

**MIDDLETOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**School Board Meeting**  
**May 18, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**MINUTES**

**Board Members in Attendance:** Newton Davis, Melvin Fager, Barbara Layne, Pamela Price and Michael Richards

**Board Members not in Attendance:** Mike Corradi, Gordon Einhorn, Terry Gilman and David John

**District Solicitor in Attendance:** Jeffrey Litts, Esq.

**Staff & Public in Attendance:**

**District Administration:** Dr. Lori Suski, Superintendent of Schools; David Franklin, Assistant to the Superintendent for Finance and Operations/Board Secretary; Christine Mostoller, Assistant to the Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; John Brougher, Director of Information Technology; Darren DiCello, Director of Instructional Technology; Marie Drazenovich, Director of Student Services; Krystal Palmer, Director of Special Education; William Meiser, Director of Operations; Heidi Zula, Director of Human Resources; Earl Bright IV, Reid Elementary School Principal; Kevin Cook, MAMS Principal; Dr. Chelton Hunter, Kunkel Elementary School Principal; Chris Sattelle, MAMS Assistant Principal; Tom Shaffer, Fink Elementary School Principal

**District Staff:** Kenneth Britcher; Holly Criniti; Amber Geist; Ashley Houseal; Lori Hess and family; Zach Kepler; Marianne Moore; Mande Rushow; Michele Myers; Justin Smith; Kelly Templeton; Jody Zorbaugh

**Candidate for Employment:** Kehley Jo Cimino

**Retirees and Spouses:** Joseph Cannon and guest; Cynthia and Dan Crowe; John and Natalie Gordon; Karen and Bill Shupp

**Interested Students and Citizens:** Rob, Paula, Joshua and David Alcock; Sydney Alexander; Spencer Bevins; Marlin and Judy Biesecker; Stella and Georgie Britcher; Sandra K. Davis; Deb Felak; Luiz Gonzales; Allen and Barbara Jacobs; Bailee Koncar; Julie and Keely Lombardi; Linda Mehaffie; Paige Pavlishin; Barbara and John Ponnett; John, Jr. and Tara B. Ponnett; John Ponnett III; Stephanie Ponnett; Zachary Ponnett; Ann and Dale Rider; Carlos, Victoria and Jasmine Rivera; Rowan Sessa; Dawn and Erin Templeton; Frank, Cathy and Gabriel Wisniewski.

**Reporter:** Dan Miller

**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.

**Roll Call** Ms. Layne asked the Secretary, David Franklin, to call the roll. A quorum was present as noted above. Ms. Layne reported that Terry Gilman was on vacation and that Mike Corradi, David John, and Gordon

Einhorn had work responsibilities.

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

**Student Comments**     **Student Council:** Dr. Suski introduced Erin Templeton and Rowan Sessa. The students reported on the activities of Student Council.

**Key Club:** No students were present to report on the activities of Key Club.

**Recognitions**

**Students of the Month:** Dr. Suski introduced Sydney Alexander and Matthew Anthony as the Students of the Month for May. Sydney selected Mrs. Lori Hess as the educator who had most influenced her school career and Matthew selected Mr. Brian Keyser as the educator who had most influenced his school career. Sydney and Mrs. Hess came forward to be congratulated by the Board. Matthew and Mr. Keyser were not in attendance.

**MAHS Class of 2015 Valedictorian and Salutatorian** - *presented by Dr. Suski*

- Valedictorian - John Ponnett III
- Salutatorian - Joshua Alcock

**Patriot-News' Best & Brightest Class of 2015 Semi-finalists** - *presented by Dr. Suski*

- Joshua Alcock, Karlee Deibler and John Ponnett III

**Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association Award** - *presented by Mrs. Lori Hess*

- Bailee Koncar - Outstanding High School Graduating World Language Student

**Study Abroad Students** - *presented by Bailee Koncar*

- Georgie Britcher - Oman
- Kelly Moyer - Denmark
- Jasmine Rivera - Spain
- Erin Templeton - Norway

**Retirees** - *presented by Dr. Suski*

- Joseph Cannon - 10 years
- Cynthia Crowe - 23 years
- John Gordon - 33 years

- Michael Haake - 35 years
- Gwen Martz - 36 years
- Pamela O'Neill - 19 years
- Beverly Paine - 14 years
- Karen Shupp - 18 years

**Candidate for Employment:** Dr. Suski acknowledged Kehley Jo Cimino. Ms. Cimino introduced herself to the Board.

## Presentations

### STEM Summit Presentation

Mrs. Michele Myers, MAHS Career Coordinator, presented an overview of the STEM Summit, which was offered to the entire freshman class on Thursday, April 30, 2015. Mrs. Myers shared a video created by Communications Intern Jordan Handley and MASD Communications Specialist Jody Zorbaugh that gave an overview of the activities of the Summit. Mrs. Myers said that the video is now being used by both the South Central PA Chapter and the Central PA Chapter of Junior Achievement to market the STEM Summit to other districts.

Mrs. Myers said STEM jobs are expected to increase by 21% in the next five years and that 80% of jobs will require technical skills in the next decade. Mrs. Myers reported that since there are only six STEM graduates out of every 100 ninth graders, the STEM Summit is offered to freshmen to increase their interest in STEM careers. Mrs. Myers created a student survey which was completed by every freshman before and after the Summit and she shared the following results:

- All but five students knew what STEM stood for after the Summit.
- 90.2% of students either agreed or strongly agreed that the Summit helped them to understand what STEM stood for.
- 58.8% of the students either agreed or strongly agreed that the Summit made them want to find a job in a STEM Career.
- When asked to describe the STEM Summit, the most commonly used word was "fun."
- Since attending the Summit, 60% of the students said that they are encouraged to take advanced math classes and 71% are encouraged to take advanced science classes.
- Approximately 30-40 students have asked for more information regarding STEM careers.

Mrs. Myers reported additional data from the survey showing a significant increase in interest in the areas of engineering, environmental work, energy, chemistry, math and physics. Freshman

participants, Gabe Wisniewski and Keely Lombardi, shared about their experience and how it increased their interest in STEM areas.

Mr. Franklin provided an update to the Proposed Final Draft of the General Fund Budget for 2015-2016. Mr. Franklin stated a proposed draft must be presented approximately one month before final adoption of the budget. Mr. Franklin highlighted the changes in revenues and expenditures between the preliminary and proposed drafts of the budget. Mr. Franklin said that expenditures have decreased approximately \$589,000 and revenue has decreased approximately \$26,500. Mr. Franklin noted that the earlier deficit was eliminated and the budget is now balanced with expenditures and revenue equal. Mr. Franklin provided detailed explanation of the changes made to expenditures and revenue. Mr. Franklin noted that an increase in benefits accounted for the most significant increase in the budget over the current year. Mr. Franklin said that with the exception of salaries and benefits all other expenditure categories reflect a decrease over the current year budget. Mr. Franklin explained that the salaries budget has decreased by \$1,900 since the previous draft. Mr. Franklin said that two additional teaching positions and two instructional aide positions have been added to the budget, but a new budgeted administrator position was removed. Mr. Franklin explained the needs that required the additional positions and noted that one of the teaching positions will be covered by additional federal grant funding. Mr. Franklin said that benefits have decreased by \$198,000 since the previous draft. Mr. Franklin explained that the health insurance renewal was lower than anticipated, but workers compensation insurance was higher than expected. Mr. Franklin discussed the employer retirement contribution (PSERS) cost and the impact that it has on the budget, noting that no other area of the budget had a cost increase of 21%. Mr. Franklin reviewed how the PSERS cost has grown from under \$1 million in the budget to more than \$4.3 million consuming 10% of the total budget when it was only 2.5% of the budget in 2010-2011. Mr. Franklin said that services decreased \$37,000 since the previous draft and explained the changes. Mr. Franklin said that supplies and equipment decreased \$30,000 since the previous draft and explained the changes. Mr. Franklin said that fees and transfers decreased \$64,000 since the previous draft and explained the change. Mr. Franklin said that federal revenue has increased \$116,000 since the previous draft and stated that the greatest increase was in federal Title I grant funding. Mr. Franklin stated that the federal census drove out the increase and that Middletown Area SD is the only school district in the Capital Area Intermediate Unit with a funding

increase in excess of \$100,000. Mr. Franklin said that state revenue has increased \$22,000 since the previous draft. Mr. Franklin said that the District has not budgeted for increases in the basic education and special education subsidies since budget deliberations in the General Assembly are just beginning. Mr. Franklin said that local revenue has decreased \$165,000 since the previous draft. Mr. Franklin reviewed the various changes. Mr. Franklin said that assessed value had significant growth amounting to \$435,000 in revenue. Mr. Franklin said that this type of growth has not occurred since 2009-2010. Mr. Franklin said that expenditure reductions eliminated the deficit in the budget and the assessed value growth and other revenue increases have allowed for a reduction in the proposed real estate tax to a 1.59% increase. Mr. Franklin compared the three largest cost increases in the budget – salaries, employer retirement contributions and health insurance – totaling over \$1.6 million to the \$321,000 in revenue derived from a 1.59% tax increase. Mr. Franklin noted that Gov. Wolf’s proposed budget would generate an additional \$598,000 in state revenue for the District and eliminate any need for a tax increase. Mr. Franklin reviewed tax rate increases since Act 1 has been in place. Mr. Franklin said that a 1.59% increase equates to .353 mills and would increase taxes by \$35.30 for a home assessed at \$100,000. Mr. Franklin said that the administration would be looking for changes that would further decrease any tax increase before the final budget is adopted.

**Public Comment** No one came forward at this time.

**Secretary’s Report**

**Minutes** Mr. Richards moved and Ms. Price seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2015 School Board Meeting. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

**Communications** Mr. Franklin said the Board Committee Calendar for June 2015 was attached to the agenda and that changes to previously scheduled nights and times were in red.

**Treasurer’s Report** Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report for April 2015. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0. **(See Attachment)**

**Bill Lists** Mr. Davis moved and Ms. Price seconded a motion to approve the "**List of Paid Bills**" with totals by fund, as detailed. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0. **(See Attachment)**

Fund 10 -	General Fund	\$55,710.32
Fund 32 -	Capital Reserve Fund	\$0

Fund 38 -	High School Capital Projects Fund	\$0
Fund 51 -	Food Service Fund	\$578.20
Fund 59 -	WMSS Radio Station Fund	\$0
Fund 72 -	Expendable Trust Fund	\$0
Fund 74 -	Nonexpendable Trust Fund	\$0
Fund 81 -	Student Activities Fund	\$12,993.97

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to approve the **"List of Unpaid Bills"** with totals by fund, as detailed. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0. **(See Attachment)**

Fund 10 -	General Fund	\$372,491.79
Fund 32 -	Capital Reserve Fund	\$9,995.00
Fund 38 -	High School Capital Projects Fund	\$2,531,942.88
Fund 51 -	Food Service Fund	\$93,959.49
Fund 59 -	WMSS Radio Station Fund	\$3,541.17
Fund 72 -	Expendable Trust Fund	\$2,000.00
Fund 74 -	Nonexpendable Trust Fund	\$0
Fund 81 -	Student Activities Fund	\$5,228.48

***Election of Officers***

Mr. Richards nominated Mr. Gordon Einhorn to serve as School Board Treasurer from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. There were no other nominations. Ms. Layne declared nominations closed and asked Mr. Franklin to take a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

- Mr. Davis - Einhorn
- Mr. Fager - Einhorn
- Ms. Price - Einhorn
- Mr. Richards - Einhorn
- Ms. Layne - Einhorn

Ms. Layne declared Mr. Gordon Einhorn as the School Board Treasurer for the upcoming school year.

***Old Business***

Mr. Davis moved and Ms. Price seconded a motion to approve a settlement agreement and release and any other related documents for a special education matter. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

***Finance Committee Report***

Mr. Newton Davis reported for the Finance Committee.

***Communications***

The minutes from the May 11, 2015 Finance Committee Meeting were made available as an information item.

## **Resolutions**

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to adopt the Proposed Final General Fund Budget Resolution for 2015-2016 with expenditures of \$41,946,417 and revenues of \$41,946,417 for public inspection. Final adoption of the budget will occur on or before June 30, 2015. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0. ***(See Attachments)***

### Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Davis - Yes  
Mr. Fager - Yes  
Ms. Price - Yes  
Mr. Richards - Yes  
Ms. Layne - Yes

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to adopt a resolution appointing Mr. David Franklin as the School District tax collector for a term beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016 with no additional compensation. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0. ***(See Attachment)***

## **Agreements**

Mr. Davis moved and Ms. Price seconded a motion to renew a technology maintenance agreement with Sage Technology Solutions for a three year period beginning July 1, 2015 at an annual cost of \$8,906.33. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

## **Contracts**

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to contract with Smoothwall, Inc. to provide content filtering to the District for a three-year period beginning July 1, 2015 at a cost of \$5,400 per year. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

## **Appointments**

Mr. Davis moved and Ms. Price seconded a motion to appoint the following depositories for the 2015-2016 school year. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

1. Mid Penn Bank
2. Fulton Bank
3. Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund (PSDLAF)
4. PNC Bank

## **Insurance**

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve renewal contracts with the vendors listed below to provide District insurances for the 2015-2016 school year. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

1. Capital Blue Cross to provide medical and prescription insurance at a 2.08% increase in rates based upon quoted enrollments
2. Davis Vision to provide vision insurance at no increase in rates
3. Delta Dental to provide dental insurance at no increase in rates
4. School Districts Insurance Consortium (SDIC) to provide workers' compensation insurance at an insured cost of \$99,529 plus claims exposure up to a maximum of \$19,906

**Policies**                    **Information Item - Policy #609 (Investments):** Revisions to Policy #609 and its appendices are presented for first reading. **(See Attachments)**

**Personnel Committee Report**    Ms. Pamela Price reported for the Personnel Committee.

**Communications**            The minutes from the May 12, 2015 Personnel Committee Meeting were made available as an information item.

**Resignations**                Ms. Price moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to rescind the resignation of Catherine Judy, Part-Time Non-Instructional Aide, effective June 5, 2015. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

**Change of Employment Status**    Ms. Price moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to approve the changes of employment status listed below. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

1. Lora Laverty from Head Custodian to Per Diem Substitute Custodian effective April 30, 2015
2. Shawn Myers from Second Shift Custodian to Head Custodian (Custodian 2, Step 2) to fill a vacancy created by the retirement of Joseph Cannon at an hourly rate of \$12.60 effective April 30, 2015

**Employment**                 Ms. Price moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve the employment of the individuals listed below. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

1. Eric Fisher as a Payroll and Benefits Accountant (Support Staff, Range 1) at an hourly rate of \$19.13 to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Michele Bostdorf effective May 11, 2015
2. Ryan Popp as a Seasonal Maintenance Worker at an hourly rate of \$9.00 effective May 11, 2015

Ms. Price moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to employ the teachers listed below for extended school year services at the hourly rate for extra work compensation in accordance with the Professional Negotiations Agreement. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

1. Robert Brodish

2. Janelle Fenstermaker
3. Pamela Humphreys
4. Robin Wolf
5. Mary Ziltz

Ms. Price moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to employ the paraprofessionals listed below for extended school year services at their hourly rate of compensation. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

1. Susan Gibson
2. Kathleen Moore
3. Christina Mowl
4. Susan Parkhill

Ms. Price moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to employ the teachers listed below for the Elementary Summer School Program funded by Title I at the hourly rate for extra work compensation in accordance with the Professional Negotiations Agreement. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

1. Natalie Cibort
2. Lori D'Amour
3. Mackenzie D'Amour
4. Gail Jones
5. Melissa Kaylor
6. Cynthia McLaughlin
7. Erika Mrakovich
8. Anastasia Neboga
9. Angela Pontius
10. Jenna Riggs
11. Justin Smith

Ms. Price moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to employ Ashley Houseal as a teacher for the Elementary Summer School Program funded by Title III at the hourly rate for extra work compensation in accordance with the Professional Negotiations Agreement. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

Ms. Price moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to employ the teachers listed below for the Middle School Summer School Program at the hourly rate for extra work compensation in accordance with the Professional Negotiations Agreement. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

1. Mary Dougherty

2. Christopher Etter
3. Bronson Ganse
4. Nicole Petrovich

**Academic Affairs  
Committee Report**

Mr. Newton Davis reported for the Academic Affairs Committee.

**Communications**

The minutes from the May 12, 2015 Academic Affairs Committee Meeting were made available as an information item.

**Curriculum**

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to approve the curricula for Spanish I - IV and French I - IV as presented to the Academic Affairs Committee on May 12, 2015. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

Mr. Davis moved and Ms. Price seconded a motion to adopt the textbook titled *The Language of Composition: Reading, Writing and Rhetoric, Second Edition* for use in the Advanced Placement Language and Composition course. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

**Agreements**

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to approve the following agreements. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

1. United Cerebral Palsy to provide Adult Day Services between April 30, 2015 and the end of the school year at a rate of \$4.50 per 15-minute unit plus \$9.91 per session for transportation fees
2. Living Unlimited to provide music therapy services for special education students during the 2015-2016 school year at an estimated total cost of \$14,625
3. Yellow Breeches to provide educational services for two (2) students during the 2015-2016 school year at a tuition cost of \$26,105 per slot and transportation cost of \$5,295 per slot
4. Capital Area Intermediate Unit to provide access to online learning educational services through the Capital Area Online Learning Association at a cost of \$520 per regular course, \$680 for Advanced Placement courses, and \$1,250 administration fee per full-time student

**Contracts**

Mr. Davis moved and Ms. Price seconded a motion to approve the following contracts. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

1. Capital Area Intermediate Unit to provide special education services during the 2015-2016 school year at an estimated cost of \$299,401.72
2. Vista School to provide Extended School Year educational services for six (6) students between July 6, 2015 and August 14, 2015 at a

cost of \$6,570 per student

3. Vista School to provide educational services for four (4) students during the 2015-2016 school year at a cost of \$47,290 per student
4. Vista School to provide educational services for two (2) students using Pennsylvania Department of Education approved private school slots during the 2015-2016 school year at an estimated cost of 40% of the regular tuition rate
5. River Rock Academy to provide alternative education services for ten (10) students during the 2015-2016 school year at a cost of \$20,535 per slot

**Participations**

Mr. Davis moved and Ms. Price seconded a motion to approve the District's participation in the biennial PA Youth Survey (PAYS) in the fall of 2015 for students in Grades 6, 8, 10 and 12. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

**Policies**

**Information Item - Policy #820 (Suicide Awareness, Prevention and Response):** New Policy #820, and its attachment, was presented for first reading. The School Board is required by Act 71 of 2014 and Section 1526 of the Pennsylvania School Code to adopt a policy on this topic by the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year. **(See Attachments)**

**Athletic/Activities Committee Report**

Mr. Michael Richards reported for the Athletics/Activities Committee.

**Communications**

The minutes from the May 14, 2015 Athletics/Activities Committee Meeting were made available as an information item.

**Operations Committee Report**

Mr. Michael Richards reported for the Operations Committee.

**Communications**

The minutes from the May 14, 2015 Operations Committee Meeting were made available as an information item.

**Capital Projects**

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to approve the following change orders. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

1. GC #11 for ECI Construction, LLC to change the scuppers and roof copings finish to the original specification because the finish expected to be available during the post-bid assessment process is not offered as a comparable standard color by the submitted manufacturer at a cost of \$4,278
2. GC #12 for ECI Construction, LLC to change metal panels to the

original specification because the finish expected to be available during the post-bid assessment process is not offered as a comparable standard color by the submitted manufacturer at a cost of \$16,862

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to contract with Crabtree, Rohrbaugh & Associates to provide design, bidding and construction administration services for an upgrade project at War Memorial Field at a cost of \$13,462 to be paid out of the Capital Reserve Fund. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

### **Approvals**

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to approve the following individuals as contracted school bus drivers for the 2014-2015 school year. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

1. Pedro R. Gil-Rosado – Boyo

### **Bids**

Mr. Richards moved and Ms. Price seconded a motion to award bids to the lowest responsible bidders listed below as determined by the Central Pennsylvania Energy Consortium. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

1. B2 SME (Soy Methyl Esters) Biodiesel to PAPCO, Inc. at a firm price per gallon of \$2.0948 including additives for a total budgeted cost of \$60,749.20 for the 2015-2016 school year
2. ULSD (Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel) Dyed to Talley Petroleum Enterprises, Inc. at a firm price per gallon of \$2.2308 for a total budgeted cost of \$1,115.40 for the 2015-2016 school year

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to advertise athletic fields / grounds maintenance & supplies for bid for the 2015-2016 school year. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

### **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 5 to 0. ***(See Attachment)***

### **New Business**

### **Finance Committee**

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to approve an agreement with Wesley United Methodist Church to serve as a site for the District's summer food service program from June 9, 2015 through August 7, 2015. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve a

revision to the operational budget for the summer food service program due to a site addition. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

**Personnel Committee** Ms. Price moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to approve the employment of the individuals listed below. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0.

1. Steve Jumper as a Second Shift Custodian (Custodian 1A) at an hourly rate of \$11.85 to fill a vacancy created by the promotion of Shawn Myers effective May 14, 2015
2. Kehley Jo Cimino as an Elementary Teacher (MAEA Temporary Professional Employee) at the appropriate starting teacher salary (Bachelor's column) to fill a vacancy created by the retirement of Michael Haake effective the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year
3. Julie Killian as a Secondary Math Teacher (MAEA Temporary Professional Employee) at the appropriate starting teacher salary (Bachelor's column) to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Kristina Campbell effective the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year

### **Representatives**

**Capital Area Intermediate Unit** Ms. Layne reported that there is a meeting scheduled for next Thursday. Ms. Layne said the new administrator evaluation form was reviewed with the Executive Director. Ms. Layne reported that she only has two more meetings to attend then someone from Steelton-Highspire School District will assume the shared seat on the CAIU Board.

**Dauphin County Tax Collection Committee** Mr. Franklin reported that there is a meeting scheduled for Wednesday.

**Dauphin County Technical School** Mr. Davis thanked the Board for participating in the vote last month. Mr. Davis reported that the Futures Committee had its final meeting of the year. Mr. Davis thanked Ms. Price and Dr. Suski for their participation and for the time, effort, thought and energy they bring to the planning. Ms. Price added that DCTS Board meetings will be going paperless next year.

**Harrisburg Area Community College** Ms. Layne reported that they have not had a meeting but that she did participate in teleconferences with selected individuals.

**Olmsted Regional** Ms. Layne reported that they will be meeting next week and that she

**Recreation Board**

informed Sue Layton about the new summer food site available for the children served by the Recreation Board programs.

**PSBA Liaison**

Mr. John was not present to report.

**Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Suski reported that the District received approval from the PA Department of Education for the District's Special Education Plan. Dr. Suski thanked Mrs. Krystal Palmer and the members of the Comprehensive Plan subcommittee who worked to develop the plan.

Dr. Suski reported that the District welcomed District Attorney Ed Marsico to both the middle and high schools where he delivered presentations on the dangers of cyberbullying and sexting. Dr. Suski noted that Chief Richard Brandt and School Resource Officer Jon Miller of the Lower Swatara Township Police Department also attended the presentations. Mr. Marsico's presentation focused on what types of messages constitute cyberbullying and the fact that sexting is not just limited to the transmission of explicit photos but also verbiage. Most importantly, the D.A. discussed with students the fact that what they post on social media is out there for the world to see, providing a "record" of the communication that could resurface in ways that can damage students' reputation and even future employment. Mr. Marsico referenced the damage that can be done to peers when forwarding messages to people and shared that some of the collateral damage results in people committing suicide because of the public humiliation they suffer as a result of cyberbullying. Mr. Marsico delineated for students the various crimes associated with sexting which range from summary offenses to misdemeanors. Dr. Suski said that she attended the High School assembly that morning and was very impressed by how attentive the high school students were during the District Attorney's presentation.

Dr. Suski reported that she received a request from David Volkman, Executive Deputy Secretary at PDE, for data regarding the MASD Pathways model on behalf of Governor Wolf for his budget proposal seeking additional funding for college and career readiness. Dr. Suski provided data to Mr. Volkman that was obtained from the District's annual graduation survey showing that since the advent of the Pathways model at the High School, the percentage of graduates accessing post-secondary education has increased from 50% to 96%. Mr. Volkman expressed his appreciation for the data that Dr. Suski shared with him and said that the information was very helpful.

Dr. Suski announced that on May 13 at Reid Elementary School and

upcoming next week on May 26 at Fink Elementary School, the District welcomed and will welcome several gentlemen to read to students as part of the 500 Men Reading event that was unfortunately postponed in early March due to weather. Dr. Suski thanked Ms. Marie Drazenovich for her work in arranging this event and Mr. David Franklin for helping to secure several readers from among District vendors.

Dr. Suski reported that on May 14, Mr. Earl Bright welcomed Mr. Joe Prokopchak, who served as principal of Grandview and Demey Elementary Schools, to Reid Elementary School for a visit. Mr. Prokopchak is now 94 years old and resides in a nursing home. Mr. Prokopchak presented Mr. Bright with a personal copy of an aerial photo of the former elementary school since Mr. Bright was the last principal there before the school was sold to Penn State Harrisburg. Mr. Bright told the Board that he wished to donate the photo to the District since it is a memorable piece of history.

Dr. Suski announced that two student athletes were nominated for the Travers Award – Karlee Deibler and Nathan Ocker. Dr. Suski said that although neither student was the recipient, they are both very worthy candidates who represented Middletown Area High School with pride. Dr. Suski also announced that the District received word that Nathan Ocker was also chosen as the recipient of the Edwin Brunner/Pierce Award. As far as the District is aware, Nathan is the first Middletown student to receive this prestigious award among Mid Penn high schools.

Dr. Suski reported that Mr. King informed Board members at the Athletics/Activities Committee meeting the previous Thursday that Middletown had five student athletes headed to the District 3 Track & Field Championships at Shippensburg University on Friday, May 15. Although each performed well, their results weren't quite enough to qualify for PIAA state competition, but the District would like to congratulate them nonetheless: Brianna Bennett - 35' 1 3/4" in Shot Put; Alexis Ulrich - completed the 100m Dash; Kurt Dey - completed the 200m Dash and 400m Dash; Scott Shaffer - 12'6" and 13' in Pole Vault; Mackenzie Lombardi - 108' in Girls' Javelin

Dr. Suski reported that at the time of the Board meeting the Varsity Baseball team was playing the #1 seed Shippensburg High School in the first round of District 3 playoffs. During the Board meeting, a member of the baseball team arrived for a scheduled recognition and reported that the Raiders had defeated Shippensburg.

Dr. Suski reminded attenders that there would be no school for students the following day as it was a scheduled staff development day. The District was planning a staff appreciation breakfast before the first staff development training session. School Board members were invited to attend the breakfast to extend their gratitude for the work of all teachers and staff.

Dr. Suski announced the following end of school year events:

- Honors Night will be held on Thursday, May 28. A dinner will be held at 5:45 p.m. to honor the top five (5) students in each high school class followed by the program at 7:00 p.m. where thousands of dollars in various scholarships will be awarded to the senior class. Dinner is by invitation only but the program is open to the public.
- Baccalaureate will be held on Sunday, May 31 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.
- There will be several performances of the Middle School Operetta with the final one being prior to the annual Transfer ceremony on Tuesday, June 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Dr. Russell Eppinger Auditorium at MAMS.
- The 136th Commencement will be held at the Forum in Harrisburg on Wednesday, June 3 at 7:30 p.m. where diplomas will be conferred upon the Class of 2015.

Dr. Suski thanked Mr. Franklin for his excellent presentation of the proposed final 2015-2016 budget. She commended Mr. Franklin for his unique ability to take a complex topic such as school finance and explain it in a manner that is easily understood while preserving the integrity of the information. Dr. Suski said that the administration has been working very hard over the last few months to examine every item in the proposed budget literally line by line. She said that the District takes very seriously the charge to present to the Board a balanced budget that is fiscally responsible while continuing to address the ever-changing and growing needs of the student population. Dr. Suski concurred with Mr. Franklin that the administration fully anticipates that there will be even further reductions to the proposed 1.59% tax increase as retirees' salaries are replaced with new hire salaries in the coming month. Dr. Suski said that much is dependent on the Governor's proposed budget and how quickly that will be passed. Dr. Suski confirmed that the District's proposed spending plan was submitted to PDE as required and that the District awaits their feedback by June 15.

**Roundtable**

Ms. Price commented that all the hard work throughout the year comes to fruition in May. Ms. Price congratulated the retirees, students, new hires, and administrators. Ms. Price thanked Mr. Franklin for his work on the budget and acknowledged that it is a difficult job to put a budget together that meets student needs.

Mr. Davis thanked Mr. Franklin, Dr. Suski and administrators. Mr. Davis said that when he talked to Janis Creason she noted being impressed with MASD. Mr. Davis said that every meeting it is nice having students recognized but it was even more personal for him since Georgie Britcher was involved. Mr. Davis said it was great to hire alumnus Kehley Jo Cimino and that it is interesting that she is starting as her mother is ending her career.

Mr. Richards echoed his colleagues.

Mr. Fager congratulated all the students who were recognized and acknowledged Josh Alcock for his 300 point games in bowling. Mr. Fager said he was impressed with the STEM Summit data. Mr. Fager was excited to see that students were not afraid to challenge themselves and were willing to step up in math and science, which shows what kind of teachers we have. Mr. Fager thanked Mr. Franklin for his budget presentation said that people don't understand we have no control over the mandated increases. Mr. Fager reminded everyone about the elections the next day and said he backed his colleagues who are hard workers and have brought things to where they are today.

Ms. Layne echoed her colleagues. She acknowledged Mr. Franklin and Dr. Suski and the administration for working so hard to get the budget where it is. Ms. Layne congratulated the new hires and the retirees. Ms. Layne said she graduated from high school with Georgie Britcher's grandmother so she was excited for Georgie to go abroad. Ms. Layne said it was exciting to see four of our students going abroad.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to adjourn. The vote to approve the motion was 5 to 0. The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m. The Board adjourned into Executive Session to discuss legal and student matters.

ATTEST:

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David A. Franklin, Board Secretary

