

MUHLENBERG SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2021
Blue Center, Via Zoom
www.muhlsdk12.org

Call to Order

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District was called to order on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 7:01 PM by Board President, Mr. S. Wayne Hardy via remote access using Zoom.

Members Present

President – Mr. S. Wayne Hardy
Vice President – Mr. J. Tony Lupia, Jr.
Secretary – Mr. Thomas W. Gross
Treasurer – Mr. Richard E. Hoffmaster
Member – Mr. Garrett E. Hyneman
Member – Mr. K. Scott Long
Member – Mr. Mark J. Nelson
Member – Mr. Otto W. Voit, III
Solicitor – Mr. Brian F. Boland, Esq.
Recording Secretary – Mrs. Patricia L. Law

Members Absent

Assistant Secretary – Mrs. Cindy L. Mengle

Administration Present

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
Behavior Analyst – Mr. Zachary Milch
Director of Technology – Mr. Daniel Houck
Director of Federal Programs – Dr. Cathy Shappell
Director of Food and Nutrition – Mr. Carey Kline
Community & Family Outreach Coordinator & Interpreter – Ms. Elizabeth Lavienna
High School Principal – Mr. Michael Mish
High School Assistant Principal – Mr. C. Eric Schaeffer
Middle School Principal – Dr. Jeffery Ebert
Middle School Assistant Principal – Dr. Felicia Gonzalez
Elementary Center Principal – Mr. Kyle Crater
Elementary Center Assistant Principal – Mrs. Ginny Hornberger
Elementary Center Assistant Principal – Dr. Shannon O'Donnell

Visitors (Note: This is who appeared to be attending via Zoom and may not include everyone)

Jolyn Casper
Kathi Wolfe
Linda Figueroa

Educational Presentations

Dr. Futrick said he wanted to point out that Tuesday, May 4th was Teacher Appreciation Day and Wednesday, May 12th was Nurses' Appreciation Day; and he wanted to take a moment and thank everyone for all of their hard work. He said that also included the support staff, clerical staff, administrators, and the Board. Dr. Futrick said it has taken an extreme effort to get the District to where it is right now and moving it forward.

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 distributed a copy of *What Happened at the BCIU Board Meeting...*

- B. Reading-Muhlenberg CTC – Mr. J. Tony Lupia, Jr.

Mr. Lupia said there was a meeting Monday, May 10th. The Committee discussed Senior Recognition Night, which is scheduled for Thursday, June 3rd. Mr. Hoffmaster suggested it be held at one of the schools' graduations; however, that would be up to the superintendent's whether they would want to make a decision on that. He said there was also a proposal for an expansion to the welding program, which would make a separate building for the welding shop off to the south side of the property. The superintendents will submit the pros and cons of this and this will be discussed further in the future.

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

There was no meeting this month; therefore, there was no report at this time.

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

Mr. Voit said any Board member who is interested in an office or position at PSBA - president, vice president, should fill out a nominating packet listed on their website to go through the process.

E. Muhlenberg Community Library – Submitted by Mr. Terry Heckman, read by Dr. Alan S. Futrick

Attached are the highlights from Monday, May 10th monthly library meeting:

- As of last Tuesday, May 4th, the Library has expanded indoor library hours three days a week - every Tuesday and Thursday from 10AM to 7PM and every Saturday from 9AM to 4PM.
- Grab and Go Books (curbside pick-up) also continues Monday through Thursday from 10AM to 7PM
- The Library will be rolling out their Summer Quest student reading activities program on Monday June 14th. This will run all of June and July ending July 31. Many fun things are planned so check their website for complete details.
- They are waiving all current outstanding fines in their Fine Forgiveness Program in an attempt to increase their patronage.
- The Library will be loaning WiFi hotspot devices to their patrons to improve internet reception in their homes.
- They are still looking for additional local corporate sponsorships for financial support. (they found several, but could use a few more)
- The library will be closed next Tuesday, May 18th (Election Day) and Monday, May 31st (Memorial Day).

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

Mr. Lupia reported that there will be a meeting Monday, May 17, 2021; but at the last meeting commissioner, Kevin Lerch, met with Dave Hunter who is part of the municipal joint comprehensive plan that the Muhlenberg Township is looking into. He said that he is still waiting on word when they will have a final meeting and if they will include the school district in that meeting.

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

No report at this time.

Comments/Questions/Concerns:

Mr. Hoffmaster said he was very happy that graduation would be at Santander. He asked if there was any information on the vaccine for students. Dr. Futrick replied not as this time. He said that information just came out. Mr. Nelson said that would be up to the parents to send them wherever they would want their child to get it. Mr. Hyneman said Boyertown School District partnered with a pharmacy. Mr. Boland said several school districts have opened up their facilities to use as vaccination sites, but someone else conducts it and it is a voluntary thing.

Board Business

Personnel

Resolution Nos. 175A, 175B, 175D – 175N (175C pulled for a separate vote)

Moved by Mr. Hyneman and Mr. Voit, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Resolution Nos. 175A, 175B, 175D through 175N (Mr. Gross requested 175C be pulled for a separate vote)** in their entirety.

Comments/Questions/Concerns:

Mr. Voit said with regards to the MAAI and MAII agreements, this is a two year extension to the existing agreement, and on behalf of the team which consisted of Mr. Lupia, Mr. Hardy, and himself, he thanked Dan Houck and Mike Mish, for their leadership and for their extremely professional approach to this renewal and for the wonderful job the entire team does.

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

175A Acceptance of Resignations

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

- a. Ms. Cheryl Williams, Family and Consumer Science Teacher, Muhlenberg Middle School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, *qualifies for the Retirement Incentive*, effective at the end of the 2020-2021 School Year.
- b. Ms. Kelly Molinari, Health and Physical Education Teacher, Muhlenberg Middle School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, *qualifies for the Retirement Incentive*, effective at the end of the 2020-2021 School Year.
- c. Ms. Martha Balthaser, Spanish Teacher, Muhlenberg High School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2021 (at the end of the 2020-2021 School Year).

- d. Ms. Marina Brunas Spatz, Social Studies Teacher, Muhlenberg High School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2021 (at the end of the 2020-2021 School Year).
- e. Ms. Denise R. Zielinski, Instructional Assistant, Muhlenberg High School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, *qualifies for the Retirement Incentive*, effective June 30, 2021 (at the end of the 2020-2021 School Year).
- f. Ms. Ellen Essick, Inside Custodian, C. E. Cole Intermediate School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, *qualifies for the Retirement Incentive*, effective June 30, 2021.
- g. Ms. Natalie Seyler, Health Services Technician, C. E. Cole Intermediate School, effective November 30, 2020.
- h. Ms. Amy Stoudt, 3.5 Hour Cafeteria Assistant, Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective April 14, 2021.

175B Award Professional Employee Contract for Tenured Teachers

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 teachers who have performed on a satisfactory basis for three years:

- a. Ms. Nichole Barker, Muhlenberg Middle School
- b. Ms. Megan Charles, Muhlenberg Elementary Center
- c. Ms. Laura Klawiter, Muhlenberg Middle School
- d. Ms. Christy Oxenford, Muhlenberg Elementary Center
- e. Mr. Mason Smith, Muhlenberg Middle School

175C Pulled for a separate vote.

175D Summer Pay for Pre-Educators

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve summer pay for Pre-Educators from local colleges and universities to assist Muhlenberg School District teachers to begin implementing Phase II, the Summer Phase, of the Muhlenberg School District's Three-Phased Holistic Plan by addressing learning loss through remediation, literacy-based instruction, professional development, instructional delivery practices and human relationships at a pay rate of \$30 per hour. (ESSER funds).

175E Classified Appointments

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

- a. Ms. Juli Suarez, 4.5 Cafeteria Worker (S. Mengel), Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective May 13, 2021, at a pay rate of \$15.03 per hour.

- b. Mr. John Hudock, Inside Custodian (C. Seidel), C. E. Cole Intermediate School, effective May 19, 2021, at a salary of \$37,751, prorated for days worked.
- c. Ms. Joselyn Little, Inside Custodian (E. Essick), C. E. Cole Intermediate School, effective July 1, 2021, at a salary of \$38,506.40.

175F 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. Ms. Randi Farrow, 4 Hour Cafeteria Worker, C. E. Cole Intermediate School, completion of forty-five (45) day probation as of April 28, 2021 and recommended for permanent employment as of April 29, 2021.

175G Sports Event Monitors for the 2020-2021 School Year

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Sports Event Monitors for the 2020-2021 School Year at the pay rate of \$10.50 per hour.

- a. Mr. Brad Barskey
- b. Ms. Jennifer Gulick
- c. Mr. Sean Slater

175H Administrative Appointment

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

- a. Mrs. Tara L. Flowers, Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent (P. Law), effective June 14, 2021, at a salary of \$61,500, prorated for days worked.
- b. Mrs. Tara L. Flowers, School Board Recording Secretary (P. Law), stipend of \$100.00 per attended meeting, effective July 1, 2021.

175I Age Group Swimming Resignation

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District accept the following age group swimming resignation:

- a. Mr. Philip Fiore, Youth Aquatics Director, effective February 26, 2021.

175J Summer Pay for Paraprofessionals

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the temporary summer pay rate of \$35 per hour for paraprofessionals working the 2021 extended school year program and the COVID compensatory services program (ESSER funds).

175K Request for Pay Increase for Summer Technology Assistants

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the request for a pay increase for summer technology assistants from \$8.00 per hour to \$10.00 per hour.

175L Summer Technology Assistants

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following summer technology assistants for 2021 at the pay rate of \$10.00 per hour:

- a. Mr. Angel Isardat
- b. Mr. Robert Laffey
- c. Ms. Elianne Mejia
- d. Mr. Maddox Moyer
- e. Mr. Nick Whitmoyer
- f. Ms. Elexa Neukirch

175M Co-Curricular Resignation

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

- a. Mr. Daniel J. Solvino, Junior High Girls Volleyball Head Coach, effective May 10, 202.

175N Muhlenberg Administrators' Association Agreements for Years 2021 through 2023

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve Agreement I and Agreement II with the Muhlenberg Administrators' Association effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023 (Exhibit #129).

Resolution No. 175C

Moved by Mr. Hoffmaster and Mr. Hyneman, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Personnel Resolution No. 175C** in its entirety.

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

175C Summer Pay for Professional Staff

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve an increase in the summer professional staff pay rate from \$30 per hour to \$70 per hour to begin implementing the Muhlenberg School District's Three-Phased Holistic Plan by addressing learning loss through remediation, literacy-based instruction, professional development, instructional delivery practices and human relationships. This pay increase is for all teachers working the three summer sessions, extended school year, and COVID compensatory services (ESSER funds).

Management

Resolution No. 176

Moved by Mr. Hyneman and Mr. Voit, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Management Resolution No.176** in its entirety.

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

176 Adoption of Policies

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District adopt the following district policies (Exhibit #130):

Section 600 Finances

Policy No. 610 *Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation*

Section 800 Operations

Policy No. 810.3, *School Vehicle Drivers*

Resolution No. 177

177 Election of Board Treasurer for One-Year Term (R. Hoffmaster)

Election of Treasurer for one-year term (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022) as in accordance with the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949, as amended, Article IV, Section 404, Election of Officers.

Moved by Mr. Hyneman and Mr. Nelson to nominate Mr. Richard E. Hoffmaster as Board Treasurer.

Closing of Nominations for Board Treasurer

Moved by Mr. Voit, that nominations for Board Treasurer be closed.

Roll Call Vote by Name

Mr. Hyneman – Richard Hoffmaster	Mr. Voit – Richard Hoffmaster
Mr. Long – Richard Hoffmaster	Mr. Gross – Richard Hoffmaster
Mr. Lupia – Richard Hoffmaster	Mr. Hardy – Richard Hoffmaster
Mr. Nelson – Richard Hoffmaster	Mr. Hoffmaster – Richard Hoffmaster

The motion **carried** unanimously.

Resolved, that Mr. Richard E. Hoffmaster be elected as Board Treasurer for a one-year term effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Resolution No. 178

Moved by Mr. Voit and Mr. Hyneman, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Management Resolution No. 178** in its entirety.

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

178 Board Treasurer's Bond and Compensation

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Treasurer's \$25,000 Surety Bond and \$1,500 per year compensation for the one-year term July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Resolution No. 179

179 Election of Secretary of the Board for Four-Year Term

Moved by Mr. Voit and Mr. Hyneman to nominate Tom Gross for Board Secretary.

Closing of Nominations for Board Secretary

Moved by Mr. Voit that nominations for Board Secretary be closed.

Roll Call by Name

Mr. Lupia – Tom Gross	Mr. Hardy – Tom Gross
Mr. Nelson – Tom Gross	Mr. Hoffmaster – Tom Gross

Mr. Voit – Tom Gross
Mr. Gross – Tom Gross.

Mr. Hyneman – Tom Gross
Mr. Long – Tom Gross

Resolved, that Mr. Tom Gross be elected as Board Secretary for a four-year term effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2025.

Resolution No. 180

Moved by Mr. Hoffmaster and Mr. Hyneman, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Management Resolution No. 180** in its entirety.

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

180 Board Secretary's Bond and Compensation

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the School Board Secretary's Fidelity Bond of \$10,000 and that the premium for said bond be paid by the school district. Be it further resolved, that the School Board Secretary's compensation shall be \$600.00 per year pro-rated.

Resolution No. 181

181 Election of Assistant Board Secretary for One-Year Term

Moved by Mr. Voit and Mr. Hoffmaster to nominate Mrs. Cindy Mengle for Assistant Board Secretary.

Roll Call Vote by Name

Mr. Voit – Cindy Mengle
Mr. Gross – Cindy Mengle
Mr. Hardy – Cindy Mengle
Mr. Hoffmaster – Cindy Mengle

Mr. Hyneman – Cindy Mengle
Mr. Long – Cindy Mengle
Mr. Lupia – Cindy Mengle
Mr. Nelson – Cindy Mengle

The motion **carried** unanimously.

Resolved, that Mrs. Cindy Mengle be elected as Assistant Board Secretary for a one-year term effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Resolution No. 182

Moved by Mr. Hoffmaster and Mr. Hyneman, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Management Resolution No. 182** in its entirety.

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

182 Authorization for Facsimile Signatures, Wire Fund Transfers, and Signatures on Bank Accounts

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following financial documents to be made effective July 1, 2021:

a. Facsimile Signatures

Authorize the signatures of the School Board President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who are involved with instruments of payment for public securities, be filed with the Secretary of the Commonwealth as per the Uniform Facsimile Signature of Public Officials Act of July 25, 1961, P.L. 849, as amended, P.S. Section 301, et seq.

b. Wire Fund Transfers

Authorize the wire fund transfer for all School District accounts for any one (1) of the following persons:

Superintendent of Schools	Dr. Joseph E. Macharola
Business Manager	Mr. Shane M. Mathias, CPA
Supervisor of Accounts	Ms. Susan Hawkins

c. On-Line Access

Authorize on-line access to account information for all school district PLGIT and PLGIT/PLUS, BB&T, and PSDLAF accounts for the following personnel:

Business Manager	Mr. Shane M. Mathias, CPA
Supervisor of Accounts	Ms. Susan Hawkins

d. Payroll Account

Authorize the signatures of the following three (3) officers (facsimile acceptable) for the Payroll Account General Fund Account (Payroll) – BB&T xxxxxxxxx0535:

President	Mr. S. Wayne Hardy
Secretary	Mr. Thomas W. Gross
Treasurer	Mr. Richard E. Hoffmaster

e. Operational Account

Authorize the signatures of the following officers: President and Secretary signatures are required, facsimile acceptable, plus signature of either Treasurer, Vice President or Assistant Secretary (only three {3} are required), for the General Fund Account (AP) – BB&T xxxxxxxxxx0497:

President	Mr. S. Wayne Hardy
Vice President	Mr. J. Tony Lupia, Jr.
Secretary	Mr. Thomas W. Gross
Assistant Secretary	Mrs. Cindy L. Mengle
Treasurer	Mr. Richard E. Hoffmaster

f. Cafeteria Account(s)

Authorize the signatures of the following officers: President and Secretary signatures are required, facsimile acceptable, plus signature of either Treasurer, Vice President or Assistant Secretary (only three {3} are required), BB&T xxxxxxxxxx8190; Mid Penn Bank xxxxxxxx206:

President	Mr. S. Wayne Hardy
Vice President	Mr. J. Tony Lupia, Jr.
Secretary	Mr. Thomas W. Gross
Assistant Secretary	Mrs. Cindy L. Mengle
Treasurer	Mr. Richard E. Hoffmaster

g. PLGIT Accounts

Authorize the signatures of the following officers (only three {3} are required), facsimile acceptable for PLGIT CTSI Escrow Account, xxx4303;

PLGIT Capital Reserve Class Account, xxx4025; PLGIT Capital Reserve Plus Account, xxx4025; and PLGIT CD Account, xxx4025:

President	Mr. S. Wayne Hardy
Vice President	Mr. J. Tony Lupia, Jr.
Secretary	Mr. Thomas W. Gross
Assistant Secretary	Mrs. Cindy L. Mengle
Treasurer	Mr. Richard E. Hoffmaster

Physical Plant and Transportation

Resolution No. 183

Moved by Mr. Hyneman and Mr. Long, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Physical Plant and Transportation No. 183** in its entirety.

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

183 Transportation Contract

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the extension of the current transportation contract between the Muhlenberg School District and the Berks County Intermediate Unit for one year from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 with a 2.25% increase from 2020-2021, as presented (Exhibit #131).

Budget and Finance

Resolution Nos. 184-186

Moved by Mr. Lupia and Mr. Voit, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Budget and Finance Resolution Nos. 184 through 186** in their entirety.

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

184 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 #132):

Fund	Treasurer's Report	Financial Report	Bills Paid Month	Investments	Budget Transfers
General	Mar 2021	Mar 2021	Apr 2021 Ck#49738-49905 V#26780-26814	Mar 2021	Apr 2021
Cafeteria	Mar 2021	Mar 2021	Apr 2021 Ck#7069-7091 V#2858-2864	Mar 2021	
Capital Reserve (Fund 32)	Apr 2021	Apr 2021	Apr 2021 Ck # 904-905		
Capital Projects Fund (Fund 39)	Apr 2021	Apr 2021			
Activity	Mar 2021	Mar 2021			

185 Disposal of Surplus Property

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District authorize the disposal of the following surplus property in accordance with district Policy 706.1, Disposal of Surplus Property as presented (Exhibit #133):

- a. Chromebooks for Disposal – These items are broken and have had usable parts removed.

186 Final Settlement and Release Agreement with Naviance, Inc.

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District entered into a contract between the Muhlenberg School District and Naviance, Inc. dated October 25, 2018 for the purchase of the software AchieveWorks, Naviance Alumni Tracker, Naviance eDocs and Naviance for Muhlenberg High School be terminated effective May 12, 2021. Further, that the School District enter into a final settlement and release agreement with Naviance evidencing the termination of the contract as attached (Exhibit #134).

Resolution No. 187

Moved by Mr. Nelson and Mr. Long, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Budget and Finance Resolution No. 187** in its entirety.

Comments/Questions/Concerns:

Mr. Voit said this is a proposed one mil increase which balances the budget because the board must do so thirty days before the Board must formally vote on the budget next month. He said there is not one Board member who liked this and the Administration will work tirelessly to ensure that number came down. Mr. Voit said the Board is well aware of the needs and the situations of the taxpayers; so, any conversation with regards to taxes is never easy. He said the Board would fight over the next thirty days to cut that number.

Mr. Hoffmaster said he agreed with Mr. Voit. He said people must realize that the District sometimes has no other choice but to raise taxes as it only gets money from the taxpayers – there is no other way to get money. Other municipalities get money from the gas company, the cable company, and the water company – the school district does not have that kind of revenue.

Mr. Hyneman said there are many reasons why individual school districts are running short of money. Some of it has to do with the way the money is dealt out to school districts population-wise. He said if a school district is losing pupils, it still gets the same amount of money as do the school districts that are increasing enrollment. It is a lot harder because the school district must

make-up the difference. Mr. Hyneman said looking at what the state has done over the years, they are supporting school districts less than in the past. All of that falls on the individual taxpayers within the school district. He said he understood everyone must pay their bills but the bottom line is there are reasons why school districts are struggling with property taxes and it is not as easy as it sounds. Mr. Hyneman said the Board must raise taxes at times to fund the schools adequately, and he pays taxes too. He said if the legislature made some changes to property taxes, they could be a lot more equal.

Mr. Long said he concurred with what Mr. Hyneman and Mr. Voit said – these have been very trying times over the last year with the pandemic which hasn't helped things and people are in bad ways in many areas of the township. He said he was fully on board with Mr. Voit that the Board needed to fight to get the number as low as possible. He said he lives in the township as well as his family and it is never an easy thing to give a yes vote for a tax increase because it affects a whole lot of people. Mr. Long said he served on the Board previously for twelve years and it is the same as then – the state came up short a number of times and it has not gotten any better. He said legislature made promises about property tax elimination back in 2001 and it has not made any headway to this day, which is a shame. Mr. Long said he felt this would continue until people started to make a lot of noise until the legislature is forced to deal with it so he would encourage people to go to Harrisburg and make some noise to get things done.

Mr. Voit said anyone over sixty-five should not be paying property taxes and that is legislation that could happen today. He said to call your representative, call your senator – they can get it done. Anyone who say's they cannot, is lying and should be voted out.

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

187 Proposed Final Budget for 2021-2022 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, 2021 – June 30, 2022 in the amount of \$65,527,642. (Exhibit #135).

Education

Resolution No. 188 - 196

Moved by Mr. Long and Mr. Voit, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Education Resolution Nos. 188 through 196** in their entirety.

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

188 Extended School Year Student Tuition Agreements

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following extended school year student tuition agreements as presented (Exhibit #136):

- a. Student #32432, Capstone Academy
- b. Student #38475, New Story-New Holland
- c. Student #37824, New Story-New Holland

189 Student Tuition Agreement 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 2020-2021 school year as presented (Exhibit #137):

- a. Student #32432, Capstone Academy
- b. Student #37824, New Story-New Holland (amendment to original agreement)
- c. Student #37824, New Story-New Holland (amendment to original agreement)

190 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 (Exhibit #138).

191 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 #139):

- a. Student "A", Muhlenberg Middle School
- b. Student "B", Muhlenberg Middle School

192 Phase II: Summer School 2021 (and Revised MHS Summer School Program)

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Phase II: Summer School 2021 (and revised Muhlenberg High School Summer School Program) for students K to 12, as presented (Exhibit #140).

193 Alvernia University Athletic Trainer

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve Ms. Marion O'Shaughnessy, athletic trainer from Alvernia University, as per the cooperative Sports Medicine agreement between the Muhlenberg School District and Alvernia University.

194 Revised Extended School Year Program for 2021 and COVID-19 Compensatory Services (CCS) Services (CCS)

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Extended School Year Program for 2021 (July 6, 2021 to July 29, 2021, ESY & CCS) and COVID-19 Compensatory Services (CCS) (June 21, 2021 to July 1, 2021, CCS only) at an estimated operating cost for both programs of \$195,000 plus transportation and contracted services which includes the following staff (Exhibit #141):

- a. One (1) ESY Coordinator
- b. Fourteen (14) Teachers
- c. Sixteen (16) Assistants
- d. One (1) Job Coach
- e. Related Services:
 - 1) Speech & Language Therapist
 - 2) Occupational Therapist
 - 3) Physical Therapist
 - 4) Hearing ,
 - 5) Vision Support

195 Clinical Education Experience Agreement

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the agreement between Lebanon Valley College and the Muhlenberg School District for the 2021-2022 school year to host Speech and Language Pathology students from Lebanon Valley College for their clinical education experience, as presented (Exhibit #142).

196 Students to Complete the 2020-2021 School Year as Non-Resident Students

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the request for the following student to complete the 2020-2021 school year as non-resident students:

- a. Student #38687, Kindergarten, MEC
- b. Student #37176, 2nd Grade, MEC
- c. Student #32259, 8th Grade, MMS
- d. Student #31032, 11th Grade, MHS
- e. Student #39258, 8th Grade, MMS

- f. Student #34751, 5th Grade, C. E. Cole
- g. Student #37037, 2nd Grade, MEC

Student Activities

There was none.

Minutes

Resolution No. 197

197 Approval of Minutes

Moved by Mr. Voit and Mr. Long, that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting of April 14, 2021 and, the Regular Board Meeting of April 14, 2021 be approved as submitted.

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

Old Business

There was none.

New Business

Dr. Futrick said Dr. Macharola was not attending the meeting this evening as he was attending his daughter's induction into the National Honor Society.

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

May Mr. Richard E. Hoffmaster

Review of Board Meetings and Calendar of Events

May 5	7:00 PM	Committee of the Whole Meeting
May 10	6:30 PM	RMCTC Board Meeting
May 12	7:00 PM	Regular Board Meeting
June 2	6:30 PM	Committee of the Whole and Regular Board Meeting

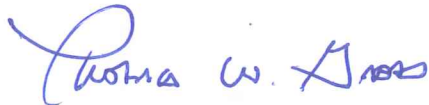
June 9 7:00 PM Graduation
June 14 6:30 PM RMCTC Board Meeting

198 Adjourn Meeting

Moved by Mr. Voit and Mr. Hoffmaster, that there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.

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

Attest:



Thomas W. Gross
Secretary