

MOHONASEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Education  
Monday, April 21, 2008 Mohonasen High School*

***Present:***

Kathleen Spring, Superintendent  
Michael Johnson, Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction  
Denise Swezey, Asst. Supt. for Business  
Dominic Cafarelli, Member  
Nancy del Prado, Member  
Eileen French, President  
Charles Macejka, Member  
Joseph Salamone, Member  
Gary Spadaro, Member

***Absent:***

Julie Adamec, Member

**Executive Session**

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

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli, that the executive session be adjourned at 7:10 PM. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

The business meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. French, at 7:12 PM.

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

***Present:***

Dominic Cafarelli, Member  
Nancy del Prado, Member  
Eileen French, President  
Charles Macejka, Member  
Joseph Salamone, Member  
Gary Spadaro, Member

Kathleen A. Spring, Ph.D., Superintendent  
Denise A. Swezey, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Michael Johnson, Ed.D. Asst. Supt. for Curric. & Inst.  
Patrick McGrath, Mohonasen High School Principal  
David Collins, Assistant HS Principal  
Makensie Bullinger, Assistant HS Principal  
Debra Male, Draper Middle School Principal  
Joseph Scalise, Director of PE, Athletics and Health Education  
Deborah Kavanaugh, Pinewood Assistant Principal  
12 District Residents  
7 Students  
2 Media Representatives

***Absent:***

Julie Adamec, Member

## **Superintendent**

Dr. Kathleen Spring stated that, prior to the Budget presentation, Dr. Michael Johnson would give a brief update on Community Day.

Dr. Johnson said that Community Day will be held on May 17<sup>th</sup> at the Mohonasen HS/Draper MS campus. He stated that plans for the day were coming together nicely. He distributed a draft flyer and brochure to Board members and briefly went over the schedule of activities planned for that day.

Dr. Spring explained that there are two three-year school board seats up for election and that today was the deadline for filing petitions. Four people submitted petitions to run, including two current incumbents, Nancy del Prado and Joseph Salamone, as well as Mark Thornhill and Thomas Flood. Dr. Spring explained that names need to be drawn for placement on the ballot and asked Mrs. French if she would have various members of the audience draw names from a box. Based on the drawing, the placement will be as follows:

1. Thomas Flood
2. Joseph Salamone
3. Nancy del Prado
4. Mark Thornhill

## **Proposed 2008-2009 Budget**

Dr. Kathleen Spring gave background information on how the school budget is developed and showed a PowerPoint presentation of the highlights of the proposed 2008-2009 budget. She explained that the district is fortunate this year in receiving additional state aid. Dr. Spring stated that the district was very conscientious in developing this budget especially with the recent reassessment in the Town of Rotterdam. Mrs. Denise Swezey explained that the proposed budget increase of 4.065% translates to an estimated tax levy increase of 2.6%, which is the lowest in the past 10 years. She stated that the proposed budget is less than the 3.36% allowed expenditure cap under a contingency budget, but explained that cuts would need to be made to areas such as student supplies and equipment purchases to meet the specifications of the law. Mrs. Swezey reminded everyone that the Budget Hearing and Meet the Candidates Night is slated for May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM. The Budget Vote is Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> from 7:00AM-9:00PM in the high school gymnasium.

Mrs. French congratulated Dr. Spring and Mrs. Swezey and staff for putting together a solid budget with a low tax levy.

## **Board of Education**

Mrs. French reminded everyone of upcoming calendar events. She congratulated Officer Tom Culbert and students involved with SADD who were involved with the "Battle of the Belts" competition, as part of "Sean's Run 2008". She explained that the purpose of the competition is to raise awareness of alcohol-related accidents among teenagers.

### **Public Privilege of the Floor**

Mr. Tony Piscitella of Merritt Drive asked where the district stood on filling the coaching position for the girls' varsity basketball team and expressed his support for Tom Maxwell, the current girls' JV basketball coach.

Mrs. French explained that no action was being taken on this evening's agenda for filling that coaching vacancy.

Mr. Greene of Ryan Place asked if parents have input on filling the varsity coaching position. Mrs. French explained that the district doesn't generally ask parents for input regarding filling a coaching vacancy. She explained how administrators in the district go through an interview process and then a recommendation is made to the Board of Education.

Several other district residents expressed their support of Tom Maxwell.

Mrs. del Prado explained that when the district interviews for positions, there are often several candidates who are considered "top notch". She said that different skill sets are often brought to the table and the district selects the person who they feel is the best fit for the job.

Mrs. French thanked everyone for coming.

### **New Business**

#### **Request Approval for Team 7-2 Field Trip to Syracuse, New York on Thursday, May 29, 2008**

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mrs. del Prado, that the Board of Education approve the request for a Team 7-2 field trip to Syracuse, New York on Thursday, May 29, 2008. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

#### **Request for Approval of Team 6-2 Field Trip to Herkimer Diamond Mine on Friday, May 16, 2008**

MOTION made by Mr. Macejka, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli, that the Board of Education approve the request for a Team 6-2 field trip to the Herkimer Diamond Mine on Friday, May 16, 2008. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

#### **Request Approval for Team 7-1 Field Trip to Boston, Massachusetts on Wednesday, May 28, 2008**

MOTION made by Mr. Spadaro, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli, that the Board of Education approve the request for a Team 7-1 field trip to Boston, Massachusetts on Wednesday, May 29, 2008. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

#### **Request Approval for Peers for Peace Field Trip to New York City on May 28, 2008**

MOTION made by Mrs. del Prado, seconded by Mr. Salamone, that the Board of Education approve the request for a Peers for Peace field trip to New York City on May 28, 2008. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

**Request Approval of Select and High School Orchestra Performance Trip to Orlando, Florida in April 2009**

MOTION made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the Board of Education approve the Select and High School Orchestra performance trip to Orlando, Florida in April 2009. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

**Request Approval for Summer Trip Abroad, a Western Mediterranean Cruise, Scheduled for July 2-11, 2009**

MOTION made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the Board of Education approves a summer trip abroad, a Western Mediterranean Cruise, open to high school students, Mohonasen staff and district families, scheduled for July 2-11, 2009. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

**Vote on BOCES Administrative Budget and Board Vacancies**

MOTION made by Mr. Macejka, seconded by Mrs. del Prado, that the Board of Education approve the following resolution to adopt the 2008-2009 Administrative Budget of the BOCES of Albany-Schoharie-Schenectady-Saratoga Counties, and vote for vacant BOCES board positions, as follows:

Resolved, that the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Albany-Schoharie-Schenectady-Saratoga Counties be authorized to expend the sums set forth in the Administrative Budget document in the total amount of \$6,846,312 during the school year 2008-09 and to raise such sum by assessments to component school districts, non-component school districts, other BOCES and other sources as required by law.

The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

Six people were nominated to serve on the BOCES Board of Education, and each component school district was asked to cast one vote for up to four individuals. The vote proceeded as follows:

Candidate #1 – Mrs. Sandra Beloncik	Yes
Candidate #2 – Dr. John Bergeron	Yes
Candidate #3 – Mrs. Barbara Mauro	No
Candidate #4 – Mr. John Phelan	Yes
Candidate #5 – Mr. Warren Snyder	No
Candidate #6 – Mr. John Yagielski	Yes

The motion passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

**Request for Approval of Continuation of Mohonasen-Schalmont Varsity Ice Hockey Team for the 2008-2009 School Year**

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mrs. del Prado, that the Board of Education approve the request for continuation of the combined Mohonasen-Schalmont interscholastic Varsity Ice Hockey Team for the 2008-2009 school year, in accordance with the provision of the NYSPHSAA and Section II, sharing all applicable fees, insurance and related expenses. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

**Request for Approval of Continuation of Mohonasen-Schalmont Co-ed Modified Swim and Diving Team for the 2008-2009 School Year**

MOTION made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mrs. del Prado, that the Board of Education approve the request for continuation of the combined Mohonasen-Schalmont interscholastic Coed Modified Swim & Dive Team for the 2008-2009 school year, in accordance with the provision of the NYSPHSAA and Section II, sharing all applicable fees, insurance and related expenses. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

**Request for Approval of Continuation of Mohonasen-Schalmont Girls' Varsity Swim and Diving Team for the 2008-2009 School Year**

MOTION made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mrs. del Prado, that the Board of Education approve the request for continuation of the combined Mohonasen-Schalmont interscholastic Girls' Varsity Swim & Dive Team for the 2008-2009 school year, in accordance with the provisions of the NYSPHSAA and Section II, sharing all applicable fees, insurance and related expenses. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

**Request for Approval of Continuation of Mohonasen-Schalmont Boys' Varsity Swim and Diving Team for the 2008-2009 School Year**

MOTION made by Mr. Spadaro, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli, that the Board of Education approve the request for continuation of the combined Mohonasen-Schalmont interscholastic Boys' Varsity Swim and Diving Team for the 2008-2009 school year, in accordance with the provision of the NYSPHSAA and Section II, sharing all applicable fees, insurance and related expenses. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

**Request for Approval of Health and Welfare Contract with Scotia-Glenville Central School District**

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mr. Macejka, that the Board of Education approve a health and welfare contract with the Scotia-Glenville Central School District in the total amount of \$9,106.30 for the 2007-2008 school year. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

**Request for Approval of 2008-2009 School Year Calendar**

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mr. Macejka, that the Board of Education approve the school year calendar (attached) for 2008-2009. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

**Request for Approval of Resolution to Adopt the Tentative 2008-2009 School Year Budget**

MOTION made by Mrs. del Prado, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the Board of Education approve the following resolution to adopt the tentative 2008-2009 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-One Million Nine-Hundred Thirty-Five Thousand Six-Hundred Fourteen Dollars (\$41,935,614) for school purposes during the 2008-2009 school year and levy the necessary tax therefore.

The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

**Request for Approval of Transportation Lease Agreement with Capital Region BOCES**

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mr. Macejka, that the Board of Education approves a transportation lease agreement with Capital Region BOCES for the summer of 2008. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

**Request for Approval of Health and Welfare Contract with the Guilderland Central School District**

MOTION made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mrs. del Prado, that the Board of Education approves a health and welfare contract with the Guilderland Central School District in the total amount of \$16,461.00 for the 2007-2008 school year. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

**Request for Approval of Health and Welfare Contract with the South Colonie Central School District**

MOTION made by Mr. Macejka, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the Board of Education approves a health and welfare contract with the South Colonie Central School District in the total amount of \$2,795.55 for the 2007-2008 school year. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

**Request Approval of Denial of Tax Refund Pursuant to Section 550 RPTL**

MOTION made by Mr. Macejka, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli, that the Board of Education approve the denial due to the correction of errors procedures for the following resident, as this is inappropriate for valuation disputes:

	<u>Taxes Paid/Billed</u>	<u>Corrected Tax</u>	<u>Tax Refund</u>
Joyce Brzoza (48.15-7-4)	\$1,873.93	\$0	\$0

The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

**Consensus Agenda**

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli, that the Board of Education approve the following consensus agenda: 1) Minutes, 2) Financial Reports and 3) Personnel. The motion was passed unanimously, five members present and voting with Mrs. del Prado abstaining from the vote.

**Minutes**

APPROVED minutes of the meeting held on April 7, 2008.

**Financial Reports**

APPROVED the Treasurer's Report for the month of March.

APPROVED the Cafeteria Financial Statements for the month of March.

APPROVED the Budget Status Report for the month of March.

APPROVED the Revenue Status Report for the month of March.

APPROVED the Budget Transfer Report for the month of March.

APPROVED the Extracurricular Activities Report for the month of February.

APPROVED the Payment and Presentation of Claims for the months of April for Warrant #10.

## Warrant #10 – April 21, 2008

General Fund	Warrant Schedule #103	\$ 532,693.93
School Lunch Fund	Warrant Schedule #28	\$ 65,976.15
Federal Fund	Warrant Schedule #41	\$ 55,699.69
Capital Fund	Warrant Schedule #42	\$ 73,759.57
Trust & Agency	Warrant Schedule #37	\$1,307,907.83
TOTAL – Warrant #10		\$2,036,037.17

**Personnel Recommendations**

APPROVED the following Personnel Recommendations:

**A. Appointments**

Brianna DiBiase

Assignment: P/T Teaching Assistant (6 hours)

Effective: April 21, 2008

Salary: Step 1

Michelle Schips

Assignment: P/T Teaching Assistant (6 hours)

Effective: April 21, 2008

Salary: Step 1

**Indoor Winterguard 2007-2008**

Lori Marshall (\$1200)

Valerie del Prado (\$1200)

Paul Peregrim (\$1200)

**B. Resignations**

Joan A. Kapelle

Assignment: P/T Food Service Helper

Effective: Close of Business, April 11, 2008

Paul D. Chevalier

Assignment: P/T School Bus Driver

Effective: Close of Business, April 20, 2008

**C. Fingerprint Clearances****Emergency Conditional Clearances**

Catherine Amos

Eric Biehler

Bret Bystricky

Felicity Cashman

Sarah MacDonald  
Spencer Martin  
Michael Mastroianni  
Kathleen McGuigan  
Ashley Murray  
Patrick Quirk  
Erica Sleasman  
Kristen Torpey  
Stephanie Voloshin

**Emergency Conditional Extension of Clearance**

Elizabeth Abeel  
Karin Baldauf  
Edward Battisti  
Robin Bergener  
Nicole Bogdanowicz  
Timothy Cheng  
Ann Chu  
Gregory Conklin  
Davis Connelly  
Amber Cost  
Mathew Cunningham  
Thomas DeRusso  
James Desira  
Elizabeth Ferenczy  
Pamela Finton  
Jessica Fuld  
Sarita Gould  
Stephen Hensel  
Katharine Kelly  
Robert Kinder  
Jessica LaForce  
Jennifer Lawlor  
Kristen Lynch  
Lindsay Marchetti  
Jennifer Martland  
William May  
Tracy McGeary  
Erin Murphy  
Salaam Mustafa  
Jaclyn Nadeau  
Lauren Petrick  
Wampiqa Rafiq  
Laurence Sombke  
Vanessa Teta  
Kotun Uruga  
Marvin Veeder  
Mary Ellen Walsh  
Eadwine Webb  
Michael Weinstein

Susan Wiley  
Blanche Willig  
Lea Williams  
Heather Wysomski

**Executive Session**

MOTION made by Mr. Spadaro, seconded by Mr. Salamone, that an executive session be convened at 8:16 PM for the purpose of personnel. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

Mrs. Adamec arrived at 8:17 PM.

MOTION made by Mr. Mrs. Adamec, seconded by Mr. Macejka, that the executive session be adjourned at 9:40 PM. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

**Adjournment**

MOTION made by Mr. Spadaro, seconded by Mrs. del Prado, that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned at 9:43 PM. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

---

Denise A. Swezey, District Clerk