

Mohonasen Central School District

*Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Education
Tuesday, January 21, 2025
Center for Technology/Mohonasen Main Campus*

Call to Order

The Board meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. Montagino, at 6:02 PM.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: *Danielle Ciampino, Chad McFarland, Ted Perretta, Melissa Laudano (joined at 6:04pm), and Ericka Montagino*
Board Members Absent: *Nick Giordono and Patrick Ryan*
Administrators Present: *Shannon Shine, Laurel Logan-King, Chris Ruberti, Craig Chandler and Tom O'Connor*
Others in Attendance: *None*

Executive Session

Executive session for the purpose of tenure review

MOTION made by Mrs. Ciampino, seconded by Mr. Perretta, that an executive session be convened at 6:02 PM for the purpose of tenure portfolio review.

Return to Public Session

MOTION made by Mr. McFarland, seconded by Mrs. Ciampino, that the executive session be adjourned at 6:37 PM. The motion was passed unanimously, five members present and voting.

Roll Call

The Board meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. Montagino, at 6:41 PM. Mrs. Montagino requested those present to stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Board Members Present: *Danielle Ciampino, Chad McFarland, Ted Perretta, Melissa Laudano, and Ericka Montagino*
Board Members Absent: *Nick Giordono and Patrick Ryan*
Administrators Present: *Shannon Shine, Laurel Logan-King and Chris Ruberti*
Others in Attendance: *Deb Kavanaugh, Katie Lossi, Bernadette Callender, Lynn Flansburg and two members of the community.*

Personnel

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

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

Tenure

Katie Lossi
Appointment: Academic Administrator for Humanities
Effective Date: August 1, 2025

Retirements

Kimberley Whipple
Assignment: 6th Grade Teacher
Expiration Date: Close of business August 24, 2025

Kerry Vumbaco
Assignment: Special Education Teacher
Expiration Date: Close of business June 30, 2025

Michele Grieco-Hackett
Assignment: Elementary Teacher
Expiration Date: Close of business June 27, 2025

Appointments

Elizabeth Ciccone (amended from the June 6, 2022 meeting)
Appointment: Probationary
Location: Bradt Elementary School
Position: Kindergarten Teacher
Tenure Area: Elementary Pre K-6
Date of Commencement: September 1, 2022
Expiration Date: November 23, 2025
Certification Status: Pre-Kindergarten and Grades 1-6, Permanent Certificate
Salary: Step 4 plus Graduate Credits

Brittany Heermance
Appointment: Probationary
Location: Bradt Elementary School
Position: SPED Teacher
Tenure Area: Education of children with handicapping conditions
Date of Commencement: February 10, 2025
Expiration Date: February 11, 2028
Certification Status: Students with Disabilities (Birth – Grade 2) Professional Certificate, Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6) Professional Certificate, Early Childhood Education (Birth -Grade 2) Professional Certificate, Early Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) Professional Certificate
Salary: Step 7 plus graduate credits

Matt Elwood
Appointment: Full Time Security Monitor
Location: Draper Middle School
Effective Date: January 13, 2025
Salary: \$26,500

Deirdre Enides
Appointment: Cafeteria Aide
Location: Pinewood Intermediate School
Effective Date: January 6, 2025
Salary: \$15.50 per hour

Susan Guillaume
Appointment: Cafeteria Aide
Location: Pinewood Intermediate School
Effective Date: January 6, 2025
Salary: \$15.50 per hour

Janice Ring
Appointment: Substitute Cafeteria Aide
Location: Pinewood Intermediate School
Effective Date: January 6, 2025
Salary: \$15.50 per hour

Angela Govindan
Appointment: Food Service Helper
Location: Mohonasen High School
Effective Date: February 3, 2025
Salary: \$15.50 per hour

Isabel Bushway
Appointment: Water Safety Instructor Aide/Water Safety Instructor
Location: Mohonasen High School
Effective Date: February 24, 2025
Salary: \$15.50/\$16.50 per hour

Winter Coaches 2024-2025

Name	Sport	Start Date	Coaching Step
Jodi Scalise	Unified Bowling	January 30, 2025	Step 4
Diane Blinn	Unified Bowling	January 30, 2025	\$1,000

Indoor Color Guard/Percussion 2024-2025

Name	Staff Position	Stipend
Mike Salamone	Coordinator of Indoor Marching Activities	\$6,240
Casey McCoy	Varsity Color Guard Director	\$2,080
Colin Land	Varsity Color Guard Staff	\$1,560

Kendra Mendoza	Varsity Color Guard Staff	\$1,560
Marinda Tingley	Varsity Color Guard Staff	\$1,560
Jacob Hatfield	Indoor Percussion Director	\$2,080
Jenna Walker	Indoor Percussion Instructor	\$1,040
Noah Solt	Indoor Percussion Instructor	1,040
Tia Tocco	Indoor Percussion Instructor (volunteer)	Volunteer
Geoff Snow	Indoor Percussion Instructor	\$1,040
Dan Hoke	Indoor Percussion Instructor (Volunteer)	Volunteer
Mark Riggi	Indoor Percussion Instructor (Volunteer)	Volunteer
Kaitlyn Reedy	Indoor Percussion Instructor (Volunteer)	Volunteer
Jolie Phillips	Indoor Percussion Instructor	\$1,040
Geoff Snow	Indoor Percussion Instructor	\$1,040
Dan Hoke	Indoor Percussion Instructor (Volunteer)	Volunteer
Mark Riggi	Indoor Percussion Instructor (Volunteer)	Volunteer
Colin Land	JV Color Guard Director	\$1,560
Chloe Colon	JV Color Guard Instructor	\$1,040
Julianna Kovacs	Modified Director	\$1,560
Danielle Greklek	Pinewood Instructor	\$1,560
Andrea Leduc	Modified Instructor	\$1,040
Nicole Hoffman	Pinewood Director	\$1,040
Maeve St. Onge	Pinewood Instructor	\$520

Resignations

Matt Elwood
Appointment: Substitute Monitor
Effective Date: January 12, 2025

Susan Guillaume
Appointment: Substitute Cafeteria Aide
Location: Pinewood Intermediate School
Effective Date: January 5, 2025

Deirdre Enides
Appointment: Substitute Cafeteria Aide
Location: Pinewood Intermediate School
Effective Date: January 5, 2025

Kathleen Adams
Appointment: Substitute Food Service Helper
Effective Date: January 16, 2025

Megan Thompson
Appointment: Administrative School Aide
Effective Date: January 31, 2025

**Communications -
Superintendent**

*Special and Alternative
Education Presentation -
Bernadette Callendar*

Mrs. Callendar reviewed the 2024-2025 Special Education plan. She outlined a continuum of services for K-12 students, including consultant teaching, resource programs, special classes, and self-contained programs tailored to varying needs. Key offerings include integrated co-teaching, developmental and academic skills programs, and work-based learning opportunities for high school students. The plan emphasizes aligning assessments, refining programs, and focusing on phonics-based reading instruction. Upcoming initiatives include annual reviews, professional development, and planning for the Extended School Year (ESY) program, ensuring a comprehensive approach to address the diverse needs of students within the least restrictive environment. The Board members asked Mrs. Callendar some additional questions.

*Tax Levy, Debt Service
and Bus Proposition -
Chris Ruberti*

Mr. Ruberti provided the Board updates on state aid, tax levy limits, and plans for bus replacements. The proposed executive budget from New York State reflects a \$2 million increase in Foundation Aid, higher than anticipated, along with funding for expense-driven aids and universal school meals. He reviewed components of the tax levy limit calculation, which include by the CPI, local growth factors, and capital exclusions. He projected roughly a 2.4% increase, translating to a 1.9% tax impact on average taxpayers. The district is preparing for the zero-emission bus mandate by 2027, with challenges in infrastructure and costs. A bus proposition for \$850,000, partly offset by transportation aid, will minimally impact the tax levy. Next steps include detailed budget discussions and finalization ahead of the May 20, 2025 budget vote.

Public Privilege of the Floor

Alec Flansburg spoke to the Board about his experience as a district resident attending Tech Valley High School. He highlighted the differences between Tech Valley’s curriculum and student involvement compared to Mohonasen. The Board also inquired about the application process.

Communications - Board of Education

There were no Board communications.

New Business - Instructional

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

Request made by Mrs. Montagino to approve all items on a consent agenda.

MOTION made by Mr. McFarland, seconded by Ms. Laudano, that the Board of Education approve New Business - Instructional on consent agenda.
The motion was passed unanimously, five members present and voting.

Approval for Mohonasen/Draper/Pinewood Winter Color Guard and Indoor Percussion to Participate in Various Competitions

New Business - Business/ Personnel

Approval of Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers’ Exemption

Request made by Mrs. Montagino 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 on consent agenda.
The motion was passed unanimously, five members present and voting.

Request for Acceptance of a Donation from Albert Morier

Financial Reports

MOTION made by Mrs. Ciampino, seconded by Ms. Laudano, that the Board of Education approve the November and December 2024 financial reports.
The motion was passed unanimously, five members present and voting.

Approved Minutes

MOTION made by Mrs. Ciampino, seconded by Ms. Laudano, that the Board of Education approve the minutes of January 6, 2025. The motion was passed unanimously, five members present and voting.

Executive Session

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

MOTION made by Ms. Laudano, seconded by Mrs. Ciampino, that an executive session be convened at 8:48 PM for the purpose of mid-year evaluations of the Superintendent. The motion was passed unanimously, five members present and voting.

MOTION made by Ms. Laudano, seconded by Mrs. Ciampino, that the executive session be adjourned at 8:49 PM and return to the open meeting. The motion was passed unanimously, five members present and voting.

Adjournment

MOTION made by Mrs. Ciampino, seconded by Ms. Laudano, that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned at 8:49 PM. The motion passed unanimously, five members present and voting.

Christopher Ruberti

Clerk - Board of Education

Assistant Superintendent for Business