

The Regular Meeting of the Mohawk Area School District Board of Directors was called to order at 8:00 P.M. by the President, Mark Hiler, and commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a moment of silence. The following members were present: Eugene Butch, Jr., James Capalbo, Stephen Cardella, Lori Griffin, Jonathan Laughner, James McKim, Scott Singer and Mark Solley. Mr. Butch participated via phone conference. Michael Leiterra, Superintendent, Lorree Houk, Assistant to the Superintendent, Bradlee Meehan, Elementary Principal, George Sperdute, Assistant Elementary Principal, Jamie Stevens, Coordinator of Special Education, and Kimberly Eaton, Board Secretary also attended.

The minutes of the Committee Meeting on February 1, 2016 and the Regular Meeting on January 11, 2016 were approved as written on the motion of Mr. McKim, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, verbal vote, motion carried.

Matthew Fleck, Student Delegate, as well as each Administrator updated the Board on recent activities and events. Mr. Leiterra commended Mrs. Houk for creating a curriculum academic council and for getting two buildings together to develop a plan. Mr. Leiterra also praised the staff members and administrators for scrutinizing their budgets and maintaining positive attitudes during a bleak budgetary outlook.

There were no public comments this evening.

The Financial Report dated January 31, 2016 was presented for approval. So moved on the motion of Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. McKim, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried. (Copy of Financial Report Attached)

Financial report approved

Mr. Capalbo motioned to pay the bills as listed, seconded by Mr. Solley, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried. (Copies of all invoices on file in the Business Office)

General Fund, School Lunch bills approved

Minutes of  
 2/08/16 Board  
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GENERAL FUND		
Prepaid		\$ 808,616.71
Current		\$ 199,531.92
SCHOOL LUNCH		
Prepaid		\$ 27,794.13

There was one addition to the agenda this evening. Consideration will be given to approval to solicit bids for the district-wide general telephone contract for the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Butch motioned approval to add these items to the agenda, seconded by Mr. Cardella, verbal vote, motion carried.

Approved additions to the agenda

Consideration was given to the following resignations and employments:

- Resignation of Lisa Kwolek as Girl's Varsity Soccer Head Coach.
- Resignation of Karla Wheeler as Special Education Instructional Paraprofessional
- Reassign Laura Wagner as a substitute teacher to cover a leave request
- Employ Kelly Goeller as a day-to-day substitute teacher

Resignations and employment approved as presented

So moved by Mr. Cardella, seconded by Mr. Solley, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried.

Likewise, LuAnn Lutz was added to the 2015-16 Daily Nurse Substitute List on the motion of Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Solley, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried.

Approved daily substitute

Consideration was given to the approval of the following list of coaches for Spring Sports for 2015-16, pending all required clearances:

Approved Spring Sports coaches for 2015-16

**Baseball**

- Kevin Sapp – Head Varsity
- Nick Maiorano – Assistant
- Tim Bromley – JV/MS Coach
- Nick Suders – Volunteer
- Jon Bobin – Volunteer
- Andrew Liggett – Volunteer
- Donnie Kirwood – Volunteer
- John Paul Hedland – Volunteer

**Boys and Girls Track**

- Jared Stratton – Head Coach – Boys
- Dave Bredl – Head Coach - Girls
- Linda Retort – Varsity Assistant
- Kim Masone – Assistant Coach

**Softball**

- Brad Hruska – Head Varsity
- Henry Pezzuolo – Assistant
- Cameron Schirmer – MS Coach
- Hannah Morrow – Volunteer
- Michael Burkett – Volunteer
- Nikki Gwin - Volunteer

**Middle School Volleyball**

- Carly Schubert – Head M.S. Coach
- Michalyn Ritchie - Volunteer
- Morgan Ritchie - Volunteer

So moved on the motion of Mr. Solley, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried.

Consideration was given to the approval of Thomas Welch to compete as an independent at the WPIAL Rifle Championship in February 2016. So moved on the motion of Mr. Cardella, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried.

Approved student to compete as independent in WPIAL Rifle Championship

On a motion by Mr. Solley and a second on the motion by Mr. Capalbo, approval was given to award the bus bid to the lowest bidder, Wolfington, at a cost of \$79,797.00 per bus. They will be 2017 International IC-CE, 72 passenger buses. A roll call vote was taken, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried. (A copy of the detailed bid sheet is on file in the Office of the Superintendent.)

Awarded 2016-2017 bus bid to Wolfington

Consideration was given to the approval of the 2016-2017 School District Calendar. The first day of school will be August 22, 2016 and the last day of school will be May 31, 2017. On a motion of Mr. Cardella, seconded by Mr. Solley, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried. (Copy of 2016-17 Calendar Attached)

2016-2017 School Calendar approved

Consideration was given to the approval of the independent contractor agreement with Ms. Melissa Durse to serve as a Behavior Specialist through the end of the 2015-2016 school year. The District agrees to pay the contractor at \$25 per hour not to exceed 29 hours per week. The agreement will end on or about June 3, 2016. On a motion of Mr. Butch, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried. (Copy of Agreement on file in the Business Office)

Approved Behavior Support Specialist as an independent contract

Consideration was given to the approval of the Tax Collection Committee Delegate Appointment Resolution naming Kimberly Eaton as the primary voting delegate; Michael Leitera as the first alternate voting delegate; and Debbie Hodge, as the second alternate voting. On a motion of Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Solley, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried. (Copy of Resolution Attached)

Approved Tax Collection Resolution

Consideration was given to the approval of the Driver's Education Vehicle Lease agreement with Preston Motors, Inc. for the 2015-2016 school year. The District will agree to pay \$250 per month, or any portion of a month, while the vehicle is in use. So moved on the motion of Mr. Capalbo, seconded by Mr. Cardella, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried. (Copy of Agreement on file in the Business Office)

Approved  
lease with  
Preston Auto

Consideration was given to the approval of the Continuum of Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV Special Education Services & Programs for the 2015-2016 school year. The District will agree to the total anticipated cost of \$134,596 for contracted speech and language support and hearing support. So moved on the motion of Mr. Butch, seconded by Mr. Cardella, roll call vote, Eugene Butch, Jr. "Yes", James Capalbo "Yes", Stephen Cardella "Yes", Lori Griffin "Yes", Mark Hiler "Yes", Jonathan Laughner "Yes", James McKim "Yes", Scott Singer "Yes" and Mark Solley "No", 8 Yes, 1 No, 0 absent, motion carried. (Copy of Memorandum of Understanding Attached)

Continuum of  
MIU IV Instr.  
Prog./Srvs. for  
2015-16  
approved

Consideration was given to the approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with Laurel School District to provide secondary emotional support programming at Cray for the 2015-2016 school year. The program cost is \$20,000. The District will be billed tuition on the actual days of attendance. So moved on the motion of Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried. (Copy of Memorandum of Understanding Attached)

Approved  
S.E. Tuition  
for  
Emotional  
Support  
Program

Consideration was given to the approval of a linkage agreement between Behavioral Health Services – Sharon Regional Health System and the Mohawk Area School District. So moved on the motion of Mr. Cardella, seconded by Mr. Singer, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried. (Copy of Agreement Attached)

Approved linkage  
agreement  
between Sharon  
Regional Health  
System and  
MASD

Consideration was given to the approval of the following travel requests:

- Melissa O'Shane to attend the Pete & C Conference from February 22-23, 2016 in Hershey, PA
- Clifford Wallace to accompany up to three students to the FFA State Legislative Leadership Conference from March 6-8, 2016 in Harrisburg, PA.

Requests for  
travel approved  
as presented

So moved by Mr. Cardella, seconded by Mr. Singer, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried.

Consideration was given to the approval for the following Use of Facilities request:

-- Mohawk Community Education Foundation to use the auditorium and cafeteria at the Jr.-Sr. High School for the Alumni Hall of Fame on May 6-7, 2016.

-- Bessemer Rotary to use the Jr.-Sr. High School cafeteria for their annual dinner on April 9-10, 2016

-- Lawrence County Department of Public Safety to use the Jr.-Sr. High School gymnasium/aux. gymnasium/locker rooms for PEMA and FEMA training on June 9 & 15, 2016.

Use of  
Facilities  
request  
approved

So moved by Mr. Solley, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried.

There were no real estate additions and exonerations for approval.

Consideration was given to approval to solicit bids for the district-wide general telephone contract for the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Cardella and the motion was seconded by Mr. Solley, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried.

Granted  
permission to  
solicit bids for  
telephone  
service

On a motion by Mr. Laughner and a second by Mr. Capalbo, approval was given to purchase P.S.B.A.'s LEARN pass for \$999. A wide variety of courses and workshops are offered to administrators and board members. A roll call vote was taken, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried.

Granted  
permission to  
purchase PSBA  
LEARN Pass

### **Discussion Items**

Mr. Leitera mentioned the P.S.B.A. LEARN Pass will allow both administrators and board members to receive professional development for a flat fee of \$999.

Mr. Leitera mentioned he had received correspondence from a resident inquiring about the use of the fitness center. Discussion incurred on this item. Mr. Leitera stated he will look into the costs of opening the area to the public and the insurance requirements.

Mr. Leitera stated he had a discussion with Combustion Service & Equipment Company on the possible repair of the boilers located in the elementary school. Currently our large boiler is not working. They were both installed over 33 years ago. This service company is recommending that the controls be upgraded at approximately \$45,000 on the one boiler and \$50,000 on the other. Ms. Eaton mentioned she had reviewed our insurance policy on the boilers and she stated the bi-annual inspection will occur in May 2016. Discussion incurred on this item. Mr. Leitera also stated he would reach out to other boiler repair companies and he report more information at a later date.

Mr. Leitera mentioned that the Midwestern Intermediate Unit invited board members to attend a meeting on February 23 to think of ways to let our legislators know that the budget impasse is hurting school districts.

### **Awards & Recognition**

Mr. Leitera recognized the following:

- Aliya Gage – Lawrence County Athlete of the Week
- Levi River Isaac – Eagle Scout Award

### **Reports**

Mr. Meehan reported that The Sock Hop will take place on February 26 and they are currently selling smelly pencils and Easter candy.

Mr. Caughey, M.E.A. President, presented a video on our students learning about the naturalization test to become a U.S. citizen. There was a brief ten-question quiz.

It was announced that an executive session for personnel and legal matters would immediately follow the meeting.

At 9:08 PM, on a motion by Mr. Cardella, seconded by Mr. Solley the meeting was adjourned.

Kimberly J. Eaton  
Board Secretary