Call to Order- Regular Meeting of the MCSD BOE for December 5, 2019

- President Tierney opened the Regular Board of Education Meeting at 7:02pm and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Changes: none

Visitor Comments- Agenda Items Only: none

Board and Staff Reports / Board Discussion items:

A. President’s Report: None

B. Committee Updates

- Buildings and Grounds Committee: None
- Policy: Tim Coleman, Chair, spoke to say there was a policy meeting prior to this BOE meeting and the following topics were discussed:
  - Reviewed Transportation Policy # 5730
  - Reviewed the need of electronic recording devices in classroom policy
  - We will also be taking action tonight to adopt a new required policy #7470 Student Voter Registration and Pre-Registration, effective January 1, 2020.
- Safety Committee: Mike Raucci, Chair, spoke to say there was a Safety Committee Meeting On November 13, 2019 at 4pm.
  Attendees at the meeting were:
  Mike Raucci, Dan O’Connor, Addy Waldie, Tina Pugliese, Craig Forth, Kevin Kolakowski, Mike Mitchell, Lynette Holman, Laura Whitney, Jodi Birch, Joe Manzer, Mike Pratt, and Bruce Potter

Report out on lockout and dog sweep by the Sheriff’s department:

Drills went well at both schools

Did find some product – vaping mostly, 4 students suspended
  o They are sitting through the educational program discussed during the last safety committee meeting.
  o Support from the faculty is great regarding the program
MS/HS
  - One issue is the open concept of the cafeteria
  - Staff and students did a great job
ES
  - A few classes were talking when they should not have been

Laura is waiting on a date for the next drill from the K-9 unit

Camera installation

Installation of cameras at both schools are almost complete
Behavioral issues have decreased now that students know there are cameras throughout the schools

Social media monitoring service

Social Sentinel has some issues and recommend not moving forward at this time
Kids are coming to the principal’s/SRO with concerns

Protocols for building evening hours and use

Move forward with a formal committee to set protocols
Joe’s staff has been doing a great job making sure the auditorium and office doors are kept locked
Tough to restrict access when the MS gym is being used
All teachers and staff have badges with different levels of access.
ES custodians can’t open doors for the coaches
  - The patio is left open for the kids and the coaches have to swipe their badge to let them in
ES Teachers sign in and out for lunch
Some doors are currently being fixed due to vandalism
Can more swipes be added to the ES? Some doors could really use them. Some doors are being propped open when students are outside.

New traffic pattern at the MS/HS

Much smoother, controlled and safer
Still some parents not following the rules
Bus drivers are very appreciative because it is easier for them to get in and out

Survey

Previous survey results – staff and students didn’t feel safe
Feedback from parents and students – feel safer and more supported
Parents are concerned that security is the only support provided, need other support as well (e.g., mental health)
  - Currently working with the staff regarding social and emotional support

Next safety meeting is scheduled for January 22nd.
• Finance Committee: None

D. Superintendent’s Report
Superintendent Potter wished to publicly acknowledge and thank Joe Manzer, Mike Pratt and their respective teams for working long hours, while understaffed, to ensure the campus was cleared and safe for staff and students, during the recent snow storm. Both Departments stepped up and did an outstanding job!

• Presentation

E. Community Recognition:
HS Principal Kevin Kolakowski introduced students Emily Chan and Andrew Herrick and invited them to join him at the podium, along with their families and teacher Mike Jeffery. Mr. Jeffery spoke on behalf of the accomplishments of both students, noting both represented Mechanicville at the NYSSMA Area All-State concert which was held at the Saratoga Springs High School recently, both were first chair in there respective instruments. Emily and Andrew were presented with a certificate by Superintendent Potter and a fond applause from all in attendance!

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION
• December 23-January 3, 2020- Holiday Recess- No school K-12
• Community Coffee Chat- January 6, 2020- HS Cafeteria- 6:00pm
• Next Regular Board of Education Meeting January 7, 2020-HS Cafeteria-7pm

ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION:

BOE Meeting Minutes
On a motion by Dan O’Connor, second by Mike Raucci, the Board of Education approved items A below. The vote was 7-0.

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 7, 2019

Financial
On a motion by John Taglione, second by John Bove, the Board of Education accepted the financial items A-G, as listed below. The vote was 7-0.

A. Treasurer’s Report for October
B. Student Activity Report for October
C. Budget Transfer Report for October
D. Budget Status Report for October
E. Revenue Status Report for October
F. Claims Audit Report for October
G. Capital Project Budget Status-October

Committee on Special Education
On a motion by Dan O’Connor, second by John Taglione, the Board of Education approved item A below. The vote was 7-0.

A. The Committee on Special Education and Committee on Preschool Special Education Recommendation for students #’s which have been previously sent to the Board members for review and will be attached to the official minutes.
Renewal Agreement for School Resource Officer

On a motion by Mike Raucci, second by Tim Coleman, the Board of Education approved the following agreement as outlined in item A below. The vote was 7-0.
A. The 2019-2020 Renewal Agreement between Saratoga County Sheriff’s Department and The Mechanicville City School District, as previously posted on the district website for a 30 day public comment period.

Lacrosse Merger

On a motion by Mike Raucci, seconded by Dan O’Connor, the Board of Education approved the Lacrosse Merger between Mechanicville City Schools and Stillwater Schools with an estimated start up cost of approximately $10,000-$12,000. The vote was 7-0.

Adopt Resolutions

On a motion by Dan O’Connor, second by John Taglione the Board of Education approved the following resolutions as listed in item A and B below. The vote was 7-0.
A. Resolution regarding Advocacy Priorities for the 2020 Legislative Session
B. Resolution to approve the settlement agreement and release dated November 27, 2019 resolving a personnel issue which arose between the District and a former employee, which was previously discussed in Executive Session.

Adopt Policy

On a motion by Tim Coleman, second by John Bove the Board of Education adopted the following required Policy as outlined below. The vote was 7-0.
A: Policy # 7470, Student Voter Registration and Pre-Registration, effective January 1, 2020.

Capital Project Change Orders:

On a motion by John Taglione, second by Dan O’Connor, the Board of Education accepted the change orders as noted in item A and as previously sent to the Board of Education. The vote was 7-0.
A. HVAC-03 (credit $14,565.26)

Obsolete Equipment:

On a motion by Dan O’Connor, second by Tim Coleman, the Board of Education approved the disposal of obsolete technology equipment, as noted in the memo date November 27, 2019 and as previously sent to the BOE. The vote was 7-0.

Termination of Employment-CSEA

On a motion by Mike Raucci, second by Tim Coleman the Board of Education terminated the following CSEA probationary appointment as listed in item A below. The vote was 7-0.
A. Scott Putman, as a Laborer, effective close of business on November 15, 2019.

Resignation

On a motion by John Bove, second by John Taglione, the Board of Education accepted the following resignation for retirement purposes as listed in item A. The vote was 7-0.
A: Laurie Pozefsky, as a Spanish Teacher, per the MTA contract and the terms and conditions of
the retirement incentive as written in the Memorandum of Agreement between the District and Mechanicville Teachers' Association, effective close of business on June 30, 2020. Superintendent Potter spoke to inform the BOE we will be celebrating all retirements in June.

**Appointments**
On a motion by Mike Raucci, second by John Bove the Board of Education approved the following prorated MTA Schedule B Stipend effective January 1, 2020 through the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, as listed in Item A below. The vote was 7-0.

A: Tom Berrigan as Interim Athletic Director

On a motion by Mike Raucci, second by Dan O'Connor, the Board of Education approved the following teachers, per the memo from Elementary Principal Craig Forth, as mentors for the 2019-2020 school year, at a rate of $1000 as listed in Item A below. The vote was 7-0.

A: Trina Carlton, Tina Pugliese, Nicola Billert and Joni Braun

On a motion by Tim Coleman, second by John Bove, the Board of Education approved the following CSEA Change of Employment status as listed in item A. The vote was 7-0.

A: Jenna Doin, from Probationary to Permanent, as a Cleaner, effective December 4, 2019.

On a motion by Mike Raucci, second by John Taglione, the Board of Education approved the District Clerk Stipend increase as listed in item A below. The vote was 7-0.

A. Catherine O’Brien, in the amount of $2,000, prorated for the remainder of the year.

**MAA- Creation and Change of Employment**
On a motion by John Pugliese, second by Mike Raucci, the Board of Education approved the following creation of administrative position(s) and administrative appointment(s), as outlined in items A-D below. The vote was 7-0.

A. Kevin Kolakowski from HS Principal to Assistant Superintendent for STEAM and Innovation, with no change in compensation or tenure. This appointment is effective January 1, 2020.

B. Alyssa Sabbatino from probationary School Improvement Coordinator to probationary Assistant Superintendent for School Improvement, with no change in compensation. Alyssa’s tenure date will remain November 5, 2022. This appointment is effective January 1, 2020.

C. Mary Alice Hipwell from Director of Special Education to Director of Student Services, with no change in compensation. Mary Alice’s tenure date will remain December 2, 2022. This appointment is effective January 1, 2020.

D. Michael Mitchell, from probationary MS Principal 6-8 to probationary MS/HS Principal 6-12, with a prorated salary increase of $10,000, effective January 1, 2020. Michael’s tenure date will remain August 31, 2023.
On a motion by Dan O’Connor, second by John Bove, the Board of Education, on a vote of 7-0, approved the following substitutes as listed in items A & B:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Mechanicville City School District hereby authorizes the placement of the attached list of individuals to the District’s substitute list effective December 6, 2019 (or as otherwise noted). Be it further resolved that this appointment is made on an emergency conditional basis and subject to both a statement from each regarding criminal conviction(s) or pending criminal charges and the receipt of criminal background clearance from the Commissioner of Education. The continued employment of each of the individuals on the attached list is contingent upon the District’s receipt of notice from the Commissioner of Education that he/she is cleared for employment. These appointments are contingent upon these individuals having their fingerprints processed and approved through the BOCES Substitute Service.

A. Non Instructional: Heidi Wittchen-11/1/19
B. Instructional: Brandon Butts- November 13, 2019
   Mirna Jaime - November 21, 2019
   Todd Neuhaus-November 26, 2019

Visitors Comments
Tom Mahoney
- Clarification on administrative appointments
- Question regarding football merger (Superintendent Potter mentioned this will be discussed at the 1/6/20 Coffee Chat).

Pat Greenhall
- Clarification on football merger
- Comment on Superintendent’s Presentation
- Comment on Assistant Principal position in HS
- Comment on administrative salaries/MAA
- Comment on how to bring active shooter training to District (poss. future Coffee Chat)
- Comment (on behalf of Kimberly Dunn)- noting the positive connection between students and police through the recent community service and having the SRO on campus.

Adjourn
On a motion by John Bove, second by Tim Coleman, The Board of Education adjourned the regular meeting at 7:42pm. The vote was 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine L. O’Brien
District Clerk