

Official Proceedings of the GOVERNOR MIFFLIN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Monday, March 20, 2023 - Education Center

Board Members in Attendance - Mrs. Elizabeth Adams, Mrs. Caryn Friedlander, Mr. Jeffrey Haggerty, Mrs. Dawn Palange, Mr. Andrew Pannafino, Dr. Lisa Peterson, Dr. Michele Roby, Mr. James Ulrich, Mrs. Christina Worley - 9. Absent - 0.

Administrators in Attendance - Mr. William McKay, Superintendent; Dr. Lisa Hess, Assistant Superintendent; Mrs. Diane Richards, Chief Financial Officer; Ms. Stephanie Seifrit, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Chris Killinger, Director of Teaching & Learning; Mrs. Ashley Shannon-Huembes, Director of Communications & Community Relations; Ms. Laura Gudikunst, Food Service Director; Mr. Tim Ziegler, Director of Operations; Mr. Gregg Stanley, Director of Technology; Mr. Chad Curry, Principal, Cumru Elementary; Ms. Carissa Harley, Associate Principal, Intermediate School; Mr. Tony Alvarez, Principal, Middle School.

Others in Attendance - Ben Pratt, Esq., Board Solicitor; Sharon Patton, Board Recording Secretary; Julian Colamarino and Lydia Kitsch, Student Board Representatives; professional staff and citizens.

The Meeting was **Called to Order** at 7:00pm by Mr. James Ulrich, Board President, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

Presentation - Ms. Stephanie Seifrit, Director of Human Resources, introduced **Amazing Mustang** employees John Carabello and Vanessa Farley, and recognized them for going above and beyond in their contributions to the success of Mustang Nation.

Motion by Haggerty and second by Adams to Approve **Minutes of the Meetings** held February 27, 2023 and March 6, 2023, as presented

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Roby and second by Worley to Approve the **Treasurer's Report** of February 28, 2023, as presented

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Friedlander and second by Peterson to Approve **Bills Paid** in the total amount of \$4,081,960.91, as presented

MOTION CARRIED.

Citizens Requests

Alyssa Oxenreider inquired about the Chapter 16 report listed on the agenda. Dr. Lisa Hess offered to meet with Ms. Oxenreider to answer her questions.

There were no **Communications** received by the Board.

The Board acknowledged the following **Right-to-Know request** received by Administration:

- Kornuszko with Canon requested copies of all copier/MFP leases and maintenance agreements

Reports

Board Member Representatives - Mr. Andy Pannafino shared PSBA's communication regarding solicitation of presenters for the annual conference in Fall, 2023. He also noted a webinar scheduled for April 4th on the topic of School Safety & Security.

Superintendent's Report - Mr. Bill McKay promoted the District's Learning Expo to be held on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, from 6:30 - 8:00pm in the High School, and encouraged everyone to come out. He also plugged this year's Spring Swing production of Spongebob the Musical, with performances scheduled for March 31, April 1 and April 2, 2023.

Student Representatives' Report - Julian Colamarino reported on Brecknock activities such as the schoolwide reading of "Little Rhino," a Valentine's Day event, a TEL experience involving the fostering of bunnies, the trout-raising program, a Kindergarten Career Day event, and welcoming Ms. Nicole Pagan as the Brecknock Interim Principal for the remainder of the current school year. Julian also reported on Cumru activities such as the Valentine's Kiss Dance, a coin drive with proceeds used to prepare care packages, a new after-school Chess Club, in collaboration with the High School's Chess Club, and an upcoming PTO Bingo Night. He also reported on the Pre-K teachers' recent attendance at a conference held at the Kalahari Conference Center.

Lydia Kitsch reported on activities at the Intermediate School, including a Souper Bowl food drive, in which 3,822 items were collected for the food bank, a State Robotics competition attended by two GMIS students, and the first MiniTHON event held at GMIS, through which \$10,442.53 was raised for the Four Diamonds in support of pediatric cancer treatment and research. She also said two GMIS teams would be participating in a K'Nex competition this week. Lydia also shared Middle School happenings, including a recent pep rally and fundraising events for the Four Diamonds, through which \$3,281.73 was raised. Included in that total is \$524.83 raised by students through a "stall Math class" fundraiser. Congratulations went out to Kaitlyn Kerschner, who won first place in her division at the recent Countywide Science Fair.

Lydia's report on High School events included the recent Pops Concert, the success of our Academic Challenge team, and the Ski Club's annual trip to Vermont. The highlight, however, was the successful overnight MiniTHON and associated fundraisers, through which an incredible total of \$50,104.27 was raised for the Four Diamonds in support of pediatric cancer treatment and research. She also mentioned that Representative Chrissy Houlahan recently visited with the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Club, and that Governor Mifflin had a great presence at the recent Countywide Science Fair.

FINANCE

Motion by Pannafino and second by Peterson to Approve **Budget Transfers** for 2022-2023, as presented

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Pannafino and second by Peterson to Accept the **Berks Career & Technology Center's Proposed Operating Budget** for 2023-2024, as presented

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Pannafino and second by Peterson to Approve an Agreement with PSBA to purchase **BoardDocs Pro Document Management System** at an annual cost of \$10,500

MOTION CARRIED.

PERSONNEL

Motion by Friedlander and second by Roby to Approve **Student Teaching Placements** for Spring, 2023, as presented

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Friedlander and second by Adams to Approve the following **Retirements**

Dell, Kimberly - Mifflin Park, Grade 3; effective for the end of the 2022-2023 school year; 33 years of service

Habecker, Lisa - GMIS, Aquatics Aide; effective for the end of the 2022-2023 school year; 38 years of service

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Friedlander and second by Roby to Approve the following **Resignations**

Moulin, Lauren - Middle School, Technology Education; effective date TBD (subject to 60-day hold)

Perry, Tara - Middle School, Part-time Paraprofessional; effective March 13, 2023

Vey, Leah - Middle School, English; effective March 14, 2023

Resignations - Co-Curricular

Orndorff, Brandon - Assistant Coach, High School Track & Field; effective for the Spring, 2023 season

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Friedlander and second by Adams to Approve the following **Terminations**
Epting, Lauren- Aquatics (Lifeguard); effective date TBD

Weaver, Alicia- Mifflin Park, Lunch Aide; effective February 23, 2023

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Friedlander and second by Adams to Approve the following for **Employment***

**All employments are approved pending the successful and satisfactory completion of new hire documentation, acceptable clearance results, and meeting all employment requirements*

Armstrong, Kera - Mifflin Park, Part-time Food Service; effective date TBD (replacing Nancy Valdez - resignation)

Bartle, Samantha - High School, Hourly Teacher; effective March 6, 2023 through the end of the 2022-2023 school year

Batista, Noelia - High School, Part-time Food Service; effective date TBD (replacing Brenda Burk - resignation)

Diaz, Ana - Cumru, Full-time Food Service (Cook); effective date TBD (replacing Sandy Damato - retirement)

Ledwith, Andrew - High School, 2nd Shift Custodial Supervisor; effective date TBD; Full-time 12-month Act 93 Supportive position (replacing Tim Romig - retirement)

Moffat, Paul - Maintenance; effective March 13, 2023 (replacing Seth Bingaman)

Cumru Elementary After-School Chess Club

Weekly one-hour sessions for four weeks, beginning March 14, 2023

Jessica Leisawitz

Aquatics Staff

- Arnold, Braeden - Lifeguard; effective date TBD
- French, Madeline - Lifeguard; effective date TBD
- Vanschaick, Heather - Pool Supervisor; effective date TBD

Employment - Co-Curricular

- Hudzik, Zoe - Assistant Coach, HS Cheerleading; effective for 2023-2024 (activities to begin May, 2023); stipend \$2,039.66 (replacing Shannon Carey)
- McComsey, Oliver - Co-Assistant Coach, HS Track & Field; effective for the Spring, 2023 season; stipend \$2,202.64 (replacing Brandon Orndorff - resignation)
- Rowlands, Brianna - Head Coach, HS Cheerleading; effective for 2023-2024 (activities to begin May, 2023); stipend \$2,492.93 (replacing Megan King)
- Weber, Noah - Assistant Coach, MS Baseball; effective for the Spring 2023 season; stipend \$3,021.74 (replacing Jeff Hogg - position change)

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Friedlander and second by Roby to Approve the following **Status Changes**

- Bell, Brian - Middle School, Discovery teacher to Middle School, Interim Dean of Students; to be effective for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year; additional \$60 per diem (covering Nicole Pagan's temporary move to Brecknock)
- Grassucci, Matthew - High School, Long-term Substitute Social Studies to High School, Social Studies contracted position; effective for the start of the 2023-2024 school year; TPE, Masters Step 2 (replacing Kim Gibson - position change)

- Pagan, Nicole - Middle School, Associate Principal to Brecknock, Interim Principal; to be effective for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year; additional \$50 per diem (covering vacancy created by Aaron Kopetsky's resignation)

Status Changes - Co-Curricular

- Hogg, Jeff - Assistant Coach, MS Baseball to Head Coach, MS Baseball; effective for the Spring 2023 season; stipend \$3,385.28 (replacing Gerald Kupp - retirement)

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Friedlander and second by Adams to Approve the following **Leaves of Absence**

- Darrencamp, Jill - Family Medical Leave; effective March 13 - June 13, 2023 (Middle School, ELL LTS)

- Sweigart, Marcella - Extension of Family Medical Leave to April 10, 2023 (Cumru, Kindergarten)

- Whistler, Paul - Family Medical Leave, effective February 23 - March 13, 2023 (High School, Custodian)

- Yelk, Susan - Leave of Absence; effective February 15, 2023 through the end of the 2022-2023 school year (High School, Food Service)

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Friedlander and second by Roby to Approve the following **Co-Curricular Volunteers**

- MS Track - Mike Thiry
HS Boys Lacrosse - Dan Neubert
HS Softball - Laura Sadowski

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Friedlander and second by Roby to Approve the following **In-Service Tuition Reimbursement Requests**

- Dolan, Kathleen - York College of PA, Course #510: Foundations of Reading Instruction; May 15 - June 23, 2023; 3 credits; tuition \$1,710; reimbursement \$1,548 (GMIS, Grade 5)

Kulp, Isaac

- Millersville University, Course #674: New Media Rhetoric; June 5 - July 7, 2023; 3 credits; tuition \$1,548; reimbursement \$1,548 (High School, English)

In-Service Tuition Reimbursement Requests - Masters Plus

Leisawitz, Jessica

- Kutztown University, Course #562: School Law; July 10 August 10, 2023; 3 credits; tuition \$1,548; reimbursement \$1,548 (Cumru, Grade 4)

Modricker, Helen

- Kutztown University, Course #506: Curriculum & Instruction in Writing Through the Developmental Stages; March 27 - April 27, 2023; 3 credits; tuition \$1,548; reimbursement \$1,548 (Mifflin Park, Grade 3)

Modricker, Helen

- Kutztown University, Course #513: Literacy Curriculum & Instruction - Adolescent to High School; June 5 - 9, 2023; 3 credits; tuition \$1,548; no reimbursement (Mifflin Park, Grade 3)

O'Connor, Catherine

- BCIU, What Every Teacher Should Know About Teaching ELL; March 29 - May 10, 2023; 3 credits; tuition \$475; reimbursement \$475 (Cumru, Reading Specialist)

Verbeke, Nathanael

- BCIU, Teachers Building Resilience and Creating Compassionate Classrooms; April 17 - May 28, 2023; 3 credits; tuition \$475; reimbursement \$475 (HS, English)

Verbeke, Nathanael

- BCIU, Be Trauma-Informed: When Behavior Plans Don't Work; May 1 - 31, 2023; 3 credits; tuition \$475; no reimbursement (HS, English)

Total: \$7,142

MOTION CARRIED.

CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION

Motion by Roby and second by Friedlander to Approve the following agenda items collectively:

- Approve a Request for **High School PA Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) Science Fair** participants to travel to Penn State University for the PJAS State Meeting; Sunday, May 14 - Tuesday, May 16, 2023; cost to the District is one substitute teacher for two days, as presented
- Approve a Request of the **High School WorldQuest Club to travel to Washington, DC** for participation in the 2023 Academic WorldQuest National Competition; Friday, April 28 - Sunday, April 30, 2023; one school day missed; cost to the District is one Substitute Teacher for one day, and the use of a school van, as presented

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Roby and second by Friedlander to Approve the **2023-2026 Comprehensive Plan**, as presented

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Roby and second by Haggerty to Approve the following **State mandated reports**:

- Academic Standards & Assessment Requirements (Chapter 4)
- Gifted Education Plan Assurances (Chapter 16)
- Student Services Assurances (Chapter 12)
- Induction Plan (Chapter 45)
- Professional Development Plan (Act 48)

MOTION CARRIED.

PUPIL SERVICES

Motion by Palange and second by Roby to Approve the following agenda items collectively:

- Approve a **Waiver of Expulsion Hearing Agreement for Student #822338**; alternative placement will be GM Gold for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year, as presented
- Approve a **Waiver of Expulsion Hearing Agreement for Student #10519**; alternative placement will be Opportunities for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year, as presented

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Palange and second by Adams to Ratify an **Agreement with ProCare Therapy**, d/b/a/ New Direction Solutions, Inc., to provide a Paraprofessional for the Cumru Elementary Autistic Support classroom; rate is \$48/hour, as presented

MOTION CARRIED.

ATHLETIC/CO-CURRICULAR

Motion by Adams and second by Palange to Approve a Request of the High School **Girls Basketball Team to travel to Orlando, Florida**; December 13 - 17, 2023 for participation in the KSA Basketball Tournament; 3 school days missed; cost to the District is transportation to and from the airport, as presented

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Adams and second by Palange to Approve the purchase of the following **GMAAC Weight Room equipment** through Webster's Fitness Products, Inc., under COSTARS pricing at a total cost of \$60,739, to be paid from the Construction Fund, as presented: includes 1 treadmill, 6 regular benches, 6 incline benches, dumbbells and rack, bumper plates

MOTION CARRIED.

PROPERTY

Motion by Peterson and second by Roby to Approve the following agenda items collectively:

- Approve the installation of a 6-foot high decorative aluminum fence around the exterior west side of Brecknock Elementary, bordering the property line; fencing will include 400' of fencing around (2) 8' gated openings; fence will be used to create a bounding area for future outdoor classroom and learning spaces; COSTARS quote from Paramount Fence is for \$24,800; GMSD will be reimbursed for the full cost by the Brecknock Elementary PTO, as presented
- Approve, upon Solicitor review, an Agreement with FastBridge Fiber, LLC, a grant of utility easement access and operation of telecommunication equipment on a 6' x 6' area of GMSD property located near the entrance of 600 Governor Drive, as specified in the construction documentation, for the purpose of providing data/telecommunication services to GMSD and the surrounding areas; The GMSD IT Department has requested the installation of this equipment in order to upgrade and secure our fiber connection; This easement agreement would be in correlation with the construction agreement and fiber service supplied by FastBridge Fiber, LLC, as specified in the Technology portion of this agenda, as presented:
 - Grant of Utility Easement
 - Independence Outdoor Equipment Cabinet

- Equipment Cabinet - Location Rendering
- Equipment Cabinet - Appearance Rendering
- Approve the installation of a card access system in the GMACC facility; installation of Verkada access control system and video intercom system will include (27) card readers and (1) intercom system; pricing includes 10-year warranty and licensing; COSTARS quote from KIT Communications in the amount of \$77,476 to be paid from the Capital Expenditure Fund as presented:
 - Verkada system presentation
 - KIT Communications proposal

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Peterson and second by Worley to Ratify **Cedar Electric Change Order COR #11**, adding the power and data connections for GMACC gymnasium HUDL camera; cost is \$687.91, to be paid from the GMACC construction fund, as presented

MOTION CARRIED.

POLICIES

Motion by Palange and second by Adams to Approve **Second Reading** of the following policy revisions:

- Policy #200 - Enrollment in District
- Policy #202 - Eligibility of Nonresident Students
- Policy #204 - Attendance
- Policy #217 - Graduation
- Policy #218 - Student Discipline
- Policy #220 - Student Expression/Dissemination of Materials
- Policy #220 - Attach (same name)
- Policy #221 - Dress & Grooming
- Policy #227 - Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia
- Policy #233 - Suspension & Expulsion
- Policy #236.1 - Threat Assessment
- Policy #237 - Electronic Devices
- Policy #251 - Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care
& Other Educational Instability
- Policy #610 - Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation
- Policy #611 - Purchases Budgeted
- Policy #626-Attach - Procurement - Federal Programs
- Policy #805 - Emergency Preparedness & Response

Policy #805.2 - School Security Personnel
Policy #808 - Food Service
Policy #810 - Transportation
Policy #913 - Non-School Organizations/Groups/Individuals
Removal of Policy #255 - Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care
(now merged into Policy #251 - above)

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Palange and second by Adams to Approve **First Reading** of the following policy revisions and new policies:

- Policy #137 (Rev) - Home Education Programs
- Policy #137.1 (Rev) - Extra-Curricular Participation by Home Education Students
- Policy #137.2 (New) - Participation in Cocurricular Activities & Academic Courses by Home Education Students
- Policy #137.3 (New) - Participation in Career & Technical Education Programs by Home Education Students

MOTION CARRIED.

TECHNOLOGY

Motion by Haggerty and second by Peterson to Approve the **Extension of two existing leases** with Huntington Technology Finance, Inc., for a period of one additional year, allowing for lower lease payments and one more year for devices to be in service, as follows:

- Aruba network switches, HPDL360 Servers and extras
\$6,618 due quarterly
- Lenovo Think stations, MacBook Pros, IMacs and iPads
\$22,863 due quarterly

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Haggerty and second by Peterson to Approve a **new lease with Vantage Financial, LLC**, for 300 Lenovo 300E Chromebooks (100 for each of the three elementary buildings) and 750 Lenovo 100E Chromebooks for incoming Grade 5 and Grade 9 students, who will use the devices for four years; Lease term is 48 months, with quarterly payments of \$21,480, as presented

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Haggerty and second by Peterson to Approve an **Agreement with FastBridge Fiber, LLC for the purchase and installation of four (4) single-mode fiber connections** between the High School and the Intermediate School, replacing original fiber installed over ten years ago (now damaged beyond repair); 60-month Option 1 with Aerial-only install is recommended; rental of space for the fiber jump-off box will offset the monthly cost, as presented

- Proposal (Option 1, 60 months); \$20,000 installation fee and \$250/month
- Master Services Agreement

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Peterson and second by Worley to Approve the following **Buildings & Grounds Use Requests:**

GM Baccalaureate Service	GM Class of 2023 Baccalaureate Service High School Auditorium 5/24/23; 3:00pm - 10:00pm No Charge
GM Over 40 Soccer	Over 40 Soccer Games Multipurpose Field 4/16/23; 8:00pm - 9:00pm 5/07/23, 6/04/23; 6:00pm - 7:30pm Fields & times assigned by Athletic Director Rental Fees Apply
Reading United Over 40 Soccer	Over 40 Soccer Games Multipurpose Field 4/23/23, 5/21/23, 6/11/23; 6:00pm - 7:30pm Fields & times assigned by Athletic Director Rental Fees Apply
GM Education Foundation	GMEF Pickleball Classic GMSD Tennis Courts (GMIS Gym if inclement weather) 4/23/23; 1:00pm - 7:00pm No Charge

GM High School PTO

GMHS PTO Career Fair
HS Auditorium, Cafe & Grounds
4/25/23; 6:00pm - 10:00pm
No Charge

GM High School PTO

GMHS PTO Yard Sale
HS grounds & Auditorium Restrooms
4/27/23; 5:00am - 1:00pm
No Charge

Cumru PTO

Movie Night
Cumru Gym & Cafe
5/23/23; 4:00pm - 10:00pm
No Charge

PIAA Football Officials

PIAA Officials Meeting
HS LGI
Wednesdays, 9/06/23 - 10/25/23; 7:00pm - 8:00pm
No Charge

MOTION CARRIED.

Prior to adjourning, Mr. Ulrich shared that he received a phone call from Dr. Edward Michalik regarding the State's Act 19, which encourages tax rebate incentives, at the municipality and school district levels, for volunteer firefighters/first responders. Mrs. Richards said that more information would be needed in order to determine if this is something we can implement. Mr. Ulrich said he would invite Dr. Michalik to meet with the Board for further discussion.

Motion by Peterson and second by Adams to **Adjourn the Meeting** at 8:00pm.



Sharon L. Patton
Board Recording Secretary