

**MANHEIM TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS MEETING**

**District Office
March 8, 2012
7:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

Hannah Bartges, President, called the Work Session of the Manheim Township Board of School Directors to order at 7:00 p.m. School directors present were Mark Anderson, Hannah Bartges, Barb Carr, Todd Heckman, Lynn Miller, William Murry, Don Reed, and Mike Winters. Also present were Gene Freeman, Superintendent; Tim Williams, Assistant to the Superintendent for Secondary Curriculum, Instruction and Technology; Mike Bromirski, Assistant to the Superintendent for Elementary Curriculum and Instruction; Katherine Setlock, Director of Pupil Services; Laura Heikkinen, Director of Business Operations; Donna Prokay, Director of Human Resources; Tom Koch, Plant Manager; Sally Rodenberger, Student Representative; and Kathleen Arnold, Board Secretary.

Absent: Tom Winters

Visitors present are recorded in the official school board guest book. A quorum was present, and due notice had been published.

Announcements

Mrs. Bartges announced that an Executive Session on Personnel was held after the Board Retreat on Saturday, March 3, 2012.

Mrs. Bartges announced that the May Board meeting schedule has been changed to a Work Session on May 3, 2012 and the Board Meeting has been rescheduled to May 10, 2012.

Presentations:

- Middle School Students and language teachers spoke about the Middle School foreign language program; Spanish, German, and French.
- Mrs. Beth Ross introduced Ms. Leigh Anna Hilbert, who spoke about the Manheim Township Education Foundation (MTEF) Community Partners Program. The Community Partners program works with the local businesses to sell advertising on athletic fields, and place their logo on the MTEF website with a link to their business, along with an added presence within the school via a Community Partner board. At this point, they have done about \$22,000 in business and plan to continue to grow.
- John Markley of Markley Actuarial Services, Inc. – Solving the PA Public School Employees' Retirement System (PSERS) Funding Crisis (attachment). Mr. Reed and Mr. Anderson both urged members of the audience to contact their legislators on the subject of the underfunded PSERS crisis. Dr. Freeman said the teachers in the retirement fund have contributed via payroll deduction for their entire careers. It was the mismanagement of the state that led to this crisis.

**Discussion items - no action
taken at this meeting**

The agenda, as listed below, was reviewed and discussed in preparation of a vote at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting on March 15, 2012. No formal action was taken at this meeting.

**First Reading – second
reading and adoption in
April**

Updates/Reports

- Recommend approval of second reading and adoption of new course proposal: Film, Media and Technology; French, Spanish, and German
- Recommend approval of second reading and adoption of new course proposal: Online Physical Education
- Recommend approval of second reading and adoption of new course proposal: Independent Studio Art
- Recommend approval of second reading and adoption of addition to Literary Canon: Under the Persimmon Tree
- Recommend approval of second reading and adoption for replacement textbook: MKTG5, replacing Essentials of Marketing, 2006
- Recommend approval of My Math consumables for grades K-2
- Recommend approval to changes to School Hours and Bus Configuration:
 - 7:30 – 2:30 High School (10 minutes earlier)
 - 8:00 - 3:00 Middle School (20 minutes later)
 - 8:10 – 3:10 Landis Run
 - 9:00 – 3:40 K-4 buildings (+ 15 minutes)
- Recommend approval to modify the Educational Planning Guide to reduce the PE requirement to 1.5 credits and to eliminate the Family and Consumer Management (FCM) .5 credit, while redistributing FCM standards among other core classes. The number of credits required for graduation will remain at 22.
- Recommend approval of Landis Run Intermediate School project Change Orders as listed:
 - Lobar Inc Change Order #2, in the amount of a credit of (\$16,061.52)
 - Warfel Construction Inc Change Order #25, in the total amount of \$403.00
- Recommend approval to submit an Act 80 exception request for the 2011-2012 school year to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for the Department's approval
- Recommend approval of pilot Open Campus joint courses offered in conjunction with Penn Manor and Hempfield School Districts
- First reading for a new course: Content Applications, Grade 5
- First reading for an addition to the Literary Canon: The Last Book in the Universe
- First reading for an addition to the Canon, Elijah of Buxton. Grade 6
- First reading for Campbell's Biology AP Edition 9th Edition as a replacement textbook for IB/AP Biology, Grade 11/12

Mr. Jay Darkey gave an update on the Landis Run Intermediate School project. This mild winter and beautiful weather continues to aid the contractors working on the school. The project is on schedule and maybe even a little ahead of schedule. The last of the rooftop units were set today.

Citizens' Comments

Mrs. Bartges invited Manheim Township citizens' comment on any item.

Tom Rettew, 446 Holbrook Avenue, said his son had a serious eye injury during gym class in Neff 6. He questioned the lack of safety gear mandated for students. Mr. Zander responded that the district is investigating safety procedures for these type of gym activities, kindergarten through sixth grade. Dr. Freeman said he would follow up with the investigation.

Jason Scott, spoke for the supporters of Mike Melnyk, chief football coach. He said the salary of Coach Melnyk does not reflect the value the coach has brought to the district. Mr. Scott wants to "restore fair market compensation" so that Coach Melnyk remains with the district rather than accepting a coaching position in another district. He believes it important that the coach has a revised, competitive written offer by Monday, March 12th.

Mr. Scott read several letters in support of Coach Melnyk from students who had been in the football program and have since graduated.

Bryon Hutchinson, 106 Canterbury Turn, said we are fortunate to have a coach that takes an interest in the youth football program. He was at this meeting to show support for Coach Melnyk

Shawn Zimmerman, 752 Farm Road, Lititz, said he speaks with pride about MT and the MT athletic programs. He cautioned that the loss of continuity is not worth the increase of revenue.

George Eager, said he has known Coach for a long time. He said the district cannot find a better man than Coach Melnyk. The coach truly cares about the students. When you cut coaching salaries, you will get what you pay for.

Hilton Ridley, declared you will not find a better man than Coach Melnyk. Clay Hoffmaster noted the coach has spent countless hours with the students, not just for football but also in life lessons. He is an exceptional man.

Dan Sanchez said he never had a coach more dedicated than Coach Melnyk. He is passionate about all of his players. He does not accept failure from his students. The coach has a Champion manual that goes through life lessons like sportsmanship, etc.

Bill Morgan, 26 Ridings Way, he keeps hearing about spending and cutting. He said he wants to talk about making money. Athletics bring people into the district. When athletics go down, the district goes down.

Cynthia Buckwalter said Coach Melnyk has had a huge impact on her family. The coach stresses to players that they are part of a team. As part of a team they watch out for each other. These life lessons truly go on with these students throughout their lives.

Marcus Gant, Mr. Melnyk is not just a coach but a teacher. The coach teaches more than just the football players, he also passes those lessons on to the kids in the classroom.

Neo Rula, coach inspired his children to believe in themselves and to be good citizens. The coach is well deserving of the praise being given tonight.

(name indistinct), 332 Royal Hunt Way, Lititz, read a statement from his son, now in college. The coach pushed him and taught him to be a man, to have character when no one is watching. The coach is the face of MT football.

Ms. Ramirez, 432 Rock House, in the years she has known the coach he has always been a caring and compassionate person. Her son wrote a letter saying the coach had a big impact by helping him grow and become a man. He was like a father guiding him in the right direction to a great university.

Mr. Scott, 1042 White Marsh Drive, all three of his sons played football

Adjournment

Mr. Anderson moved and Mrs. Carr seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:10 p.m.

Voice vote with all members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Hannah J. Bartges, President

Kathleen E. Arnold, Secretary