

The Regular Meeting of the Mohawk Area School District Board of Directors was called to order at 7:00 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: James Capalbo, Stephen Cardella, Lori Griffin, James McKim, Scott Singer and Mark Solley. Eugene Butch, Jr. and Jonathan Laughner were absent. Mr. Michael Leitera, Superintendent, Lorree Houk, Assistant to the Superintendent, Raymond Omer, High School Principal, Linda Retort, Assistant High School Principal, Bradlee Meehan, Elementary Principal, Emily Billing, Coordinator of Special Education Services, and Kimberly Eaton, Board Secretary also attended.

The board of directors met for an executive session prior to this meeting.

The minutes of the Committee Meeting on February 7, 2017 and the Regular Meeting on January 17, 2017 were approved as written on the motion of Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Solley, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Christine Jones, Student Delegate, as well as each Administrator updated the Board on recent activities and events.

Mr. Leitera mentioned he has several discussion items but he'll wait until the discussion part of the meeting.

Jack Isaac and Kara Kulinski spoke about participating in P.M.E.A. District 5 Band Festival at the Butler Intermediate High School on February 11, 2017. Mr. Leitera commended them for their efforts as well as Mr. Zeh's excellent teaching.

The Financial Report dated January 31, 2017 was presented for approval. So moved on the motion of Mr. Cardella, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, 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. Capalbo motioned to pay the bills as listed, seconded by Mr. Singer, 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, School Lunch bills approved

**GENERAL FUND**

Prepaid	\$ 134,554.54
Current	\$ 144,710.76

SCHOOL LUNCH  
Prepaid \$ 23,403.86

- There were four additions to the agenda this evening.
1. approval to solicit bids for an asphalt paving project of the north and south parking lots at the elementary school
  2. approval of the tax collector compensation for years: 2018-2021
  3. approval to contract with Firth Consulting for \$5,500
  4. approval to purchase a passenger van

Approved additions to the agenda

Mr. Solley motioned approval to add these items to the agenda, seconded by Mr. McKim, verbal vote, motion carried.

Consideration was given to the following resignations, leave requests and employment requests:

- Retirement Resignation of Linda Norge as Head Cook, effective June 30, 2017
- Resignation of William Cole as Girls Varsity Soccer Coach
- Leave request for Ashley Johnson, Elementary Teacher, effective approximately March 29 - May 22, 2017
- Leave request for Brianna Naples, Elementary Teacher, effective approximately April 18, 2017
- Leave request for Jamie Watkins, Secondary Teacher, effective approximately April 30, 2017
- Employing Branda Lenhardt as a substitute paraprofessional
- Employing Karen Leckwart as a substitute paraprofessional
- Amanda Mays - Volunteer at our High School Musical

Resignations and employment approved as presented

So moved by Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, 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 list of coaches for Spring Sports for 2016-17, pending all required clearances:

Approved Spring Sports coaches for 2016-17

**Boys Baseball:**

Nick Maiorano, Sr. – JH Head Coach  
Paul Passerello – Volunteer  
Frank Shaffer – Volunteer  
Scott Johnson – rescinded  
Anthony Carnuche - rescinded

**Softball:**

Nikki Burkett – rescinded  
Mike Burkett – rescinded

**Boys/Girls Track:**

Kim Masone – Varsity Assistant  
Josh Long – Girls Middle School Coach  
Brian King – Boys Middle School Coach

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

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 \$79,650 per bus. They will be 2018 International IC-CE, 72 passenger buses. A roll call vote was taken, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried. (A copy of the detailed bid sheet is on file in the Office of the Superintendent.)

Awarded  
2017-2018 bus  
bid to  
Wolfington

Consideration was given to the approval of the 2017-2018 School District Calendar. The first day of school will be August 21, 2017 and the last day of school will be May 31, 2018. On a motion of Mr. Solley, seconded by Mr. Cardella, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried. (Copy of 2017-18 Calendar Attached).

2017-2018  
School  
Calendar  
approved

Consideration was given to the approval of the 2017-2018 Program of Studies. Mr. McKim motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Solley, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried (Copy of the 2017-2018 Program Attached).

Approved  
the 2017-  
2018  
Program of  
Studies

Consideration was given to the approval to solicit bids for the district-wide general telephone contract for the 2017-2018 school year through E-rate. Mr. McKim motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Solley, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Granted  
permission  
to solicit  
bids for  
telephone  
services

Consideration was given to the approval to solicit requests for proposals of network switches and wireless network equipment for the 2017-2018 school year through E-rate. Mr. Solley motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Singer, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Granted  
permission  
to solicit  
RFPs for  
network  
switches

Consideration was given to the approval of the first reading of a new Board Policy, #808.1 - Cafeteria Purchases and Meal Charging. Mr. Singer motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Cardella, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Approved first reading of board policy 808.1

Consideration was given to the approval to contract with Student Transportation of America, Inc. to provide transportation in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Act at \$55.00 per day. Mr. Solley motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Approved transportation contract with STA

Consideration was given to the approval for one student to attend the Region I Chorus from February 22-24, 2017 at Gateway High School and the approval for Carl Sockaci and Andy Shillingburg to accompany approximately 25-30 students to the T.S.A. State Conference from April 19-21, 2017 at Seven Springs Resort. So moved by Mr. Solley, seconded by Mr. Cardella, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Requests for travel approved as presented

Consideration was given to the approval for the Bessemer Rotary to use the High School cafeteria/kitchen for the annual dinner on March 25-26, 2017, Red Storm to use the High School cafeteria/kitchen and gymnasium for a basketball tournament on March 18-19, 2017 and Kathi's Dance & Gym to use the High School gymnasium for their annual recital on May 12-14, 2017. 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.

Use of Facilities request approved

There were no real estate additions and exonerations for approval.

Consideration was given to the approval to solicit bids for an asphalt paving project of the north and south parking lots at the elementary school. Mr. Solley motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Granted permission to solicit bids for an asphalt paving at the elem. school

Consideration was given to the approval of the tax collector compensation for the duplicate years: 2018-2021. Mr. Capalbo motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Singer, roll call vote, Capalbo "yes", Cardella "yes", Griffin "yes", Hiler "yes", McKim "yes", Singer "yes", Solley "abstained", 6 yes, 1 abstained, 2 absent, motion carried. (Copy of Resolution Attached)

Approved Tax  
Collection  
Resolution for  
2018-2021

Consideration was given to the approval to contract with Firth Consulting for the technology department for 50 hours at \$5,500. Mr. Cardella motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Singer, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Approved  
contracted  
service with  
Firth  
Consulting at  
\$5,500

Consideration given to the approval to purchase two passenger vans contingent upon cost comparison. Mr. Capalbo motioned approval, seconded by Mr. McKim, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 7 yes, 2 absent, motion carried.

Approved the  
purchase of two  
passenger vans  
contingent upon  
cost comparison

### **Discussion Items**

Mr. Leitera mentioned he is working with students from the communications department of Slippery Rock University as well as forming a communications focus group. The participants will create a communications plan for the district. The group hopes to meet on February 22 or 23. He will send additional details.

Mr. Leitera mentioned the district has obtained a human services site license. Numerous services such as therapy and psychological services will be offered here at the district.

Mr. Leitera mentioned he has been working with Mr. Roy Bonci of Penn Design Company to learn more about possible updates to our heating situation at the high school. Mr. Bonci will be giving a cost proposal soon.

### **Awards & Recognition**

Mr. Leitera, Mr. Omer and Mr. Meehan recognized the following:

- Instructional paraprofessionals and special education paraprofessionals as the "employees of the month" at the High School
- Mrs. Candi Young as the "employee of the month" at the Elementary School
- Students who participated in the Pennsylvania Farm Show

-- Students who participated in the P.M.E.A. District 5 Band Festival at the Butler Intermediate High School on February 11, 2017.

**Reports**

Ms. Lisa Martin, Elementary PTO mentioned upcoming events such as the Easter candy sales, sock hop, and the book fair.

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

At 8:09 PM, on a motion by Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Solley the meeting was adjourned.

Kimberly J. Eaton  
Board Secretary