

# MIDD-WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting

Virtual Meeting via Zoom  
Monday, February 22, 2021

## ***A QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL, FOR LIFE***

- I. **OPENING CEREMONY**
- II. **CALL TO ORDER: 7:02 p.m.** Mr. Victor L. Abate
- III. **ROLL CALL:** Mr. Victor L. Abate

<b><u>BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS</u></b>	<b><u>PRESENT</u></b>	<b><u>ABSENT</u></b>	<b><u>LATE ARRIVAL</u></b>
Mr. Victor L. Abate, President	X		
Mr. Donald D. Pinci, Vice President	X		
Mr. Shawn A. Sassaman, Treasurer	X		
Mr. Terry L. Boonie	X		
Mrs. Julie R. Eriksson	X		
Mr. Justin T. Haynes	X		
Mrs. Wyona P. Lauver			7:03 p.m.
Mr. Christopher T. Nesbit			7:03 p.m.
Mrs. Sherryl L. Wagner	X		
Mr. Richard J. Musselman, Superintendent (Non-Voting Member)	X		
Ms. Allyson L. Folk, Secretary (Non-Member)	X		

### **OTHERS**

Mr. Joseph W. Stroup, Director of Curriculum and Instruction  
Mr. Ryan L. Wagner, Business Manager  
Attorney Orris C. Knepp, III, Solicitor  
Mr. Dane S. Aucker, Principal, Midd-West Middle School  
Mr. Jeremy D. Brown, Assistant Principal, Midd-West High School  
Mrs. Lee C. Bzdil, Supervisor of Special Education  
Mr. Thor R. Edmiston, Principal, Midd-West High School  
Mrs. Julie L. Lohr, Principal, Middleburg Elementary School  
Mr. Umberto G. Porzi, Senior Network Administrator  
Mr. John S. Rosselli, Director of Food Services  
Miss Erin C. Sheedy, Principal, West Snyder Elementary School  
Mrs. Bree A. Solomon, Athletic Director  
Approximately 22 Concerned Citizens

IV. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Public comment is restricted to three (3) minutes per speaker and on the subject of Agenda Action Items only. Any individual who wishes to address the Board on an agenda item should contact the Board Secretary by 1:00 p.m. the day of the Board meeting at (570) 837-0046, Ext, 1100.

*There was no public comment.*

V. **STUDENT REPORTS**

Miss Makenna M. Dietz and Miss Liliana E. Shutt

Miss Shutt reported on the following items:

1) Junior Class Fundraiser

The junior class is currently doing a Gertrude Hawk fundraiser.

2) Boys and Girls Bowling Teams

Boys bowling is currently 20.5 – 14.5, and girls bowling is 26 – 9. Their regular season has ended, but the league invitational tournament will be this Friday.

3) Boys Basketball Team

The boys basketball record is 5-10. They will play at Warrior Run on Wednesday.

4) Girls Basketball Team

The girls basketball record is 6-8. They will play at Shamokin on Wednesday.

5) Wrestling Team

Wrestling finished their regular season. The team competed in sectionals on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Connor Heckman and Avery Bassett both advanced to districts where Avery placed second, and Connor placed fifth. Both will move onto wrestle next weekend in regionals.

Miss Makenna Dietz reported on the following items:

1) Track and Field Team Fundraiser

The track and field team is doing a t-shirt fundraiser. Each shirt will be sold for \$12.00.

2) Girls Lacrosse Team

Girls lacrosse is doing a Krispy Kreme fundraiser. They are selling original glazed doughnuts for \$10.00 a dozen.

3) FFA Chapter

FFA is doing a spirit week dress up. This week in honor of National FFA Week, they will be having activities all week to celebrate.

4) DECA Club

The PA DECA State Officer, Allie Keister, attended the Hershey Lodge this past week to record the Virtual State Conference live. Allie and her team announced several workshops, winners of events and hosted events for members.

5) Theater Department

For the theater department they have filmed their fall play and will doing streaming days for that which are yet to be released.

VI. **SCHEDULED SPEAKERS**

Mr. Victor L. Abate

- 1) Miss Aubrey Isaacs, Vice President, and Miss Makenna M. Dietz, Secretary – Senior Class Trip Presentation

Miss Dietz stated we will start with presenting our prospective itinerary. The trip would be a two-day trip but not overnight. We would go down on the first day would be on May 24, and we would go to Philadelphia, PA. The cost for that day would be \$120.00 per person. The class would leave the high school at 8:00 a.m. and arrive at the King of Prussia Mall and shop until 4:00 p.m. After that, we would go to a dinner/dance cruise through Hornblower River Cruises. We would leave there at 8:30 p.m. to arrive at Mid-West High School at 10:30 p.m. Students would then drive home and then the next morning, May 25, we would go to Poconos, and it would \$80.00 per person. We would again leave at 8:00 a.m. meeting at the high school and arrive at the Kalahari Indoor Water Park. We would then leave the water park at 6:00 p.m. that evening to arrive home at 8:00 p.m. Just to give you a price breakdown, overall it would cost \$200.00 per person. The day in Philadelphia would be \$120.00 which would be the King of Prussia Mall which is free besides whatever you buy. The dinner/dance cruise which is 85.00, and a bus fare and tip which would be \$35.00. The second day to the Poconos would cost \$80.00 per person. The Kalahari Indoor Water Park being \$55.00 and the bus fare and tip being \$25.00. The School Nurse, Mrs. VanHorn, has given her approval of this trip.

Miss Isaacs stated we had 107 students respond to the survey we put out, and 39 students said that they would like to go. We are hoping that some students who said no will change their mind and students who didn't respond would at least consider coming along. With your approval, we'll be able to make reservations for a bus and any of the activities we plan to do, and we'll be able to move forward with the collection of money. We just want to thank you for considering this trip and for your continued support through this difficult year.

Mr. Nesbit stated I do have a question. What has been the feedback from the students that are not interested in participating in this particular trip? What are they telling you ladies about their desire not to go?

Miss Dietz responded I believe some kids don't necessarily have a desire to go because it's not the traditional senior trip. With this year, it's just we have to do things a little bit differently. So, I think some students just were hoping for something a little bit different, but we're trying to do the best we can.

Mr. Abate stated, Ladies, the trip is on the agenda this evening as I'm sure you're well aware, and there's also. The Board will be voting on the waiver which would waive the requirement of 50% of the student class but given the circumstances, we're going to vote on that waiver. So, you should be all set to go on your trip then.

VII. **CONSENT AGENDA**

*All matters taken under this section are considered to be routine, and action will be taken with one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.*

VIII. **ITEMS FOR ACTION**

A. **BUSINESS AND FISCAL**

Mr. Shawn A. Sassaman

Mr. Sassaman stated if there are no objections, I'd like to combine Items 1. through 7. including the Minutes, List of Bills, Treasurer's Reports, Bus Driver, Bus Stops, Spring Athletic Transportation Bids and Transportation Services for Baseball Practices and Home Games.

Mr. Haynes moved and Mr. Nesbit seconded approval of Items 1. through 7.

1. **MINUTES**

- a. Approval is recommended of the minutes of the January 25, 2021, regular meeting of the Midd-West School District Board of School Directors.
- b. Approval is recommended of the minutes of the February 8, 2021, work session of the Midd-West School District Board of School Directors.

2. **LIST OF BILLS**

Approval is recommended of the list of bills for the period January 26, 2021, through February 22, 2021.

3. **TREASURER'S REPORTS**

Approval is recommended for the Treasurer's Reports for the General Fund, Capital Reserve Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Food Service Fund and Activity Fund for the period ending January 31, 2021.

4. **BUS DRIVER**

Approval is recommended for the following individual as a bus driver for the 2020-2021 school year:

Weikel Busing, LLC

Catherine R. Branthoover to be effective January 25, 2021

5. **BUS STOP**

Approval is recommended for the following bus stop:

1849 Back Mountain Road, Beaver Springs

6. **SPRING ATHLETIC TRANSPORTATION BIDS**

Approval is recommended of the spring athletic transportation bids in the amount of \$10,609.71 as follows:

Hunters Valley, Inc.	\$1,304.00
Strawser Busing, LLC	\$1,342.00
Weikel Busing, LLC	\$7,963.71

7. **TRANSPORTATION SERVICE FOR BASEBALL PRACTICES AND HOME GAMES**

Approval is requested to accept the quote from Weikel Busing, LLC, in the amount of \$175.00 per round-trip transport to provide transportation service to West Snyder Elementary School for baseball practices and home games for the 2020-2021 school year.

Yes: Abate, Boonie, Eriksson, Haynes, Lauver, Nesbit, Pinci, Sassaman, Wagner  
No: None  
9-0-0-0  
MOTION CARRIED

8. **2021-2022 SUN AREA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET**

Mr. Haynes moved and Mr. Nesbit seconded approval of the 2021-2022 SUN Area Technical Institute General Operating Budget in the amount of \$7,345,146.00. *{The 2020-2021 budget was \$7,521,519.00.}*

Discussion:

None

Yes: Abate, Boonie, Eriksson, Haynes, Lauver, Nesbit, Pinci, Sassaman, Wagner  
No: None  
9-0-0-0  
MOTION CARRIED

9. **2021-2022 CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA INTERMEDIATE UNIT PRELIMINARY GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET**

Mrs. Wagner moved and Mr. Sassaman seconded approval of the 2021-2022 Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit Preliminary General Operating Budget in the amount of \$702,660.00. *{The 2020-2021 budget was \$886,527.00.}*

Discussion:

None

Yes: Abate, Boonie, Eriksson, Haynes, Lauver, Nesbit, Pinci, Sassaman, Wagner

No: None  
9-0-0-0  
MOTION CARRIED

**B. POLICY AND PROGRAMS**

Mr. Donald D. Pinci

Mr. Pinci stated I'd like to take Items 1. through 4.

Mr. Haynes moved and Mrs. Eriksson seconded approval of Items 1. through 4.

**1. FIELD TRIPS**

Approval is recommended of the following field trips:

- a. DECA Club – Midd-West High School – February 17, 2021, through February 19, 2021 – Hershey, PA – 1 Student/1 Adult – Cost to Organization: \$0.00 – Cost to District: \$263.22
- b. Varsity Wrestling Team – Midd-West High School – March 5, 2021, through March 6, 2021 – Pottsville, PA – 2 Students/2 Adults – Cost to Organization: \$0.00 – Cost to District: \$250.00
- c. Varsity Wrestling Team – Midd-West High School – March 11, 2021, through March 12, 2021 – Hershey, PA – 2 Students/2 Adults – Cost to Organization: \$0.00 – Cost to District: \$250.00
- d. Senior Class – Midd-West High School – May 24 and 25, 2021 – King of Prussia/Philadelphia, and Pocono Manor, PA – 39 Students/\_\_\_ Adults – Cost to Organization: \$200.00 per student – Cost to District: \$\_\_\_\_\_

**2. 2021-2022 SCHOOL CALENDAR – FIRST READING**

Approval is recommended of the 2021-2022 school calendar on first reading.

**3. PRACTICUM ARTICULATION AGREEMENT – LIBERTY UNIVERSITY**

Approval is requested of a Practicum Articulation Agreement between Liberty University and the Midd-West School District for candidates to complete a variety of course-embedded practicums as part of their degree program for the period from February 22, 2021, to June 30, 2023.

**4. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM**

Approval is recommended of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Foster Grandparent Program of Central Pennsylvania and the Midd-West School District to be effective October 1, 2020, to October 31, 2023, self-certifying that Midd-West School District meets the requirements necessary to become a Foster Grandparent Program Volunteer Station.

Yes: Abate, Boonie, Eriksson, Haynes, Lauver, Nesbit, Pinci, Sassaman, Wagner

No: None  
9-0-0-0  
MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Pinci stated I'd like to take 5. and 6. together.

Mrs. Eriksson moved and Mr. Nesbit seconded approval of Items 5. and 6.

5. **WAIVER TO POLICY GUIDE 121 – FIELD TRIPS**

Approval is recommended to waive Policy Guide 121, Field Trips, to allow less than fifty percent (50%) of the members of the senior class participate in the trip.

6. **WAIVER TO POLICY GUIDE 217 – GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Approval is recommended to waive Policy Guide 217, Graduation Requirements, to allow any ninth through twelfth grade student participating in at least three (3) marking periods during the 2020-2021 school year in Mid-West School District's virtual program to earn 24.5 credits to be eligible for graduation provided they have met all other state and local District requirements. *{Twenty-seven (27) credits is required for graduation.}*

Yes: Abate, Boonie, Eriksson, Haynes, Lauver, Nesbit, Pinci, Sassaman, Wagner

No: None  
9-0-0-0  
MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Pinci stated and then 7. through 10.

Mr. Nesbit moved and Mr. Haynes seconded approval of Items 7. through 10.

7. **REVISED POLICY GUIDE 815 – ACCEPTABLE USE AND INTERNET SAFETY**

Approval is recommended of revised Policy Guide 815, Acceptable Use and Internet Safety, on second and final reading.

8. **NEW POLICY GUIDES**

Approval is recommended of the following new policy guides on first reading:

- 304 – Employment of District Staff
- 305 – Employment of Substitutes
- 306 – Employment of Summer School Staff
- 307 – Student Teacher/Interns
- 318 – Attendance and Tardiness

9. **REVISED POLICY GUIDES**

Approval is recommended of the following revised policy guides on first reading:

- 301 – Creating a Position
- 308 – Board Resolution *{Formerly titled Employment Contract}*
- 309 – Assignment and Transfer
- 311 – Reduction in Staff *{Formerly titled Suspensions and Furloughs}*
- 313 – Evaluation of Employees *{Formerly titled Evaluation of Administrative Employees}*
- 314 – Physical Examination
- 314.1 – HIV Infection
- 317 – Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures
- 319 – Outside Activities
- 320 – Freedom of Speech in Non-School Settings
- 321 – Political Activities
- 322 – Gifts
- 323 – Tobacco and Vaping Products *{Formerly Tobacco/Nicotine Use}*
- 324 – Personnel Files

10. **REPEALED POLICY GUIDES**

Approval is recommended to repeal the following policy guides:

- 303 – Employment of Administrators
- 310 – Abolishing a Position
- 316 – Non-tenured Employees
- 327 – Management Team
- 401 – Creating a Position
- 404 – Employment of Professional Employees
- 405 – Employment of Substitute Professional Employees
- 406 – Employment of Summer Staff
- 407 – Student Teacher Interns
- 408 – Employment Contract
- 409 – Assignment and Transfer
- 410 – Abolishing a Position
- 411 – Suspensions and Furloughs
- 412 – Evaluation of Professional Employees
- 413 – Evaluation of Temporary Professional Employees
- 414 – Physical Examinations
- 414.1 – HIV Infection
- 416 – Non-tenured Staff Member
- 417 – Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures
- 418 – Penalties for Tardiness
- 419 – Outside Activities
- 420 – Freedom of Speech in Non-Instructional Settings
- 421 – Political Activities
- 422 – Gifts
- 423 – Tobacco/Nicotine Use
- 424 – Personnel Files
- 501 – Creating a Position
- 504 – Employment of Classified Employees
- 505 – Employment of Substitute and Short-Term Employees
- 508 – Employment Contract
- 509 – Assignment and Transfer
- 511 – Suspensions and Furloughs
- 512 – Evaluation of Classified Employees
- 514 – Physical Examination
- 514.1 – HIV Infection



- 517 – Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures
- 518 – Penalties for Tardiness
- 519 – Outside Activities
- 523 – Tobacco/Nicotine Use
- 524 – Personnel Files

Yes: Abate, Boonie, Eriksson, Haynes, Lauver, Nesbit, Pinci, Sassaman,  
Wagner  
No: None  
9-0-0-0  
MOTION CARRIED

C. **PERSONNEL**

Mr. Donald D. Pinci

1. **EMPLOYMENT – ADMINISTRATIVE – SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

Mrs. Wagner moved and Mr. Nesbit seconded approval to appoint Joseph W. Stroup as Superintendent of Schools of the Mid-West School District for a five-year term beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2026, pending final agreement upon a written contract setting forth salary and terms and conditions of employment.

Discussion:

None

Yes: Abate, Boonie, Eriksson, Haynes, Lauver, Nesbit, Pinci, Sassaman,  
Wagner  
No: None  
9-0-0-0  
MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Stroup stated I would just like to thank the Board for this opportunity, and I will do my best to justify the faith that the community and the Board has placed in all of us as I realize that this appointment is a result of the tremendous effort put in by many people in the school district including the administrators, teachers, support staff and everyone else working to help make our students successful, and I just want to thank you again and say I look forward to continuing to accomplish great things with the same people in this new capacity or new role. So, thank you very much.

Mrs. Lauver stated, Mr. Abate, I have a question. Normally, once we put someone in, and then you're talking about a contract salary, are you having a special committee, or is the Board as a whole going to decide that?

Mr. Abate responded the Board as a whole will decide that once the contract is finalized; a draft thereof.

Mrs. Lauver inquired but who negotiates the contract? Shouldn't that be Board? A Board committee?

Mr. Abate responded no, it will be the Board as a whole, Mrs. Lauver.

Mrs. Lauver stated okay.

Mr. Pinci stated I'd like to take 2. through 7.

Mrs. Lauver stated I'd like 3.a. and 3.b. pulled and voted on separately.

Mr. Abate inquired do you want a. separate and b. separate, or can we lump the two together?

Mrs. Lauver responded you can lump them together. That's okay.

Mr. Nesbit moved and Mr. Haynes seconded approval of Items 2., 3. with the exclusion of a. and b., through 7. ending on Page 8.

**2. EMPLOYMENTS – CERTIFICATED**

Approval is requested to employ the following individuals:

- a. Extended-rate Substitute – Andrew L. Wagner – Mathematics Teacher – Mid-West Middle School – Effective: November 16, 2020, and continuing until a date unknown – \$100.00 per day for the first thirty (30) consecutive days and \$254.11 per day for the remainder of the assignment *{Replacement/Aucker}*
- b. Extended-rate Substitute – Jennifer L. Hostler – Vocal Music Teacher – Middleburg Elementary School – Effective: February 23, 2021, through June 1, 2021, or the last day of the 2020-2021 school year – Salary: \$100.00 per day for the first thirty (30) consecutive days and \$254.11 per day for the remainder of the assignment *{Replacement/Lohr}*

**3. APPOINTMENTS**

**c. EXTRA-CURRICULAR**

Approval is requested to reappoint the following individuals for the 2020-2021 school year:

Alisha A. Kurtz	Assistant Softball Coach	MWHS	\$3,203.00
Kelcie M. Crabb	Assistant Junior Varsity Softball Coach	MWHS	\$3,203.00
Chelsey R. Beaver	Assistant Track & Field Coach	MWHS	\$3,203.00
John J. Daku	Assistant Track & Field Coach	MWHS	\$2,947.00
Stanley L. Share	Assistant Track & Field Coach	MWHS	\$3,203.00
Lori A. Goodling	Junior High Girls Soccer Coach	MWMS	\$2,209.00
Jodie L. Sheaffer	Junior High Field Hockey Coach	MWMS	\$2,209.00

**d. EXTRA-CURRICULAR – VOLUNTEERS**

Approval is recommended of the following individuals as volunteers for the 2020-2021 school year:

Mark P. Ferster	Volunteer Wrestling Coach	MWHS
Nicole B. Horst	Volunteer Lacrosse Coach	MWHS
Katie M. Kreider	Volunteer Lacrosse Coach	MWHS
Kailey M. Wagner	Volunteer Lacrosse Coach – Head	MWHS



Debra K. Folk  
Cafeteria Cashier  
Mid-West Middle School

Effective: February 26, 2021

Allyson L. Folk  
Secretary to the Board  
Mid-West School District

Effective: June 30, 2021

Yes: Abate, Boonie, Eriksson, Haynes, Lauver, Nesbit, Pinci, Sassaman,  
Wagner  
No: None  
9-0-0-0  
MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Nesbit moved and Mr. Boonie seconded approval of Items 3.a. and 3.b.

3. **APPOINTMENTS**

a. **EXTRA-CURRICULAR**

Approval is requested to appoint the following individual for the 2020-2021 school year:

Jacob T. Keister      Junior High Boys Soccer Coach      MWMS      \$2,032.00

b. **EXTRA-CURRICULAR**

Approval is requested to appoint the following individual for the 2021-2022 school year:

Lance J. Adams      Football Coach – Head      MWHS      \$3,976.00

Discussion:

None

Yes: Abate, Boonie, Eriksson, Haynes, Nesbit, Pinci, Sassaman, Wagner  
No: Lauver  
8-1-0-0  
MOTION CARRIED

D. **OTHER**

Mr. Victor L. Abate

1. **STUDENT DISCIPLINE**

Mr. Pinci moved and Mr. Nesbit seconded approval of the adoption of the Administration's student discipline recommendation and directs the Superintendent to give notice of the action to Student 01-2021 and the parents and advise them of the disciplinary recommendation.

Discussion:

None

Yes: Abate, Boonie, Eriksson, Haynes, Lauver, Nesbit, Pinci, Sassaman,  
Wagner

No: None  
9-0-0-0  
MOTION CARRIED

**IX. CLOSING CEREMONIES**

**X. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Victor L. Abate

Comment from the public is limited to three (3) minutes per person, and at the discretion of the Board President.

*There was no public comment.*

Mrs. Wagner stated, Mr. Abate, while we're waiting, there's two things I want to say. First of all, I want to welcome Joe and great to have you on board as a superintendent, and yes, we will miss Mr. Musselman as well, but I also want to recognize Ms. Folk. Allyson, you've done a great job for the Board. I was very sad to see that your name was on here for a resignation. So, I just want to recognize you and thank you for everything that you've done for the Board.

Ms. Folk responded thank you. You have no idea.

**XI. SCHEDULED SPEAKERS**

Mr. Victor L. Abate

*There were no scheduled speakers.*

**XII. REPORTS**

**1. SUPERINTENDENT**

Mr. Richard J. Musselman

Mr. Musselman reported on the following items:

1) Board Member Attendance at February 12 In-Service

For the Board members that came to our in-service on February 12, I just really appreciated the kind words that we heard. I heard many people say they really appreciated that; seeing some of the Board members take up some of their time to come. So, I just wanted to give a shout out to you guys for doing that for our folks, and it's been a difficult year, and it's just really nice to hear the appreciation for our teachers who have really been working extremely hard to make things happen as well as our support staff just jumping through all the hoops. So, thank you very much for your continued support. I appreciate that.

2) COVID-19 Update

Just got some more information on COVID. They're still in 1A. They just out an e-mail tonight. There's a new location/site that the state just turned on that's called Your Turn, and you can go in, and you can go ahead put your information in and find out when you're able to go and get the vaccine, and I know some Board members get those e-mail, too. That's eligible to you as well, and some of the criteria has changed. So, some people that may not have been eligible for the COVID vaccine under 1A before, may be eligible now. So, I just encourage folks to get on there, put your information in and

see if you're eligible. There's also a link to a map that can tell you the locations that's based on the county of where you live, and then you can set up appointments. It doesn't mean that they're going to have a vaccine anytime soon, but it's at least one step in the process. So, we're just hoping to see more vaccines come to our area, but right now, this is at least one step that people can access and hopefully we can get on some kind of list and have people get vaccinated.

Mrs. Lauver inquired will that include teachers as being one of the categories?

Mr. Musselman responded well, currently, educational workers are on 1B which is the next phase that they will be going into, but what they did do is in 1A they did change some of the criteria. There are some other criteria that people go on and get the vaccine if they'd like to do that. It would be nice if we would get some people in 1A to get that done because I do hear that sometimes after the second vaccines that people have been sick for about a day and so if we can maybe even get some people to go in 1A and get some of those done, and then when 1B comes about, probably be a whole slew of folks that will do that, but will they have the vaccines in this area? That's what we don't know.

Mrs. Lauver stated I only asked because it seems to be in the national news a lot about teachers wanting to have the vaccine and why aren't they a priority. So, that's why I was asking.

Mr. Musselman stated each state is different. In Pennsylvania educational workers are in 1B, and we have not moved from "As" yet. There's still an issue getting enough vaccines. There's not a whole lot coming into our area. I imagine that more are going into the populated areas, but we're just hoping that more can come into our area so more people can become vaccinated.

2. **DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION** Mr. Joseph W. Stroup

Mr. Stroup reported on the following items:

1) Board Member Attendance at February 12 In-Service

I would like to first echo Mr. Musselman's sentiments about February 12 and the Board members taking time out of their busy schedules to come in and speak with our faculty. It went over very well, and I've heard a lot of positive comments on it. So, thank you from myself as well as the rest of the staff for that.

2) Supporting Struggling Students in Virtual, Mid-West Cyber Academy or In-Person Settings

At our last Board meeting, I talked a little bit about struggling students, and that was the focus of our February 12 Act 80 day. We have students that are participating virtually and in our MWCA program and even some kids that are participating in person that are struggling a little bit right now, and we made some phone calls with the help of our teachers to try to encourage parents to have their children return by focusing on relaying how they are performing academically, talking about the safety measures we've

implemented in our school program and talking about the quality of our in-person instructional approach. To date, as a result of those phone calls, we had approximately 16 parents agree to return those students to in-person instruction which we hope has a great benefit for those kids, and for those that haven't been able to or aren't willing to return to school, we are going to offer the following strategies, and the first one that we offered was participating in virtual tutoring sessions. The high school and middle school has those set up for the children. Also, beginning the fourth marking period, we're going to offer some credit recovery to students in the middle and high school who are in danger of failing a course. What this means is during the fourth quarter they could add a marking period of one of the periods that they previously failed and do that online while simultaneously taking their virtual course in that same subject matter to replace that grade, and then for the summer session we will also offer free of charge make-up courses for those students. We will follow all the policies that are in place. Currently, the policy exists that students can take and replace up to two (2) credits during the summer by making up one marking period in each of those courses, and they'll all remain under the policy guidelines that we have, but we're trying to do some things proactively that kids don't get to the situation where they're not being promoted even though maybe some of the choices they made up to this point haven't been best.

### 3) Federal Stimulus Relief Funding

This is in the notes in my report that I submitted to you. We're still looking for ways to explore using the federal stimulus money. There's \$2.7 million in stimulus funding coming from ESSERs II. We know that, and that's guaranteed, and it can be spent on ways of improving your technologic infrastructure so that you can do things on a remote basis for kids. It can be spent on PPE and all kinds of things, and we have a list of what we're working on, and we'll try to have that put together for you in the next couple weeks where we're looking to go. Additionally, there appears to be a lot of support for an equally large federal stimulus through ESSERs III, and this has not been approved yet, but this money would be along the same lines of things in the school district. It creates a challenge for us somewhat in that the money and funding is good up front to pay for some of these costs, but both the federal government and the state government are warning that don't count on these funds long term because it's going to be a one-time type deal, and once the funding runs out, it won't be replaced in federal or state budgets.

Mrs. Lauver stated you said that the money runs out, but we're guaranteed the \$2.7 million, and I think, is there not a deadline date like out there in 2023 or something? I mean there's a time limit.

Mr. Stroup responded that's correct. The \$2.7 million would be 2023. The guidelines aren't out for the ESSER III yet, and it's expected to be as big or bigger than that \$2.7 million, but when those timelines do run out or that September, 23, it needs to be spent, and then we should not expect that again is the advice we're getting.

Mrs. Lauver inquired and are we held accountable for how that money is spent then? I mean they check. You have to send in? I'm assuming.

Mr. Stroup responded yeah, we will definitely have to report it through our Title I allocations and reports that we do for that.

3. **BUSINESS AND FISCAL**

Mr. Ryan L. Wagner

Mr. Wagner reported on the following items:

1) 2021-2022 Budget Update

I'd love to give you a report on the budget this evening, but as Mr. Stroup had mentioned there they ESSER grants have sort of thrown a wrench into the works in our budget preparation. So, I had an earlier budget put together, but we need to meet as a group to figure out where we're going to apply some of those funds and how that will have a big impact on what I had prepared. So, hopefully, by the next meeting we'll at least have something to present to you so you see what we're looking at for next year.

2) Status of Audit Process

On the audit front, the audit is still in process. Mrs. Gardner and I were both out for a few days over the past couple of weeks, and that sort of put us behind a little bit, but we're still moving on with it making progress, and hope to be finished with that very soon, very soon.

3) CSIU FIS System

The 25<sup>th</sup> of this month the District will be moving to the CSIU FIS System, so they tell me. So, it's been a lot of work behind the scenes by a lot of people to get this accomplished, but it's going to be a good switch for the District; much easier to use.

Mr. Abate stated, Mr. Wagner, you said you wanted to meet as a group to discuss this. Do you want to do this prior to your presentation?

Mr. Wagner responded as long as Joe, Rick and any of the other principals involved in that can get together, it would probably be a good idea, yes.

Mr. Abate stated, Mr. Sassaman, do you think you could schedule some time with Mr. Wagner to see if we can get this taken care of for the presentation?

Mr. Sassaman responded I think so.

Mr. Abate stated great. Thank you. Thank you, both.

Mrs. Lauver stated I kind of do. I just have one quick question going back to the ESSER grants or whatever you want to call them. I assume that we had more people just waiting in the state cyber school that the state doesn't help fund, and we have to fund it as a District, and I'm pretty sure that is often you have to budget for more. We can't use any of that money towards that type of schooling, can we?

Mr. Wagner responded they specifically told Districts that that was not a usable way to use those funds.



Mrs. Lauver inquired have we made any progress with convincing the state government that that is putting a hardship on the Districts?

Mr. Wagner responded I think the Governor has funds for it in his budget presentation. It has some charter school reform in there. Whether it's going to get anywhere or not, I'm not sure. It depends on how strong the lobby is.

4. **STUDENT ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES** Mrs. Bree A. Solomon

Mrs. Solomon reported on the following item:

1) Winter Sports Season Summary

I just have to piggyback on what the girls (Lillian and Makenna) reported earlier. We are in the last week of the regular season. Right now, we do have two wrestlers that are still alive. They will participate in the regional tournament this weekend at Williamsport, and then also both of our boys and girls basketball teams are still competing. They have a shot to make districts next week, and then also we do have individual bowlers that have already qualified for the regional tournament, and we should hear about both of our teams later this week if their average is high enough as a team to qualify for that tournament.

5. **FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS** Mr. John S. Rosselli

Mr. Rosselli had no report.

6. **CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA INTERMEDIATE UNIT** Mr. Victor L. Abate

Mr. Abate reported on the following items:

1) Summary of February 17 Meeting

We had a presentation on the CNA/LPN Center which was a very good presentation. I did meet with our two guidance counselors at the high school, and I went over their program with them. It's a fabulous program for students who may or may not have the means financially for a four-year college, and they were very receptive, and they think they have a couple students in mind. So, it worked out very well.

2) 2021-2022 Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit Preliminary General Operating Budget

I want to thank you for passing the budget this evening. Thank you for that.

3) CSIU KPN/PEPPM Presentation and New Director Introduction

I have invited Mr. Brenchley and Dr. Kurelja, who will be the new Executive Director, to attend one of our meetings. Mr. Brenchley is in charge of KPN and PEPPM. I thought it would be a good idea for some of our newer members who are not quite as familiar with that program that he can go into detail on how that operates. Dr. Kurelja will be, as I said earlier, taking over as the Executive Director, after Dr. Singer from retiring, and I just wanted him to come to introduce you all to him and see if you have any questions

for him and how the IU operates. We're trying to work out the details and the dates, and I will let you all know when that happens.

7. **SUN AREA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE**

Mrs. Julie R. Eriksson

Mrs. Eriksson reported on the following items:

1) February is Tech and CTC Month

Just remind everybody that February is Tech and CTC month. So, we're happy to celebrate that.

2) Virtual Open House

In March we'll be doing virtual Open House this year.

3) Motorcycle Safety Program

The Motorcycle Safety Program is going to be coming back in the spring.

4) Preliminary Numbers for Midd-West School District

The preliminary numbers for the Midd-West School District as far as preliminary enrollment numbers we have 64 total; 12 in the Building and Trades Program; 4 in the Advertising/Communications Program; 29 in the Health Services Program; 5 in the Manufacturing Program; 4 in the Technical Programs; and 10 in the Transportation Program. Those are our preliminary numbers. We had a meeting last Thursday, but I don't have the J.O.C. Highlights, but as soon as I have them, I will forward them onto everyone.

Mr. Abate inquired, Mrs. Eriksson, do they have any programs that are in or could fail because of enrollment? Do you know that?

Mrs. Eriksson responded because of everything because the enrollment is a little low right now, and I think they're going to be talking with the superintendents when they have their meetings to do another push only because it's just so odd because of the year with everyone. I don't know. The only one that we are looking at having an issue with, and we're going to go over to the Columbia-Montour. It was the Electronics Program is changing as far as how it's being presented, and we have a teacher that's going to be leaving here so we're trying to figure out what's going to happen there with that program. That's the only one so far.

Mrs. Lauver stated I have a question. Julie, I did not know this until I was at a check-out counter at a store, and the person checking me out did not go to vo-tech because she likes music, and I forget. She's in Art Design, I think. So, she's been taking college credits instead of going to vo-tech. So, I asked her, "Well, couldn't you do vo-tech?" and she said that because she couldn't do band at the home school she did not want to go to vo-tech. Is that how it is with most students? They lose their extra-curricular when they go over there?

Mrs. Eriksson responded that's a good question. I don't know how that works to be honest with you. Because I know it would be hard because it would depend. Like I know Christian couldn't continue with band because it was in the middle of the day because it usually was over lunch time. So, those kids wouldn't be able to leave and then go back, especially this year because it's such a mess. You don't want them going between the schools because of Corona and germs and that kind of stuff. So, I don't know because I know that yes, that's a good question for the guidance counselors I guess and the principals. I wouldn't know how that works to be honest with you.

Mr. Boonie stated if I can chime in here, every district is different. Some districts, I know Mifflinburg allows the students to come back for chorus and for band, but it's the way they have the schedule laid out. They do it at the end of the day so that students can just be dismissed early on the days that they need to go back for that. It really does vary.

Mrs. Eriksson inquired what if it's for a club or something like that?

Mr. Boonie responded we have students go back for FFA at Mifflinburg District, but, again, it's all how the schedules are arranged whether that can be accomplished or not.

Mrs. Lauver stated I think it's something that would be worthwhile looking into. I mean she's very proactive and very determined to get everything done, and I appreciated that in her, and I told her that, but I just think perhaps that it keeps students from going into a field they'd like to go into just because they also like music or chorus or something like that.

Mrs. Eriksson stated that's a good question. That's a very good question, but, yeah, it would have to be because, yeah, there's some more discussion that we could maybe have on that. I appreciate that, Onie.

8. **PSBA LIAISON** Mr. Donald D. Pinci

Mr. Pinci reported on the following items:

1) Virtual Advocacy Day

They are setting up an Advocacy Day to talk with the representatives virtually in March this year. They are having a Virtual Advocacy Day where you talk with the representatives of your area in March.

2) Platform Committee

They are trying to get me on a Platform Committee.

9. **POLICY COMMITTEE** Mrs. Julie R. Eriksson

Mrs. Eriksson reported on the following items:

1) Meeting Last Week

We met as you noticed. There are all kinds of policies that need approved. We reviewed a couple more that we'll be spreading out over the next couple of meetings.

2) Next Meeting on March 1 at 4:00 p.m.

Mrs. Lauver stated, Julie, I have a question on this again. I'm sorry. I'm full of questions tonight. Could you make sure that I'm notified? I assume you're still doing them by Zoom. I haven't gotten any notifications as to when you're meeting or how, and I'm semi-retired so I have time to participate, and I would like to be since I'm on the Committee.

Mrs. Eriksson stated will do.

Mrs. Lauver stated thank you, and then I have one other quick question. I went back to look at some old minutes of our meetings, and we talked a little bit about some of the policies that were on our agenda, and talked about that we would take out the wording and just make it into an AR, but I looked back on it, and we had a discussion on December 2, 2019, about Administrative Regulations (ARs), and it used to be that when you got on the Board, you got your policy book which we don't have to because they're electronic with BoardDocs, but you also would get an AR which we call it the blue pages, and I know that that stays in-house. That's how the Administration accomplishes the policies, but I wasn't given one this time, and then I was told that that hasn't been done for many years. So, I was wondering when you say on the summary sheet that you sent out I think February 5, several of those policies they said they would just write it into the AR, but we never see the AR as a Board. So, I'm not saying we need to hold them accountable. I'm just wondering. That was part of some of the changes we were making on the policies and voting on, and yet I don't know if there is an active AR, and any time you make changes, the AR has to be adopted by the Administration, or I should say edited with the Administration.

Mrs. Eriksson inquired Administration but not Board, correct?

Mrs. Lauver responded right, but then the Board should be made aware of it, or at least we used to get blue pages, but I think Allyson told me there hasn't been one given to the Board members for many years. So, a lot of you aren't even aware of it that it exists is my point.

Mrs. Eriksson stated administrative responsibilities normally isn't something that we would handle at the Board level I wouldn't think.

Mrs. Lauver stated no, we don't handle it. It's just that you're aware and like the transparency. Like you know it's there, and the Board has it for their reference.

Mrs. Eriksson stated okay, well, we can talk about it when we have policy meeting. I know there's some that are being updated that we wouldn't even have yet because it's something that will need to be rolled into an AR policy.

We'll look for Joe on guidance on that and/or the principals for whatever administrators are responsible for that particular piece. That's a good point.

10. **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE** Mr. Terry L. Boonie

Mr. Boonie had no report.

Mrs. Lauver inquired when is the next meeting?

Mr. Boonie responded I would have to look it up on my calendar. Three months from a couple weeks ago. I'd have to look it up, Onie. I can e-mail you and let you know exactly. I don't have it in front of me.

Mrs. Lauver stated that would be great. That makes it probably about June.

Ms. Folk stated May 6.

11. **TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE** Mr. Justin T. Haynes

Mr. Haynes had no report.

Mr. Porzi had no report. He stated I'm sure there's going to be more discussion for our next Technology Committee meeting.

Mr. Boonie stated, Giuls, I do have a question. In our network with coming into our District, do we have fiber coming in from Service Electric, or do they still have copper coming into our building?

Mr. Porzi responded the fiber line is out to West Snyder.

12. **FINANCE/BUDGET COMMITTEE** Mr. Shawn A. Sassaman

Mr. Sassaman had no report.

13. **PROFESSIONAL STAFF NEGOTIATION COMMITTEE** Mr. Shawn A. Sassaman

Mr. Sassaman had no report.

14. **SUPPORT STAFF NEGOTIATION COMMITTEE** Mr. Donald D. Pinci

Mr. Pinci had no report.

15. **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE** Mr. Terry L. Boonie

Mr. Boonie had no report.

16. **BOARD AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS** Mr. Victor L. Abate

Mrs. Bzdil had no report.

Mr. Edmiston reported the prom advisors met to discuss possible venues for this year's prom. Obviously, we're concerned with numbers so they're looking at an outdoor venue. I'm going with them and Officer Mall is going with them tomorrow to visit a location about eight miles from our high school called Willow

Stone, I believe. It's a renovated barn. So, it has a roof, but it has open boards, if that makes sense, and they would be able to accommodate us. So, we're checking that out tomorrow to see if that is possible, and then the second thing is the senior class advisors met with the Commencement Committee to discuss where we're going to hold commencement this year, and we're looking at our stadium. We're looking at May 28 at the regular time; however, they do have alternative dates because we're going to be outside only, and, of course, at that time of year those evening thunderstorms come through. So, they're looking at also Saturday, the 29<sup>th</sup>, if we have to have a rain date, we're going to go the very next day at noon to try to have it early so we can accommodate family gatherings, and if for some reason we have two days straight of bad weather, they are going to also look at that Sunday, the 30<sup>th</sup>, at 2 o'clock. Hopefully, it's going to be Friday night, and with the way that our county is trending, hopefully, we'll be out of the "substantial" well before then so we'll be able to accommodate many, many, many tickets per student. So, any questions on those two items, I'd be happy to answer them.

Mrs. Eriksson inquired am I allowed to say, "Hey, good work?"

Mr. Edmiston responded absolutely. That's the Committee. I'll let them know.

Mrs. Eriksson stated yeah, and there are parents that are willing to help if they need help with any of that kind of stuff, too, if you want to let them know. I'm happy to help with chairs. There's other family and friends that would love to help, too, if you need us.

Mr. Edmiston stated appreciate it. Thank you so much.

Mr. Brown stated we just recently submitted our Board report for the high school, and I also wanted to say I'm glad to see some students trickling back in from virtual learning and cyber back in the buildings. So, that's refreshing to see.

Mr. Aucker had no report.

Miss Sheedy had no report.

Mrs. Lohr had no report.

Mr. Abate stated you've done a fabulous job, Mr. Edmiston. Again, thank you for all your hard work and the Committee's work to pull this graduation and prom together for the students. Greatly appreciated, sir.

Mr. Boonie stated just again, thank you all for all your hard work with this virus thing and keeping our kids moving forward with their education. There's a lot of complaints out there about other schools, and I think you guys are all doing a great job. So, thank you so much.

Mrs. Eriksson stated what he said. I do have a question, and I'm probably going to get in trouble from these people what I'm referring to, but if it's possible, I think that we should as a Board try to make sure that we're all on video that way people can see our faces when we're speaking. I'm going to get in trouble from the ones that are not doing it right now, but I think that we should.

Mr. Abate stated not a bad suggestion, Mrs. Eriksson.

XIII. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Victor L. Abate

Mrs. Eriksson moved and \_\_\_\_\_ seconded a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Yes: Abate, Boonie, Eriksson, Haynes, Lauver, Nesbit, Pinci, Sassaman, Wagner

No: None

9-0-0-0

MOTION CARRIED

Recording Secretary:

Chairperson:

Date:

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