

MUHLENBERG SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2021
Lecture Hall, Muhlenberg High School
www.muhsdk12.org

Call to Order

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District was called to order on Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 7:12 PM by Board President, Mr. S. Wayne Hardy.

Members Present

President – Mr. S. Wayne Hardy
Vice President – Mr. J. Tony Lupia, Jr.
Secretary – Mr. Thomas W. Gross
Assistant Secretary – Mrs. Cindy L. Mengle (via zoom)
Treasurer – Mr. Richard E. Hoffmaster
Member – Mr. K. Scott Long
Member – Mr. Mark J. Nelson
Member – Mr. Otto W. Voit, III
Solicitor – Mr. Brian J. Boland, Esq.
Recording Secretary – Mrs. Tara L. Flowers

Members Absent

Member – Mr. Garrett E. Hyneman

Administration Present

Superintendent – Dr. Joseph E. Macharola
Assistant Superintendent – Dr. Alan S. Futrick
Business Manager – Mr. Shane M. Mathias, CPA
Director of Physical Plant and Transportation – Mr. Ken Patterson
Director of Special Education – Dr. Shawn Rutt
Supervisor of Special Education – Dr. Tyler Herman
Supervisor of Accounts – Ms. Susan Hawkins
Behavior Analyst – Mr. Zachary Milch
Director of Federal Programs – Dr. Cathy Shappell
Director of Food and Nutrition – Mr. Carey Kline
Data Administrator – Mr. Kevin Vanino
Athletic Director – Dr. Tim Moyer
Community & Family Outreach Coordinator & Interpreter – Ms. Elizabeth Laviena
High School Principal – Mr. Michael Mish
High School Assistant Principal – Mr. C. Eric Schaeffer
High School Assistant Principal – Ms. Lori Morris
Middle School Principal – Dr. Jeffery Ebert
Middle School Assistant Principal – Dr. Felicia Gonzalez
C. E. Cole Intermediate Principal – Mr. Steven Baylor

Elementary Center Principal – Mr. Kyle Crater
Elementary Center Assistant Principal – Mrs. Ginny Hornberger
Elementary Center Assistant Principal – Dr. Shannon O'Donnell

Visitors

Jolyn Casper
Janet Howard
Brian F. Boland, Esq.

Educational Presentations

There was none.

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.

There were none.

Committee Report

A. Berks County Intermediate Unit – Mr. J. Tony Lupia, Jr.

Mr. Lupia advised there was no meeting.

B. Reading-Muhlenberg CTC – Mrs. Cindy Mengle

Mrs. Mengle reiterated the upcoming welding expansion project currently being in development and the collaboration.

C. Berks County Tax Collection Committee – Mr. Shane M. Mathias, CPA

There was a meeting held on June 24, 2021. Mr. Mathias advised there was a lawsuit that unfortunately did not end in the Berks EIT Bureau's favor. Mr. Mathias advised details of the lawsuit were not available at this time.

D. PSBA Liaison – Mr. Otto W. Voit, III

There was no report at this time.

E. Muhlenberg Community Library – Mr. Terry Heckman

There was no report at this time.

F. Muhlenberg Township/Laureldale Borough Liaison – Mr. J. Tony Lupia, Jr.

Mr. Lupia reported that there was a meeting on Monday, June 21, 2021.

G. Educational Programs – Dr. Alan S. Futrick

Dr. Futrick discussed the continuation of the Summer Style session at the high school over the nine weeks. Dr. Futrick reported there were over 1,800 students signed up for all three sessions. Dr. Futrick advised there are a total of 71 teachers and 47 college students working the program of which he was pleased to announce one of the pre educators was on the agenda tonight to be hired. Dr. Futrick discussed how it felt as though the school year never ended with the amount of students enrolled, though the staff and administrators continue to be excited about the educational opportunity and enrichment activities for the students.

Solicitor's Comments – Mr. Brian F. Boland, Esq.

Mr. Boland discussed two new resolutions to be added to the board agenda including the settlement regarding Naviance, Inc. and an additional withdrawn assessment appeal involving the HCP Mezzanine, LP initially filed by the school district regarding the Laureldale Manor Care Nursing Home. Mr. Boland advised these resolutions will be voted on under new business.

Superintendent's Comments - Dr. Joseph E. Macharola

Dr. Macharola thanked Dr. Shappell and Dr. Futrick for their continued work in the SummerStyle program. Dr. Macharola spoke in regards to the phenomenal work from all staff as they continued to strive to meet the needs of the students during the summer program. Dr. Macharola also took time to thank Tara Flowers as his new confidential secretary and was welcomed to the first board meeting unassisted.

Board Business

Personnel

Resolution Nos. 1A - 1L (1A, 1F pulled for a separate vote)

Moved by Mr. Hoffmaster and Mr. Voit, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Resolution Nos. 1A through 1L (Mr. Nelson requested 1A and 1F be pulled for a separate vote)** in their entirety.

Yeas: Mr. Gross, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Hoffmaster, Mr. Long, Mr. Lupia, Ms. Mengle, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Voit. The motion **carried** unanimously.

1A Pulled for separate vote.

1B Job Description

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following job description as submitted (Exhibit #2):

- a. Director of Pupil Services

1C Acceptance of Resignations

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District accept the following resignations (Exhibit #3):

- a. Ms. Karin Bonner, Reading Specialist, Muhlenberg Junior High School, effective June 17, 2021.
- b. Mr. Tyler Herman, Supervisor of Special Education, effective July 23, 2021.
- c. Ms. Taylor Serafin, Elementary Teacher, Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective July 13, 2021.

1D Co-Curricular Appointments

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

- a. Mr. Nelson Leon Velazquez Jr., Muhlenberg High School Varsity Boys Basketball Volunteer Coach, effective July 15, 2021.
- b. Ms. Taryn Piano, Muhlenberg High School Varsity Field Hockey Assistant, effective July 15, 2021, at a salary of \$4,350 (year 1).

1E Classified Appointments

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the appointment of the following classified employees from part-time to full-time employees:

- a. Mr. Bradley Barskey, Clerical Assistant, C.E. Cole Intermediate, effective beginning of 2021-2022 school year.
- b. Ms. Tiffany DiSabella, Clerical Assistant, Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective beginning of 2021-2022 school year.

1F Pulled for separate vote.

1G Summer Phase II of the Holistic Plan: Pre-Educator Assignment

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve Tylor Yakaitis, Shippensburg University, as a pre-educator assignment in Summer Phase II of the Holistic Plan (Exhibit #5).

1H Professional Appointments

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

- a. Ms. Jessica Schafer, Long-Term Substitute, Music, (E. Watson), Muhlenberg Junior High School, effective August 25, 2021 through on or about January 24, 2022, at a prorated salary of \$44,682 (B, 18 Steps from the Top).
- b. Mrs. Kirstie Croft, Elementary Teacher (Former LTS), Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective the first contractual day of the 2021-2022 school year, at a salary of \$63,209 (M, 12 Steps from the Top).
- c. Ms. Zoe Hudzik, Foreign Language (Spanish) Teacher (M. Balthaser), Muhlenberg Junior High School, effective the first contractual day of the 2021-2022 school year, at a salary of \$48,369 (B+9, 17 Steps from the Top).
- d. Ms. Gabrielle Zukowski, Elementary Teacher (Former LTS), Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective the first contractual day of the 2021-2022 school year, at a salary of \$44,682 (B, 18 Steps from the Top).
- e. Ms. Taylor Brennan, Elementary Teacher (Former LTS), Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective the first contractual day of the 2021-2022 school year, at a salary of \$46,190 (B, 17 Steps from the Top).
- f. Mr. Jacob Conrad, Elementary Teacher (Former LTS), Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective the first contractual day of the 2021-2022 school year, at a salary of \$46,190 (B, 17 Steps from the Top).
- g. Mr. Wesley Estock, Social Studies Teacher (newly created), Muhlenberg High School effective the first contractual day of the 2021-2022 school year, at a salary of \$55,243 (B, 11 Steps from the Top).
- h. Mr. Haniff Skeete, Assistant Principal (Former Dean of Students), Muhlenberg Junior High School, effective July 19, 2021, at a salary of \$82,400.
- i. Ms. Madison Szczecina, Muhlenberg Junior High School (B. Kopetsky), effective the first contractual day of the 2021-2022 school year, at a salary of \$44,682 (B, 18 Steps from the Top).

1I Completion of Probation

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

- a. Mr. Max Quinter, Maintenance Technician, Physical Plant and Transportation, completion of forty-five (45) day probation as of June 30, 2021 and recommended for permanent employment as of July 1, 2021.

1J Fall 2021 Coaching Assignments

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the 2021-2022 fall coaching assignments as presented (Exhibit #6).

1K Additional Days of Service

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve an additional 5 days of service (total 10 days) for Retired Master Sargent Jonathan Beaver, Air Force Junior ROTC Aerospace Science Instructor at Muhlenberg High School, for the Summer Leadership School at the Citadel in June 2021.

1L Summer Hours for Professional Staff

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following employee for summer hours (Exhibit #7):

- a. Mr. Robert Walters, thirty (30) hours for virtual learning resources and professional development planning and learning, at the professional pay rate of \$30.00 per hour.

Resolution Nos. 1A, 1F

Moved by Mr. Hoffmaster and Mr. Voit, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Personnel Resolution No. 1A and 1F** in its entirety.

Yeas: Mr. Hardy, Mr. Hoffmaster, Mr. Long, Mr. Lupia, Ms. Mengle, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Voit, Mr. Gross. **Abstain:** Mr. Nelson. The motion **carried**.

1A Mentor Assignments

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following professional appointments (Exhibit #1):

- a. Mr. Joseph Houck, mentor for Mr. Jason Kilgore, Health/PE, Muhlenberg Junior High School, for sixty (60) hours.
- b. Mr. Scott Keller, mentor for Mr. Jason Heflin, Social Studies, Muhlenberg Junior High School, for sixty (60) hours.
- c. Ms. Jennifer Pacharis, mentor for Ms. Alexandria Previti, Muhlenberg Junior High School, for seventeen (17) hours.
- d. Ms. Nichole Barker, mentor for Jennifer Gulick, Muhlenberg Junior High School, for twenty-seven (27) hours.
- e. Ms. Erin Antosy, mentor for Mrs. Shuleil Ramirez, Muhlenberg Elementary Center, for thirty (30) hours.
- f. Ms. Tara Nelson, mentor for Mrs. Laura Santangelo, Muhlenberg Elementary Center, for seventeen and a half (17.5) hours.
- g. Mr. Todd Eisenhofer, mentor for Miss Destini Kelch, Muhlenberg High School, for sixty (60) hours.

1F Summer Phase II of the Holistic Plan: Professional Assignments

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following Summer Phase II of the Holistic Plan professional staff assignments, as presented (Exhibit #4):

- a. Nicole McGowen
- b. Timothy Klawiter
- c. Daniel Solvino
- d. Doug Olexy

Management

Resolution No. 2

Moved by Ms. Mengle and Mr. Voit, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Management Resolution No. 2** in its entirety.

Yeas: Mr. Hoffmaster, Mr. Long, Mr. Lupia, Ms. Mengle, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Voit, Mr. Gross, Mr. Hardy,. The motion **carried** unanimously.

2 Opening Day/In Service Breakfast

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Opening Day/In-Service Day breakfast on August 25, 2021 at a cost not to exceed \$1,500.00.

Physical Plant and Transportation

Resolution No. 3

Moved by Mr. Nelson and Mr. Voit, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Physical Plant and Transportation Resolution No. 3** in its entirety.

Yeas: Mr. Long, Mr. Lupia, Ms. Mengle, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Voit, Mr. Gross, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Hoffmaster. The motion **carried** unanimously.

3 Communications Systems Integrators (CSI) Agreement

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Communications Systems Integrators (CSI) Agreement for a five-year Genetec Software Support to maintain the district security system as presented (Exhibit #8).

Budget and Finance

Resolution No. 4

Moved by Mr. Hoffmaster and Mr. Lupia, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Budget and Finance Resolution No. 4** in its entirety.

Yeas: Mr. Long, Mr. Lupia, Ms. Mengle, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Voit, Mr. Gross, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Hoffmaster. The motion **carried** unanimously.

4 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 (Exhibit #9):

Fund	Treasurer's Report	Financial Report	Bills Paid Month	Investments	Budget Transfers
General	May 2021	May 2021	Jun 2021 Ck#50070-50255 V#26843-26886	May 2021	
Cafeteria	May 2021	May 2021	Jun 2021 Ck#7118-7144 V#2873-2879	May 2021	
Capital Reserve (Fund 32)	Jun 2021	Jun 2021			
Capital Projects Fund (Fund 39)	Jun 2021	Jun 2021			
Activity	May 2021	May 2021			

Education

Resolution Nos. 5 – 8

Moved by Mr. Hoffmaster and Ms. Mengle, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Education Nos. 5 through 8** in its entirety.

Yeas: Mr. Lupia, Ms. Mengle, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Voit, Mr. Gross, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Hoffmaster, Mr. Long. The motion **carried** unanimously.

5 Extended School Year Tuition Agreement

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following extended school year student tuition agreement with

Royer-Greaves School for the Blind for student #34901 as presented (Exhibit #10).

6 Agreement to Participate in the ACCESS Program for the 2021-2022 School Year

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Pennsylvania School Based ACCESS Program Agreement for the 2021-2022 school year as presented (Exhibit #11).

7 Student Tuition Agreements for the 2021-2022 School Year

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following student tuition agreement for the 2021-2022 school year as presented (Exhibit #12):

- a. Student #38475, New Story, Wyomissing
- b. Student #31134, New Story, Wyomissing

8 Settlement Agreement and Release

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Settlement Agreement and Release for the following student as presented (Exhibit #13):

- a. Student No. #34900

Student Activities

There was none.

Minutes

Resolution No. 9

9 Approval of Minutes

Moved by Mr. Lupia and Mr. Voit, that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting of June 16, 2021 and, the Regular Board Meeting of June 16, 2021 be approved as submitted (Exhibit #?).

Yeas: Ms. Mengle, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Voit, Mr. Gross. Mr. Hardy, Mr. Hoffmaster, Mr. Hyneman, Mr. Long, Mr. Lupia. The motion **carried** unanimously.

Old Business

There was none.

New Business

Resolution No. 10

10 Naviance, Inc. Settlement

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the settlement of the matter with Naviance, Inc. in the amount of \$6,763.24 and authorize the appropriate officers of the Board to execute the General Release previously executed by Naviance's Chief Financial Officer on July 14, 2021 (Exhibit #14).

Moved by Mr. Hoffmaster and Ms. Voit, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **New Business No. 10** in its entirety.

Yeas: Mr. Nelson, Mr. Voit, Mr. Gross, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Hoffmaster, Mr. Long, Mr. Lupia, Ms. Mengle. The motion **carried** unanimously.

11 Withdrawn Assessment Appeal

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District that the assessment appeal involving the matter of HCP Mezzanine Leader, LP filed by the School District in the Court of Common Pleas of Berks County for the Lauderdale Manor Care Nursing Home be withdrawn by the solicitor with the resulting final assessment of the property being fixed at \$3,678,700.00.

Moved by Mr. Lupia and Mr. Nelson, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **New Business No. 11** in its entirety.

Yeas: Mr. Voit, Mr. Gross, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Hoffmaster, Mr. Long, Mr. Lupia, Ms. Mengle, Mr. Nelson. The 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. 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 2021-2022

September Mr. Thomas W. Gross

October Mr. S. Wayne Hardy
November Mr. K. Scott Long, Jr.
December Mr. J. Tony Lupia, Jr.
January Mr. Otto W. Voit, III
February Mr. Mark Nelson
March Mr. Garrett Hyneman
April Mrs. Cindy Mengle
May Mr. Richard E. Hoffmaster

Review of Board Meetings and Calendar of Events

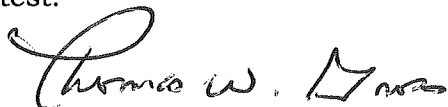
August 2 6:30 PM RMCTC Board Meeting
August 11 6:30 PM COW and Regular Board Meeting
September 1 7:00 PM COW Meeting
September 8 7:00 PM Regular Board Meeting
September 13 6:30 PM RMCTC Board Meeting
October 6 7:00 PM COW Meeting
October 11 6:30 PM RMCTC Board Meeting
October 13 7:00 PM Regular Board Meeting
November 3 7:00 PM COW Meeting
November 8 6:30 PM RMCTC Board Meeting
November 10 7:00 PM Regular Board Meeting
December 6 6:30 PM Annual Organization Meeting; COW;
Regular Board Meeting

12 Adjourn Meeting

Moved by Mr. Voit and Mr. Nelson, that there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.

Yeas: Mr. Long, Mr. Lupia, Ms. Mengle, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Voit, Mr. Gross, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Hoffmaster. The motion **carried** unanimously.

Attest:



Thomas W. Gross
Secretary