

MIDDLETOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
School Board Meeting
September 28, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.
MINUTES

Board Members in attendance: Mike Corradi, Newton Davis, Gordon Einhorn, Melvin Fager, Terry Gilman, Linda Mehaffie, David John, Barbara Layne, and Michael Richards.

Board Members not in attendance: None.

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; Marie Drazenovich, Director of Student Services; Krystal Palmer, Director of Special Education; William Meiser, Director of Operations; Christopher Sattelle, MAMS Assistant Principal; Heidi Zula, Director of Human Resources

District Staff: Josh Bleacher, Susan Davis, Amber Geist, Gail Jones, Zach Kepler, Marianne Moore, Michele Myers, Justin Smith, Jody Zorbaugh

Interested Students and Citizens: Eric Belles, Sims, Cindy and Charity Cooper, Mai Dang, Gregg Davis, Garrett Deyle, Doug Dodson, Jimmy Fitzpatrick, Bruce Hamer, Sandy and Brandon Harper, Samantha Romberger

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.

Ms. Layne reported that the School Board met in Executive Session prior to the Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. to discuss student matters.

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 **Key Club:** Dr. Suski introduced Garrett Deyle and Samantha Romberger. The students reported on the activities of Key Club.

Student Council: Dr. Suski introduced Mai Dang and Jimmy Fitzpatrick. The students reported on the activities of Student Council.

Recognitions Dr. Suski recognized Susan Davis as the MASD 2015 Teacher of the

Year.

Dr. Suski recognized Middletown Area High School's chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America for receiving the Hollis and Kitty Guy Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit. Mrs. Michele Myers, FBLA Advisor and Eric Belles, Charity Cooper, and Brandon Harper, student representatives, came forward to be congratulated by the Board.

Presentations Amber Geist presented her summer teaching experience in Kenya.

Public Comment No one came forward at this time.

Secretary's Report

Minutes Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Gilman seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the August 24, 2015 School Board Meeting. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

Communications Mr. Franklin said the Board Committee Calendar for October 2015 was attached to the agenda.

Treasurer's Report Mr. Einhorn moved and Mr. Gilman seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for August 2015. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0. ***(See Attachment)***

Bill Lists Mr. Einhorn moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve the "**List of Paid Bills**" with totals by fund, as detailed. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0. ***(See Attachment)***

Fund 10 -	General Fund	\$1,708,814.64
Fund 32 -	Capital Reserve Fund	\$693,497.03
Fund 38 -	High School Capital Projects Fund	\$11,029.07
Fund 51 -	Food Service Fund	\$141.05
Fund 59 -	WMSS Radio Station Fund	\$190.27
Fund 72 -	Expendable Trust Fund	\$572.11
Fund 74 -	Nonexpendable Trust Fund	\$150.00
Fund 81 -	Student Activities Fund	\$14.31

Mr. Einhorn 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 9 to 0. ***(See Attachment)***

Fund 10 -	General Fund	\$749,505.32
Fund 32 -	Capital Reserve Fund	\$47,570.12
Fund 38 -	High School Capital Projects Fund	\$1,098,743.86

Fund 51 -	Food Service Fund	\$85,382.92
Fund 59 -	WMSS Radio Station Fund	\$3,008.63
Fund 72 -	Expendable Trust Fund	\$0
Fund 74 -	Nonexpendable Trust Fund	\$0
Fund 81 -	Student Activities Fund	\$2,713.32

Old Business None

Personnel Committee Report Mr. David John reported for the Personnel Committee.

Communications The minutes from the September 8, 2015 Personnel Committee Meeting were made available as an information item.

Resignations Mr. John moved and Mr. Einhorn seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Donlyne Layne, Teacher, effective August 31, 2015. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

Ms. Layne excused herself from the meeting. Mr. John presided over the meeting during Ms. Layne’s absence.

Leave of Absence Request Mr. John moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve child-rearing leave for Bethany Fratus, School Psychologist, beginning October 14, 2015 through the end of the 2015-2016 school year. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

Policies Mr. Einhorn moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to waive Policy #003 requiring a first reading and adopt revisions to Policy #916 (School Volunteers). The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0. **(See Attachment)**

Academic Affairs Committee Report Mr. Newton Davis reported for the Academic Affairs Committee.

Communications The minutes from the September 8, 2015 Academic Affairs Committee Meeting were made available as an information item.

Field Trips **Information Item:** Revisions to Policy #121 (Field Trips) and Policy #122.1 (Co-curricular Activities) were attached for first reading.

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve a Pathways field trip to Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williamsport, PA on Thursday, November 10, 2015 with the District paying for the cost of transportation and one substitute teacher. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

Resignations

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Llewellyn Skees as MAMS Social Studies Department Chairperson effective the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

Ms. Layne rejoined the meeting. Mr. John turned the meeting over to Ms. Layne.

Employment

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve Christopher Etter as the MAMS Social Studies Department Chairperson for the 2015-2016 school year at a stipend of \$1,785 due to the resignation of Llewellyn Skees. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve the students listed below for the Work Experience Program with the Red Lion Hotel for the 2015-2016 school year at a rate of \$7.25 per hour. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

1. Brianna Griesemer
2. Zachary Hammaker
3. Toni Hiester
4. Jordina Hughes
5. Kristina Hutson
6. Ellen Perez

Agreements

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve an agreement with Living Unlimited to provide music therapy services for special education students during the 2015-2016 school year at a budgeted cost of \$130 per 60 minute session or \$65 per 30 minute session with a maximum cost of \$1,040 per month. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

School Calendar

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve an early dismissal for students in Grades 9, 10, and 11 on Friday, February 26, 2016 so that seniors may present their Career Action Plans. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

Student Matters

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Einhorn seconded a motion to waive the notification and minimum age criteria of Policy #239 (Foreign Exchange Students) and accept a foreign exchange student at Middletown Area High School for the 2015-2016 school year. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

Policies	<p>Information Item: Revisions to the following policies were presented for first reading.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Policy #102 (Academic Standards) 2. Policy #103 (Nondiscrimination in School and Classroom Practices) 3. Policy #103.1 (Qualified Students with Disabilities) 4. Policy #104 (Nondiscrimination in Employment and Contract Practices) with Attachment 5. Policy #105 (Curriculum) 6. Policy #105.1 (Review of Instructional Materials by Parents, Guardians and Students) 7. Policy #105.2 (Exemption from Instruction) 8. Policy #106 (Guides for Planned Instruction) 9. Policy #107 (Adoption of Planned Instruction) 10. Policy #108 (Adoption of Textbooks) 11. Policy #109 (Resource Materials) 12. Policy #110 (Instructional Supplies) 13. Policy #111 (Lesson Plans)
<i>Athletic/Activities Committee Report</i>	Mr. Terry Gilman reported for the Athletics/Activities Committee.
Communications	The minutes from the September 10, 2015 Athletics/Activities Committee Meeting were made available as an information item.
Resignations	Mr. Gilman moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Llewellyn Skees as the Middle School Youth and Government Advisor effective the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.
Agreements	Mr. Gilman moved and Mr. John seconded a motion to approve a change to the performing arts salary schedule and move the Operetta Director position from Group F to Group B and the Assistant Operetta Director position from Group J to Group D for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 school years. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0. <i>(See Attachments)</i>
Employments	Mr. Gilman moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve the employment of the individuals or volunteers listed on the attachments to the agenda as co-curricular and extra-curricular personnel for the 2015-2016 school year at the stipends listed. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0. <i>(See Attachments)</i>
Equipment Purchases	Mr. Gilman moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to approve the

purchase of a replacement baseball pitching machine from Grand Slam USA at a cost of \$1,940. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

Mr. Gilman moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve the purchase of a banner from SBH Awards recognizing the accomplishments of the bowling team during the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 school years at a cost of \$130.00. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

Policies

Information Item: Revisions to Policy #122 (Extra-curricular Activities) were attached for first reading.

**Operations
Committee Report**

Mr. Michael Richards reported for the Operations Committee.

Communications

The minutes from the September 10, 2015 Operations Committee Meeting were made available as an information item.

Capital Projects

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve the following change orders. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

1. GC #17 to ECI Construction LLC for volleyball sleeve relocation at a cost of \$377.50 and aluminum hardware prep at a cost of \$643.00
2. SC #17 to York Excavating Co LLC for the cost of the water line run to the maintenance building being less than the not to exceed quote at a deduct of \$7,490.67
3. PC #5 to Jay R. Reynolds Inc to relocate de-ionizing system at a cost of \$304.00

Use of Facilities

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Gilman seconded a motion to add the following organizations to the Facility Use Category List as Category 2 organizations. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

1. Girls' Volleyball - MAMS Program
2. Middletown Youth Field Hockey

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. John seconded a motion to approve the use of facilities on the listing attached to the agenda. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0. **(See Attachment)**

Agreements

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Einhorn seconded a motion to approve the annual maintenance agreements with Automated Logic for the direct digital control systems at Fink Elementary School and Middletown Area Middle School at the budgeted costs of \$6,210 and \$9,150, respectively. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

Approvals Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve the following individuals as contracted school bus drivers for the 2015-2016 school year. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

1. Jodi Lynne Brookes (First Student)
2. Gwendolyn Marie Glover (First Student)

Finance Committee Report Mr. Gordon Einhorn reported for the Finance Committee.

Communications The minutes from the September 15, 2015 Finance Committee Meeting were made available as an information item.

Agreements Mr. Einhorn moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to approve an agreement with Capital Area Intermediate Unit to provide nonpublic Title I services during the 2015-2016 school year at a cost of \$12,748.89 using the per pupil allocation of Title I federal funds. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

Mr. Einhorn moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to approve the professional negotiations agreement with Middletown Area Education Association for the 2015-2016, 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0. **(See Attachment)**

Approvals Mr. Einhorn moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve the payment of only the net employer share of contributions to the Public School Employees' Retirement System (PSERS) during the budget impasse since the Commonwealth has not provided its share for remittance. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

New Business

Personnel Committee Mr. John moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to change the employment status of Deanna Reitz from Administrative Assistant to the Director of Operations (Support Staff, Range 2) to Maintenance Supervisor (Exempt Managerial Support Staff) at a pro-rated annual salary of \$60,000 effective September 14, 2015. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

Mr. John moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve the employment of the following individuals subject to submission of all required disclosures and clearances. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

1. Ilse Ferreras as a Second Shift Custodian (MAESPA Custodian 1A) at an hourly rate of \$12.20 to fill a vacancy created by the change of employment status of Steven Jumper effective October 5, 2015
2. Atef Abdelmalak as an Instructional Aide (Support Staff, Range 5) at an hourly rate of \$12.34 to fill a new position created to comply with IEP requirements to provide 1:1 services effective on or before October 13, 2015
3. Jamie Fulmer as an Instructional Aide (Support Staff, Range 5) at an hourly rate of \$12.06 to fill a new position created to comply with IEP requirements to provide 1:1 services effective October 19, 2015

Mr. John moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve the individuals on the listing attached to the agenda as volunteers for the 2015-2016 school year. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0. **(See Attachment)**

**Academic Affairs
Committee**

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. John seconded a motion to approve an agreement with Elizabethtown College for the operation of a dual enrollment program through June 30, 2017. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Einhorn seconded a motion to approve a Waiver of Expulsion Hearing Agreement for student 15-16-001. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

**Athletics/Activities
Committee**

Mr. Gilman moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to change the employment status of Stacey Miller from Ski Club Advisor to Ski Club Co-Advisor at a pro-rated stipend of \$257.50 for the 2015-2016 school year. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

Mr. Gilman moved and Mr. Richards seconded a motion to approve the employment of the individuals listed on the attachments to the agenda as co-curricular and extra-curricular personnel for the 2015-2016 school year at the stipends listed. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0. **(See Attachments)**

Mr. Gilman moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to approve the employment of the individuals listed on the attachment to the agenda as Athletic Game Workers for the 2015-2016 school year. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0. **(See Attachment)**

**Operations
Committee**

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve the following individuals as contracted school bus drivers for the 2015-2016 school year. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

1. Deanne Lynn Cherry (Boyo)
2. Shenita Marie Morrison (Boyo)
3. Tamara R. Robinson (Boyo)
4. Desmond Vernon Thomas (Boyo)

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Gilman seconded a motion to approve the use of facilities on the listing attached to the agenda. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0. ***(See Attachment)***

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to contract with York Excavating to perform curbing/pavement repairs at the MAMS retaining wall at a time and material cost not to exceed \$1,000. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0.

Representatives

Capital Area Intermediate Unit

Steelton Highspire School District currently holds the shared representative seat with Middletown. The Board Highlights were attached.

Dauphin County Tax Collection Committee

Mr. Franklin noted that the May minutes were attached.

Dauphin County Technical School

Mr. Davis reported that the Dental Assistant program is on track to launch at the start of the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Davis noted that the Board Blast was not available and said that he would look into why DCTS had not provided it.

Harrisburg Area Community College

Ms. Layne said that they are working on a date for their next meeting.

Olmsted Regional Recreation Board

Ms. Layne reported that there had not been a quorum at their last few meetings so there was nothing to report.

PSBA Liaison

Mr. John reported that he and Ms. Layne will be representing MASD at the PSBA Legislative Assembly on October 13, 2015. Mr. John reported that he has been out of the country but that there was no progress on the state budget during his absence. Mr. John said that the legislators and governor are still at an impasse but hopes that the state will act soon to take care of funding organizations that are in need of funds.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Suski thanked the School Board members who served on the committee that negotiated the new collective bargaining agreement with the professional staff: Gordon Einhorn, Mike Richards, Terry

Gilman, and Pamela Price. Dr. Suski thanked Mr. Franklin for serving as the lead negotiator and Ms. Zula for her work in developing contract language. Dr. Suski also acknowledged Justin Smith, President of MAEA, who was seated in the audience, and the MAEA negotiating team for bargaining in good faith to settle a fair agreement.

Dr. Suski reminded the School Board members of the invitation to attend the MAHS Pathways Committee “Pathway Partner Kickoff Breakfast” on Friday, October 16, 2015 which will be held in the High School cafeteria from 7:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Dr. Suski informed the Board that this year’s breakfast, which is sponsored by The Blue and Gold Club, will include the results of the epidemiology student research studies through a summary presentation and a gallery walk. Dr. Suski said that teachers will also be highlighting student activities taking place throughout the school year and that there will be an open discussion and brainstorming session focused on the recommendation of changes to the MAHS curriculum to meet the needs of the ever-changing work force. Dr. Suski noted that the High School Pathways Committee will be seeking ideas for what courses may need to be added or modified to meet the continued needs of post-secondary education and workforce development.

Dr. Suski announced that a team of administrators participated in the first session of the newly formed South Central PA Consortium for Excellence & Equity on September 19. The consortium consisted of 18 school districts within IU #13 and IU #15. The mission of the consortium is to positively transform the lives of each and every one of our students by preparing them for success in post-secondary education and in life – especially our diverse children and youth who have traditionally struggled academically in our systems, or who might likely be the first in their family to attend and graduate from college. The focus of the opening session was organizing for excellence through equity, building district and school capacities to nurture the success of all students, and was facilitated by Dr. Robert Jarvis of the Penn Center for Educational Leadership at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Jarvis presented demographic data to reflect the increase in poverty across the South Central PA region over the past 15 years. As of September 16, 2015, MASD’s free and reduced lunch population has reached 51.3% District-wide. Many neighboring districts have also seen significant growth in their poverty levels. Workshop participants were asked how each school district has responded to the increase in poverty and what districts need to do more of, less of, or differently to meet the needs of the population. The workshop focused on the key

leadership tasks that are necessary to build a culture of excellence: looking at policies and practices as a District through an equity lens, dealing effectively with resistance to change, allocating resources and providing appropriate levels of support to help teachers better support children so that despite any poverty disadvantages, students can graduate equipped with the skills and knowledge necessary to be successful in post-secondary education and the workforce. Dr. Suski noted that the Comprehensive Plan will address the possible integration of equity goals as part of the upcoming three-year plan which is effective July 1, 2016.

Dr. Suski announced that the PA Department of Education recently informed school districts that School Performance Profile (SPP) scores would only be calculated for buildings that house Grade 11 for 2015, which includes only the High School. The elementary schools and middle school would not have a SPP score this year due to the significant change in the PSSA tests, resulting from a shift to the PA Core Standards and the inability to compare previous years' test scores to the 2015 test scores. However, PSSA scores are still planned to be publicly posted on the PDE website on September 29. A preview of School Performance Profile (SPP) was scheduled for release to superintendents on September 25 but was delayed by the Department at the close of business on Friday with an email to superintendents stating that it is important that the School Performance Profile contain accurate data. As such, the Department said that additional time will be used to confirm the veracity of recently received data as well as subsequent calculations. Additional communication will be forthcoming with an updated timeline and instructions. The PSSA scores will serve as a new baseline for future years' reporting. Dr. Suski indicated that she and Mr. DiCello would be doing a formal presentation of the 2015 state testing data in conjunction with the presentation of the Comprehensive Plan at the October School Board meeting.

Dr. Suski announced that the fall sports teams are off to a great start! As of September 26, Football is 3-1 and ranked 7th in District 3; Girls' Soccer is 5-2 and ranked 7th in District 3, and Boys' Soccer is 5-1 and ranked 6th in District 3. Dr. Suski announced the Homecoming events scheduled for Saturday, October 24 beginning with the annual Homecoming Parade at 11:30 a.m. and football game vs. Palmyra at 2:00 p.m. at War Memorial Field. The alumni banquet will be held at the American Legion following the football game. This year tours of the current High School facility are planned for Friday evening and Saturday morning for any alumni or community members who wish to walk

through the school one last time before the demolition scheduled for June 2016. The District will be advertising information regarding tours in the next few weeks.

There is no school for students or teachers on Monday, October 12, in observance of the Columbus Day holiday. All offices will be open.

Roundtable

Mr. Gilman had no comments.

Mrs. Mehaffie had no comments.

Mr. Davis congratulated Susan Davis. Mr. Davis commented on PDE's changes to PSSA testing. Mr. Davis noted that he has attended a number of recent sporting events and said he was very impressed with the positive attitudes and good performances of our coaches and athletes. Mr. Davis commended Mr. Justin Smith for his involvement in the boys' running program.

Mr. Richards had nothing to comment.

Mr. Fager thanked the Red Lion Hotel for continuing the work program for our students, which began when it was under the management of the Holiday Inn.

Mr. Corradi had no comments.

Mr. Einhorn had no comments.

Mr. John thanked all those who were involved in both sides of the negotiations. Mr. John congratulated Susan Davis and thanked Amber Geist.

Ms. Layne had no comments.

Adjournment

Mr. Richards moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to adjourn. The vote to approve the motion was 9 to 0. The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

ATTEST:

David A. Franklin, Board Secretary