

**MIDDLETOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**School Board Meeting**  
**September 23, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**MINUTES**

**Members in attendance were:** Newton Davis, Gordon Einhorn, Melvin Fager, Terry Gilman, David John, Barbara Layne, Pamela Price, and Michael Richards.

**Members not in attendance were:** Sheila Evans.

**Staff/Public in attendance were:** Dr. Lori Suski, Superintendent of Schools; Christine Mostoller, Assistant to the Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment; David Franklin, Assistant to the Superintendent for Finance and Operations/Board Secretary; Jodie Zorbaugh, Communications Specialist/Recording Secretary; Josh Bleacher, Computer Technician; Marie Drazenovich, Director of Student Services; Heidi Zula, Director of Human Resources; Michael Carnes, High School Principal; Jeremy King, Director of Athletics / Assistant High School Principal; Brianna Miller, District Professional Staff; Bailey Gojmerac, Madison Rios, Levi Varner, Nathan Ocker, Michael Yingling, Shaun Donovan, Herb Moore, Tom Coble, Interested Students and Citizens; and Phyllis Zimmerman and Daniel Walmer, Reporters.

**Call to Order** Ms. Layne called the meeting to order and asked those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent meditation.

Ms. Layne reported that the school board met in Executive Session prior to the board meeting at 6:00 p.m. to discuss a student matter and a personnel matter with no action taken.

**Roll Call** Ms. Layne asked the Secretary, David Franklin, to call the roll. A quorum was present as noted above.

***Introduction of Meeting Guests and Presentations***

**Student Comments** **Student Council:** Dr. Suski introduced Levi Varner and Nathan Ocker. The students reported on the activities of Student Council.

**Key Club:** Dr. Suski introduced Madison Rios and Bailey Gojmerac. The students reported on the activities of Key Club.

**Recognitions** **2013 Teacher of the Year:** Dr. Suski presented Brianna Miller, High School Chemistry Teacher, with the 2013 Teacher of the Year award. Dr. Suski provided the history of the selection process. Dr. Suski noted that Ms. Miller holds three Bachelors Degrees, two Masters Degrees,

and is currently enrolled in a Doctoral program. Dr. Suski reviewed Ms. Miller's impressive resume, which includes teaching Chemistry for several years; participating in numerous professional development activities; developing the Forensics course for the High School; serving as the Key Club advisor for several years; serving as a Pathways Chair; serving as one of the Class of 2008 advisors; and formerly serving as the MAEA President.

**Public Comment**

Ms. Layne provided opportunity for those present to address the school board.

Tom Coble, 3522 Foxianna Road, Middletown, PA said that he wanted to talk about the Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZ) for the airport. Mr. Coble thanked the board members for their public service. Mr. Coble said that he was unsure if what he has heard about the KOZ is really a fair deal. Mr. Coble says that he pays fair taxes and questioned whether there are other ways to encourage development rather than eliminating taxes such as the airport offering free leases, waiving water costs, and waiving land development fees (by Lower Swatara Township). Mr. Coble said that he wonders whether the other parties are willing to step up in the same way that the District is being asked to step up. Mr. Coble noted that there are other developments that have occurred in the District (Penn State, Sharp Shopper, some warehousing...) and said that he thinks things are going in the right direction. Mr. Coble said that he is not sure that we need to give preferential treatment to encourage development since it is already occurring. Mr. Coble said that he is not against development at the airport; he is just seeking fair treatment. Mr. Coble says that he wants the other parties to step up and do the same thing.

Herb Moore, Union Street, Middletown said that he is opposed to giving tax breaks, but supports development opportunities. Mr. Moore said that he thinks that if the ground cannot be developed then the price should be lowered. Mr. Moore said that he thinks that tax breaks just shift the tax burden. Mr. Moore said that he thinks taxes are already a burden for residents. Mr. Moore said that his wife is a teacher in the District and his sons were students that have moved on and achieved success. Mr. Moore said that he believes that the high taxes in the District have collectively depressed the value of properties. Mr. Moore compared the assessed value of properties in the District to what the assessed value would be in other municipalities. Mr. Moore said that the District cannot allow taxes to grow at the expense of other factors.

**Secretary's Report**

**Minutes** Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Gilman seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2013 School Board Meeting. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**Communications** Mr. Franklin said the Board Committee Calendar for October 2013 was attached to the agenda and that there were no changes to previously scheduled nights and times.

**Treasurer's Report** Mr. Einhorn moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for August 2013. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0. **(See Attachment)**

**Bill Lists** Mr. Einhorn moved and Mr. Gilman seconded a motion to approve the **"List of Paid Bills"** with totals by fund, as detailed. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0. **(See Attachment)**

Fund 10 - General Fund	\$400,474.92
Fund 32 - Capital Reserve Fund	\$22,276.32
Fund 39 - Capital Projects Fund	\$0
Fund 51 - Food Service Fund	\$11,074.82
Fund 59 - WMSS Radio Station Fund	\$140.45
Fund 72 - Expendable Trust Fund	\$250.00
Fund 74 - Nonexpendable Trust Fund	\$3,500.48
Fund 81 - Student Activities Fund	\$640.00

Mr. Einhorn moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve the **"List of Unpaid Bills"** with totals by fund, as detailed. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0. **(See Attachment)**

Fund 10 - General Fund	\$542,208.22
Fund 32 - Capital Reserve Fund	\$1,057,943.37
Fund 39 - Capital Projects Fund	\$0
Fund 51 - Food Service Fund	\$4,464.23
Fund 59 - WMSS Radio Station Fund	\$2,000.00
Fund 72 - Expendable Trust Fund	\$0
Fund 74 - Nonexpendable Trust Fund	\$500.00
Fund 81 - Student Activities Fund	\$1,947.34

**Old Business** None

**District Goals** Mr. John moved and Mr. Einhorn seconded a motion to approve the District Goals for 2013-2014 as detailed below. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

1. Revise the K-12 Mathematics curriculum to align with the PA Core

Standards.

2. Implement the new PDE Teacher Effectiveness Evaluation System.
3. Improve the effectiveness of the High School program.
4. Pilot the new Principal Effectiveness Instrument for all building level administrators.
5. Implement a new reporting tool for booster club revenues and expenditures and finalize a decision regarding the creation of a unified booster club for athletics and performing arts.
6. Develop a plan to establish a foundation to support athletics and extra-curricular activities.
7. Continue to identify and implement strategies to obtain cost reductions or efficiency improvements through advancing the effective use of District resources.
8. Improve communications with all stakeholders regarding District achievements, operations, projects and happenings.

### **Election of PSBA Officers**

Ms. Price declared she needed to abstain from all voting because of her employment by PSBA.

Mr. John said that the school board must vote to elect a candidate for each office. Mr. John said that the candidate selected by a majority of the board members would be registered as elected by Middletown Area School District.

President-Elect Candidates:

- William S. LaCoff (Owen J. Roberts SD Board Member)
- Mark B. Miller (Centennial School District Board Member)

Mr. Gilman moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to elect Mark B. Miller as the President-Elect of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association. During discussion on the motion, Ms. Layne commented that Mr. LaCoff was the recommended candidate. Mr. Gilman suggested that perhaps Ms. Layne should have made the motion if she felt that Mr. LaCoff was the best candidate. Mr. Gilman withdrew his motion. Ms. Layne moved and Mr. Gilman seconded a motion to elect William S. LaCoff as the President-Elect of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association. The vote to approve the motion was 7 to 0 with Ms. Price abstaining from the vote.

Vice-President Candidates:

- Larry B. Breech (Millville Area School District Board Member)
- Charles H. Ballard (East Penn School District Board Member)

Mr. Einhorn moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to elect Charles H. Ballard as the Vice-President of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association. The vote to approve the motion was 7 to 0 with Ms. Price abstaining from the vote.

Treasurer Candidates:

- Norman G. Hasbrouck (California Area School District Board Member)
- Otto W. Voit III (Muhlenberg School District Board Member)

Ms. Layne moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to elect Norman G. Hasbrouck as the Treasurer of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association. The vote to approve the motion was 7 to 0 with Ms. Price abstaining from the vote.

Central Region At-Large Representative Candidate:

- Kathy K. Swope (Lewisburg Area School District Board Member)

Ms. Layne moved and Mr. Einhorn seconded a motion to elect Kathy K. Swope as the Central Region At-Large Representative to the Pennsylvania School Boards Association. The vote to approve the motion was 7 to 0 with Ms. Price abstaining from the vote.

***Academic Affairs  
Committee Report***

Ms. Price reported for the Academic Affairs Committee.

**Communications**

The Minutes from the September 10, 2013 Academic Affairs Committee Meeting were made available as an information item.

**Curriculum**

Ms. Price moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to approve revisions to the Chemistry curriculum for Middletown Area High School. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

Ms. Price moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to adopt the revised English/Language Arts curriculum for grades 9 - 12. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**Employment**

Ms. Price moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to approve the employment of Mindy Alison as a special education mentor for Kaitlyn Kepler at a pro-rated stipend of \$362.50. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**Agreements**

Ms. Price moved and Mr. John seconded a motion to approve the agreements as listed below. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

1. Keystone Service Systems, Inc. to provide student assistance program services at the middle school during the 2013-2014 school year at no cost to the District.
2. Living Unlimited to provide music therapy services for special education students during the 2013-2014 school year at a cost of \$150 per session with a maximum cost of \$1,200 per month.
3. Capital Area Intermediate Unit to provide Title I related services to the nonpublic schools in the Middletown Area School District for a fee of \$9,764.00.

Ms. Price moved and Mr. John seconded a motion to approve the Business Associate Agreement between Keystone Human Services and Middletown Area School District describing the limits and permitted use or disclosure of protected health information. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**Memorandums of Understanding**

Ms. Price moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to authorize Dr. Suski to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Penn State University for the District's participation in the Epidemiology Challenge Afterschool Program. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**Student Matters**

Ms. Price moved and Mr. John seconded a motion to confer a 2013 High School diploma to Emily Quaca for successful completion of graduation requirements. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**Policies**

Ms. Price moved and Mr. Einhorn seconded a motion to rescind Policy #912.2 and its attachment due to Capital Area School for the Arts becoming a charter school. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

Ms. Price moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to waive Policy #003 requiring a first reading and adopt revisions to Policy #217 (Graduation Requirements) without a first reading. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

***Personnel Committee Report***

Mr. John reported for the Personnel Committee.

**Communications**

The Minutes from the September 10, 2013 Personnel Committee Meeting were made available as an information item.

**Resignations**

Mr. John moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to approve the resignation of Kelley Clark, Life Skills/Multiple Disabilities Personal Care

Assistant, effective September 20, 2013. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**Leave of Absence Requests**

Mr. John moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve child-rearing leave for Alicia Ewer from on or about September 16, 2013 through June 6, 2014. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**Employment**

Mr. John moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to approve the employment of the individuals listed below, pending submission of all required clearances. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

1. Jennifer Singer as a Health Room Nurse (Support Staff Range 2) at an hourly rate of \$18.11 to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Paula Sembach effective October 7, 2013.
2. Jane Gray as a Substitute Nurse at a rate of \$95 per day effective September 10, 2013.

**Operations Committee Report**

Mr. Richards reported for the Operations Committee.

**Communications**

The Minutes from the September 12, 2013 Operations Committee Meeting were made available as an information item.

**Use of Facilities**

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve the use of facilities on the listing attached to the agenda. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**Agreements**

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve an agreement with Winter Engine-Generator Service, Inc. to perform generator inspections at each school building for a total cost of \$2,042. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**Equipment Purchases**

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Gilman seconded a motion to approve the equipment purchases listed below. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

1. Hondru Ford to provide a 2014 F-550 diesel dump truck at a cost of \$73,099.40 using Costars pricing and Capital Reserve funds.
2. Rain-Flo Irrigation LLC to provide a Kifco hose reel with booster pump at a cost of 7,247 using Capital Reserve funds.

**Construction Projects**

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve the change orders listed below. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

1. CO #2 of contract with Purcell Construction - removal and replacement of plywood at Fink Elementary School at a cost of \$4,000.

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Einhorn seconded a motion to approve an agreement with William Meiser to serve as the construction manager for the High School project in lieu of hiring a construction management firm for a monthly stipend of \$1,500 effective August 1, 2012 using Capital Projects funds and with all other terms and conditions as listed in the agreement. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

***Athletic/Activities  
Committee Report***

Mr. Gilman reported for the Athletics/Activities Committee.

**Communications**

The Minutes from the September 12, 2013 Athletics/Activities Committee Meeting were made available as an information item.

**Employment**

Mr. Gilman moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to approve the employment of the individuals or volunteers on the listings attached to the agenda as co-curricular and extra-curricular personnel for the 2013-2014 school year at the stipends listed, pending submission of all required clearances. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**Contracts**

Mr. Gilman moved and Ms. Price seconded a motion to authorize the Director of Athletics to contract with game officials during the 2013-2014 school year at the amounts listed on the Mid Penn Conference recommended fee schedule. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**Equipment Purchases**

Mr. Gilman moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to approve the equipment purchases listed below. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

1. Don's Kawasaki to provide a 2013 Kawasaki ATV at a cost of \$7,274.00.
2. Collegiate Apparel to provide 20 choral robes at a cost of \$3,599.60.

***Finance Committee  
Report***

Mr. Einhorn reported for the Finance Committee.

**Communications**

The minutes from the September 16, 2013 Finance Committee Meeting

were made available as an information item.

## **Resolutions**

Mr. Einhorn moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to adopt the resolution attached to the agenda to exempt real property and earned income taxes within specific geographic areas in the District designated as a proposed Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone in order to foster economic opportunities, stimulate industrial, commercial and residential improvements and prevent physical and infrastructure deterioration.

Prior to the vote, Mr. Richards asked the board members to remember the comments made by the two taxpayers earlier in the meeting.

A roll call vote was taken. The vote to approve the motion was 6 to 2 as detailed below:

Einhorn – yes  
Davis – yes  
Fager – yes  
Price – yes  
Gilman – no  
Richards – no  
John – yes  
Layne - yes

## **Exonerations**

Mr. Einhorn moved and Mr. John seconded a motion to approve the exoneration of the 2013 real estate tax bills on the listings attached to the agenda for the reasons noted. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

## **Approvals**

Mr. Einhorn moved and Mr. John seconded a motion to approve the establishment of the Bill and Betty Fox Scholarship Endowment. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

## **Construction Projects**

Mr. Einhorn moved and Ms. Price seconded a motion to approve the agreements listed below. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

1. Raudenbush Engineering, Inc. to provide deed recording services for the District campus as a consultant to the design professional at an additional cost of \$2,100 using Capital Reserve funds.
2. Advantage Engineers to perform soil compaction monitoring and testing at the site of the two new athletic fields at an estimated cost of \$2,431 using Capital Reserve funds.

Mr. Einhorn moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to amend the professional services agreement with Crabtree Rohrbaugh & Associates to increase the compensation by \$2,668 to include the fee for the web-based construction collaboration management system using Capital Reserve funds. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**Grants**

Mr. Einhorn moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve amendment number 1 to the grant agreement between Dauphin County and the District for the operation of a Communities that Care program. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**New Business**

***Academic Affairs  
Committee***

Ms. Price moved and Mr. Einhorn seconded a motion to approve the Waiver of Expulsion Hearing Agreement for student #13-14-002. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

***Personnel Committee***

Mr. John moved and Ms. Price seconded a motion to approve the employment of the individuals listed below, pending submission of all required clearances. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

1. Sheri Moyer as an Administrative Assistant for Educational Services (Support Staff Range 1) at an hourly rate of \$21.00 to fill a vacancy created by the retirement of Paula Staub effective October 9, 2013.
2. Janelle Fenstermaker as a High School Life Skills Teacher (MAEA Temporary Professional Employee) at a pro-rated annual salary of \$45,010 (Masters, Step 1) plus a \$500 special education stipend to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Rebecca Kuhn effective October 15, 2013.

***Operations  
Committee***

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Einhorn seconded a motion to approve the change order listed below. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

1. CO #1 of contract with B. R. Kreider & Son, Inc. - additional 18" of Siltsoxx™ at High School Athletic Fields at a cost of \$1,440.

Mr. Einhorn moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve an agreement with Acoustic Dimensions as a consultant to the design professional to provide acoustic consulting services for the High School project at a cost of \$17,710 using Capital Reserve funds. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

***Athletics/Activities  
Committee***

Mr. Gilman moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to approve the field trip listed below. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

1. Youth & Government to attend the Servant Leadership Convention in Gardners, PA from September 27 through September 29, 2013 with transportation provided by the District.

***Representatives***

**Capital Area  
Intermediate Unit**

Ms. Layne reported that the CAIU met on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday and the minutes were attached. Ms. Layne said that she plans to attend the next meeting.

**Dauphin County  
Technical School**

Mr. Davis reported that the District will be receiving money back from Dauphin County Technical School (DCTS) as a refund of last year's assessment due to their good job of cutting costs and an increase in student tuition receipts.

Ms. Price reported that Mr. Davis made the suggestion that DCTS should look at long range planning for its programs.

**Dauphin County Tax  
Collection  
Committee**

Mr. Franklin said that the minutes were attached from the July 17 meeting. Mr. Franklin said that at the last meeting of the DCTCC the decision was made to discontinue use of a segregated bank account and use the combined account for all tax collection districts serviced by Keystone Collections in order to reduce fees.

**Harrisburg Area  
Community College**

Ms. Layne had nothing to report.

**Olmsted Regional  
Recreation Board**

Ms. Layne said she is hoping to have a quorum for the next meeting and that the end of summer reports for the playground program and pool operations would be presented. Ms. Layne said that they are looking for someone to oversee the youth basketball program and noted that it is a great feeder program for the District.

**PSBA Liaison**

Mr. John said that legislature returned to session after summer recess and noted that there are only 21 days in session before the end of the year. Mr. John noted that Senator Folmer visited the District recently and Ms. Layne, Ms. Price and he participated in that meeting and a tour of the High School. Mr. John reported that he would be attending the

**Superintendent's  
Report**

PSBA Delegate Conference with Mr. Franklin on Tuesday, October 15, 2013.

Dr. Suski also thanked Mr. Folmer for his visit to the District. Dr. Suski noted that Congressman Dent will also be visiting the District in the future.

Dr. Suski remarked how quickly the first month of school has passed and reported that progress reports will be issued on Friday as this will be the half-way point of the first marking period.

Dr. Suski said that fall sports and extra-curricular activities are well underway. Dr. Suski noted that Friday evening will be "Neon Night" at the home football game against Camp Hill. Dr. Suski publicly thanked W.M. Buffington Heating and Cooling for their financial support of \$100 for each touchdown scored at a home football game. Dr. Suski said that the contribution will be evenly distributed between the football team, cheerleaders and the band. Dr. Suski commented about the appearance of the band in their new uniforms and said that they will be taking part in several *Tournament of Band* competitions over the next several weeks. Dr. Suski wished the band and all sports teams well in their remaining competitions of the season.

Dr. Suski reported that Homecoming 2013 will officially get underway with the student bonfire and tailgate on Wednesday, October 16. Dr. Suski said that dances are scheduled for October 18 at MAMS and MAHS. Dr. Suski said that the festivities on October 19<sup>th</sup> will begin with the parade and tailgate, followed by the football game against East Pennsboro. Dr. Suski said that the events will conclude with the annual alumni dinner and program at the High School. Dr. Suski encouraged those present to attend the Homecoming activities.

Dr. Suski said that the District's New U Committee is planning an employee wellness fair on Thursday, October 3 from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. at MAMS.

Dr. Suski said that there will be no school for students on Friday, October 11 or Monday, October 14. Dr. Suski noted that Friday is a staff development day and Monday is the Columbus Day holiday.

**Roundtable**

Mr. Gilman congratulated Ms. Miller.

Ms. Price affirmed Ms. Miller's accomplishments.

Mr. Davis congratulated Ms. Miller.

Mr. Richards had no additional comments to make.

Mr. Fager congratulated Ms. Miller on her achievement and the football team on their victories.

Mr. Einhorn expressed good wishes to Ms. Miller.

Mr. John affirmed Ms. Miller's teaching ability, noting that his daughter does not excel at Chemistry and she did well in Ms. Miller's class. Mr. John thanked Mr. and Mrs. Fox for their scholarship endowment.

Ms. Layne thanked Ms. Miller for her service to MAEA and said that she enjoyed working with her. Ms. Layne also recognized Brynne Schlicher for her first-ever catering event at the Sembach household for a party held for Senator Folmer. Ms. Layne also thanked Mr. and Mrs. Fox for their generous scholarship.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Richards moved and Ms. Layne seconded a motion to adjourn. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0. The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

ATTEST:

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David A. Franklin, Board Secretary