OCTOBER 10, 2022, 7:00 P.M. JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

MONTROSE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WORK SESSION MINUTES

(Visit our website at www.masd.info)

Mrs. Mary Homan Board of Directors President Mr. Christopher McComb Superintendent of Schools

The Montrose Area School District Board of Directors Work Session was called to order by Mrs. Mary Homan, Board President at 7:00 p.m. in the Junior-Senior High School Auditorium, 75 Meteor Way, Montrose PA 18801.

- I. OPENING EXERCISES Led by a Board Member, Mrs. Gloria Smith
- II. ROLL CALL Mrs. Connie Birchard, Board Secretary

PRESENT: Mr. John Wood, Mrs. Gloria Smith, Mrs. Jennifer Strickland, Mrs. Mary Homan, Mr. Richard Jordan, and Mr. Paul Adams

ABSENT: Mrs. Gretchen Backer and Miss Taylor Warner

ADMINISTRATORS: Mr. Christopher McComb, Mr. Patrick Matthews, Mr. Eric Powers, Mrs. Madison Moyer, Mrs. JoAnne McCain, Mr. Thomas Lonzinski and Mr. Craig Owens

III. PRESENTATIONS - GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING! - Mr. Powers

A. WVIA "Great Teacher" Recognition – Charlotte Sherwood
Based on 2022 graduate. Kerry Tometchko's award-winning essay

Mr. Powers welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting. This great teacher nomination did not come from Mr. Powers as an administrator or from colleagues, it came from a student. This teacher, year after year, we hear, anecdotally about how she has touched the lives of students in the Junior-Senior High School in many ways. In some ways, the recognition is long overdue, but in other ways we have grown accustomed to it, and we expect to hear about Mrs. Sherwood years after she has had seventh graders in her class. Many of them said they were afraid to do speeches, but they were not afraid after doing speeches for Mrs. Sherwood and it carried them all the way through high school. Some of the high school students sneak down into the junior-high wing just to say hello to her. Mrs. Sherwood is a name that has been mentioned in multiple different valedictorian and salutatorian speeches. She has touched so many lives over the years and her ultimate goal is to make the world a better place. This recognition comes from a student, Kerri Tometchko. She was our salutatorian last year, class president, a go getter, and a very talented young lady. Kerry took the initiative all on her own to write the essay. She did not do it for a grade, she did not do it for attention, she did it for herself. She wrote a great essay and was recognized by WVIA and received an award of \$500.00 for the essay. Of all the people she could have written the essay about, she chose Mrs. Sherwood. It is Kerri's winning essay that gave us the opportunity to recognize Mrs. Charlotte Sherwood as a great teacher and game changer in the Junior-Senior High School. The audience applauded and the Board personally congratulated her. Mr. Powers ran the interview clip from WVIA with Kerri and Mrs. Sherwood for all in attendance to view. Mr. Powers indicated that he would be hard pressed to find somebody else in this building who has an impact on the students like Mrs. Sherwood does.

- IV. ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS ALL ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED No comments or questions from members of the Board on the Administrators' Reports.
 - A. Thomas Lonzinski
 - B. Madison Moyer
 - C. Terrence Whalen
 - D. Michelle Lusk
 - E. Christine Kresge
 - F. Greg Adams
 - G. Eric Powers
 - H. Craig Owens no submission
 - I. JoAnne McCain
 - J. Patrick Matthews

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. After-School Club Funding – Principals

Mr. Powers started off by saying he met with elementary principals, Mrs. Moyer and Mr. Matthews and they have also talked about this with the administrative team. They are incredibly appreciative of the opportunity that they have had with the Board supporting kids and extra activities. Last year, they recognized a need post Covid to get more kids active and engaged. Last year they had the opportunity to use ESSER funding to launch the numerous different clubs in all three buildings. Principals. Mr. Powers. Mr. Matthews and Mrs. Moyer asked the Board to consider additional funding this school year for the popular clubs from last year. Some of the clubs of interest include - Computer "Retro" Games Club; Harry Potter Club; Disney Club; Manic Mondays; Wacky Wednesdays; Computer Club; Intramural Basketball; Yarn Club; Games Club; Guitar Club and Power Lifting. Board member, Mrs. Smith felt there is a huge need for clubs, especially post Covid. She also expressed that there is a huge need in our community and proposed using the gas money to cover the costs. Lathrop Street Principal, Mr. Matthews reported that about 100 students participated in an after-school club activity last year. Choconut Valley Principal, Mrs. Moyer added that they also had a significant number of students involved. Mr. McComb said that these clubs are an important component in getting kids involved in something after school. Board member, Mr. Jordan felt with all the gas money we are getting, there is nothing we should deny our students. Board member, Mr. Adams was supportive, but reminded the Board that we are still in a deficit and need to stay disciplined. In conclusion, it was determined by the Board to allocate a portion of the gas money to cover the clubs and tutoring this school year and consider adding a line item into the budget for the 2023-2024 school year.

B. Pavement Repairs – Tom Lonzinski

Mr. Lonzinski indicated that our asphalt at all locations is in need of repairs. Because of the roofing projects, the availability of the parking was an issue this summer. He asked the Board for the opportunity to have Patch Management come in and do spray patching. They would like to get these repairs started within the next month and a half. The total cost for this project would be \$22,668.00. The Board gave Mr. Lonzinski the go ahead with this project and proposed that we use the 32 Capital Reserve Fund.

C. Exterior Door Alarms – Craig Owens

Mr. Owens reported that we have been working on the exterior door project for a couple of months now. We are in need of buttoning up our exterior perimeters. We would like a way to be notified if a door was propped open. Mr. Owens indicated that he has been working with Guyette Communication to implement an access control system on all exterior doors at the high school which has 56 entrance ways and would like to have them all monitored. The total cost for this implementation would be \$35,128.55. Mr. Owens would like to move forward now with this implementation and feels the cost is a reasonable amount of money. The Board agreed to proceed with the implementation using the 32 Capital Reserve Fund.

D. Items from members of Board of Directors - None

VI. REVIEW OF AGENDA ITEMS

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Items from members of Board of Directors - None

VIII. COMMITTEES

A. Schedule meetings – Parent and Family Engagement Nights have been scheduled for Choconut Valley Elementary School on October 19, 2022 from 5:15 – 7:00 PM and Lathrop Street Elementary School on October 20, 2022 from 5:15 – 7:00 PM – a flyer will be sent home with all students this week.

IX. VISITORS' COMMENTS - None

X. ADJOURNMENT - A motion was made by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Strickland to adjourn the work session at 7:43 PM

ALL VOTING AYE

Connie Birchard, Board Secretary

ADMINISTRATOR- Christine Kresge, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

BOARD MEETING DATE: Monday, October 10, 2022

Curriculum/Professional Development Planning/Programming

- The school level plan for Lathrop Street has been approved. Choconut Valley elementary school's plan has been submitted to PDE and is awaiting review.
- Title I and math interventionists have reviewed benchmark data and have started working with students. They are looking forward to another successful year of supporting our students!
- We are excited to announce our annual Title I Parent and Family Engagement Nights at both Choconut and Lathrop St. Elementary schools. CVES will host the event on October 19, and LSES will host on October 20. The evening will include dinner for parents and children, a presentation from Metz related to our school lunch program, an overview of our Title I building level policies, parent compact, and an overview of Title I programs. We will also include breakout sessions related to Big Ideas Math online portal, i-Ready, Focus, and Remind. We are working with the high school to provide childcare during this event and are hoping for an excellent turnout!
- Michelle Lusk and I worked with the PCCD administrators to update our grant to reflect the change in how we are staffing the position. We hope to have the position filled soon.
- I will be attending and presenting at the Curriculum Associates Mid-Atlantic Leadership Conference on October 26-28 in Philadelphia. The event is aimed at updating users on the newest tools and resources available to teachers and students. I will be presenting on the topic of effective program implementation.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

ADMINISTRATOR: Eric Powers

BUILDING: High School

DATE SUBMITTED: October 7, 2022

BOARD MEETING DATE: October 10, 2022

I. <u>RECOGNITION:</u>

- Congratulations to our Fall sports teams for their performances to date. All have secured wins this season and Girls and Boys Cross Country, Golf and Girls Soccer in particular have had a noteworthy amount of success so far.
- Congratulations to the Montrose Marching Band for its participation in a Cavalcade event held at Riverside High School on Wednesday September 28. They performed well and it was nice to share our musical talents with others!
- Congratulations to Senior Thomas Stewart for his most recent National Merit recognition; in addition to his NRST award recognition, he received a National Merit Letter of Commendation for his 2021 PSAT scores.
- Congratulations to our Junior High team for their Spring 2022 PSSA results.
 While we had preliminary results in June, we have recently been able to compare our scores with state averages. Our students performed above state average on all PSSA Exams, substantially above in several areas, with a marked difference in the number of students performing Below Basic as well. Combined with our Keystone Exam results for first-time test takers, our students surpassed state average on all standardized tests.

II. <u>ANNOUNCEMENTS:</u>

- We were pleased to host nationally recognized speaker John Halligan for two assemblies at the high school on Thursday October 6... for grades 5-8 and 9-12. Mr. Halligan shared his son Ryan's story related to suicide, bullying and social media, and also shared his message with parents in an evening session. The assemblies, despite the somber topics, were very well received by the students.
- Thanks to Mrs. Ohmnacht for coordinating the Guidance Department's annual Financial Aid Night on Wednesday evening, October 5. Featured guest was University of Scranton financial aid guru (Director of Systems and Compliance for Financial Aid) Margaret Hynosky, who has worked with Mrs. Ohmnacht on this event for many years.
- Homecoming week kicks off October 11, with the Homecoming Dance scheduled for Saturday October 15 from 6:30-9:30 in the high school gym. We will also hold our

- first pep rally since the fall of 2019 on Friday and the Student Council has been working hard to prepare for a fun week!
- We have our annual PSAT testing scheduled for Wednesday October 12. Almost all juniors and numerous sophomores will participate.
- Mrs. Loriann Matulevich has taken the lead again this year, encouraging the Junior/Senior High School to participate in national Unity Day on October 19th.
 Students, faculty and staff will be encouraged to wear orange that day to support PACER's national bullying prevention efforts.

III. CURRENT PROJECT STATUS:

• I recently met, via Zoom, with a representative from the Rochester Institute of Technology regarding dual enrollment credit for students taking either of our high school PLTW electives. There is no formal agreement with RIT; once students have taken their online, end of year PLTW exams, they can apply to RIT for college credit if their class final grades and exam scores are high enough. The cost is only \$225 per student. PLTW end of course exams have not been required in recent years, so that will be one adjustment to overcome.

IV. OTHER:

Signature: Eric C. Powers Date: October 7, 2022

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

ADMINISTRATOR Greg Adams

Department Special Education

BOARD MEETING DATE October 10th, 2022

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. We are happy to have our new school psychologist, Alison Lucas, on board. She is doing an amazing job and has made it a point to understand the processes of each building in terms of interventions and how students re referred for evaluations. Alison will also be an integral part of facilitating a new professional development in the department with a particular focus on IEP writing.
- B. With September behind us I would say the school year is off to a good start in special education. In addition to the important instructional component, teachers in special education are responsible for student reevaluations, weekly progress monitoring of student goals, developing IEP's and holding IEP meetings. They have a lot of demands as special education teachers and they do it without complaint. I wanted to give them a thank you this month.
- C. We will begin a data meeting process this month in the elementary schools. This is a new initiative for our department, and I am optimistic it will be extremely beneficial to our students and teachers. We will review data and discuss progress and ideas to move our students to the next level.

These data meetings will be held in the elementary schools at first and then expand to the high school. The high school presents some scheduling challenges, but we will continue to look for solutions.

Signature: Greg Adams Date October 6th, 2022

Administrator: JoAnne McCain

Department: Transportation

Board Meeting Date: October 10, 2022

I. Recognition:

Thank you to Lainey Maynard for going the extra mile to keep our students safe every day.

II. <u>Important Dates and Events</u>:

III. Announcements:

IV. <u>Current Project Status</u>:

The 21-22 State Report has been completed and submitted.

Quarterly driver drug testing was completed.

Contract calculations have been completed for the 22-23 school year and included on agenda.

TSA assessment is set for October 21, 2022.

V. Other:

Signature: JoAnne McCain Date: 10/6/22

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Administrator: Madison Moyer

Building: Choconut Valley Elementary School

Board Meeting Date: October 10, 2022

I. Recognition

Congratulations to our September Students of the Month! This year, our Students of the Month are centered around a character trait each month. For the month of September, we focused on Responsibility. We are proud to recognize the following students who have been selected for both meeting and exceeding our schoolwide expectations, as well as demonstrating specifically what it means to be responsible as a Mighty Meteor.

September Students of the Month:

Kindergarten- Dominic Rebello First Grade- Wyatt West Second Grade- Dahlia Estrada Third Grade- Skylar Peck Fourth Grade- Emma Darrah Fifth Grade- Ava Spolar Sixth Grade- Brielle Rebello

II. Important Dates and Events

Homework Club: Begins Tuesday, October 11th Computer Club: Begins Tuesday, October 11th OLSAT Testing: Grade 2- October 12th & 13th

CEO/Weinberg Food Bank Pick-Up: Tuesday, October 18th from 3:30-5:30 PM

Big Ideas/Title I Family Night: Wednesday, October 19th **CVES 50th Birthday Celebration:** Friday, October 21st

Red Ribbon Week: Monday, October 24th – Friday, October 28th **PTO Sponsored Halloween Event:** Saturday, October 29th 3-5 PM

III. Announcements

September was a busy month as school got underway and October is bringing a lot of exciting things here at Choconut Valley Elementary School.

On Wednesday, October 5th, we had the Real Men Read program from the United Way at our school to read to our Kindergarten students. It's so wonderful to be able to have this program back in person and the Kindergarten students enjoyed this visit so much.

This past week on Thursday, October 6th, 5th and 6th grade students traveled to the High School to hear Ryan's Story, a presentation by Mr. John Halligan. Halligan's presentation covered lessons learned too late for his family regarding how to deal with bullying, cyberbullying, and teen depression. There was an assembly for our 5th and 6th grade students

during the school day and a parent event at night. This was the 3rd time Mr. Halligan has been to Montrose and he had a great message for students and their families.

Also on Thursday, October 6th we held Fire Prevention Day. Companies represented included: Silver Lake Volunteer Fire Company, Forest Lake Volunteer Fire Company, Little Meadows Volunteer Fire Company & Rescue Squad, and Snake Creek Volunteer Fire Company. We conducted a fire drill with Fire Company response and had an assembly for grade levels with stations put on by members of the fire companies in attendance. Some examples of stations include: practicing stop, drop, and roll, learning the right motion to operate a fire extinguisher, getting to go inside an ambulance and fire truck and learning about the tools on both, learning about the suit and equipment firefighters wear, understanding how to call 911 if there were a fire, planning for a meeting place at your home if there were a fire, and more. The day was full of valuable reminders and lessons for our students and we are very grateful to all of the Fire Companies involved for their dedication and hard work to make this day possible for our students.

Looking ahead, we have been excitedly planning for our 50th birthday celebration at Choconut! Faculty and staff are putting together ideas for what we will put in our time capsule to go into the ground to be opened in the year 2046 at the 75th anniversary. We will be celebrating with an assembly during the day to unveil what was placed in the time capsule 25 years ago and to share what is going into the new time capsule. We are planning to have pictures/displays out for our Big Ideas/Title I Family night and for our PTO Sponsored Halloween Event so that we can share that history with our parents and community in conjunction with these other events.

This month, we are doing our PBIS Assembly a little differently and are sharing out a video version of our assembly highlighting our next character trait for the month of October: Acceptance. Acceptance is the perfect character trait for October as we head into the month where we will be celebrating Unity Day on October 19th. We are honoring our students of the month for September and highlighting some very responsible groups around the building as well.

Homework Club will begin after the Columbus Day Weekend and runs Tuesday/Thursday at Choconut for students in grades 4-6. This year, Mr. Ryan Soden is starting up a 3 week Computer Club in October for students in 6th grade. CVYAA Soccer will wrap up on Thursday, October 13th with their soccer party.

IV. Current project status

V. Other

Signature: Madison Moyer Date: 10/07/2022

ADMINISTRATOR – Michelle Lusk BUILDING – Administration BOARD MEETING DATE – 10/10/2022

I. IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

September 26, 2022 – PDE Approval for CEP program district wide October 17-21, 2022 – Local Auditors on-site November 15, 2022 – Federal Programs Comparability Due

I continue to work on items for the audit and year end reporting.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Local Audit preparations are coming along. The initial information requests have been given to Paul Murphy and his team. Paul's team will be on site the week of Oct 17th.

Montrose Area SD has implemented the Community Eligibility Program (CEP) throughout the 2022/2023 school year!

What does this mean for your child/ children? He or she is eligible for FREE BREAKFAST and FREE LUNCH at school during the 2022-2023 school year. Your child/children can participate in school breakfast and lunch without having to pay a fee or submit an application. **No further action is required by you.**

All meals will meet federal and state guidelines. Students must take 3 of the 4 items offered at breakfast, and 1 of those items must be a 1/2 cup fruit. At lunch, students must take 3 of the 5 items offered and 1 of those items must be a 1/2 cup fruit or vegetable.

We are excited to introduce the "Pack and Carry" Option! Students that still want to pack a lunch may do so and also still participate in school lunch. We offer fresh fruits (apple, banana, orange, etc.), fresh veggies (baby carrots or tossed salad for example) and a choice of milk for students to take as they go through the serving lines. These items, along with the packed items, will help complete their lunch at no additional cost to you.

Students who wish to purchase an extra entree, one of our snack options, or just milk must pay for them. This program does not apply to ala carte items.

Student accounts have been credited for any breakfast or lunch purchased this school year. More information will be provided to you regarding your student's account. You can add money for your student(s) account to purchase extra meal items or snacks, identify when and what your child/children are eating, and receive low balance account notice by visiting your online payment service.

The direct certification process will be run for October as required.

Michelle Qusk
Business Manager
Montrose Area School District

Administrator: Patrick Matthews

Building: Lathrop Street Elementary School

Board Meeting Date: October 10, 2022

I. Recognition

Congratulations to our Mighty Meteors of the month! These students are being recognized for meeting and going above and beyond our schoolwide expectations, and for being *Responsible* throughout the month of September:

Kindergarten: Parker Lewis, Mebb Griggs, Capri Garey 1st grade: Graysen Palmer, Elliana Miller, Addyson Riley 2nd grade: Remington Garrison, Hoyt Zahora, Jesse Wilkins 3rd grade: Abigail Knight, Faith Moskowitz, Jayden Teets 4th grade: Shelby Tingley, Ayden Swarts, Noah Brown

5th grade: Kalista Rodriguez, Isabella Amato

6th grade: Daniel Kadlecik, Kaylin Welsh, Anna Evans, Tristan Quackenbush

II. Important Dates and Events

Children's Food Market-Thursday, October 20th from 3:30-5:30

Homework Club Begins- October 11th

OLSAT Testing for Second Grade: October 12 and 13th **No School for Students-** October 7th and October 10th

Unity Day: Wednesday, October 19th

Big Ideas Family Night-Thursday, October 20th

Halloween Parade- Friday, October 28th

III. Announcements

We ended September on a nice note with our PBIS assembly. Mighty Meteors were recognized this past month for being *Responsible* students throughout the month! October's positive character trait of the month is *Acceptance*. The 6th grade students did a great job with our assembly and have been very creative in the process. We are very proud of all their efforts here! A special thanks to Wade Robinson for donating Pump and Pantry gift certificates for our Mighty Meteors.

Our 5th and 6th grade students went up to the high school on October 6th for the John Halligan assembly. This assembly was a powerful one and the kids did a really nice job listening to the

message presented by Mr. Halligan. Thanks to Mr. Powers for getting this in motion and bringing this assembly to the district.

We currently have five families that have signed up for the Strengthening Families program. Because of the small numbers, we are pushing back the start date to October 11th in hopes that more families sign up. This program is for all Montrose Area School District families and their children between the ages of 10-14. Dinner will be provided each Tuesday for those interested.

I am happy to announce that we will be bringing back our Halloween Parade this year! This was one of my favorite days when I was teaching at Lathrop Street. We will be sending home more information within the next couple of weeks.

Our Big Ideas Family Night will be on October 20th. There will be food provided for all families that attend. We will be sending home information shortly and ask that families RSVP, so we know how many families to prepare for. This night will provide information to families regarding our Big Ideas math program, iReady, Focus and Remind.

The Real Men Read program came to Lathrop Street this past Thursday. It's great to have the volunteers come in and read to the students in-person again. Thanks to Mr. Tom Follert for helping organize this program for our Kindergarten students.

I have been in contact with Ryan Coy to set up the fire assembly this month. We do not have a date set in stone yet, but will have one sometime soon.

The Boy Scouts came to Lathrop Street this past month! Students were presented with information regarding scouts during their lunch period. We had lots of excited students leaving the cafeteria!

IV. Current project status

V. Other

Signature: Patrick Matthews Date: 10/6/22

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

ADMINISTRATOR: Terrence Whalen

BUILDING: Jr/Sr High School

DATE SUBMITTED: 10/6/22

BOARD MEETING DATE: 10/10/22

I. <u>RECOGNITION:</u>

September Jr/Sr HS Students of the Month

12th – Haley Zapolski

11th – Gracie Gregory

10th – Alyssa Burts

9th – Karmen Gumaer

8th – Alyssa Jackson

7th- Jamison Myers

A lunch will be provided for these students on Thursday October 13th at 12:00 P.M. at the High School

II. IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS:

John Halligan spoke to all students in 5th-12th grade on Thursday October 6th during the morning. The assembly was around bullying and suicide prevention. The assembly was received very well by the students. A similar assembly was held on October 6th by Mr. Halligan at 7:00 p.m. This assembly was structured for the parents in the Montrose community.

Week of October 10 – Homecoming Week with Homecoming Dance in the gym October 15

Wednesday October 12 – PSAT Testing 8:15-noon

Wednesday October 19 – Envirothon Practice @ Salt Springs and University of Scranton French III

immersion day

Thursday November 3 – County Chorus @ Lackawanna Trail

Wednesday November 9 – County Band @ Blue Ridge

Thursday November 10 – Music Department Field Trip – Magic Flute Opera @ Marywood University

November 10,11,12 – PUFFS Drama Club Production

Last day of first quarter – Friday November 4, Grades due locked in Focus 9:00am Tuesday November 8

Quarter 1 report card distribution Wednesday November 9

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Progress reports have been mailed out this week.

IV. CURRENT PROJECT STATUS:

V. OTHER:

VI. Signature: Terrence Whalen Date: 10/6/22

ADMINISTRATOR – Tom Lonzinski
BUILDING - All
BOARD MEETING DATE - October 10, 2022
Facilities Report

The Stage in the High School Auditorium has now been repaired and is now back in use. We poured 2 ½" of concrete over the existing concrete base and then we installed 2 layers of ¾" plywood for the final floor. The plywood was painted black to match the rest of the backstage area.

Baseball Field Renovation Project at the Jr / Sr High School is now complete. Sod and seeded areas are growing well and the fencing around the field has been installed. A few small grading projects around the outside perimeter of the fence are still in progress but for the most part everything is now finished.

Gym Floor of the Jr / Sr High School – Floor had to be screened and re finished for the 3rd time due to inconsistent application from the vendor. The floor had to be surface prepped and sealed. Then the finish was applied correctly. Floor turned out much better this time.

Lathrop Street Gym Floor Finish has started to peel from the floor. This is a similar issue to the High School Gym Floor with adhesion of the paint and finish. Flooring Company will be on site on October 20th to screen the floor, repaint the lines, and reapply the floor finish.

Roofing project Updates:

High School – The roof refurbish has been completed. The metal work is still in process. Upper-level wall panels are now completed as well as all Flashings and Caps. Work has been a delayed due to product availability of the Scuppers that allow for water drainage off the Main Gym roof. Work is now scheduled to be completed the week of October 10th. Upon Scupper installation all work will be completed.

Lathrop Street – Roof Project is now complete. Waiting for High School Roof completion and then the final inspections for both buildings will be scheduled.

Tom Lonzinski