

## **MOHONASEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Education  
Monday, February 9, 2009, Mohonasen High School*

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	Kathleen A. Spring, Ph.D., Superintendent
Dominic Cafarelli, Member	Denise A. Swezey, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Nancy del Prado, Member	Patrick McGrath, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Eileen French, President	Karla Empie, Director of Special & Alternative Programs
Charles Macejka, Member	David Collins, Mohonasen High School Principal
Joseph Salamone, Member	Debra Male, Draper Middle School Principal
Gary Spadaro, Member	Rosemary Soltis, Assistant Middle School Principal
	Michele Hunter, Pinewood School Principal
	Deborah Kavanaugh, Pinewood Assistant Principal
	Diane McIver, Bradt School Principal
	Arlene DeSiena, Bradt Asst. Principal
	Heidi Bromley, Administrator for Mathematics K-12
	Gerald Garing, Administrator for Science K-12
	Chris Ruberti, Administrator for Counseling K-12
	Joseph Scalise, Director of PE, Athletics & Health Education
	Randy Jerreld, Transportation Supervisor
	Joseph Mayo, Director of Facilities
	Adrienne Leon, Communications
	Nancy Jones, Capital Region BOCES
	Jeff West, U. W. Marx
	96 Faculty Members
	3 District Residents

### **Superintendent**

Prevention Needs Assessment Survey - Dr. Spring introduced Ms. Nancy Jones, School Improvement and Systems Analyst from Capital Region BOCES, who presented the results of a Prevention Needs Assessment Survey given to students in Grades 6-12. Ms. Jones explained that this survey measures risk and prevention factors affecting students. Generally, the results were found much improved over the last survey results which were tabulated in 2002.

Budget Presentation – Dr. Spring explained that Mrs. Denise Swezey, Assistant Superintendent for Business would be doing the 4<sup>th</sup> in a series of budget presentations. Mrs. Swezey stated that the Governor came out with his budget a month earlier than usual and explained that with the proposed budget there is expected to be a deficit reduction of 1.5 million for Mohonasen. She explained how the district has been pro-active in containing or reducing costs. At this presentation, Mrs. Swezey focused on general support, operations and maintenance, transportation, debt service, transfers and special items. In summary, the subtotal decrease in this portion of the budget is expected to be \$97,524. The next budget presentation is scheduled for February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00PM.

**Board of Education**

Mrs. French distributed informational materials to the Board and reminded everyone of upcoming calendar events.

Mr. Salamone stated that he had attended a very informative CAPSBA meeting in January which focused on the school district policy process.

Mrs. del Prado mentioned that information for the Grace McIver Scholarship has been sent out to component school districts. She also mentioned that this year CAPSBA would be giving a \$50 award to one student from each district who displayed exemplary community service.

Mr. Salamone and Mrs. del Prado also mentioned the upcoming Legislative Conference in March.

**Student Representatives**

No student representatives were present at the meeting.

**Public (Privilege of the Floor)**

Ms. Debra Male, Draper Middle School Principal, stated that the Prevention Needs Assessment survey may be flawed in regard to the statistics for the sixth grade saying that the assessment was above their conceptual developmental age.

Ms. Lisa Mell of Trinity Avenue expressed her support of consolidating or “centralizing” the Mohonasen, Schalmont and Duanesburg School Districts.

Mr. Joe Danowski of Outer Drive expressed his concern over building a new bus garage and the extra money it would cost to heat it as opposed to leaving the buses outdoors. Mr. Randy Jerreld, Transportation Supervisor, explained that it would actually be less expensive to harbor the buses in a garage than to run individual heaters each night for each of the buses left outside. Dr. Spring also stated that the district has not made any firm decisions regarding a new facility for buses and when a proposal is ready the district will hold public presentations.

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

MOTION made by Mrs. del Prado, 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 January 23, 26, 27, 30; February 2, 3, 4, 2009. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

**Request Approval for Draper Select Choir Field Trip to New York City**

MOTION made by Mr. Macejka, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli, that the Board of Education approve the request for the Draper Middle School Select Choir to participate in a field trip to New York City to attend the Broadway musical, “Phantom of the Opera” on Saturday, June 13, 2009. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

**Request for Approval of Agreement for Actuarial Services – Prescription Drug Plan**

MOTION made by Mr. Macejka, seconded by Mrs. del Prado, that the Board of Education authorizes an agreement with the following consulting firm to conduct an actuarial study of the District’s self-funded prescription medicine plan:

Harbridge Consulting Group, LLC  
One Lincoln Center  
Syracuse, NY 13202  
Service Fee: \$2,950

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

**Request for Approval to Participate in Purchasing Consortium and Process Cooperative Bids**

MOTION made by Mrs. del Prado, seconded by Mrs. Adamec, that the Board of Education formally approve Mohonasen's participation in the Schenectady County Public Schools Purchasing Consortium and that the Board of Education formally adopt the following Cooperative Bidding Resolution:

**WHEREAS**, it is the plan of a number of public school districts in Schenectady County during the 2009-10 school year to bid jointly for the purchase of various commodities, and

**WHEREAS**, items for which plans are being developed for cooperative bidding include: bus parts, swimming pool chemicals, photocopy paper, HVAC filters, copier toner cartridges, and

**WHEREAS**, the Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District is desirous of participating with other public school districts in the joint bidding of such commodities and services, as authorized by General Municipal Law, Article 5-G;

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education does hereby authorize Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District participation with other public school districts in Schenectady County during the 2009-10 school year to bid jointly for the purchase of various commodities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that in accordance with Cooperative Bid Procedures the Board of Education agrees to award bid item purchases according to the recommendations of the coordinating school district if such award is in the best interest of Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District.

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

**Request for Approval to Participate in a Cooperative Bid for Chevrolet Suburban Vehicles to be Used for Student Transportation and Adoption of Standardization Resolution**

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the Board of Education approve participation in a cooperative bid for Chevrolet Suburban vehicles to be used for student transportation and adoption of Standardization Resolution as follows:

**WHEREAS**,

It is a plan of a number of the component public school districts in the Albany-Schenectady-Schoharie-Saratoga BOCES to bid jointly on Chevrolet Suburban vehicles to be used for student transportation, and

**WHEREAS**,

The Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District is desirous of participating with other districts in the Albany-Schenectady-Schoharie-Saratoga BOCES co-operative joint bid for the item mentioned above as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-o, and

**WHEREAS,**

The Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District wishes to appoint a committee made up of participating School districts to assume the responsibility for drafting of specifications, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, tabulating bids and providing the information to their individual, respective Boards of Education who will make the awards; therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED,**

That the Board of Education of the Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District hereby appoints the Albany-Schenectady-Schoharie-Saratoga BOCES to represent it in all matters as set forth above, and designates the Daily Gazette Newspaper as the legal publication for all cooperative purchasing bid notifications related to the purchase of Chevrolet Suburban vehicles, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,**

That the Board of Education of the Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District authorizes the above committee to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above mentioned items, and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,**

That the Board of Education of the Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District agrees to (1) abide by majority decisions of the participating districts on quality standards; (2) that it will be responsible for the actual bid award; (3) and that after the award of the bid it will conduct all negotiations directly with the successful bidder(s).

Also,

**BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Education of the Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District hereby adopts a resolution to standardize, as sanctioned by GML Section 103, Paragraph 5, on the following: Chevrolet Suburban Sport Utility Vehicle for student transportation. Deviations from such standardization may occur if in the best interest of the District.

Circumstances for standardization are as follows:

- A. Multiple manufacturers make it difficult for our transportation staff to maintain consistency and continuity of vehicle repair and maintenance services. Standardization is essential for the efficient and effective operation of the transportation fleet because of the ability to interchange replacement parts. Standardization will also allow personnel to operate any one of the fleet of Sport Utility Vehicles the district uses to transport students.
- B. The use of vehicle standardization is economically cost effective since the vehicles and replacement parts have been pre-evaluated and approved for reliability and for compatibility with the existing district maintenance and repair protocols.
- C. The use of vehicle standardization is economically cost effective because parts and materials used for repair and maintenance can be purchased in bulk.

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

### **Request Approval of Twin State Telephone Service Remote Monitoring and Support Plan Contract**

MOTION made by Mrs. Adamec, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the Board of Education authorizes the Twin State Support Plan for the district's phone system effective February 1, 2009 through February 1, 2010 for an annual service fee of \$20,168. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

### **Consensus Agenda**

MOTION made by Mr. Spadaro, 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 January 26, 2009 and February 2, 2009.

### **Bids/Change Orders**

APPROVED the award of grocery, frozen food and meats bid to the following low bidders meeting specifications for the period of February 1, 2009 – June 30, 2009:

By George	\$ 922.85
Quandt's Distributors	\$ 9,774.68
Sysco Foods, Inc.	\$ 70,324.15
Ginsberg's	\$ <u>34,266.84</u>
Total	\$ 115,288.52

### **Personnel Recommendations**

APPROVED the following Personnel Recommendations:

#### **A. Tenure Appointments**

Renee Lizotte

Tenure Area: Music  
Effective Date: September 1, 2009

Kasey Hazard

Tenure Area: Special Education  
Effective Date: September 1, 2009

Tammy Pangman

Tenure Area: Reading  
Effective Date: September 1, 2009

Jeanette Wager

Tenure Area: Elementary Education  
Effective Date: September 1, 2009

**B. Appointments**

Kyra McTighe

Appointment: Long-Term Substitute  
Assignment: Guidance Counselor  
Date of Commencement: January 23, 2009 (*amended from 11/17/08 agenda*)  
Expiration Date: Close of business May 8, 2009  
Certification Status: School Guidance Counselor, Initial pending  
Salary: Step 1 plus graduate credits, prorated

Emery Dergosits

Appointment: Long-Term Substitute  
Assignment: Elementary Education  
Date of Commencement: February 2, 2009  
Expiration Date: Close of business June 25, 2009  
Certification Status: Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Initial  
Salary: Step 1

Laura Risley

Appointment: Long-Term Substitute  
Assignment: English Teacher  
Date of Commencement: November 12, 2008  
Expiration Date: Close of business, May 26, 2009 (*amended from the 12/22/08 agenda*)  
Certification Status: English Language Arts 7-12, Initial  
Salary: Step 1

Erin Engstrom

Appointment: Long-Term Substitute  
Assignment: Occupational Therapist (.5)  
Date of Commencement: February 10, 2009  
Expiration Date: Close of business, June 25, 2009  
Certification Status: Licensed Occupational Therapist  
Salary: Step 3

Nicholas Ronca

Appointment: Home Tutor  
Salary: \$25/hour  
Effective: February 10, 2009

Barbara Palazeke

Appointment: Temporary Appointment  
Assignment: P/T Teacher Aide (6 hours)  
Effective Date: February 2, 2009  
Expiration Date: Close of business June 25, 2009  
Salary: Step 2

Edith Chase

Appointment: Temporary Appointment  
Assignment: P/T Teacher Aide (6 hours)  
Effective Date: February 6, 2009  
Expiration Date: Close of business June 25, 2009  
Salary: Step 1

Cindy King

Assignment: P/T Bus Aide  
Salary: Step 3  
Effective: February 10, 2009

**Program Facilitator/Pinewood - 2008 - 2009 - Stipend as per MTA Contract**

Maria Gilroy Grade 5 - effective February 2, 2009

Name	Address	Assignment	Daily Rate	# of days
Elizabeth DeBlois		Test Scoring	\$101/day	2

**Spring Coaches - 2009**

Position	Coach	Step
Varsity Baseball	Demetrios Huggins	Step 7 + \$267
Varsity Baseball Assistant	Ryan Turnbull	Step 3
JV Baseball	Andy Cuthbertson	Step 4
Varsity Softball	Lisa Keating	Step 4
Varsity Softball Assistant	Stephanie Zych	Step 1
JV Softball	Steve Brassard	Step 7 + \$533
Girls' Track & Field	Karolyn DeVito	Step 6
Boys' Track & Field	Rob Higgins	Step 7
Track Assistant	Tara Shellard	Step 2
Track Assistant	Paul Stelmaszyk	Step 7
Strength & Conditioning	Ben Pierson	Step 7 + \$267

**B. Resignations**

Jean W. Gerhard

Assignment: P/T Teacher Aide  
Effective Date: Close of business, February 5, 2009

**C. Leaves of Absence**

Angie C. Santabarbara

Assignment: School Counselor  
Effective Dates: March 9, 2009 - May 8, 2009  
Reason: Family Medical Leave

Esther Vrooman

Assignment: English Teacher  
Effective Dates: February 25, 2009 – May 26, 2009  
Reason: Family Medical Leave

Emery Dergosits

Assignment: P/T Teaching Assistant  
Effective Dates: February 2, 2009 – June 25, 2009  
Reason: Unpaid Leave of Absence

#### **D. Fingerprint Clearances**

##### Emergency Conditional Clearances

Frieda Arenos  
Shannon Arrington  
Joelle Ashline  
Chase Campbell  
Jessica Gilbert  
Patricia Horgan  
Jayne Langmeyer  
Jesse Piliere  
Eric Schantz  
Brittany Slagen  
Charles Truby  
Meghan Wilkinson

##### Emergency Conditional Extension of Clearance

Sharon Aniolek  
Mark Benson  
Jacqueline Bintz  
Erica Brockmyer  
Leslie Cole  
Anna Cusano  
Lisa D'Aniello  
Julia DuBois  
Jill Dubreuil  
Sharon Flynn  
Jason Fries  
Ashley Fusco  
Patrick Gill  
Tavonna Goodman  
Matthew Holden  
Melissa Hughes  
Joseph Hunziker  
Stephanie Hutchins  
Michael Kosar  
Michael Kramek  
Angela Lasher  
Elise LeCours  
Amanda Marino

Robert McCraith  
Molly McLoughlin  
Kyra McTighe  
Thomas Montalbano  
Adly Nakhla  
John Nosal  
Pamela O'Brien  
Paul Paquin  
George Person  
David Quesnell  
Amanda Rappold  
Julie Rufer  
Namra Saeed  
Marianne Sauter  
Kelly Sayward, Jr.  
Geraldyn Schroeder  
John Scott  
Brian Smith  
Christina Snover  
Ainsley Thomas  
John Vandenberg  
Cheryl Van Valkenburgh  
Richard Yanatos  
Heather Zeccolo

Mrs. French congratulated Renee Lizotte, Kasey Hazard, Tammy Pangman and Jeanette Wager on their recommendation for tenure.

**Public Privilege of the Floor**

Mrs. Susan Nelson, MTA President, read a prepared statement regarding Mohonasen teachers working without a contract.

**Executive Session**

MOTION made by Mr. Spadaro, seconded by Mr. Salamone, that an executive session be convened at 8:35 PM for the purpose of personnel. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

MOTION made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mr. Macejka, that the executive session be adjourned at 10:15 PM. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

**Adjournment**

MOTION made by Mr. Spadaro, seconded by Mrs. Adamec, that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned at 10:16 PM. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

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Denise A. Swezey, District Clerk