

# Mohawk Valley School District #17

## Minutes

REGULAR MEETING ..... March 12, 2024

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mrs. Ann Taylor, President  
Mrs. Gina Richmond, Vice-President  
Mr. Howie Jorajuria, Clerk

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mr. Tristan Wright, Member  
Mr. Julian Rinehart, Member

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mrs. Shanna Johnson  
Mrs. Delia Salcido

### I. CALL TO ORDER

- ❖ Mrs. Ann Taylor called the Board Meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

### II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- ❖ The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Ann Taylor.

### III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

- ❖ Mrs. Ann Taylor asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Mr. Howie Jorajuria made the motion to adopt. Mrs. Gina Richmond seconded.

There was no discussion, motion carries.

### IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- ❖ There were no comments.

At this time, Mrs. Johnson asked to move Action Item #1 for discussion before Information and Discussion Items.

**Motion:** Mrs. Ann Taylor asked for a motion to move Action Item #1 for discussion. Mr. Howie Jorajuria made the motion to move Action Item #1. Mrs. Gina Richmond seconded.

- 1. TO CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AMEND IF DESIRED, AND, IF DEEMED ADVISABLE, TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION ORDERING AND CALLING A SPECIAL BUDGET OVERRIDE ELECTION TO BE HELD IN AND FOR THE DISTRICT AND DECLARING THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ARGUMENTS “FOR” AND “AGAINST” THE ELECTION TO THE YUMA COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT AS AUGUST 9, 2024 AT 5:00 P.M. AND APPROVING THE GOVERNING BOARD’S ARGUMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE SPECIAL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION BUDGET OVERRIDE ELECTION.**

Mrs. Johnson stated that the board needs to adopt a resolution if Mohawk Valley School is going to take this election in November 2024. She said that Gust Rosenfeld and Stifel will be present via Zoom to discuss the election process, cost to tax payers and answer any legal questions.

Mrs. Johnson stated that if we fail to take this to the voters in November, the 15% override would reduce to 10% reduction in 2025-2026. Approval in November does not take effect until the following year.

Mr. James Giel from Gust Rosenfeld and Mr. Ken Cherevka from Stifel were welcomed. During their presentation, they explained the process of the override election and the cost to tax payers. They also informed the board that this override is a continuation and Mohawk Valley School is in a good place to have this election.

### V. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

*Matters about which the Board may engage in discussion but will take no action.*

- 1. Administrator Reports**
  - a) Enrollment Report**

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- **Mrs. Johnson stated the following:**
  - ❖ No Report
  
- b) **Budget Report**
  - **Mrs. Johnson stated the following:**
    - ❖ No Report
  
- c) **Academic Report**
  - **Mrs. Johnson stated the following:**
    - ❖ She is trying to address truancy. She stated that the goal is to educate and mediate with the families.
    - ❖ We have sent home fifteen (15) "second" letters for students with more than twelve (12) absences. Nine (9) of those students already have over eighteen (18) days absent. This is 10% of the school year.
    - ❖ A "second" letter means that the parents need to meet with the Superintendent and create an action plan and justification as to why the child has missed so many days.
    - ❖ A formal truancy report has been submitted to the Yuma County Juvenile Court for three (3) students for one particular family. Each student has missed over twenty (20) days of school.
    - ❖ Five (5) students are on a chronic absence plan this year. A doctor must sign a chronic plan and the absences needs to meet the chronic illness.
    - ❖ Last year, 24.5% of the student population had chronic absence, more than 10% of the school year. The year before it was 32%.
    - ❖ In order to get the points on the school report card, we must have sustained or less chronic absences this year or less than 4% of our student population.
  
- d) **Bond and Facilities Report**
  - **Mrs. Johnson stated the following:**
    - ❖ Housing Plumbing and Tax Levy Update
      - We are on the Yuma County Board of Supervisor's agenda for the March 18, 2024 meeting.
      - The cost for this project will be \$189,000.
      - The increase will be \$94.47 for every \$100,000 valuation. This increase taxes next school year.
      - A Truth and Taxation Hearing will be done in July 2024.
  
- e) **Water Plant Report**
  - **Mrs. Johnson stated the following:**
    - ❖ No Report
  
- f) **General Items**
  - **Mrs. Johnson informed the board of the following:**
    - ❖ **Preschool Licensure Update**
      - We submitted the application.
      - We have provided maps and information of every area that preschoolers will be in such as the office, gym, cafeteria and playground. All these areas need to be certified.
      - Mrs. Shanna Johnson, Mrs. Norma Esparza and Mrs. Sarah Smith need to be certified. Mrs. Mireya Arcos will possibly be certified as a substitute.
      - Gas inspections and fire inspections need to be submitted.
      - Students have to be checked in and out whenever they transfer from different areas on campus.
      - Morning check-ins and afternoon check-outs have to be implemented.
    - ❖ **Auditor General Performance Audit**
      - It will take 6-8 months to receive the initial report.

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- They spent four days on campus.
- This audit may go on for more than a year. Once they share their findings, we will then have the opportunity to respond and argue the claims.
- Some discussion points were:
  - The Water Treatment Plant and what is the plan to sustain the cost to operate the plant.
  - The conflict of interest between Mrs. Delia Salcido and Mr. Jesus Salcido, who does bus maintenance. The conflict is that they are married and she pays him. They also questioned his experience.
  - There were questions about how we came about reducing Mrs. Kathy Rogers rent. Her rent had been reduced in place of her pay raise. There was a flaw in the way her rent was reduced.
- ❖ Mohawk Valley School are holders in a bankruptcy claim by Endo. This is in relation to an opioid lawsuit. For some unknown reason, MVS is affiliated with this claim. This could potentially mean money to the district if there is a payout, the amount is unknown at this time. At this point MVS has submitted a vote to agree to the methods that the entity will pay the claims through a trust that has been established. All actions and interpretations of this lawsuit and bankruptcy has been ran through the attorney.
- ❖ Mrs. Johnson informed board members that she submitted her application to the Antelope Union High school board for the position of Superintendent. If she is selected, she stated that she is proposing to work for both Mohawk Valley and Antelope Union High School.

### 2. Governing Board Member Comments

- ❖ No comments

## VI. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

*These items are adoption of a routine nature and those that normally do not require deliberations on the part of the Governing Board. A board member may pull items, which will then be discussed and voted on separately.*

### 1. Minutes

- a) Minutes of February 13 2024 – Regular Board Meeting

### 2. Expense Vouchers

- |                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| b) Expense #21 | \$68,161.10 |
| c) Expense #22 | \$ 3,693.17 |
| d) Expense #23 | \$29,757.73 |
| e) Expense #24 | \$ 2,972.06 |

### 3. Payroll Vouchers

- |                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| f) Payroll #17   | \$72,810.41 |
| g) Payroll #17.1 | \$12,940.40 |
| h) Payroll #18   | \$71,480.70 |
| i) Payroll #18.1 | \$ 479.76   |

### 4. Student Activity Reports

- j) February 2024
- k) Year-to-Date – 02/29/2023

### 5. Bank Account Reconciliations

- l) Student Activities/Revolving Fund/Cafeteria Fund – February 2024

### 6. Other

- m) Soccer Coach (Mireya Arcos)
- n) Track Coach (Tiffany Ott)

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Mrs. Johnson stated that soccer coach and track coach need to be approved in the consent agenda.

**Motion:** Mrs. Ann Taylor asked if anything need to be pulled and for a motion to accept the consent agenda. Mr. Howie Jorajuria made the motion to accept the consent agenda. Mrs. Gina Richmond seconded.

There was no discussion. Motion carries.

### VII. ACTION ITEMS

- 1. TO CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AMEND IF DESIRED, AND, IF DEEMED ADVISABLE, TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION ORDERING AND CALLING A SPECIAL BUDGET OVERRIDE ELECTION TO BE HELD IN AND FOR THE DISTRICT AND DECLARING THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ARGUMENTS “FOR” AND “AGAINST” THE ELECTION TO THE YUMA COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT AS AUGUST 9, 2024 AT 5:00 P.M. AND APPROVING THE GOVERNING BOARD’S ARGUMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE SPECIAL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION BUDGET OVERRIDE ELECTION.**

At this time, there was more discussion in regards to the override. Mrs. Johnson stated that federal grants are going to be cut by more than half, one more reason why the override needs to be approved. This will truly change what we are doing and how it will affect next year’s budget. Mrs. Johnson informed the board that without the override, several programs and staff will need changed due to lack of funds. The override brings more that \$220,000 annually to the District’s operating costs.

**Motion:** Mrs. Ann Taylor asked for a motion to approve and adopt a resolution ordering and calling a special budget override election to be held in and for the district and declaring the deadline for submitting arguments “for” and “against” the election to the Yuma County School Superintendent. Mr. Howie Jorajuria made the motion to approve. Mrs. Gina Richmond seconded.

The Resolution was adopted by a vote of three (3) ayes, zero (0) nays, zero (0) abstained and two (2) absences. The board voted as follow:

- Mrs. Ann Taylor – aye
- Mrs. Gina Richmond – aye
- Mr. Howie Jorajuria – aye
- Mr. Tristan Wright – absent
- Mr. Julian Rinehart – absent

There was no further discussion. Motion carries.

- 2. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve 2024-2025 Calendars (Student, 10-Month Employee and 12-Month Employee)**

Mrs. Johnson stated the FY25 calendars only have a few small changes and almost identical to last year’s calendars.

**Motion:** Mrs. Ann Taylor asked for a motion to approve 2024-2025 Calendars (Student, 10-Month Employee and 12-Month Employee). Mrs. Gina Richmond made the motion to approve. Mr. Howie Jorajuria seconded.

There was no discussion. Motion carries.

- 3. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Shanna Johnson to Approve All FY24 Student Activity Requests for Fundraising**

Mrs. Johnson stated that this is another layer of checks and balances.

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**Motion:** Mrs. Ann Taylor asked for a motion to approve Shanna Johnson to approve all FY24 student activity requests for fundraising. Mr. Howie Jorajuria made the motion to approve. Mrs. Gina Richmond seconded.

There was no discussion. Motion carries.

#### 4. Discussion on Policies 763-786

Discussion on Policies:

- No. 763 Policy BEDB – Agenda
- No. 764 Regulation BGC-R – Policy Revision and Review
- No. 765 Policy BGE – Policy Communication/Feedback
- No. 766 Regulation CCB-R – Line and Staff Relations
- No. 767 Policy CFD – School-Based Management
- No. 768 Regulation EB-R – Environmental and Safety Program
- No. 769 Policy EBAA – Reporting of Hazards/Warning Systems
- No. 770 Policy EBC – Emergencies
- No. 771 Policy ECB – Building and Grounds Maintenance
- No. 772 Policy EEAA – Walkers and Riders
- No. 773 Regulation EEAE-R – Bus Safety Program
- No. 774 Policy GBEF – Staff Use of Digital Communications and Electronic Devices
- No. 775 Policy GDC – Support Staff Leaves and Absences (Removal/Reference Only)
- No. 776 Policy IHA – Basic Instructional Program
- No. 777 Policy IKA – Graduation Requirements
- No. 778 Policy IMA – Teaching Methods
- No. 779 Policy JFABDA – Admission of Students in Foster Care
- No. 780 Policy JH – Student Absences and Excuses
- No. 781 Regulation JHD – Exclusions and Exemptions from School Attendance
- No. 782 Regulation JIH – Student Interrogations, Searches, and Arrests
- No. 783 Policy JJE – Student Fund-Raising Activities
- No. 784 Exhibit JK-EB – Student Discipline
- No. 785 Exhibit KB-EB – Parental Involvement in Education
- No. 786 Policy KEC – Public Concerns/Complaints About Instructional Resources

#### VIII. FUTURE ITEMS

- **Next Board Meeting – April 9, 2024**
- **Pay Raises and Contract**

#### IX. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion:** Mrs. Ann Taylor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Howie Jorajuria made the motion to adjourn. Mrs. Gina Richmond seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

A copy of the agenda background material provided to the Governing Board members (with the exception of material relating to possible executive sessions) is available for public inspection at the District Office, 5151 South Avenue 39E, Roll, Arizona.

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024  
Delia Salcido, Governing Board Secretary

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Designated Board Member

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Date

**Mohawk Valley School District #17**  
**Minutes**

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Delia Salcido, Board Secretary

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Date