

**UPPER ST. CLAIR BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2017 - 7:00 P.M.  
CENTRAL OFFICE BOARD ROOM**



Customizing Learning,  
Nurturing Potential...  
**Delivering Excellence**

**6:30 PM - EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL MATTERS**

Notice having been advertised and posted and members duly notified, the regular meeting of the Board of School Directors was held on March 28, 2017 in the Central Office Board Room.

School Board Members in attendance:

Mrs. Angela B. Petersen, President  
Mrs. Amy L. Billerbeck, Vice President  
Mrs. Barbara L. Bolas (via speaker phone)  
Mr. Phillip J. Elias  
Mrs. Buffy Z. Hasco  
Mr. Patrick A. Hewitt (via speaker phone)  
Mr. Frank J. Kerber  
Mr. Harry F. Kunselman

School personnel in attendance:

Dr. Patrick O'Toole, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Sharon Suritsky, Assistant/Deputy Superintendent  
Dr. John Rozzo, Assistant Superintendent  
Mr. Scott P. Burchill, Director of Business & Finance  
Dr. Judith Bulazo, Director of Curriculum & Professional Development  
Mr. Raymond Berrott, Director of Technology  
Mrs. Amy Pfender, Director of Student Support Services  
Mrs. Mary Ann Stabile, Stenographer  
Mr. Robert Prorok, Solicitor

**CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Petersen)**

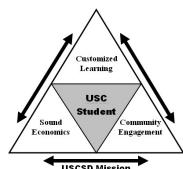
Mrs. Petersen called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m.

**STAR SPANGLED BANNER (Lily Gessel and Ryan Higgs - Boyce Middle School Students)**

Lily Gessel and Ryan Higgs, Boyce Middle School students, sang the Star Spangled Banner.

**READING OF THE MISSION**

Mr. Kerber read the following School District Mission Statement:



*Developing lifelong learners and responsible citizens for a global society is the mission of the Upper St. Clair School District, served by a responsive and innovative staff who in partnership with the community provides learning experiences that nurture the uniqueness of each child and promotes happiness and success.*

## **SHARED BELIEF STATEMENT #1 FROM STRATEGIC PLAN**

Mrs. Billerbeck read the following Shared Belief Statement #1 from the Strategic Plan:

*We believe that:*

*education is a shared responsibility and requires collaboration of the institution, the governing authority, the student, the family, and the community.*

Mrs. Petersen announced that Mrs. Bolas and Mr. Hewitt were participating in the meeting via speaker phone.

## **RECOGNITION OF SPRING MUSICAL “THE DROWSY CHAPERONE” (O’Toole)**

Dr. O’Toole and the school board members recognized and congratulated the following student leads from the high school spring musical “The Drowsy Chaperone” for their successful production.

Josiah Ackerman, Chase Banton, Tyler Carroll, Connor Damon, Carly DeCock, Abby Doohan, Devon Garcia, Gavin Genter, Patrick Glover, Jonah Glunt, Lexi Feldman, Connor Halloran, Kiera James, Christian Jones, Wyatt Keating, Jacqueline LeKachman, Emily McFerran, Andrew Rauber, Logan Reynolds, Shebl Rosati, Sarah Rubino, Catherine Sandford, Mor Shimshi, Grant Warmbein, Phil Warmbein, and Erik Warmbein.

Dr. O’Toole and Mrs. Petersen presented the students with certificates of recognition and \$5.00 Aramark awards.

Mr. Don Pickell, Mr. Tom Hunsberger, Ms. Lorraine Milovac, Mrs. Jane Dodd, and Mr. Michael Binkley were also recognized for their efforts in producing a wonderful musical.

## **RECOGNITION OF SHOP@USC PROGRAM FOR BEING SELECTED AS A GRAND PRIZE WINNER OF NSBA 2017 MAGNA AWARDS (O’Toole/Suritsky)**

Dr. O’Toole stated that he was very proud to receive the grand prize Magna Award at the National School Boards Association Conference for the under 5,000 enrollment category for the high school’s SHOP@USC program. Mrs. Bolas represented the school board and Mrs. Michelle Zirngibl represented SHOP@USC to also receive the award for the school district. The SHOP@USC program was one of three schools chosen in their respective enrollment categories from 200 applications submitted.

Dr. O’Toole shared the video from the National School Boards Association website that was produced highlighting Upper St. Clair and the SHOP@USC program.

Dr. Suritsky shared her excitement of SHOP@USC being chosen. She recognized Director of Advancement Sheila Gorgonio who was instrumental in bringing creative ideas and fundraising over \$250,000 in order for the Innovation Hub and SHOP@USC to come to fruition. She also recognized Dr. Tim Wagner, High School Associate Principal for Program Planning & Innovation, and Mrs. Michelle Zirngibl, Special Education Department Chairperson and long-standing special education teacher, for overseeing SHOP@USC and the curriculum aspect of the program. Charlene Howard and Denise Lehman, teacher aides, were recognized for working directly with the students, their creative ideas, and helping to manage the program.

Mrs. Zirngibl thanked the school board members for giving her the opportunity to travel to the NSBA Conference to accept the Magna Award for Upper St. Clair. She stated that the students in the program truly make SHOP@USC so special. Mrs. Zirngibl commented that she knew that Upper St. Clair was a special school district, however, she had not realized the extent of how special until after she attended the conference. She thanked the board and administration for valuing the teachers so highly.

Dr. Bulazo commented regarding the great opportunity that her daughter Faley Bulazo has had during her high school career in participating as a partner with the students in SHOP@USC and how the experience has influenced her career goal decisions.

Dr. O'Toole and Mrs. Petersen presented certificates of recognition and tokens of appreciation to Dr. Suritsky, Dr. Wagner, Mrs. Gorgonio, Mrs. Zirngibl, Ms. Howard, and Ms. Lehman.

Dr. O'Toole recognized Mr. Wilson and Mrs. Stabile for their assistance in submitting the nomination to NSBA.

Mrs. Bolas congratulated the SHOP@USC staff and students for receiving the Magna Award, which is highly coveted by all school boards in the nation.

#### **RESIDENTS' COMMENTS (*REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS ONLY*)**

There were no residents' comments at this time.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Petersen)**

MOTION: By Hasco: I move that the Board approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Kerber, and carried on unanimous voice vote.

#### **REPORT FROM STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES (Joshua Meyer)**

Joshua Meyer, student board representative, reported on various activities at the high school.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION: By Kunselman: I move that the Board approve the minutes of the February 27, 2017 Board meeting. Seconded by Kerber, and carried on unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: By Kunselman: I move that the Board approve the minutes of the March 13, 2017 Board meeting. Seconded by Kerber, and carried on unanimous voice vote.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

##### **APPROVAL OF COMMENDATIONS & RECOGNITIONS - ATTACHED**

Dr. Suritsky read the Commendations & Recognitions.

MOTION: By Elias: I move that the Board approve the Commendations & Recognition AS ATTACHED. Seconded by Bolas, and carried on unanimous voice vote.

Dr. O'Toole recognized Tina Vojtko, Communications Specialist, for sharing information regarding the students, staff and district accomplishments on the district's website and through the social media sites Facebook and Twitter.

**ACCEPTANCE OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF CAPITAL PROJECTS REVIEW AD HOC COMMITTEE FINAL REPORT AND AUTHORIZATION FOR MC LEAN ARCHITECTS TO CONTINUE THE DESIGN DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS AND CONSTRUCTION PHASE ADMINISTRATION FOR PROPOSED CAPITAL PROJECTS AND ADDITIONAL CAPITAL PROJECTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARCHITECT OF RECORD CONTRACT**

MOTION: By Kerber: The Superintendent recommends and I move that the Board accept the recommendations of the Capital Projects Review Ad Hoc Committee as presented in its Final Report AS ATTACHED TO THE PERMANENT RECORD OF THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING and that the Board authorize McLean Architects to continue the design development, construction documents, and construction phase administration for the proposed capital projects and additional capital projects in accordance with the Architect of Record Contract approved by the Board on October 27, 2014. Seconded by Hasco, and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

Mrs. Petersen thanked the ad hoc committee members and school board members for their hard work during the process over the past year.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

**APPROVAL OF ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ALLEGHENY INTERMEDIATE UNIT (Pfender)**

MOTION: By Billerbeck: The administration recommends and I move that the Board approve the Alternative Education Program Educational Services Agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit (Community School West site) for the enrollment of one student at \$72.00 per day, contingent upon documentation acceptable to the Superintendent and Solicitor, AS ATTACHED TO THE PERMANENT RECORD OF THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING. Seconded by Kerber, and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

**BUSINESS & FINANCE (Burchill)**

**2017-18 BUDGET UPDATE (O'Toole/Burchill) - ATTACHED**

Dr. O'Toole and Mr. Burchill provided an update regarding the 2017-18 budget. Dr. O'Toole stated that presently more time has been spent on revenues and that much work still needs to be accomplished with respect to the expenditures. He explained that decisions need to be made regarding staffing levels and educational programming, noting that a large eighth grade class size will be moving to ninth grade at the high school.

Dr. O'Toole and Mr. Burchill shared a PowerPoint, AS ATTACHED, that included information regarding the budget process, proposed revenues and items of note, proposed expenditures and items of note, and the budget timeline.

**APPROVAL TO SOLICIT COMPETITIVE BIDS FOR SCHOOL BUS REPLACEMENTS**

MOTION: By Hasco: The administration recommends and I move that the Board authorize the school district to solicit competitive bids for school bus replacements. Seconded by Kerber, and carried on unanimous voice vote.

## **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION: By Kunselman: The Committee recommends and I move that the Board approve the following Consent Agenda items. Seconded by Bolas, and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

**a. ADOPTION OF 2017-18 SCHOOL CALENDAR - ATTACHED**

Adopt the 2017-18 School Calendar AS ATTACHED.

**b. APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL LISTINGS - ATTACHED**

Approve the Personnel Listing, pending receipt of all paperwork and required clearances, AS ATTACHED.

**c. APPROVAL OF PROPOSALS FOR STRUCTURED CABLING AND WIRELESS ACCESS POINTS AT ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPLYING FOR E-RATE FUNDING (Berrott)**

Authorize the school district to contract with Advent Communications Systems for the purchase and installation of new communications cabling and mounting of wireless access points in the elementary buildings for an amount not to exceed \$45,000 for equipment to be purchased and installed on or after April 1, 2017; and,

Authorize the school district to contract with Dagostino Electronic Services Inc. for the purchase of 145 Xirrus Wireless Access Points for Baker, Eisenhower and Streams Elementary for an amount not to exceed \$58,000 pursuant to the terms and conditions of the PEPPM contract, for the equipment to be purchased and installed on or after April 1, 2017, both approvals contingent upon documentation acceptable to the Superintendent and Solicitor, AS ATTACHED TO THE PERMANENT RECORD OF THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING, and approval of the 2017-18 General Fund and Capital Budgets.

**d. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT (3-13-17)  
INCLUDING SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT (3-28-17)**

Approve the Treasurer's Report AS ATTACHED TO THE PERMANENT RECORD OF THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING, including approved total of Bill List and Check File Listing as follows:

Fund 10 (General Fund) - \$1,462,104.59

**e. APPROVAL OF RENTAL AGREEMENT WITH AIU FOR DART PROGRAM**

Approve the lease of one classroom at Baker Elementary School with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for the DART Program for the 2017-18 school year at \$850.00 per month AS ATTACHED TO THE PERMANENT RECORD OF THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING.

**f. APPROVAL OF 2017-18 ALLEGHENY INTERMEDIATE UNIT PROGRAM OF SERVICES BUDGET**

Approve the 2017-18 Allegheny Intermediate Unit Program of Services Budget AS ATTACHED TO THE PERMANENT RECORD OF THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING.

**g. AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT PDE APPROVAL OF PLAN CON PART K: PROJECT  
REFINANCING FOR ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION SERIES B OF 2017  
REFUND SERIES D OF 2011**

Accept the approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Education of PlanCon Part K: Project Refinancing for the Issuance of General Obligation Series B of 2017 to Refund Series D of 2011 (Lease Number 114172) AS ATTACHED TO THE PERMANENT RECORD OF THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING.

**ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

Mrs. Petersen announced that executive sessions were held on the following dates:

March 13, 2017 – Personnel & Student Matters  
March 28, 2017 – Personnel Matters

**MATTERS OF INFORMATION - SUPERINTENDENT & ADMINISTRATION**

**REPORT REGARDING VISIT TO STEELCASE EDUCATION - MARCH 2-3 (Suritsky)**

Dr. Suritsky reported that Mrs. Billerbeck, Dr. Bulazo, Mr. Wilson, Dr. Angelo, Dr. Wagner, Mrs. Gorgonio, and she had a very productive visit to the Steelcase Education headquarters in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She explained that Steelcase Education specializes in space design and furniture and stated that a detailed report and video would be shared at the April 17 Committee of the Whole meeting.

**REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT OPEN MIKE - MARCH 20**

Dr. O'Toole reported that a very successful Superintendent Open Mike was held on March 20 with nearly 30 attendees. He stated that there was much discussion among the attendees and the administrative team on topics such as social/emotional learning, social media and sources of information, stresses of students to perform well, and technology, to name a few. He thanked all those who attended noting that the open mike offers a great opportunity for open discussion.

**APRIL MEETING SCHEDULE**

Mrs. Petersen announced the April meeting schedule as follows due to spring recess:

April 17 – Committee of the Whole Meeting  
April 24 – Regular Board Meeting

**SHASDA CONFERENCE - APRIL 29**

Dr. O'Toole announced that the SHASDA Conference would be held on Saturday, April 29 where two students from each of the participating districts are chosen to receive awards for overcoming adversities in their high school career.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved, seconded, and carried on unanimous voice vote that the meeting adjourn at approximately 8:44 pm.

Angela B. Petersen, President  
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Scott P. Burchill, Secretary  
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Submitted by: Mary Ann L. Stabile  
School Board Stenographer

COMMENDATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS  
MARCH, 2017

**All Levels**

Of the 19 Upper St. Clair teams that competed in the Odyssey of the Mind Regional Tournament, a record high of 10 teams qualified to advance to the state competition. The advancing teams are comprised of students from all six Upper St. Clair schools.

**First Place:**

Vehicle Problem - Michael Conte, Armen Pettit, Jack Lowden, Anushka Sharma, Virginia Gaither, Taylor Latiolais, Tyler McClintock-Comeaux

Classics Problem - Sara Hess, Antara Cleetus, Shivani Jajoo, Bryce Keating, Joe Phillips, Chris Jahn

Vehicle Problem - Matthew Earley, Carter McClintock-Comeaux, Daniel Seewald, Philip Markovitz, Josilyn Seftchick, Grace Kelly, Marina Gzikowski

Performance Problem - Joseph Markovitz, Max Murtough, Constantine Tripodes, Brianna Lin, Victoria Cuba, Eric Wang, Sammie Seewald

**Second Place:**

Vehicle Problem - Collin Rosenberg, Geneva Eisinger, Lauren Ginsburg, Kurt Baran, Lily Simons, Ellie Simons

Vehicle Problem - Jacob Conte, Yash Jajoo, Maggie Lowden, Christina Conte, Gracie Lowden, Isabella Putorti, Vivek Babu

Balsa Problem - Jeffery Zhang, Anand Jani, Colin Green, Ben Ross, Holt Eberhardt, Devesh Jani, Harrison Barker

Classics Problem - Anastasia Gzikowski, Esha Lathia, Stella Moss, Ben Murtough, Jake Casares, Peter Markovitz, Ben Seewald

Performance Problem - Rachel Thomas, Shubham Patel, Garrett Ziegler, Neil Joon, Leah Levine, Katie Kucherawry, Janelle Knierim

Performance Problem - Taylor Gibbs, Lylah Kateeb, Camryn Friday, Natalia DiSora, Sadie Tomczyk, Chloe Faist and Anoushka Barve

## **High School**

Senior Harvey Kane captured first place in the long jump at the 2017 Pennsylvania Track & Field Coaches Association Indoor State Championships on Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017, at Penn State University.

With a mark of 23 feet and half an inch, Harvey became the first Upper St. Clair athlete to win an Indoor Track State Championship and the only USC long jumper to ever hit the 23 feet milestone.

Upper St. Clair High School Associate Principal for Program Planning & Innovation Timothy M. Wagner, Ed.D. has been named an Early Career Awardee from the University of Pittsburgh School of Education.

The Early Career Award recognizes recent alumni with less than 10 years of professional experience for their outstanding accomplishments in the classroom, administration, support services and/or extra-curricular activities and programs.

Three Upper St. Clair High School students have been selected through competitive audition to participate in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association All-State Choir. Mackenzie Damon, Jonah Glunt and Jack Smith will perform in the All-State Festival April 19-22, 2017, at the PMEA State Conference in Erie. Auditions for the All-State Choir were held during the PMEA Region 1 Choir Festival Feb. 22-24 at Gateway High School.

Seven Upper St. Clair High School wrestlers finished in the top five at the WPIAL Class AAA Section 2 Championships – including two section champs, Eli Grape and Thomas Kyle. The section championships were held Feb. 25, 2017, at Connellsville Area Senior High School. The top five finishers in each section and weight classification advance to the WPIAL Class AAA Tournament. Also competing at the WPIALs will be Jake Slinger, who earned a third place finish; Tyler Curtiss, who came in fourth; and fifth place finishers Dan Kyle, Harvey Rauch and Grant Walnoha.

The Upper St. Clair boys' and girls' swim teams finished third overall in the WPIAL Championships on March 2-3 at the University of Pittsburgh's Trees Pool. In addition, all USC relay teams, qualified to compete in individual events at the PIAA Championships on March 17, at Bucknell University.

Congratulations to the following swimmers that placed within the top ten at the WPIAL Championships.

**Girls 200 Yard Medley Relay**

3rd Place: Maeve Lersch, Maddie Yoos, Ynyra Bohan and Neele Minuth

**Boys 200 Yard Medley Relay**

4th Place: Jack Fitzpatrick, Nick Mudry, Jacob Jaime and Amatheon Bohan

**Girls 200 Yard Freestyle**

3rd Place: Abby Matheny

5th Place: Olivia Shaffer

**Boys 200 Yard IM**

1st Place: Jack Fitzpatrick

2nd Place: Nick Mudry

**Girls 50 Yard Freestyle**

4th Place: Maeve Lersch

**Girls 100 Yard Butterfly**

7th Place: Ynyra Bohan

**Boys 100 Yard Butterfly**

9th Place: Jacob Jaime

**Boys 100 Yard Freestyle**

7th Place: Brandon Novak

**Girls 500 Yard Freestyle**

2nd Place: Abby Matheny

3rd Place: Olivia Shaffer

**Girls 200 Yard Freestyle Relay**

2nd Place: Maeve Lersch, Neele Minuth, Olivia Shaffer and Abby Matheny

**Boys 200 Yard Freestyle Relay**

5th Place: Brandon Novak, Jacob Jaime, Ben Diffendal and Amatheon Bohan

**Girls 100 Yard Backstroke**

2nd Place: Maeve Lersch

4th Place: Lauren Connors

**Boys 100 Yard Backstroke**

2nd Place: Jack Fitzpatrick

**Girls 100 Yard Breaststroke**

6th Place: Maddie Yoos

**Boys 100 Yard Breaststroke**

4th Place: Nick Mudry

**Girls 400 Yard Freestyle Relay**

4th Place: Neele Minuth, Olivia Shaffer, Lauren Connors and Abby Matheny

**Boys 400 Yard Freestyle Relay**

6th Place: Brandon Novak, Ben Diffendal, David Frauen, Jack Fitzpatrick

A team of Upper St. Clair High School students took top honors in the 2017 Pittsburgh Data Jam competition on Feb. 23, 2017, at the University of Pittsburgh. Team members include Aditi Chattopadhyay, Mahima Reddy, Yash Lahoti, Kriti Shah and Brooke Christiansen.

Upper St. Clair finished first among a field of more than 25 teams. USC team members were honored with a trophy and each will receive a FitBit.

Following her participation in the preliminary round of the Philadelphia Classical Guitar Society 2017 Competition, Mahima Reddy has qualified to move on to the semi-final round of judging on Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. Students from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware competed in the highly competitive first round of the high school division. The semi-final round will take place at The Mendel Theater of Drexel University in Philadelphia on April 8, 2017, with the final round on April 9, 2017.

In addition, Upper St. Clair High School has selected Mahima Reddy as this year's Good Citizen, making her eligible to apply for the scholarship program sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), a national program that offers a Good Citizens Award and Scholarship Contest intended to foster and reward qualities of good citizenship. The scholarship portion of the program consists of a personal statement and an essay. Mahima entered the Scholarship Contest by writing an essay addressing the prompt, "How do the combined actions of many good citizens keep our nation moving forward?", for which she is currently a regional winner. Congratulations are extended to Mahima for her impressive achievement.

Upper St. Clair High School senior, Curt Leonard has been named a President's Volunteer Service Award winner and has earned national recognition for his exemplary service to the community. Curt was nominated by the Upper St. Clair High School Counseling Department in recognition of his volunteer service. The award, which recognizes Americans of all ages who have volunteered significant amounts of time to serve their communities, was granted by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program.

Upper St. Clair High School senior Carly DeCock has been selected to perform in the All-Eastern Honors Treble Choir. Carly, a soprano 2, joins more than 800 of the most musically talented high school students in the eastern United States who will perform in the 2017 National Association for Music Education All-Eastern Honors Ensembles.

With assistance from her music teacher, Lorraine Milovac, Carly will prepare challenging music that will be performed under the leadership of prominent conductors during this biennial event. Performances will be held April 7-8, 2017, in Atlantic City.

The high school Speech and Debate Team has won the overall state championship in the 2017 PHSSL State Speech and Debate Tournament. Individual achievements include Rod Smith winning Commentary and the team of Caleb Troughtzman, Neale Misquitta, and Ethan Bowman winning Parliamentary Debate.

Several Upper St. Clair High School students earned honors in the High School Japanese Speech Contest on March 3, 2017, at the University of Pittsburgh. In the poster category, sophomore Maggie Bryant won first place honors and senior Eddie Celesti finished second. Earning second place in the speech contest was junior Anna Culhane and earning third place honors was senior Grace Eden.

More than 100 high school Japanese language learners of all levels compete in the regional speech and poster competition. Students participate in one of four speech levels according to their level of instruction. Students were accompanied by Japanese language teacher Sensei Junko Kapples.

Upper St. Clair School District has been selected as one of three national Grand Prize Winners in the 23rd annual Magna Awards program sponsored by the National School Boards Association's magazine, American School Board Journal, for its SHOP@USC program. The Magna Awards recognize school districts and their leaders for taking bold and innovative steps to improve the lives of their students and their communities.

SHOP, an acronym for Showing How Opportunity Pays, is a pioneering, student-run business, which operates fully through the collaboration between students with significant disabilities and their same age peers without disabilities. Congratulations are extended to the students of SHOP@USC, 17 of whom are part of the school's Life Skills Support Program, and their coordinator, Michelle Zirngibl.

## **Ft. Couch**

A Fort Couch Middle School student has been named a semifinalist in the 2017 Pennsylvania State Geographic Bee. Eighth grader Atharva Barve scored among the top 104 on the qualifying exam that was administered to school-level champs throughout Pennsylvania.

The 2017 Pennsylvania Geographic Bee will be held on Friday, March 31, 2017, at The State Museum of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg. The state winner will represent Pennsylvania in the National Geographic Bee finals May 14-17, 2017, at National Geographic Society headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Two Fort Couch Middle School students were finalists in the Upper Division Scenes category in the 23rd Annual Shakespeare Monologue & Scene Contest at the Pittsburgh Public Theater. Eighth graders Morgan Meddings and Kate McQuillan performed a scene from "The Two Gentlemen of Verona."

A panel of judges evaluated each performance and selected the finalists to compete in the Showcase of Finalists on Feb. 20, 2017.

## **Boyce/Ft. Couch**

Principals Dan O'Rourke and Joseph DeMar accepted the Schools to Watch Awards on behalf of Boyce Middle School and Fort Couch Middle School, respectively. The schools were recognized at the Pennsylvania Association for Middle Level Education State Conference on Feb. 26, 2017, in State College. This marks the fourth time that both schools have earned this honor.

## **Boyce**

The following students were chosen to participate at the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association's Sing Fest on March 17, a day-long singing festival featuring elementary and middle school students from across Southwestern Pennsylvania. The festival is being held at Carnegie Music Hall in Oakland. All of the participants are members of the 6th grade chorus and musical programs at Boyce, under the direction of Mrs. Jennifer Noel Schetley.

Aashna Banerjee

Lily Gessel

Kady Haley

Ryan Higgs

Fifth grader Alex Sun earned the top score at the recent Pennsylvania Mathematics League contest at Boyce Middle School. Alex scored 31, narrowly defeating three competitors who trailed him by just one point. For the last five years Boyce Middle School's sixth graders have finished first or second in Pennsylvania. This year's statewide results will be announced later this spring. Following are the students that placed in the contest as individuals or with a team:

**Accelerated Math Students**

First Place: Alex Sun  
Second Place: Rebecca Lang  
Second Place: Phillip Markovitz  
Second Place: Alex Todd  
Third Place: Carter Chui  
Third Place: Ben Wasson

**Team Energy**

First Place: Kyle Kerber  
First Place: Ty Riemer  
First Place: Drake Wangler

**Team Predator**

First Place: Noah Wagner  
Second Place: Lauren Starr

**Team Solar Power**

First Place: Chase Neponuceno  
Second Place: Priyanka Palayekar

**Team Wind**

First Place: Jason Lu  
First Place: Ipsita Singh  
Second Place: Owen Damon

# **Upper St. Clair School District**

## **Proposed Final Budget**

**2017- 18 General Fund Budget - PDE 2028**

**March 28, 2017**

# USC 2017-18 Budget Process

- ▶ A budget worksheet is distributed, via google docs, to key areas of the school district including the athletic department, curriculum leaders, guidance, special education, building principals, operations & maintenance, security, central office, technology and transportation.
- ▶ Budget meetings are conducted at every level with senior management personnel.
- ▶ A secondary review process takes place to substantiate the budget dollars in all programs.
- ▶ The current budget, as it is being presented tonight, is a “working document”. A comprehensive presentation will occur at the April board meeting.

# USC 2017-18 Proposed Revenue

ACCOUNT	TITLE	2017-18	2016-17	
		BUDGET	BUDGET	YTD REVENUE
R6111	CURRENT REAL ESTATE <i>(Includes millage increase of .8172)</i>	52,283,852	49,695,284	49,567,305
R6112	INTERIM REAL ESTATE	100,000	100,000	0
R6113	PUBLIC UTILITY REAL ESTATE	60,000	60,000	57,127
R6151	EARNED INCOME TAX	5,115,450	5,360,453	1,809,131
R6153	REAL ESTATE TRANSFER	600,000	575,000	258,294
R6157	MERCANTILE TAX	400,000	310,000	316,571
R6411	DEL REAL ESTATE TAX	700,000	600,000	851,407
R6412	DEL INTERIM REAL ESTATE TAX	80,000	80,000	0
R6451	DELINQUENT EIT	100,000	150,000	39,423
R6510	INTEREST INCOME	30,000	20,000	44,146
R6710	ATHLETIC REVENUE	175,000	200,000	137,201
R6832	IDEA PASS THRU	625,000	626,472	63,290
R6990	MISC. REVENUE	786,117	1,033,905	358,415
R7110	BASIC INSTRUCT SUBSIDY	4,320,980	4,339,904	1,739,340
R7271	SPEC ED REGULAR PROGRAMS	1,880,677	1,949,240	1,128,144
R7310	TRANSPORTATION	949,212	1,015,000	551,789
R7320	RENT & SINKING FUND	807,000	940,788	610,222
R7330	HEALTH SERVICES	85,000	87,000	0
R7340	STATE PROP TAX REDUCTION	1,389,981	1,389,982	1,389,982
R7505	READY TO LEARN BLOCK GRANT	332,045	0	409,033
R7810	SOCIAL SECURITY REIMBURSEMENT	1,332,000	1,303,596	296,884
R7820	RETIREMENT REIMBURSEMENT	5,493,000	5,117,252	1,653,393
R8000's	FEDERAL SUBSIDY	1,302,027	1,427,027	577,032
		78,947,341	76,380,902	61,858,130

# USC 2017-18 Proposed Revenue

TITLE	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18	% INCREASE
	BUDGET	REVENUE	BUDGET	YTD REVENUE	BUDGET	
LOCAL REVENUE	\$55,607,541	\$54,177,991	\$58,811,113	\$53,502,628	\$61,055,419	3.82%
STATE REVENUE	\$15,331,309	\$15,265,524	\$16,142,762	\$7,778,787	\$16,589,895	2.77%
FEDERAL REVENUE	\$1,427,027	\$1,669,323	\$1,427,027	\$577,032	\$1,302,027	-8.76%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$72,365,878	\$71,112,838	\$76,380,902	\$61,858,130	\$78,947,341	3.36%
				REVENUE AT THE 2.5% INDEX	\$78,497,844	
				REVENUE WITH NO TAX INCREASE	\$77,782,771	

# USC 2017-18 Proposed Final Budget

## Revenue items of note:

- ▶ Current budget has a millage rate of 25.156 applied to revenue projections
- ▶ Growth in the assessed property value for the District ( Bedner Farms & Whole Foods) is still being analyzed and included the revenue projections.
- ▶ State basic and special education subsidy have been budgeted at the same levels as the current fiscal year. Reimbursement from the State will continue to increase as PSERS increases again this year.

# USC 2017-18 Proposed Expenditures

FUNCTION	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	DIFFERENCE
<b>1110 - REG ED REIMB</b>	30,171,375	31,806,827	32,873,526	1,066,699
<b>1200 - SPECIAL ED</b>	8,998,342	9,229,663	9,955,231	725,568
<b>1300 - VOCATIONAL ED</b>	152,179	258,220	314,069	55,849
<b>1400 - OTHER EDUCATION</b>	265,683	282,311	120,865	(161,446)
<b>2100 - SUPPORT SERV STUDENTS</b>	2,047,432	2,033,768	2,218,891	185,123
<b>2200 - SUPPORT SERVICES</b>	3,354,967	2,369,563	2,543,134	173,571
<b>2300 - SUPPORT SERV ADMIN</b>	4,489,579	4,515,607	4,665,448	149,840
<b>2400 NURSING SERV</b>	608,295	627,809	652,830	25,021
<b>2500 BUSINESS OFFICE</b>	892,479	1,015,930	954,619	(61,310)
<b>2600 - OPERATIONS</b>	7,579,457	7,554,208	7,605,366	51,158
<b>2700- TRANSPORTATION</b>	4,161,689	4,299,051	4,328,111	29,060
<b>2800 - CENTRAL OFFICE</b>	246,396	1,013,112	1,105,638	92,526
<b>2900 -OTHER</b>	66,142	61,966	62,600	634
<b>3200 - STUDENT ACTIVITIES</b>	1,511,718	1,543,941	1,588,001	44,060
<b>5100 -DEBT</b>	7,914,962	9,311,248	9,278,658	(32,590)
<b>5200 - TRANSFERS</b>	35,000	35,000	410,000	375,000
<b>5900 - BUDGETARY RESERVE</b>	250,000	250,000	250,000	0
	\$72,745,695	\$76,208,226	\$78,926,988	2,718,762
		% Increase	<b>3.57%</b>	

# USC 2017-18 Proposed Expenditures

<b>SUMMARY BUDGET COMPARISON</b>		<b>Budget 2016-17</b>	<b>Budget 2017-18</b>
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		
100	Salaries	34,080,939	35,296,764
200	Benefits	20,596,165	21,236,043
300	Contracted Services	4,107,650	3,924,797
400	Purchased Services	1,720,061	926,563
500	Other Purchased Services	3,107,622	3,902,656
600	Books and Supplies	1,962,564	3,220,620
700	Equipment	1,477,648	125,362
800	Miscellaneous Fees	5,705,762	5,630,215
900	Other Uses	3,449,815	\$4,663,968
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>76,208,226</b>	<b>78,926,988</b>
		<b>% Increase</b>	<b>3.57%</b>

# USC 2017-18 Proposed Final Budget

## Expenditure items of note:

- ▶ The PSERS contribution rate has increased again for 2017-18 from 30.03% to 32.57%. It is expected to reach 36.40% in 2021-22.
- ▶ A bus replacement plan is currently being detailed with a targeted replacement date for all school-owned buses.
- ▶ Staffing levels are being examined with a recommendation to follow in April.
- ▶ The capital & technology budgets are being finalized to complete needed facility repairs and equipment improvements in 2017-18.

# USC 2017-18 Budget Timeline

<b>Date</b>	<b>Budget Action</b>
April 17, 2017	Budget Presentation
April 24, 2017	Budget Presentation
May 8, 2017	Budget Presentation
May 15, 2017	Adopt 2017-18 Proposed Final Budget
June 5, 2017	Budget Presentation
June 20 ,2017	Adopt 2017-18 Final Budget

**UPPER ST. CLAIR SCHOOL DISTRICT  
2017-18 ADOPTED SCHOOL CALENDAR**

**2017**

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	X <del>4</del>	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	X <del>4</del>	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	X <del>13</del>	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	X <del>7</del>	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	X <del>23</del>	X <del>24</del>	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	X <del>25</del>	X <del>26</del>	X <del>27</del>	X <del>28</del>	X <del>29</del>	30
31						

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	X <del>1</del>	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	X <del>15</del>	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	X <del>16</del>	17
18	X <del>19</del>	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	X <del>2</del>	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	X <del>26</del>	X <del>27</del>	X <del>28</del>	X <del>29</del>	X <del>30</del>	31

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	X <del>2</del>	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	X <del>18</del>	19
20	21	22	23	24	X <del>25</del>	26
27	X <del>28</del>	29	30	31		

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	X <del>14</del>	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

(= Teacher Inservice/  
No School for Students)

(X) = No School  
(~~X~~) = Half Day Early Dismissal for Students  
(~~X~~) = Snow Make-Up Day  
() = Early Dismissal

**UPPER ST. CLAIR SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**2017-18 ADOPTED SCHOOL CALENDAR**

		<u>Student</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
August 16	New Teacher Orientation		
August 17	New Teacher Induction		
August 23	Teacher Inservice #1 (Staff Opening Day)*		
August 24	Teacher Inservice #2 (Act 80)*		
August 25	Teacher Inservice #3 (Act 80)*		
August 28	Teacher Inservice #4 (Classroom Management #1/Flex)*	August 3	7
August 29	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS	September 20	20
September 4	NO SCHOOL - LABOR DAY	October 20	22
September 7	Elementary Open Houses (Early Dismissal @ 12:45 pm)	November 19	20
September 14	High School Open House (Early Dismissal @ 12:35 pm)	December 16	16
September 27	First Marking Period Progress Reports	January 21	22
September 28	Boyce Open House (Early Dismissal @ 1:15 pm)	February 18	20
October 5	Fort Couch Open House (Early Dismissal @ 1:15 pm)	March 17	17
October 13	Half Day Early Dismissal for Students - Act 80** (Teachers' Professional Development)	April 20	21
October 27	First Marking Period Ends	May 21	21
October 30	Teacher Inservice #5 (Classroom Management #2)*	June 8	10
October 31	Teacher Inservice #6 (Parent/Teacher Conferences/Inservice) - Act 80*	<b>Total Days</b>	<b>183</b>
November 7	Teacher Inservice #7 (Parent/Teacher Conferences/Inservice) - Act 80*		<b>196</b>
November 10	First Marking Period Report Cards		
November 22	Half Day Early Dismissal for Thanksgiving Recess**		
November 23 & 24	NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING RECESS		
December 5	Second Marking Period Progress Reports		
December 25 - January 1	NO SCHOOL - WINTER RECESS		
January 12	First Semester & Second Marking Period Ends		
January 15	Teacher Inservice #8 (Classroom Management #3)*		
January 16	Second Semester Begins		
January 26	Second Marking Period Report Cards		
February 15	Third Marking Period Progress Reports		
February 16	Teacher Inservice #9 (Act 80)*		
February 19	Teacher Inservice #10 (Act 80)*		
March 2	Half Day Early Dismissal for Students - Act 80**		
March 23	Third Marking Period Ends		
March 26 - March 30	NO SCHOOL - SPRING RECESS		
April 2	Teacher Inservice #11 (Classroom Management #4)*		
April 13	Third Marking Period Report Cards		
May 3	Fort Couch Celebration of Learning (Early Dismissal @ 1:15 pm)		
May 4	Fourth Marking Period Progress Reports		
May 10	Elementary Schools S.T.A.R. Night (Early Dismissal @ 12:45 pm)		
May 24	Boyce Celebration of Learning (Early Dismissal @ 1:15 pm)		
May 25	Snow Make-Up Day #1		
May 28	NO SCHOOL - MEMORIAL DAY		
June 12	Second Semester & Fourth Marking Period Ends - Pending Snow Make-Up Days		
June 12	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS - Pending Snow Make-Up Days		
June 13	Teacher Inservice #12 (Classroom Management #5) - Pending Snow Make-Up Days (Snow Make-Up Day #2)		
June 14	Teacher Inservice #13/Flex (Snow Make-Up Day #3)		
June 14	High School Commencement		
June 18	Kennywood Day		
June 26	Report Cards Available on USC Parent Portal for High School and Middle Schools/Mailed for Elementary Schools		

\*No School for Students on Teacher Inservice Days

\*\*Half Day Early Dismissal Times for Students

October 13, November 22, and March 2:

High School - 10:55 a.m.

Elementary Schools - 11:30 a.m.

Middle Schools - 11:55 a.m.

Winter Recess commences at the close of school on Friday, December 22.  
 Spring Recess commences at the close of school on Friday, March 23.

In accordance with Basic Education Circular 24 P.S. §15-1502, Days Schools Not to be Kept Open, the following days are official local School District holidays: Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, the day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, and Independence Day.

**PERSONNEL LISTINGS**  
**DATE: March 28, 2017**  
**Board Meeting**

**Curriculum Leader – Resignation**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Last Date Worked</b>
Levine, Stephen	Ft. Couch	Curriculum Leader – Middle School Social Studies	6-9-17

**Professional Staff – Elections**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Effective</b>	<b>Salary</b>
Burkhart, Brian	Ft. Couch	Social Studies Teacher (Long-term Substitute) for N. Boyd anticipated dates 3-16-17 through last day of teacher responsibility for the 2016-2017 school year	3-16-17	\$49,500 (pro-rated)

**Professional Staff – Change of Status (Long-term Assignment Dates)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
Burkhart, Brian	Ft. Couch	Social Studies Teacher (Long-term Substitute) for L. Ghilani 10-4-16 through approximately 2-20-17	Social Studies Teacher (Long-term Substitute) for L. Ghilani 10-4-16 through 3-15-17
Koutsourais, Nicole	High School	Math Teacher (Long-term Substitute) for A. Haas anticipated dates 2-14-17 through 6-2-17	Math Teacher (Long-term Substitute) for A. Haas dates 2-14-17 through 6-2-17

**Professional Staff – Leave of Absence**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Type of Leave</b>	<b>Leave Dates</b>
McCullough, Gary	Boyce	Elementary Teacher	Military Leave	3-18-17 through 4-28-17

**Professional Staff – Change of Status (Leaves)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
Ghilani, Lauren	Ft. Couch	Social Studies Teacher	Personal Leave Anticipated dates 11-15-16 through 2-17-17	Personal Leave 10-3-16 through 3-15-17
Haas, Amanda	High School	Mathematics Teacher	Anticipated leave dates 2-20-17 through 5-30-17	2-20-17 through 5-30-17

**Professional Staff – TPE to PE Change of Status**

<b>Name</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Effective</b>
Madia, Lauren	Temporary Professional Employee	Professional Employee	3-25-17
Ruth, Katherine	Temporary Professional Employee	Professional Employee	3-14-17

**Professional Staff – Resignation**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Notification Date</b>	<b>Last Date Worked</b>
O'Rourke, Sean	High School	English Teacher	2-28-17	Last day of teacher responsibility for the 2016-2017 school year

**Classified Staff – Leave of Absence**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Type of Leave</b>	<b>Leave Dates</b>
Freeman, Deborah	Streams	Cafeteria Worker	Personal Leave	Return to work 3-6-17
Krashna, Christopher	Boyce	Custodian	Personal Leave	Return to work 2-27-17

**Classified Staff – Retirement**

Name	Location	Assignment	Notification Date	Last Date Worked
Otis, Patricia	Eisenhower	Teacher Aide	3-27-17	6-30-17

**Other Staff – Leave of Absence**

Name	Location	Assignment	Type of Leave	Leave Dates
Card, Elizabeth	Bus Garage	Bus Attendant	Personal Leave	3-6-17 through last day of bus attendant responsibility for the 2016-2017 school year

**District Substitute List – Additions**

Professional:

Name	Type of Substitute	Effective
Fratini, Victoria	Grades PK-4/Special Education PK-8	3-14-17
Mamajek, Jason	Technology Education	3-23-17
Sweet, Julie	Grades PK-4	3-6-17

Classified:

Name	Type of Substitute	Effective
Carter, Lee	Custodian	3-28-17
Marmion, Kimberly	Custodian	3-28-17
Tripathi, Priyanka	Aide/Secretary/Attendant	3-15-17

**District Substitute List – Deletions**

Professional:

Name	Type of Substitute	Effective
Campanella, Caroline	Grades Pk-4	3-28-17
Carr, Meaghan	Grades Pk-4	3-28-17
Deutsch, Cassidy	Music K-12	3-28-17
Franklin, Julie	Elementary K-6, Reading Specialist K-12	3-28-17
Latorre, Courtney	Grades Pk-4	4-1-17
Malone, Michelle	Family/Cons Sci, Mid Level English 7-9	3-28-17
Moeslein, Antoinette	Mathematics 7-12	3-28-17
Senge, Lindsey	Elementary K-6	3-28-17
Sullivan, Jessica	Spec Ed Pk-8, Grades Pk-4	3-28-17
Wineland, Krista	Social Studies 7-12	3-6-17

Classified:

Name	Type of Substitute	Effective
Krepp, Kristin	Aide/Secretary/Attendant	3-28-17

**Extra-Curricular Activities – New Appointments (2016-2017 School Year)**

Name	Position	Salary
Lehman, Craig	Assistant Boys HS Volleyball Coach	\$1,050
Murray, Rick	Assistant Boys HS Volleyball Coach	\$1,050
Simmers, Emma	Assistant Girls Lacrosse Coach	\$2,000

**Extra-Curricular Activities – New Appointments (2016-2017 School Year)**

Name	Position	Salary
Reynolds, Eileen	Musical Assistant (Choreographer)	\$500*

\*ECA Payments funded through Spring Musical Proceeds

**Extra-Curricular Activities – Re-Appointments (2016-2017 School Year)**

Name	Position	Salary
Hope, Stephen	Asst. Coach HS Boys Volleyball	\$2,500

**Extra-Curricular Activities – Deletions**

Name	Position	Last Day Worked
Hoburg, Russ	Asst. Coach HS Boys Volleyball	5-17-16