

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. The following members were present: Eugene A. Butch, Jr, James Capalbo, Stephen Cardella, Harry J. Curatola, Jr., Lori Griffin, Mark Hiler, Jonathan Laughner and Scott Singer. Superintendent Kathleen Kwolek, Assistant to the Superintendent, Lorree Houk, High School Principal, Raymond Omer, Assistant High School Principal, Gregory Ferencak, Bradlee Meehan, Elementary Principal, George Spurdute, Assistant Elementary Principal, John R. Seltzer, Solicitor, and Janet Crum, Secretary, were also in attendance.

The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on August 11, 2014, and the Committee of the Whole Meeting on September 2, 2014 were accepted as written on the motion of Mr. Hiler, seconded by Mr. Laughner, verbal vote, motion carried.

Mr. Gregg McLanahan, Financial Advisor, from Public Financial Management, and Mr. Jim Chiafullo, Bond Counsel, from Cohen and Grigsby, were present and addressed the Board concerning the competitive bond sale, which was conducted earlier in the day, in the amount \$3,740,000.00 for the purpose of refinancing the 2009 bond series. Mr. McLanahan stated that the results of the sale were remarkable. He explained that Moody's Investors Service assigned us a strong rating of A1 underlying and A2 enhanced. The sale had eight bidders with a total of 55 bids. Janney Montgomery Scott was the winning bidder at a true interest cost of 2.482993 and a bond discount of 10.00. He informed the Board that our net savings is \$272,371.39, and we will realize the bulk of the savings, \$232,949.90, during the current year. Mr. Chiafullo then reviewed the borrowing resolution complying with the law under the Local Government Unit Debt Act, to which the School District is subject. The resolution authorizes the incurring of non-electoral debt by the issuance of General Obligation bonds in the aggregate principal amount of \$3,740,000.00; covenanting to pay, and pledging all available taxing power for the payment of the bonds; establishing a sinking fund and appointing a sinking fund depository; fixing the form, interest rates, maturity date, redemption and other provisions for the payments; accepting a proposal for the purchase of the bonds; authorizing a filing of required documents with the DCED; ratifying and directing certain action of officers; and making certain of other covenants and provisions in respect of the bonds. He stated the bond closing is scheduled for Thursday, October 16, 2014. Mr. Butch motioned adoption of the resolution as prepared by Bond Counsel, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried. (Copy of Certificate Attached and Resolution on File in Business Office.)

Jamie Trotter, Student Delegate, as well as each Administrator, updated the Board on the upcoming events and activities and informed them that the 2014-15 school year has had a great beginning.

The Financial Report dated August 31, 2014 was presented for approval. So moved on the motion of Mr. Laughner, seconded by Mr. Singer, 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. Hiler motioned to pay the bills as listed, seconded by Mr. Cardella, 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 bills approved

GENERAL FUND

Prepaid	\$ 218,139.64
Current	\$ 535,603.13

SCHOOL LUNCH

Prepaid	\$.00
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On the motion of Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Cardella, approval was granted to add the following items to the agenda this evening, verbal vote, motion carried.

Granted permission to make additions to the agenda

- Resignation – Ben Edwards – Assistant Baseball and Ski Club
- Employment – Patricia Pezzulo – Bus Monitor and David Carley - Groundskeeper
- Use of Facilities – Dance Your Heart Out Fundraiser and Kathi's Dance and Gym – Christmas Benefit Dance Performance
- Change Order GC-5 – a deduction of \$11,779.00
- Travel Requests – Jared Stratton and Mike O'Lare
- First Reading of Student Wellness Policy modification

Consideration was given to the following resignations/employment:

- Benjamin Edwards – Resignation from the positions of Assistant Baseball Coach and Ski Club Advisor effective immediately.
- Patricia Pezzulo – Employment as a Bus Monitor.
- David Carley – Employment as a Mower.
- Ryan Castor – Employment as a Secondary Biology Teacher

Approved employment/resignations as presented

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

Consideration was given to adding April Cowher to the list of Daily Substitute Support Staff as a Paraprofessional. Mr. Singer motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Hiler, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried.

April Cowher
added to Daily
Substitute
Support Staff

Consideration was given to the approval of the following Individual Transportation Contracts for the 2014-15 school year:

- Deborah Oehmler – 1 student to Holy Redeemer School, Ellwood City, PA - \$24.00/day
- Nancy Reed – 1 student to St. Vitus, New Castle, PA - \$10.00/day
- Lori Schmidt – 2 students to New Castle Christian Academy , New Castle, PA – \$16.00/day
- Justin Stiles – 1 student to Laurel - Life Skills Program, New Castle, PA - \$28.00/day
- Mark Walters – 1 student to St. Vitus, New Castle, PA - \$12.00/day
- Sherry Zoccoli – 1 student to New Castle Christian Academy - \$14.00/day

Approved
Individual
Transportation
Contracts

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

Consideration was given to the approval of the transportation routes for the 2014-15 school year as posted on the Board Documents on the website. Mr. Singer motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Hiler, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried. (Copy of Bus Routes on file in the Office of the Superintendent)

2014-15
transportation
routes
approved

Consideration was given to the approval of Dr. Thomas Patton as School Dentist for the 2014-15 at the cost of \$3.00 per exam, which has remained the same for many years. Mr. Cardella motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Singer, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried.

Dr. Thomas
Patton
appointed as
School Dentist
for 2014-15

Consideration was given to the approval of the second reading of the modification to School Board Policy 907 – School Visitors. The changes are in order to align with security and visitation into the classroom. So moved by Mr. Butch, seconded by Mr. Curatola, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried.

Approved
second reading
of School
Board Policy
907

Consideration was also given to the approval of the second reading of the modification to School Board Policy 113.2 Behavior Management. Language has been added to meet Special Education requirements. Mr. Curatola motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Singer, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried.

Approved second reading of School Board Policy 113.2

The following travel requests were presented for approval:

- Jared Stratton to attend the Academics & Athletics Conference from September 29 – 30, 2014 in State College, PA.
- Mike O'Lare to attend the 2014 Fall Nike Championship Basketball Clinic from October 10 – 12, 2014 in Cleveland, OH.

Requests for travel approved

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

The following Use of Facilities request was presented for approval:

- Bessemer Rotary to use the High School Cafeteria on October 25 – 26, 2014 to host their annual dinner.
- Nathan Parrott to use a classroom once per week from October 1 – December 5, 2014 for rehearsals, and the auditorium on December 3 & 5, 2014 for the annual Dance Your Heart Out fundraiser.
- Kathi's Dance & Gym to use the auditorium and one classroom on December 13 & 14, 2014 for their annual benefit dance performance – Christmas Show.

Approved Use of Facilities

Mr. Butch motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Cardella, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried.

Real estate additions and exonerations were presented for approval. The current exonerations total \$441,422 and the current additions are \$221,100 bringing the YTD exonerations to \$1,322,842 and YTD additions to \$338,400 which translates to a YTD loss of \$984,442 or \$12,886.35 in actual tax dollars. Mr. Singer motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Curatola, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried. (Copy Attached)

Real estate additions/ Exonerations approved

Consideration was given to the approval of the first reading to modify School Board Policy 246 – Student Wellness. There were some changes needed to align with the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program as well as some recommended changes by PSBA. So moved on the motion of Mr. Hiler, seconded by Mr. Singer, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried.

First reading of
School Board
Policy 246
approved

Consideration was given to the approval of Change Order GC-5 (Mahoning Builders), a deduction in the amount of \$11,779.00. Mrs. Kwolek explained this is due to a lesser amount of carpet needed in the classrooms under the univents. Mr. Curatola motioned approval, seconded by Mr. Butch, roll call vote, all members present voting in the affirmative, 9 yes, 0 absent, motion carried.

Change Order
GC-5 (Mahoning
Builders)
approved

Mrs. Kwolek recognized the following:

- Jamie Trotter – Lawrence County Dairy Princess.
- Patricia Fletcher & Ben Edwards - \$4,000.00 Dollar General Grant.
- Cameron Schirmer - \$2,000.00 ING Unsung Heroes Award.

A representative was in attendance from Mohawk Elementary PTO and gave the Board the slate of officers for 2014-15 and informed them of upcoming events.

There were no comments from the Mohawk Education Association.

At 9:00 P.M. the meeting was adjourned on the motion of Mr. Cardella, seconded by Mr. Capalbo, verbal vote, motion carried.

Janet L. Crum
Board Secretary