

Mohonasen Central School District

*Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Education
Monday, March 11, 2024
Farnsworth Technology Center/Mohonasen High School*

Call to Order

The Board meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Abbott, at 6:01 PM.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: *Wade Abbott, Ericka Montagino, Danielle Ciampino, Julie Power, Melissa Laudano, and Chad McFarland; Pat Ryan (attended virtually, nonvoting)*

Board Members Absent: *None*

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

Others in Attendance: *Jason Thompson, Leslie Smith and Carol Eckl*

Executive Session

MOTION made by Ms. Laudano, seconded by Mrs. Ciampino at 6:01 PM, that an Executive Session be convened for the purpose of reviewing tenure portfolios. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

Return to Public Session

MOTION made by Mrs. Montagino, seconded by Mrs. Power, that the Executive Session be adjourned at 6:42 PM.

The Board meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Abbott, at 6:46 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, Danielle Ciampino, Julie Power, Ericka Montagino, Melissa Laudano and Chad McFarland; Pat Ryan (attended virtually, nonvoting)*

Board Members Absent: *None*

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

Others in Attendance: *Leslie Smith, Jason Thompson, Tom O'Connor, Alyssa Zito, Bill Vacca, Matt Ronca, Liesha Sherman, Daniella DeLuca, Carol Eckl, Steve Karandy, Katie Lossi, Joyce Long, Deb Kavanugh, Tara Wolfanger, Jeff Abrey, Alex Neidbalec, Nikki Ouilette, Nicholas Cecucci, Sara Smith, Gino Isabella, London Vasquez, and two members of the community.*

Personnel

MOTION made by Mrs. Ciampino, seconded by Ms. Laudano, that the Board of Education move the personnel section to the beginning of the meeting. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

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

Tenure

Milvia Mendez
Appointment: Spanish
Effective Date: August 31, 2024

Alex Niedbalec
Appointment: Chemistry
Effective Date: August 31, 2024

Casey Coffey
Appointment: Math
Effective Date: August 31, 2024

Lauren Berezowski
Appointment: Reading
Effective Date: August 31, 2024

Jeff Abrey
Appointment: Technology
Effective Date: August 31, 2024

Appointments

Sandra Sheeley
Appointment: Probationary
Location: Draper Middle School
Tenure Area: Spanish
Date of Commencement: July 1, 2024
Expiration Date: Close of business June 30, 2028
Certification Status: Spanish 7-12 Initial Certificate and English Speakers of Other Languages Professional Certificate
Initial Step/Salary: Step 10 plus Graduate Credits

Sean Daley
Appointment: Substitute Security Monitor
Location: Districtwide
Date of Commencement: February 28, 2024
Salary: \$17.50 per hour

Brian Dobies (amended from February 26, 2024)
Appointment: Part-time Monitor
Location: Districtwide
Effective Date: March 4, 2024
Salary: \$17.69 per hour

Mentor 2023-2024 (stipend per MTA contract) Pro rated from 3/8/24

Name	Building
Melyssa Burega	Draper Middle School

Spring Coaches 2024

Name	Sport/Level	Step
Jeff Mattice	JV/Varsity Volunteer Softball Coach	Unpaid
Emily Agate	Modified Volunteer Softball Coach-	Unpaid

Removal from Service

Devon Ray Gaytan
 Appointment: Substitute Monitor
 Effective Date: March 11, 2024

Communications - Superintendent

Student representatives, Gino Isabella, Nick Cecucci, London Vasquez, Ariana Audette and Sara Smith gave the Board their monthly building updates. At Bradt, the students celebrated the 100th day of school by dressing up as senior citizens; Bradt and Pinewood held a cereal box challenge and collected over 600 boxes of cereal to donate to the food pantry; hundreds of families attended the Family Fun Fair which was held at Draper. There were a variety of activities for kids to participate in and snacks and popcorn were provided; Mohonasen High School National Honor Society members surprised their new inductees with medals announcing their NHS membership.

Mrs. Logan-King reported on the Portrait of a Mohonasen Graduate. She explained that creating “portraits” works to raise academic achievement, close learning gaps and focuses on skills necessary for future success. The Portrait of a Mohonasen Graduate is growth oriented, intellectually curious, financially literate, team players, effective communicators, and problem solvers with critical thinking skills.

Mr. Ruberti gave the BOE an update on the budget and covered Facilities, Transportation, Instruction and Revenue. Mr. Ruberti discussed the staffing and budgets in each of these areas. He highlighted the District’s need to hire more bus drivers and discussed the rising costs of contracting out for transportation runs. He specifically detailed some long-term substitute positions that will continue in 2024-25 as well as some positions which are being added to the budget, both teaching and administrative. There was significant discussion with the BOE regarding the need for these positions and the impact that the Asylum Seekers had on class sizes and services. Mr. Ruberti then discussed revenues and the increase the District expects for state aid. He did caution the BOE that the calculation is still very volatile and that it is best to be cautious when projecting future state aid in the current economic environment. He concluded by reviewing the budget calendar, open BOE seats and upcoming presentations. He answered questions throughout the presentation.

Public Privilege Of The Floor

No one wished to address the Board of Education.

**Communications -
Board of Education**

Mr. Abbott thanked Mrs. Smith for inviting them to read to Bradt students. He commented on the Family Fun Fair and what a great, well-attended event it was.

**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*

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 Mrs. Montagino, seconded by Ms. Laudano, 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, six members present and voting.

**New Business -
Business/Personnel**

*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 District

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

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

*Approval of Contract
with Northern Rivers
Family
Services–Northeast
Parent & Child*

Request Approval of Contract with Northern Rivers Family Services–Northeast Parent & Child

MOTION made by Mrs. Power, seconded by Ms. Laudano, that the Board of Education approve the Contract with Northern Rivers Family Services–Northeast Parent & Child.

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

*Approval of the
2024-2025 School Year
Calendar*

Request Approval of the 2024-2025 School Year Calendar

MOTION made by Mr. McFarland, seconded by Mrs. Ciampino, that the Board of Education approve the 2024-2025 school year calendar.

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

*Approval of Contract
for the Sale of Real
Property located at 300
Warrior Way,
Schenectady, NY 12303*

Request for Approval of Contract for the Sale of Real Property located at 300 Warrior Way, Schenectady, NY 12303

MOTION made by Mrs. Montagino seconded by Mr. McFarland, that the Board of Education approve a contract for the sale of real property located at 300 Warrior Way, Schenectady, NY 12303.

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

Approved Minutes

MOTION made by Mrs. Montagino, seconded by Mr. McFarland, that the Board of Education approve the minutes of February 26, 2024.

Executive Session

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

MOTION made by Mr. McFarland, seconded by Mrs. Ciampino, that an executive session be convened at 8:48 PM for the purpose of evaluating tenure portfolios.

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

MOTION made by Mrs. Power, seconded by Mrs. Ciampino, that the executive session be adjourned at 9:31 PM and return to the open meeting. The motion was passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

Adjournment

MOTION made by Ms. Laudano, seconded by Mrs. Power, that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned at 9:31 PM.

The motion passed unanimously, six members present and voting.

Christopher Ruberti

Clerk - Board of Education

Assistant Superintendent for Business