

MOHONASEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Education*  
*Monday, April 16, 2007 Mohonasen High School*

***Present:***

Kathleen Spring, Ph.D., Superintendent  
Denise Swezey, Assistant Supt. For Business  
Lisa Cutting, Director of Curriculum and Instruction  
Julie Adamec, Member  
Nancy del Prado, Member  
Daniel Fregoe, Member  
Eileen French, Member  
Charles Macejka, Member  
Gary Spadaro, Member  
Joseph Salamone, Member

Lin Severance, Ph.D., Director of PPS  
Patrick McGrath, Mohonasen High School Principal  
David Collins, Assistant HS Principal  
Makensie Bullinger, Assistant HS Principal

**Executive Session**

MOTION made by Mr. Fregoe, seconded by Mrs. French, that an executive session be convened at 6:00PM for the purpose of discussing personnel. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

MOTION made by Mr. Spadaro, seconded by Mr. Salamone, that the executive session be adjourned at 7:00 PM. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

The business meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. del Prado, at 7:05 PM.

Mrs. del Prado requested those present to stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

***Present:***

Julie Adamec, Member	Kathleen A. Spring, Ph.D., Superintendent
Nancy del Prado, President	Denise A. Swezey, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Daniel Fregoe, Member	Lisa Cutting, Dir. of Curriculum and Instruction
Eileen French, Member	Lin Severance, Ph.D., Director of PPS
Charles Macejka, Member	Patrick McGrath, Mohonasen High School Principal
Joseph Salamone, Member	David Collins, Assistant HS Principal
Gary Spadaro, Member	Makensie Bullinger, Assistant HS Principal
	Debra Male, Draper Middle School Principal
	Diane McIver, Bradt School Principal
	Arlene DeSiena, Administrator for Literacy K-6
	65 District Residents
	46 Students
	8 Faculty Members

## Superintendent

Dr. Spring explained that today was the deadline for nominating petitions for two open Board of Education seats that are up for election on May 15<sup>th</sup>. She said that prior to beginning the evening's presentations, the district would like to do the drawing for placement of the names on the ballot. Mrs. del Prado took a box with the names around to four students in attendance and asked them to draw names for ballot placement. Based on the drawing, the placement will be as follows:

1. Charles Macejka
2. Daniel Fregoe
3. Dominic Cafarelli
4. Paula Marshman

Dr. Spring stated that the next item on the agenda was the Odyssey of the Mind Teams Recognition. She asked Mrs. Cutting to do the introductions.

Mrs. Cutting thanked coaches and parents for supporting the Odyssey of the Mind Program. She also thanked Ms. Lori Ranze, Coordinator for Odyssey of the Mind, and stated that she was one of the reasons why the program has grown and gotten more successful over the past few years.

Mrs. Ranze came forward and thanked the students for their hard work and invited the Board to come forward to congratulate the students. The students on the Odyssey of the Mind teams were called forward and awarded certificates. The Pinewood Team B and the high school team presented their trophies to be placed in their respective school's trophy case. Mrs. del Prado thanked everyone for coming and said the district was very proud of all of them.

Dr. Spring stated that she was happy to announce that the district had received a letter today from Senator Hugh Farley stating that he had secured a grant in the amount of \$10,000 to go toward funding the playground at Pinewood School.

Dr. Spring explained that we were notified by Capital Region BOCES that the district needs to hold a special Board of Education meeting on April 23, 2007 to vote on the BOCES budget, as well as for the BOCES Board seats that are up for election. After some discussion it was decided that the meeting would be held at 5:00 pm in the district conference room.

Dr. Spring stated she would do a brief presentation because the Board was being asked to approve a resolution to adopt the tentative 2007-2008 school year budget. She stated that our district's budget is funded in three different ways: 52% by property taxes, 44% from State Aid; and 4% by grants. Due to last year's difficult budget year, the district was forced to eliminate 19 positions. Dr. Spring showed a PowerPoint presentation explaining which positions the district would like to reinstate and explained the restructuring of other positions. Dr. Spring then turned the presentation over to Mrs. Swezey. Mrs. Swezey explained that the proposed budget yields a 4.09% increase over the previous year's budget, which would result in a tax levy of approximately 4.25%. She explained that the district is looking to begin replacing some needed equipment as well as replacing 5 school buses. Mrs. Swezey stated that there are two vacant seats on the Board of Education, both with 3-year terms. She then invited everyone to come to vote on the budget on May 15<sup>th</sup> between 7:00am and 9:00pm.

Dr. Spring added that one of the things that complicated the budget process this year was the re-evaluation done by the Town of Rotterdam. She thanked the Board of Education, administrators, and the Budget Review Committee for their work on this budget.

### **Board of Education**

Mrs. del Prado mentioned several upcoming calendar events:

- Wednesday, April 18 – Board of Education Workshop
- Thursday, April 19 – CAPSBA Workshop
- Saturday, April 21 – Band Boosters' Bottle Drive
- Monday, April 23 – Special Board of Education Meeting at 5:00pm
- Next week is "Turn Off the TV Week"

Mrs. del Prado shared some informational materials with the Board. She stated that Annual District Meeting for Capital Region BOCES was held on April 4<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. French and Mrs. Adamec commented on the enjoyable format of the meeting and how impressed they were with some of the BOCES students' presentations. Mrs. del Prado thanked them for attending. Mrs. French and Mr. Spadaro added that they would be attending "The Functioning Audit Committee" workshop on April 20<sup>th</sup>. There was some discussion on another audit workshop that some of the Board members may be interested in attending.

### **Request for Approval of 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Team 7/8 Field Trip to Boston, Massachusetts**

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the Board of Education approve the request for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Team 7/8 to participate in a field trip to Boston, Massachusetts on May 23, 2007. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

### **Request for Approval of Team 8-1 Field Trip to New York City**

MOTION made by Mr. Macejka, seconded by Mrs. Adamec, that the Board of Education approve the request for the Team 8-1 field trip to New York City on May 23, 2007. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

### **Request for Approval of Health and Welfare Contract with Niskayuna Central School District**

MOTION made by Mr. Fregoe, seconded by Mrs. Adamec, that the Board of Education approve a health and welfare contract with Niskayuna Central School District in the total amount of \$1,876.16 for the 2006-2007 school year. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

### **Request for Approval of Resolution to Adopt the Tentative 2007-2008 School Year Budget**

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mrs. French, that the Board of Education approve the following resolution to adopt the 2007-2008 school year budget:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District, Towns of Rotterdam, Schenectady County, and Colonie and Guilderland, Albany County, New York, be authorized to expend the sum of Forty Million, Two Hundred Ninety-Seven Thousand, Three Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$40,297,370) for school purposes during the 2007-2008 school year and levy the necessary tax therefore.

The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting

**Consensus Agenda**

MOTION made by Mr. Macejka, seconded by Mr. Salamone, that the Board of Education approve the following consensus agenda: 1) Minutes, 2) Financial Reports and 3) Personnel. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

**Minutes**

APPROVED minutes of meeting held on April 2, 2007.

**Financial Reports**

APPROVED the Treasurer's Reports for the months of December, January, February and March.

APPROVED the Revenue Status Report for the Months of February and March.

APPROVED the Budget Status Report for the month of March.

APPROVED the Extracurricular Activities Report for the month of February.

APPROVED the Budget Transfer Reports for the month of March.

APPROVED the 8.5 Million Dollar Capital Project Summary Report for the Month of February.

APPROVED the Payment and Presentation of Claims for the months of February and March for Warrant #9P and 10 for the months of March and April.

**Warrant #9P – March 31, 2007**

General Fund	Warrant Schedule #64	\$37,127.97
Federal Fund	Warrant Schedule #15	\$ 575.50
Capital Fund	Warrant Schedule #17	\$ 7,462.28
TOTAL – Warrant #9P		\$45,165.75

**Warrant #10 – April 16, 2007**

General Fund	Warrant Schedule #66	\$528,895.24
School Lunch Fund	Warrant Schedule #12	\$ 66,688.33
Federal Fund	Warrant Schedule #16	\$ 16,753.11
Capital Fund	Warrant Schedule #18	\$ 3,882.50
TOTAL – Warrant #10		\$616,219.18

APPROVED the following Personnel Recommendations:

**A. Tenure Appointments**

Lauren DeFilippo

Tenure Area: English  
Effective Date: September 1, 2007

Jennifer Fritz

Tenure Area: Home Economics  
Effective Date: September 1, 2007

Margaret Kelliher

Tenure Area: Technology Education  
Effective Date: September 1, 2007

Kimberly Kondenar

Tenure Area: Music  
Effective Date: September 1, 2007

Emer O'Keeffe

Tenure Area: Library/Media Specialist  
Effective Date: September 1, 2007

Ann Von Stetina

Tenure Area: Social Studies  
Effective Date: September 1, 2007

**B. Appointments**

Joseph Fain

Assignment: 19-A Trainer/Record Keeper  
Salary: \$20.00/hr., not to exceed 80 hrs. (amended from 40 hrs.)  
Effective: February 27, 2007

Tracey M. Roberts

Assignment: District Treasurer  
Salary: \$60,000 prorated  
Effective: April 17, 2007

District Treasurer

Assignment: District Records Access Officer  
Stipend: \$500 prorated  
Effective: April 17, 2007

District Treasurer

Assignment: District Records Management Officer  
Stipend: \$500 prorated  
Effective: April 17, 2007

District Treasurer

Assignment: HIPAA Compliance Officer  
Stipend: \$500 prorated  
Effective: April 17, 2007

Joseph Hilts

Assignment: Transportation Supervisor  
Salary: \$65,000, prorated  
Effective: July 1, 2007

Salvatore Benedetto

Assignment: Bus Aide  
Salary: Step 1, prorated  
Effective: April 11, 2007

Jennifer West

Assignment: P/T Bus Driver  
Salary: Step 1, prorated  
Effective: April 11, 2007

Donna Beebe

Assignment: P/T Teacher Aide (6 Hours)  
Salary: Step 1  
Effective: April 3, 2007

Daniel Reger

Assignment: Substitute Cleaner  
Salary: \$8.15/hr.  
Effective: April 17, 2007

Kryisia Reger

Assignment: Substitute Cleaner  
Salary: \$8.15/hr.  
Effective: April 17, 2007

Joseph Neil

Assignment: Substitute Cleaner  
Salary: \$8.15/hr.  
Effective: April 17, 2007

**C. Resignations**

Alexis Marek

Assignment: P/T Teacher Aide  
Effective Date: Close of Business, April 2, 2007

**D. Leave of Absence**

Linda Frye

Assignment: Food Service Helper  
Effective Date: December 1, 2006 – June 22, 2007 (*amended from 9/25/06 BOE agenda*)  
Reason: Unpaid Leave of Absence

Ronald Rohloff

Assignment: Bus Driver  
Effective Date: March 29, 2007 – June 29, 2007  
Reason: Family Medical Leave

**E. Fingerprint Clearances**

**Emergency Conditional Clearances**

Michael Demos

Ann Farrell

Nancy Griffeth  
Christine Huestis  
Michael Rufo  
Jacqueline Verruso  
Brandie Welsh

**Emergency Conditional Extension of Clearance**

Patricia Audi  
Colleen Belcher  
Rachel Bellizi  
Victoria Berger  
Samantha Bianchi  
Michael Burgio  
James Califano  
Brian Carey  
Jennifer Carey  
Sheldon Carnes, Jr.  
Brooke Clover  
Caitlin Cuda  
Katherine Culbert  
Nathan Cuomo  
Dorothy Daly  
Kelly Debes  
Alissa DeBie  
Zane DeJoseph  
James Desira  
Michael Diago  
Kathryn Dieckmann  
Audrey Dorante  
Jennifer Drohan  
Helene Dworak  
Amy Esposito  
Erika Falle  
Kristin Farrell  
Stephanie Foreman  
Celia Ganey  
Bryan Gaudio  
Mark Giordano  
Stephanie Gotham  
Lindsey Guilz  
Rochelle Guiry  
William Haight  
Rachael Haines  
Christina Hardy  
Darren Hart  
Jeffrey E. Hayes  
Keriann Houle  
Thomas Howley  
Jessica Humes

Jennifer Jewett  
Traci Johnson  
Nicole Kellogg  
Joshua Key  
Irina Kushnir  
Alisa Labunski  
Karen Lare  
Kara Linn  
Maria Lorello  
Paul Lupi  
Marguerite MacDougall  
Alexis Marek  
Thomas Martin  
Virginia McCarthy  
Tristina McDonald  
Kaitlin McGann  
Jenny McShan  
Michael Merlini  
Misha Mugits  
Lisa Murray  
Jessica Onyon  
Emily Osterhout  
Kristen Pattamana  
Gina Pereira  
Kathryn Petersen  
Lindsey Phelps  
Robert Piel  
Shannon Pinkowski  
Timothy Prall  
Rebecca Relyea  
Laura Risle  
Tina Rodriguez  
Cynthia Romano  
Sarah Rust  
Matthew Rybaltowski  
William Sheehan  
Amy Sherman  
Laura Slagen  
Elisabeth Spoehr  
Christopher Storace  
Laurel Straight  
Elizabeth Strelchun  
Tricia Switzer  
Carmela Tiscione  
Andalle Visvanadan  
Joshua Walas  
Amber Whalen  
Melinda Whisenhunt  
Jillian White

Ashleey Williams  
Kristen Williams  
Kelly Wirth  
Ann Wolf  
Jessica Zima  
Caitlin Ziobrowski

### **Privilege of the Floor**

Howard Vincent of 2253 Helderberg Avenue, a part-time district bus driver, read a statement on behalf of the bus drivers regarding issues with union representation. He proposed that the bus drivers secede from the union. Mr. Vincent gave information to Dr. Spring who said she would look into the matter.

Mrs. del Prado introduced Mr. Joe Hiltz who will be the new Transportation Supervisor beginning in July and welcomed Tracey Roberts as the new District Treasurer.

Mrs. del Prado recognized the following district teachers on being recommended for tenure: Ms. Lori Marshall, Ms. Lauren DeFilippo, Ms. Jennifer Fritz, Ms. Kimberly Kondenar, Ms. Emer O'Keeffe, Ms. Margaret Kelliher and Ms. Ann VonStetina.

### **Executive Session**

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mrs. French, that an executive session be convened at 8:00 PM for the purpose of personnel. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

MOTION made by Mr. Fregoe, seconded by Mr. Salamone, that the executive session be adjourned at 9:45 PM. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

### **Adjournment**

MOTION made by Mrs. Adamec, seconded by Mr. Macekja, that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned at 9:47 PM. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

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Denise A. Swezey, District Clerk