

ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412**

MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
7:00 p.m.
August 14, 2007
Onteora Middle-High School**

CALL TO ORDER Trustee Bernholz called **REGULAR MEETING** to order at approximately 7:02 p.m.

TOBACCO POLICY STATEMENT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENT Trustees Mary Jane Bernholz, Cindy O'Connor, Maxanne Resnick, Michelle Friedel and Richard Wolff

NOT PRESENT Trustees Herb Rosenfeld, Rita Vanacore

ALSO PRESENT Superintendent of Schools, Leslie G. Ford; Assistant Superintendent, Victoria McLaren; Student Board Representative, Nicholas Alba; District Clerk, Jeanne Shultis; and approximately 8 visitors.

NOT ALSO PRESENT Assistant Superintendent, Deborah L. Fox

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following **RESOLUTION**:

- **BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on July 31, 2007, are hereby accepted as submitted.

Trustee Wolff seconded the Motion.
5 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

DISTRICT NEWS Superintendent Ford announced that:

- The new athletic director will be invited to attend the next meeting. He has started off at an extremely fast pace, well supported by the staff and has lined up many of the coaches needed, practices have started and things are falling into place. He is on the job and working on filling the coaching positions still open.
- The complete remake of the girls' locker room was planned and budgeted for to be done this summer. The bid was unsuccessful and we have to re-bid it. It is hoped that the work will be able to be done over winter break.
- Floor tiles are being replaced in the E and F hallways in the High School which is part of the ongoing asbestos abatement project and that will be a step already eliminated when doing bonding for a capital improvement project.
- The ceiling in the orchestra room has been redone and window air conditioning has been added.

- A new air conditioning unit has been installed in Ms. Godfrey's art room.
- The kitchen has been painted a lovely baby blue.
- The teachers' lounges have been outfitted to make sure we have adequate fridge and microwave space and rugs have been added to make them look nice.
- The main hallway is being spruced up by decorative painting.
- The hallway by the bookstore we will be painting a new focal point piece.
- An administrative advance will be held next week for two days working on teamwork and leadership ability.

Assistant Superintendent McLaren reported that once a month the Treasurer will present the Treasurer's report to the Board and be present to answer any questions.

Director of Transportation David Moraca updated the Board on several issues:

- He has been reviewing transportation issues and District policy with a view towards student safety and fiscal responsibility.
- As a result of his review, he is considering making a few changes beginning with a letter from his department to all parents which will explain about:
 - Changes in how he "red books" containing the listing of bus runs are posted, limiting the posting of the books to our schools, Central Administration, Transportation and the Hoyt-Mulligan garage. The parents of special education students will receive individual phone calls from the Transportation office informing them of what their students' busing is for the school year.
 - Changes in bus runs for special education students so they will not have to transfer to a second bus so they can be shuttled.
 - Transportation for variance students will also change.
 - Babysitting requests: By law, the District is required to transport to any licensed day care that is within the District boundaries regardless of what District school students attend. If it is not a licensed day care, transportation will be provided, but only within the boundary of the elementary school the student attends.
 - A public service announcement will also be issued to notify parents of the changes.

**REPORT FROM
2007-2008
STUDENT BOARD
REPRESENTATIVE**

Student Representative Nicholas Alba reported that:

- School is out for the summer so there isn't much to report until students return in September.

**STUDENT
COMMENT**

No student comments were made at this time.

**PUBLIC COMMENT
– Agenda Related
Items (limited to a
total of 15 minutes)**

No public comments were made at this time.

REPORTS/ PRESENTATIONS

Trustee O'Connor corrected the list of Board committees which was incorrect in the agenda and reported that after the Board goal setting meeting letters will be sent to all committee members requesting that they report by September 25. The letter will include the charges the Board has already given each committee plus objectives that will be aligned with the goals. The District Clerk is to reestablish the committee files. For the first meeting the chairmen will be requested to provide a list of current members.

- Audit Committee Report – Trustee Bernholz
- Communications Committee – Trustees Bernholz and O'Connor
- Facilities Committee – Trustees Resnick and Wolff
- Policy Committee – Trustees Vanacore and Wolff
- Technology Committee – Trustees Friedel and Resnick
- Early Childhood Committee – Trustee Vanacore

DISCUSSION

Discussion of abolishment of Head Bus Driver position and creation of Bus Driver/Dispatcher position:

- Director of Transportation Dave Moraca reported on the needs of the Transportation Department and the need for a secondary supervisory position during the school year. The benefits and drawbacks of both positions were presented with his recommendation to make the change.

Retiree substitute rate for clerical staff

- Assistant Superintendent Victoria McLaren reported that the District has a few clerical retirees, two of which have approved rates that differ. Clerical retirees are extremely valuable as substitutes due to their experience. A canvas of other districts showed that they are moving to recognize retirees with a higher substitute rate. This would also encourage retirees to want to sub.

Appointment of Voting Delegate and Alternate for the 2007 NYSSBA Annual Meeting beginning at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 27, 2007.

- Last year Trustee Vanacore was appointed Voting Delegate and Trust O'Connor was appointed Alternate. If they are willing to be appointed again this year, a resolution will be included on the agenda for the August 28 Board meeting. A discussion on the proposed legislative changes will be held during September.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

MOTION TO APPROVE FOREIGN LANGUAGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM FOR FALL

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District upon recommendation by the Superintendent that the Foreign Language exchange program with Germany in the fall of 2007 be approved as proposed by Margit Kaendl-Richer:

- 1) The 15 German students and 2 teachers would be at Onteora from October 14 until November 3, 2007. Our students would travel to Germany in July 2008.

Students will be fundraising to cover incidental costs not budgeted for.

Trustee Resnick seconded the Motion.

Discussion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

**MOTION TO
APPROVE
REVISED 2007-
2008 BOARD
MEETING
SCHEDULE**

Trustee Bernholz moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Oteora Central School District that the revised 2007-2008 Board Meeting Schedule be approved. Trustee O'Connor seconded the Motion.

Discussion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

**MOTION TO
APPROVE AND
SIGN TAX
WARRANT**

Trustee Bernholz moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Oteora Central School District upon recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education approve and sign the TAX WARRANT authorizing the school district to levy property taxes in the amount not to exceed \$35,138,267.00. Trustee O'Connor seconded the Motion.

Discussion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

**MOTION TO
INCREASE
CAPITAL
RESERVE FUNDS**

Trustee Resnick moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Oteora Central School District approve that the Capital Reserve Fund be increased from unexpended 2006-07 funds in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.00, for the purpose of the construction of additions and alterations to, and reconstruction and renovation of, District wide facilities, and/or rehabilitation and reconstruction of any of the District's facilities that are identified in the District's building condition survey.

Trustee Wolff seconded the Motion.

Discussion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

PERSONNEL

**APPOINTMENTS:
ADMINISTRATIVE**

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS:

PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

NAME	CERTIFICATION	TENURE AREA	PROBA- TIONARY DATES	REMARK S
Fox, Deborah	School District Administrator	Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction	8/25/07 – 8/25/08	Probation ary period extended

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

RESIGNATION(S):
INSTRUCTIONAL

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following INSTRUCTIONAL RESIGNATION(S):

NAME	POSITION/ SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Schauman, Heather	Special Education Teacher HS	August 9, 2007	Personal

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

APPOINTMENTS:
INSTRUCTIONAL

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS:

PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

NAME	CERTIFI- CATION	TENURE AREA	PROBA- TIONARY DATES	SALARY STEP	REMARKS
*Simco, Jennifer	School Psychologist	School Psychologist	9/1/07 – 8/31/10	4MA	New position

*pending completion of pre-employment processing.

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
*Simco, Jennifer	CSE Coordinator – MS .	\$8,799
Kasprzyk, Christopher	Football – JV – Head Coach	\$3,343
Perry, John	Football – JV – Assistant Coach	\$3,090
Calinda, Jason	Soccer – Varsity – Head Coach (Boys)	\$4,119
Hoyt-Friedman, Jacob	Soccer – Varsity – Head Coach (Girls)	\$4,119
Battista, Lynn	Volleyball – Varsity – Head Coach	\$3,343
VanBuren, Cindy	Volleyball – JV – Assistant	\$2,574
Via, M. Scott	Golf – Varsity – Head Coach	\$2,705
Sebald, Jaimy	Field Hockey – 7/8 Grade – Assistant	\$1,712

*pending completion of pre-employment processing

WHEREAS, the following employees have been fingerprinted, the fingerprints have been submitted to the New York State Education Department (SED) for processing and the District has not received clearance for such employees as of the date of this meeting;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board hereby appoints the following instructional employees on an emergency conditional basis:

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
*Ostrander, Joshua	Football – JV – Assistant Coach	\$3,090

*pending completion of pre-employment processing

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such emergency conditional appointments shall become conditional appointments upon receipt of State Clearance from SED.

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

Discussion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

APPOINTMENTS:
INSTRUCTIONAL

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS:

TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT

NAME	POSITION	DATES	RATE OF PAY	REMARKS
Briggs, Janet	Summer Substitute IEP proctor	8/16/07 – 8/17/07	On step	Summer BOCES
Leshkevich, Deborah	Summer Substitute IEP proctor	8/16/07 – 8/17/07	On step	Summer BOCES
Michalicka, Rebecca	Summer Substitute IEP proctor	8/16/07 – 8/17/07	On step	Summer BOCES
Phillips, Carole	Summer Substitute IEP proctor	8/16/07 – 8/17/07	On step	Summer BOCES
Rushkoski, Sharon	Summer Substitute IEP proctor	8/16/07 – 8/17/07	On step	Summer BOCES
Rushkoski, Amina	Summer Substitute IEP proctor	8/16/07 – 8/17/07	\$9/hr	Summer BOCES
Lorzing-Wilmoth, Wendy	Summer Instructional Support	8/15/07 – 8/31/07	\$32/hr	12 hours MAX

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

RESIGNATION(S):
NON-
INSTRUCTIONAL

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL RESIGNATIONS:

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Ryder, Edward L	Custodial Worker – HS	August 1, 2007	To accept Custodian position – BN

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

LEAVE OF
ABSENCE:
NON-
INSTRUCTIONAL

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL LEAVE(S) OF ABSENCE:

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
#2403	8/17/07 – 8/31/07	Medical – Unpaid Family Medical Leave

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

APPOINTMENTS:
NON-
INSTRUCTIONAL

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS:

WHEREAS, the following employees have been fingerprinted, the fingerprints have been submitted to the New York State Education Department (SED) for processing and the District has not received clearance for such employees as of the

date of this meeting;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board hereby appoints the following instructional employees on an emergency conditional basis:

APPOINTMENT

NAME	POSITION/ SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	SALARY/ STEP	REMARKS
Whitaker, Louis	Maintenance Mechanic	8/20/07 – 2/20/08	5	Replaces J. Morelli

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such emergency conditional appointments shall become conditional appointments upon receipt of State Clearance from SED. Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

**FINAL NYSED
CLEARANCE
RECEIVED:**

Trustee O'Connor moved to acknowledge that FINAL NYSED CLEARANCE HAS BEEN RECEIVED for:

NAME	POSITION
Krebsner, Lynn	Substitute Bus Attendant

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

**FINAL NYSED
CLEARANCE
HAS NOT YET
BEEN RECEIVED:**

Trustee O'Connor moved to acknowledge that FINAL NYSED CLEARANCE HAS NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED for:

NAME	POSITION
Elmendorf, Marissa	Substitute Custodial Worker - Summer
Hass, Barbara	Certified Substitute Teacher
Huben Jacobsen, Julia	Substitute Teaching Assistant
LaFera, Nicholas	Track – Spring – Assistant
Marx, Ida	Substitute Teaching Assistant
Ostrander, Joshua	Football – JV – Assistant Coach
Thompson, Sarah	Uncertified Substitute Teaching Assistant
Turner, Robert	Uncertified Substitute Teaching Assistant
Vos, Christine	Uncertified Substitute Teacher and Teaching Assistant
Whitaker, Louis	Maintenance Mechanic
White, Kevin	School Social Worker - PH

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

INSTRUCTION

**MOTION TO APPROVE
CSE/CPSE
RECOMMENDATIONS,
SCHEDULE U, #08/07
A-0081407**

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations, Schedule U, #08/07 A-081407, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Bernholz.

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

Discussion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

**BUSINESS AND
FINANCE**

**MOTION TO
AWARD FOOD BIDS**

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District award the bid to the lowest responsible bidder based on the bid documents of August 3, 2007 for the 2007-2008 school year to:

Ice Cream Bid
Variety Snack Bid

Pizza Bid
Milk Bid
Beverage Bid

Gillette Creamery
Ginsberg's Inc.
Price Is Right
Otto Foods
Nardone Bros. Baking Co., Inc
Boice Bros. Dairy
Coca-Cola
Snapple
Pepsi
Ginsberg's, Inc.

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

**BUSINESS
REPORTS**

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District has reviewed and hereby approves the FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT for August 2007.

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

Discussion. This consent agenda item was pulled until questions regarding budget transfers could be answered. It will then be included on the agenda for the August 28 Board meeting.

No vote was taken.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Bernholz announced that the Board members have been given a packet of guidelines and examples from other districts who have goals set for their review so they may develop their own set of goals and forward them to Trustee Bernholz by Tuesday, August 21, so that she can compile them for discussion at the goal setting meeting scheduled for Tuesday, August 28, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

GOALS UPDATE

Trustee Bernholz announced that the next Board meeting on August 28 will begin at 6:00 p.m. for goal setting for this coming year and the future.

**BOARD MEMBERS
REQUEST FOR
INFORMATION**

Trustee Friedel requested that a list of events and activities happening in the schools be made available to the Board members.

Trustee Wolff requested that we invite the PTA Council to report to the Board about activities.

Trustee Resnick requested that principals send information on newly scheduled and rescheduled activities to the Board and perhaps more things could be put on the website, as well.

Trustee O'Connor requested that a work session be held on tax certiorari situation to inform the Board and the public. Perhaps bring the Town Supervisors in. Assistant Superintendent McLaren reported that the school attorney will be sending an update within a week or so and that the budget presentation included information about the tax certiorari that could be revisited. There is a court date set for January. She also reported on a new change in the law that applies to the funds the District sets aside for tax certiorari which allows the District to have more flexibility in holding these funds for pending cases.

Superintendent Ford invited the Board members to attend the opening day orientation program on September 4 so that they may be recognized and introduced to District staff.

Trustee Resnick requested an update on the INDIE program and information regarding the number of counselors for the FACETS program. Superintendent Ford reported that there will be two counselors for FACETS.

PUBLIC COMMENT
– Open Microphone
(limited to a total of 15
minutes)

- Sante Moesle, a representative trustee of the Trinity Foundation Trust spoke about the future of the District and the challenges facing the Board and he provided a packet of material to Superintendent Ford from the Rural Education Advisory Committee in Albany so that anyone who wishes may review it. He has information regarding grant proposals for 2007-08 if anyone would be interested.

**MOTION TO ENTER
INTO EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

Trustee O'Connor moved to enter into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at approximately 8:17 p.m. to discuss the employment history of a particular person or persons. Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

**MOTION TO
RETURN TO
REGULAR SESSION**

Trustee Friedel moved to return to **REGULAR SESSION** at approximately 9:46 p.m.

Trustee Resnick seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

**MOTION TO
ADJOURN**

Trustee Resnick moved to **ADJOURN** at approximately 9:47 p.m.

Trustee Wolff seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

Recorded by:
Jeanne Shultis
District Clerk
