

# MIDD-WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting/ Work Session  
West Snyder Elementary School  
Large Group Instruction Room  
Monday, January 8, 2018

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

### I. **OPENING CEREMONY**

### II. **CALL TO ORDER: 7:01 p.m.**

Mr. Victor L. Abate

Mr. Abate stated this evening we have a third grade student here at West Snyder, Landen Snook, who is going to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance this evening. Landen lives in Beaver Springs with his parents, and I understand you like to sing and dance, too.

Mr. Snook responded yes.

Mr. Abate stated you don't have to do that tonight.

*Laughter occurred at this time.*

Mr. Abate stated there's the flag. Whenever you're ready.

*A round of applause occurred at the conclusion of the Pledge of Allegiance.*

### 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. Thomas J. Rubillo, Vice President	X		
Mr. Shawn A. Sassaman, Treasurer	X		
Mr. Ronald L. Hoffman		X	
Mrs. Wyona P. Lauver	X		
Mr. Tony G. McKnight	X		
Mr. Christopher T. Nesbit	X		
Mr. Donald D. Pinci	X		
Mr. Ronald E. Wilson	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. Michael A. Miller, Business Manager  
Attorney Orris C. Knepp, III, Solicitor  
Mr. Dane S. Aucker, Principal, Midd-West Middle School  
Mr. Thor R. Edmiston, Principal, Midd-West High School

Ms. Cynthia L. Hutchinson, Principal, Middleburg Elementary School  
Miss Erin C. Sheedy, Principal, West Snyder Elementary School  
Mr. Gary L. Thomas, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds  
Mr. Tim Andretta  
Mr. Daniel Bishop  
Mrs. Molly Bishop  
Mr. Tyler Bishop  
Mr. Ryan Carnahan  
Mrs. Jean Fawver  
Mr. Michael Ferriero  
Mr. Karon Franklin  
Mr. Alan Goss  
Mr. Tim Grover  
Mr. Alan Hartman  
Ms. Ashley Houtz  
Mrs. Jamie Kline  
Mr. Randy Kline  
Mrs. April Lauver  
Mr. Trey Lauver  
Mrs. Lisa Mitchell  
Miss Kendra Peachy  
Mr. Trent Peachy  
Mrs. Kathy Shea  
Mrs. Arla Snook  
Mr. Brice Snook  
Mr. Landen Snook  
Mr. Roger Snook  
Mrs. Tonyah Stuck  
Mr. Benjamin Umstead  
Mr. Scott Umstead  
Ms. Martina Uskurait  
Mr. Peter Voss  
Mrs. Marsha Wagner  
Mrs. B. J. Wolfley  
Mr. Owen Zechman  
Approximately 5 Additional 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 were no public comments.*

**V. SCHEDULED SPEAKERS**

Mr. Victor L. Abate

*There were no scheduled speakers.*

**VI. STUDENT REPORTS**

Miss Libby R. Sankey and Master Dominick F. Abate

Mr. Abate stated the Student Reports this evening, I erred on the sign of caution this evening due to the weather. So, I dismissed the students. They will be here on the 22<sup>nd</sup>

to give their report to the Board. If you're wondering they are, they are not here this evening.

**VII. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

**A. BUSINESS AND FISCAL**

Mr. Shawn A. Sassaman

**1. BUS DRIVERS**

Mr. Rubillo moved and Mr. McKnight seconded approval for the following individuals as bus drivers for the 2017-2018 school year:

Hunters Valley, Inc.

Jamie N. Batdorf effective January 4, 2018  
Amy D. Knepp effective December 18, 2017  
Richard Martinez effective December 22, 2017

Yes: Abate, Lauver, McKnight, Nesbit, Pinci, Rubillo, Sassaman,  
Wilson

No: None

Absent: Hoffman

8-0-1-0

MOTION CARRIED

**2. BUDGET TRANSFER**

Mr. Nesbit moved and Mr. Rubillo seconded approval of the budget transfer for the 2017-2018 school year for ongoing budgetary needs.

Discussion:

Mrs. Lauver inquired is there a reason there's not an amount put in there?

Mr. Miller responded it's on the hand-out to the Board. It's for \$500.00.

Mrs. Lauver stated right. I just meant for the public's. Benefit of the public is what I meant.

Mr. Abate stated we will see that that gets on.

Yes: Abate, Lauver, McKnight, Nesbit, Pinci, Rubillo, Sassaman,  
Wilson

No: None

Absent: Hoffman

8-0-1-0

MOTION CARRIED

**3. 2017-2018 TUITION AGREEMENTS – NEW STORY**

Mr. Nesbit moved and Mr. Rubillo seconded approval of the 2017-2018 Tuition Agreements between New Story and the Mid-West School District for one (1) student at the \$500.00 extra high rate per day for

attendance and one (1) student at the \$355.00 high rate per day for attendance that includes all services to be effective on August 23, 2017, through June 1, 2018.

Yes: Abate, Lauver, McKnight, Nesbit, Pinci, Rubillo, Sassaman, Wilson

No: None

Absent: Hoffman

8-0-1-0

MOTION CARRIED

4. **QUOTE FOR NUMBERING/LETTERING BUS PARKING SPOTS AND REPAINTING LINES, AREA OF BUS LOOP BETWEEN MIDD-WEST HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLEBURG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Mr. Nesbit moved and Mr. Pinci seconded approval of the quote for numbering/lettering bus parking spots and repainting lines, area of bus loop between Mid-West High School and Middleburg Elementary School from Safety Line Co., Allenwood, PA, at a cost of \$440.00.

Discussion:

Mrs. Lauver inquired how many people bid on this? This went out on bids, correct?

Mr. Abate responded no.

Mr. Musselman stated no, we just got quotes on it because of the dollar amount you weren't required to put out the bid.

Yes: Abate, Lauver, McKnight, Nesbit, Pinci, Rubillo, Sassaman, Wilson

No: None

Absent: Hoffman

8-0-1-0

MOTION CARRIED

B. **POLICY AND PROGRAMS**

Mr. Thomas J. Rubillo

1. **FIELD TRIPS**

Mr. Pinci moved and Mr. Nesbit seconded approval of the following field trips:

a. Instrumental Students (Grades 9 – 12) – Mid-West High School – Mansfield, PA – January 10, 2018, through January 13, 2018 – 5 Students/1 Adult – Cost to Organization: \$0.00 – Cost to District: \$1,070.08

b. Select Instrumental Student (Grade 12) – Mid-West High School – Athens, PA – February 7, 2018, through February 10, 2018 – 1 Student/1 Adult – Cost to Organization: \$0.00 – Cost to District: \$1,076.60

- c. Instrumental Students (Grades 9 – 12) – Mid-West High School – Selinsgrove, PA – February 16, 2018, through February 18, 2018 – 7 Students/1 Adult – Cost to Organization: \$0.00 – Cost to District: \$420.00
- d. DECA – Mid-West High School – Hershey, PA – February 21, 2018, through February 24, 2018 – 60 Students/3 Adults – Cost to District: \$3,981.34 – Cost to Organization: \$20,880.00

Discussion:

Mr. McKnight inquired under letter d., is that enough chaperones for students?

Mr. Musselman responded yes.

Mr. Abate inquired, Mr. Edmiston, under item b., the one student/one adult, is the student staying with a host family?

Mr. Edmiston responded yes. That is a host family situation, correct.

Mr. Abate commented thank you.

Yes: Abate, Lauver, McKnight, Nesbit, Pinci, Rubillo, Sassaman, Wilson

No: None

Absent: Hoffman

8-0-1-0

MOTION CARRIED

**C. PERSONNEL**

Mr. Thomas J. Rubillo

**1. EMPLOYMENT – CLASSIFIED**

Mr. Rubillo moved and Mr. Nesbit seconded approval to employ the following individual:

- a. Classified Employee – Gordon L. Alexander – Mower Operator/  
Custodian – Mid-West School District – Effective: January 15,  
2018 – Salary: \$10.60 per hour *{Replacement/Thomas}*

Discussion:

Mrs. Lauver stated I just have a quick question being new on the Board. A custodian like, okay, so I understand the mower operator, but custodian, where does he fit in or she fit in during the year?

Mr. Abate inquired, Mr. Thomas?

Mrs. Lauver inquired which building?

Mr. Thomas responded this will be a substitute custodian to be used at all buildings where needed.

Mrs. Lauver inquired is this a position you've always had like over the years, or was it created like last year?

Mr. Thomas responded it was just created last year, yes.

Yes: Abate, Lauver, McKnight, Nesbit, Pinci, Rubillo, Sassaman, Wilson

No: None

Absent: Hoffman

8-0-1-0

MOTION CARRIED

2. **APPOINTMENTS**

a. **EXTRA-CURRICULAR**

Mr. Nesbit moved and Mr. Rubillo seconded approval to reappoint the following individuals for the 2017-2018 school year:

Jason A. Gemberling	Track and Field Coach – Head	MWHS	\$3,747.00
Peter J. Voss	Softball Coach – Head	MWHS	\$3,747.00
Scott A. Wright	Baseball Coach – Head	MWHS	\$3,747.00

Yes: Abate, Lauver, McKnight, Nesbit, Pinci, Rubillo, Sassaman, Wilson

No: None

Absent: Hoffman

8-0-1-0

MOTION CARRIED

b. **EXTRA-CURRICULAR – VOLUNTEER**

Mr. Nesbit moved and Mr. Sassaman seconded approval of the following individual as a volunteer for the 2017-2018 school year:

Troy L. Heckman*	Junior High Wrestling Coach	MWMS
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*\*Pending receipt of Act 24 and 31*

Yes: Abate, Lauver, McKnight, Nesbit, Pinci, Rubillo, Sassaman, Wilson

No: None

Absent: Hoffman

8-0-1-0

MOTION CARRIED

3. **ADDITION TO SUBSTITUTE LIST**

a. **CLASSIFIED/CUSTODIAL**

Mr. Rubillo moved and Mr. Nesbit seconded approval of the following individual as a custodial substitute at a rate of \$8.95 per hour for the 2017-2018 school year:

Beth A. Nornhold

Discussion:

Mr. McKnight stated I have a question. Didn't we just do a sub custodian? Now we're doing another one?

Mr. Musselman responded they're added to the substitute list. So, you can have several people on a substitute list, and so, if you have a vacancy, or if someone is ill or whatever, you may have to go through several people to even get somebody that can come in. So, we typically like to have as many people on our substitute list as possible.

Mr. McKnight inquired but they're only paid when they're here?

Mr. Musselman responded when they're here. They only get paid when they come in and work, yes.

Yes: Abate, Lauver, McKnight, Nesbit, Pinci, Rubillo, Sassaman,  
Wilson

No: None

Absent: Hoffman

8-0-1-0

MOTION CARRIED

Yes: Abate, Lauver, McKnight, Nesbit, Pinci, Rubillo, Sassaman,  
Wilson

No: None

Absent: Hoffman

8-0-1-0

MOTION CARRIED

#### 4. **LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

Mr. Sassaman moved and Mrs. Lauver seconded approval of the following medical leaves of absence:

- a. Middleburg Elementary School – Effective: December 11, 2017, through December 17, 2017
- b. Middleburg Elementary School – Effective: December 28, 2017, through approximately February 12, 2018
- c. District Office – Effective: January 19, 2018, through January 20, 2018

Yes: Abate, Lauver, McKnight, Nesbit, Pinci, Rubillo, Sassaman,  
Wilson

No: None

Absent: Hoffman

8-0-1-0

MOTION CARRIED

#### 5. **RESIGNATIONS**

Mr. Wilson moved and Mr. Nesbit seconded approval to accept the following resignations:

Denise L. Bubb  
Cafeteria Worker  
West Snyder Elementary School

Effective: December 1, 2017

Ryan J. Swineford  
Assistant Junior Varsity Baseball Coach  
Mid-West High School

Effective: December 12, 2017

William L. Phillips  
Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach  
Mid-West High School

Effective: December 18, 2017

Yes: Abate, Lauver, McKnight, Nesbit, Pinci, Rubillo, Sassaman,  
Wilson

No: None

Absent: Hoffman

8-0-1-0

MOTION CARRIED

6. **TRANSFER**

Mr. Nesbit moved and Mr. Rubillo seconded approval to accept the following transfer:

- 1) Caitlan M. Messimer as elementary teacher (Grade 5) at Middleburg Elementary School to elementary teacher (Grade 5) at West Snyder Elementary School to be effective on July 1, 2018.

Discussion:

Mr. Abate inquired what are doing with her position at Middleburg Elementary?

Mr. Musselman responded we're going to have to advertise it and/or people from internally because our requirement from the CBA says that we have to post it internally first. So, we will post it, and then we will fill that position, but if you notice, we're actually asking that that happen July 1. So, the person that we would eventually hire probably would come out here (West Snyder Elementary School), finish out the end of this year, and then we'd make the change because we want to try to keep the disruptions down in the classroom to a minimum, if possible.

Mr. Abate inquired so then you're going to try to get somebody?

Mr. Musselman responded yeah, yeah, we're trying to get somebody for here (West Snyder Elementary School).

Mr. Abate commented right, okay. Very good.

Yes: Abate, Lauver, McKnight, Nesbit, Pinci, Rubillo, Sassaman,  
Wilson

No: None

Absent: Hoffman

8-0-1-0

MOTION CARRIED

D. **OTHER**

1. **STUDENT DISCIPLINE**

Mr. Rubillo moved and Mr. Sassaman seconded approval of the adoption of the Administration's student discipline recommendation and directs the Superintendent to give notice of the action to Student 08-2017 and the parents and advise them of the disciplinary recommendation.

Discussion:

Mr. Nesbit stated, Mr. Abate, hold on one second.

*Mr. Nesbit and Mrs. Lauver were having a conversation.*

Mr. Abate inquired do you need?

Mrs. Lauver responded yes.

Mr. Abate stated alright. We're going to take a few minutes here as an Executive Session to update Mrs. Lauver.

*An Executive Session was called at 7:18 p.m.*

*The Board reconvened at 7:21 p.m.*

*Mr. Abate stated we did have a discussion on a student disciplinary issue.*

Yes: Abate, Lauver, McKnight, Nesbit, Pinci, Rubillo, Sassaman,  
Wilson

No: None

Absent: Hoffman

8-0-1-0

MOTION CARRIED

VIII. **CLOSING CEREMONIES**

IX. **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 were no public comments.*

X. **SCHEDULED SPEAKERS**

Mr. Victor L. Abate

*There were no scheduled speakers.*

XI. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Victor L. Abate

Mr. Nesbit moved and Mr. Sassaman seconded a motion to adjourn the January 8, 2018, regular Board meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Yes: Abate, Lauver, McKnight, Nesbit, Pinci, Rubillo, Sassaman, Wilson

No: None  
Absent: Hoffman  
8-0-1-0  
MOTION CARRIED

Recording Secretary:

Chairperson:

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_

**WORK SESSION**

I. **CALL TO ORDER: 7:24 p.m.**

Mr. Victor L. Abate

II. **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. Thomas J. Rubillo, Vice President	X		
Mr. Shawn A. Sassaman, Treasurer	X		
Mr. Ronald L. Hoffman		X	
Mrs. Wyona P. Lauver	X		
Mr. Tony G. McKnight	X		
Mr. Christopher T. Nesbit	X		
Mr. Donald D. Pinci	X		
Mr. Ronald E. Wilson	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. Michael A. Miller, Business Manager  
Attorney Orris C. Knepp, III, Solicitor  
Mr. Dane S. Aucker, Principal, Midd-West Middle School  
Mr. Thor R. Edmiston, Principal, Midd-West High School  
Ms. Cynthia L. Hutchinson, Principal, Middleburg Elementary School  
Miss Erin C. Sheedy, Principal, West Snyder Elementary School  
Mr. Gary L. Thomas, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds  
Mr. Tim Andretta  
Mr. Daniel Bishop  
Mrs. Molly Bishop  
Mr. Tyler Bishop  
Mr. Ryan Carnahan  
Mrs. Jean Fawver  
Mr. Michael Ferriero  
Mr. Karon Franklin

Mr. Alan Goss  
Mr. Tim Grover  
Mr. Alan Hartman  
Ms. Ashley Houtz  
Mrs. Jamie Kline  
Mr. Randy Kline  
Mrs. April Lauver  
Mr. Trey Lauver  
Mrs. Lisa Mitchell  
Miss Kendra Peachy  
Mr. Trent Peachy  
Mrs. Kathy Shea  
Mrs. Arla Snook  
Mr. Brice Snook  
Mr. Landen Snook  
Mr. Roger Snook  
Mrs. Tonyah Stuck  
Mr. Benjamin Umstead  
Mr. Scott Umstead  
Ms. Martina Uskurait  
Mr. Peter Voss  
Mrs. Marsha Wagner  
Mrs. B. J. Wolfley  
Mr. Owen Zechman  
Approximately 5 Additional Concerned Citizens

III. **SCHEDULED SPEAKERS**

Mr. Victor L. Abate

Mr. Daniel Bishop stated you all know me by now. Those who don't know me, I'm Dan Bishop. I've coached some of these kids since they first knew how to buckle a chin strap. I was a volunteer coach for the East Juniata junior high football team. This sweatshirt that I'm wearing tonight came from our second year that I was involved with these kids. The first year their record was 3-7. Their second year, their record was 7-3. They turned their season around, and the way they did it was this logo that they came up with: We practice together. We play together. We win together. We're Mustangs together. I'm asking the Board. I'm asking the community. I'm asking the Sports Boosters. Let's practice together. Let's play together. Let's win together with these boys. We want to play football as Mustangs. Thank you.

Mr. Abate commented thank you, Mr. Bishop.

IV. **ITEMS FOR WORK SESSION**

A. **BUSINESS AND FISCAL**

Mr. Shawn A. Sassaman

1. **MINUTES**

- a. Approval is recommended of the minutes of the December 4, 2017, reorganization/regular meeting of the Midd-West School District Board of School Directors.
- b. Approval is recommended of the minutes of the December 11, 2017, special meeting of the Board of School Directors.

- c. Approval is recommended of the minutes of the January 8, 2018, regular meeting and work session of the Midd-West School District Board of Directors.

Discussion:

None

2. **LIST OF BILLS**

Approval is recommended of the list of bills for the period November 21, 2017, through January 22, 2018.

Discussion:

None

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 November 30, 2017.

Discussion:

None

Approval is recommended for the Treasurer's Reports for the General Fund, Capital Reserve Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Food Services Fund and Activity Fund for the period ending December 31, 2017.

Discussion:

None

4. **PLANCON PART H – PROJECT FINANCING**

Approval is requested to grant authorization for the Administration to submit PlanCon Part H, Project Financing, to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for approval for the West Snyder Elementary School Renovation Project.

Discussion:

Mr. Abate inquired, Mr. Miller, are you going to be able to have these PlanCons in order before your departure?

Mr. Miller responded well, the "H" is really the second to last piece. The "J" is the last piece, and no, we're still waiting on the last invoices for the project. So, I cannot complete the PlanCon J.

B. **POLICY AND PROGRAMS**

Mr. Thomas J. Rubillo

1. **REVISED POLICY GUIDE 003 – FUNCTIONS**

Approval is recommended of revised Policy Guide 003, Functions, on second and final reading.

Discussion:

None

2. **NEW POLICY GUIDE 534.1 – SICK LEAVE BANK**

Approval is recommended of new Policy Guide 534.1, Sick Leave Bank, on second and final reading.

Discussion:

None

3. **AFFILIATION AGREEMENT WITH NEW YORK UNIVERSITY**

Approval is requested of an Affiliation Agreement with New York University to provide clinical training to students in one or more programs as set forth in Schedule 1 within the schools in the District to be effective on January 22, 2018, and continuing until termination by either Party.

Discussion:

Mr. Abate inquired could you please explain, Mr. Stroup?

Mr. Stroup responded NYU has a counselor candidate, guidance counselor, who wants to do a practicum in one of our schools. We have a placement. They have to go through a similar process of approving. It would be Mr. Blockus at Mid-West High School upon your approval, and then they would approve as well.

C. **PERSONNEL**

Mr. Thomas J. Rubillo

1. **EMPLOYMENT – CERTIFICATED**

Approval is requested to employ the following individual:

- a. Temporary Professional Employee – \_\_\_\_\_ – Elementary Teacher (Grade 5) – West Snyder Elementary School – Effective: \_\_\_\_\_, pending receipt of Act 34, 151, 114, 24 and 31 – Salary: \$\_\_\_\_\_ pro rated {Replacement/Sheedy}

Discussion:

Mr. Rubillo stated there's a lot of stuff pending.

Mr. Abate commented yeah, there is.

Mr. Musselman stated we moved the one teacher over here that's going to

take place, but this was kind of covering that, but we'll change some things around and hopefully have somebody for you.

Mrs. Bree Solomon arrived at 7:29 p.m.

2. **EMPLOYMENT – CLASSIFIED**

Approval is requested to employ the following individual:

- a. Classified Employee – \_\_\_\_\_ – Full-time Night-shift  
Custodian – Mid-West High School – Effective: \_\_\_\_\_,  
2018, pending receipt of Act 34, 151, 114, 24 and 31 – Salary: \$8.95  
per hour {Replacement/Thomas}

Discussion:

None

3. **APPOINTMENTS**

a. **EXTRA-CURRICULAR – VOLUNTEERS**

Approval is recommended of the following individuals as volunteers for the 2017-2018 school year:

Greta E. Biddle	Track and Field Coach	MWHS
Ryan J. Swineford	Baseball Coach	MWHS

Discussion:

None

Mr. Abate inquired, Mr. Rubillo, how many policies will you have for us?

Mr. Rubillo responded we are going to. We just reviewed five, I think five, today we went through, yes. So, we'll have five more policies.

Mr. Abate stated you're doing a great job.

D. **OTHER**

1. **MIDD-WEST HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PROGRAM**

Approval is recommended of a high school football program for the Mid-West School District for which the District shall pay for the coaching staff (pending approval of a Memorandum of Understanding by the Mid-West Education Association and the Board, which will be needed to add football coaching positions to Appendix C of the current Collective Bargaining Agreement), game event staff, P.I.A.A. officials and custodial/buildings and grounds staff to prepare and maintain the practice field and a game field for home games and for post-game clean-up, which will be paid for, in part, from gate receipts. *All other expenses associated with a football program at Mid-West School District will be the responsibility of the Mid-West Football Sports Boosters at the time they become due. Should the Mid-West Football Sports Boosters default on*

*any of their financial obligations, the football program at Midd-West School District will be suspended until such time that those financial obligations have been satisfied.*

Discussion:

Mr. Pinci inquired is this a motion?

Mr. Abate responded it will be on the next. We will be voting on this on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January.

Mr. Pinci inquired how much does the other expenses associated with a football program? The Boosters, how much are they responsible for?

Mr. Abate responded I don't know. Before we get started, Mr. Solicitor, if you would explain the MOU, what that would entail.

Attorney Knepp inquired for the coaching staff?

Mr. Abate responded yes.

Attorney Knepp stated the way your Collective Bargaining Agreement is set up, you include coaches and extra-curricular positions as part of your Collective Bargaining Agreement. So, just like you voted earlier for head coaches for baseball and softball and track, you'll have to do the same thing for football and any paid assistant positions will also need to be voted on and a financial amount set in the Collective Bargaining Agreement of what you're going to compensate those people. The same thing would be true for your event staff and so forth. All that stuff has to be voted on and approved for the various unions involved.

Mr. Pinci inquired when we had it with the Juniata, were we paying salary to the coaches?

Mr. Abate responded no.

Mr. Musselman commented in a roundabout way we did. We paid based on the number of students we had in participation. Midd-West paid a portion of it. They took the total cost of the program, and we had a pro rated portion of whatever that program would be. I think it came out to \$20 or \$21,000.00 a year the District was paying for football, but they just took the whole total cost, and then we paid, and at the end of it, we were. We had most of the players that were there. I can't remember how many students were E.J., but it wasn't many that they actually had on the team. Maybe 10. Maybe, if that.

Mr. Pinci stated I don't know if I have any other questions now. I have concerns.

Mr. Abate inquired your concerns are? I mean if you wish to share them, that's fine.

Mr. Pinci responded yeah, this is the time to do it. I'm concerned with how many students this year had head injuries/concussions of some type or joint injuries.

Mr. Abate inquired, Mrs. Solomon, do you have those answers?

Mrs. Solomon responded I don't really have those answers. The medical personnel would be a better. I can get them.

Mr. Abate inquired could you get those for Mr. Pinci?

Mrs. Solomon stated I don't think there were many that I remember. Normally, any type of serious injury like that they would let us know if they're our students. I don't remember any major injuries this year.

Mr. Bishop stated we had one.

Mr. Abate inquired did we have two students; one with a broken arm and one with a leg?

Mrs. Solomon responded we had a collar bone.

Mr. Abate inquired collar bone and a broken arm?

Mrs. Solomon responded that happened at a scrimmage. We had a student get a broken collar bone.

Mr. Abate inquired wasn't there also one with an arm?

Mrs. Solomon responded I don't know. I don't remember. The collar bone is the only one I'm aware of. That was a substantial injury that took him out for the entire season.

Mr. Abate commented okay. Could you get that information for Mr. Pinci and the rest of the Board then, please?

Mr. Pinci stated well, I just have to add that I had one year where I had three students who had head injuries in one class, and so I was told to be careful with how much I put on the students. So, I see that as a problem. Whether it's head injuries or joint injuries. I mean it's a problem, and we are, as a School Board and instructors, we're trying to produce a safe environment, and there's nothing safe about football.

There was an outburst from a gentleman in the audience who stated might as well quit playing all sports then.

*Mr. Abate hammered the gavel for order.*

Mr. Pinci stated I don't have anything more to say on that.

Mr. Abate inquired, Mrs. Lauver?

Mrs. Lauver stated I have one question, too? The one thing that I think that might be missing here, which I think you pretty much have, but most of your sporting events would be, and I think the District would have to cover, would be like an athletic trainer.

Mr. Abate stated there is an athletic trainer, and there's also a rider, I believe, Mr. Miller, to our insurance policy that the District would have to also pick up.

Mrs. Lauver stated but it wasn't listed. That's why.

Mr. Abate stated no, it would be because the trainer we have now, she's not going to be able to cover it in the fall sports with soccer and field hockey and if we decide with football, she's not going to be able to do that. Plus, what was the policy? \$5 additional?

Mr. Miller responded yes, and I want to interject a little bit. Our insurance carrier, whereas some insurance carriers require the District to carry it if they sponsor football. Our current carriers do not actually, it's not a requirement, but this year, we decided to carry that secondary insurance, and the plan would be then to carry it for football as well. It's my personal thought that we carry it for football, but no, it's not a requirement of our current insurance carriers, though our insurance carriers could change.

Mr. Abate inquired would it be a good safety net for the money spent?

Mr. Miller responded I think it is a good protection for both parties, and there's a reason why some insurance carriers require the District to carry it.

Mr. Abate inquired, Mr. Nesbit?

Mr. Nesbit inquired we're required to have an ambulance there as well, I believe?

Mr. Abate responded I believe so. Mrs. Solomon?

Mr. Nesbit inquired is that something that has to be paid for through the District, or can that be billed separately?

Mrs. Solomon responded they normally will volunteer.

Mr. Nesbit commented okay. Transportation? Busing? Who covers those costs?

Mr. Abate responded well, I talked to Mr. Musselman, and we discussed this this evening on that. If we were to somehow approve this program, and we would move practices down to Middleburg. We got 80 some acres back there we could practice on a half field. What are you talking? Five? Six away games at one clip? We make the lacrosse team pay for their busing. I don't know what that would cost. I have no idea.

Mr. Miller stated several hundred dollars a trip, and now if the games are played at West Snyder, you will need to bus home games and then away games, but instead of busing every day for practice, it will only be eight or nine or ten times a season or more.

Mr. Nesbit inquired would that billing be done through the District, or would it be done directly?

Mr. Abate responded I believe we do the billing through lacrosse through the District on transportation, and then the organization reimburses the District at the end of the season for the transportation costs.

Mrs. Lauver stated currently we have like a Sports Boosters Club when we had the football. They had also they would have a Quarterback Club. Would they be allowed to continue to have the "Quarterback Club?" I know Southern. I know places like that all have the Quarterback Clubs.

Mr. Abate stated I understand that they're in the process. I don't know what stage they're in in transferring that. Mrs. Fawver, do you have any information on that, or is Mr. Zechman here this evening? Do you have your non-profit now?

Mrs. Fawver responded the non-profit is being filed tomorrow, and we have by-laws, and we have a new Midd-West Quarterback. Hold on. I got it right here. It's called Midd-West Quarterback Club, Inc. It will be filed tomorrow.

Mr. Abate commented so they will have their paperwork filed. So, yes, to answer your question. Tomorrow, it will be yes. Today, it's no.

Mrs. Lauver stated because I know the Quarterback Club in the past at East Juniata it was allowed to do things, and I don't know what the District's policy might be, but they were allowed to do things like if a business wanted to donate like lime, the Quarterback Club was allowed to put the lime on. The District didn't have to put the lime on. The students, themselves, under the supervision of the coaches or whatever would put the lime on. Things like that on the fields. I don't know if that's what the District's policy would be. Would that be something for consideration to allow to perhaps improve fields?

Mr. Abate stated well, that's something we, as a Board, would have to discuss to allow our students to do maintenance on a field.

Mr. Musselman stated the motion kind of covers that, I believe. It says that we're going to maintain the fields, practice field. So, that would be a District function.

Attorney Knepp stated it would also be bargaining unit work so you would not be allowed to let the athletes themselves do that. That would be a violation of your Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Mrs. Lauver commented okay.

Mr. Abate stated, colleagues, we're going to vote on this in two weeks so if you have questions, get them out here now.

Mr. McKnight stated yeah, I have one, Mr. Abate. Is the name that you're using Midd-West Football Sports Boosters?

Mrs. Fawver stated no, what we're doing is we're going to file Form 1705R where we are changing it to Midd-West Quarterback Club, Inc.

Mr. McKnight inquired from the Sports Boosters?

Mrs. Fawver responded from the Tiger Quarterback Club. We changed it from Tiger Quarterback Club, Inc., to Midd-West Quarterback Club, Inc.

Mr. Abate stated, Mr. McKnight, I didn't have a name to put in there. So, we can change the name on the motion.

Mr. McKnight stated okay. I just wanted to make sure. I didn't want it to be the wrong name.

Mr. Abate inquired, Mrs. Fawver, can you send me the legal name then tomorrow?

Mrs. Fawver responded yes.

Mr. Abate commented thank you.

Mr. Rubillo stated I'd like to just speak up being this is going to be the last time we meet before we vote on this. I understand Mr. Pinci's concern about injuries, and it's a very valid concern, but there's all kinds of protective equipment that these athletes will wear, and the opportunity for our youth to get hurt anywhere doing anything is very real. So, in something that's structured and organized where they are taught to play properly and not just the game and all the other principles and the life lessons that go along with this organized sport and the support that I see here and the passion that I see here, I know this will be a new venture for this school district to step out on and to take this on on our own. I would like everyone to just really strongly consider giving this a shot. The wording is there in the motion that if this for whatever reason this program were to fail financially, then it fails, but we'll never know if we don't give it a shot. That's all I have to say. Thank you.

Mr. Abate commented thank you, Mr. Rubillo. I will open the floor up for anybody who wishes to speak, and I will have to limit to three minutes if you could just either stand or raise your hand and be acknowledged. Mrs. Shea, please.

Mrs. Shea stated hi, my name is Kathy Shea.

Mr. Abate interrupted and stated you need to.

Mrs. Shea inquired sign in?

Mr. Abate responded yes.

Mrs. Kathy Shea stated one comment where injuries are concerned, a voice of experience, my insurance paid for everything. Midd-West School District paid for nothing for a blown-out knee. So, the kid would have been the person he was without football. He loved it. He loved the kids. He grew to know kids that he would have never known in his lifetime. He blew out his knee in his senior year third game, and it was like the world ended for him, but it was a learning experience. He grew from it. He moved on, and my insurance paid for everything.

Mr. Abate commented that's okay, Mrs. Shea. Understandable. We're going to give Mrs. Shea. Give you a few moments. You okay?

Mrs. Shea stated I'm finished. That's all I'm going to say.

Mr. Scott Umstead stated I just wanted to say that I've had three children that attend Midd-West. One of them is now 26 years old and married and has her own child. The other two are still here. One is a senior, and one's in ninth grade. They participated in various extra-curricular activities while they were here. Of course, some of my favorite extra-curriculars were the drama and music. My boys preferred sports, and that was okay with me. I still try to push them into the music, but we had some good experiences, and we had some bad experiences. We had some fantastic experiences with the choral group at the high school. I think they do a fantastic job, and they should be recognized. As far as the sports goes, I didn't experience something like I did with football with the other sports. It's not to put them down. The kids who enjoy that should get the opportunity to do that, and they benefit from it, but there was a family orientation with the football association that I can't explain unless you participated in it and saw it. Even this past week, there was a tragedy. The football family was on Facebook, and they contacted the family regarding their tragedy because it went beyond the field. The character building I'm seeing from my son is something that I want him to have, and I don't think cost is an issue because I don't think the cost to the District will be more than it was in the past. I do think that that football association will need to step up and really go to it at a high level of participation, but that will make us even better. That will help us to work together even more. So, I truly hope that you give this opportunity for our kids a chance and let it continue at the least for a year or two and see how it goes. If there's major issues with it, I guess you can revisit that, but I don't think there will be, and I think what we gain from this will be worth any of the issues we might have to work through. If we're all adults about it, I think we can work through those issues, and I also think that we can't just turn our backs on the number of kids who want to play this sport. So, I thank you for your time, and I hope I presented something to you that maybe enlightened you a little bit to where we're at and that I'd also like to thank you now for your consideration.

Mr. Abate commented thank you, Mr. Umstead. Appreciate your words. Before we go any further, Mrs. Solomon, I asked you for something on Friday. Were you able to get that information, or did that not?

Mrs. Solomon responded yes and no. I did call P.I.A.A., and they did not get back to me, but I did call the District Chairman, and he did give me information. Actually, if you sign a game contract, and you are not able to fulfill that, it does go to your District Committee. He told me that worst case scenario is they put the program on probation, which in our case, if we're not having a program is the reason we would break the contract, it's not really a punishment. He said it would go to the District IV Committee, and they would vote on what that outcome would be.

Mr. Abate inquired would other sports be affected by that?

Mrs. Solomon responded no.

Mr. Abate inquired just that program itself where you were unable to fulfill that obligation?

Mrs. Solomon responded that's the way I understood, yes.

Mr. Abate commented okay. I asked Mrs. Solomon for, for the community here, because of the delay in two weeks about contracts with playing other teams and the chance of not being able to do that, if we were to sign the contracts, what would the ramifications be if the Board decided not to go that route. So, we're trying to see to try to put some ease in your minds until the Board makes a decision in two weeks of what we're doing. So, that's what our discussion is about. So, that is something that you'll have to work out with whether you want to do that or not. Okay. I'm sorry.

Mr. Michael Ferriero stated I just wanted to just address the whole injury issue. Football is a violent sport. No doubt. It's an outlet for a lot of these kids that really need to get a little bit of aggression out. What is football? It's a legal way to get that kind of frustration of the day out and build yourself up; discipline, responsibility, character building Mr. Umstead talked about; family environment. All that stuff is involved in football. So, it's not. Yeah, I mean are kids at risk? Every kid is at risk. Women's soccer is the number one concussion sport for women. Are we going to get rid of that? That's the thing I think about. So, all kinds of contact sports the kids are at risk, but if this is a way for a kid to better themselves, learn and grow and become men, and you know, you see it, and Mr. Bishop can kind of talk about that from seeing these kids from this small and where they're at now, seniors graduating school. What would they be like if they didn't have football? What does a kid do if he doesn't have that outlet? Is he in ISS every day? Is he a lost cause? Just OSS getting suspension? So, football is very, very important to a lot of these kids. To answer one of your other questions, too, 39 out of the 46 kids on that E.J. team were Mid-West kids. There would be about 32 kids coming back next year not counting the eighth graders. So, there's a lot of support, and every time you call for a meeting, we need to see what's going on with the community. How's the community feel about it? I don't really hear anybody getting up saying, "Man, we can't have football. I don't want it. I don't like the idea. It's not good for the community." Everything talked about it is this is the best thing for this community to go on our own with a football team and grow as a community and become more of a family, more tight knit, something to do on Friday nights. So, don't take that away from them. Give them the opportunity. Give us a chance.

Mr. Abate commented thank you, sir. Appreciate your comments.

Ms. Ashley Houtz stated my name is Ashley Houtz, and most of you guys are here on behalf of the football players. I have no sons. I have no football players. I'm here in support of the community for you guys. As a survivor of a traumatic brain injury, I played sports for years. Mine came when I was skiing with my family. I've worked in orthopedics for years up at Geisinger. For me to say that we saw more football concussions versus any other sport, I honestly can't say that, but most importantly of what I'm here tonight for is that now I work in higher education, and I work with these high school kids, and they're looking at where their futures are going, how many of these kids tell me that sports made them who they are. Their coaches made them who they are is unreal. My kid comes home every night. I ask her how her day is. I

help her with her homework. Not all kids have that, and that's what their coaches are for. So, on my behalf, you know, my daughter does cheerleading. So, that's her outing, but for some of these boys whose outing is football, where are they going to be on Friday nights if they're not on the football field? None of us know that, and you know what? As a community member, I have a love for kids and their future. I'm willing to step up. Never having a son that's going to play football, I'm willing to help in the concession stand, do what I need to do because I love your kids as much as I love my own, and I don't want to see your kids with nothing to do. So, just on behalf of the community with someone who doesn't have a football player, I'm in support of you guys, and that's how I feel about your association. Thank you.

Mr. Bishop inquired can I speak again?

Mr. Abate responded just a second. He beat you to the draw, Mr. Bishop.

Mr. Ryan Carnahan stated my name is Ryan Carnahan. I'm not very good at public speaking, but speaking to the Board, my son has ADHD, and football has become an outlet for him. He is focused. When he is in the game, he's become, and this past year I was the head coach, one of my best football players. Sorry about my voice. Like I said, I'm not very good with public speaking, but I understand your injury concern. Like the other speakers have said as well, wrestling which this school is big for, soccer as this gentleman noted, there's risk everywhere. These kids just want the outlet of football. It is America's sport now. Baseball is gone. Soccer in this community is not supported. Football is. So, that's all I have to say. Just put it out there that it can help kids with illnesses when most medical doctors just want to throw medication at them. I do not agree with that. Football has become his outlet, and it's brought me closer to him than all the kids I've coached over the past few years. This will be my fourth year now, and I'm a proud member of the Mid-West Football Association Board for the first time this year, and that's all I have to say. Thank you for your time.

Mr. Abate commented thank you, sir.

Mr. Bishop stated I just wanted to talk more about academics. I'm not sure. I know you had warnings last year. Maybe Mrs. Solomon might be able to give you the answer. I don't think we had any player that could not play last year because of academics. I know there were warnings. I know for junior high I don't think there was any warnings. The year before, Mr. Umstead, what happened if someone didn't make the grade? What did we do? What did we do? What did the team do?

Mr. Umstead responded oh, the whole entire team had to run.

Mr. Bishop stated the whole team ran to help that person better their grades. Peer pressure in a positive way. That was one thing that I wanted to say. Yes, coaches do hold academics higher than sports. The only thing I want to talk about is our junior high team last year. When we practice the night before a game, it's a pretty light practice. I don't know if I told this story or not. So, the junior high team got to quit early, and we were up there waiting for the varsity team to come up so that

they all could be bussed back. The kids went and grabbed a football and played harder than what they were practicing in the field behind the school, and us coaches were talking, and I realized all of a sudden my father instincts kicked in. My kids are quiet. What's going on? Up on the hill was a soccer event starting. The Star-Spangled Banner had played, and my kids, my junior high kids are standing there at attention looking up at the flag. No one told them to do that. They were not in the presence of the flag, or they were not in the presence of that game, but your ninth grade kids, your eighth grade kids, your seventh grade kids stopped playing football and looked at that flag until that song was over. I just want to let you know how great these kids are.

Mr. Abate commented, Mr. Bishop, thank you, sir.

Mr. Umstead inquired, Mr. Abate?

Mr. Abate stated yes, Mr. Umstead, sir.

Mr. Umstead stated there was one more thing I wanted to say if I could.

Mr. Abate commented absolutely.

Mr. Umstead stated we keep focusing on this high school team and the kids that will be participating, but the one thing that I think we lose track of is the fact that there is a huge number of kids playing on the midget teams which that midget squad when it looks like we might have football, grows like crazy, and when it looks like it's going to go away, it shrinks. There will be no reason for midget football if we don't have football at this level. What I'm saying is, we will also be addressing, depending on the year, anywhere between 60 and 100 kids at a lower age level also that will no longer have that outlet.

Mr. Abate commented thank you, again, Mr. Umstead.

Mrs. Houtz inquired can I just ask one question since I'm not a football player's mom. Is there an alternative like if Midd-West doesn't support the team? Will they go somewhere else next year, or that's not even?

Mr. Abate responded there's no option. That option was shut down.

Mrs. Houtz commented okay.

Mr. Pinci inquired can I ask a question? With regards to coaching, what type of training is required to be a coach?

Mr. Carnahan responded we don't require any formal training. I played football in high school here for E.J. Tigers. From what I learned from my coaches then has turned me into the coach I am today. We do get all of our clearances just as a school teacher would get to work and interact with children. This whole football association that is here and the support we have, we've got you covered. We've offered our help to what you already have in place. How much formal training are you expecting from us?

Mr. Pinci responded well, the reason I asked is, I thought there was some type of tackling techniques that have come out. You know when I was in high school the statement was just, "I want you to drive through that guy. If you don't see stars, you didn't hit him hard enough." So, that's what I'm concerned about. We were told to be sure not to use too much of your neck with regards to the tackle, but there was really no teaching the fact. Just go out there and hit. Drive through that person.

Mr. Carnahan stated my response to that is we do teach correct tackling at this level. We have tackle bags with logos explaining where to hit and what to hit with which is drilled into our kids before we ever put kid against kid. It's kid against bag all the time with adult supervision. I mean we have been offered again this year by the Central PA Football League to go up to Penn State University and go through training and practice buildings with their coaching staff. So, that right there would be a learning experience in itself for us to better ourselves as coaches and help the Midd-West football program. That's all I have to say.

Mr. Abate commented thank you, sir. Mrs. Solomon.

Mrs. Solomon stated if I could just talk about that a little bit. If the whole scenario would play out, part of the hiring process for the coaching staff would be those would be things that we would look at. We would look at experience. We would look at there are certain levels of training that you can go through as a coach for any sport not just football. Certain classifications where you get certificates as far as there's cheerleading certifications. There's gymnastics certifications. There's all different types of things. Football has the same type of thing where you can get different levels. P.I.A.A. also is requiring as of July that all coaches go through a coaching education course. So, not just football, but every coach on the Midd-West staff will have to complete that course. So, there's different levels for that, but as part of the interview process and the hiring process, certainly whoever was on that panel choosing those people that would be a part of the coaching staff would certainly look at those types of things; experience, certifications, those types of things.

Mr. Ferriero stated the other stuff that you do also as a high school football coach, every year whether you're paid or a volunteer, you take a concussion test and a sudden cardiac arrest test. So, you have to get those two certifications in before you're even allowed to step on the field with the kids, and what Mrs. Solomon's talking about, too, is that in 2018 we're going to have to go through. When I was head coach over at Lewisburg, they kept putting in place, and the AD was always in 2018 every coach is going to have to become and take a class from an accredited place of coaching. Basically, a coaching one-on-one class. I'm not too sure what exactly is involved in that, but I know that that's coming true, and obviously, Mrs. Solomon will be able to answer that. The sudden cardiac test and the concussion test are the two that you get every year, any coach, at the football level involved with football at the high school level, and then also, USA Football does a lot of stuff. Where like last year I became certified in the gator roll, whatever you want to call it. Tons and tons of videos. Tons and tons of things that you can go on and save. Plus, a lot of coaching clinics; Baltimore, Atlantic City. So,

there's a lot of opportunities to just get all of that stuff and make it as safe as possible for the kids.

Mr. Alan Goss stated you probably don't me, but I like sports, and my question is just to the Board. It has on that paper a practice field and a playing field. Where's the practice field going to be?

Mr. Abate responded I don't even know if we're going to have a team.

Mr. Goss inquired and where's the games going to be at, if you have a team?

Mr. Abate responded right out here (West Snyder Elementary School).

Mr. Goss inquired right out here? I don't have nothing wrong with sports. I like sports. I played sports when I was in school. So, kids develop with sports so they do. They get fundamentals for life, responsibility for what they do, other things like that. So, sports is a good opportunity for kids to grow. That's all I have to say.

Mr. Abate commented thank you.

**V. CLOSING CEREMONIES**

**VI. 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 were no additional public comments.*

**VII. SCHEDULED SPEAKERS**

Mr. Victor L. Abate

*There were no scheduled speakers.*

**VIII. REPORTS**

**1. SUPERINTENDENT**

Mr. Richard J. Musselman

Mr. Musselman stated I do have a report that I want to give to the Board; however, before I actually, and I only have a few items, but before I do that, I wanted to pass out something to all the Board members because January is a month that we like to recognize the service that you give, and just like your meeting tonight, you guys have to make tough decisions. It's not easy to make decisions that may be positive or may be negative, and it depends on your perspective. So, I wanted to thank you from the bottom of my heart. I believe in democracy, and I believe in the systems that we have set up and so, I really cherish the moments and the time that you give. You don't get paid for this. It's a volunteer thing, but what you do is extremely, extremely important, and I want to thank you on behalf of the school district, the employees, the students, athletes, everybody in our school district because I know it's tough. It's difficult for you to have to make some of the decisions and may not make everybody happy, but it's an important job. So, I appreciate that. So, I do have certificates that I'd like to hand out to you. These actually come from PSBA, but it's for

volunteers your time, your talents for the betterment of public education in our community. So, I'm just going to pass these out to you, and I just want to say thanks for all the help. Joe, could you pass these out while I talk about something else so we can get this moving?

Mr. Stroup responded sure.

Mr. Musselman commented thanks.

Mr. Musselman reported on the following item:

1) Professional Development on June 14, 2018

I also, I had sent out an e-mail, and I think some of our new Board members, I don't know if you have your e-mail addresses yet and information, I believe. If not, let me know. I guess that would be Mrs. Lauver and Mr. Pinci. If you let me know, make sure you guys get your e-mails, but I did send out an e-mail to the Board. I was hoping to get it to everybody about a professional development we have coming up in June, and I was hoping that the Board members would be able to participate with my administrators in June. So, if you've thought about it, or if you'd like more information, please get with me after the meeting is over because we'd really like to know what we have so that we can get everything set up for this professional development we have on June 14.

And, also, I forget to say that we also have cookies here for you after we're over for the Board appreciation.

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

Mr. Stroup reported on the following items:

1) Teacher In-Service on Monday, January 15, 2018

On Monday, January 15, 2018, will be an in-service day for the entire school district. We have a lot of different trainings going on to help our staff members' skills including things we're working in technology, our English/language arts programs and some work on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) using our DefinedSTEM Program. We're also going to be spending a lot of time working on our 339 Career Plan. There's some new requirements from the state as far as documenting opportunities kids have to engage in careers from the elementary level through the high school where they need 20 pieces of evidence through the exposure, and we'll be working on finalizing that. Our guidance counselors have already done a great job, and they have a really, really nice plan. We just have to be able to document and quantify what we do. So, that's the direction we're heading on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

2) DefinedSTEM and STEM Education

I want to talk also and elaborate on both DefinedSTEM and STEM Education. DefinedSTEM is an electronic program off the Internet that we use to present lessons that are engineering, math, science, technology related. There's over 330 lesson ideas. Our teachers have been doing a great job trying them, getting used to them, and implementing in their class.

What they do is they give their students real-world problems. The kids talk about them and find ways to solve these problems using skills that they had in the classroom. We've all been at different times, Rick and I included, have been observing teachers, and there's just some really, really good things going on. You see students actively engaged, applying skills that they've learned previously and communicating with one another to solve problems, and that's really the essence of education; what you want to see in a classroom using skills that they've learned to solve problems and create a better understanding. So, it's really been tremendous for us at this point, and we're going to have more training as I said coming up on Monday and get more involved in that.

Additionally, at the high school level, and this is, pardon the pun, stemmed from some of the success of our high school group at the Bloomsburg Fair, and now I'm going to additional competitions where they won the \$10,000.00 first prize for their activity, but we're looking at adding a STEM course at the high school. In this class, we're going to attempt to do many of the same things; allow our kids to go to competitions and prepare for the competitions, but also look for a way to solve real-world problems, come up with solutions, looking at things that we can fix and improve upon in our school district. There is some money available. As I said, they've already earned \$10,000.00, but I was just contacted last week where we have the opportunity for a grant for up to as much as additional \$7,500.00. So, I'm meeting with Mr. Dietz and Mr. Edmiston tomorrow to kind of finalize some thoughts, putting in that grant, and I think it will appear in a package with a new course offering come March or sometime where you all have access to see it, but that's where we're heading. I just wanted to share those discussions with you because a lot of the STEM things that we're doing came from a Board initiative where people have said we wanted to see this get going. We're going to put some extra money in it, and part of it was this program that we're doing electronically. Part of it was our kids getting more notoriety for it, and it's just been a good thing, and I want to thank the Board for starting that and kicking it off for us and getting us moving in that right direction. Really good stuff happening there.

### 3) Graduation Projects

The last thing I want to touch on is graduation projects. It has been postponed and delayed several times by the state, but the current law is that students who do not get a proficient score on the Keystone Exam in biology, algebra or ELA by the year 2020 have to have some evidence through a project that they have mastered those standards. So, what we're hoping to do is that for the 18-19 school year, which is next year, have some pilot ready to push forward so our kids can engage in these activities so we can test it to see if it works because we don't want to get into the spring of 2020 and see we have these two kids that didn't quite make it through their project and what do we have to do here in March or whenever to get them to graduate. We don't want to have kids that aren't able to graduate because of the Keystone solely. So, our goal is for next year to have some type of pilot project with a project requirements, work through it with those kids who need it in biology, algebra or ELA, and then move forward. Mr. Brown, our assistant principal, is leading that committee. He has meetings scheduled already, and it's going to be something that I'm sharing with you as we go through the spring. Hopefully, by June we'll have kind of a really, really

good draft project to share and some ideas of how we're going to demonstrate our students' proficiency in those areas and others.

3. **BUSINESS AND FISCAL**

Mr. Michael A. Miller

Mr. Miller reported on the following items:

1) 2018-2019 Budget Update

The holiday season, it's quiet on the budget fiscal end. A lot of districts go through the preliminary budget process about this time, but we passed the Index Not-to-Exceed Resolution in early December. So, that has been taken care of last month.

2) 2018-2019 State Budget Update

On the state end, it has been quiet, but the Governor is going to have his budget address in early February. So, that's coming up. It should be interesting. Last year the budget was filled with a lot of billions of one-time revenues to close up the budget deficits. Those sources are gone. So, it should make for an interesting budget season. I'm being facetious when I say interesting.

3) PlanCon G, Project Accounting Based on Bids

On the local level, the PlanCon G was received by the District of the approval in December before holiday break. PlanCon H was on the agenda.

4. **STUDENT ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES**

Mrs. Bree A. Solomon

Mrs. Solomon reported on the following items:

1) Winter Season

I don't really have any type of formal report tonight. We are about half way through the winter season. So, that's been going very well. Actually looking forward to the spring season hoping for some warmer temperatures here in the next couple of months.

2) Midd-West School District Football Program

As far as for football, I will not be in attendance at the next Board meeting. So, if you do think of any questions or anything, please forward those to Victor, and he can forward anything to me that I can help answer. We want you to be informed when you vote. We know you have a tough vote. So, if you do have any questions or anything like that, please get them to Victor, and he can certainly come in and sit down and meet with me or forward them through e-mail, and I will get you any answers that you need. I will look into, I will talk with the athletic trainers and get that information for you, but if there's anything else, just please let me know.

5. **FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS**

Mr. John S. Rosselli

Due to Mr. Rosselli's absence, there was no report.

6. **MAINTENANCE AND FACILITIES** Mr. Gary L. Thomas
- Mr. Thomas reported on the following item:
- 1) Cold Temperatures
 

With the recent cold spell, we came through that period pretty well. No major problems, no freeze ups. A couple small problems scattered here and there, but things are working well heating wise.

Mr. Abate inquired is this building (West Snyder Elementary School) okay?

Mr. Thomas responded the geothermal I think is working quite well. There's still some control issues that we're working through.
7. **CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA INTERMEDIATE UNIT** Mr. Victor L. Abate
- Mr. Abate reported on the following item:
- 1) Next Meeting is Wednesday, January 17, 2018
8. **SUN AREA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE** Mr. Ronald L. Hoffman
- Due to Mr. Hoffman's absence, there was no report.
9. **PSBA LIAISON** Mr. Ronald E. Wilson
- Mr. Wilson had no report.
10. **POLICY COMMITTEE** Mr. Thomas J. Rubillo
- Mr. Rubillo reported on the following items:
- 1) Two Policies for Voting Meeting
  - 2) Meeting on January 8, 2018
 

We met this evening. We reviewed five more policies. So, you'll be seeing them come through for your review.
  - 3) Next Meeting is Monday, February 12, 2018
 

Our next Policy Committee meeting will be February 12 prior to the meeting, and I believe that is at West Snyder at 6 o'clock.
11. **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE** Mr. Thomas J. Rubillo
- Mr. Rubillo reported on the following item:
- 1) Next Meeting is February 1, 2018
 

Mr. Nesbit inquired, Mr. Rubillo, what time is that Buildings and Grounds meeting?

Mr. Rubillo responded 6.

Mr. Nesbit inquired at the District Office?

Mr. Rubillo stated Buildings and Grounds is 5.

Mr. Nesbit inquired at the District Office?

Mr. Rubillo responded yes.

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

Mr. Sassaman reported on the following item:

1) Transition

I think we'll be probably working with Mike through the transition to get together with whomever as that occurs, but we don't have anything on the schedule right now that I'm aware of as far as budget and finance.

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

Mr. Sassaman reported on the following item:

1) Negotiations to Begin

We'll be doing a brief get together this evening, and then I believe next week.

Mr. Musselman stated the 11<sup>th</sup> is your, which is this Thursday.

Mr. Sassaman commented okay.

Mr. Pinci stated if I'm on the Committee as well, how do I receive information about that?

Mr. Musselman inquired which?

Mr. Pinci responded on the Finance/Budget Committee.

Mr. Sassaman inquired is your e-mail active yet?

Mr. Pinci responded not yet.

Mr. Musselman stated meet with me afterwards. We'll make sure everything gets set up here. I think Mrs. Lauver, too. I have the username and password and everything for you. You don't have any meetings set up at this point do you, Mike?

Mr. Miller responded my last day is the 2<sup>nd</sup>. So, no, that's partly why there are no meetings scheduled.

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

Mr. Pinci had no report.

15. **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE** Mr. Ronald L. Hoffman

Due to Mr. Hoffman's absence, there was no report.

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

Mr. Edmiston reported that our students in the FFA Program went to the Farm Show in Harrisburg today, and one of our students, Mariah Stuck, placed first with her agri-science project. Her project was a research project based around student participation in the FFA Program, and with her victory today, basically at states, she has earned the privilege of moving onto nationals later on this year in October. So, she'll be representing us at nationals with her research project.

Mr. Aucker reported that today Midd-West Middle School sixth graders in conjunction with about 1,000 other students from Meadowbrook Christian, Lewisburg, Mifflinburg, Mount Carmel, visited Bucknell for their Education Day, and it focused around health and wellness, and we also got to talk to some students on their majors and what their plans are, and the day culminated with watching the women's basketball game against Lafayette, and all-in-all, our students represented Midd-West Middle School very well and our District very well. They were commented on their respect from leaving the game, and we were served lunch there in their seats, and our area was all cleaned up, and everybody else's was not. So, kudos to our respectful students.

Miss Sheedy stated when we were sitting here throughout the meeting I kept thinking about the fact that a year ago you guys would be sitting outside. So, you guys are sitting in one of the brand new additions, and I was in the Policy Committee meeting before the Board meeting started, but if anyone that hasn't been here wants a tour of the building, I'd be more than happy to show you some of the places that have been facelifted the most after the meeting, but as far as instruction, you know we're hitting that middle-of-the-year time. We started our mid-year assessments today. Looking forward to seeing all of the growth that we know our students have made. So, we're looking forward to seeing some of that data that supports all of the hard work that we've seen up to this point.

Ms. Hutchinson reported we're actually starting our mid-year assessments tomorrow, and the teacher are likewise are very eager to see what those results look like and compare them to where the students started this year. We also are starting an after-school homework help program that begins tomorrow. So, we're going to offer that on Tuesdays and Thursdays here for a couple of months, and we have a fair number of students in Grades 1 through 5 who have signed up to attend that.

Mr. Abate stated real quick. Just a reminder to the Board that we will be doing interviews for the new Business Manager on the 18<sup>th</sup> and the 22<sup>nd</sup> after the Board meeting. What time is it on the 18<sup>th</sup>? 6:30?

Mr. Musselman responded 6:30 if you could be there. Our first person comes through the door a little bit after that, but if you can be there at 6:30 to go over and review information, that would be great.

Mrs. Lauver stated well, I was very tempted to take a seat out in the public for a minute only because I'll just say that our son many years ago was one of the instigators of getting football started, and so, needless to say, I'm glad to see that it was worthwhile and has continued and to hear the positive outcome of it, and I agree. It has been a family thing. I also was very much involved in football. Quarterback Club I was president, and we did a lot of fundraising. We supplemented a lot of things for the football team. It's just like I think it's 15 years ago. I think Johnathan's picture was in The Lewistown Sentinel last year so that's 15 years ago not this fall. The fall of 2000. I think it was 16. I forget which year it was, but for my boys, it was really a thrilling example of it. The one thing I think I liked about football most was that many boys would be out for the sport, and a lot got to participate. You didn't just practice, and there wasn't just 12 kids out on the field. It was a lot of boys. I still don't always understand football so forgive me because that's just the way it is. I didn't grow up with it either. East Juniata where I graduated from didn't have it at the time. So, I had to learn football, and I had reservations. I didn't want my boys to play football. I was afraid they would get hurt. The normal things like a mother would have like a concussion and all that, but there is equipment out there and better equipment out there perhaps to even what our high schools have. I know there's better helmets out there. If we're really concerned about that, that's some of the things to fundraise for and get them better helmets, but I just want to say I remember there was a teacher, Mrs. Mary McClellan, and I remember her saying to me the first year it had started. She as a phys ed teacher, and she said to me, "You know? I had reservations about football, but I've seen certain kids," and she started naming off certain students who were not actively involved in anything, and their grades had been slipping by the wayside. They didn't really care, and all of a sudden they got involved in football. Their grades started to shoot up. They weren't tardy for school. They wanted to be there. They wanted to keep their grades up because they wanted to play, and they knew they had to keep them up in the spring in order to play in the fall, and she said the turnabout of these students just amazed her that they were motivated then to improve their academics as well just because of the football and motivation of that. So, I just wanted to say that I think there's a lot of positive things about football. I don't have all the facts and figures because I wasn't here when all of this was discussed before. So, I would be interested in getting more on the financial part of it and so on, but I agree it has been a family thing, and there's a lot of comradery that you didn't feel in some of the other sports perhaps here in our District before like you did, and the fact that you couldn't tell who was an E.J. kid and who was a Midd-West kid. That's just how much family is involved, and I hope that continues. There isn't going to be kids from the west end and kids from the east end. It's all one, and that's just what I think is so great about the sport itself, and I hope that attitude would continue with it, and I just. For the Board members who are sitting on the fence, I can just tell you that in my personal experience and what I've witnessed with my own sons, it is, it has been a positive growing experience, and I would think that it's something to consider, and like they said, we can try it. If it doesn't work, it's one thing, but let's try it and see how it works.

Mr. Abate commented thank you, Mrs. Lauver. One more thing, Mrs. Folk, did hand out the Ethics forms, the State Ethics forms. They need to be back May 1, before May 1. Correct, Mr. Sassaman? It totally went over your head. So, let's get them back as soon as possible.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Victor L. Abate

There being no further business, Mr. Abate adjourned the work session at 8:37 p.m.

Recording Secretary:

Chairperson:

Date:

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