MEMBERS PRESENT:
JEANNE BACON
CEDRIC BUTCHY
ALISTAIR KELLY
DAVID LENGEL
STEVEN VanWOERT

JEFFERY BRANDES
RANDALL HETRICK
LORI KLAIBER
SHANE NUGENT

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:
DR. WILLIAM D. GATHERS, SUPERINTENDENT
RONALD ROWE, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
MICHELLE DIETRICH, ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL
MICHAL PIDDINGTON, MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
GREGORY ACRE, MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
SHIRLEY SPIEGEL, ASSISTANT ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL
MICHAEL STABILE, BUSINESS MANAGER/BOARD SECRETARY

Executive Session (7:15 p.m.): Student discipline, personnel, litigation (closed), agenda items, finances, facilities, and other business (open).

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Cedric Butchy, at 8:00 p.m. in the high school library. Nine members were present.

Ms. Martin and Ryan Hamilton presented the Board with copies of Equus.

MINUTES:
On a motion by David Lengel, second by Shane Nugent, the Board approved the minutes of the December 2, 2014 regular/reorganization board meeting. On a voice vote, all member present voted yes.

TREASURER’S REPORT, FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, & ALL BILLS AS LISTED:
On a motion by Dave Lengel, second by Shane Nugent, the Board approved the Treasurer’s Report, all bills as listed and the financial statements as presented. On a roll call vote, Bacon, Butchy, Hetrick, Kelly, Klaiber, Lengal and Nugent voted yes. Members Brandes and Brandes abstained.

The Board Secretary presented all Board Members with a certificate of appreciation, January is School Director Recognition Month.

Trooper Harris made a presentation to the Board on Troopers Teaching Students.
JANUARY 26, 2015 (CONTINUED):

STUDENT DISCIPLINE:
On a motion by David Lengel, second by Alistair Kelly, the Board approved the action on student discipline as recommended. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

REALTY TRANSFER TAX:
On a motion by Alistair Kelly, second by Shane Nugent, the Board approved a 2% commission payable to the Recorder of Deeds, Dee Dee Zickar, for collecting Realty Transfer Taxes for 2015. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

PERSONNEL:

Resignation:
On a motion by David Lengel, second by Jeffery Brandes, the Board accepted the resignation of Tammie Speir as a classroom aide, effective January 19, 2015. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

FMLA:
On a motion by Alistair Kelly, second by David Lengel, the Board approved a FMLA for Bridget Kniess from approximately March 15, 2015 through the remainder of the 2014-15 school year. On a voice vote, all members voted yes.

HIRES:
On a motion by David Lengel, second by Randall Hetrick, the Board approved the following hires. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Approved Shelby Ryan to serve as a volunteer musical director for the 2014-2015 school year.

Approved Chris Ellis as the Head Boys Soccer coach for the 2015-16 school year, step 1 at $3,446.50.

Approved Mike Colligan as the Head Golf coach for the 2015-16 school year, step 1 at $2,825.00.

Approved Lisa Wishart to serve as a long-term substitute for Laura Nych’s maternity and FMLA.

Approved Jessica Stearns to serve as a long-term substitute for Bridget Kniess’ maternity and FMLA.

Approved Samantha Haggerty as 10 month high school secretary, effective January 27, 2015 with a salary of $15,500.

Approved Mr. Gary Krenzer to serve as co-advisor of the Ski Club for the remainder of the 2014-15 school year.

Approved Kelly Services to move Emma Straub from day-to-day substitute to a paraprofessional at $9.00/hour beginning Tuesday, January 27, 2015
JANUARY 26, 2015 (CONTINUED):

Substitutes:
On a motion by Jeffery Brandes, second by David Lengel, the Board approved all substitute lists for teachers, as submitted by Kelly Services. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

STUDENT TRAVEL:
On a motion by David Lengel, second by Jeffery Brandes, the Board approved the following requests for student travel. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Granted approval for 8th grade class to travel to the Mercer County Career Center on Thursday, February 5th, 2015. There is no cost to the district for this trip.

Granted approval for Tracy Sevin & Jill Bello to accompany approximately 17 Physiology students to the Center for Organ Recovery & Education (CORE) in Pittsburgh on Wednesday, March 25th, 2015 for a program on organ & tissue donation. Cost to the district is $85.00 for one substitute teacher for the day.

Granted approval for the 10th grade class to attend the Mercer County Business & Industry Fair at the Park Inn by Radisson on Wednesday, March 4th, 2015. Cost to the district is two (2) buses for the trip.

Granted approval for Nicole Walzer to accompany five (5) students to the 2015 Regional STEM Competition at the Riverview Intermediate Unit 6 in Clarion on Tuesday, February 17th, 2015. One (1) van is requested for transportation. Cost to the district is $85.00 for one (1) substitute teacher for one (1) day.

Granted approval for Dr. Travis Weller to accompany one (1) student to the PMEA Regional Band Festival at Hickory High School February 12th – 14th, 2015. One (1) van is requested for transportation. Cost to the district is $172.00 (Registration & one (1) substitute teacher for one (1) day).

Granted approval for the Kindergarten and First Grade students, teachers, and chaperones to travel to “The Bernstein Bears LIVE” at Westminster College on May 27, 2015 for the morning performance. The performance and transportation costs are being covered by PEP. One substitute is needed for a nurse.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT:
On a motion by Jeffery Brandes, second by David Lengel, the Board approved the following requests for staff development. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Granted approval for Mr. Michael Colligan & Mr. Max Creasy to attend the Marine Educator’s Workshop in Parris Island, SC March 10th-13th, 2015. Cost to the district is two (2) substitute teachers for four (4) days $680.00.

Granted approval for Mr. Steve Hoover to attend the Pennsylvania State Athletic Directors Conference in Hershey from March 17-20, 2015. Estimated cost of $979.87.

Granted approval for Mrs. Kelly McEntire to attend the College Success Forum at Robert Morris University on February 3rd, 2015.
JANUARY 26, 2015 (CONTINUED):

Granted approval for Mr. Greg Acre to attend the NWEA workshop at Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit. Cost to the District is $300 for registration.

Granted approval for Patti Shaffer to attend an all-day training on January 28, 2015 at PATTAN in Pittsburgh entitled: School Wide Regional Coaches Meeting. This training is in conjunction with our School Wide Positive Behavior Program. There is no cost to the district.

Granted approval for Ashley Boughter, Stephanie Strecansky, and Carie Richards to attend the PATTAN all day training at MIU4 on February 20, 2015. This is required for license and Act 48 requirements. The training is free and no substitutes will be required.

Granted approval for Ashley Boughter, Stephanie Strecansky, and Carie Richards to attend the Speech/Language Roundtable at MIU4 on In-service day, February 13, 2015. The training is free and no substitutes will be required.

Recommend approval for Cindi Holzapfel, Joni Kostelnik, Kristen Sansone, Savannah Ziegler, Dave Tomson, and Michelle Dietrich to attend a two day training at the Midwestern Intermediate Unit on February 9 and 12, 2015 entitled, “Close Reading and Text dependent Analysis.” The cost is $600 (6@$100/participant), and $340 (4@$85) for substitutes

Facilities:
On a motion by David Lengel, second by Randall Hetrick, the Board granted approval for the Mercer Community Band to use the Mercer High School auditorium as a rehearsal and performance facility for the attached dates. Performances will be in the auditorium only for inclement weather. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Presentation of the tentative 2015-2016 Mercer Area School District school calendar.

TAX RESOLUTION:
On a motion by Alistair Kelly, second by Jeanne Bacon, the Board approved a resolution indicating that Mercer Area School Directors will not raise the rate of any tax for the support of its public schools for the 2015-16 fiscal year, by more than the index established by the Dept. of Education, for the district of 2.6%. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

SHARON REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM:
On a motion by David Lengel, second by Jeanne Bacon, the Board approved a new linkage agreement with Sharon Regional Health System concerning their Partial Hospitalization Programs, Pathfinders and Kite Strings. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

FAIR SHARE AGREEMENT:
On a motion by Jeffery Brandes, second by David Lengel, the Board approved the Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV Special Education Fair Share Agreement. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.
THE INTERLOCAL PURCHASING SYSTEM (TIPS):
On a motion by David Lengel, second by Shane Nugent, the Board approved a resolution to participate in The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS). TIPS is a national cooperative purchasing program offered by Region VIII Education Service Center, located in Pittsburg, Texas. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

INTERNAL AUDIT FOR FINDLEY TOWNSHIP TAX COLLECTOR:
On a motion by David Lengel, second by Alistair Kelly, the Board approved the internal audit report for Findley Township Tax Collector, Karen Shipton submitted by Mr. Thomas W. Amundsen, Mercer County Controller and Mr. Thomas L. Inman, Auditor. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

MIDWESTERN INTERMEDIATE UNIT #4 MEMBER HOSTING AGREEMENT:
On a motion by David Lengel, second by Randall Hetrick, the Board approved the Student Information System Member Hosting Agreement between Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV and Mercer Area School District. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

TYLER TECHNOLOGIES:
On a motion by Jeffery Brandes, second by David Lengel, the Board approved the Student Information System Subscription Agreement between Tyler Technologies and Mercer Area School District. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

LISA WILSON RATE CHANGE:
On a motion by Alistair Kelly, second by David Lengel, the Board approved an increase to Mrs. Lisa Wilson’s daily van rate by $20 per day. Mrs. Wilson will transport 3 students to and from Sharon to MHS starting on Jan. 20, 2015. (Sharon will be billed this additional amount.) On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

CHILDREN’S AID SOCIETY:
On a motion by David Lengel, second by Jeffery Brandes, the Board approved the linkage agreement with Children’s Aid Society of Mercer County for Family Based Mental Health Services. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

AMERICORPS:
On a motion by David Lengel, second by Alistair Kelly, the Board approved the following requests for AmeriCorps. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

Approved the position of a Half-Time AmeriCorps member to work between the Elementary and Middle/High School buildings, based on student need, beginning January 26, 2015, at a cost to the school district of $500.00.

Approved for Jennifer Woods to fill the AmeriCorps Half-Time position to work between the Elementary and Middle/High School buildings.
JANUARY 26, 2015 (CONTINUED):

**AMERICORPS - CONTINUED:**

Approved for Patricia DeVincentis to fill the Middle/High School AmeriCorps position at $5,800 beginning January 26th through July 15, 2015. This position was approved at the December 2, 2014 meeting.

**MILEAGE RATE:**
Recommend approval to set the district’s mileage reimbursement rate to the federal mileage reimbursement rate

**ADJOURNMENT:**
There being no other business, Alistair Kelly motioned to adjourn the meeting, Lori Klaiber seconded. On a voice vote, all members present voted yes.

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Michael H. Stabile, Board Secretary

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Cedric A. Butchy, Board President