budget.

E. First Reading of Policies - Dr. Joseph E. Macharola

Policy No. 345, *Utilization of Identification Badges*

Purpose

Policy 345 was updated to include the requirements for compliance and safety considerations.

Policy No. 816, *Social Media*

Purpose

Policy 816 was added in light of the recent court rulings regarding social media, Tech Consortium attorney Mark Walz made a recommendation to consider adopting.



F. Aavidum - Advisors: Ms. Liliana Moore, Ms. Diamante White and Ms. Lauren Heydt  
- Students: Ms. Roselyn Hernandez, Mr. Jaydon Santiago, Ms. Alani Cain, Ms.  
Merlina Reyes Alvarez, Ms. Yulisa Gonzalez-Carrillo, Ms. Mia Torres, Ms. Isabella  
Turner, Ms. Soleil Ruiz, Ms. Ashley Garcia and Mr. Eli Hemming

*Dr. Macharola spoke about the advisors and students remarkable experience in Harrisburg with Senator Judy Schwank. He explained the students had the opportunity to be in the capitol rotunda.*

Ms. Moore talked about how the students who created the entire event in Harrisburg were present this evening to talk about it.

Students reported:

The event on Monday, May 6th hosted a mental health rally in Harrisburg with Senator Judy Schwank and the introduction of Senate Bill 886 to the students which is calling for students to take up to three mental health excused absences per school year. In 2021, the American Academy Pediatrics declared a national emergency in child and adolescent mental health. Mental Health is a crisis not only in Pennsylvania, but the United States. According to the American Psychology Association, more than 45% of teens report feelings of stress regarding school pressure. Mental health can be a sensitive subject for students in the Commonwealth. There are days students are weighed down with the overwhelming stress of academics, family, sports, work and social conflicts. On days where symptoms can be exhausting, simple tasks such as getting dressed can be difficult, waking up, breathing sometimes, let alone participating in a seven hour school day. Being pressured into going to school during these days can result in interpersonal conflict with peers and teachers along with a lack of motivation to complete work which correlates to suffering grades. Although students may be physically present, the students are not present with the best version of themselves mentally. According to statistics provided by via the Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs, students with mental health disorders may miss up to twenty-two school days a year. Senate Bill 886 will provide opportunity for students who suffer with mental health an outlet to take a break from school as well as focus on positive coping skills to help manage mental health throughout the rest of the school year. Therefore, the students took this opportunity very seriously. During the rally twenty-three of the student's peers presented essays, self made poems and reflection pieces to the audience. The students spoke about experiences of mental health and how the benefits of the bill far outweighs the potential drawbacks and how all students in the Commonwealth could greatly benefit from having the ability to take time to rest on mental health days. The students made posters consisting of images and mental health quotes. The posters were held up by peers and at the end of the rally they all chanted mental health matters. As advocates of student mental health, this initiative the students were excited to participate in. After the rally, the students were able to take a self guided tour of the capitol building. In the afternoon, Senator Schwank welcomed the students to the Senate chamber as personal guests where she read a letter about who Aavidum is, what the members have done and the importance of passing the Bill. It was a great experience for the Aavidum club members by getting to spend a full day in Harrisburg lobbying for

mental health. The students also received compliments on the unified t-shirts that Dr. Macharola provided for the students. Hopefully the students' voices were heard by Senators and in the future the passing of Senate Bill 886.

Ms. Isabella Turner took time to read her piece of prose for the rally. Ms. Turner received a round of applause.

Questions/Comments/Concerns:

*Mr. Hyneman spoke about how the students and staff members were absolutely fantastic in the presentation this evening. He spoke about mental health being an issue that he follows very closely. Mr. Hyneman talked about seeing these issues in the newspaper everyday, and he wanted to commend Dr. Macharola for having a social worker in every building. He commented that the guidance counselors and social workers are incredibly busy every day and do a wonderful job.*

*Mrs. Eagle spoke about being a school counselor in another district and she deals with these issues every single day. She spoke about being a teacher for the last 27 years. This is the hardest job that she has ever done because every day she is getting kids ready for college, there are pathways and all these other things; and then a kid comes in and says they want to take their life. She advised this happens every single day, kids hurting themselves, having to take them to the hospital and help them; this is real. Mrs. Eagle commented that she applauds the counselors and social workers and she hopes the district she works in can have a social worker in every building. Mrs. Eagle advised the Senate Bill 886 is what everyone wants and fully supports.*

*Dr. Macharola talked about the work of the social workers and school counselors doing a phenomenal job and how proud he is for the students and staff presentation this evening. Dr. Macharola thanked everyone.*

**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. ***This period of time is for comments only; it is not a time to engage in a question and answer or debate with the board. Comments from the Board are at the option of the Board.*** The Board retains the option to accept all public comment at this time. Presentations ***will*** 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.

Daniel Gunther- Resident Riverview Area

Mr. Gunther wanted to comment about earlier this spring when the softball season began, his daughter Haley was very excited to be moved up to the high school team even though she is only in 9th grade. Very quickly she was mentioning how there wasn't a lot of team cohesiveness, that the coaches were not paying a lot of mind to



less skilled players that might have been their first year playing and just trying it out. There were some difficulty where her and some other more experienced girls are trying to help them out during the scrimmages when they were sitting on the bench trying to help them catch and throw. He sent an email expressing these concerns to Dr. Moyer about asking his daughter to move down to the junior high team and which was granted. Only to find out that Coach Jen, one of the high school coaches showed up where the junior high team was practicing and proceeded to break his daughter that Coach Gabby Ramirez actually stepped in to shield his daughter from that. He asked his daughter to be here tonight because she is the one most directly affected by that experience. His daughter responded that she doesn't have anything to say. He stated that there has been some discussion that the coach was so upset with Haley, that if Haley were to try out for the team when she is in 10th grade next year at the high school, Haley will not have a spot regardless.

Questions/Comments/Concerns:

*Dr. Macharola advised that Dr. Moyer was present and this will be addressed at another time and asked Dr. Futrick to follow up with this as well.*

Jaela Eaton- MHS student and Resident

Ms. Eaton advised she wanted to talk about a lot of topics, but first everyone knows why they are here is because for the past two years they have been requesting a change in coaching and a change in their program for some of their biggest issues that she will state after now. They do not have coaches that know how to coach properly, they do not know how to give them drills or have effective practices at all. She has never been to a practice and not sweat except for when she is playing on the Muhlenberg field. There has been many occurrences where bad coaching has been the reason they have lost games and lost players mid season. A big incident that has occurred this season is when Assistant Coach Jen made a very inappropriate outburst on the team coming back from a game. Going so far as to scream and curse even to the point where she screamed to a girl to sit down and to shut up because she was upset about the outcome of the game and because of the team issues of division. She made comments about how girls can leave the team and how they do not need to be here. All because some of them were standing up to say that they had problems about how they were being coached and about different players. All of this happened and after it was opened up for a discussion between the whole team and this was all done while the head coach was not present; and in fact did not do anything for repercussions for the assistant coach. They were a very divided team from the beginning and the coaches made it very clear which girls were good girls and which girls were bad girls. The coaches made it clear what side everybody was on and did not back up the girls that were less advanced and weren't very good. Many teams in the area have been starting workouts since August and have been preparing their team and putting their team together since months and months in advance. As a player begging girls to come out and try out for softball, many of them turned it down and even girls from the junior high said they would not come all because they did not want to play under the coaching staff. There have been many rumors from the past about

how coaches were unfair and even racist towards girls of color. It was said that they should not play Spanish music or even speak Spanish on the field because the coaches don't know what is being said and believed they were talking about them; when most of the girls on this team and in this district it's their first language and part of their culture. Another thing that she feels isn't right as a player is knowing that their coaches do not believe in them as a team or as individuals. There have been many times when girls have overheard the coaches talking bad about them individually and as a team as a whole, saying things like they do not know what they are doing and that they look like crap on the field. As she does not appreciate it as a player, the coaches making bad decisions because she does not believe in some of the abilities that the players have, saying they are just going to have this girl bunt so she gets out and the girl behind her will get out, so she can hit again. There have definitely been a lot more issues this season including some coaches who are never at practices or games showing up only a handful of times, and many more. A big issue they have is when they have to rely on the lacrosse coach to open the locker rooms to get changed and ready for practice knowing that their coaches will not be there. Along with the coaching staff after a home night game, never coming in to let them in the locker room to get their belongings. They had to wait over thirty minutes in the dark by themselves until they could hunt down a janitor to let them in the building because the coaches were never there. There were many occurrences where girls felt uncomfortable about one of the male coaches because he was taking pictures and videos of them at weird angles of girls while they were lifting or even in the dugout, not actually on the field. She believes they have a very strong set of girls on the team now and many coming up in the next few years, but herself and many of the other girls have made it aware that they will not be playing under these coaches anymore and as a team they do not their talents to go to waste nor does their school and community want see their hardworking softball players not getting what they deserve.

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Questions/Comments/Concerns:

*Ms. Howard wanted to commend the students as it took a tremendous amount of courage. She talked about when things are going well, it is very easy to lash out, it is very easy to attack and those things are not effective. She talked about what was done this evening, this is effective and handling it in an appropriate and mature fashion. Ms. Howard explained that she does not know the backstory, but coming tonight to articulate concerns appeared to be hard and she was proud and impressed.*

*Mr. Eaton commented that everyone is aware that he is close to this situation obviously as his daughter was the one speaking this evening. He explained he tried to stay neutral from the entire topic, but he does know and can speak for what he has seen; he does know that there are a lot of girls that have had a lot of issues in the past two seasons that want to speak and are afraid to speak up. He talked about how the girls do not want to be doxed and give information and then find out later that the coaches know exactly who it is that's giving the information. He advised they don't want to have emails and letters to write, only to then turn around and find out the coaches are now aware that they wrote an email and email because this has happened before as well. He advised that they wanted to be present tonight and they wanted to say what they had to say; some even went as far to write*



*emails and ask to have a statement read for them. He said he has them available but he is not going to read them as they need to speak for themselves, but there is a serious problem and a lot of these girls are afraid to speak up about it. He talked about being glad his daughter had the courage to do it and any girl should feel comfortable coming forward to speak.*

*Mr. Haas asked if any of these concerns were brought up to the Athletic Director. Ms. Eaton responded that the incident on the bus with Coach Jen was brought up. Mr. Haas was just wondering why this was only being spoken about after the season. Mr. Haas talked about being a former head softball coach and how there are two sides to every story so everyone understands this and he appreciates the fact that she brought this to light.*

*Dr. Macharola spoke about Ms. Eaton talking about her concerns and handling this very well.*

*Mr. Haas asked Ms. Eaton if she has approached the head coach about her concerns. Ms. Eaton responded that she has had many times about different occurrences.*

*Dr. Macharola reiterated that Dr. Futrick, Dr. Moyer and Mr. Mish will continue to investigate this.*

## **Board Business**

### **Personnel**

#### **1. Administrative Appointments**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following administrative appointments:

- a. Mr. Jeffrey Berger, Assistant Principal (G. Hornberger), Muhlenberg Junior High School, June 10, 2024, at a salary of \$97,000, prorated for days worked.
- b. Mr. Joshua Rankin, Assistant Principal (L. McGill), Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective July 1, 2024, at a salary of \$99,910.

#### Questions/Comments/Concerns:

*Dr. Macharola took some time to introduce the administrative appointments.*

#### **2. Professional Appointments**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following professional appointments:

- a. Ms. Jessica Mulutzie, Verbal Behavior Coach (newly created), effective first contractual day of the 2024-2025 school year, at a salary of \$61,671 (M, 16

Steps from the Top), given 3.5 years to attain and secure PDE Certification in Special Education.

- b. Ms. Katrina Moyer, English Teacher (J. Vroman), Muhlenberg Junior High School, effective the first contractual day of the 2024-2025 school year, at a correction of salary of \$75,850 (M + 9, 9 Steps from the Top).
- c. Ms. Leila McGill, Elementary Teacher (C. Katen), Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective first contractual day of the 2024-2025 school year, at a salary of \$68,480 (M, 12 Steps from the Top).
- d. Ms. Stacey Yapsuga, English Teacher (E. Figueroa), Muhlenberg Junior High School, effective first contractual day of the 2024-2025 school year, at a salary of \$100,686 (M + 30, Top).
- e. Ms. Hailey Jack, Elementary Teacher (A. Wallace), C.E. Cole Intermediate, effective first contractual day of the 2024-2025 school year, at a salary of \$54,479(B, 15 Steps from the Top).

### **3. Classified Appointments**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following classified appointments:

- a. Ms. Michelle Kennedy, Class A Secretary (L. Palangio), IT Department, effective April 29, 2024 at a salary of \$51,755, prorated for days worked.
- b. Ms. Tonya Spiers, Special Education Paraprofessional (S. Rowley), effective May 6, 2024 at a pay rate of \$19.71 per hour.
- c. Ms. Lisa Phillips, Cafeteria Worker (D. Heck) C.E. Cole Intermediate, effective April 30, 2024 at a pay rate of \$19.79 per hour.
- d. Ms. Diana Albarran, Class A Secretary (M. Calvaresi). Muhlenberg High School, effective May 20, 2024 at a salary of \$51,755, prorated for days worked.

### **4. Acceptance of Resignations**

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

- a. Mr. Kevin Wright, Science Teacher, Muhlenberg High School, effective the end of the 2023-2024 school year.
- b. Ms. Jaclyn Wisotsky, Math Teacher, Muhlenberg Junior High School, effective June 6, 2024.
- c. Ms. Natalie Buck, Math Teacher, Muhlenberg Junior High School, effective June 6, 2024.
- d. Ms. Leila McGill, Assistant Principal, Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective July 31, 2024.
- e. Mr. Rick Whitmoyer, Technical Support Specialist, Blue Center, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 27, 2024.
- f. Ms. Jacqueline Paolino, Cafeteria Worker, C.E. Cole Intermediate, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 28, 2024.
- g. Ms. Lisa Phillips, Cafeteria Worker, C.E. Cole Intermediate, effective May 2, 2024.



**5. Co-Curricular Appointments**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following co-curricular appointments:

- a. Mr. Julius Magrino, Sports Event Monitor, effective April 1, 2024, at a pay rate of \$15.00 per hour.

**6. Co-Curricular Resignation**

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

- a. Mr. Steve Stambaugh, MHS Water Polo Head Coach and MHS Swimming Assistant Coach, effective April 24, 2024.

**7. Request for Leave of Absence/FMLA Leave**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the request for a Leave of Absence/FMLA leave for the following employee:

- a. Employee No. 2732, Teacher, Leave of Absence/FMLA, effective on or about September 29, 2024 through on or about January 2, 2025.

**8. Mentor Assignments**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following mentor assignments at the professional rate of \$30.00 per hour for the 2023-2024 school year:

- a. Mr. Daniel Fair, mentor for Ms. Erin Gazzillo, Elementary Teacher, C.E. Cole Intermediate, for sixty (60) hours.
- b. Ms. Tori Galluccio, mentor for Ms. Stefanie Cerroni, Special Education Teacher, Muhlenberg High School, for thirty (30) hours.

**9. Approval of Job Descriptions**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following revised job descriptions:

- a. Building Services Supervisor
- b. Director of Technology

**10. Award Professional Employee Contract for Tenured Teacher**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District in accordance with Section 1121 of the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949 (as amended) and Act 66 of 1996, authorize awarding a Professional Employee

Contract to the following teacher who have performed on a satisfactory basis for three years:

- a. Mr. Jacob Conrad, Muhlenberg Elementary Center

#### **11. Completion of Probation**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the completion of probation for the following classified employees:

- a. Mr. Isaiah Domine, Special Education Paraprofessional, Muhlenberg Junior High School, completion of forty-five (45) day probation as of April 29, 2024 and recommended for permanent employment as of April 30, 2024.
- b. Ms. Gisselle Valencia-Diaz, Cafeteria Worker, C.E. Cole Intermediate, completion of forty-five (45) day probation as of April 25, 2024 and recommended for permanent employment as of April 26, 2024.
- c. Ms. Deborah DiLanzo, Cafeteria Assistant, C.E. Cole Intermediate, completion of forty-five (45) day probation as of April 8, 2024 and recommended for permanent employment as of April 9, 2024.

#### **12. AFJROTC Instructors 12-Month Employee**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following AFJROTC instructors effective July 1, 2024, as a 12-Month Employee per the United States Department of Defense, instructors will receive twenty (20) days vacation and an additional annual stipend of \$7,500:

- a. Maj. Matthew Campbell, USAF, Retired
- b. MSgt. Jonathan Beaver, USAF, Retired

#### **13. Health Services Department Summer Hours**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve summer hours for employees of the Health Services Department to ensure the Muhlenberg School District is compliant with all Department of Health Regulations as presented.

#### **14. Summer Technology Assistants**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following summer technology assistants for 2024 at the pay rate of \$12.00 per hour, pending receipt of active clearances:

- a. Ms. Sophia Castiglioni
- b. Mr. Sean Langlois
- c. Mr. Cain Reitnauer
- d. Mr. Izel Sanjuan



## **Management**

### **1. Muhlenberg School District Organizational Chart**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Muhlenberg School District Organizational Chart as presented.

### **2. Election of Board Treasurer for One-Year Term (M. Vasquez)**

Election of Treasurer for one-year term (July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025) as in accordance with the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949, as amended, Article IV, Section 404, Election of Officers.

Nominations and Roll Call Vote by Name

Resolved, that \_\_\_\_\_ be elected as Board Treasurer for a one-year term effective July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

### **3. Election of Assistant Board Secretary for One-Year Term (J. Howard)**

Nominations and Roll Call Vote by Name

Resolved, that \_\_\_\_\_ be elected as Assistant Board Secretary for a one-year term effective July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

## **Physical Plant and Transportation**

### **1. Sunday Facility Use Request**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following Sunday Facility Use Request:

- a. National Junior Honor Society, use of the Muhlenberg Junior High School auditorium on Sunday, April 28, 2024 to hold an inaugural meeting with parents.

### **2. Approval of Act 34 Hearing Resolution**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Act 34 Hearing resolution as presented.

### **3. Approval of Multi-Purpose Field Complex and Stadium Lighting LED Upgrades**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the multi-purpose field complex and stadium lighting LED upgrades at a total cost of \$6,409,338 (funded through Bond Issue Funds) as presented.

#### 4. Approval of Repair for Dectron Unit at Muhlenberg High School

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the repair of the Dectron Unit that serves the high school pool area at a total cost of \$34,297 (funded through Capital Reserve Fund) as presented.

### Budget and Finance

#### 1. Approval of Financial Reports

Resolved, 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:

Fund	Treasurer's Report	Financial Report	Bills Paid Month	Investments	Budget Transfers
General	Mar 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024 Ck#56473-56645 V#27964-27985	Apr 2024	
Cafeteria	Mar 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024 Ck# 8229-8254 V#3057-3066	Apr 2024	
Capital Reserve (Fund 32)	Apr 2024	Apr 2024	Apr 2024 Ck#980-981		
Capital Reserve (Fund 39)	Apr 2024	Apr 2024	Apr 2024 Ck#1009		
Activity	Mar 2024	Mar 2024			

#### 2. Fraser Advanced Information Systems

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the lease agreement between the Muhlenberg School District and Fraser Advanced Information Systems to replace aging printer/copiers and in maintenance/services charges as presented.

#### 3. Proposed Final Budget for 2024-2025 School Year



Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District adopt the Proposed Final General Fund Budget for fiscal year July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$83,176,147.

## **Education**

### **1. Flexible Instruction Days Plan and Application**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Flexible Instruction Days Plan and application and their submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for approval.

### **2. Approval of Betterview Counseling and Trauma Recovery, LLC Agreement**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the agreement with Betterview Counseling and Trauma Recovery, LLC for school based outpatient therapy services, as presented.

### **3. Admission of Fact, Waiver of Hearing, Acknowledgment of Compliance with Procedural Safeguards and Consent to Expulsion**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District authorize the Admission of Fact, Waiver of Hearing, Acknowledgment of Compliance with Procedural Safeguards and Consent to Expulsion for the following students:

- a. Student "G", Muhlenberg High School

### **4. Renewal of Medicaid Access Reimbursement Contract**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the contract with Mrs. Linda M. Woodin, MSN, CRNP, BC to provide the Muhlenberg School District with Medical Provider Authorization of School Based Access Program services from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, at a rate of \$10.00 per IEP reviewed, as presented.

### **5. Conference Request**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following conference requests:

- a. Ms. Lauren Heydt to attend the 2024 PAFPC Annual Conference in Pittsburgh, PA on April 14, 2024 to April 17, 2024 at a cost not to exceed \$1,213.18 (funded through Title I Funds).

### **6. Muhlenberg Summer School 2024**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Muhlenberg Summer School 2024 program at the Muhlenberg High School as presented.

**7. Muhlenberg School District Comprehensive Plan for 2024-2027**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Muhlenberg School District Comprehensive Plan for 2024-2027, as presented.

**Student Activities**

*There are no items.*

**Minutes**

Review minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 10, 2024 and the Regular Board Meeting of April 10, 2024.

**Old Business**

*There are no items.*

**New Business**

*There are no items.*

**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. He will coordinate such requests for the Board. Citizens addressing the Board should be aware that the meeting is being taped.

*There were none.*

**MSD/RMCTC Board Visitor of the Month**

Schedule 2023-2024

May                      Mr. Ronald J. Haas

**Review of Board Meetings and Calendar of Events**

May 8                      6:30 PM      Committee of the Whole Meeting and Regular Board Meeting




May 13	6:30 PM	RMCTC Board Meeting
June 10	6:30 PM	RMCTC Board Meeting
June 12	6:30 PM	Committee of the Whole and Regular Board Meeting

**Adjourn Meeting**

Moved by M. Voit and Mrs. Eagle, that there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Attest:

  
Cindy L. Mengle  
Secretary