

MOHONASEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Education
Monday, May 12, 2008, Mohonasen High School*

The Board meeting was preceded by the Budget Hearing at 6:00 PM.

The Board meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. French, at 7:14 PM.

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

Present:

Julie Adamec, Member
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.
Lin Severance, Ph.D., Director for Student & Personnel Svcs.
Karla Empie, Director of Special & Alternative Programs
Patrick McGrath, Mohonasen High School Principal
David Collins, Assistant HS Principal
Makensie Bullinger, Assistant HS Principal
Debra Male, Draper Middle School Principal
Rosemary Soltis, Assistant MS Principal
Michele Hunter, Pinewood School Principal
Christopher Ruberti, Administrator for Counseling K-12
Joseph Scalise, Director of PE, Athletics & Health
Heidi Christman, Administrator for Mathematics K-12
Arlene DeSiena, Administrator for Literacy K-6
Gerald Garing, Administrator for Science K-12
Erin McNulty, Communications
Skylar Aviza, Student Representative
Matthew Farrell, Student Representative
34 Faculty Members
7 Students
15 District Residents

Superintendent

Dr. Spring stated that the first item on the agenda was a recognition of "Battle of the Belts" participants and turned the meeting over to Mr. Patrick McGrath, High School Principal.

Recognition of "Battle of the Belts" Participants

Mr. McGrath introduced Miss Skylar Aviza, a high school student, who is the president of the local chapter of Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD). Ms. Aviza explained that four-person student teams competed against each other to see who could achieve the fastest time buckling their seat belts. The purpose behind the tournament was to promote the use of seat belts among students. A video was shown of the competition held at Mohonasen. On April 25th

the fastest Mohonasen team competed in a regional competition and won the “world” championship. Miss Aviza presented the award to the Board of Education. Mrs. French thanked Miss Aviza and the students on behalf of the district.

Schenectady County Chamber of Commerce

Dr. Spring introduced Mr. Chuck Steiner and Ms. Leesa Pagan from the Schenectady County Chamber of Commerce who gave a brief overview of the Business and Education Partnership between the Chamber and area school districts. Ms. Pagan showed a PowerPoint presentation explaining the Certificate of Employability, the Career Expo, job shadowing and internship opportunities available to students.

New High School Course Proposals

Mr. David Collins, High School Assistant Principal, presented new high school course proposals for next year. Mr. Collins stated that there were going to be five new options for high school students. Three of those courses, AP World History, Contemporary Mathematics and Music Appreciation, weren't actually “new” but were modified to fit student needs. Two new courses, AP Physics and Freshman Seminar, will be added to next year's course options for students. Freshman Seminar will be offered to approximately 80 students this fall but will be offered to all students the following school year.

Board of Education

Mrs. French announced that Community Day is this Saturday, May 17th and hoped for good weather. She also mentioned that if anyone was interested in helping out, volunteers are always needed.

Mrs. French acknowledged Ms. Lori Lynch, a Bradt Teaching Assistant, who has been featured on the district website for turning her classroom into different living environments for students to experience. She also congratulated Mr. Patrick McGrath, the high school principal, and his wife on the birth of their new son, Caleb. Mrs. French also congratulated Dr. Spring for being nominated and receiving the Ann Myers Award, which is given to individuals who demonstrate a commitment and expertise in mentoring education leaders and sharing their time and wisdom with prospective administrators.

Mrs. French shared informational materials with Board members and also reminded everyone of upcoming calendar events.

Mr. Macejka congratulated Dave Collins on the success of the Senior Citizens' Prom that took place last Friday.

Mr. Spadaro said that he attended the Mock DWI Crash that was held at the high school on Thursday, May 1st. He was impressed with how real it seemed and thought students got a lot out of it.

Student Representatives

Miss Aviza thanked Mr. Collins and Mr. McGrath on behalf of SADD for staging the Mock Crash for 9th and 11th graders. She said that representatives from MADD did a presentation for 10th

and 12th graders. She said it was great to have these presentations just before the prom to remind students that bad things can happen if you make poor decisions. Mr. Farrell stated that the Glen Sanders Mansion complimented Junior Prom students on their polite behavior. Ms. Aviza said she had attended the Senior Citizens' Ball and had a great time. Mr. Farrell introduced seven students who are interested in being Student Representatives to the Board of Education next year. Elections will be held on May 20th. Ms. Aviza and Mr. Farrell also mentioned a number of activities on the calendar for students.

Public Privilege of the Floor

Mrs. French read "Privilege of the Floor" guidelines for the people in attendance.

Mrs. Susan Nelson, President of the MTA, read a statement regarding confidentiality of teacher comments on National Junior Honor Society applications. Draper Middle School teachers in attendance stood during the reading of the statement.

New Business

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

MOTION made by Mrs. Adamec, seconded by Mr. Salamone, 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 April 7, 8 and 9, 2008. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Request Approval for Draper Drama Club Field Trip to New York City on Saturday, June 14, 2008

MOTION made by Mr. Spadaro, seconded by Mrs. Adamec, that the Board of Education approve the request for the Draper Drama Club to participate in a field trip to New York City on Saturday, June 14, 2008. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Request Approval for Field Trip to Bennett's Stables and Lake George on June 4, 2008

MOTION made by Mrs. del Prado, seconded by Mrs. Adamec, that the Board of Education approve the request for a field trip to Bennett's Stables and Lake George on Wednesday, June 4, 2008. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Request for Approval of Lease Agreement with the Boys and Girls Club of Schenectady

MOTION made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mr. Macejka, that the Board of Education approves a contract with the Boys and Girls Club of Schenectady for the use of four buses, at a reimbursement amount of \$12,500 for the period of June 30, 2008 through August 15, 2008. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Request for Approval of Salary Schedules for Management/Confidential Employees

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli, that the Board of Education approve the salary increase for Management/Confidential employees for the 2008-2009 school year as follows: 3% on Step 1, 4.5% inclusive of increment on Steps 2-15, and 3.5% off step for Managerial/Confidential support staff employees, effective July 1, 2008. Appropriate salary schedules shall be adjusted accordingly if future settlement with the MSSA exceeds the approved

percentage increases now applicable to Management/Confidential employees, with said adjustments be both retroactive and prospective.

Consensus Agenda

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mrs. del Prado, that the Board of Education approve the following consensus agenda: 1) Minutes, 2) Bids/Change Orders, and 3) Personnel. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Minutes

APPROVED minutes of meetings held on April 21, 2008 and May 5, 2008.

Bids/Change Orders

Approved a contract with the following professional firm to perform the necessary engineering services pertaining to geotechnical services for the EXCEL capital project:

Trans Tech Geotechnical Services
1594 State Street
Schenectady, NY 12304

Personnel Recommendations

APPROVED the following Personnel Recommendations:

A. Tenure Appointments

Virginia Del Gallo

Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant K-12
Effective Date: September 1, 2008

Sharon Lynch-Wemple

Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant K-12
Effective Date: September 1, 2008

B. Appointments

Caitlin Rogers

Appointment: Long-Term Substitute
Assignment: Elementary Teacher
Date of Commencement: March 25, 2008
Expiration Date: Close of business, May 21, 2008 (*amended from the 3/31/08 agenda*)
Certification Status: Childhood Education Gr. 1-6, Initial
Salary: Step 1

Amy Varano

Appointment: Long-Term Substitute
Assignment: Elementary Teacher
Date of Commencement: February 25, 2008
Expiration Date: Close of business, June 26, 2008 (*amended from the 1/28/08 agenda*)
Certification Status: Childhood Education Gr. 1-6, Initial
Salary: Step 1

Mark R. Rabideau

Assignment: P/T Teaching Assistant (6 hours)
Effective: May 12, 2008 – June 26, 2008
Salary: Step 1

Brianna DiBiase

Assignment: P/T Teaching Assistant (6 hours)
Effective: April 21, 2008 – June 26, 2008 *(amended from the 4/21/07 agenda)*
Salary: Step 1

Michelle Schips

Assignment: P/T Teaching Assistant (6 hours)
Effective: April 21, 2008 – June 26, 2008 *(amended from the 4/21/07 agenda)*
Salary: Step 1

Randolph Jerreld

Assignment: Transportation Supervisor - Permanent
Effective: May 12, 2008

Thomas F. Merritt

Assignment: P/T Temporary Groundsman
Effective: May 13, 2008 – October 10, 2008
Salary: Step 7

Nicholas Fiore

Assignment: P/T Temporary Groundsman
Effective: May 13, 2008 – October 10, 2008
Salary: Step 1

Deborah Kruzinski

Assignment: P/T Bus Driver
Effective: April 28, 2008
Salary: Step 1

Daniel S. Smith

Assignment: P/T Bus Driver
Effective: May 13, 2008
Salary: Step 1

Alan Livingston

Assignment: P/T Bus Driver
Effective: May 13, 2008
Salary: Step 1

After School Review Classes for NYS Science Exams - \$31.66/hour

Name	# of Hours	Dates
Cheryl Sheehan	1.5 hours (each day)	4/21/08 & 4/22/08

Preparation time for instruction of two-hour after school workshops - \$31.66/hour:

11/14/07 - One Hour	2/5/08 - One Hour	4/24/08 - One Hour
Andrea Conover	Kathy Ives-Kline	Darcy Brem
Gina Ralston	Mindy Holland	Kathy Ives-Kline
Kathy Ives-Kline		Kelly Fahrenkopf
Michele Hackett		Mindy Holland
Mindy Holland		

Fall Coaches - 2008

Position	Coach	Step
Varsity Football Head	Josh Whipple	Step 6
Varsity Football Assistant	Dennis Corbitt	Step 7
Varsity Football Assistant	Ray Kearney	Step 6
JV Football Head	Jim Huggins	Step 7 + \$533
JV Football Assistant	Ryan Turnbull	Step 3
JV Football Assistant	Matt Rider	Step 2
Modified Football Head	Doug Erickson	Step 7 + \$1533
Modified Football Assistant	Steve Brassard	Step 7 + \$799
Modified Football Assistant	Tom DiAcetis	Step 2
Strength & Conditioning	Ben Pierson	Step 7 + \$533
Cross Country	Rob Higgins	Step 7
Cross Country	Nicole Zablotny	Step 2
Boys' Varsity Soccer	Joshua Gregg	Step 4
Boys' Varsity Soccer Assistant	Mark Woodrow	Step 3
Boys' JV Soccer	Jason Cintula	Step 2
Girls' Varsity Soccer	Karolyn DeVito	Step 7
Girls' Varsity Volleyball	Anne Panetta	Step 7
Girls' Freshman Volleyball	Nicole Schaap	Step 7
Boys' Varsity Golf	Kevin Cummings	Step 2
Boys' JV Golf	Andy Cuthbertson	Step 1
Girls' JV Tennis	Maria Pacheco	Step 4
Girls' Varsity Tennis	Dick Usher	Step 7
Strength & Conditioning - Football	Ryan Turnbull	\$343.
Strength & Conditioning - Football	Josh Whipple	\$343.
Strength & Conditioning - Football	Jim Huggins	\$343.
Strength & Conditioning - Football	Dennis Corbitt	\$343.
Strength & Conditioning - Football	Matt Rider	\$343.
Strength & Conditioning - Football	Ray Kearney	\$343.
Athletic Trainer	Chuck DeVito	\$17,701.

Winter Coaches - 2008-09

Position	Coach	Step
Girls' Varsity Basketball	Paul Brosious	6

C. Resignations

William M. Sponable

Assignment: P/T Bus Driver
Effective: Close of Business, March 28, 2008

Amanda Lester

Assignment: Elementary Teacher
Effective: Close of business, June 30, 2008

D. Leaves of Absence

Christine Altomer

Assignment: Elementary Teacher
Effective Dates: May 20, 2008 – June 30, 2009
Reason: Family Medical Leave (1st 12 weeks) *(amended from the 4/7/08 agenda)*

Kathleen Murnane

Assignment: Physical Education Teacher
Effective Dates: June 19, 2008 – June 26, 2008
Reason: Family Medical Leave

Lauren O'Brien-Neale

Assignment: Elementary Teacher
Effective Dates: April 21, 2008 – June 30, 2008 *(amended from the 3/10/08 agenda)*
Reason: Family Medical Leave

Carolyn Lundy

Assignment: Science Teacher
Effective Dates: May 19, 2008 – May 30, 2008
Reason: Family Medical Leave

Karen Pierone

Assignment: P/T Food Service Helper
Effective Dates: March 7, 2008 – May 2, 2008 *(amended from the 3/31/08 agenda)*
Reason: Family Medical Leave

E. Fingerprint Clearances**Emergency Conditional Clearances**

Michael Apple
Stanley Bilinski
Emery Dergosits, Jr.
Nicole Hughes
Mariann Stelmaszyk
Kayleigh Witz
Maria Ziamandanis

Emergency Conditional Extension of Clearance

Elizabeth Abeel
Catherine Amos
Karin Baldauf
Edward Battisti
Eric Biehler
Nicole Bogdanowicz
Bret Bystricky
Felicity Cashman
Davis Connelly
Amber Cost
Thomas DeRusso
James Desira
Elizabeth Ferenczy
Pamela Finton
Jessica Fuld
Stephen Hensel
Katharine Kelly
Robert Kinder
Jessica LaForce
Jennifer Lawlor
Kristen Lynch
Sarah MacDonald
Spencer Martin
Michael Mastroianni
William May
Tracy McGeary
Kathleen McGuigan
Erin Murphy
Ashley Murray
Salaam Mustafa
Lauren Petrick
Patrick Quirk
Wampiqa Rafiq
Erica Sleasman
Laurence Sombke
Vanessas Teta
Kristen Torpey
Kotun Uruga
Marvin Veeder
Stephanie Voloshin
Mary Ellen Walsh
Eadwine Webb
Susan Wiley
Lea Williams
Heather Wysomski

Conditional Clearance:

Robin Bergener
Sarita Gould
Blanche Willig

Mrs. French congratulated Mrs. Virginia Del Gallo and Mrs. Sharon Lynch-Wemple on being recommended for tenure as Teaching Assistants K-12.

Public Privilege of the Floor

Mr. Joshua Miller of Ronald Place and Ms. Lynn Piscitella both read statements in support of Tom Maxwell for girls' varsity basketball coach.

Mrs. French explained that the recommendation for filling the coaching position had been approved in the personnel section of the agenda at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Piscitella of Merritt Drive asked about the hiring process and wondered why a committee hadn't been formed to interview candidates. Dr. Spring responded that the athletic director and high school assistant principal had interviewed applicants and felt that they had brought the best person forward for the position.

Executive Session

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mrs. del Prado, that an executive session be convened at 8:20 PM for the purpose of personnel. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

MOTION made by Mrs. Adamec, seconded by Mr. Macejka, that the executive session be adjourned at 9:14 PM. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Adjournment

MOTION made by Mr. Spadaro, seconded by Mrs. Cafarelli, that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned at 9:15 PM. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Denise A. Swezey, District Clerk