

Mohawk Valley School District #17

Minutes

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Ann Taylor, President
Mrs. Gina Richmond, Vice President
Mr. Carlos Farnsworth, Member
Mr. Jacob Vint, Member

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Michael Gillmore, Member

OTHERS PRESENT: Mrs. Shanna Johnson
Mrs. Delia Salcido

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Ann Taylor called the meeting to order at 5:45 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Ann Taylor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Mrs. Ann Taylor called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Motion to approve the agenda for the meeting made by Mr. Jacob Vint, seconded by Mr. Carlos Farnsworth.

There was no discussion. The motion carried by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No comments

5. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

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

A. Administrator Reports

a) Academic Report

Mrs. Johnson stated the following:

- State Testing will end on Thursday, April 23, 2026
- We have a new high needs student in kindergarten. He has been placed in the self-contained classroom with a reduced day.
- Two members were inducted into the NJHS.
- There was a discipline issue with two students bringing nicotine vapes to school.

b) Budget Report

Mrs. Johnson stated the following:

- Enrollment is holding steady going into next year.
- The concern is that we are losing three high needs students. High needs students are worth a significant amount of money to the district. To keep this program, we would need to get 2-3 high needs students otherwise we will have to RIF an instructional aide.
- Pay Raise Discussion
 - Currently, we do not feel comfortable giving raises until we know state budget.
 - Some positions need significant pay increases once again but we need to do more configuring before presenting raises.
 - We will revisit raises in May or June.
- Performance Audit Update
 - A written response and evidence implementing the audit recommendations from the audit reports needs to be submitted to the Auditor General by May 12, 2026.
 - Feel confident that all areas are ready except for one.

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c) **Housing Update**

Mrs. Johnson stated the following:

- The empty apartment is almost ready to be rented and we have a renter.
- There was one late rent in March and none in April.

d) **Facilities Update**

Mrs. Johnson stated the following:

- Nothing new to report.
- We will begin working on summer projects plan. Only maintenance and minor work.
- We had a finding in preschool monitoring due to the insufficient playground sand. GCE/Tacna Sand & Gravel will be donating sand for this project. Thank you to Clinton Kelland for making the arrangements.

e) **Water Plant Updates**

Mrs. Johnson stated the following:

- There are three concerns with the Water Plant. All issues are being worked through.
 - Recycled water pumps and settled water pumps that connect to the new cistern, are not NSF certified.
 - Ultra-sonic sensor problems.
 - Sensor Alarm Sounding

f) **General Items**

Mrs. Johnson informed the board of the following:

- Reminded board members about the board openings and making sure their paperwork is in.

B. Governing Board Member Comments

No comments

6. 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.

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- a) March 11, 2026 – Regular Board Meeting

Expense Vouchers

b) Expense Voucher 1046	\$ 47,543.90
c) Expense Voucher 1048	\$ 56,618.49
d) Expense Voucher 1049	\$ 3,487.90
e) Expense Voucher 1051	\$258,961.81

Payroll Vouchers

f) Payroll Voucher 1045	\$65,995.84
g) Payroll Voucher 1047	\$66,512.75
h) Payroll Voucher 1050	\$55,798.52

Account Reconciliations

- i) Student Activities – 3/31/2025
j) All Accounts – 3/31/2025

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- k) Donations
 - Tax Credit
 - C. Espinoza \$400
 - M. Crook \$400
 - K. Snyder \$400
 - L. Soto \$400
 - Sports
 - N. Monge \$200

Approval of the Following:

- l) Formal IGA Separation from the Yuma County Library and Accept Book Donations
- m) Letter of Resignation for Sherry Fajardo
- n) Letter of Resignation for Tiffany Ott
- o) Certified Long Term Substitute Contract for Kindergarten for Susana Puga
- p) Intergovernmental Agreement between Educational Services LLC.

Mrs. Gina Richmond abstained from voting on Payroll Vouchers #1045, #1047 and #1050 due to a conflict of interest, as Mrs. Teresa Yeghoian (Mrs. Richmond's sister) was paid on those vouchers.

Motion: Mrs. Ann Taylor called for a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Carlos Farnsworth made the motion. Mr. Jacob Vint seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Mrs. Ann Taylor – Yes

Mrs. Gina Richmond – Abstained from voting on Payroll Vouchers #1045, #1047, and #1050 due to a conflict of interest, but voted to approve the remaining items on the consent agenda

Mr. Carlos Farnsworth – Yes

Mr. Michael Gillmore – Absent

Mr. Jacob Vint – Yes

Motion carried.

7. ACTION ITEMS

1. Discussion and Possible Action to Accept FY25 Audit and Compliance Questionnaire

Mrs. Johnson stated that this is our annual audit that we are required to have and it was one of our best audits. She stated that there were seven findings. She and Mrs. Salcido went over the findings.

Motion: Mrs. Ann Taylor asked for a motion to accept the FY25 Audit and Compliance Questionnaire. Mr. Jacob Vint made the motion to approve. Mr. Carlos Farnsworth seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Mrs. Ann Taylor – Yes

Mrs. Gina Richmond – Yes

Mr. Carlos Farnsworth – Yes

Mr. Michael Gillmore – Absent

Mr. Jacob Vint – Yes

Motion carried.

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2. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve New Superintendent Evaluation Form

Mrs. Johnson stated that the form has been remade to better align with our needs.

Motion: Mrs. Ann Taylor asked for a motion to approve the new Superintendent Evaluation Form. Mr. Carlos Farnsworth made the motion to approve. Mr. Jacob Vint seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent.

3. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Employee Insurance Compensation Package for 2026-2027

Mrs. Johnson proposed the following:

- Medical Plan:
 - Renewal option 1 with EMI Health.
 - This will be a 4.51% increase which will be an increase of \$8,298 annually to the district if the same number of employees enroll.
 - District can absorb the cost with no increases to employee contributions.
 - Mrs. Johnson explained to the board that currently an employee who is on the HDHP plan pays \$60 per month and an employee on PPO pays \$90 per month. She stated she is proposing to keep the employee contribution the same.
- Dental Plan:
 - Renewal of EMI
 - 4.0% increase
 - \$390 annual increase
 - All costs are to the employee, district does not cover
- Vision Plan:
 - Renewal of EMI
 - 3.9% increase
 - \$56 annual increase
 - All costs are to the employee, district does not cover
- Basic Life/AD&D:
 - Renewal of EMI
 - 0% increase
 - 100% paid by the district

Motion: Mrs. Ann Taylor asked for a motion to approve Employee Insurance Compensation Package for 2026-2027. Mr. Carlos Farnsworth made the motion to approve employee contribution plan as presented by Mrs. Johnson. Mr. Jacob Vint seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent.

4. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve 2026-2027 Salaried Employee Contracts

Mrs. Johnson stated that she is proposing to remove stipends for salaried employees and add those amounts to their base salaries. She also stated that she is proposing changes to the performance pay section (Section 6) of her contract. These changes would increase performance pay to 5% and update the goals to a more standard format.

Motion: Mrs. Ann Taylor asked for a motion to approve 2026-2027 Salaried Employee Contracts. Mrs. Gina Richmond made the motion. Mr. Jacob Vint seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent.

5. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve 2026-2027 Certified Contracts (Teachers) and Notices of Appointment

Mrs. Johnson stated the following: She is proposing a 3% increase, but not at this time. Prop 301 funds have built back up, so the funds will be used to either increase the 301 plan or to increase pay raises. Pay raises will be revisited in May or June.

Teacher contracts were given various raises based on reinstatement to the current new hire rates.

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Mrs. Nydia Monge's title has changed from Paraprofessional to Office Secretary, and her Notice of Appointment will be increased by 8 days.

Ms. Stephanie Hernandez's title has changed to Cafeteria Helper for 184 days and Custodial for 78 days. She will continue to be a year-round employee.

Mrs. Jennifer Puga's days have increased to include 20 summer days. She has worked these days in previous years, but they were not reflected in her Notice of Appointment and were instead recorded as extra time. Her current Notice of Appointment is no longer reimbursed with Yuma County Library.

Mrs. Bonnie Saxton will now be a full-time employee, with her weekly hours increasing from 30 to 40.

Motion: Mrs. Ann Taylor asked for a motion to approve 2026-2027 Certified Contracts and Notices of Appointment. Mr. Carlos Farnworth made the motion. Mr. Jacob Vint seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent.

6. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Updated Rental Lease Agreement for Employee and Non-Employee

Mrs. Johnson stated that the Rental Agreement is being updated. The agreement has been combined into one document for both employees and non-employees. Initials will be required at the bottom of each page. Renter's insurance will now be required. The late fee will increase from \$45 to \$50, and the waiver period will change from 10 days to 5 days. She stated that many tenants were using the full 10-day waiver. Changing it to 3 days would be too short due because of limited office hours and no electronic payment option.

Inspection rights have been added. Tenants will now receive a Lead-Based Paint handout. The move-in process will include taking photos and reviewing key lease areas with tenants, including addendums, late rent, inspections, and care of the unit. For continued leases, inspections will be conducted, and renewals will depend on inspection results and prior rental history.

The Pet Addendum has also been revised. There will be a limit of two pets, and the deposit will increase from \$100 to \$150. It was also suggested by the Board to specify restricted animals, so livestock and poultry are not allowed. This will be added to the pet addendum.

Motion: Mrs. Ann Taylor asked for a motion to approve the updated Rental Lease Agreement for Employee and Non-Employee and Addendums adding in no livestock or poultry allowed. Mr. Jacob Vint made the motion. Mr. Carlos Farnworth seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent.

7. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve FY27 Housing Rental Rates

Mrs. Johnson stated that there has been discussion about increasing rental rates to help justify maintaining the rentals. She also stated that in the past, when rates were increased too much, it became difficult to keep the units rented.

After discussion on housing rental rates, it was determined that there will be no increase in the rates and there would be two housing rental rate schedules, one for employees and one for non-employees. The employee rates will be as follows:

- House-Superintendent House = \$935
- House-three bedrooms = \$795
- Apartment-two bedrooms = \$553
- Apartment-two bedrooms = \$490

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The non-employee rates will be as follows:

- House-Superintendent House = \$1,100
- House-three bedrooms = \$900
- Apartment-two bedrooms = \$650
- Apartment-two bedrooms = \$575

Motion: Mrs. Ann Taylor asked for a motion to approve FY27 Housing Rental Rates. Mr. Carlos Farnworth made the motion. Mr. Jacob Vint seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent.

8. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Grade Level Capacity

Mrs. Johnson presented grade level capacity as follows:

- Kindergarten 10
- 1st Grade 15
- 2nd Grade 14
- 3rd Grade 10
- 4th Grade 10
- 5th Grade 17
- 6th Grade 14
- 7th Grade 18
- 8th Grade 17
- Self-Contained 3

Motion: Mrs. Ann Taylor asked for a motion to approve Grade Level Capacity. Mr. Carlos Farnworth made the motion. Mr. Jacob Vint seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent.

9. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Capital Plan to Add Money Projects and Sources

Mrs. Johnson stated that the capital plan is not ready for approval. She suggested tabling this item.

Motion: Mrs. Ann Taylor asked for a motion to table Capital Plan to add money projects and sources. Mrs. Gina Richmond made the motion. Mr. Carlos Farnworth seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent.

8. FUTURE ITEMS

- Next Board Meeting – May13, 2026 – Regular Board Meeting at 5:45 pm

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mrs. Ann Taylor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Gina Richmond made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Carlos Farnworth seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 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 24th day of April 2026
Delia Salcido, Governing Board Secretary

Designated Board Member

Date

Delia Salcido, Board Secretary

Date