

Mohonasen Central School District

*Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Education
Wednesday, April 29, 2026
Center for Technology/Mohonasen Main Campus*

Call to Order

The Board meeting was called to order by the Vice President, Mr. McFarland at 6:31 PM

Roll Call

Board Members Present: *Danielle Ciampino, Pat Ryan, Chad McFarland, Ted Perretta and Heather Lanaro*

Board Members Absent: *Erica Montagino, Nick Giardono and Vanessa Palleschi*

Administrators Present: *Shannon Shine and Chris Ruberti*

Others in Attendance: *Matt Ronca, Meg Fountain, Leisha Sherman, Kate Sherman, Bridget Craver, Jodi Scalise, Ben Pierson, Maggie Hurne, 40 members of the community and 30 students*

Communications - Superintendent

Girls' Varsity Bowling and Unified Bowling Teams

Mr. Ronca recognized the Girls' Varsity Bowling Team who had recently won their second consecutive Section 2 Class A championship in February 2026 and placed second in Division 1 at the NYSPHSAA State Championships in March 2026 with a score of 5,501. He also celebrated the Unified Bowling Team who captured the division championship.

Public Privilege of the Floor

Anthony Saraceni, President of NGU Lighting, expressed his disappointment in not being awarded the lighting bid for the turf field at the high school/middle school campus.

Ashley Kennedy raised several issues, including the need for school bus drivers and whether hiring directly might be better than contracting services, as well as questioning if students should walk to school.

Communications - Board of Education

Mrs. Ciampino raised the issue of motorized bikes and scooters being utilized on campus. Mr. Shine said that he has brought the issue to the police chief's attention and he seemed receptive to finding solutions. He added that he would speak to the SRO Daluke and SRO D'Aurizio regarding a comprehensive plan and report back to the Board.

**New Business -
Instructional**

*Approval and
Arrangement for the
Committee on Special
Education
Recommendations and
Student Placements,
Committee on
Pre-School Special
Education and Section
504 Committee*

*Approval for High School
History Club Field Trip
to Salem, MA*

*Approval for High School
Students Field Trip to
Gilbert Lake State Park,
Laurens, New York*

*Approval for the High
School Physics Class
Field Trip to Six Flags
New England*

*Approval for Students in
French Classes to
Participate in a Field
Trip to the Clark Art
Institute in
Williamstown,
Massachusetts*

*Approval for AP Biology
and Anatomy &
Physiology Classes to
Participate in a Field
Trip to the Liberty
Science Center and
Times Square*

Request for Approval and Arrangement for the Committee on Special Education Recommendations and Student Placements, Committee on Pre-School Special Education and Section 504 Committee

MOTION made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mrs. Ciampino that the Board of Education approve the Committee on Special Education Recommendations and Student Placements, Committee on Pre-School Special Education and Section 504 Committee.

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

Request made by Mr. McFarland to approve all items on a consent agenda.

MOTION made by Mrs. Lanaro, seconded by Mr. Perretta, that the Board of Education approve New Business - Instructional items 2-6 on consent agenda.

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

**New Business -
Business/ Personnel**

*Annual BOCES Board
of Education Election*

*Vote on BOCES
2026-2027
Administrative Budget*

*Approval of First
Reading and Deletion
of Board Policies*

*Approval of Property
Tax Report Card*

*Approval to Enter into
an Agreement with St.
Anne Institute for
Educational Services
for the Summer
Session and the
2025-2026 School Year*

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

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

Request made by Mr. McFarland to approve all items on a consent agenda.

MOTION made by Mrs. Ciampino, seconded by Mr. Perretta, that the Board of Education approve New Business - Business/Personnel items 1-9 on consent agenda.

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

*Approval of the
Establishment of the
First Annual
Scholarship of the
Mohonasen
Foundation for
Excellence*

*Approval of Contract
for Internal Audit
Services – Questar III*

Approved Minutes

MOTION made by Mr. Perretta, seconded by Mrs. Ciampino, that the Board of Education approve the minutes of March 23, 2026. The motion was passed unanimously, five members present and voting.

Financial Reports

MOTION made by Mrs. Ciampino, seconded by Mr. Perretta, that the Board of Education approve the financial reports. The motion was passed unanimously, five members present and voting.

Bids

MOTION made by Mrs. Ciampino, seconded by Mrs. Lanaro, that the Board of Education approve a contract for field lighting to Musco Lighting, LLC. The motion was passed unanimously, five members present and voting. Mrs. Ciampino requested additional information concerning the bids.

Personnel

MOTION made by Mrs. Ciampino, seconded by Mr. Ryan, that the Board of Education approve the following personnel recommendations. The motion was passed unanimously, five members present and voting.

Retirements

Joel Fushino
Position: Bus Aide
Effective Date: April 3, 2026

Appointments

Sara E. O'Connell
Appointment: Probationary
Position: World Language Spanish Teacher
Tenure Area: Foreign Language Academic areas
Date of Commencement: September 1, 2026
Expiration Date: September 2, 2029
Certification Status: Spanish 7-12 Permanent Certificate, Spanish 5-6 Permanent Extension, Spanish N-6/Pre K-6 Extension
Permanent Certificate
Salary: Step 16 plus graduate credits

Mary Frawley
Appointment: Probationary
Position: Special Education Teacher
Tenure Area: Education of children with handicapping conditions
Date of Commencement: September 1, 2026
Expiration Date: September 2, 2029
Certification Status: Students with Disabilities (Grades 7-12)
Biology, Professional Certificate
Salary: Step 14 plus graduate credits

Maria Frisone
Appointment: Probationary
Position: Special Education Teacher
Tenure Area: Education of children with handicapping conditions
Date of Commencement: September 1, 2026
Certification Status: Pending Certification
Salary: Step 2 plus graduate credits

Alexcia Koonz
Appointment: Probationary
Position: Math Teacher
Tenure Area: Mathematics Academic areas
Date of Commencement: September 1, 2026
Expiration Date: September 2, 2030
Certification Status: Early Childhood Education (Birth-Grade 2),
Initial Certificate, Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) Initial
Certificate
Salary: Step 1 plus graduate credits

Nicholas Faretta
Appointment: Probationary
Position: Math Teacher
Tenure Area: Mathematics Academic areas
Date of Commencement: September 1, 2026
Expiration Date: September 2, 2030
Certification Status: Mathematics 7-12 Initial Certificate
Salary: Step 3 plus graduate credits

Michael Guardino
Appointment: Probationary
Position: Math Teacher
Tenure Area: Mathematics Academic areas
Date of Commencement: September 1, 2026
Expiration Date: September 2, 2030
Certification Status: Mathematics 7-12 Supplementary Certificate,
ELA Initial Certificate
Salary: Step 3 plus graduate credits

William VanWie
Assignment: .2 Additional Class
Location: Draper Middle School
Effective Date: April 13, 2026-June 30, 2026
Salary: 12% of contract salary

Piper Wiegert
Appointment: Teaching Assistant
Assignment: P/T Teaching Assistant (6 hours)
Location: High School
Date of Commencement: March 30, 2026
Salary: Step 2

Sara Toukatly
Appointment: Teaching Assistant
Assignment: P/T Teaching Assistant (6 hours)
Location: TBD
Date of Commencement: May 11, 2026
Salary: Step 3

Alyssa Fitch
Appointment: Teaching Assistant
Assignment: P/T Teaching Assistant (6 hours)
Location: Bradt Elementary School
Date of Commencement: September 1, 2026
Salary: Step 2

Kate Sherman
Appointment: Information Processing Specialist
Location: Bradt Elementary School
Effective Date: April 1, 2026
Salary: \$23,000

Amber Montone
Appointment: Information Processing Specialist
Location: Pinewood Intermediate School
Effective Date: April 13, 2026
Salary: \$32,500

Lori Gizzi-Blau
Appointment: Substitute Monitor
Location: Districtwide
Effective Date: April 27, 2026
Salary: \$16.25 per hour

Mark Berghela
Appointment: Substitute Monitor
Location: Districtwide
Effective Date: April 15, 2026
Salary: \$16.25 per hour

John Thomas Arellano
Appointment: Cleaner
Location: Pinewood
Effective Date: May 4, 2026
Salary: \$34,410.00 plus 6% shift differential

Michael A. Stevens
Assignment: Bus Driver
Location: Transportation
Effective Date: April 22, 2026
Salary: \$28.00 per hour

Kaitlyn Shelton
Assignment: Bus Driver
Location: Transportation
Effective Date: April 13, 2026
Salary: \$28.88 per hour

Marybeth G. Smith
Assignment: Substitute Bus Aide
Location: Transportation
Effective Date: April 29, 2026
Salary: \$16.00 per hour

William Barnoski
Appointment: Lifeguard/WSI Aide/WSI
Location: Aquatics
Date of Commencement: May 1, 2026
Salary: \$16.00/\$16.50/\$16.00 per hour

2026 Summer School Principals

Name	Building	Rate
Leslie Smith	Bradt	Per Contract
Jason Thompson	Pinewood	Per Contract
Thomas O'Connor	Draper	Per Contract

2026 ESY School Nurse July 6, 2026 to August 14, 2026

Name	Assignment	Step
Jennifer Thompson-Edwards	Nurse	10

2026 ESY Student Support Services July 6, 2026 to August 14, 2026

Name	Assignment	Program	Step
Kathleen Sansone	Teacher	All Programs	10
Kate Daggett	Teacher	All Programs	8
Emily Felter	Teacher	All Programs	9
Matthew Fitzpatrick	Teacher	All Programs	5
Brittany Harris	Teacher	All Programs	2
Stephanie Arnold	Teacher	All Programs	1
Jamie Startk	Teacher	All Programs	2
Morgan Rounds	Teacher	All Programs	1
Sara Toukatly	Teacher	All Programs	1
Tim Young	Teacher	All Programs	4
Anthony Amatrano	Speech Pathologist	All Programs	3
Karli Cedeno	Speech Pathologist	All Programs	7
Danielle Coffey	Occupational Therapist	All Programs	8
Lori Burke	Occupational Therapist	All Programs	9
Heidi Fowler	Physical Therapist	All Programs	4

2026 ESY Student Support Services Teacher Assistants/Aide – July 6, 2026 to August 14, 2026

Name	Assignment	Programs	Step
Tina Nordstrom	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	10
Ann Valdez	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	6
Jackie Londalfo	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	7
Cody LaBadia	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	6
Jessica Martin	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	2
Anum Chaudhry	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	2
Hailey Irish	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	2
Jessica Coffey	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	3

Kelsey Simonds	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	3
Linda Beeler	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	4
Kayla Cipkowski	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	3
Patricia Moss	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	1
Cheryl Balko	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	3
Mary Grandoni	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	3
Vashtie Persaud	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	1
Kailynn Haley	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	1
Megan Thompson	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	1
Melodie Blum	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	1
Caitlin Palazeke	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	1
Tammy Coupas	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	1
Aura Delmonico	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	1
Maria Horn	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	2
Fatamela Nurse	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	1
Sabrina DePaolo	Teacher Aide	All Programs	10
Melissa Quinlivan	Teacher Aide	All Programs	3
Brittney Laudenschlager	Teacher/TA Substitute	All Programs	1
Phyllis Delvecchio	TA Substitute	All Programs	1

2026 Expedition Academy July 6, 2026 – July 30, 2026 3 hrs. per day (Monday-Thurs)

Name	Assignment	Stipend
Erin Degnan	Coordinator	\$3,000.00

2026 Bradt Summer Stars Teachers- July 6 – July 30, 2026-3 hrs. per day/Mon. - Thurs.

Name	Assignment	Step
Melissa Tracy	Jump Start	9

Moriah Schellenger	Jump Start	2
Melissa Juliano	Jump Start	1
Delilah Purcell	Summer Stars Grade 1	3
Vanessa Fulmore	Summer Stars Grade 1	2
Madeline Palleschi	Summer Stars Grade 1	1
Maria Andrew	Summer Stars Grade 2	3
Hannah Metzold	Summer Stars Grade 2	2
Megan Caruso	Summer Stars Grade 2	1
Brittany Willsie	Reading Specialist	6
Savannah Marx	Reading Specialist	2

**2026 Bradt Summer Stars Teacher Assistants/Aides July 6-July 30,
2026 3 hrs. per day/Mon.-Thurs.**

Name	Assignment	Step
Phyllis DelVecchio	Teacher Assistant	10
Caitlin Palazeke	Teacher Assistant	1
Amelia Musto	Teacher Aide	1
Sara Smith	Sub Teacher Aide	1

**2026 Pinewood Summer Stars Teachers- July 6 - July 30, 2026 -3
hrs. per day/Mon. - Thurs.**

Name	Assignment	Step
Kristen Hamill	Teacher	2
Melissa Williams	Teacher	5
Amanda Gauvin	Teacher	5
Brooke Haviland	Teacher	2
Richard Duff	Teacher	3
Makenzie Ryan	Teacher	3
Kristen Taylor	Teacher	8
Jamie DeRusso	Teacher	1
Mary Karl	Teacher	1
Amalia Luibrand	Teacher	2
Carey Raymond	Teacher	1
McKenna Callahan	Teacher	2

**2026 Pinewood Summer Stars Teacher Assistants- July 6 - July 30,
2026-3.5 hrs. per day/Mon. - Thurs.**

Name	Assignment	Step
Michael Noland	Teacher Assistant	3
Tammy Pangman	Substitute Teacher	1
Skylar Betkowski	Substitute Teacher	1

2026 Expedition Academy July 6, 2026 – July 30, 2026 3 hrs. per day (Monday-Thurs)

Name	Assignment	Step
Jennifer McGuire	Teacher	9
Aime Espinola	Teacher	4
Kim Trestick	Teacher	10
Sara Bach	Teacher	7
Paola Cummings	Teacher	6
Josh Sawicki	Teacher	2
Gabrielle Guardino	Teacher	1
Michelle Howard	Sub Teacher	1

2026 APEX July 6, 2026 – July 30, 2026 3 hrs. per day (Monday-Thurs)

Name	Assignment	Step
Melissa Goncerz	Teacher	6
Erika Riddick	Teacher	3
Ashley Samborin	Teacher	4
Tecia Pitterson	Teacher	3
Milvia Mendez	Teacher	4
Casey Coffey	Teacher	1
Cassandra Koegel	Teacher	1
Amy Frost	Teacher	2

2026 APEX July 6, 2026 – July 30, 2026 3 hrs. per day (Monday-Thurs)

Name	Assignment	Step
Gabrielle Beauregard	Teacher Assistant	1

2026-2027 Student Teacher/Intern

Name	Bldg.	Teacher/Counselor	Dates
Simone Mettler	Bradt	Melissa Tracy	9/1/26 – 10/30/26
Dana Resue	High School	Jennifer Fritz-Walbroehl	10/26/26 – 12/18/26

2025-2026 Draper PM School Tutoring

Name:	Assignment
Michele Bombard	PM School Tutor

2026 Proctors

Name	Rate
Allison Kunin	\$28.05
Casey Kunin	\$28.05
Lexie Depold	\$28.05

Lori Fraser	\$28.05
Irene Nardelli	\$28.05
Susan Clouthier-Braiman	\$33.05
Ann Mennella-Valdes	\$28.05
Mary Alice Mccraith	\$28.05
Rebecca Pauley	\$33.05

2025-2026 ELL Tutoring Title III (\$37.75/Hour)

Name:	Assignment
Jen Spore	Tutor
Vail Perry	Tutor
Matthew Fitzpatrick	Tutor

2025-2026 Regents Review

Name:	Hours
Danielle Hunt	8
Jason Mutford	1
Robert Higgins	6
Meredith McLeod	7

Spring Coaches 2026

Name	Sport	Step
Ben Pierson	Unified Basketball	7

2026 High School Summer Health

Name	Assignment	Hours	Step
Marcus Cronin	Health Teacher	60	3

2026 Studio in Art

Name	Assignment	Hours	Step
Mike York	Art Teacher	105	3

2026 Summer Work Guidance Counselors

Name	# Days
Kyra Grimsley	10
Angie Santabarbara	10
Tara Millhouse	10
Amy Huszar	10
Taylor Heintz	10
Bernadette Nichols	10
Alexis Ginder	10

Amy Stannard	10
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Resignations

Andrea Grimm (*amended from the March 23, 2026 meeting*)
Appointment: Information Processing Specialist (Library Clerk)
Effective Date: June 12, 2026

Alyssa Fronckowiak
Appointment: Special Education Teacher
Effective Date: Close of business June 30, 2026

Michelle Cruz
Appointment: Teacher Assistant
Effective Date: February 20, 2026

Mairead Abbenda (*amended from the March 9, 2026 meeting*)
Appointment: Teacher Assistant
Effective Date: Close of business April 24, 2026

Cathy Lomonoco
Appointment: Bus Aide
Effective Date: April 2, 2026

Michael Stevens
Appointment: Bus Aide
Effective Date: April 21, 2026

Shannon Kayser
Appointment: Food Service Worker
Effective Date: Close of business April 17, 2026

Amber Montone
Appointment: Substitute Food Service Worker
Effective Date: April 6, 2026

Samantha Fonda
Appointment: Substitute Food Service Worker
Effective Date: Close of business April 16, 2026

Rebecca Kessler Waterson
Appointment: Cafeteria Aide
Effective Date: Close of business April 17, 2026

Sutwig Dinney
Appointment: Cleaner
Effective Date: Close of business March 30, 2026

David Derosier
Appointment: Substitute Bus Aide
Effective Date: March 24, 2026

Vanessa Kirby
Appointment: Teacher Assistant
Effective Date: Close of business May 1, 2026

Executive Session

MOTION made by Mr. Perretta, seconded by Mr. Ryan, that an executive session be convened at 7:16 PM for the purpose of discussing a particular legal matter.

Adjournment

MOTION made by Mrs. Ciampino, seconded by Mr. Perretta, that the executive session be adjourned at 8:14 PM. The motion was passed unanimously, five members present and voting.

MOTION made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mrs. Ciampino, to adjourn the Board of Education meeting at 8:14 PM.
The motion passed unanimously, five members present and voting.

Christopher Ruberti

Clerk - Board of Education

Assistant Superintendent for Business