

MOHONASEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Education
Monday, September 25, 2006, Mohonasen High School*

The Board meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. del Prado, at 7:09 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	Lisa Cutting, Dir. of Curriculum and Instruction
Daniel Fregoe, Member	Patrick McGrath, Mohonasen High School Principal
Eileen French, Member	Debra Male, Draper Middle School Principal
Charles Macejka, Member	Diane McIver, Bradt School Principal
Joseph Salamone, Vice President	Joseph Scalise, Director of PE & Athletics
Gary Spadaro, Member	18 Mohonasen Cheerleaders
	38 Students
	27 District Residents
	1 Media Representative

Superintendent

Dr. Spring began by mentioning the surprise “Star of Teaching” award given by the Department of Education in Washington D.C. to Mr. Adam Barr, a biology teacher at the high school. Mr. Barr was one of 50 teachers in the nation, one per state, to receive this award.

ELA Results

Mrs. Lisa Cutting gave a presentation focusing on the English Language Arts Test results. Last year was the first year that we had student testing in grades 3-8. Previously there had only been testing in grades 4 and 8. After all the data is analyzed, strategies will be put in place to work on improving the scores, particularly at the middle school level.

Audit Committee Meeting

Dr. Spring stated that the 5-member Audit Committee is in place. The members include three Board members and two community members. The two community members are Mr. Karl Cote and Mr. John Gahan. Mrs. del Prado thanked the Board members, Mr. Fregoe, Mrs. French and Mr. Spadaro, who will be serving on the committee on terms that are staggered.

Board of Education Workshop Dates

Dr. Spring proposed to have a Board workshop next Monday at 6:00 PM prior to the Board meeting to do end-of-the-year reports. Mrs. del Prado asked the members of the Board if that would be agreeable to them. They all concurred.

Other dates suggested for Board Workshops were January 8, February 5 and June 4, 2007.

Board of Education

Mrs. del Prado reminded everyone of Open House at Draper Middle School on September 26th-28th, as well as a Kindergarten Open House at Bradt on September 28th. Board members were asked about their availability to attend.

Mrs. del Prado also reminded everyone that "Coffee and Conversation" with the Board will be on Friday, September 29th at the middle school in the morning and at the high school in the afternoon. This weekend is Homecoming Weekend, which will include a Pep Rally, a football game and also the annual Pancake Dinner.

Mrs. del Prado stated that the Board had received a letter from a concerned parent and although the letter would not be read at the meeting, all board members would be given a copy of the letter.

Mrs. Adamec stated that she attended a NYSSBA workshop on September 15-17 at the Desmond in Albany and that it was very positive and informative experience.

Public (Privilege of the Floor)

Mrs. del Prado asked anyone who would like to make a comment to please follow the instructions that were handed out regarding Privilege of the Floor and to clearly state their name and address.

Lisa Knightes, stated that she was the mother of a cheerleader and spoke in favor of Ms. Donato as Varsity Cheerleading Coach.

Devin Morgan, a JV cheerleading coach, read a statement in favor of Ms. Donato.

Ashleigh Santabarbara, freshmen cheerleading coach and also a former cheerleader, read a statement in favor of Ms. Donato.

Megan Hopkins read a statement in favor of Ms. Donato. She also brought additional comments and emails from people who could not attend the meeting and passed them out to the Board members.

Sarah Hall, a former cheerleader and niece of Ms. Donato, also read a statement in favor of Mrs. Donato.

Kathy Vitek also spoke in favor of Ms. Donato.

Echo Lake-Fernandez read a letter regarding the difficulty of filling the head coach vacancy for the Mohonasen Swim Club. Dr. Spring stated that she would contact Dr. Kelsey at Schalmont School to work on a solution.

Patty Hopkins stated that she is the parent of a former cheerleader and also a district employee, read a statement in favor of Ms. Donato.

Karen DeRuscio, a parent of a former cheerleader, read a statement in favor of Ms. Donato.

Rodney Stone, father of a cheerleader, spoke in favor of Ms. Donato.

Mark Thornhill stated he was the father of a cheerleader and spoke in favor of Ms. Donato.

Kyra Coltre stated she was a former student and athlete and spoke in favor of Ms. Donato.

Karen Squires parent of a cheerleader and also a district employee, spoke in favor of Ms. Donato.

Each of the following cheerleaders read a statement in favor of Ms. Donato as Varsity Cheerleading Coach:

Marissa Kruzinski
Angelica Stone
Nicole Zarrelli
Jennie Bellai
Lauren Knightes
Michelle Thornhill
Katelynn Squires
Jennifer Senecal
Lindsay Boyarsky
Gabriele DeFrancesco
Victoria Varno
Amanda Randle
Christine Posilovic
Jennifer DeOrio

Rodney Stone stated that he had a petition with 350 signatures in favor of Ms. Donato.

Mrs. del Prado said that she very much appreciated all the comments made this evening and said the Board is very proud of the cheerleaders. She said she could not respond to many of the questions, since it is a personnel issue, but said that there is a lot of misinformation being circulated.

Dr. Spring also stated that it was a personnel issue and that she could not share a lot of the details. She said that she had met with the cheerleading squad earlier that day. Dr. Spring said that it was a difficult decision to make, but that the safety of students and staff is a priority.

Mrs. del Prado stated that the administrators and the Board have the best interest of students in mind, and at this time it would be best to move forward.

Old Business

Request for Approval of Second Reading and Adoption of Board Policies

MOTION made by Mr. Fregoe, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the Board of Education approve the second reading and adoption of the following policies:

- # 1000 Revised Appointments and Designations by the Board of Education
- # 5000 New Allegations of Fraud
- # 6121 Revised Sexual Harassment of District Personnel
- # 7000 Revised Suspension of Students
- # 7232 Revised Education of Homeless Children and Youth

The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

New Business

Request for Approval and Arrangement of Committee on Special Education Recommendations and Student Placements

MOTION made by Mrs. French, seconded by Mrs. Adamec, that the Board of Education approve and arrange for the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education and Committee on Pre-School Special Education for meetings held on 9/5/06 and 9/13/06. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Request for Approval of Mohonasen High School Band/Winterguard Participation in Various Competitions

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the Board of Education approve the trips of the Mohonasen Marching Band/Winterguard for the following competitions:

Date	Event	Destination	# of Students
Saturday, September 16, 2006	Field Band Competition	Syracuse, NY	80+
Sunday, October 8, 2006	Field Band Competition	Arlington HS – LaGrangeville, NY	80
Sunday, October 29, 2006	MHS Band Championships	Carrier Dome – Syracuse, NY	88
Sunday, November 19, 2006	MHS Marching Band	Glens Falls, NY	88
Saturday, January 20, 2007	Winterguard Competition	Clinton, NY	18
Saturday, January 27, 2007	Winterguard Competition	Homer, NY	18
Saturday, February 10, 2007	Winterguard Competition	Mexico, NY	18
Saturday, March 10, 2007	Winterguard Competition	Laurens, NY	18

The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Request for Approval for AP Biology and Anatomy & Physiology Classes to Participate in a Field Trip to Boston, Massachusetts

MOTION made by Mr. Fregoe, seconded by Mr. Macejka, that the Board of Education approve the request for Mohonasen’s AP Biology and Anatomy & Physiology classes to participate in a field trip to Boston, Massachusetts on Thursday, November 16, 2006. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Request for Approval of Grade 6 Field Trip to Yankee Stadium in June 2007

MOTION made by Mr. Spadaro, seconded by Mr. Macejka, that the Board of Education approve the request for a Grade 6 Field Trip to Yankee Stadium in June 2007. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Request for Approval for the Select/HS Orchestra Members to Attend the All American Music Festival Competition in Orlando, Florida

MOTION made by Mrs. French, seconded by Mr. Salamone, that the Board of Education approve the request for the Select/HS Orchestra members to participate in the All American Music Festival Competition in Orlando, Florida from Wednesday, April 11, 2007 through Monday, April 16, 2007. While final approval of the Board is granted, the Superintendent and/or her designee reserves the right to cancel or seek cancellation of the trip for reasons to insure the health, safety and welfare of participants. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Request for Approval of MS/HS Orchestra Field Trip to New York City on January 5, 2007

MOTION made by Mrs. Adamec, seconded by Mr. Fregoe, that the Board of Education approve the request for the MS/HS Orchestra members to participate in a field trip on Friday, January 5, 2007 to New York City to attend a performance by the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Request for Approval of Select/HS Orchestra Field Trip to SUNY Fredonia on Sunday, October 15, 2006

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mrs. French, that the Board of Education approve the request for the Select/HS Orchestra members to participate in a field trip to SUNY Fredonia to participate in "The String Experience" workshop on Sunday, October 15, 2006. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Request for Approval of Draper Middle School Orchestra and Choir to Participate in Middle School Music In The Park Competition in Agawam, Massachusetts on May 19, 2007

MOTION made by Mr. Macejka, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the Board of Education approve the request for the Middle School Orchestra and Choir to travel to Agawam, Massachusetts to compete in the "Middle School Music in the Park" music competition tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 19, 2007. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Request for Adoption of District Goals, Mission and Vision

MOTION made by Mr. Spadaro, seconded by Mr. Salamone, that the Board of Education adopt the 2006-2007 District Goals, Mission and Vision:

District Goals:

- Goal 1: 100% of Students Will Meet or Exceed AYP by Designated Date
- Goal 2: Development of Body, Mind, and Character in a Safe and Secure Environment
- Goal 3: Fiscal/Resource Expansion
- Goal 4: Creation of District-Wide Long-Range Plans

Mission: *"Mohonasen has PLANS for our students!"*
Our mission is to ensure that students reach their Potential to Learn in an Academically rich, Nurturing and Safe environment

Vision: MCSD will be widely recognized as an exemplary school district, enthusiastically educating mind, body and character. Families, visitors and community members will experience an environment of respect and care surrounding each personal interaction. They will discover a culture of excellence permeating every program. Mohonasen will be a model of a safe, effective and well-rounded educational community in a diverse suburban setting.

The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Request for Adoption of Music Theory Textbook

MOTION made by Mrs. French, seconded by Mr. Fregoe, that the Board of Education approve the adoption of the music theory textbook, Tonal Harmony by Kostka and Payne. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Request for Approval to Enter into a Renewal Agreement with Four Winds Saratoga for Tutorial Services

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mrs. Adamec, that the Board of Education authorize the renewal of a tutorial services agreement at a service charge rate of \$26 per hour with Four Winds Saratoga for the 2006-2007 school year. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Request for Approval of Contract with United Cerebral Palsy Association – Langan School

MOTION made by Mrs. French, seconded by Mr. Fregoe, that the Board of Education approve a contract with the United Cerebral Palsy Association of the Capital District, Inc. in the amount of \$2,567 per month, per pupil for the 2006-2007 school year. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting

Request for Approval of Contract with Wildwood School for 2006-2007 School Year

MOTION made by Mr. Macejka, seconded by Mr. Fregoe, that the Board of Education approve a contract with the Wildwood School for three district resident handicapped students at the interim rate of \$37,616 each, for the ten month program (September 2006-June 2007). When the State Education Department calculates the actual 2006-2007 tuition rate, the amount will be adjusted for any differences. The motion passed, 6 yes votes and one abstention by Mrs. French.

Request for Approval of Independent Contractor for Project Manager

MOTION made by Mrs. French, seconded by Mr. Fregoe, that the Board of Education approve Mr. Craig Aldi, Construction Manager of the Capital Project, as an independent contractor. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Request for Approval to Authorize Interim Purchasing Agent

MOTION made by Mr. Fregoe, seconded by Mr. Salamone, that the Board of Education designate Kathleen A. Spring as interim Purchasing Agent during the period of absence of the Assistant Superintendent for Business/Purchasing Agent, effective September 15, 2006. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Consensus Agenda

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

Minutes

APPROVED minutes of meeting held on September 11, 2006.

Personnel Recommendations

Appointments

Lisa Cutting, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
2006-2007 Salary of \$60,000 (.6 FTE) plus benefits as stipulated *with an additional 14 days additional time @ per diem rate to assist during absence of Assistant Superintendent for Business*

Sabrina DePoalo

Assignment: Teacher Aide – 6 Hours
Effective Date: September 14, 2006
Step/Salary: Step 1

James Wilson

Assignment: Substitute Monitor
Effective Date: September 26, 2006
Step/Salary: \$10.80/Hour

Meghanlee Friedman

Assignment: Substitute Teacher Aide
Effective Date: September 11, 2006
Step/Salary: \$7.80/Hour

Kerry Hazard

Assignment: Substitute Teacher Aide
Effective Date: September 11, 2006
Step/Salary: \$7.80/Hour

Debora Smith

Assignment: Substitute Teacher Aide
Salary: \$7.80/Hour
Effectives Date: September 26, 2006

Barbara Palazeke

Assignment: Substitute Teacher Aide
Salary: \$7.80/Hour
Effective Date: September 26, 2006

Kayla Bisailon

Assignment: Substitute Teacher Aide
Salary: \$7.80/Hour
Effective Date: September 26, 2006

Christina Gnoinski

Assignment: Substitute Teacher Aide
Salary: \$7.80/Hour
Effective Date: September 26, 2006

Deborah L. Burrows

Assignment: P/T Cafeteria Aide
Salary: \$8.44/hr.
Effective: September 12, 2006

Jean Bonolo

Assignment: Food Service Helper
Salary: Step 1
Effective: September 18, 2006

Adam LaJuene

Assignment: Cleaner
Salary: Step 2
Effective: September 25, 2006

Mathew Jackson

Assignment: Substitute Cleaner
Salary: \$8.15/hr.
Effective: September 11, 2006

Roger Hayes

Assignment: Substitute Cleaner
Salary: \$8.15/hr.
Effective: August 21, 2006 (*amended from 8/21/06 agenda*)

Sandra Hartman

Assignment: Substitute Account Clerk
Salary: \$11.00/hr.
Effective: September 18, 2006

Michelle Rowe

Assignment: Substitute Cafeteria Aide
Salary: \$7.90/hr.
Effective: September 26, 2006

Craig Aldi

Assignment: Construction Manager for Phase II of the \$8.5 Million Capital Project
Effective Date: February 28, 2006 – Close of Business September 11, 2006 (*amended from February 27, 2006 Board Agenda*)

Step/Salary: \$50/hr.

Jason Cintula

Assignment: Volunteer Coach – Boys’ Modified Soccer

Effective Date: September 26, 2006

Extramurals – Draper Middle School

Kevin Olsen Co-Ed Soccer (\$518)

Jennifer Montrym

Assignment: Varsity Cheerleading Coach – Fall 2006 *(to fill remainder of season in position formerly held by Cheryl Donato)*

Effective Date: September 20, 2006

Step: Step 4

Barbara Bora

Assignment: Detention Aide, Pinewood Elementary, 1 hour/day as needed (after school)

Salary: \$8.97/hr.

Effectives Date: September 26, 2006

Melissa Van Every

Assignment: Detention Aide, Pinewood Elementary, 1 hour/day as needed (after school)

Salary: \$10.97/hr.

Effective Date: September 26, 2006

Extracurricular Appointments

Name	Assignment	Effective Date
Brenda Stahl	Grade 3 Program Facilitator (\$1071)	September 11, 2006
Donald Dieckmann	Dean of Students – Middle School	September 25, 2006
Diane Blinn	Peers for Peace Co-Advisor (HS)	2006-07 School Year
Rachel Mathis	Peers for Peace Co-Advisor (HS)	2006-07 School Year

Adult Education Instructors

The current pay rate for instructors is \$16.00 per hour for regular classes and \$21.00 per hour for computer related classes.

Thomas Lovell
LIFE INSURANCE

Ann Elliott
RUBBER STAMPING

Rafael Rojas
BALLROOM/SWING

The current pay rate for instructors is \$16.00 per hour for regular classes and \$21.00 per hour for computer related classes.

Kathleen Cianfarani
DIVA BEADS & JEWELS

Richard/Joanne Darling
DEFENSIVE DRIVING

Jean Sefcovic
YOGA

Theresa Cosco
PSYCHIC AWARENESS

Charles Hicks & Co.
LONG TERM CARE

Dave Battaglia
BASKETBALL

Pam Davis
QUILTING

Fred Hickey
55 ALIVE/AARP

Cheryl Zinershine
COED VOLLEYBALL

Gail Kriss
COED VOLLEYBALL

Jan Cavoli
CRAFTING

Suzanne Amsler
REIKI/HUNA

Lars Turin
BEGINNER CLAY

John Ferrari
ITALIAN

An agreement has been made to pay this instructor 60% of the total for this course and we receive 40%. A claim form will be submitted after the classes are completed.

Tiffany Reuter, Captured Moments
Tara Burt, Captured Moments
SCRAPBOOKING

Lynn Circe
ONE STROKE PAINTING/CROCHET

An agreement has been made to pay this instructor 75% of the total for this course and we receive 25%. A claim form will be submitted after the classes are completed.

Jianye Jiang,, Tai Chi Association
TAI CHI

An agreement has been made to pay this instructor 75% of the total for this course and we receive 25%. A claim form will be submitted after the classes are completed.

Davia Boyle
COUNTRY LINE DANCE

Joanne Desrochers
COUNTRY LINE DANCE

An agreement has been made with the following to pay Mohonasen Adult Ed \$15.00 per hour of gym use:

Angie Santabarbara
AEROBIC KICKBOXING

Donna Notar
JACKI'S AEROBICS

Patty Tommasone
JACKI'S AEROBICS

Resignations

Sabrina DePoalo

Assignment: Food Service Worker
Effective: Close of business September 13, 2006

Marie Allard

Assignment: Food Service Worker
Effective: Close of business August 31, 2006

Garry Van Alstyne

Assignment: Custodian
Effective: September 18, 2006

Unpaid Leave of Absence

Joel Stafford

Assignment: Custodian
Effective: September 10, 2006 – October 11, 2006
Reason: Family Medical Leave

Linda Frye

Assignment: Food Service Helper
Effective Date: September 7, 2006 – November 30, 2006
Reason: Family Medical Leave

Linda Frye

Assignment: Food Service Helper
Effective Dates: December 1, 2006 – February 28, 2007
Reason: Unpaid Leave of Absence

Fingerprint Clearances

Emergency Conditional Clearances

Lori Barletta
Angela Barrett
Michella DelSanto
Victoria Frank
William Haight
Lauren Marks
Kellen Roberts
David Schalekamp
David Terry
Carmela Tiscione
Kristen Williams

Emergency Conditional Extension of Clearance

Andrew Amodeo
Rachel Bellizi
Laura Bell
Michelle Berger
Victoria Berger
Gregory Bishop
Jessica Blanck
Glenn Broadbent
Stephanie Buck
Michael Carney
Gary Cosenza
Marcia DiBella

Robert Duell
Jessica Dunn
Karen Eson
Marilyn Etkin
Dorothy Fibiger
Matthew Fiedler
Michael Fiske
Heather Frame
Susan Goepp
Melissa Golden
Jessica Guild
Cora Hamm
Christina Hardy
Jeffrey E. Hayes
Lindsey Horton
Marlena Jackson
Lauren Jacon
Adeline Jebaraj
Sylvia Kutchkian
Tara Malizia
Michael Marimpietri
Sarah Martin
Justin McDonald
Rochelle Minahan
Misha Mugits
Brendan Mullins
Brenda Nicholas
Casey O'Connor
Timothy Prall
Steven Rider
Sarah Rust
Jessica Saulpaugh
Eric Schantz
Caitlin Schiesswohl
Mary Schreck
Patrick Sheehan
William Sheehan
Kathryn Sokaris
Andrea Stapley
Allison Stitzinger
Laurel Straight
Kristina Strassburg
Elizabeth Strelchun
Stephen Sunega
Elizabeth Suter
Michelle Torre
Jillian Van Allen
Matthew Widmann

Kelly Wirth

Privilege of the Floor

Mrs. Lisa Knightes questioned why she wasn't called by the Superintendent regarding the incident with Ms. Donato. Mrs. del Prado asked Dr. Spring to comment. Dr. Spring said that she believed an assistant high school principal did contact Mrs. Knightes. Mrs. Knightes did confirm that information.

Mr. Mark Raven employed by Empire Information Services, read an excerpt from the Personnel Recommendations regarding Mrs. Montrym replacing Ms. Donato as the varsity cheerleading coach for the remainder of the 2006-07 Fall season. He also asked if Ms. Donato was still a staff member. Mrs. del Prado responded affirmatively.

Mrs. Vincenza Nanci asked if the district was going to do further training regarding Project Save. Dr. Spring replied that Project Save Legislation went into effect about 4 years ago and all staff were certified for that training, as well as the mandatory annual HAZCOM training. Faculty meetings are also used to provide training to staff. The district will also provide additional training in the future.

Cindy Bartling spoke in favor of Ms. Donato.

Sarah Hall spoke again in favor of Ms. Donato.

Mrs. Charleen Puerto spoke in favor of Ms. Donato.

Mrs. del Prado re-stated that this was a personnel issue and that there was a lot of misinformation being circulated.

Kathy Vitek questioned how the process of hiring and firing personnel works.

Mrs. del Prado stated that the Board voted on personnel recommendations as part of the consensus agenda. She thanked the cheerleaders and everyone again for their comments.

Executive Session

MOTION made by Mr. Spadaro, seconded by Mr. Fregoe, that an executive session be convened at 8:54 PM for the purpose of personnel. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mr. Fregoe, that the executive session be adjourned at 10:13 PM. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Adjournment

MOTION made by Mrs. French, seconded by Mr. Salamone, that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned at 10:15 PM. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Nancy A. Brassard, Deputy District Clerk