

**MIDDLETOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHOOL BOARD GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING**

November 20, 2018

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**Board Members in attendance:** Mike Corradi, Melvin Fager, Jr., Dr. Julie Gomboc-Turyan, Dr. Brian Keating, Christopher Lupp, Linda Mehaffie, Darnell Montgomery, John Ponnett, Jr.

**Board Members not in attendance:** Jennifer Scott

**Staff/Public in attendance:**

**District Administration:** Dr. Lori Suski, Superintendent of Schools; David Franklin, Chief Financial Officer/Board Secretary; Dr. Chelton Hunter, Assistant to the Superintendent; Daniel Borrelli, Kunkel Elementary Principal; William Meiser, Director of Operations; Christine Mostoller, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Brett Myers, MAHS Assistant Principal; Cliff Smith, Athletic Director; Heidi Zula, Director of Human Resources

**District Staff:** Josh Bleacher, Eric Fisher, Brian Keyser, Sierra Lenker, Lori Miller

**Candidates for Employment or Approval:** none

**Interested Students and Citizens:** Starlita Bolinger; Maureen Denis; David Horn, Architerra; Sheila and Terrance Jefferson; Steve Leedy; Dan Magaro; Timothy Nevil; Mary Shenk; Tim Starliper; Monique Valentin; Jay & Carol Wilsbach; John Wilsbach

**Reporter:** Dan Miller

**1. Call to Order**

Mrs. Mehaffie called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in the Large Group Instruction Room of the Middletown Area High School. Mrs. Mehaffie asked those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent meditation.

Mrs. Mehaffie announced the School Board met in Executive Session prior to the School Board meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. to discuss labor negotiations.

**2. Roll Call**

Mrs. Mehaffie asked the Secretary, David Franklin, to call the roll. A quorum was present as noted above.

**3. Student Representatives**

**a. Key Club**

No representatives were present from the Key Club.

**b. Student Council**

No representatives were present from the Student Council.

**4. Recognitions**

**a. WMSS 40th Anniversary**

Dr. Suski noted this year WMSS is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Dr. Suski recognized John

Wilsbach, WMSS General Manager, and asked him to introduce the guests in attendance. Mr. Wilsbach introduced student leaders Terrance Jefferson and Timothy Nevil; faculty advisor Brian Keyser; WMSS engineer Tim Starliper; Steve Leedy; Dan Magaro; and retired faculty advisor Maureen Denis. Mr. Wilsbach also noted his parents were in the audience. Mr. Wilsbach provided an historical background on the birth of WMSS. Mr. Wilsbach said two teachers approached the School Board in 1977 with the idea of starting a student-run radio station. Mr. Wilsbach said the teachers read an article about another school district with a radio station and thought that was a great idea. Mr. Wilsbach said the School Board took a leap of faith at that time and the District has benefited from the station's existence. Mr. Wilsbach said on average 30-35 students participate in the operation of the radio station each year. Mr. Wilsbach noted there have been students that have pursued careers in communications as a result of the radio station. Mr. Wilsbach noted other students did not pursue a career in communications, but benefited by helping them "get out of their shell." Mr. Wilsbach thanked the School Board for their continued support of the radio station.

**b. Rotary Students of the Month**

Dr. Suski introduced the November Rotary Students of the Month Hannah Wilsbach and Terrance Jefferson. Dr. Suski said Hannah Wilsbach was unable to attend the meeting and noted she selected Head Volleyball Coach Lisa Huber as the educator who had most influenced her school career. Terrance selected Mrs. Lynn Fallinger as the educator who had most influenced his school career. Coach Huber and Mrs. Fallinger were unable to attend the meeting. Terrance came forward to be congratulated by the Board members.

**5. Candidates for Employment or Approval**

There were no candidates for employment or approval in attendance.

**6. Presentations**

**a. Turf Field Planning Update**

Dr. Suski introduced Dave Horn, Architerra, to provide an update on turf field planning options. Mr. Horn noted he amended the presentation earlier today to include information on field usage. Mr. Horn said the discussion tonight would involve two locations under consideration for a turf field – Fields 3 & 4 in front of the High School and War Memorial Field. Mr. Horn said he will provide information on different degrees of implementation, including a minimum effort scenario for each field and a menu of potential items that could be selected beyond the minimum effort version that could still result in a reduced scope from the version presented in March 2018. Mr. Horn described the proposed playing surface – 1x12 flat drainage pipes followed by 6 inches of clean ½ inch – ¾ inch stone then topped with 2 inches of a smaller stone followed by the geotextile fabric. Mr. Horn said the infiltration testing results for fields 3 & 4 indicate the storm water can be managed under the field without the need for an irrigation system. Mr. Horn said he has allowed for a generous amount of stone under the field should the worst case scenario occur. Mr. Horn reviewed the design presented in March 2018 for a turf stadium on fields 3 & 4 as part of the master facility study. Mr. Horn noted subsequent to that presentation an initial meeting was held with Lower Swatara Township and the Township will not require the additional parking that was anticipated as long as the District can continue to

demonstrate effectiveness with its current parking strategy. Mr. Horn noted the design presented in March included two support buildings for public restrooms, concessions, team rooms, press box and storage as well as field lighting. Mr. Horn said the cost estimated in March 2018 was approximately \$3.27 million with an additional cost of \$315,000 for parking at Field 5 and \$217,000 for parking at Field 7. Mr. Horn noted the additional parking is not required. Mr. Horn then reviewed a minimum effort scenario. Mr. Horn said the size is the same and allows for play for soccer, field hockey and football. Mr. Horn noted the field size would also accommodate lacrosse should that ever be desired. Mr. Horn said the minimum effort includes a new scoreboard, perimeter fencing and empty conduit to facilitate the addition of field lighting at a later time. Mr. Horn said the cost for the minimum effort field would be approximately \$1.56 million. Mr. Horn reviewed the menu of items that could be added to a minimum effort scenario. Mr. Horn reviewed the information presented in December 2017 as part of the master facility plan development for renovation at War Memorial Field with a wider synthetic turf field, new fieldhouse, additional restrooms with a potential for end zone seating and a game management structure. Mr. Horn said the estimated cost for this project was approximately \$2.29 million. Mr. Horn reviewed a minimum effort scenario for War Memorial Field that just placed synthetic turf on the field from bleacher to bleacher in order to get the desired field width. Mr. Horn said the cost of the minimum effort field would be approximately \$1.28 million. Mr. Horn noted there is a menu of options that could be added to the minimum effort scenario. Mr. Horn compared the costs per hour of use for fields 3 & 4 as a natural grass field vs. synthetic turf field at \$178.99 vs. \$73.42. Mr. Horn noted the number of events for the comparison is 202 events for a natural grass field vs. 761 events for a synthetic turf field. Mr. Horn noted a natural grass turf field can really only accommodate 55-65 events per year before it degenerates, but the District's past use has been 202 events. Mr. Horn said the synthetic turf field allows for expanded use beyond what has previously occurred. Mr. Horn reviewed the same information for War Memorial Field - \$196.62 cost per hour for natural grass for 128.5 events vs. \$104.23 cost per hour for synthetic turf for 524.5 events. Mr. Horn noted not as many events are possible on War Memorial Field because of its location off the campus and the need for transportation to the field.

Dr. Gomboc-Turyan questioned the benefit of the padding under the turf field since it is listed as optional and has a price in excess of \$96,000. Mr. Horn said the padding provides additional safety. Mr. Horn said more and more schools are adding the padding when constructing new fields.

Dr. Suski asked Mr. Horn to expound upon the infiltration testing results on fields 3 & 4 that were reviewed by Mr. Meiser at a previous meeting. Mr. Horn said 8 tests of the ultimate 16 tests were conducted during the wettest time of the year. Mr. Horn said there was a variety of infiltration rates from  $\frac{1}{4}$ " per hour (which is not good) to 10" per hour (aggressive). Mr. Horn said when the highs and lows are thrown out, the mean was  $\frac{1}{2}$ " per hour, which is a good threshold to indicate storm water can be managed under the field. Mr. Horn said the question will then be how deep to build the "bath tub" under the field that will hold the storm water. Mr. Horn said there won't be storm water run-off from the field; it will be storm water run-through.

Mr. Horn said similar infiltration results occurred at a school in Philadelphia and storm water was managed with 24 inches of stone. Mr. Horn said between the stones there is air, which can accommodate the storm water. Mr. Horn said this allows for a slow release of the water. Mr. Horn noted it is not permissible to discharge water from the project site faster than it currently discharges now.

Mr. Ponnett said he was the Board member that requested the additional information on field use. Mr. Ponnett asked whether either scenario puts the District at risk of not addressing the problem at hand of current field use. Mr. Horn said overuse needs are best managed by putting turf at fields 3 & 4 because more events can be placed on that field. Mr. Horn said putting turf on War Memorial Field is a close second in providing resolution because it currently has some of the amenities that would be desired – lighting, seating, restrooms, concessions... Mr. Horn said the downside of the War Memorial Field option is the students are not located on that site so there is always a need to bus students to the field. Mr. Horn said he believes there is greater value from placing synthetic turf on fields 3 & 4.

Mr. Montgomery questioned whether the current overuse of War Memorial Field is addressed by putting synthetic turf on fields 3 & 4. Mr. Horn confirmed the current overuse on War Memorial Field is addressed because the high community use currently occurring on War Memorial Field can be moved to fields 3 & 4 as well as the movement of some sports from War Memorial Field to fields 3 & 4.

Mr. Fager pointed out there may be a reduced need for supplemental athletic training services if most of the sports are on the campus.

Mr. Corradi noted having the field on the campus would allow athletic teams to use the field not only during their playing season but also for out-of-season practice. Mr. Corradi said physical education classes could also use the turf field if it is located on the campus. Mr. Horn concurred with Mr. Corradi and said at Lampeter Strasburg SD they put black lines on their turf field of a similar size that mimic the baselines for baseball and softball. Mr. Horn noted the early weeks of the spring season can be brutal with weather and this could afford an alternate practice site for baseball and softball.

Dr. Keating commented about the benefit of having the synthetic turf field at the High School because it allows for two different venues of play if the natural grass field is retained at War Memorial Field.

Dr. Gomboc-Turyan asked if the District has a software program to manage the use of the fields. Mr. Smith confirmed the District has facility use software and he would also collaborate with the new MARA supervisor regarding the use of the fields between District needs and community needs.

Mr. Montgomery asked about the height of the perimeter fence. Mr. Horn said the

specifications may have been at a minimum of 4 feet. Mr. Horn said typically 6 or 8 feet fencing might be used. Mr. Montgomery said if the fence is only 4 foot, then you would want to look at netting if the field is used for soccer. Mr. Montgomery indicated he asked the question because he was concerned we not repeat the practice of costing things down and then having a sense of regret when the District realizes the reduced scope does not truly meet its needs. Mr. Montgomery drew a parallel to the situation that occurred with acoustics in the High School Auditorium. Mr. Montgomery said he thinks if we are going to do the project, we need to do it "right." Mr. Corradi asked whether other school districts have found the need to have netting. Mr. Horn said at Lampeter Strasburg they did not add netting because the perimeter fence was far enough back.

Mrs. Mehaffie asked whether the proposal provided by Architerra in June for their services was based upon the full scope project for fields 3 & 4. Mr. Horn said the proposal was for everything on fields 3 & 4. Mr. Horn said he would like to revise his proposal, but first needs to know which site and the scope. Mr. Horn said there would be some significant savings in his proposal if certain items from the menu were not selected as they might eliminate the need for architect services or an electrical engineer. Mr. Horn said he could revise a proposal in just a few days.

Dr. Keating asked Mr. Smith what he would recommend. Mr. Smith said he agrees with placing the turf field in front of the High School and thought it would work to mimic what Hershey High School did at their site. Mr. Smith said that field is more bare bones, but it is tastefully done. Mr. Smith said potentially you don't build two buildings for locker room space, don't build a giant press box, maybe just have two sections of bleachers... Mr. Smith said he does think it does need lights to provide ability for functions outside of daylight hours. Mr. Meiser pointed out that if the scope is reduced it might be beneficial to put in the utility rough-ins now for future installation of structures at a later date. Mr. Fager said he doesn't like that idea because it's doing things half-way like we've done at times in the past.

Mr. Corradi asked if everyone was in agreement the site should be fields 3 & 4 as originally proposed in the spring. Mrs. Mehaffie suggested the conversation be continued later on the agenda after public comment.

## **7. Public Comment**

Mary Shenk, 224 Strasburg Street, said she was here last month about an issue with the fire lane at Kunkel Elementary School. Ms. Shenk said this month there was a different incident at Fink Elementary School and a toddler almost engaged a parked car into drive that was parked in the fire lane. Ms. Shenk said she is putting everyone on notice she has hired an attorney and something needs to be done about the fire lane safety hazards.

Dr. Suski said she spoke with the police, codes enforcement officer and the fire department and has information to share later during the meeting with some options for the School Board's consideration. Dr. Suski indicated the fire chief said the solution is not simple because of the way the building is laid out. Dr. Suski invited Ms. Shenk to stay for the discussion that will occur.

## 8. Secretary's Report

### a. Minutes

Mr. Fager moved and Dr. Gomboc-Turyan seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2018 School Board Agenda Planning Meeting. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

### b. Communications

Mr. Franklin stated the meeting calendar for December 2018 was attached to the agenda. Mr. Franklin specifically noted there was a Special School Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 28 at Kunkel Elementary School. Mr. Franklin also said the first meeting of the Middletown Area Recreation Alliance Advisory Board would be Thursday, November 29.

Mr. Franklin said a draft meeting calendar for 2019 was attached to the agenda. Mr. Franklin said the calendar should be approved at the Reorganization Meeting scheduled for December 4 and asked the School Board to review the calendar and offer any feedback on changes requested. Mr. Franklin noted meetings are generally on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of each month; however, that is not always the case due to holidays or event conflicts.

## 9. Treasurer's Report

### a. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Lupp moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for October 2018 as presented. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0. **(See Attachment)**

### b. Paid Bills

Mr. Lupp moved and Mr. Fager seconded a motion to approve the Paid Bills with totals by fund as detailed. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0. **(See Attachment)**

Fund 10, General Fund - \$400,729.90

Fund 32, Capital Reserve Fund - \$0

Fund 38, High School Capital Projects Fund - \$0

Fund 51, Food Service Fund - \$0

Fund 57, MARA Fund - \$0

Fund 59, WMSS Radio Station Fund - \$0

Fund 72, Expendable Trust Fund - \$0

Fund 74, Nonexpendable Trust Fund - \$0

Fund 81, Student Activities Fund - \$0

### c. Unpaid Bills

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

Fund 10, General Fund - \$553,710.45

Fund 32, Capital Reserve Fund - \$259,850.18

Fund 38, High School Capital Projects Fund - \$0

Fund 51, Food Service Fund - \$136,136.26

Fund 57, MARA Fund - \$0  
Fund 59, WMSS Radio Station Fund - \$2,573.39  
Fund 72, Expendable Trust Fund - \$0  
Fund 74, Nonexpendable Trust Fund - \$0  
Fund 81, Student Activities Fund - \$1,612.33

## 10. Unfinished Business

### a. Turf Field

**Discussion Item / Possible Action Item:** Mr. Corradi said he believes the most feasible, financial, sound spot for the turf field is at fields 3 & 4. Mr. Lupp asked whether this was financially feasible. Mr. Franklin said there is approximately \$4.3 million in the capital reserve fund that has been not earmarked for other projects, so the District does have the funds to proceed with a turf field project costing approximately \$3.2 million. Mr. Franklin noted the capital reserve fund would then only have approximately \$1.0 million that is not earmarked. Mr. Franklin said he and Dr. Suski had a conversation with Ken Phillips yesterday regarding the projects being considered by the School Board. Mr. Franklin said when Mr. Phillips presented borrowing information to the School Board in August the amounts being considered would have been sufficient to fund an elementary project and the turf field. Mr. Franklin said Mr. Phillips recommended the District consider adopting a reimbursement resolution which would allow the proceeds of a future borrowing to replenish the amount spent by the District toward the project. Mr. Franklin said adoption of the resolution does not require the District to reimburse the capital reserve fund, but allows for that potential should it become necessary. Mr. Franklin said there is a timing of when the resolution must be adopted in relation to when funds begin to be spent for a project. Mr. Ponnett asked whether the capital reserve funds were intended to be used for an elementary project. Mr. Franklin said the potential was to use the funds not to fund the project but to fund debt service required for the project until capacity exists within the general fund budget. Mr. Ponnett questioned whether a tax increase would be associated with the turf field project. Mr. Franklin said if there was no potential elementary project, then it would have been possible to not have a tax increase if capital reserve funds were allowed to drop very low; however, because the totality of projects being considered will necessitate a tax increase it is appropriate to state the tax increase is also due to the turf field project. Dr. Suski said Mr. Phillips encouraged starting to phase-in the mills required for a project in the upcoming year as opposed to waiting for the 2021-2022 year. Mr. Franklin said spreading the phase-in of mills over 8 years instead of 6 would reduce the increase required each year. Mr. Lupp said he doesn't think we need all of the items in the project as presented in the spring. Mr. Fager said he is concerned about all of the times when we've done things halfway and then regret it. Mr. Fager says he thinks if we're going to do the project, then we need to do it "right." Mr. Lupp was asked what he would remove and said he would align it more to the stadium at Hershey and that could mean taking out some of the seating. Mr. Fager said the cost for the minimum effort project was \$1.56 million and if you add the lights the cost increases by \$300,000. Mr. Fager said the full scope of the project is \$3.26 million. Mr. Ponnett said he agrees fields 3 & 4 are the right site for the field, but also agrees with Mr. Lupp in regard to looking at the cost of the project. Mr. Ponnett says he believes doing it right applies to issues of safety, but he is not certain doing

it right requires items like support buildings, ornamental fencing, landscaping... Mr. Fager said the support building allows for storage of items that are needed to support the field. Mr. Ponnnett said he just thinks there are some items we can pick and choose in order to be more responsible to the taxpayers. Mr. Lupp and Mr. Fager both agreed with Mr. Ponnnett. Mr. Horn explained the difference between ornamental fencing and regular fencing. Mrs. Mehaffie asked how the two support buildings would be used. Mr. Horn said the buildings are like the equivalent of a two car garage for storage, restrooms, concessions, and team rooms. There was discussion about whether it would be more efficient to consolidate the structure needs into just one building. Consensus was reached about the site of the turf project at fields 3 & 4. Mr. Horn said it sounds like the scope is similar to what was presented in the spring and would modify the fee based upon that understanding. Dr. Keating asked whether it would be beneficial for the steering committee to meet again and refine the menu options to be selected since the full scope isn't deemed needed by all Board members and the bare bones option is also not desired. Mr. Horn suggested there are two types of costs that are part of the project – construction and consultant costs. Mr. Horn said some of the items that might be eliminated from the project such as landscaping and ornamental fencing would not have a significant impact on the consultant cost. Mr. Horn said he can provide a revised consultant cost and then the true scope of the project would be determined during schematic design. Mr. Horn said if there is a need to later amend the cost of the consultant portion that can occur. Mr. Horn said some of the questionable items could be bid as alternates so flexibility could occur when bids are received. Mr. Horn reiterated the timing of the project is to solicit bids next fall. Mr. Corradi asked why the project could not be bid earlier. Mr. Horn said the permitting and approval process will take time – as well as the design and that drives the best timing being next fall. Dr. Suski noted the timeline hasn't changed and bids were always intended to be solicited in the fall of 2019 with the field being ready for use at the start of the 2020 athletic season. Mr. Horn concurred. Dr. Suski also noted the NPDES permit needs to be closed out. Mr. Meiser provided a status update on the permit indicating the District is waiting on answers from Dauphin County and the Department of Environmental Protection. Dr. Suski said the other item that needs to be discussed is to how we are going to resolve field use in 2019. Dr. Suski said there had been some discussion about whether to reconsider use of field 14 and something will need to be done to repair War Memorial Field. Mr. Corradi asked what the potential cost might be to repair War Memorial Field. Mr. Meiser estimated resodding might cost approximately \$60,000. Mr. Corradi asked about other maintenance costs. Mr. Meiser said he didn't have the information available.

Mr. Montgomery moved and Dr. Keating seconded a motion to direct Architerra to refine their consultant proposal for a turf field project on fields 3 & 4 with the intent to refine the scope during schematic design and determine items to be bid as alternate items. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

## **11. Consent Agenda**

Mrs. Mehaffie moved and Mr. Lupp seconded a motion to approve the items included on the Consent Agenda. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

### **a. Personnel: Resignation**

Accept resignation of Judith Medina as a Substitute Custodian effective November 1, 2018.

**b. Personnel: Volunteers**

Approve the following individuals to serve as District Volunteers for the 2018-2019 school year as recommended by the Administration:

1. Kristen McLaughlin
2. Virginia Streckewald
3. Heather Wakefield

**c. Academic Affairs: Field Trips**

Approve a field trip for the 5th grade class to Philadelphia, PA tentatively scheduled for May 13, 2019.

**d. Operations: Use of Facilities**

Approve the facility use requests on the listing attached to the agenda. *(See Attachment)*

**e. Operations: Supplemental Snow Removal Services**

Approve York Excavating Company, LLC to provide supplemental snow removal services for the 2018-2019 winter season at the rates on the attachment to the agenda. *(See Attachment)*

**f. Finance: Repository Bids**

Accept the repository bids for the following parcels:

1. Parcel 36-004-057-029-0084 (29 Michael Drive) - bid of \$500 by Jimmy Leger
2. Parcel 41-016-064-000-0000 (243 Ann Street) - bid of \$500 by Jason Shelbaker

**12. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

There were no items removed from the Consent Agenda for separate approval.

**13. New Business**

**a. Personnel: Retirement**

Mr. Lupp moved and Mr. Montgomery seconded a motion to approve the retirement of Kathleen Weltmer, Instructional Aide (High School) effective December 31, 2018. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**b. Personnel: Employment**

Mr. Lupp moved and Mr. Montgomery seconded a motion to approve the employment of Isaac Noon as a Part-Time Non-Instructional Aide (Study Hall Monitor) at an hourly rate of \$10.75 to fill a vacancy created by the reassignment of Catherine Judy effective November 19, 2018 as recommended by the Administration, subject to submission of all required clearances and disclosures. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**c. Personnel: Volunteers**

Mr. Lupp moved and Mr. Montgomery seconded a motion to approve Laura Adkins and Tricia Wolfe to serve as District Volunteers for the 2018-2019 school year as recommended by the Administration. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**d. Academic Affairs: Bilingual Psychoeducational Testing Agreement**

Mr. Montgomery moved and Mr. Lupp seconded a motion to approve an agreement with Central Penn Education Associates, Inc. to perform bilingual psychoeducational testing at a cost of \$2,700. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**e. Finance: MAEA Professional Negotiations Agreement**

Mr. Lupp moved and Mr. Montgomery seconded a motion to correct the Professional Negotiations Agreement between the District and Middletown Area Education Association for a five-year term beginning July 1, 2018 due to language that was omitted in the version approved on October 2, 2018. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0. **(See Attachment)**

**f. Finance: Scholarship**

Mr. Lupp moved and Dr. Keating seconded a motion to approve creation of the June C. Smith & Robert Kinsey Scholarship. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**g. Operations: Facility Use**

Mr. Corradi 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. **(See Attachment)**

**h. Operations: Easement**

**Discussion Item / Possible Action Item:** Mr. Corradi said the Board considered a request from the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission to approve an approximate 3,000 square feet easement as part of the replacement of the Union Street Bridge over the PA Turnpike at the October 22 School Board meeting. Mr. Corradi said the School Board had inquired if the easement would have any impact on future athletic field development and whether the Turnpike would pay for the easement and Mr. Horn has confirmed the easement would have no impact on future athletic fields. Mr. Corradi said the District has also learned the Turnpike is only seeking a temporary easement during the construction period. Mr. Corradi said an official with the Turnpike has indicated remuneration would likely amount to \$500 since the land size is so small. Mr. Corradi noted the District will benefit from the easement as the outcome will produce a flatter slope that will be easier to mow.

Mr. Corradi moved and Mr. Montgomery seconded a motion to approve an approximate 3,000 square feet temporary easement to the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission as part of the replacement of Union Street bridge over the PA turnpike for a fee of no less than \$500. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0.

**i. Operations: Kunkel Fire Lane**

**Information Item:** Mr. Meiser reviewed several pictures and drawings of the Kunkel fire lane where parent drop-off also occurs. Mr. Meiser said Lower Swatara Township approved use of the fire lane for temporary drop-off with the understanding drivers remain in their cars when they are in the fire lane. Mr. Meiser said this is necessary because there is no optimal area to drop off students at Kunkel. Dr. Suski confirmed when Mr. Meiser referenced Lower Swatara Township he was indicating it was the Codes Enforcement Officer that approved the District's use of the fire lane for parent drop-off. Ms. Shenk commented this is illegal. Mr. Meiser said all

of the District buses also drop kids off in fire lanes. Mr. Meiser said when he talked to Don Fure, Codes Enforcement Officer of Lower Swatara Township, he confirmed his kids are also dropped off in a fire lane in another school district. Mr. Meiser said the fire company wants as much fire lane as possible when buildings are built and this poses a problem in finding a location that could be used for parent drop-off that isn't a fire lane. Mr. Meiser reviewed three options that could be used to remedy the situation:

Option 1: Mr. Meiser said the fire lane would be painted for exclusive use as a fire lane. Mr. Meiser said this would mean no parent drop-off could occur. Mr. Meiser said this is the cheapest solution, but is likely to result in many unhappy parents who would now need to park their cars in order for their kids to enter the building. Mr. Meiser also noted this would mean kids would be crossing the parking lot instead of being dropped off at the curb.

Option 2: Mr. Meiser said the fire lane would be retained for that purpose only and a new drop-off area added immediately adjacent to the fire lane. Mr. Meiser said this would mean a loss of parking spaces as there would not be sufficient space to navigate into parking spaces with this added drop-off lane. Mr. Meiser said additional parking would likely need to be added elsewhere. Mr. Meiser said there is also concern with student safety in this scenario as kids would be walking across the fire lane that is not supposed to be used for other purposes but we know people do not always obey rules.

Option 3: Mr. Meiser said the sidewalk could be removed to allow for the fire lane to be moved closer to the building so the current fire lane could become a parent drop-off lane. Mr. Meiser said this doesn't impact the current configuration of the parking lot.

Mrs. Mehaffie asked Ms. Shenk if her concern is with parents parking in the fire lane. Ms. Shenk said there is no signage that allows people to use the fire lane. After some discussion about the drop-off locations at the other school district buildings, Ms. Shenk said her issue is there aren't signs that allow for people to use the fire lanes and kids are learning it's okay to do things that are against the law. Ms. Shenk said she suggested putting up the signs years ago. Mr. Montgomery asked if she is seeking a sign that says, "Student Drop Off / Fire Lane." Ms. Shenk said yes, but the other sign that says, "No Stopping..." must come down. The Administration said we are not allowed to take down those signs as they are required by the Township.

Dr. Suski referenced the letter from Ms. Shenk's attorney and said it indicates the complaint is that the fire lane is not properly policed and will lead to an accident. Ms. Shenk confirmed and referenced the incident that occurred recently at Fink Elementary School with the toddler that almost engaged the car. Dr. Suski said the District has talked to the police and they are not going to station someone at the school to make sure parents don't leave a toddler in the car when they drop-off another child. Dr. Suski said Lower Swatara Township police has indicated they will come out and ticket people parked in the fire lane when they are available. Dr. Suski said letters can be sent to parents again. Dr. Suski said we've sent letters before and people don't abide by what we tell them. Dr. Suski said in her most recent conversation with the fire department they

indicated it is safest to have parents use the fire lane for drop-off rather than having kids running through the parking lot and navigating between cars. Dr. Suski said this is the reason why the fire department is willing to work with the District regarding the use of the fire lane for student drop-off.

Ms. Shenk asked if a crossing guard could be used.

Mr. Lupp said in his experience the current practice seems to be the safest for the kids.

Consensus was reached to put up the recommended signs and to have Mr. Borrelli send another letter.

#### **14. Representatives**

##### **a. Capital Area Intermediate Unit**

The October 25, 2018 and the November 15, 2018 CAIU Board Highlights were attached to the agenda. Mr. Lupp said a quorum was not present for the November 15 meeting.

##### **b. Dauphin County Tax Collection Committee**

The Summary Minutes from the September 19, 2018 meeting were attached to the agenda. Mr. Franklin said a quorum was not present for the meeting on November 14. Mr. Franklin said the audit for the year ended December 31, 2017 was presented and the budget for 2019 was also presented. Mr. Franklin said the budget is slightly less than the 2018 budget, so allocations from the different members should be approximately the same.

##### **c. Dauphin County Technical School**

The September - October 2018 Blast & November 2018 Blast were attached to the agenda. Mrs. Mehaffie said a quorum was present for the last meeting. Mrs. Mehaffie discussed the welding program and the open house for 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

##### **d. Harrisburg Area Community College**

Dr. Gomboc-Turyan said a conference call meeting occurred last Thursday. Dr. Gomboc-Turyan suggested the Board members review the meeting agenda and specifically look at items under B. Dr. Gomboc-Turyan said HACC ended its fiscal year with a \$2.19 million deficit.

##### **e. Middletown Area Blue Raider Foundation**

Mrs. Mehaffie said the craft fair was a success and approximately \$3,000 was made. Mrs. Mehaffie said another craft fair will be held on April 6, 2019. Mrs. Mehaffie said "Night at the Races" is scheduled for March 30 at Lower Swatara Fire Hall. Mrs. Mehaffie said tickets will be required and the fee will be \$25 for one and \$45 for two.

##### **f. Middletown Area Recreation Alliance**

Mr. Lupp said the meeting scheduled last week was postponed to next week due to snow. Mr. Lupp said there are 159 kids registered for the basketball program so far.

##### **g. PSBA Liaison**

Dr. Gomboc-Turyan had nothing to report.

### **15. Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Suski extended sympathy to the family of Mason Guckavan, 2016 MAHS graduate, who died on October 26 while stationed in Alaska with the U.S. Army, and to the family of Miss Natalie Cibort, Reid Elementary School teacher, who died on November 12 after a hard-fought battle with cancer. Dr. Suski said the past few weeks have been very emotional for District employees and students as they grieve the loss of these two members of the MASD family. Dr. Suski said thoughts and prayers continue to be with both the Guckavan and Cibort families, especially as we enter the holiday season this week.

Dr. Suski also extended sympathy to Kunkel Lunch Room Monitor, Ellen Kreiser, on the passing of her husband.

Dr. Suski congratulated the Blue Wave Marching Band for placing 4<sup>th</sup> out of 11 bands in the Tournament of Bands Atlantic Coast Class 3A Championship on November 3. Dr. Suski also extended kudos to Tim Nevil for receiving a \$1,000 scholarship from the Tournament Of Bands that evening.

Dr. Suski congratulated the Middle School faculty, staff and students for the beautiful Veterans Day program on November 9. Dr. Suski said guest speaker, Mr. Braasch, gave a remarkable address on his experiences during the Vietnam War.

Dr. Suski congratulated Director Ryan Boyles and the cast for the fine performance of "Crimson House Murder" on November 17 - 18.

Dr. Suski applauded Coach Myers and the Varsity Blue Raider Football team for their 3-peat District 3 AAA championship title! Dr. Suski said the District is very proud of the program that Coach Myers has built over the past several years, and added the hard work of our student athletes and coaches has paid off. Dr. Suski said the District looks forward to entering the first round of state play-offs this Friday evening against Conwell-Egan Catholic High School in the PIAA quarterfinal at 7:00 p.m. at Milton Hershey's Henry Hershey Field.

Dr. Suski recognized those who worked tirelessly last Thursday to ensure that our students were safely transported home in the midst of the snow. Dr. Suski said Transportation Coordinator, Dion Mumma, deserves to be praised for keeping everything under control when weather conditions were deteriorating. Dr. Suski said she was fielding many parent phone calls due to late buses while simultaneously communicating with First Student. Dr. Suski said Bill Meiser and Dee Reitzi

responded to a bus that was pulled over due to a student issue. Dr. Suski noted that Mr. Meiser also pulled vans out that got stuck. Dr. Suski said the decision to dismiss early as opposed to close was based on the fact that the hazardous conditions were predicted for mid-late afternoon. Dr. Suski said the superintendents in Dauphin County were confident that we could dismiss late morning and have all students home safely before conditions got dangerous; however, the progression of the storm caught everyone by surprise. Dr. Suski noted all students were safely home by 2:00 p.m.

Dr. Suski issued a reminder that the District will be closed for Thanksgiving Recess on Wednesday, November 21 through Monday, November 26 with classes resuming on Tuesday, November 27.

**16. Roundtable**

Mr. Montgomery said he does not envy the job of the superintendents during bad weather as tough decisions need to be made.

**17. Adjournment**

Mr. Montgomery moved and Mr. Lupp seconded a motion to adjourn the School Board General Business Meeting. The vote to approve the motion was 8 to 0. The meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

ATTEST:

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David A. Franklin, Board Secretary