

MOHONASEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Education
Monday, October 6, 2008, Mohonasen High School*

Present:

Kathleen Spring, Superintendent
Patrick McGrath, Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction
Denise Swezey, Asst. Supt. for Business
Dominic Cafarelli, Member
Nancy del Prado, Member
Eileen French, President
Charles Macejka, Member

Absent:

Julie Adamec, Member
Joseph Salamone, Member
Gary Spadaro, Member

Executive Session

MOTION made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mrs. del Prado, that an executive session be convened at 5:30 PM for the purpose of discussing personnel. The motion was passed unanimously, four members present and voting.

Mr. Salamone arrived at 5:40 PM and Mr. Spadaro arrived at 5:50 PM.

MOTION made by Mr. Macejka, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the executive session be adjourned at 6:55 PM. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

The Board meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. French, at 7:03 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

Absent:

Julie Adamec, Member

Kathleen A. Spring, Ph.D., Superintendent
Denise A. Swezey, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Patrick McGrath, Assistant Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction
Lin Severance, Ph.D., Director for Student & Personnel Services
Karla Empie, Director of Special & Alternative Programs
David Collins, Mohonasen High School Principal
Makensie Bullinger, Assistant High School Principal
Timothy Hulihan, Assistant High School Principal
Debra Male, Draper Middle School Principal
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
Gerald Garing, Administrator for Science K-12
Chris Ruberti, Administrator for Counseling K-12
Lisa Cutting, Administrator for English 6-12
Daniel Lucca, Administrator for Social Studies
Joseph Scalise, Director of PE, Athletics & Health Education
Cindy Mendez, Director of Technology

Doug Carlton, Student Representative
Sara Dalton, Student Representative
2 Faculty Members
3 District Residents

Heidi Bromley, Administrator for Math K-12

Superintendent

Dr. Spring stated that invitations went out to approximately 55 people to participate in focus groups for a possible building project. She said that focus groups will begin meeting next week. The district hopes to have a referendum vote in January 2009.

End-of-the-Year Reports and Program Level Goals

Dr. Spring explained that administrators would be doing a presentation on their End-of-the-Year Reports along with their Program Level Goals at this meeting. Prior to the presentation, Dr. Spring showed a video, "Did You Know?" which was shown to faculty and staff on opening day in September. She explained that the video sets the stage for what we need to do in the future for students. Dr. Spring read the District's Vision Statement and briefly described five major District-wide goals. Following Dr. Spring's presentation, the four building principals each discussed their goals for their buildings. Mr. Scalise discussed Athletic Department goals, Mrs. Empie discussed Special and Alternative Education Goals and Mrs. Mendez discussed Technology goals.

Mrs. French thanked everyone for their presentations.

Board of Education

Mrs. French distributed informational materials to Board members. She reminded everyone of upcoming calendar events including several events being held Homecoming weekend. She also reminded everyone that there will be a Board Workshop with the architects, which is open to the public, on Monday, October 20th at 5:30PM followed by a Board meeting at 7:00PM. Mrs. French stated that she attended the Mohonasen Marching Band Homeshow held at Union College over the weekend and mentioned that Mr. Salamone had acted as master of ceremonies. She said that it was a wonderful event and congratulated the entire band program.

Student Representatives

Sara Dalton said that quite a few student volunteers were involved in the high school Open House, which was held last Thursday. Doug Carlton stated that this week is Spirit Week in the high school, with this weekend being Homecoming, and mentioned a number of student activities including a "powder puff" football game, a pep rally, a varsity football game, and the Homecoming dance. They also mentioned that Mohonasen will be hosting a leadership conference on October 28th at Union College for class presidents and vice presidents.

Public (Privilege of the Floor)

Kevin Thomas of Van Dyke Avenue passed out a newspaper article regarding crisis planning for schools. He said that although he feels that Mohonasen is "on top of its game" in regard to security, he stated that he had concerns that parents may not know what the plans are in case of an emergency. He suggested having a parent "hotline" available where parents can get this information by a recorded message, if necessary.

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

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mr. Macejka, 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 September 22, 23, 24, 26 and 30, 2008. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

Request Approval for Varsity Ice Hockey Team to Participate in a Field Trip to Madison Square Garden Training Facility in Tarrytown, New York on Friday, November 7, 2008

MOTION made by Mr. Spadaro, seconded by Mrs. del Prado, that the Board of Education approve the Varsity Ice Hockey team to participate in a field trip to the Madison Square Garden Training Facility in Tarrytown, New York on Friday, November 7, 2008. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

Request for Approval of Varsity and JV Wrestling Teams to Participate in the Bristol Central Invitational Wrestling Tournament in Bristol, Connecticut in January 2009

MOTION made by Mr. Macejka, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the Board of Education approve the request for the Varsity and JV Wrestling team to participate in the Bristol Central Invitational Wrestling Tournament in Bristol, Connecticut in January 2009. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

Request Approval for 9th Grade Students to Participate in a Field Trip to Medieval Times/Museum of Natural History on Friday, May 1, 2009

MOTION made by Mrs. del Prado, seconded by Mr. Macejka, that the Board of Education approve the request for 9th grade students to participate in a field trip to Medieval Times in Lyndhurst, New Jersey and the Museum of Natural History in New York City on Friday, May 1, 2009. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

Request Approval for Global 10 Students to Participate in a Field Trip to the Jewish Heritage and Holocaust Museum/Ellis Island in April 2009

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the Board of Education approve the request for Global 10 students to participate in a field trip on Friday, April 3, 2009 to the Jewish Heritage and Holocaust Museum, Ellis Island, and the Statue of Liberty. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

Request Approval for Mohonasen High School History Club to Participate in a Field Trip to Los Angeles, California and the Grand Canyon

MOTION made by Mr. Macejka, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli, that the Board of Education approve the Mohonasen High School History Club to participate in a field trip to Los Angeles, California and the Grand Canyon in April 2009. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

Rescind Resolution No. F. Business Personnel #5/09.22.08

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the Board of Education rescind Resolution No. F5/09.22.08:

WHEREAS Resolution #F.5/09.22.08 was adopted at the September 22, 2008 meeting of the Board of Education of the Mohonasen Central School District; and

WHEREAS the resolution contained some procedural errors;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby rescinds Resolution No. F.5/09.22.08 "Declaration of Lead Agency Under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA)."

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

Resolution of Intent to Act as Lead Agency under SEQRA with Respect to Proposed Capital Improvement Project

MOTION made by Mrs. del Prado, seconded by Mr. Macejka, that the Board of Education adopt the following resolution authorizing the Board of Education to act as lead agent under SEQRA:

WHEREAS, Mohonasen Central School District (“the Applicant”) is proposing to undertake a capital improvement project involving

- The acquisition of property for a new bus garage;
- The construction of a new bus garage;
- The acquisition and renovation of the former Draper School to serve as an Elementary School;
- The construction of new playing fields at the High School; and
- Minor improvements to the High School, Middle School and Elementary Schools to address program needs.

WHEREAS, the Mohonasen Central School District (“CSD”) Board of Education has reviewed a project narrative and completed Full Environmental Assessment Form Part I (“EAF”); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that the Project is subject to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (ECL, Article 8) and its implementing regulations (6 NYCRR Part 617) (collectively, “SEQRA”) as a Type 1 SEQRA action; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to SEQRA, the Board of Education desires to act as the Lead Agency for the Project and based upon its review of Part 1 of the EAF for the Project is the SEQRA agency with primary jurisdiction over the Project;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, pursuant to SEQRA, the Board of Education of the Mohonasen CSD hereby declares its intent to act as SEQRA Lead Agency for the Project;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, the president of the Board of Education is hereby directed to coordinate the SEQRA review of the Project by circulating a copy of the attached letter to the following involved and interested SEQRA agencies:

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that, this resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

Request to Approve HSBC Bank USA, N.A. as an Official Depository for School District Funds

MOTION made by Mr. Cafarelli, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the Board of Education designate HSBC Bank, USA, N.A. as an official depository for school district funds for the 2008-2009 school year. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

Consensus Agenda

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

Minutes

APPROVED minutes of the meeting held on September 22, 2008.

Bids/Change Order

APPROVED the bid award for a 2009 Ford F350 truck, which includes a Fisher Extreme Stainless Steel Plow and Highlander Stainless Steel Gas Hopper, to Metro Ford Sales, 3601 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12304 in the amount of \$32,717.00.

Personnel Recommendations

APPROVED the following Personnel Recommendations:

A. Tenure Appointments

Denise A. Swezey

Tenure Area: Assistant Superintendent for Business
Effective Date: February 1, 2009

Mary Lockwood, 14 Ridge Place, Latham, NY 12110

Tenure Area: School Counseling
Effective Date: January 24, 2009

B. Appointments

Amy B. Christopher

Appointment: Part-Time (.5)
Assignment: School Counselor
Date of Commencement: November 10, 2008
Expiration Date: June 30, 2009
Certification Status: School Counselor, Provisional; Childhood Ed. Gr. 1-6, Initial
Salary: Step 2

Tina Hayden

Appointment: Probationary
Tenure Area: Foreign Language
Date of Commencement: September 25, 2008 (*amended from the 9/8/08 agenda*)
Expiration Date: September 24, 2010
Certification Status: Spanish 7-12, Initial
Salary: Step 5 plus graduate credits

Janice Zebrowski

Appointment: Long-Term Substitute
Assignment: Spanish Teacher
Date of Commencement: September 4, 2008
Expiration Date: Close of business, September 24, 2008 (*amended from 9/8/08 agenda*)
Certification Status: Spanish 7-12, Permanent; French 7-12, Permanent
Salary: Step 7

Pamela DeMarco

Appointment: P/T Teaching Assistant/Internal Suspension (6 hours)

Salary: Step 2
Effective Date: October 6, 2008

Laurie Drake

Assignment: Substitute Typist
Salary: \$11.85/hr.
Effective: October 7, 2008

Laurie Drake

Assignment: Substitute Teacher Aide
Salary: \$9.00/hr.
Effective: October 7, 2008

Harold Vogl

Assignment: Substitute School Security Monitor
Salary: \$11.65/hour
Effective: October 7, 2008

Joyce Dubuc

Assignment: Substitute School Security Monitor
Salary: \$11.65/hour
Effective: October 7, 2008

Sandra Riffin

Appointment: Home Tutor
Salary: \$25/hour
Effective: October 7, 2008

William Van Wie

Appointment: Home Tutor
Salary: \$25/hour
Effective: October 7, 2008

Joshua Looman

Assignment: Substitute Cleaner
Salary: \$9.00/hr.
Effective: October 9, 2008

William Pangburn

Assignment: Substitute Cleaner
Salary: \$9.00/hour
Effective: October 7, 2008

Michael Roberts

Assignment: P/T Bus Driver
Salary: Step 1
Effective: October 7, 2008

Gregory Van Gelder

Assignment: P/T Bus Driver
Salary: Step 1
Effective: October 7, 2008

C. Resignations

David Lendrum3

Assignment: Science Teacher
Effective Date: Close of Business, October 31, 2008

Edward J. Keith

Assignment: Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds
Effective Date: Close of Business, December 9, 2008

D. Removal from Service

Mary Beth Gunn

Assignment: Substitute Food Service Helper
Effective Date: Close of business October 3, 2008

Jordan Frisone

Assignment: Substitute Cleaner
Effective Date: Close of business October 3, 2008

Phillip Semerad

Assignment: Substitute Cleaner
Effective Date: Close of business October 3, 2008

Gregory Van Gelder

Assignment: Substitute Bus Driver
Effective Date: Close of Business, October 6, 2008

E. Fingerprint ClearancesEmergency Conditional Clearances

Jennifer Becker
Michael Commisso
Jason Fries
Matthew Holden
Craig McDonald

Emergency Conditional Extension of Clearance

Heather Bagshaw
Karin Baldauf
Linda Bopp
Davis Connelly
Kayleigh Davis
Patricia DeLong
James Desira
Jennifer Farnsworth
Amanda Frankovich
Melissa Garrigan
Jordan Glover

Stephen Greene
Katharine Kelly
Jessica LaForce
Alan Mason
Erin Murphy
Paul Paquin
Deborah Round
Erica Sleasman
Peter Sparano
Marvin Veeder
Mary Ellen Walsh
Eadwine Webb

Mrs. French congratulated Mrs. Denise Swezey on being awarded tenure as Assistant Superintendent for Business and Mrs. Mary Lockwood in the area of School Counseling. She also congratulated Ms. Amy Christopher on her appointment as part-time school counselor.

Executive Session

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that an executive session be convened at 8:52 PM for the purpose of personnel. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

MOTION made by Mrs. del Prado, seconded by Mr. Macejka, that the executive session be adjourned at 9:59 PM. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

Adjournment

MOTION made by Mr. Spadaro, seconded by Mr. Cafarelli, that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned at 10:00 PM. The motion passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

Denise A. Swezey, District Clerk