



Mohonasen Central School District

*Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Education
Monday, March 21, 2011, Farnsworth Technology Center*

Call to Order

The Board meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Cafarelli, at 5:30 PM. Mr. Cafarelli requested those present to stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: *Thomas Andriola, Dominic Cafarelli, Nancy del Prado, Eileen French, and Mark Sabatini*

Board Members Absent: *Gary Spadaro and Joseph Salamone*

Administrators Present: *Dr. Kathleen Spring, Denise Swezey and Patrick McGrath*

Executive Session

MOTION made by Mrs. del Prado, seconded by Mrs. French, that an executive session be convened at 5:30 PM for the purpose of discussing employment of particular persons. The motion was passed unanimously, five members present and voting.

Mr. Spadaro arrived at 5:47 PM.

MOTION made by Mr. Sabatini, seconded by Mrs. del Prado, that an executive session be adjourned at 6:55 PM. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

Return to Public Session

The Board meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Cafarelli, at 7:05 PM. Mr. Cafarelli requested those present to stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: *Thomas Andriola, Dominic Cafarelli, Nancy del Prado, Eileen French, Mark Sabatini, Joseph Salamone and Gary Spadaro*

Administrators Present: *Dr. Kathleen Spring, Denise Swezey, Patrick McGrath, Karla Empie, David Collins, Makensie Bullinger and Lisa Cutting*

Others in Attendance: *Approximately 20 district residents, 10 faculty members and 1 media representative*

Communications - Superintendent

Dr. Spring stated that the evening's presentation would be the second of three formal presentations on budget components. She explained that the staffing piece would be covered at the April 4th Board meeting due to the fact that information is still coming in and they want to be as accurate with the information as possible. Dr. Spring spoke about a school district's financial health and explained about the type of budget cuts the district has to make. She also dispelled misinformation that the Governor has put out about school districts in New York. Dr. Spring then turned the meeting over to Mrs. Swezey. Mrs. Swezey discussed fund balances and reserves and discussed how they can be used. She explained that the budget is still a working document and changes may still need to be made to it as more information comes in. She went line by line on increases/decreases in the budget for BOCES, Special Education, Guidance, Health and Nursing Services, and Employee Benefits. Mrs. Swezey also discussed how a contingency budget works and the tax levy. She announced that there are two open "at large" seats on the Board of Education and stated that petitions are available in the district office. The next meeting will be on Monday, April 4th.

Dr. Spring also added that the Q&A document that is on the district's website is continually being updated and encouraged everyone to keep checking it from time to time for updated information. She also noted that last week she, Mr. McGrath and Mrs. Swezey met with some members of the PTO/PTSO which is trying to get a groundswell of community members to contact state legislators about the budget situation at Mohonasen.

**Communications -
Board of Education**

Mr. Sabatini stated that he and Mr. Andriola attended the NYSSBA State Issues Conference on March 13th and 14th. He said it was very enlightening as well as a little scary. He said there was much discussion on the way the money is being distributed to school districts, as well as the 2% tax cap, last in/first out, and the need for real mandate relief. He said it was quite an educational experience.

Mr. Andriola encouraged everyone to contact state legislators. He said Mohonasen shouldn't be hit with cuts more than twice the statewide average. He stated that the Board wants to be able to do the right thing and provide the necessary programs for students.

Mr. Spadaro congratulated Mr. Scalise and everyone associated with the Harlem Wizards basketball game and said it was phenomenal. He also thanked Mrs. Bobbie Belber for her work with the 5th grade class trip, and he congratulated Justin Rea and Zach Zeh on their presentation and success with the YEA! program.

Mr. Salamone reminded everyone that the Winterguard will be competing at Shenendehowa on Sunday and stated that they are doing very well this season.

Mrs. French suggested that everyone check out the Budget Q&A that is on the district website.

Mr. Sabatini also said that he, Nancy and Gary have been going to meetings at the Rotterdam Senior Citizens' Center and said that the seniors are looking forward to the budget presentation.

**Public Privilege of the
Floor**

Mrs. Betty Santabarbara of Mercer Avenue asked if the topic of merging school districts had been brought up and if a committee could be formed to look into doing so. She also asked why Mohonasen has been hit harder than other school districts. She stressed the importance of keeping teachers in the classroom and stressed the need to contact legislators regarding Mohonasen's budget situation.

Mrs. Judy Carnavos of Boxwood Drive passed out information to Board members regarding the duties of a math coordinator and expressed her concern on the elimination of that position.

Mrs. Ellen Fredrickson of Stanton Street expressed frustration and concern regarding the possibility of two nursing positions being cut.

Ms. Carly Galvin of Trinity Avenue asked if special education services to students were being effected with the cuts.

**New Business -
Instructional**

*Approved Draper Select
Choir to Participate in a
Field Trip to NYC*

Request Approval for Draper Select Choir to Participate in a Field Trip to New York City on Wednesday, June 8, 2011

MOTION made by Mrs. French, seconded by Mrs. del Prado, 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 on Saturday, June 8, 2011. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

*Approved Varsity
Baseball Team Trip to
Long Island*

Request Approval for Varsity Baseball Team to Travel to Long Island on March 31-April 2, 2011

MOTION made by Mr. Salamone, seconded by Mrs. Spadaro, that the Board of Education approve the request for the Boys' Varsity Baseball team to travel to Long Island to participate in baseball games from March 31-April 2, 2011. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

*Approved Grade 7 Field
Trip to the Bronx Zoo on
June 17, 2011*

Request Approval for Grade 7 Field Trip to the Bronx Zoo on Friday, June 17, 2011

MOTION made by Mr. Andriola, seconded by Mrs. del Prado, that the Board of Education approve the request for a Grade 7 field trip to the Bronx Zoo on Friday, June 17, 2011. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

**New Business -
Business/Personnel**
*Approval for Tax
Refund*

Request Approval for Tax Refund

MOTION made by Mr. Andriola, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the Board of Education authorize a tax refund to Altamont Associates, L.P./Price Chopper Operating Co., Inc. for tax years 2005 and 2006 in the amount of \$154,192.65. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

*Approval to Authorize
Expenditures for School
Buses*

Request for Approval of Resolution to Authorize Expenditures for School Buses

MOTION made by Mrs. French, seconded by Mr. Andriola, that the Board of Education approve the following resolution to be put forth as a proposition to the voters on May 17, 2011:

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, is hereby authorized to pay the cost of the purchase of school buses of and for said School District, including incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, at a maximum estimated cost of Three Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$370,000.00) and providing for the levy of a tax therefore to be collected in installments, with obligations of said School District to be issued in anticipation thereof in an amount not to exceed Three Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$370,000.00).

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

Consensus Agenda

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

*Approved Minutes***Minutes**

APPROVED minutes of meeting held on March 7, 2011.

*Approved Financial Reports***Financial Reports**

APPROVED the Treasurer's Report for the month of February.
 APPROVED the Cafeteria Financial Statements for the month of February.
 APPROVED the Budget Status Report for the month of February.
 APPROVED the Extracurricular Activities Report for the month of February.
 APPROVED the Revenue Status Report for the month of February.
 APPROVED the Budget Transfer Report for the month of February.
 APPROVED the Claims Auditor Report for the month of February.
 APPROVED the Cash Flow Analysis/General Fund Report for the month of February.
 APPROVED the Collateralization Report for the month of February.
 APPROVED the Payment and Presentation of Claims for the months of February and March for Warrant #8P and 9.

Warrant # 8P – FEBRUARY 28, 2011

General Fund	Warrant Schedule #207	\$	63,950.37
Federal Fund	Warrant Schedule #16	\$	3,636.94
Capital Fund	Warrant Schedule #16	\$	56,983.84
Trust & Agency	Warrant Schedule #42	\$	1,046,381.34
TOTAL – Warrant #8P		\$	1,170,952.49

Warrant # 9 – MARCH 21, 2011

General Fund	Warrant Schedule #208	\$	218,537.77
School Lunch Fund	Warrant Schedule #25	\$	49,650.76
Federal Fund	Warrant Schedule #17	\$	2,199.54
Capital Fund	Warrant Schedule #17	\$	2,917.98
Trust & Agency	Warrant Schedule #43	\$	2,415,067.71
TOTAL – Warrant #9		\$	2,688,373.76

Approved Personnel Recommendations

Approved the following Personnel Recommendations:

Tenure Appointments

Lisa Daviero

Tenure Area: Reading
Effective Date: September 1, 2011

Erin Degnan

Tenure Area: English
Effective Date: September 1, 2011

Danielle Grainer

Tenure Area: English
Effective Date: September 1, 2011

Amy Stott

Tenure Area: Home Economics
Effective Date: September 1, 2011

Appointments

Matthew Gatto
Assignment: Substitute Bus Driver
Effective Date: March 14, 2011
Salary: \$13.65 /hour

Tracy Van Blarcom
Assignment: Substitute Food Service Helper
Effective Date: March 11, 2011
Salary: \$9.20 /hour

Mary Lou Lee
Assignment: Home Tutor
Effective Date: March 16, 2011
Salary: \$25/hour

Spring Coaches - 2011

Position	Coach	Step
Modified Softball	Josh Whipple	Step 3

Volunteer Coach

Meghan Farry – Modified Softball

Mr. Cafarelli congratulated Lisa Daviero, Erin Degnan, Danielle Grainer and Amy Stott on being recommended for tenure.

Privilege of the Floor

No comments.

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 portfolio review/tenure discussion. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

MOTION made by Mrs. del Prado, seconded by Mr. Spadaro, that the executive session be adjourned at 9:54 PM. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

Adjournment

MOTION made by Mrs. French, seconded by Mr. Andriola, that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned at 9:55 PM. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.