

## **School Board President's Report**

**September 17, 2018**

**Mike Riemer**

### **School Safety**

As we begin the school year, I want to reiterate the school board and administration's commitment to creating a safe, inclusive, and welcoming school environment for our students. We all know that for meaningful learning to take place in our classrooms, the atmosphere in our schools must be safe and positive. This school year, we continue to build on the measures we already have in place to support school safety such as staff training, conducting drills such as evacuation to alternate sites and ALiCE reviews. School safety assessments were conducted by the MLPD and our administrators are reviewing the documents to identify areas that need to be addressed. Many of these procedures and programs are the continuation of the good work of our staff and our strong partnership with the Mt. Lebanon Police and Fire Departments. Staff will continue their training in threat assessments. Our Olweus anti-bullying program and Social Emotional Learning initiatives are also very important programs that support the health and well-being of our students and staff. Additionally I met with Governor Wolf last week and we briefly discussed the most recent funding that he put forward in this year's State Budget, for school safety and security. I let him know just how important this issue is to all of the communities and the anxiety that there is concerning this subject. This was a very positive step forward for helping to make our schools a safe and secure learning environment. Hopefully there will be more funding coming from Harrisburg for school safety and security. Also the feedback from the students concerning Officer Brian Henly as our School Resource Officer has been very positive. Last but not least, I'd like to remind everyone to download the MTLSD Student Protect app-our school safety reporting app that we launched last year.

### **Collective Bargaining Agreement**

Last week we announced that the Mt. Lebanon School District and the Mt. Lebanon Education Association ratified a 5-year Collective Bargaining Agreement. This agreement provides continued superior education for the students of the Mt. Lebanon School District and ensures a positive working environment for our teachers while maintaining fiscal accountability for the taxpayers of the School District. This is a positive outcome for our schools and community and I would like to thank all involved in this process.

### **Extra Mile Award**

I am pleased to announce that high school English teacher Benjamin Minett is being recognized with the Extra Mile Award this month. Mr. Minett was nominated due to a letter written by Ms. Louanne Baily, the mother of one of his former students, and sent to the school board and high school principal, Brian McFeeley. Though her son had graduated 2 years ago, he sought Mr. Minett's advice about school and his future. Ms. Baily wrote that Ben "played a pivotal, critical, and positive role" in the life of her son. Ms. Baily went on to say her son called Mr. Minett "because he knew from having you as a teacher that you were a man of depth and great conscience; that you have strong moral fiber and would talk truthfully." Her son told her "that you listened to him and his concerns." Ms. Bailey ends with this, "Thank you for your commitment to knowing your students, your passion as a teacher, and your belief in my son. I am so grateful." On behalf of the school board I would like congratulate Mr. Minett and ask him to step forward to receive the Extra Mile Award.

### **Superintendent Goals**

The School Board and Dr. Steinhauer established his 5 goals for the 2018-2019 school year. Goal 1 addresses Academics and Instruction; Goal 2 focuses on creating an Inclusive Environment in our schools; Goal 3 is Safety and Security; Goal 4 is Innovation and Goal 5 is Social Emotional Learning. These goals are aligned to the mission of the school district "To Provide the Best Education

Possible to Each and Every Student." The goals will be posted on the District website.

### **Great Alumni 2018**

Congratulations to the 2018 recipients of the Mt. Lebanon High School Great Alumni Award: Mr. Dale Cable, Class of 1975; Mr. David Conover, Class of 1975; Mrs. Noelle Conover, Class of 1978; Dr. John S. Halle, Jr., Class of 1953; Mrs. Shirley Hanson, Class of 1954. The Great Alumni Award is a project of the Mt. Lebanon High School Student Council. The recipients of this award are selected based on exceptional work in at least one of the following areas: improvement in the lives of others, involvement in community service or achievement in a professional field. The Great Alumni will be honored on October 5 with a special luncheon, as well as public recognition at the football game that night.

### **Military Appreciation Night**

Join us as we honor those who served, and those who continue to serve our country at Military Appreciation Night on September 21 at 7:30 pm at the Mt. Lebanon vs. North Allegheny Football Game at Mt. Lebanon Stadium. All Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard veterans are invited for a pre-game recognition. Free admission to the game with military ID. All proceeds to benefit Fisher House and the Veterans Breakfast Club. The event is sponsored by the Mt. Lebanon Athletic Department and the Mt. Lebanon Touchdown Club.