

ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019
WOODSTOCK SCHOOL

1. Opening Items

- 1.01 Call to Order 6:00
- 1.02 Tobacco Policy Statement
- 1.03 Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.04 Roll Call

Present: Trustee Salem, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Shands, Trustee Warren
Not Present: Trustee Storey, Trustee Osmond, Trustee Ratcliff

2. Acceptance of Minutes

- 2.01 Acceptance of Minutes (proposed 6:05)

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby accepts the minutes of the December 18, 2018 Board Meeting

Motioned: Trustee Shands

Seconded: Trustee Warren

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Salem, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Shands, Trustee Warren

Not Present: Trustee Storey, Trustee Osmond, Trustee Ratcliff

Now Present

Trustee Osmond arrived at 6:05

3. Welcome

- 3.01 Woodstock Principal, Scott Richards will welcome the Board (proposed 6:10 duration 10 min)

- Showed videos of 4 events at the schools
 - Students worked with a visiting musician– wrote a song with them
 - Parade in building after hearing the book, “Balloons Over Broadway”
 - Made their own balloon floats
 - Gave Carol Brower a surprise dance party on her last day before retirement
 - Micro-assemblies – Librarian Shelley Savatgy is working with local organizations to come in to work with each grade level (retired teachers, staff, author visits, etc.)
- Bringing in a therapy dog (Tank) – still working out logistical details

4. Superintendent District News

- 4.01 The Superintendent will report District News (proposed 6:20)

- In the second week with new after-school procedures
 - Thanks to the administrators, staff and students for working through this process together
 - The safety of our students and our facility is one of our main priorities
 - Principals were very thoughtful when they were working on the logistics and planning for this transition

- This is an adjustment for our students, but we are trying to provide options and opportunities while maintaining a safe environment
- Auditions for our musical will be held this week
- Ms. LaClair will be providing a presentation on Capital Projects this evening
 - Presented this to the Facilities Committee last night, and will be scheduling with the PTAs to review it with them
- The Woodstock PTA is advocating for an additional staff member to be assigned to Math AIS in Woodstock
 - Asked Dr. DeLucia to provide the Board with an update on the many initiatives undertaken by the Curriculum and Instructions office

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, Dr. Jodi DeLucia:

RTI/AIS - Future's Report - Have met every other week with Cabinet since September

- On the agenda at almost every meeting
- Reviewed the NY State Blueprint for Improved Results for Students with Disabilities and New York State's Continuum of Special Education Services for School Age Students with Disabilities
- Reviewed many of our programs as they relate to service delivery
- Discussed the programs that do and do not align with least restrictive environment
- Discussed what service delivery models are being delivered with fidelity
- Will be reviewing the District Response to Intervention Document in the spring
- Thanks to Cindy Bishop, our Director of PPS for her work
- Will be meeting with elementary AIS teachers and administrators to assess the efficacy of our AIS program, delivery models, and the fidelity to the delivery of service
- RTI committee will analyze student numbers, eligibility and exit criteria, models of delivering AIS services, elementary schedules, and professional development for staff to ensure that there is common language and a clear understanding of expectations

Equity and Inclusivity

- Partnership with the NYU MetroCenter's Center for Strategic Solutions to offer professional development on equity and inclusivity work in the Middle and High School
- Thanks to MS Principal Jen O'Connor and HS Principal Lance Edelman
- Kick-off to this work was in September on the Superintendent's Conference Day
- Have had the opportunity to build on our initial work, but need more time, more training, and more opportunity
 - Four more sessions scheduled this year
- Planning to expand this work next year to the elementary buildings

Committees

- A committee of teachers and administrators will meet about Summer Skills Academy
 - Will reflect on the efficacy of the program, and discuss what a highly effective Summer Academy Curriculum might look like
- Professional Development Planning Committee will complete the new Professional Development Plan
 - Current plan expires this June
- Guidance Plan Committee has been meeting and will continue to meet

- Will report to the Board on Feb. 19th
- Will be working with K-6 teachers to complete a Mathematics Curriculum Audit, and are planning to complete a facilitated Curriculum Map review over the summer

Professional Development

- Every teacher responsible for students that will participate in 3-8 Computer Based Testing will be trained this year by February 19th
 - Teachers have the opportunity to explore the online exams, and create opportunities for students to engage in technology
- Literacy Intensives will continue so that every teacher of reading K-6 has the opportunity to build common language and engage in coaching
- Been utilizing the support of an Ulster BOCES Mathematics Specialist to expand on the Dr. Nicki Newton work and to align the work to the shifts in mathematical practices outlined by the New York State Next Generation Mathematics Standards
- Working with a BOCES Science Specialist to build on and expand understanding of the New York State Science Standards, the Inquiry Process, and the Power of Phenomenon in the classroom
- Continuing Growth Mindset work after school, with many teachers participating

Discussion:

- Should have been a presentation, but is the prelude to presentation in Feb

5. Board District News

5.01 The Board will report District News (proposed 6:25)

Trustee Salem reported that the Board has been taking their tours of the schools in session – they have been illuminating and appreciated

Trustee Warren reported that there is a free workshop at the Woodstock Day School called Transgender 101 at 6:00 on Monday

7. Acknowledge Public Be Heard Comments

7.01 The Board will acknowledge the public be heard comments from the last meeting Rita Vanacore, Heather Roberts

8. Public and Student Comment

8.01 Public and Students may comment on any agenda or non-agenda item (proposed 6:35 duration 10 min or more)

Natalie Acker-Raymond – Students are not getting as much help as they need. Need another AIS Math teacher at Woodstock

9. 2019-2020 Budget Update

9.01 Assistant Superintendent for Business, Monica LaClair will give an update on the 2019-2020 Budget (proposed 6:30 duration 30 min)

Capital Projects:

- Specialized Building Code set by State Education Department (SED) and prevailing wages drives up the cost of school construction (as compared to private construction)
- Maximum \$750,000 currently in draft budget for projects
 - Field Hockey Field/Baseball Field Drainage

- HS Doors/Security Entrance
 - Alternates to the Press Box/Bleacher Project
- Repair Reserve very limited in scope
 - Requires a Public Hearing
 - Requires approval of 2/3 of the Board of Education
 - Not eligible for Building Aid
- Repair Reserve Potential Projects
 - Repointing Bricks
 - HS Roof
 - Drainage under the Track and Football field
 - Modifications to field to allow for uses other than football
 - Estimated cost up to \$1 million
- Capital Project Funding Options
 - Capital Reserve – outside of budget and reserve
 - \$6.1 million currently in Capital Reserve account
 - Bonding
 - Debt from Bennett project payments ending in 2022-2023
 - Replacing current debt would keep Building Aid payments stable
 - Allows us to hold on to Reserve to use for future planning
 - Both Require Voter Approval
- Capital Project Components
 - ADA Commitment Letter to State Education Department for projects
 - Approx. \$1.1 Million
 - HS/MS Bathrooms
 - HS/MS Locker Rooms
 - Still to be determined
 - Replacing Bennett Roof (partial)
 - Approximately \$1.0 Million
 - Incorporating new requirements for a school building roof project
- Debt and Building Aid
 - Little less than half the debt is covered by building aid
 - Additional debt brings additional aid
- Summary
 - In 2019-2020 Budget
 - FH Field/Baseball Field
 - Doors
 - Lower Level Safety
 - Repair Reserve
 - Repointing Bricks
 - MS/HS Roof
 - Drainage Lining Repair
 - ADA Capital Project
 - Commitment Letter to SED
 - MS/HS Locker rooms
 - MS/HS Bathrooms
 - Bennett Roof (partial)

Discussion:

- Science Room bids come in tomorrow

- Tax cap is effected because you can take out the where the debt is higher than the aid and taxpayers have to pay
- Capital Project work – hoping for on ballot this spring
- 2020 is the next building condition survey – using one from 2015
- MS & HS locker rooms boys and girls will be brought up to ADA compliance

6. Student Representative Report

6.01 Student Representative, Satch Sumner-Waldman will report to the Board

Association of Student Government

- Correction in statement made at the last meeting - have a simple majority established
- Problem to get the attendance to conduct a simple majority – 4 people at the meeting today – need 8 or more
- Last meeting they voted that no quorum was needed temporarily
- Have not had a 2/3 majority yet at a meeting– will keep working on bylaws – have some from other schools
- Working with Google Docs and group chat for better communications

National Honor Society

- A productive fall semester serving community
 - Students did warm weather gear drive for Family of Woodstock
 - Blood drive successful
 - Spearheaded “Helping Hand” – purchased gift cards for families in need
 - Kicking off “Canuary” campaign – collecting can goods for Reservoir Food Pantry
 - February collecting items for victims of domestic violence in shelters
- Planning Quiz Bowl for the spring– redesigned as Bennett Family Fun Night and was well received

Philosophy Club

- Accepting submissions for academic journal
- Club is trying to build interest in the journal, similar to magazine and school newspaper

Brought copies of the “Talon” – school newspapers

New After School Rules

- Students are complaining that they are too strict

Discussion:

- The Board offers their encouragement to keep going with Student Government
- 2 issues of School newspaper so far
- After school rules – use Student Government
 - Perfect thing for Student Government to “negotiate” with Principal
 - No penalty for sharing a thoughtful and important opinion
 - Board members feel students did not hear the reasons and were not given an opportunity for input
 - Need to find middle ground in the future not so extreme
 - Make decisions collaboratively with students, not top-down

10. Discussion & Possible Action

10.01 ICR - Goldin

Recommended Action: BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District approves the Independent Contractor Retainer between the Onteora Central School District and David Goldin as a mentor in Art & Design for the period beginning December 17, 2018 to May 31, 2019 for a stipend in the amount of \$250.00 and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

Motioned: Trustee Shands

Seconded: Trustee Osmond

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Salem, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Shands, Trustee Warren, Trustee Osmond

Not Present: Trustee Storey, Trustee Ratcliff

10.02 Donation from Clark Patterson Lee

Recommended Action: The Superintendent recommends acceptance of a donation totaling \$100.00 CASH, from Clark Patterson Lee to support the Onteora School Lunch Fund.

The Superintendent recommends approval to increase the 2018-2019 budget line C2860.431-10 (Supplemental) by \$100.00

Motioned: Trustee Shands

Seconded: Trustee Warren

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Salem, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Shands, Trustee Warren, Trustee Osmond

Not Present: Trustee Storey, Trustee Ratcliff

10.03 Donation from Alliance Energy

Recommended Action: The Superintendent recommends acceptance of a grant donation totaling \$500.00 CASH, from Alliance Energy, LLC / Exxon Mobil Corporation to support the Onteora Middle/High School STEM program.

The Superintendent recommends approval to increase the 2018-2019 budget line A2110.431.10 (Supplemental) by \$500.00

Motioned: Trustee Shands

Seconded: Trustee Warren

- Olive Country Store put the school district name in for this grant

Result: Unanimous

Motioned: Trustee Shands

Seconded: Trustee Warren

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Salem, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Shands, Trustee Warren, Trustee Osmond

Not Present: Trustee Storey, Trustee Ratcliff

10.04 Discuss Revising the Code of Conduct (proposed 7:05 duration 30 min)

Superintendent Victoria McLaren:

Considering prohibiting banning swastika and confederate flag except when used for instructional purposes

- At first determined that banning it was not the first solution
 - The Board passed a resolution denouncing the flag

- Began with creating a committee that provided input on some of the work that needed to be done to create a more tolerant and accepting environment for our students
 - One committee member volunteered provide lessons at the primary level based on the Southern Poverty Law Center Teaching Tolerance curriculum
 - Recognized that instructional staff need tools in dealing with these very difficult and polarizing conversations
 - Began equity and implicit bias work with the staff at the Middle/High School this school year, and plan to roll it out more widely next year to elementary staff
- Been looking at our student body and how it has changed over the years
 - Student population is less affluent and more diverse
 - Still overwhelmingly white, which creates a significant imbalance of power
- In Onteora, the individuals that are in the minority are so extremely in the minority, that an open forum to allow all opinions to be expressed so that everyone could hear and understand the many viewpoints on the issue may not be successful
 - Those that are so disproportionately out-numbered cannot feel free to express opposing viewpoints
- Being a small rural District the staff is able to make personal connections with the students but if students know that nothing will be done if they express their frustration and intimidation, they may choose to remain silent
- The presence of the confederate flag is intimidating to some of the students, and causes them to be unable to focus on instruction
 - While they may not speak up, they should be protected
- Based on these thoughts, I am in support of amending the Code of Conduct to prohibit both the confederate flag and the swastika from our school except for the purposes of instruction
- At the next Board meeting there will be a hearing to give the public a chance to comment on the proposed change to the Code of Conduct
 - Then the Board can discuss and approve the Code of Conduct

Discussion:

- Board is grateful for the support of the Superintendent
- Board did resolution last year as to how they felt because were told that cannot ban the confederate flag
 - Guidance has not changed – disruption to educational environment looks different at Onteora – not an outward symptom as at other places

11. Consent Agenda

11.01 Approve Consent Agenda (proposed 7:35)

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves item numbers 11.02-11.03

Motioned: Trustee Shands

Seconded: Trustee Osmond

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Salem, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Shands, Trustee Warren, Trustee Osmond

Not Present: Trustee Storey, Trustee Ratcliff

11.02 Personnel Agenda

LEAVE OF ABSENCES: INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM - TO	REASON
Goho, Colette	3235	11/27/18 – 3/31/19	Extend Unpaid Parental Leave

SUBSTITUTE

NAME	POSITION
Phillips, Carole	Certified TA

TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT: INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM - TO	REMARKS
Bachor, Margaret	School Nurse /District	10/1/18 – 1/11/19	Extend appointment
Weidner, Sandra	Business Teacher/High School	9/5/18 – 3/29/19	Extend Leave Replacement

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Wall, William	Weightlifting Advisor (1/14/19 – 3/8/19 8 weeks)	\$1,414.67

LEAVE OF ABSENCES: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM - TO	REASON
3239	09/21/18 – 1/22/19	Extend Unpaid Medical

APPOINTMENT:

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL – PART-TIME

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	PAY RATE	REMARKS
Collins, Kaitlin	School Monitor/District	1/9/19	Step 1	

11.03 Schedule U-The Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves the Instruction - Schedule U-The Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations, Schedule U, #1/19, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Kurnit

12. Committee Reports

12.01 Facilities Committee - Trustee Kurnit to report in absence of Trustee Storey. Next meeting is in the Central Conference Room at 4:00 on 2/25/19

- Discussed approved capital work status – Bennett partition, science lab, press box and bleachers
- Discussed possibly having an electric charging station, but no long range plan as where it would be in the District
- Short tour of Bennett School looking at areas of interest

Discussion:

- Clarification of what the issue is with multiple uses of football field
 - Need to employ architects and engineers to do a ground study– once assessment is done will know more
 - Sports fields are based on MHAL recommendations – must have certain dimensions and access
 - Being discussed with serious intention
 - Have looked into the idea of lighting the field – very expensive

13. New Business

- 13.01 The Board will discuss New Business
No new business was discussed

14. Old Business

- 14.01 The Board will discuss Old Business
No old business was discussed

15. Request For Information

- 15.01 Discuss Requests for Information
Trustee Shands asked if it is feasible to put a student lounge in for students

Trustee Kurnit asked:

Nurse Practitioner – will still be a school nurse- how will those duties be handled?

- Trying it out – must work for both parties

Some autistic students in district, some out of district, can we do more in-house, like the former ASPIE program?

- Need concentration of students at same grade level with same level of needs
 - Don't have critical mass to build program

When someone leaves the District, are they part of the hiring committee for their replacement?

- Usually have someone in a like-capacity on committee
- People are chosen by the unions

16. Adjournment

- 16.01 Adjourn Meeting. Next meeting January 22, 2019 in the Bennett School (proposed 7:45)

Recommended Action: The meeting is adjourned at 7:20

Motioned: Trustee Shands

Seconded: Trustee Osmond

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Salem, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Shands, Trustee Warren, Trustee Osmond

Not Present: Trustee Storey, Trustee Ratcliff

Minutes Recorded by Fern Amster,
District Clerk



Board of Education: Kevin Salem, Laurie Osmond, Valerie Storey, Lindsay Shands, Bennet Ratcliff, Rob Kurnit, Robert Burke Warren