

MUHLENBERG SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
April 10, 2019  
Muhlenberg High School – Lecture Hall  
[www.muhsdk12.org](http://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, April 10, 2019 at 7:00 PM by Board President, Mr. Otto W. Voit, III, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Members Present**

President – Mr. Otto W. Voit, III  
Vice President - Mr. J. Tony Lupia, Jr.  
Secretary – Mr. Thomas W. Gross  
Treasurer - Mr. Richard E. Hoffmaster  
Member – Mr. S. Wayne Hardy  
Member – Mr. Randall R. Madara  
Member – Mr. Mark J. Nelson  
Solicitor – Mr. Brian Boland, Esq.  
Recording Secretary – Mrs. Patricia L. Law

**Members Absent**

Assistant Secretary – Mrs. Cindy L. Mengle  
Member – Mr. John W. Love

**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 – Mrs. Amy Coyle  
Director of Technology – Mr. Daniel Houck  
Community and Outreach Coordinator – Ms. Elizabeth Laviena  
Athletic Director – Dr. Tim Moyer  
High School Principal – Mr. Michael Mish  
High School Assistant Principal – Mr. C. Eric Schaeffer  
Middle School Assistant Principal – Dr. Felicia Ulsh  
Intermediate School Assistant Principal – Mr. Charles Payne

**Visitors**

Diane Benson            Jolyn Casper  
Bob Conklin            Scott Hoh, Esq.  
Tate DeWalt            Eloisa Hidalgo  
Theodore Bozakis

**Educational Presentations**

*There were 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.

- 1) Theodore Bozakis, Muhlenberg Township. Mr. Bozakis addressed the Board requesting an exception to the policy which stipulates a child must be five years old by August 31 to enroll into kindergarten. He said 78% of the school districts in Pennsylvania have a cut-off date of September 1<sup>st</sup> and up – October 1<sup>st</sup> and all the way to December 31<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Bozakis said he did not come to the meeting to tell the Board what to do with the cut-off date, but to ask for an exception. He feels his daughter should not be penalized because her birthday falls a day after the cut-off date.

Comments/Questions/Concerns:

*Mr. Voit said the Board cannot give exceptions because when a date is set, no matter when it is, there will always be someone who would not make the cut-off date by a day, a week or a month. He said in fairness to everyone, this is not something the Board would be able to do. Mr. Voit said that Mr. Bozakis mentioned that 78% of the school districts in Pennsylvania have a September 1<sup>st</sup> cut-off with Muhlenberg's being August 31<sup>st</sup>. He said the Board would take his request under advisement and at the next meeting review it and discuss whether a change should be made. Mr. Voit said the Board reviewed it at the Committee of the Whole Meeting; and as Mr. Bozakis made the request, the Board will take it under advisement, and review the policy for September 1<sup>st</sup>.*

Mr. Bozakis said he didn't feel it was such a big deal, and the District can keep the same date, but as a tax payer and parent, he was asking for his daughter since her birthday was so close to the cut-off. He said he had documentation with him from her daycare stating that she was ready for kindergarten. Mr. Bozakis said he felt this was more technical since his daughter was born at 3:00 AM and will lose a whole year of school because of the cut-off date.

*Mr. Voit said as a Board, they will take his request under advisement and review. He said the Board will discuss it and consider his request.*

Mr. Bozakis said he was asking the Board to be more flexible when a parent makes a request to enroll their child in school.

*Mr. Boland said the School Code does not provide exceptions for the entry date for kindergarten students; so when a school district sets a date, the school code says that becomes the date whether it is August 31<sup>st</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup>, October 1<sup>st</sup> or November 1<sup>st</sup>. He said the school code does, however, provide an exception for beginners which are first graders. Mr. Boland said if your child is not accepted this time, the school codes doesn't actually provide an exception. He told Mr. Bozakis if his daughter is ready to come into first grade early, she could if he had a psychologist report and materials that support early admission into first grade.*

Mr. Bozakis said he was talking about kindergarten and a lot of schools accept kids regardless of the cut-off date if they are four years old and seven months.

*Mr. Boland said from his experience in other school districts, they do not move it for one day either because there will always be a child who is born the day after the cut-off date.*

Mr. Bozakis said if the date was set at December 31<sup>st</sup> there would be no complaints and he would not be before the Board making this request.

*Mr. Voit said the Board will discuss and consider his request at next month's meeting.*

Mr. Bozakis asked if he should come to the next meeting.

*Mr. Voit said Mr. Bozakis was welcome to come to the next meeting and the Board will discuss it.*

Mr. Bozakis said he wants to know what he should do. If he could afford a private school, he would not be making this request.

- 2) Scott Hoh, Esq., representing Hull Property Group, addressed the Board regarding the Fairgrounds Square Mall Property. Mr. Hoh said he was present at the meeting in February with members of the Hull Property Group who spoke to the Board about the redevelopment plan for the property. He said he came back again to introduce himself in the event there were questions or if he could provide any further information. Mr. Hoh said the next step is to have a public process to appoint members from the School Board to serve on a TIF committee. He said there has not been any official public action in the last five weeks since Hull Property Group last came before the Board. He said it was his understanding that there was some type of private meeting between the Township and the School District; but, there has not been any kind of public meeting. Mr. Hoh said there was an article in the paper that talked very clearly about the American mall in suburbs is dead. This is not just in Berks County, but across the country. Malls are going out of business. Even the

Berkshire Mall looks foreboding. He said the idea is to redevelop those properties into a mixed use type of project that includes other things besides a traditional mall – educational facilities, senior housing, offices, medical research, hospitals or things to reinvent the use of the space. Mr. Hoh said Hull Property Group has a successful track record doing that and that is their intent. He said he saw comments in the paper from the Committee of the Whole meeting last week and he felt it was his fault for not doing a very good job of explaining what the process of the proposal was and he was taking responsibility for that. Mr. Hoh said he noticed that one of the criticisms was a lack of specificity – the Board would like more specifics. He said he feels it is a cart and horse kind of problem. Mr. Hoh said he would love to tell the Board that Starbucks is going into one spot, Neiman Marcus is going into another, senior housing is going into another area or here is the name of the hotel chain; but, he said he can't do that until first going through a planning process; and, secondly, Hull cannot enter into specific leases until they have a site that is ready to go. Mr. Hoh said he wanted to explain the sequential process to encourage the Board to hopefully move forward. He said moving forward does not commit the Board into doing anything. It is just simply step one of the planning process. It is not approving anything. Mr. Hoh said he and the Hull Property Group are eager to move forward and he got the sense that there was a good faith effort of this very discerning and intelligent Board. That this Board wanted to see smart economic redevelopment of the mall and they hope there is an opportunity to do that.

Comments/Questions/Concerns:

*Mr. Voit said the Board has three Board members who were appointed to the TIF committee and who met with the Township. He said Hull has been very clear on what the process is. Mr. Voit said the Board is not confused about the process. He said the Board wants to help in any way they can whether it's a LERTA or a TIF. The Board is on board to do something; however, the Board would appreciate a game-changer. Mr. Voit asked why they should take money from the tax payer to put in another Starbucks. He said it is Hull's business if they want to put in another run-of-the-mill retail in. They can go about their business, get a LERTA and they get ten years of development. There would not need to be any further improvement. The Board is not developers – the Hull Property Group is. Mr. Voit said they know what they want to do so the suggestion of the Board is until such time that Hull Property Group comes back with some sort of plan, the Board will do something. Not to fund a Starbucks, but a game-changer for the community. Mr. Voit asked if that was a fair assessment from the committee. Committee members agreed. Mr. Nelson said so far the committee has not seen anything – just a Google Map with photo-shopped areas on top of it. He said they would like to see something more specific – a commitment from the Hull Group. Mr. Nelson said he thinks the Township would like to see that too. He said they discussed a couple of other TIFs in the county. When Cabela's was being built, they knew what they were doing as well as the TIF in Exeter. That was pretty well laid out with a development plan. Mr. Nelson said the committee has seen none of that. The committee is more than willing to get engaged in a discussion, but there will be no public meeting, no votes until they see a little bit more commitment and specifics from the developers.*

*Mr. Hoh thanked Mr. Nelson and said he would take the information back to the Hull Property Group. He said he believed Mr. Nelson was correct the other developers did have specifics; however, they had them at the end of the planning process not at the start of the planning process. Mr. Hoh said to help move things forward, he heard what the members were saying and their request is reasonable - to come back with a much more flushed out specific plan that hopefully captures the Board's imagination and is hopefully dynamic and is a game-changer. He said, however, there must be a provision to say that Hull Property Group cannot be locked in stone since they do not have a negotiated lease with the end tenant yet. He said Hull Property Group could say this is the conceptual idea, this is what they are aiming for, but they are unable to enter into a lease until they can enter into a lease.*

*Mr. Voit said something on paper stating what the Hull Group will be doing. Mr. Nelson said that includes conversations with potential tenants. He said something more than just names on a paper. Mr. Voit said the Board wants development in Muhlenberg, they want people to come to Muhlenberg which is why LERTA has already been approved for any development in the Township. He said the Board would certainly consider a TIF for a game-changer; and to echo the TIF Committee, when there is a plan. Mr. Lupia said the Committee has not seen any enthusiasm from the Hull Group at all. He said they allowed the mall to deteriorate, there are constant pot holes that they do not get repaired, the roof is leaking which is why they had to close it down. Mr. Lupia said they seem like slum lords.*

*Mr. Hoh said the opposite is true. There are other national companies that take failed malls and they do exactly that – drive the properties into the ground, don't pay the taxes, squeeze every penny, file for bankruptcy for a shell corporation and then disappear. He said that is not the Hull Property Group. That is not what Hull wants, that is not their reputation, it is not their history, they've never done that and it is not the intent here. Mr. Lupia said they are doing it now. Mr. Hoh said their intent all along was that the mall would close. He said when they bought it, it was a failed mall. Mr. Lupia said they did not maintain the grounds. Mr. Hoh said they have done significant patching and right now there are no violations. Mr. Lupia said they have been cited. Mr. Hoh said the Township is happy with the patch work on the roads. Mr. Lupia said the Township is not happy. Mr. Hoh said they are now entering warmer weather where the road repair work can be done. Mr. Voit thanked Mr. Hoh.*

## **Committee Reports**

### **A. Berks County Intermediate Unit – Mr. Randall R. Madara**

*Mr. Madara reported a copy of *What Happened at the BCIU* was included in the Board packet and there was nothing else outstanding to report.*

B. Reading-Muhlenberg CTC – Mr. J. Tony Lupia spoke on behalf of Mrs. Cindy Mengle

Mr. Lupia reported a group of seniors entered a contest and won Blue Ribbons, Outstanding Seniors and will advance to the national level. The students graduating are definitely qualified for the things they will be doing. The Annual Car Show will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2019 along with a Pancake Breakfast that will begin at 9:00 AM. RMCTC is holding a raffle for a shed. Tickets are \$5.00 each. Mr. Hoffmaster added the Act 93 agreement for RMCTC administrators has been negotiated and ratified.

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

Mr. Mathias reported that a meeting was held on March 28<sup>th</sup>; however, there was not a lot to report. The EIT Bureau is trying to get a new tax collection system which has been ongoing. At this time, there is not an update because they do not have a completed system from Keymark which is an issue, and they do not know when they will have it. The next meeting is June 27<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Mathias will be out of town.

Comments/Questions/Concerns:

*Mr. Nelson said he would like to see them simplify their online tax form. Mr. Mathias said he has only gone to two meetings so he is trying to get caught up, but the new system will help the EIT Bureau but beyond that he is not sure if it will help anyone else.*

D. PSBA Liaison – Mr. John Love

No report at this time.

E. Muhlenberg Community Library – Mr. Randall R. Madara/Mrs. Lori Madara

No report at this time.

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

Mr. Lupia reported the Township and Board representatives met regarding the Fairgrounds Square Mall property. It was a very eye-opening meeting. He said with the two entities working together, they will be able to resolve this situation.

Comments/Questions/Concerns:

*Mr. Voit said a resolution will be added to the end of the agenda with regards to the discussion at the Committee of the Whole meeting with the TIF Committee members.*

G. Educational Programs – Dr. Alan S. Futrick

No report at this time.

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

No report at this time.

**Superintendent's Comments** - Dr. Joseph Macharola

Dr. Macharola began his report by giving an update on the extraordinarily great things the students in the Muhlenberg School District are doing. He said Mr. Lupia mentioned the incredible work that the students at the RMCTC are doing in some of the lost arts like sewing, visual arts and baking – things that are really important. The students in both Reading and Muhlenberg are doing extremely well. Muhlenberg High School senior, Joel Evans, participated in All-Eastern Orchestra in Pittsburgh. Mr. Mish mentioned last month this event was much bigger than states and reaching states is an incredible accomplishment. Dr. Macharola said he was extremely proud that Joel received the Irene Christman Scholarship. He said only one person in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is eligible to receive this award and the student must be going into music education. Dr. Macharola said Muhlenberg High School student, Caladonia Carmelo, a tremendous clarinet player, participated in the All-State Band. Mr. Dave Luckenbaugh, Mr. John Evans and the entire music department has done an incredible job with these students. He said the music program (Arts and Humanities) is one of the District's seeds in the Blueprint for Success.

Dr. Macharola said administration is waiting on news about the competitive Safe Schools' Grant. These are monies that Dr. Macharola is hoping the District can acquire. He said the state said they will be releasing the winners in about three weeks although this could end up being five or six weeks. Dr. Macharola said many people worked on this grant – Dr. Futrick, Dr. Moyer, Mrs. Shappell, Mr. Houck, Mr. Vanino, and Mr. Mathias – they all participated in the application process for this grant. Dr. Macharola is hoping that the District lands this grant as it will be big for the District as we continue to provide safety measures for the staff and students.

Dr. Macharola said an item he mentioned last month and one that administration is continuing to collect information on is an in-house Cyber Charter School. This is a very aggressive step that Dr. Macharola wants to take for the District tax payers as the cost currently is equal to one mil in tax dollars for payments going to Cyber Charter Schools. He believes the District could recapture between sixty and eighty-five percent of that money. Dr. Macharola said anything the District can recapture will be an advantage to the District. He believes the District can provide a better education than anyone else. Dr. Macharola said administrators will be visiting some virtual schools to look at their set-up. He said there is no specific legislation to address setting up this Muhlenberg Cyber Virtual School. Dr. Macharola is still considering a collaboration with Reading. If Reading would want to work with the District that would be great, if not, that's okay

too. He is still considering the RMCTC too and he will have a recommendation at some point. Dr. Macharola hopes to include other opportunities such as enrichment and remediation with his recommendation.

Dr. Macharola has been asked to serve on the Berks County Census Committee. He said he is proud that he was asked to serve on this committee as the census is very important to the District. There are dollars that come into the District for the operation of programs that benefit students. He said decisions that are made always focus on the children and how they can be empowered. The census is a very big part of the empowerment of children because numbers count and numbers are associated with dollars.

Dr. Macharola said the District had visitors from eastern Lebanon County. They visited the Elementary Center to observe the kindergarten to second grade (K-2) classrooms. Dan Houck, Julianna Ciccarelli and Stacy Yozwiak hosted this visit. The District has incredible coaches who along with Dan Houck spent some time with principals and teachers from Lebanon County School District. The visitors left very impressed with how the District is using iPads in grades K-2. He said he is pleased that the District has other school districts wanting to come to see the implementation of the District's technology which the Board wisely invested in.

Dr. Macharola said he wasn't sure if everyone saw the article that was in the Philadelphia Inquirer which talked about districts branding their program. He said Muhlenberg was ahead of the curve five years ago with branding the District with the block "M". Dr. Macharola said this article in the Philadelphia Inquirer had to do with Norristown and how they are using the block "N" for Norristown; in part, burnishing the brand to compete against Cyber Schools and other schools that have advantages with marketing. Dr. Macharola said five years ago the District did more than that by putting a stamp on Muhlenberg to step-up to the plate and deliver. He said this was a great article in the Inquirer about school districts now starting to brand their program and what they are about.

Dr. Macharola reported that the United Way of Berks County awarded a Summer Reading Grant to support literacy. The component of Have Fun and Read will be here in Muhlenberg which will serve all of the District's Title I students K-6. The grant was in the amount of \$4,879.56. He said is happy because elementary teacher, Mrs. Amy Arnold, took the grant process on herself along with some help from Dr. Roula Elikor and Mrs. Cathy Shappell who did some leg work for her. The District's number one seed in this District and one of the three main pathways is literacy. He said if you can't read, you won't do well in school. Dr. Macharola said he is very proud of that accomplishment.

Dr. Macharola said the state has identified the Muhlenberg School District as an ATSI school district or school and under ESSA, the District needs to service its Latino students much better. The District is doing this in multiple ways. The first parent meeting is coming up. This will be a focus group to discuss the environmental considerations here at Muhlenberg and what can be done to encourage the District's English Language Learning (ESL) parents, to come to the District for assistance. It will

also help to lay out strong environmental considerations for them. The District is aggressively looking at ways to better serve the community, better serve the children and better serve the ATSI designation regarding the District's Latino children.

Dr. Macharola stated one of the District's Consumer Science Teachers, Sheryl Williams, sent him an article from the New York Times of the new generation, Generation "Z," which was a variable and interesting depiction of how they want readers to know what they are all about. Dr. Macharola said not ever in the cultural history of America would readers see such diversity and such interesting viewpoints. He said one particular piece was that more and more kids are embracing socialism and find it as a way of equity. He said socialism will certainly not lead to equity but to distress. Dr. Macharola said this was a very interesting article and something within communities today.

## **Board Business**

### **Personnel**

#### **Resolution Nos. 188A – 188G (Resolution Nos. 188D and 188H pulled for separate votes)**

Moved by Mr. Hoffmaster and Mr. Hardy, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Personnel Resolution Nos. 188A through 188G (Resolution Nos. 188D and 188H pulled for separate votes)** in their entirety.

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

### **188A Acceptance of Resignations**

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

- a) Mr. Randall Mutter, Maintenance/Energy Supervisor, resignation for the purpose of retirement, qualifies for the *Retirement Incentive*, effective June 28, 2019.
- b) Ms. Margie McGinley, First Grade Teacher, Muhlenberg Elementary Center, resignation for the purpose of retirement, qualifies for the *Retirement Incentive*, effective at the end of the 2018-2019 school year.
- c) Ms. Danielle Hettinger, STEM Teacher, Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective May 17, 2019.
- d) Ms. Lisa M. Straub, English Teacher, Muhlenberg High School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2019.
- e) Ms. Sheryl I. Mealing, Payroll, Class A Secretary, resignation for the purpose of retirement, qualifies for the *Retirement Incentive*, effective June 28, 2019.

- f) Ms. Marcelle A. Moser, First Grade Teacher, Muhlenberg Elementary Center, resignation for the purpose of retirement, qualifies for the *Retirement Incentive*, effective June 28, 2019.

**188B Request for Sabbatical Leave of Absence**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District that in accordance with the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949 as amended, Section 1166, and Act 66 of 1996, the administration is authorized to grant a sabbatical leave of absence for Mr. Christopher Luft, Science Teacher, Muhlenberg Middle School for the purpose of restoration of health, effective retroactive to the first day of the second semester of the 2018-2019 school year through the end of the 2018-2019 school year.

**188C Co-Curricular Resignations**

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

- a) Ms. Kayla Ziegler, Junior High Volleyball Assistant Coach, effective March 13, 2019.
- b) Ms. Cassidy Schultz, Varsity Volleyball Assistant Coach, effective February 27, 2019.
- c) Ms. Brittany Hassler, Drumline Instructor for the Muhlenberg High School March Band, effective March 26, 2019.

**188D Pulled for Separate Vote**

**188E Substitutes for the 2018-2019 School Year**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the listing of substitutes for the 2018-2019 school year as presented (Exhibit #152).

**188F 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) Ms. Jessica Mlutzie, Educational Assistant, Muhlenberg Elementary Center, completion of forty-five day (45) day probation as of March 28, 2019, and recommended for permanent employment as of March 29, 2019.
- b) Ms. Michele Walker, Educational Assistant, Muhlenberg Elementary Center, completion of forty-five day (45) day probation as of March 28, 2019, and recommended for permanent employment as of March 29, 2019.

**188G Co-Curricular Appointments**

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

- a) Mr. Karl Hainsey, Volunteer Varsity Boys Lacrosse Assistant Coach, effective April 11, 2019
- b) Mr. Mark Polyak, Volunteer Varsity Boys Baseball Assistant Coach, effective April 11, 2019

**Resolution No. 188D**

Moved by Mr. Hoffmaster and Mr. Hardy, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Personnel Resolution No. 188D (pulled for separate vote)** in its entirety.

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

**188D ESY Assignments for 2019**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following assignments for the Extended School Year Program for 2019:

ESY Coordinator – salary of \$2,000:

Mr. Taylor Charles

Special Education Teachers – \$30.00 (professional rate) per hour:

Ms. Kristen Quimby-Paskowski	Ms. Haley Layton
Ms. Amanda Kemmerer	Mr. Matthew Sola
Ms. Tara Nelson	Ms. Michele McCammitt
Ms. Cierra Etchberger	Mr. Brian Hendricks
Ms. Megan Migliore	

Special Education Instructional Assistants - Hourly Rate per MESPA Contract

Ms. Jennifer Thompson	Ms. Karen Adams
Ms. Karen Lessie	Ms. Darlene Allen
Ms. Madeline McMullen	Ms. Patricia Keiper
Ms. Holly Scheck	Ms. Julie Roth
Ms. Michellemarie Spanier-Kline	Ms. Cheri Royer
Ms. Beth Youse	Ms. Jennifer Schaffer
Ms. Jillian Zerby	

Per Diem Teacher Substitutes - \$30.00 per hour

Ms. Elizabeth Chapman  
Ms. Katie Frederick

Per Diem Assistant Substitutes - Hourly Rate per MESPA Contract

Ms. Jessica Knepp  
Ms. Morgan McCammitt

**Resolution No. 188H**

Moved by Mr. Madara and Mr. Lupia, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Personnel Resolution No. 188H (pulled for a separate vote)** in its entirety.

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

**188H Request for Leave of Absence/FMLA**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the request for a leave of absence and FMLA leave for the following employee:

- a) Mrs. Erin C. Hoffmaster, Guidance Counselor, Muhlenberg Elementary Center, Leave of Absence/FMLA, effective on August 21, 2019 through on or about October 25, 2019.

**Management**

**Resolution Nos. 189 and 190**

Moved by Mr. Madara and Mr. Hoffmaster, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Management Resolution Nos. 189 and 190** in their entirety.

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

**189 2018-2019 In-Service and Clerical Day for Snow Make-Up Day**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following In-Service/Clerical snow make-up day for the 2018-2019 school year:

- a) June 6, 2019 – In-service Day (due to postponement of February 18, 2019 In-service Day to Snow Make-Up Day); June 7, 2019 – Clerical Day

**190 2019-2020 Membership to Pennsylvania School Boards Association**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the district's annual membership to the Pennsylvania School Boards Association in the amount of \$14,797.54 for 2019-2020 (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020) (Exhibit #153).

**Physical Plant and Transportation**

**Resolution Nos. 191 - 193**

Moved by Mr. Madara and Mr. Nelson, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Physical Plant and Transportation Resolution Nos. 191 through 193** in their entirety.

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

**191 Change Order for the Muhlenberg Elementary Center Roof and Exterior Improvements Project**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following change order (Exhibit #154):

- a) Garland Industries, Inc., roofing materials, at a cost of \$55,647.13

**192 Sunday Facility Use Request**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District ratify the following Sunday facility use request (Exhibit #155):

- a) Muhlenberg Township Police Department for use of C. E. Cole Intermediate School for Active Shooter Training for officers on Sunday, March 31, 2019.

**193 Direct Energy Demand Response Program**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Muhlenberg School District's participation in the Direct Energy Demand Response Program for a three (3) year period beginning June of 2019 through May of 2022 (Exhibit#156).

**Budget and Finance**

**Resolution Nos. 194 - 197**

Moved by Mr. Hoffmaster and Mr. Hardy, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Budget and Finance Resolution Nos. 194 through 197** in their entirety.

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

**194 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 #157):

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	<b>Financial Report</b>	<b>Bills Paid Month</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Budget Transfers</b>
General	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019 Ck#45184-45350 V#25803-25848	Feb 2019	
Cafeteria	Feb 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019 Ck#6273-6327 V#2728-2732	Feb 2019	
Capital Reserve (Fund 32)	Mar 2019	Mar 2019	Mar 2019 Ck#851-852		
Capital Projects Fund (Fund 39)	Mar 2019	Mar 2019			
Activity	Feb 2019	Feb 2019			

**195 E-Rate Category 2 Network Equipment**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District accept the Category 2 E-rate bid (MUHL FY19-20 C2 NetEquipment RFP - Form #191034796) for Internal Connections Equipment and Services of \$84,443 from IntegraOne (Technology Budget).

**196 Administrative Services Agreement for District's Section 125 Cafeteria Plan**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Administrative Services Agreement between the Muhlenberg School District and The Harrison Group, Inc., effective July 1, 2019. Per the agreement, The Harrison Group will act as an agent for the District for the payment of certain benefits and furnish certain administrative services for the District's Section 125 Cafeteria Plan. The term of the agreement shall be three (3) years with a fee rate of \$4.25/month for each employee enrolled in one or more Flexible Spending Accounts (Exhibit #158).

**197 Workers' Compensation Insurance Policy with School Districts Insurance Consortium (SDIC)**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the workers' compensation program for the 2019-2020 school year with School Districts Insurance Consortium (SDIC) at a cost of \$180,348 for the Central Fund Contribution portion, a maximum cost of \$40,988 for the Self-Insured Retention portion, and for a total contribution of \$221,336 for fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 (Exhibit #159).

**Education**

**Resolution Nos. 198 – 204**

Moved by Mr. Madara and Mr. Lupia, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Education Resolution Nos. 198 through 204** in their entirety.

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

**198 Speech and Language Therapist Contracted Services**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the contracted services of Therapy Source to provide a substitute Speech and Language Therapist, Mr. William Schlosser, three (3) days per week, starting March 25, 2019 through the first week of June at a cost of \$72 per hour for twenty-two and half (22.5) days (Exhibit #160).

**199 Addendum/Renewal Rates for Occupational & Physical Therapy Contract with Austill's Rehabilitation Services, Inc.**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the addendum/renewal rates for occupational/physical therapy contracted services with Austill's Rehabilitation Services, Inc. as presented (Exhibit #161).

**200 Settlement Agreement and Release**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Settlement Agreement and Release for Student #31879 as presented (Exhibit #162).

**201 Student to Complete the 2018-2019 School Year as a Non-Resident Student**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the request for the following student to complete the 2018-2019 school year as non-resident student (Exhibit #163):

- a) Student #12-2018-2019-NR, Second Grade, Muhlenberg Elementary Center

**202 High School Summer School Program**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the 2019 Summer School Program at Muhlenberg High School, Monday, June 17, 2019 through Thursday, July 18, 2019 at the tuition cost of \$195.00 per course (Exhibit #164).

**203 Agreement with BCIU for Behind-the-Wheel Driver Education**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the agreement with the Berks County Intermediate Unit to provide behind-the-wheel instruction to students from the Muhlenberg School District as presented (Exhibit #165).

**204 Middle School Summer School Program**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the 2019 Summer School Program at Muhlenberg Middle School, Monday, June 17, 2019 through Thursday, July 18, 2019 at the tuition cost of \$195.00 per course (Exhibit #166).

## **Student Activities**

*There were none.*

## **Minutes**

### **Resolution No. 205**

#### **205 Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Mr. Hoffmaster and Mr. Hardy that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 6, 2019 and the Regular Meeting of March 13, 2019 be approved as submitted.

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

## **Old Business**

*There was none.*

## **New Business**

### **Resolution No. 206**

Moved by Mr. Hardy and Mr. Gross, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Resolution No. 206** in its entirety.

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

#### **206 Memoriam of Mrs. Susan Jacoby**

Resolved, that we remember the passing of Mrs. Susan Jacoby who served as a nurse assistant in the Muhlenberg School District for thirteen (13) years (1996-2009). We honor her memory for her dedicated service to the school district and community.

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

### **Resolution No. 207**

Moved by Mr. Madara and Mr. Lupia, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Resolution No. 207** in its entirety.

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

**207 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, Acknowledgement of Compliance with Procedural Safeguards and Consent to Expulsion for the following students (Exhibit #167):

- a) Student “K”, Muhlenberg High School

**Resolution No. 208**

Moved by Mr. Hoffmaster and Mr. Madara, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Resolution No. 208** in its entirety.

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

**208 Request to Attend Cheer Camp**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the request of the high school cheerleading team to attend the Trails End Cheerleading Camp on June 11, 2019 through June 14, 2019 in Honesdale, PA (Exhibit #168).

**Resolution No. 209**

Moved by Mr. Hardy and Mr. Gross, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Resolution No. 209** in its entirety.

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

**209 Tax Increment Financing and the Development of the Fairgrounds Square Mall Property**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District that they continue to work with the Muhlenberg Township Board of Commissioners and the Hull Property Group on Tax Increment Financing and other issues related to the development of the Fairgrounds Square Mall property if, and when, the Hull Property Group submits plans to the Township for the development of the property with details sufficient to evaluate the propriety of the potential tax incentives.

**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**

April Mrs. Cindy Mengle  
May Mr. Richard E. Hoffmaster

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

April 10	7:00 PM	Regular Board Meeting
May 1	7:00 PM	Committee of the Whole Meeting
May 8	7:00 PM	Regular Board Meeting
May 13	6:30 PM	RMCTC Board Meeting
June 5	7:00 PM	Graduation
June 10	6:30 PM	RMCTC Board Meeting
June 12	6:30 PM	Committee of the Whole and Regular Board Meeting

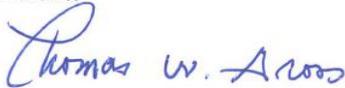
**Adjournment**

**210 Adjourn Meeting**

Moved by Mr. Hoffmaster and Mr. Lupia, that there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

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

Attest:



Thomas W. Gross  
Secretary