MUHLENBERG SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2026
Lecture Hall, Muhlenberg High School
www.muhlsdk12.org

Call to Order

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District was called to order on Wednesday, October 14, 2026 at 7:08 PM by Board President, Mrs. Cindy L. Mengle.

Mrs. Mengled announced there will be a brief executive session held after the meeting regarding legal matters.

Members Present

President – Mrs. Cindy L. Mengle
Vice President – Mrs. Kristyna Eagle
Treasurer - Mr. Ronald J. Haas, Sr.
Secretary – Mr. Enrique Castro, Jr.
Assistant Secretary – Ms. Susan Roeckle
Member – Mr. Robert Mengle
Solicitor – Mr. Brian F. Boland, Esq.
Recording Secretary – Mrs. Tara L. Flowers

Members Absent

Member – Mr. Andrew L. Eaton, Sr.
Member – Mr. S. Wayne Hardy
Member – Mr. Garrett Hyneman

Administration Present

Superintendent - Dr. Alan S. Futrick
Assistant Superintendent - Dr. Gangi E. Cucciuffo
Chief Financial Officer - Mr. Shane M. Mathias, CPA
Executive Director of Strategic Programs & Emp. Dev.- Dr. Cathy Shappell
Director of Physical Plant – Mr. Ken Patterson
Director of Special Education - Dr. Nicole Huntbach
Supervisor of Special Education - Ms. Autumn Gilmore
Supervisor of Related Services- Mr. Byron Grosselfiner
Licensed Behavior Specialist - Ms. Courtney Knittle

Licensed Behavior Specialist - Ms. Melissa Cooper
Director of Food Services & Nutrition - Mr. Carey Kline
Food Services Business Services Administrator - Ms. Cathy Salesky
Director of Curriculum & Instruction K-12 - Mr. Kyle Crater
Supervisor of Student Services - Dr. Joseph Scoboria
Director of Transportation - Dr. Timothy Moyer
Community & Family Outreach Coord. & Distr. Interpreter – Ms. Elizabeth Laviena
High School Principal - Mr. Haniff Skeete
High School Assistant Principal - Ms. Cristina Lillis
High School Assistant Principal - Ms. Nicole McGowan
High School Assistant Principal - Mr. William Dramby
Junior High Principal - Mr. Christopher Becker
Junior High Assistant Principal - Ms. Michele Weaver
Junior High Assistant Principal - Ms. Dana Godfrey
C.E. Cole Intermediate Principal - Aaron Kopetsky
C.E. Cole Intermediate Assistant Principal - Dr. Tara Nelson
C.E. Cole Intermediate Assistant Principal - Mr. Jacob Conrad
C.E. Cole Intermediate Assistant Principal - Ms. Xiomara Toledo
Elementary Principal - Ms. Ginny Hornberger
Elementary Assistant Principal - Ms. Crystal Jordan
Social Worker- Ms. Lauren Heydt
Social Worker- Ms. Amanda Foulds
Social Worker - Ms. Emily Carmichael

Visitors

Diane Benson	Jolyn Casper	Desiree Gehr
Morgan Miller	Sarah Collazo	

Educational Presentations

A. Second Reading of Policies - Dr. Alan S. Futrick

<u>100 Programs</u>
Policy No. 102, Academic Standards

<u>200 Pupils</u>
Policy No. 246, School Wellness

Hearing of Visitors - Muhlenberg School District taxpayers and residents have an opportunity, at this time, to comment on matters of concern, official action, or deliberation which are or may be before the Muhlenberg School Board. *This period of time is for comments only; it is not a*

time to engage in a question and answer or debate with the board. Comments from the Board are at the option of the Board. The Board retains the option to accept all public comment at this time. Presentations ***will*** be limited to two minutes per person. In the event that the Board determines that there is not sufficient time for residents or taxpayers of the School District to comment, the Board may defer the comment period to the next regular meeting.

There were none.

Solicitor's Comments – Mr. Brina F. Boland, Esq.

There were none.

Superintendent's Comments - Dr. Alan S. Futrick

The District is very proud of the first ever district-wide pep rally. The District invited the entire school district, all 4,400 kids to come to the pep rally. He talked about it being a lot of holding their breath to make sure things go well, it ran very smoothly and was an hour long which was great because it was the perfect amount of time. He cannot thank the people that really coordinated that effort, Ms. Emily Grube outlined everything with Ms. Jenna Pavolich, the principals; specifically Principal Hornberger. He spoke about this was a life getting the kindergarteners when they just got out of the car; he saw Ms. Foulds, the social worker and assistant principals down there. He advised this is a lot harder to do than everyone can imagine; particularly for those kids to get them up here and get them in a seat. It was a great showcase of everything everyone heard Ms. Mengle talked about the extracurricular committee report; the District wants to get the kids involved and that was the point of it. The District is recognizing the efforts of the students, the student athletes participating in something and even went down as far as having the second graders that participate in an athletic and a part of an athletic team, having them wear their jerseys, having them be part of this so they can see this is what Muhlenberg is about. He came back afterwards and was like, "Hey, this was awesome" and he said to the group the District needs two more; one in the winter and one in the spring. He reiterated it was such a good idea to do it and it really tied into homecoming week. He explained typically the District would have four different buildings doing things that week for spirit week, the entire district did everything the exact same; what a wonderful alignment to help the District align the culture and promote the kids. He talked about another big time event that he really thinks as a community is totally undersold, is the Halloween Parade; if anyone was at the Halloween parade, the kids were four deep going down Kutztown Road. It started at the school and it went the entire length; talk about excitement, talk about community coming out. The amount of parents, community members everyone saw, you saw people tailgating on their front porch and on their lawns; that is what a community is about. That is what everyone wants to celebrate the good things like this is something the District is doing as

a community. One thing he is going to share with the district administrators is next year the District is going to walk in the parade as an entire admin group just because he thinks it is important when the kids see them in a little bit different light, it means a lot. He knows Mr. Castro was down there he built a pirate ship; people take it very seriously and that's a great thing and a great point of pride for Muhlenberg and something that the District should make sure to continue. Dr. Futrick reiterated this needs to be celebrated for everybody in Berks county and the state to see; being in other Halloween parades and seeing it nothing can compare to the enthusiasm everyone can see at that parade.

Questions/Comments/Concerns

Mr. Castro spoke about how he loved seeing the district's marching band and ROTC in the parade, but what he suggested to Dr. Futrick is that the District has a bunch of resources here, shop class and different things. He would really love to see a student-built float in the parade next year especially if everyone will be walking.

Personnel/Human Resources

Personnel 7A - 7P

Moved by Mrs. Eagle and Mr. Castro that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Personnel/Human Resources No. 7A through 7P (Personnel 7O was removed)** in their entirety.

Yeas: Mr. Castro, Mrs. Eagle, Mr. Haas, Mrs. Mengle, Mr. Mengle, Ms. Roeckle. The motion **carried** unanimously.

7A Administrative Appointment

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following professional appointment:

a. Ms. Cathy Salesky, Food Services Business Administrator (newly created), Muhlenberg Junior High School, effective September 21, 2026, at a salary of $72,500, prorated for days.

7B Professional Appointments

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District accept the professional appointments:

a. Ms. Sandra Roeder, Long-Term Substitute Teacher (newly created) Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective September 21, 2026 through the end of the 2026-2027 school year, at a salary of $66,241 (B+24, 14 Steps from the Top) prorated for days worked.
b. Ms. Kendall Fischer, Long-Term Substitute Teacher (S. Boyer), C.E. Cole Intermediate, effective September 28, 2026, pending verification of PDE certification, at a salary of $65,671 (M, 16 Steps from the Top), prorated for days worked.
c. MSgt. Micha Cascone, Aerospace Science Instructor, Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (Lt. Col. M. Heckman) at Muhlenberg High School, effective date to be determined, at a salary determined by the United States Air Force and Muhlenberg School District with an annual stipend; the annual stipend for the 2026-2027 school year will be $7,500, prorated for days worked.

7C Classified Appointments

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve classified appointments:

a. Ms. Aisha Ortega, Special Education Paraprofessional (L. Santos), Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective September 11, 2026, at a pay rate of $22.46 per hour.
b. Ms. Brittany Roma, Cafeteria Assistant (J. Rivera), Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective October 15, 2026, at a pay rate of $18.71 per hour.
c. Ms. Ivory Spencer, Cafeteria Substitute, effective October 15, 2026, at a pay rate of $14.00 per hour.
d. Ms. Fatima Zavala Salas, Cafeteria Substitute, effective October 15, 2026, at a pay rate of $14.00 per hour.
e. Ms. Marsalena Parr, Cafeteria Substitute, effective October 15, 2026, at a pay rate of $14.00 per hour.
f. Ms. Abbey Boyer, Second Shift Custodian (S. Millard), Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective October 19, 2026, at a salary of $57,415, prorated for days worked.
g. Ms. Ana Ramos, Third Shift Custodian (M. Santiago) Muhlenberg High School, effective October 19, 2026, at a salary of $57,415, prorated for days worked.
h. Ms. Alisia Liguoro, Special Education Paraprofessional (A. Ortega), Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective October 19, 2026, at a pay rate of $22.46 per hour.

7D Acceptance of Resignations

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District accept the following resignations:

a. Ms. Teresa Crumbliss, Cafeteria Assistant, C.E. Cole Intermediate, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective December 23, 2026.
b. Ms. Kelly Piontek, Clerical Assistant, Muhlenberg Junior High School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective September 15, 2026.
c. Ms. Megyn Stevens, Special Education Teacher, Muhlenberg Junior High School, effective October 22, 2026.
d. Ms. Aisha Ortega, Special Education Paraprofessional, Muhlenberg Elementary Center, effective October 15, 2026.

7E Completion of Probation

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the completion of probation for the following classified employees:

a. Ms. Jenalee Belfort, Special Education Paraprofessional, Muhlenberg Elementary Center, completion of forty-five (45) probation as of September 2, 2026 and recommended for permanent employment as of September 3, 2026.
b. Ms. Denetra Bauer, Class A Secretary, Administration Building, completion of forty-five (45) probation as of September 28, 2026 and recommended for permanent employment as of September 29, 2026.
c. Ms. Ashley Griffth, Class A Secretary, Muhlenberg Junior High School, completion of forty-five (45) probation as of October 7, 2026 and recommended for permanent employment as of October 8, 2026.

7F Homebound Instruction Assignment

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following homebound assignment at the professional rate of $30.00 per hour for the 2026-2027 school year:

a. Mr. Connor Oburn, Homebound Instruction for student #36543, Muhlenberg Junior High School, for up to 5 hours per week.

7G Request for Leave of Absence/FMLA Leave

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the request for a Leave of Absence/FMLA leave for the following employees:

a. Employee No. 3494, FMLA/ Leave of Absence, effective August 19, 2026 through on or about October 5, 2026.
b. Employee No. 3227, FMLA/ Leave of Absence, effective on or about October 24, 2026 through on or about November 23, 2026.
c. Employee No. 2434, FMLA/Leave of Absence, effective October 16, 2026 through on or about January 4, 2027.

7H Approval of Job Descriptions

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following job descriptions:

a. District Content Creator
b. Supervisor of Aquatics
c. Certified School Nurse

7I Professional Salary Adjustments for the 2026-2027 School Year

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the professional salary adjustments for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.

7J MESPA Mentor Stipend

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District in accordance with the MESPA Collective Bargaining Agreement, Article XVI, Wages, Section 8, approve a mentor stipend to the following support staff who has assisted in the induction of a new employee into the school district and new employee remains employed for one (1) continuous year after hire date, at a stipend of $500.00:

a. Ms. Kathy Heckler, mentor for Ms. Monica Brock, Cafeteria Worker, Muhlenberg Junior High School
b. Ms. Jillian Ayers, mentor for Ms. Aliyah Buzydlowski, Special Education Paraprofessional, Muhlenberg Elementary Center
c. Ms. Jillian Ayers, mentor for Ms. Lori Hevalow, Special Education Paraprofessional, Muhlenberg Elementary Center
d. Ms. Jillian Ayers, mentor for Ms. Aida Rodriguez, Special Education Paraprofessional, Muhlenberg Elementary Center
e. Ms. Carina Arana-Morales, mentor for Ms. Infinity Snead, Special Education Paraprofessional, Muhlenberg Elementary Center
f. Ms. Kristin Lilley, mentor for Ms. Brittney Godfrey, Cafeteria Worker, Muhlenberg High School

7K Co-Curricular Activities

Resolved, that the Board of education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the addition of the following clubs to the Muhlenberg School District's co-curricular activities, as presented:

a. Academic Challenge
b. Best Buddies
c. Ecology
d. Little Aevidum
e. Podcast
f. Travel
g. Intramurals (C.E. Cole)

7L Co-Curricular Assignments

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following co-curricular assignments as presented.

7M Co-Curricular Resignations

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following co-curricular resignations:

a. Ms. Katie DiStefano, MJHS Artistic Director, effective September 29, 2026.
b. Mr. Matthew Watson, MHS Lighting Director, effective September 16, 2026.
c. Ms. Dea Bassetti, MHS Dance Team Advisor, effective September 14, 2026.
d. Mr. Douglas Olexy, Spanish Advisor, effective September 25, 2026.
e. Mr. Robert Wolfe, MHS Tutoring Advisor, effective August 19, 2026.
f. Mr. Robert Wolfe, MHS Science Advisor, effective August 19, 2026.

7N Co-Curricular Appointments

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following co-curricular appointments:

a. Ms. Jennifer Willis, Sports Event Monitor, effective October 7, 2026, at a pay rate of $20.00 per hour.
b. Mr. Conner Oburn, MJHS Boys Soccer Volunteer Coach, effective October 7, 2026.
c. Mr. Kyle Zehner, MJHS Girls' Volleyball Volunteer Coach, effective October 7, 2026.

7O **Removed.**

7P **Winter Coaching Assignments**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the 2026 winter coaching assignments as presented.

Management 8A - 8B

Moved by Ms. Roeckle and Mr. Castro that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Management No. 8A and 8B** in their entirety.

Yeas: Ms. Roeckle, Mr. Castro, Mrs. Eagle, Mr. Haas, Mrs. Mengle, Mr. Mengle. The motion **carried** unanimously.

8A **Adoption of Policies**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District adopt the following district policies:

a. Policy No. 122, Extracurricular Activities
b. Policy No. 122.1, Non-Sponsored Student Groups
c. Policy No. 140, Charter Schools
d. Policy No. 221, Dress and Grooming
e. Policy No. 236.1, Threat Assessment
f. Policy No. 325, Dress and Grooming
g. Policy No. 332, Working Periods

8B **Instructional Time Template for 2026-2027 School Year**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District authorize the submission of the Instructional Time for the 2026-2027 school year to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Physical Plant and Transportation

Physical Plant and Transportation 9A - 9C

Moved by Mrs. Eagle and Mr. Mengle that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Physical Plant and Transportation 9A through 9C** in their entirety.

Yeas: Mr. Mengle, Ms. Roeckle, Mr. Castro, Mrs. Eagle, Mr. Haas, Mrs. Mengle. The motion **carried** unanimously.

9A **Sunday Facility Use Request**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of Muhlenberg School District approve the following Sunday Facility Use Request:

a. Church of Latter-Day Saints, use of the Muhlenberg High School auditorium on Sunday,November 8, 2026 to hold a regional organizational meeting.

9B **Approval of Change Orders High School Renovation Project**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the change order for the asbestos abatement at a cost of $103,584.00 for the Muhlenberg High School addition and renovations as presented.

9C **Ancillary Supplies for New 5/6 Middle School**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the change order for the asbestos abatement at a cost of $103,584.00 for the Muhlenberg High School addition and renovations as presented.

Budget and Finance

Budget and Finance 10A - 10C

Moved by Mr. Mengle and Mr. Castro that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Budget and Finance 10A through 10C** in their entirety.

Yeas: Mrs. Mengle, Mr. Mengle, Ms. Roeckle, Mr. Castro, Mrs. Eagle,, Mr. Haas.. The motion **carried** unanimously.

10A **Approval of Financial Reports**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following financial reports and that they become part of the permanent record of the meeting:

Fund	Treasurer's Report	Financial Report	Bills Paid Month	Investments	Budget Transfers
General	Aug 2026	Aug 2026	Sept 2026 Ck#61298-61510 V#28619-28640	Aug 2026	
Cafeteria	Aug 2026	Aug 2026	Sept 2026 Ck#9085-9119 V#3251-3253	Aug 2026	
Capital Reserve (Fund 32)	Sept 2026	Sept 2026			
Capital Reserve (Fund 39)	Sept 2026	Sept 2026	Sept 2026 Ck#1043-1055		
Activity	Aug 2026	Aug 2026			

10B Disposal of Surplus Property

Resolved,that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District authorize the disposal of the following surplus property in accordance with district Policy 706.1, Disposal of Surplus Property as presented:

a. Books - These items are deemed outdated and unused resources.

10C Student Activity Account

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District authorize closing the student activity account for the Class of 2026 and transferring the remaining balance to the "Class of 2027", "Class of 2028", and "Class of 2029" accounts.

Education

Education 11A – 11G

Moved by Mr. Mengle and Ms. Roeckle, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve **Education 11A through 11G** in their entirety.

Yeas: Mrs. Mengle, Mr. Mengle, Ms. Roeckle, Mr. Castro, Mrs. Eagle, Mr. Haas. The motion **carried** unanimously.

11A **Acceptance of Gifts, Grants, Donations**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District accept the following donation in accordance with district Policy 702, Gifts, Grants, Donations:

a. Giant Food, donation of $500 gift card and tote bags filled with supplies for teachers and staff at Muhlenberg Elementary Center.

11B **Settlement Agreement and Release**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the Settlement Agreement and Release for the following student as presented:

a. Student No. 41122

11C **Mile2 Consulting, LLC Agreement**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the agreement with Mile 2 Consulting, LLC to provide consulting services for participation in school-based ACCESS services of the Muhlenberg School District for a three-year term as presented, subject to the final solicitor review.

11D **Certificate of Support Students**

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the enrollment of Certificate of Support Students, PA School Code 1302, for the 2026-2027 School Year as listed.

11E Admission of Fact, Waiver of Hearing, Acknowledgment of Compliance with Procedural Safeguards and Consent to Expulsion

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District authorize the Admission Fact, Waiver of Hearing, Acknowledgment of Compliance with Procedural Safeguards and Consent to Expulsion for the following student:

a. Student "A", Muhlenberg Junior High School

11F Conference Request

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Muhlenberg School District approve the following conference request:

a. Mr. Ken Patterson to attend the PASBO Facilities and Transportation Conference in State College, PA October 21 to October 23, 2026 at a cost not to exceed $856.00 (funded through Physical Plant Funds).

11G Educational Field Trip Request

Resolved, that the Board of Education of Muhlenberg School District approve the following education field trip request:

a. Muhlenberg High School AFJROTC, travel to the Marine Corps Museum in Washington, DC on May 21, 2027 through May 23, 2027.

Minutes

12A Approval of Minutes

Review minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 9, 2026 and the Regular Board Meeting of September 9, 2026.

Moved by Mr. Mengle and Mrs. Eagle minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 9, 2026 and the Regular Board Meeting of September 9, 2026.

Yeas: Mrs. Mengle, Mr. Mengle, Ms. Roeckle, Mr. Castro, Mrs. Eagle, Mr. Haas. The motion **carried** unanimously.

Old Business

There was none.

New Business

There was none.

Hearing of Visitors

Presentation is limited to approximately two minutes per person. Should any citizen require more than the two minutes allocated, please contact the Superintendent prior to the meeting.

He will coordinate such requests for the Board. Citizens addressing the Board should be aware that the meeting is being taped.

There were none.

MSD/RMCTC Board Visitor of the Month

Schedule 2026-2027

November	Mrs. Kristyna Eagle
December	Ms. Susan M. Roeckle
January	Mrs. Cindy L. Mengle
February	Mr. S. Wayne Hardy
March	Mr. Garrett Hyneman
April	Mr. Andrew L. Eaton, Sr.
May	Mr. Ronald J. Haas, Sr.

Review of Board Meetings and Calendar of Events

November 9	6:30 PM	RMCTC Board Meeting
November 11	6:30 PM	COW Meeting and Regular Board Meeting
December 2	6:30 PM	Annual Organization Meeting; COW Meeting; Regular Board Meeting

18A Adjourn Meeting

Moved by Ms. Eagle and Ms. Roeckle that there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM.

Yeas: Mr. Haas, Mrs. Mengle, Mr. Mengle, Ms. Roeckle, Mr. Castro, Mrs. Eagle. The motion **carried** unanimously.

Attest:

Enrique Castro, Jr.
Secretary