

# MASD Board Bulletin

December 21, 2015

Complete Minutes of the School Board Meeting can be found at [raiderweb.org](http://raiderweb.org) after next month's Board Meeting.

## PRESENTATIONS

Presentation of Financial Statement Audit – Matt Wildasin, Boyer & Ritter, CPAs

## APPROVED VOLUNTEERS

Renee Buck  
Steven Buck  
Belinda Dupes  
Darreth Eckert  
Gwen Fetter  
Eric Godsey  
Tamara Horn  
Michele McDevitt  
Catherine Pierce  
Dawn Smith

## FIELD TRIPS

The Board approved a field trip for the High School Family & Consumer Science field trip to visit Penn State University's solar energy house in State College.

The Board approved a field trip for the wrestling team and coaches to attend a Penn State University wrestling match.

## APPROVALS

The Board approved Cheryl A. Shearer as a contracted school bus driver.

The Board approved the audited financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2015.

## POLICIES

The Board adopted the committee and School Board meeting calendars for 2016.

## RECOGNITIONS

*December Students of the Month:*  
Samantha Altland with educator Samuel Fisher  
Garrett Deyle with educator Leroy O'Neill  
*Cross Country District 3 Qualifiers:* Coach Peter Fox, Caleb Ocker, Justin Shaffer  
*Girls' Soccer Mid Penn All Stars:* Coach Tim Neff, Bianca Jasper, Katelynn Kennedy, Brooke Myers, Alexis Ulrich, Braelyn Zavoda  
*Boys' Soccer Mid Penn All Stars:* Coach Larry Kapenstein, David Alcock, Blake Gill, Mason Guckavan  
*Football Mid Penn All Stars:* Coach Brett Myers, Brady Fox, Bobby Graham, Hunter Landis, Caleb Leggore, Tristan Maxwell, Malik Noon, Michael Osayi, Jarred Rife, Justin Shaver, Tom Staker, Jaelen Thompson  
*Mid Penn Capital Division Coach of the Year:*  
Coach Brett Myers

## EMPLOYMENT

Eric Fegley, Head Jr. High Wrestling Coach  
Stacy Herlocher, Mentor  
Nickolas Macri, Head Varsity Track & Field Coach  
Amanda Rhinehart, Assistant Varsity Softball Coach  
Scott Souders, Raider Academy Mentor/Outreach Coordinator  
Rebecca Van Curen, Assistant JV Softball Coach

## CHANGE OF EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Cara Bonfanti, from Assistant Junior Varsity Softball Coach to Athletic Game Worker  
Alexander Marroquin, from Second Shift Custodian to Head Custodian  
Bonnie Shroyer, from Head Custodian to Second Shift Custodian

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTS

Jennifer Crater, on or about May 20, 2016 through the end of the 2015-2016 school year

## RESIGNATIONS

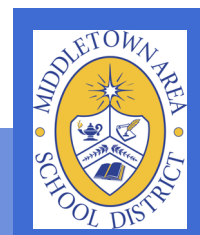
Jason Koons, Substitute Custodian  
Amber Smith, Assistant Varsity Softball Coach

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Suski reported that Middletown Area Student Helpers (MASH), a student service organization at MAHS advised by Mr. Chris Brown, conducted a very successful food drive in November. Dr. Suski said that the club collected nearly 1100 food items that were donated to the local food bank and also provided seven complete Thanksgiving dinners to families in need. Dr. Suski noted that several groups within the District are putting together Christmas wish lists for students and families including the football team shopping and wrapping gifts for some needy elementary students in MASD.

Dr. Suski reported that eight students qualified for the FBLA State Leadership Conference which will be held in April at the Hershey Lodge. Junior Nate Gingrich was elected the 2016-2017 Region 15 President and Freshman Aiden Sessa was appointed the 2016-2017 Region 15 Vice President. The District will also have two members-at-large so MAHS will be represented by a total of ten students at the conference. Dr. Suski thanked adviser Michele Myers for her support and leadership of the High School's FBLA club. Dr. Suski noted that this club was started just a few short years ago and has experienced a tremendous level of success in a brief amount of time.

Dr. Suski explained that the Capital Region Literacy Council, founded in 1989, promotes literacy by distributing books to schools and organizations that serve low-income children. The council has focused on providing books for preschool and elementary age children. In 2014 and 2015 book recipients included Capital Area Head Start, Harrisburg School District, Steelton-Highspire School District, and York Haven Elementary School. This year the council  
*(continued)*



## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT *(continued)*

offered our district fifth grade students the opportunity to receive a set of books by R.J. Palacio. The set includes the books Wonder and 365 Days of Wonder. Wonder is the story of Auggie, a fifth grade boy with a facial deformity, whose classmates learn to accept him. The companion book to Wonder, 365 Days of Wonder, features conversations between Auggie, his classmates, and their English teacher, Mr. Browne. Wonder, a New York Times bestseller, has received many awards including, American Library Association Notable Children's Book, International Reading Association Teachers' Choices, and National Parenting Publications Awards (Gold Award). The retail value of the total book donation is \$6,524.00. Fifth grade students will receive the Wonder book set this week to add to their home libraries along with a letter from Ms. Drazenovich explaining the donation.

Dr. Suski thanked the High School Jazz Band for providing the entertainment at the Board Organization dinner two weeks ago and congratulated the entire Music Department on the terrific concert performances over the past few weeks.

Dr. Suski announced that Senior Victoria Spangler was invited to perform the National Anthem prior to the AAAA PIAA Football Championship Game this past Saturday, December 19, at Hersheypark Stadium. Dr. Suski congratulated Victoria for representing Middletown well and carrying out this honor.

Dr. Suski congratulated Ja'lynn Burton Jones who last Thursday evening in a home game vs. McDevitt broke the school record as the leading all-time scorer for girls' basketball previously held by Kris Smith Myers.

Dr. Suski thanked Mr. Franklin for his work in preparing for the audit. She mentioned that Mr. Franklin spent many hours preparing the documentation necessary for the audit review. Dr. Suski said she appreciated his work and that of the business office team and was pleased with the "clean" opinion that was rendered by the auditors.

Dr. Suski announced that President Obama signed into law the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). This new bipartisan law replaces the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Dr. Suski said she would be sending the Board a summary of the Act that provides a nice overview. Dr. Suski said that she participated in a conference call conducted by the legislative assistant to Senator Bob Casey where some of the highlights of ESSA were outlined in greater detail. Dr. Suski said that she will be presenting an overview of the legislation at the January School Board meeting for the School Board to better understand the implications of the Every Student Succeeds Act and how it will affect Middletown Area School District.

Dr. Suski reminded the Board that the District will be closed from December 24, 2015 through January 1, 2016 for winter recess. Classes will commence on Monday, January 4, 2016. Dr. Suski wished the Board a happy holiday season.

## AGREEMENTS

The Board approved an agreement with Guttman Energy, Inc. to supply electricity at a fixed price of \$.03786 per kWh, for a thirty-six month term beginning July 2016.

The Board approved an agreement with Martin Water Conditioning to repair the water softener in the Reid Elementary School cafeteria.

The Board approved an agreement with the Upside Down Organization and Mastery Connect to provide professional development services.

The Board approved an addendum to the agreement with Substitute Teacher Service to change the daily substitute teacher rate to the three-tier payment structure indicated below effective January 4, 2016.

|                                       | Full Day | Half Day |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Per Diem Substitute Teacher Day 1-10  | \$135.75 | \$67.87  |
| Per Diem Substitute Teacher Day 11-25 | \$149.32 | \$74.66  |
| Per Diem Substitute Teacher Day 26+   | \$162.90 | \$81.45  |

## APPOINTMENTS

The Board appointed Kegel, Kelin, Almy & Lord, LLP to serve as District solicitor from December 21, 2015 through December 5, 2016.

The Board appointed Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams LLP to serve as Special Education legal counsel for 2016.

The Board recommended the formation of an ad hoc steering committee for the purpose of establishing a school foundation.

## RESOLUTIONS

The Board adopted the resolution to indicate that a tax rate increase for the 2016-2017 school year, if needed, will not exceed the Act 1 limit, and no Act 1 exceptions will be sought by the District.

## BIDS

The Board awarded the bid for athletic field upgrades at War Memorial Field and the softball field to Jones Turf Management, Inc.