

**Official Proceedings of the GOVERNOR MIFFLIN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of School Directors' Voting Meeting
September 21, 2026; Education Center**

Board Members in Attendance – Mrs. Elizabeth Adams, Mrs. Heather Bouchard, Mrs. Caryn Friedlander, Mrs. Michelle Heim, Mrs. Janemarie McKay (remote), Mrs. Laurie Miller, Dr. Lisa Peterson, Dr. Michele Roby – 8. Absent – Mr. Ralph Kabakoff – 1.

Administrators in Attendance – Dr. Lisa Hess, Superintendent; Dr. Erin Anderson, Assistant Superintendent; Mrs. Kelly Price, Chief Financial Officer; Ms. Stephanie Seifrit, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Tim Ziegler, Chief Operations Officer; Dr. Jean Solecki, Director of Special Education; Mrs. Karen DeNunzio, Director of Teaching & Learning; Mr. Jeff Reichart, Director of Safe Schools; Ms. Ashley Shannon, Director of Communications & Community Relations; Mrs. Traci Huddleson, Assistant Director for Student Activities; Mrs. Melissa Paparella, Principal, Mifflin Park Elementary; Mr. Cory Crider, Principal, Intermediate School; Mr. TJ Miller, Principal, High School.

Others in Attendance – Jeffrey Litts, Esq., Board Solicitor; Sharon Patton, Board Recording Secretary; professional staff and citizens.

The Meeting was **Called to Order** at 7:18pm by Dr. Lisa Peterson, Board President, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call. Dr. Peterson announced that the Board held an **Executive Session** prior to the meeting for discussion of personnel, and school safety & security matters.

Presentations

2026 GM WISE Award Recipients – Ms. Stephanie Seifrit, Director of Human Resources, presented Mrs. Traci Huddleson and Mr. Brandon Snyder as GM's 2026 WISE Award recipients.

American School Safety Corps – Logan Minford and Grace Wanner, of the American School Safety Corps, provided an overview of their after-school program, staffed by volunteer Veterans.

MONTHLY BOARD APPROVALS

Motion by Friedlander and second by Heim to Approve the following **Monthly Board Approval Agenda Items**:

- **Minutes of the Meeting** held August 17, 2026, as presented
- **Minutes of the Meeting** held September 14, 2026, as presented
- **Treasurer's Report** of August 31, 2026, as presented
- **Bills Paid**, in the total amount of \$5,967,625.31, as presented

Roll Call Vote – Ayes: Friedlander, Heim, Adams, Bouchard, McKay, Miller, Peterson, Roby – 8.
Nays: 0.

MOTION CARRIED

Public Comment

Girl Scout Troop 1863, represented by Felicity West, Phoenix MacWilliam, Madeline Stamm, Sidney Reeve & Molly Evans, shared their Girl Scout Tree Promise project, whereby they donated a tree to be planted at Cumru Elementary. They presented Mr. Tim Ziegler, Chief Operations Officer, with a marker to be placed in front of the tree.

Ms. Caitlin West, leader for Girl Scout Troop 1863, said it will be a pleasure to watch her Troop's donated tree grow at Cumru. She also encouraged the district to participate in the Shine On Girl Scouts initiative this year, which runs from October 26-30. During this time, schools acknowledge students participating in Girl Scouts for going above and beyond in service to their community.

Mr. Zac Baker stressed the importance of student safety and security, and that recent events have raised concerns.

Mrs. Marcella Sweigart, a former GM teacher, noted that she was not offered a Human Resources Exit Interview when she left employment in 2025.

There were no **Communications** received by the Board.

The Board acknowledged Administration's receipt of the following **Right-to-Know Requests**:

- Mr. William Scribner requested Board Policy 202, other policies regarding enrollment, number of nonresident students enrolled in the district, copies of Board meeting minutes approving or denying nonresident student enrollment, guidelines for determining whether a nonresident student may enroll, and any agreements with neighboring districts regarding student attendance or tuition.
- Mr. Max Kraft requested all current copier, printer and multifunction device lease agreements, maintenance agreements, board approvals within 5 years authorizing the awarding of the leases or contracts, the awarded vendors' proposals, and any record identifying the contact information for the person responsible for administering those contracts.
- Ms. Myra Barton, of The Data Branch, requested a listing of all products from Frontline Education, PowerSchool, Red Rover Technologies, Tyler Technologies, and Open Ai/Claude.
- Ms. Holly Hatton, of The Data Branch, requested a listing of all products from Amerigis, Think Together, Brightly, FMX, Follet School Solutions, One to One Plus, and ServiceNow, from January 1, 2021 through present.
- Ms. Stephanie Vargas, of Smart Procure, requested purchasing records from May 21, 2026 through current.
- Mr. Justin Wenig requested purchasing records for all vendors from January 1, 2026 through current.
- Ms. Trisha Frassetto, of Charles Jones. LLC, requested detailed real estate tax collection records for the month of August, 2026.

- Chanhee Gi, of The Data Branch, requested records for purchases made from the following vendors: ESS/ESI, Kokua Education, Scoot Education, Zen Educate, and BuildEd.

The Board acknowledged Administration's receipt of the following **Grant Applications**:

- The Mark Schonwetter Holocaust Education Grant - The High School Library/Social Studies departments are applying for a Mark Schonwetter Holocaust Education grant in the amount of \$1,000, which would support a visit to the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC, and to bring a guest speaker and/or exhibit to the GM High School campus.
- BISA Attendance Improvement Fund Grant - Brecknock - Dr. Nicole Pagan, Principal, and Mrs. Kelsey Cole, School Counselor, have applied for a Berks Initiative for School Attendance (BISA) grant, on behalf of Brecknock Elementary, in the amount of \$1,000. This grant will supplement and support district initiatives to improve attendance.
- BISA Attendance Improvement Fund Grant - Mifflin Park - Mrs. Melissa Paparella, Principal, and Ms. Grace Torres, Social Worker, have applied for a Berks Initiative for School Attendance (BISA) grant, on behalf of Mifflin Park Elementary, in the amount of \$1,000. This grant will supplement and support district initiatives to improve attendance.

Reports

Board Representatives – Mrs. Friedlander shared some BCTC NOCTI testing results. The National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOTCI) delivers career & technical education and workforce skills assessments. She noted that the BCTC had an average of 90% Advanced and GM students, in particular, had an average of 91.25% Advanced. BCTC students also have internship opportunities and, last year, those students earned a combined total of \$905,000.

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Lisa Hess shared a High School Back-to-School survey report on behalf of the Student Board Representatives who were unable to attend the meeting. Her report highlighted the first session of the Parent & Family Engagement Series, scheduled for September 23rd, which will focus on Attendance and School Avoidance. She also thanked everyone for their hard work in the successful opening of the new school year. New for this year, she noted, is the FirstView transportation tracking platform, which allows parents to monitor location and progress of their children's school buses. And, finally, Dr. Hess recognized senior – and student board representative - Kuljeet Sangha for representing our district at Congress Hall

HUMAN RESOURCES

Motion by Heim and second by Friedlander to Approve the following **Human Resources Agenda Items**:

- Updated **High School 2026-2027 Co-Curricular Staffing list**, as presented
- Updated **Professional Mentors 2026-2027**, as presented
- Renewal Agreement (via Exhibit A) with **Kelly Services, Inc.**, providing Substitute Staffing services during the 2026-2027 school year, as presented
- **Student Teaching Requests**, as presented

- **Retirements**, as presented
- **Resignations**, as presented
- **Terminations**, as presented
- **Employments**, as presented
- **Status Changes**, as presented
- **Leaves of Absence**, as presented
- **Coaching Volunteers - Fall, 2026**, as presented
- **Professional Development Course Requests**, as presented

Roll Call Vote - Ayes: Heim, Friedlander, Adams, McKay, Miller, Peterson, Roby – 7.
Nays: Bouchard – 1. (Mrs. Bouchard specified her disagreement with Mr. TJ Miller serving as a volunteer football coach)

MOTION CARRIED.

CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION

Motion by Roby and second by Adams to Approve the following **Curriculum/Instruction Agenda Items**:

- **Middle School TSI (Targeted Support Improvement) Plan** for 2026-2027, as presented
- **Affiliation Agreement with Reading Hospital**, supporting a Healthcare Internship program for High School seniors during the 2026-2027 school year, as presented
- **Memorandum of Understanding with the Wilson School District**, for qualified GM students to participate in their **Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) program** during the 2026-2027 school year at no cost, as presented
- **GM Pre-K Counts Flexible Instruction Plan for 2026-2027**, and submission of the required Emergency Instructional Time Template to the PA Office of Child Development & Early Learning, as presented

Roll Call Vote – Ayes: Roby, Adams, Bouchard, Friedlander, Heim, McKay, Miller, Peterson – 8.
Nays: 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

STUDENT SERVICES

Motion by Roby and second by Adams to Approve the following **Student Services Agenda Items**:

- **Settlement Agreement & Release** for Student #809653, as presented
- Placement of Student #821666 through the **Chester County Intermediate Unit's TEACH program**, Coatesville, PA, for special education/mental health services; tuition for the 2026-2027 school year is \$60,000, as presented
- Request for Student #807786 to complete his **senior year** at Governor Mifflin, as per Policy 202

- **Renewal Agreement with New Story School (Wyomissing location)** to provide special education services during the 2026-2027 school year for appropriately-identified students; rate is \$485/day per student, as presented

Roll Call Vote – Ayes: Roby, Adams, Bouchard, Friedlander, Heim, McKay, Miller, Peterson – 8.

Nays: 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

OPERATIONS

Motion by Bouchard and second by McKay to Approve the following **Operations Agenda Items**:

- **Repairs to the GMIS Gym floor** due to a water leak in February, 2026; insurance claim accepted by Utica in the amount of \$92,360; Utica to cover cost, less depreciation, in the amount of \$82,645; GMSD to fund balance of \$9,715 through the Operating Budget, as presented
- **High School Change Order GC-PCO-99178** - fabricate and install (3) 6"x3.5"x5/16" galvanized lintels to support the existing brick veneer at the High School Auxiliary Gym Locker Room area exterior openings; cost of \$667.88 to be paid from the Construction Fund, as presented
- **Middle School/High School Change Order GC-PCO-99179** - re-work of the existing rough-in plumbing locations at Room 214 of the High School and re-work of the existing rain leader in the Middle School; cost of \$3,138.64 to be paid from the Construction Fund, as presented
- **Middle School Change Order GC-PCO-99180** - cut and re-wrap acoustical wall panels around cable raceway and speakers in the Middle School Band Room 121; cost of \$942.38 to be paid from the Construction Fund, as presented
- **High School Change Order GC-PCO-99181** - laminate existing mural wall with 5/8" GWB in the High School Uniform Storage Room A171, per RFI GC170; cost of \$2,045.51 to be paid from the Construction Fund, as presented
- **High School Change Order GC-PCO-99182** - construct GWB pocket at the existing window in High School Room A171, per RFI GC171; cost of \$2,061.57 to be paid from the Construction Fund, as presented
- **High School Change Order GC-PCO-99183** - complete extensive floor prep work in the High School Music Suite Area prior to installation of the finished floor system; scope of work to include additional demo, grinding, patching, ramping, cleaning, and leveling; total cost is \$44,146.57; utilizing \$40,000 included in the contract allowances for floor prep and paying the Change Order balance of \$4,482.46 from the Construction Fund, as presented
- **Middle School Change Order EC-PCO-99184** - supply and install (2) pendant light fixtures in Middle School STEAM Room 112; cost of \$2,361.36 to be paid from the Construction Fund, as presented

Roll Call Vote – Ayes: Bouchard, McKay, Adams, Friedlander, Heim, Miller, Peterson, Roby – 8.

Nays: 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

POLICY

Motion by Adams and second by Roby to Approve the following **Policy Agenda Item:**

- **First Reading of Policy Revisions**, as presented
 - 102 - Academic Standards
 - 105 - Curriculum
 - 204.1 - Virtual Attendance & Wellness Checks
 - 209 - Health Examinations/Screenings
 - 246 - School Wellness
 - 249 - Bullying/Cyberbullying
 - 704 - Maintenance
 - 803 - School Calendar
 - 805.2 - School Security Personnel
 - 822- Automated External Defibrillators (AED)/Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)

Roll Call Vote - Ayes: Adams, Roby, Bouchard Friedlander, Heim, McKay, Miller, Peterson – 8.

Nays: 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

FACILITIES USE

Motion by Bouchard and second by McKay to Approve **Facilities Use Requests**, as presented

Roll Call Vote – Ayes: Bouchard, McKay, Adams, Friedlander, Heim, Miller, Peterson, Roby – 8.

Nays: 0.

MOTION CARRIED.

Closing Comments

Mrs. McKay requested that the Board be provided with a list of educators and administrators who left the district during school years 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 to date, including their buildings, departments, positions and titles, and date of departure. She also requested that the Board be provided copies of their Human Resources Exit Interviews for review. Secondly, she said she requested a copy of the most recent contract with M&G Security and noted that she has not yet received it. Mrs. McKay also congratulated the High School on being named a Special Olympics Unified Champion school.

Dr. Peterson plugged the upcoming High School Reality Fair on October 8th, coordinated by Ms. Kristi Bonanno, and asked any Board members who might be interested in volunteering to reach out.

Mrs. Bouchard conveyed a parent's concerns regarding supervision and student conduct at the Middle School.

Prior to Adjournment, Dr. Peterson announced that the Board would be holding an **Executive Session** after the meeting for discussion of personnel matters.

There being no further business before the Board, Roby motioned and Adams seconded to **Adjourn the Meeting** at 8:19pm.

Sharon L. Patton
Board Recording Secretary

