

MIDDLE BUCKS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES
April 8, 2013

- I. The regular meeting of the MBIT Executive Council was convened on Monday, April 8, 2013, at 5:30 p.m. by Mr. John Gamble, Chairperson, in Room 101 at MBIT. The Executive Council rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The following members were in attendance:

Council Members

Ms. Katherine Driban, Centennial S.D.
 Dr. Bill Foster, Council Rock S.D.
 Mr. John Gamble, Central Bucks S.D.
 Mrs. Bernadette Heenan, Council Rock S.D.
 Mr. Joseph Jagelka, Central Bucks S.D.
 Ms. Alison Kingsley, New Hope-Solebury S.D. (Alternate)
 Mr. Charles Kleinschmidt, Centennial S.D. (Arrived at 5:53 PM)
 Mrs. Kelly Unger, Central Bucks S.D.

Absent

Mr. Betty Huf, Centennial S.D.
 Mr. John Vaughn, New Hope-Solebury S.D.

Others in Attendance:

Dr. Raymond Boccuti, MBIT Superintendent of Record, New Hope-Solebury S.D.
 Mr. Jeffrey Garton, Esq., School Solicitor
 Mr. Richard Hansen, Facility Supervisor
 Mrs. Roberta Jackiewicz, Assistant Board Secretary
 Mrs. Kathryn Strouse, Administrative Director
 Mr. Robert Vining, Business Manager

- II. Guests at the meeting included Mr. Kevin Lamb, Account Executive, Apple Education, Apple Inc., Mr. Christopher Tully, Multimedia Technology Teacher and Amanda Peterson, Multimedia Technology Student.
- III. Mr. Gamble announced that on March 21st, 15 students were inducted into the National Technical Honor Society along with Mrs. Bernadette Heenan, this year's honorary inductee. Mrs. Heenan, who has served as a School Board Director at Middle Bucks for the past 11 years, was recognized for her commitment to and support of our school.

Last week, 26 students participated in Skills USA State Competitions held in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Our students earned 8 medals in the following competitions: Audio Production, Commercial Baking, Esthetics, Job Interview, Restaurant Service, Pin Presentation, Plumbing and Web Design. Our 3 students who earned first place medals will be traveling to the National Competition in June held in Kansas City, Missouri.

Finally, Representative Michael Fitzpatrick will be at Middle Bucks on April 22nd at 3PM to do the honor of cutting the ribbon to officially recognize the Veterans Affairs services offered through our adult education program.

IV. Mrs. Heenan expressed her gratitude for being selected as the Honorary Inductee for the National Technical Honor Society.

V. Ms. Driban moved, Mr. Jagelka seconded, **passed** unanimously, to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2013 meeting. Attachment 1 (pg. 1-1)

VI. Routine Business:

A. Administrative Report

1. Mr. Christopher Tully noted that over the past three years the Multimedia Program has earned Apple Exemplary or Apple Distinguished Program status. He learned the application process for Apple Distinguished Program had changed this year and he was required to have the application completed in one week. He met with his students and explained that the application process was different this year and that they needed to complete an iBook about the program in three days. His students completed the project and the program was awarded Apple Distinguished Program.

Miss Amanda Peterson, Multimedia Technology student, stated that other students including Cole Cain, Patrick Duggan, Brandon Griffith, Brandon Hein, and Colin Slota worked on the iBook project with her. Miss Peterson reviewed the contents of the iBook “The Multimedia Technology Program” and mentioned there are several videos in the book. There are chapters on Visionary Leadership, Innovative Learning and Teaching, Ongoing Professional Development, Compelling Evidence of Success, Flexible Learning Environment, Contributions and Credits, and Additional Information. The book has been designed for a more graphical interface when viewed in landscape mode or you can read just the content when viewing it in portrait mode.

Mr. Tully added that Miss Peterson had published her first iBook titled “A Student’s Perspective on Public Education” for a class project. Miss Peterson said that teachers love feedback and don’t get it very often. She felt she could impact education and share with teachers what is interesting and engaging to students, because the more students are interested and engaged, the more they want to be in class. She wrote her book on different aspects of that and how to make a classroom a more effective learning environment. The book includes actual information, her experiences and her peers’ experiences. She explained that she met with students from other school districts and different educational environments to get diverse perspectives.

Mr. Tully added that Amanda almost did not attend MBIT. This year she did a presentation about Technology in Education to a graduate class and she was a facilitator and presented at the Global Education Conference online. She has also competed in Exemplary Speaking at the State SkillsUSA Conference for several years.

Discussion included that this is an incredible resource for professional development days and there was a question of how this presentation could be shared at the sending districts. Dr. Bocutti added that he feels that the High School and Middle Schools Guidance Departments are the best ways to introduce students to MBIT because they are the ones that help the students get their ideas together to decide what is best to serve them moving forward. New Hope Solebury School District is completely committed to MBIT and they make sure they share what is offered here with their students. He also thinks the student visitation days at MBIT are really helpful. Mr. Tully concluded by saying the students are a great resource and he has learned more from them than they do from him.

2. Mr. Kevin Lamb, of Apple Inc., presented the award of Apple Distinguished Program for the 2012-2013 school year to Mr. Tully. He noted that Mr. Tully has also authored several iBooks including one about educating students on social media. Mr. Lamb feels it is a great book and it is very relevant. He explained there are only 42 programs in the world that are receiving this award for a second year in a row and that Middle Bucks has earned it for the fourth year in a row. He said this program joins 42 programs that Apple is renewing nationwide as exemplary learning environments and centers of innovation, leadership and educational excellence. The Administration and Faculty in the Multimedia Technology Program have shown that they exhibit the five best practices of an Apple Distinguished Program. Those are visionary leadership, innovative learning and teaching, ongoing professional learning, compelling evidence of success, and a flexible learning environment.

Mr. Tully said he appreciates the opportunity to be at Middle Bucks. It is his 11th year and his program keeps continuing to grow with the continued support. He said that every year he says we can't get any better and every year the students prove him wrong. Mr. Tully thanked all the students for what they do and said they make it all possible.

Mrs. Heenan added that she had the opportunity to be a part of the Comcast Newsmakers last month with the District Attorney's Office. She has never experienced anything like flexible learning. The students were actually taping the telecast and she thought it was amazing. Every single student was doing something different. Mr. Tully added there were 23 students. Three of the students work with seven adults from Comcast. The other students were working on iBooks, info graphics, and video projects. He concluded that we are fortunate to have the equipment we do and we provide the students with opportunities through the resources we have.

Mr. Kleinschmidt arrived at 5:53 PM

- B. Ms. Driban moved, Mrs. Heenan seconded, **passed** unanimously, to receive and file MBIT's update including activities/events, correspondence and related matters as per Attachment 2 (pg. 2-1)

C. Committee Reports

1. Dr. Boccuti, Superintendent and Chairperson of the Professional Advisory Council stated he did not have anything to add to the minutes in the packet. He said he tries to attend the Pete & C Conference every year in Hershey, which is the state educational technology conference. The past two years he has attended Mr. Tully's presentations. Last year he went to a preconference session on iBooks and this year he went to the presentation on the Pennsylvania Effective Educator model, and what that means for educators next year. Dr. Boccuti said that Mr. Tully did a marvelous job, Middle Bucks is fortunate to have him here and he is really a shining light. Attachment 3 (pg. 3-1)
2. The Building, Security and Technology Committee meeting scheduled on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 4:30PM was cancelled. – Mrs. Bernadette Heenan, Chairperson. Attachment 4 (pg.4-1)
3. The Program, Policy and Personnel Committee meeting scheduled on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 5:15 PM was cancelled. – Mrs. Betty Huf, Chairperson. Attachment 5 (pg. 5-1)
4. The Finance Committee meeting scheduled on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 6:00 PM was cancelled. - Ms. Katherine Driban, Chairperson. Attachment 6 (pg. 6-1)

D. Ms. Driban moved, Mr. Jagelka seconded, **passed** unanimously, to approve the Cash Payments Reports for March. Attachment 7 (pg. 7-1)

E. Ms. Driban moved, Mr. Jagelka seconded, **passed** unanimously, to approve the Treasurer's Reports for February. Attachment 8 (pg. 8-1)

VII. Current Agenda Items

A. Personnel Items

1. Ms. Driban moved, Mrs. Heenan seconded, **passed** unanimously, to approve the retirement of Rick D. Black, Career and Technical Education Supervisor, effective April 5, 2013.

Mrs. Strouse noted that since it is so close to the end of the school year, the Administrative Team has split up the duties for the remainder of the year. She has posted the position and we have already started to receive resumes. She would like to finish out the school year and bring someone on board with a start date of July 1.

2. Ms. Driban moved, Mrs. Heenan seconded, **passed** unanimously, to approve the qualifying leave of absence consistent with Policy #535.1 – Family and Medical Leave for Fritz Gracien, Custodian, effective April 15, 2013.

3. Ms. Driban moved, Mrs. Heenan seconded, **passed** unanimously, to approve the retirement of Denise Frank, Instructional Assistant, effective June 20, 2013.
4. Ms. Driban moved, Mrs. Heenan seconded, **passed** unanimously, approve the additions to the substitute staff listing for the 2012-13 school year. Attachment 9 (pg. 9-1)

B. Policies

1. ADOPTION

- a. Ms. Driban moved, Mrs. Heenan seconded, **passed** unanimously, to accept for adoption as amended revised Board Policy No. 210, Use of Medications, in the Pupils Section. Attachment 10 (pg. 10-1)

Discussion included that the policy should be revised to read Executive Council and staff shall not be responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of student illness.

2. FIRST READING

- a. Ms. Driban moved, Dr. Foster seconded, **passed** unanimously, to accept for first reading revised Board Policy No. 815, Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources, in the Operations Section. Attachment 11 (pg. 11-1)

Discussion included that the Information Technology Directors from all of the districts got together with a solicitor who specializes in use of computers and technology and wrote this policy to make it very clear and concise and Middle Bucks carries an insurance policy to cover security breaches with our systems.

- b. Ms. Driban moved, Dr. Foster seconded, **passed** unanimously, to accept for first reading revised Board Policy No. 817, Energy Conservation, in the Operations Section. Attachment 12 (pg. 12-1)

C. Other Matters for Consideration

1. Ms. Driban moved, Mrs. Heenan seconded, **passed** unanimously, to take from the table for consideration the motion to authorize Tangent Energy Solutions and Middle Bucks Institute of Technology to pursue a Power Purchase Agreement to be approved by the Executive Council in April 2013.

2. Ms. Driban moved, Mrs. Heenan seconded, **failed** on a roll call vote of two (2) aye, six (6) nay (Dr. Foster, Mr. Gamble, Mrs. Heenan, Mr. Jagelka, Mrs. Unger and Ms. Kingsley) and no abstentions, to authorize Tangent Energy Solutions and Middle Bucks Institute of Technology to pursue a Power Purchase Agreement to be approved by the Executive Council in April 2013.

Discussion included the following:

- Mrs. Unger shared that she is not able to support this project because she does not feel comfortable with the financial aspects of the deal.
- Mr. Vining explained there are no costs because the construction would be borne by Tangent Energy Solutions. We are presently paying a lower rate for the electricity that we are buying today, than we would if we had solar panels in place. That will go on for at least two or three years. Thereafter, it is unknown. The projection today is that natural gas is going to make the cost of producing electricity much lower in the future. The cost of getting the electricity from the power plant to the school is going to go up. The increase in that is significant enough to overcome the cost of the electricity we would be buying from the solar panels. The long term is the unknown. This project would make a lot more sense if there were federal and state monies available, because the cost of subsidized electricity would be lower and at the present time there aren't any subsidies.
- Mr. Jagelka said he has a problem supporting this project because it will cost us money to make the switch. He said while it costs us zero to get the panels, we will be spending more for electricity and are being asked to commit to a 20 year plan. He also expressed concerns with Tangent itself, based upon what Mr. Garton has forwarded about them. Mr. Jagelka thinks they have issues with their corporate organization, how they are structured and the liability that it could create for us.
- Mr. Garton clarified and said the entity that has proposed to enter in to the agreement has no track record and is being formed for this purpose only. The contract does not provide for any performance bonds to guarantee that what you have bargained for, you are going to get. He said it is the Executive Council's decision and just wanted to raise the issue that he raised at the last meeting.
- Dr. Foster added that he liked the effort that has gone in by the champions of this process. He thinks alternative energy and thinking about sustainability is important. Dr. Foster said he shares the concerns about the length of the agreement, the thought of committing to a 2% increase a year for 20 years and that there is so much uncertainty about what the cost will be. He said he salutes the attempt to innovate and he doesn't want his no vote to be discouraging of that.

3. Ms. Driban moved, Mr. Jagelka seconded, **passed** unanimously, to adopt the resolution to authorize Kathryn Strouse, Administrative Director, to sign electronic agreements with the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Attachment 13 (pg. 13-1)
4. Ms. Driban moved, Mr. Jagelka seconded, **passed** unanimously, to approve the 2013-2014 school calendar. Attachment 14 (pg. 14-1)

Discussion included that we develop our school calendar based on the sending district calendars, we try to be open when the majority of students need to be here, and the possibility of developing a common calendar.
5. Ms. Driban moved, Mr. Jagelka seconded, **passed** unanimously, to receive and file the calendar of the Executive Council public meeting dates for the 2013-2014 school year. Attachment 15 (pg. 15-1)
6. Ms. Driban moved, Mr. Jagelka seconded, **passed** unanimously, to approve additional field trips for the 2012/13 school year. Attachment 16 (pg. 16-1)
7. Ms. Driban moved, Mr. Jagelka seconded, **passed** unanimously, to approve a summer school consortium at Middle Bucks Institute of Technology in July, 2013. Attachment 17 (pg. 17-1)
8. Ms. Driban moved, Mr. Jagelka seconded, **passed** unanimously, to authorize administration to plan, develop and market a summer career enrichment program. Attachment 18 (pg. 18-1)
9. Ms. Driban moved, Mr. Jagelka seconded, **passed** unanimously, to accept the bid from Patterson Dental in amount of \$54,972.85 for the purchase of a Panoramic X-ray System for the Dental Assisting Program. This system is funded by PA Department of Education Equipment Grant #122-13-3025 with required matching money from the General Fund. Attachment 19 (pg. 19-1)
10. Ms. Driban moved, Mr. Jagelka seconded, **passed** unanimously, to reject all bids received March 4, 2013 for HP Designjet T1200 HD Multifunction Printer for the Computerized Drafting & Engineering Graphics program. Attachment 20 (pg. 20-1)
11. Ms. Driban moved, Mr. Jagelka seconded, **passed** unanimously, to purchase the HP Designjet T1200 HD Multifunction Printer via PEPPM from E-Plus Technology, Inc. at cost of \$15,584.33. This printer is funded by PA Department of Education Equipment Grant #122-13-3026 with required matching money from the Capital Reserve Fund.
12. Ms. Driban moved, Mr. Jagelka seconded, **passed** unanimously, to approve budget transfers. Attachment 21 (pg. 21-1)

- VIII. Ms. Driban moved, Mrs. Unger seconded, passed unanimously, to adjourn the April 8, 2013 meeting of the MBIT Executive Council at 6:20 PM.

An Executive Session was held to discuss Negotiations.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernadette Heenan
Secretary

Roberta Jackiewicz
Assistant Secretary