

The Regular Meeting of the Mohawk Area Board of Directors was called to order at 8:00 P.M. by the Vice President, Mark E. Hiler, and commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The following members were present: Eugene A. Butch, Jr., James Capalbo, Stephen Cardella, Harry J. Curatola, Jr., Jonathan Laughner and Scott Singer. Lori Griffin and Ted Morrow were excused. Superintendent, Michael Leiterra, Assistant to the Superintendent, Lorree Houk, High School Co-Principals, Raymond Omer and Gregory Ferencak, Elementary Principal, Bradlee Meehan, Assistant Elementary Principal, George Sperdute, Solicitor, John R. Seltzer, and Board Secretary, Janet L. Crum, also attended.

Mr. Hiler announced that an Executive Session had been held prior to the meeting for the purpose of discussing employee contracts.

The following minutes were approved as written:

Regular Board Meeting – August 10, 2015
Special Board Meeting – August 17, 2015
Committee of the Whole Meeting – September 8, 2015

So moved by Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, verbal vote, motion carried.

Rylee Fritzley, Student Delegate updated the Board on all the recent and upcoming activities and events. In addition, each Administrator spoke and stated that this school year has gotten off to a very smooth beginning in both buildings. Mr. Leiterra wished to thank all of the students, teachers, parents, staff and community for his very warm welcome to Mohawk.

Mr. Sun, teacher and Yearbook Advisor, presented the yearbook to each member of the Board. He also informed them that he is teaching a multi-media course and the students are producing five (5) minute videos each month for the New Castle News on Mohawk's "hidden gems". The first one will highlight Patrick Miller, the Athletic Trainer, and will be available on the news website beginning September 28, 2015.

There were no public comments from the audience this evening.

The Financial Report dated August 31, 2015, was presented for approval. Approval was granted on the motion of Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Curatola, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried. (Copy of Financial Report Attached)

Financial
Report
approved

Mr. Cardella, motioned to pay the bills as listed, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried. (Copies of all invoices on file in the Business Office)

General Fund bills approved

GENERAL FUND

Prepaid	\$ 252,744.87
Current	\$ 264,921.27

Consideration was given to adding the following items to the agenda:

- Resignation of Mrs. Jessica Greco
- Mr. Brian Averi as Volunteer Assistant Football Coach
- Mr. Cliff Wallace - Travel Request
- Agreement with North Beaver Township and Mohawk
- Agreement with Medevac for ambulance services
- Agreements for Support Staff

Approved additions to the agenda

Mr. Butch motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Singer, verbal vote, motion carried.

Consideration was given to the approval of the following resignations/retirements/leaves:

- Sally Romeo – Cafeteria Worker
- Blodwen Boariu – Elementary Personal Care Assistant
- Jaime Wells – Elementary Title I Instructional Paraprofessional
- Jessica Greco – Elementary Special Education Instructional Paraprofessional.

Resignations/retirements/leaves approved as presented

So moved by Mr. Laughner, seconded by Mr. Curatola, verbal vote, motion carried.

Consideration was given to add Mr. Brian Averi as an additional volunteer assistant football coach for the 2015 season. Mr. Singer motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Approved additional volunteer assistant football coach

Consideration was given to the approval of the following Daily Substitute Support Staff:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| -- Barbara Book – Cafeteria | Kim Baney – Bus Monitor |
| -- Sally Romeo – Cafeteria | Nick Boariu – Bus Monitor |
| -- Lana Spears – Cafeteria | Delta Stoner – Bus Monitor |

Daily Substitute Support Staff approved

So moved by Mr. Cardella, seconded by Mr. Singer, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Consideration was given to the approval of the following Individual Transportation Contracts for the 2015-2016 school year:

- April Cowher - 1 Student to Watson Institute, Sewickley, PA - \$91.00/day
- Deborah Oehmler – 1 Student to Holy Redeemer School, Ellwood City, PA - \$24.00/day
- Mark Walters – 1 Student to St. Vitus, New Castle, PA - \$12.00/day

Individual Transportation Contracts for 15-16 approved as presented

Consideration was given to the approval of the 2015-16 Transportation routes as posted on the Board Documents on the website. Mr. Singer motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Laughner, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

2015-16 Transportation routes as posted were approved

Consideration was given to the approval of Dr. Thomas Patton as School Dentist for the 2015-2016 school year at the cost of \$3.00/exam. This is the same rate as the past several years. Mr. Laughner motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Cardella, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Dr. Thomas Patton approved as School Dentist for 15-16

Consideration was given to the approval of the second reading of the School Board Policy 819 – Suicide Awareness, Prevention, and Response. Mrs. Houk explained the policy is compliant with Act 71 which states that all professional staff in grades 6 – 12 must be trained in suicide awareness over the next five years. We are beginning by training 35 teachers. So moved by Mr. Cardella, seconded by Mr. Singer, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Approved second reading of School Board Policy 819

Consideration was given to the approval of the first reading to modify School Board Policy 351.1, 451.1 and 551.1 – Pre-Employment Drug Testing. Mrs. Houk explained previously the labs had to be certified by the National Institute for Drug Abuse. They are no longer in existence and now the labs have to be certified by the SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration). Mr. Curatola motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Approved first reading to modify School Board Policy 351.1, 451.1 and 551.1

Consideration was given to the approval of the IDEA-Section 619 and the IDEA-B contracts through Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV for the 2015-2016 school year. The amounts of the contracts are \$2,356.00 and \$180,892.00 respectively. Mr. Butch motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Cardella, roll call vote, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Approved
IDEA-Section
619 and
IDEA-B
contracts

The following Travel Requests were considered for approval:

- Mrs. Mary Fleming and her student teacher, Allison Arisman, to attend the National Farm to School Network training on September 22, 2015 at State College, PA.
- Mrs. Mary Fleming to accompany our FCCLA State Officer, Matthew Fleck, to the PA FCCLA State Executive Council from October 4 – 6, 2015 in Clearfield, PA.
- Mrs. Mary Fleming to accompany our FCCLA State Officer, Matthew Fleck, to the FCCLA State Central Regional meeting from October 25 – 26, 2015 in Bloomsburg, PA.
- Mr. Clifford Wallace and Mr. Cameron Schirmer to accompany up to 20 students to Louisville, KY for the National FFA Convention from October 29 – 31, 2015.
- Mrs. Carla Krisuk to attend/present at the PCEC conference from November 19 – 20, 2015 in Harrisburg, PA.
- Mrs. Ashley Graziani to accompany members of the Jr.-Sr. High School Choir to perform at the Empire State Building in New York City from March 3 – 5, 2016.
- Mr. Clifford Wallace to attend the 2015 NAAE/ACTE Ag Ed Division convention from November 17 – 21, 2015 in New Orleans, LA.

Requests for
travel approved
as presented

So moved on the motion of Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Real Estate Additions and Exonerations as well as Homestead/Farmstead Exclusions were presented for approval. HS/FS exonerations are \$50,488 for the month and YTD making the loss in actual tax dollars \$678.05. The current exonerations for real estate are \$94,622, bringing the YTD additions to \$89,700 and the YTD exonerations to \$334,822. The net loss YTD is \$254,122 in assessed value and \$3,291.99 in actual tax dollars. Mr. Curatola motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried. (Copy Attached)

Real Estate
Additions/
Exonerations
and Homestead/
Farmstead
Exclusions
approved

Consideration was given to the approval of an agreement between North Beaver Township and the Mohawk Area School District for police services at events. Our Solicitor, Mr. Seltzer, and Mr. Leslie, the Solicitor for North Beaver Township are working on the details. Mr. Butch motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Cardella, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Approved agreement between North Beaver Twp and MASD for police services

Consideration was given to the approval of an agreement between Medevac and the Mohawk Area School District for ambulance services at the Varsity and Jr. Varsity football games at the rate of \$150.00/game. So moved on the motion of Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Approved agreement between Medevac and MASD for ambulance services

Consideration was given to the approval of the support staff agreements for the 2015-2016, 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years. Pay increases of 2.44% in year one, 3.07% in year two and 3.12% in year three were aligned with the teacher's contract. Increases were based on the average salary/hourly wage within each group. In addition, the employer contribution for the health savings account was changed to 100% in 2015-2016, 85% in 2016-2017 and 80% in 2017-2018. There were also some minor language changes made. Mr. Curatola motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Butch, roll call vote, Mr. Hiler "yes", Mr. Laughner "yes", Mr. Singer "yes", Mr. Butch "yes", Mr. Capalbo "abstain", Mr. Cardella "yes", Mr. Curatola "yes", 6 yes, 1 abstain, 2 absent, motion carried. (Copy of Record of Abstention Attached).

Support staff agreements for 15-16, 16-17 & 17-18 approved

Mr. Leitera recognized the following:

- Mr. Clifford Wallace – FFA Honorary American Degree
- Dollar General Literacy Foundation Youth Literacy Grant.

There was no representative present from the Mohawk Elementary P.T.O.

Mr. David Caughey, MEA President, addressed the Board and introduced teachers Mrs. Anissa Fracul, Mrs. Lisa Kwolek and transition co-ordinator, Mrs. Rachal Bright. They gave the Board an overview of their program and how it works from beginning to end. They were pleased to state that many of the students end up obtaining a full time job as a result of this program.

At 8:50 PM, the meeting was adjourned on the motion of Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, verbal vote, motion carried.

Janet L. Crum
Board Secretary