

# Mohonasen Central School District

*Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Education  
Wednesday, April 19, 2023  
Mohonasen High School LG*

## **Call to Order**

The Board meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Abbott, at 6:33 PM. Mr. Abbott requested those present to stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

## **Roll Call**

**Board Members Present:** *Wade Abbott, Stacy MacTurk, Melissa Laudano, Chad McFarland, Ericka Montagino, Julie Power and Lisa Gaglioti (virtual)*

**Board Members Absent:** *None*

**Administrators Present:** *Shannon Shine, Laurel Logan-King and Chris Ruberti*

**Others in Attendance:** *Rebecca Pollick, Stephanie D'Annibale, Diane Blinn, Kim Whipple, David DiCocco, Leisha and Bill Sherman, Vicky Robbins, and 150 members of the community.*

## **Communications - Superintendent**

Mr. Shine asked Mrs. D'Annibale to assist in the ballot placement drawing for the Board of Education election. Based on the drawing the order of the names to be placed on the ballot will be:

Patrick Ryan

Todd Lewis

Stacy MacTurk

Danielle Ciampino.

Mr. Shine announced that the District was still waiting for the NYS Board of Regents to formally adopt a regulation that would ban the depiction of Native Americans as mascots. He is hopeful that the Board of Regents will directly notify them regarding Mohonasen logos and if the "warriors" name will be allowed after the change of policy. He went on to read a section of the Board of Regents informational responses to questions on the matter.

"COMMENT: The superintendent of the Mahopoc Central School District requests that the Department consider the "[a]llowance of mascot names that exhibit strength such as "Braves" or "Warriors," citing dictionary definitions of these words. She opines that these words "do not refer to Native Americans but certainly describe the strength, courage, and determination of our students."

DEPARTMENT RESPONSE: As with the above comment considering the use of a feather, these issues must be considered in context. The question is not whether the words "braves" or "warriors" are offensive in the abstract, but whether their use is appropriate in school districts that have a history of utilizing stereotypical names and imagery. No changes to the proposed rule are necessary."

Mr. Abbott added that while the mascot policy issue is not on the agenda tonight the Board would like to hear from the public on the matter.

**Public Privilege of the Floor**

Mr. Abbott read a statement regarding the Board’s expectations of Public Privilege of the Floor.

Several members of the community and students addressed the Board on a variety of concerns. The following people spoke during Public Privilege of the Floor: Ron Schlog, Lizzy Lewis, Todd Lewis, Steve Foti, Victoria Robbins, Matt Robbins, Kara Monterez, Kim Whipple, Rebecca Pollick, Kevin Hammer.

**Communications - Board of Education**

Mr. Abbott thanked everyone who came up to speak. He indicated that although these are tough conversations to have that they are also very important conversations . He went to express his appreciation for the Color Guard Team’s End of Season show and added how it was nice to see the teams support each other.

Mr. McFarland approached the podium and addressed the crowd directly. He explained that because he wanted to share his own personal thoughts and convictions it would be better to do so from the podium. He indicated he was doing it in this manner so that it was clear he was representing himself and not the entire Board of Education. He said that he is often the Board member who addresses the difficult issues and conveys his position on the matter. Mr. McFarland added that as a member of the Board of Education his priorities continue to be the students, parents, teachers and taxpayers of the District and that he would continue to do this.

Mrs. Gaglioti thanked the students who spoke at Public Privilege of the Floor. She added that while she did not agree with some of Mr. McFarland’s previous comments she does not believe he intended to offend anyone. Mrs. Gaglioti then announced she would not be running for reelection. She concluded by saying that the Board is here to support students and every organization and warned that everyone should not get caught up in politics that do not benefit the District.

**New Business - Instructional**

*Approval of Recommendations of the Committees on Special Education and Committee on Preschool Special Education*

**Request for Approval of Recommendations of the Committees on Special Education and Committee on Preschool Special Education**

MOTION made by Mrs. Montagino, seconded by Mr. McFarland that the Board of Education approve and arrange for the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education and the Preschool Special Education for meetings held on 02/15/2023, 03/01/2023, 03/03/2023, 03/08/2023, 03/13/2023, 03/16/2023, 03/21/2023, 03/22/2023, 03/23/2023, 03/24/2023, 03/27/2023, 03/28/2023, 03/29/2023, 03/30/2023, 03/31/2023, 04/03/2023, 04/04/2023, 04/05/2023, 04/06/2023  
The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

**New Business -  
Business/Personnel**  
*Vote on BOCES  
2023-2024  
Administrative Budget*

**Vote on BOCES 2023-2024 Administrative Budget**

MOTION made by Mr. McFarland, seconded by Ms. Laudano, that the Board of Education vote on the following resolution to adopt the BOCES of Albany-Schoharie-Schenectady-Saratoga Counties: 2023-2024 Administrative Budget.

Resolved, that the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Albany-Schoharie-Schenectady-Saratoga Counties be authorized to expend the sums set forth in the Administrative Budget document in the total amount of \$13,492,132 during the school year 2023-2024 and to raise such sum by assessments to component school districts, non-component school districts, other BOCES and other sources as required by law.

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

*Annual BOCES Board  
Election: Candidate  
Nancy Del Prado*

**Annual BOCES Board Election: Candidate Nancy Del Prado**

MOTION made by Mrs. MacTurk, seconded by Mrs. Power, that the Board of Education approve Nancy Del Prado for a term of three years to the BOCES Board of Education.

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

*Annual BOCES Board  
Election: Candidate  
Naomi Hoffman*

**Annual BOCES Board Election: Candidate Naomi Hoffman**

MOTION made by Mrs. Montagino, seconded by Mrs. Power, that the Board of Education approve Naomi Hoffman for a term of three years to the BOCES Board of Education.

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

*Annual BOCES Board  
Election: Candidate  
Catherine Lewis*

**Annual BOCES Board Election: Candidate Catherine Lewis**

MOTION made by Mr. McFarland, seconded by Mrs. Power, that the Board of Education approve Catherine Lewis for a term of three years to the BOCES Board of Education.

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

*Annual BOCES Board  
Election: Candidate John  
Phelan*

**Annual BOCES Board Election: Candidate John Phelan**

MOTION made by Mrs. Montagino, seconded by Mrs. Power, that the Board of Education approve John Phelan for a term of three years to the BOCES Board of Education.

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

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

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

MOTION made by Mr. McFarland, seconded by Mrs. Montagino, that the Board of Education approve a health and welfare contract with South Colonie Central School District.

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

*Request for Approval of Health and Welfare Contract with Averill Park Central School District*

**Request for Approval of Health and Welfare Contract with Averill Park Central School District**

MOTION made by Mrs. Power, seconded by Mrs. Montagino, that the Board of Education approve a Health and Welfare Contract with Averill Park Central School District.

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

*Approve Borrowing for Bus Purchases*

**Request to Approve Borrowing for Bus Purchases**

MOTION made by Mr. McFarland, seconded by Ms. Laudano, that the Board of Education approve borrowing for bus purchases.

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

*Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Mohonasen Administrators' Association and the Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District*

**Request for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Mohonasen Administrators' Association and the Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District**

MOTION made by Mrs. MacTurk, seconded by Mrs. Montagino, that the Board of Education approve memorandum of agreement with Mohonasen Administrators' Association and the Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District

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

*Approval of First Reading of Board Policies*

**Request for Approval of First Reading of Board Policies**

MOTION made by Mrs. Montagino, seconded by Mrs. Gaglioti, that the Board of Education approve Board policies for a first reading.

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

*Approval of to Enter into Agreement with US Omni & TSACG Compliance Services as the Third Party Administrator for District 403b Retirement Plans*

**Request for Approval of to Enter into Agreement with US Omni & TSACG Compliance Services as the Third Party Administrator for District 403b Retirement Plans**

MOTION made by Mrs. MacTurk seconded by Mrs. Power, that the Board of Education approve the agreement with US Omni & TSACG Compliance Services as the third party administrator for District 403b Retirement Plans

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

*Approval of to Enter into Agreement with Soliant Health LLC for Speech Services in the 2022-23 School Year*

**Request for Approval of to Enter into Agreement with Soliant Health LLC for Speech Services in the 2022-23 School Year**

MOTION made by Ms. Laudano, seconded by Mrs. Power, that the Board of Education approve entering into an agreement with Soliant Health LLC for speech services in the 2022-2023 school year.

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

*Approval of Resolution Authorizing Participation in Cooperative Bidding for Health-Safety-Risk Management Goods and Services in School Years 2022-23 and 2023-24*

**Request for Approval of Resolution Authorizing Participation in Cooperative Bidding for Health-Safety-Risk Management Goods and Services in School Years 2022-23 and 2023-24**

MOTION made by Mrs. Montagino, seconded by Mrs. McFarland, that the Board of Education approve resolution authorizing participation in Cooperative Bidding for Health-Safety-Risk Management Goods and Services in School Years 2022-23 and 2023-24

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

*Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Mohonasen Teachers' Association and the Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District*

**Request for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Mohonasen Teachers' Association and the Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District**

MOTION made by Ms. Laudano, seconded by Mrs. Power, that the Board of Education approve the memorandum of agreement with Mohonasen Teachers' Association and the Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District

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

**Approved Minutes**

MOTION made by Ms. Laudano, seconded by Mrs. Power, that the Board of Education approve the minutes of March 27, 2023.

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

**Financial Reports**

MOTION made by Mrs. MacTurk, seconded by Mrs. Power, that the Board of Education approve the March 2023 Financial Reports.

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

**Personnel**

MOTION was made by Mr. McFarland, seconded by Mrs. MacTurk, that the Board of Education approve the following personnel recommendations.

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

*Retirements*

Kathleen Plano  
Assignment: Typist  
Expiration Date: Close of business June 29, 2023

Christine Patterson  
Assignment: SPED Teacher  
Expiration Date: Close of business June 29, 2023

*Appointments*

Lorena Hurst  
Appointment: Probationary  
Position: AIS Writing  
Tenure Area: Elementary Pre K-6  
Date of Commencement: September 1, 2023  
Expiration Date: August 31, 2024  
Certification Status: Pre-Kindergarten and Grades 1-6, Permanent Certificate  
Salary: Step 12 plus Graduate Credits

Kaitlin Gaug

Appointment: Probationary

Position: AIS Reading

Tenure Area: Remedial Reading

Date of Commencement: September 1, 2023

Expiration Date: August 31, 2025

Certification Status: Literacy (Birth-Grade 6) Initial Certificate, Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) Initial Certificate, Early Childhood Education (Birth – Grade 2) Initial Certificate

Salary: Step 3 plus Graduate Credits

Kristen Dietz

Appointment: Probationary

Position: 1st Grade

Tenure Area: Elementary Pre K-6

Date of Commencement: April 3, 2023

Expiration Date: April 2, 2027

Certification Status: Early Childhood Education (Birth – Grade 2) Initial Certificate Childhood Education (Grade 1-6) initial Certificate

Salary: Step 1 plus Graduate Credits

Jane Tedesco

Appointment: Probationary

Position: World Language Teacher

Tenure Area: Foreign Language Academic areas

Date of Commencement: September 1, 2023

Expiration Date: August 31, 2026

Certification Status: Spanish 7-12 Professional Certificate

Salary: Step 14 plus Graduate Credits

Teresa Bancheri

Appointment: Probationary

Assignment: Reading Teacher

Date of Commencement: September 1, 2023

Expiration Date: August 31, 2024

Certification Status: Reading Teacher, Permanent Certificate

Salary: Step 11 plus graduate credits

Jodi Scalise

Assignment: Additional Class

Effective Date: April 17, 2023-June 30, 2023

Salary: 12.0% of contract salary

Stephanie Arnold

Assignment: Additional Class

Effective Date: April 17, 2023-June 30, 2023

Salary: 12.0% of contract salary

Jessica Cook  
 Appointment: Teaching Assistant  
 Location: High School  
 Date of Commencement: April 3, 2023  
 Salary: Step 7

Kaitlyn Shelton  
 Appointment: Bus Driver  
 Location: Transportation  
 Date of Commencement: April 4, 2023  
 Salary: \$21.00/per hour

Christina O'Connor  
 Appointment: Cleaner  
 Location: Bradt  
 Date of Commencement: May 9, 2023  
 Salary: \$14.20/per hour

Brian DeMarco  
 Appointment: Maintenance Helper  
 Location: District Wide  
 Date of Commencement: May 1, 2023  
 Salary: \$32,736.00

**Curriculum Work 2023 April 11 & 12 TCI Training 6hrs/day  
 \$190.62**

Name	Assignment	Days
Michelle Gaffney	TCI Training Instructor	2
Brittney Jory	TCI Training	2
Kasey Califano	TCI Training	2
Francesca DiNola	TCI Training	2
Cheryl Balko	TCI Training	2
Kelly LaRue	TCI Training	2
Maria Gyenge-Gunn	TCI Training	2
Nicholas Palazeke	TCI Training	2

**2023-2024 Student Teacher**

Name	Bldg.	Assignment	Dates
Jeffrey Spencer	High School	Physics	10/23/23 - 12/15/23

**2023 AP Proctor**

Name	Rate
Sue Braiman	\$31.14
Frank Curcio	\$31.14
Courtney Sebring	\$26.14
Sydney De Thomasis	\$26.14

Tecia Pitterson	\$31.14
Michael Considine	\$26.14
Anne Mennella-Valdes	\$26.14

### Pinewood After School AIS 2022 - 2023

Name	Assignment	Time	Rate
Diane Krawiecki	AIS	Substitute	\$35.57

### 2023 Bradt Summer Stars Teachers- July 5 - August 1, 2023 - 3 hrs. per day/Mon. - Thurs.

Name	Assignment	Dates	Step
Paige Green	Jump Start	July 5 - August 1	3
Melissa Tracy	Jump Start	July 5 - August 1	6
Chloe Bellcourt	Jump Start	July 5- August 1	3
Maria Savallo	Summer Stars Grade 1	July 5- August 1	1
Brittney Willsie	Summer Stars Grade 1	July 5- August 1	3
Michele Hackett	Summer Stars Grade 2	July 5- August 1	6
Elizabeth Rocco	Reading Specialist	July 5 - August 1	10
Amanda Ross	Substitute	July 5 - August 1	1
Phyllis DeVecchio	Teacher Assistant	July 5 - August 1	8
Heather McDonough	Teacher Assistant	July 5 - August 1	6

### 2023 Pinewood Summer Stars Teachers- July 5-August 1, 2023 3 hrs. per day (Mon. - Thursday)

Name	Assignment	Dates	Step
Kristen Adams	Classroom Teacher	July 5 - August 1	2
Michelle Evans	Classroom Teacher	July 5 - August 1	4
Amanda Gauvin	Classroom Teacher	July 5- August 1	3
Bailey Pangman	Classroom Teacher	July 5- August 1	1
Liesha Sherman	Classroom Teacher	July 5- August 1	4



Missy Williams	Classroom Teacher	July 5- August 1	2
Leah Kruzinski	Classroom Teacher	July 5 - August 1	2
Amy Chevalier	Classroom Teacher	July 5 - August 1	2
Emily Gibson	Classroom Teacher	July 5 - August 1	2
Sabrina Charafeddine	Classroom Teacher	July 5 - August 1	1
Marsha Elliot	Classroom Teacher	July 5 - August 1	3
Natalie Casale	Classroom Teacher	July 5 - August 1	2
Tammy Pangman	Substitute Teacher	July 5 - August 1	1

**2023 APEX July 10, 2023 - August 3, 2023 3 hrs. per day (Monday - Thursday) 9am-12pm**

Name	Assignment	Step
Amanda Jasinski	Teacher	3
Sara Bach	Teacher	4
Erin Degnan	Teacher	3
Anya Makovik	Teacher	2
Danielle Heidcamp	Teacher	2
Amanda Larkin	Teacher	1
Amie Espinola	Teacher	1

**2023 Expedition Academy July 10, 2023 - August 3, 2023 3 hrs. per day (Monday-Thurs)**

Name	Assignment	Step
Lauren Berezowksi	Coordinator	Stipend \$3,000.00
Kim Trestick	Teacher	10
Kayla Martinez	Teacher	2
Mark Mullens	Teacher Assistant	2
Nikki Oullette	Teacher	1

**2023 ESY Student Support Services July 10, 2023 to August 18, 2023**

Name	Assignment	Program	Step
Nora Stevens	Teacher	Bradt DS	1
Kitty Sansone	Teacher	Bradt AS	10
Kate Daggett	Teacher	Pinewood AS 7/10-7/28	6
Emily Felter	Teacher	Pinewood AS 7/31-8/18	6
Linda Bealer	Teacher	Draper DS	1
Matt Fitzpatrick	Teacher	HS DS	2

Lori Burke	Teacher	OT 7/5-7/22	6
Danielle Coffey	Teacher	OT 7/25-8/12	6
Heidi Fowler	Teacher	PT	1
Tina Nordstrom	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	10
Cheryl Balko	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	1
Brian Atwell	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	2
Jackie Landolfo	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	3
Cody LaBadia	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	3
Melissa Roggio	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	2
Katey Kohler	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	2
Rebecca Indovina	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	2
Luigi Mastroianni	Teaching Assistant	All Programs	7
Sabrina Depaolo	Aide	All Programs	10

### *Resignations*

Graham Macbeth

Appointment: Teacher Assistant

Effective Date: Close of business April 1, 2023

Kaitlyn Shelton

Appointment: Substitute Bus Driver

Effective Date: April 4, 2023

Jackie Wood

Appointment: Substitute Food Service Helper

Effective Date: April 4, 2023

Antonella Riccio

Appointment: Teacher Assistant

Effective Date: Close of business April 10, 2023

Antonella Riccio

Assignment: Substitute Teaching Assistant

Effective Date: April 11, 2023

Susan Sharkey

Appointment: Teacher Assistant

Effective Date: Close of business April 6, 2023

Margaret VanWagner  
Appointment: HOA  
Effective Date: Close of business April 6, 2023

**Executive Session**

MOTION made by Mrs. Power, seconded by Ms. Laudano, that an executive session be convened at 8:38 PM for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent's and Assistant Superintendent's negotiations. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

MOTION made by Mr. Chad McFarland, seconded by Mrs. Montagino, that the executive session be adjourned at 9:56 PM. The motion was passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

**Adjournment**

MOTION made by Mrs. Power, seconded by Ms. Laudano, that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned at 9:57 PM. The motion passed unanimously, seven members present and voting.

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Christopher Ruberti  
Clerk - Board of Education  
Assistant Superintendent for Business