

The Regular Meeting of the Mohawk Area Board of Directors was called to order at 8:00 P.M. by the President, Ted Morrow, 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, Harry J. Curatola, Jr., Lori Griffin, Mark Hiler, Jonathan Laughner and Scott Singer. Eugene A. Butch, Jr. was excused. Superintendent Kathleen Kwolek, Assistant to the Superintendent, Lorree Houk, High School Principal, Raymond Omer, Assistant High School Principal, Greg Ferencak, Elementary Principal, Bradlee Meehan, Assistant Elementary Principal, George Sperdute, Solicitor John R. Seltzer, and Janet Crum, Secretary, were also in attendance.

The minutes of the Board Meeting on January 20, 2014 and the Committee of the Whole Meeting on February 3, 2014 were accepted as written on the motion of Mr. Laughner, seconded by Mr. Curatola, verbal vote, motion carried.

Mrs. Candice Young was in attendance and presented an overview of the third grade unit on Ellis Island and immigrants. She stated she wanted to plan something that would be personal and meaningful for the students, so each child was required to portray an immigrant in order to understand what their ancestors had to do, and the sacrifices that were made in order for us enjoy the life we now lead. They researched their history, wrote about what life on the boat to America might have been like, gave their reasons for wanting to leave their country, and the goals they wanted to reach once they were granted citizenship. In addition, the students packed a small bag which could contain only five items that were important to them, and created a costume that they might have worn. A simulation of what might have happened once they reached Ellis Island was conducted, which included a search of their baggage, a medical exam, and an interview. Parent volunteers assisted with this project, and Mrs. Young stated that the students and parents alike took this very seriously. Katelyn Stivers, and her mom, Katie, were also present and told of their experiences and feelings during the simulation. Katelyn was dressed in her costume and shared with the Board the items she had chosen to pack in her bag. The entire unit was a great success and learning experience for all involved.

Mr. Nathan Parrott addressed the Board and personally invited them to attend Mohawk's 4th Annual Dance Your Heart Out performance, which will be held on Friday, February 21, 2014 in the high school auditorium. Once again, part of the proceeds will benefit the American Heart Association.

Student Delegates and each Administrator presented information to the Board on varying subjects, including all the recent events and activities taking place in the school.

The Financial Report dated January 31, 2014, was presented for approval. So moved on the motion of Mr. Hiler, seconded by Mr. Curatola, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 8 yes, 1 absent, motion carried. (Copy of Financial Report Attached)

Financial Report approved

Mr. Curatola motioned to pay the bills as listed, seconded by Mr. Laughner, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 8 yes, 1 absent, motion carried. (Copies of all invoices on file in the Business Office)

General Fund, School Lunch bills approved

GENERAL FUND

Prepaid	\$ 97,508.93
Current	\$ 296,477.88

SCHOOL LUNCH

Prepaid	\$ 26,994.43
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There were seven additions to the agenda this evening including an Individual Transportation Contract, travel requests, FMLA leave, Jr. High Softball and Baseball Programs and permission to allow a student to run for a state office. So moved on the motion of Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, verbal vote, motion carried .

Approved additions to the agenda

Consideration was given to the following leave requests:

- Mrs. Sheryl Verterano – intermittent FMLA leave.
- Kristy Bailey – FMLA through approximately February 26, 2014.

Requests for leave approved

Mr. Hiler motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Singer, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 8 yes, 1 absent, motion carried.

Consideration was given to the approval of the list of coaches for Spring sports:

Baseball

Kevin Sapp – Head Varsity
Scott Bright – Asst. Varsity
Ben Edwards – Junior Varsity
Nick Maiorano – Volunteer

Softball

Pam Beatty – Head Varsity
Melodi Herb – Asst. Varsity
Brad Hruska – Junior Varsity
Debbie Wrona – Volunteer
Cam Schirmer – Volunteer
Hannah Morrow – Volunteer

Track

Jared Stratton – Boys' Head
Dave Bredl – Girls' Head
Sunny Douglas – Asst. Varsity
Dustin Alfano – 7th & 8th Grade
Josh Long – 7th & 8th Grade

Junior High Volleyball

Britney Kwolek – Head Coach

Coaches for
Spring Sports
approved as
presented

So moved by Mr. Laughner, seconded by Mr. Cardella, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 8 yes, 1 absent, motion carried.

The 2014-2015 School District Calendar was presented for approval. Mrs. Kwolek explained it is very similar to the 2013-2014 calendar. Teacher in-service days will be August 19, 20 & 21, the first day of school for students will be Monday, August 25, 2014 with the last day of school June 4, 2015. There have been make-up days built in for snow days. Mr. Curatola motioned approval, seconded by Mrs. Griffin, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 8 yes, 1 absent, motion carried. (Copy of Calendar Attached)

2014-2015
School
Calendar
approved

On the recommendation of the Transportation Manager, Todd Exposito, it was agreed to award the bid for two new International IC, CE, 72 passenger conventional school buses to Wolfington Body Company, Inc. of Exton, PA. The cost of the buses is \$79,015.00 each. Mr. Morrow noted the cost is less than the price we paid for the buses we purchased this year. Mr. Laughner motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Hiler, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 8 yes, 1 absent, motion carried.

Bid for school
buses awarded
to Wolfington
Body
Company

Consideration was given to the acceptance of the Audited Annual Financial Statement for FY 2013 as presented by Kim Turnley at the January 20, 2014 meeting of the Mohawk Board of Education. So moved by Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 8 yes, 1 absent, motion carried. (Copy of Audit on file in the Business Office)

Accepted the
Audited
Annual
Financial
Statement for
FY 2013

The following travel requests were presented for approval:

- Mr. Cliff Wallace to accompany approximately six (6) students to the FFA State Legislative Leadership Conference in Harrisburg, PA from March 9 – 11, 2014.
- Mr. Carl Sockaci and Mr. Andy Shillingburg to accompany approximately 15 students to the TSA State Conference in Seven Springs from April 9 – 11, 2014.
- Mrs. Marsha Karidis to accompany two (2) students to the FBLA State Conference from April 6 – 9, 2014 in Hershey, PA.

Requests for
travel approved

So moved on the motion of Mr. Capalbo, seconded by Mrs. Griffin, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 8 yes, 1 absent, motion carried.

Consideration was given to the following Use of Facilities requests:

- Bessemer Rotary Club for the use of the high school cafeteria, March 29 and 30, 2014 to set up and sponsor a fundraiser dinner.
- Lawrence County Department of Public Safety to use the high school gym, auxiliary gym, and locker rooms for two (2) exercise/training sessions with PEMA and FEMA on June 11 and 18, 2014.

Approved Use
of Facilities
requests

Mr. Laughner motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 8 yes, 1 absent, motion carried.

There were no Additions and Exonerations this evening.

Consideration was given to the approval of the following Individual Transportation Contract:

- Nichole Paine to transport one (1) student to the McGill Learning Center in New Castle, PA - \$50.00/day.

Approved
Individual
Transportation
Contract

So moved by Mr. Laughner, seconded by Mr. Singer, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 8 yes, 1 absent, motion carried.

Permission was requested for student, Katie Callahan, who currently holds the position of 2013-2014 PA State FCCLA Vice-President of Membership, to apply as a state office candidate in a different capacity. Mr. Laughner motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Hiler, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 8 yes, 1 absent, motion carried.

Permission
granted for a
student to apply
as a state office
candidate

Consideration was given to the approval to continue to field a Middle School Softball team (grades 7 & 8) and a Junior High Baseball team (grades 7, 8 & 9). Mr. Cardella motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Curatola. A lengthy discussion and question period followed. After this time, Mr. Laughner called the question and the Board approved moving ahead with the motion that was on the floor, which was approval to continue with the Jr. High Baseball and Middle School Softball. A roll call vote was taken, all members present voting in the affirmative, 8 yes, 1 absent, motion carried.

Approved
Middle School
Softball and
Junior High
Baseball team

Mrs. Kwolek recognized the following:

- Zach Shasteen – Lawrence County Athlete of the Week
- Victoria Thompson – Denim Drive

Mr. Meehan spoke for the Mohawk Elementary P.T.O. stating that even though the weather has been less than cooperative, the recent Book Fair and Bagels and Books were both very successful events. Also, P.T.O. recently distributed “snifty” pencils and white bags for the Valentine’s Day Party.

There were no comments from the Mohawk Education Association.

At 9:10, the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel.

Janet L. Crum
Board Secretary