

## ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

**REVISED*****MINUTES*****BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412****WORK SESSION  
Tuesday, March 11, 2008  
Middle-High School  
6:00 p.m.****CALL TO ORDER** Trustee Bernholz called **WORK SESSION** to order at approximately 6:03 p.m.**TOBACCO POLICY STATEMENT****PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****PRESENT** Trustees Bernholz, O'Connor, Vanacore, Resnick, Rosenfeld, Friedel, Wolff**ALSO PRESENT** Superintendent, Leslie Ford; Assistant Superintendent, Deborah Fox; Assistant Superintendent Victoria McLaren; District Clerk, Jeanne Shultis; and approximately 19 visitors**MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION** Trustee Friedel moved to enter into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at approximately 6:07 p.m. to discuss the employment history of a particular person or persons. Trustee O'Connor seconded the Motion.  
7 Yes 0 No  
**CARRIED****MOTION TO RETURN TO SESSION** Trustee Vanacore moved to return to REGULAR SESSION at approximately 6:26 p.m. Trustee O'Connor seconded the Motion.  
7 Yes 0 No  
**CARRIED****MOTION TO** Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:  
**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District ("Board") has received an appeal of the Superintendent's decision in the matter of a Superintendent's Hearing conducted under Education Law §3214 concerning student #031108; and  
**WHEREAS**, the Board in rendering its decision on the appeal has considered the record of the hearing, including the tape recording, exhibits and statements;  
**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District based on the record of the Superintendent's Hearing, hereby denies the appeal and affirms the decision of the Superintendent regarding both the guilt of the student and the penalty of discipline.  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Appellant shall be notified of the decision of the Board and advised of their right to appeal this decision to the Commissioner of Education.  
Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.  
7 Yes 0 No  
**CARRIED**

## **REPORTS/ PRESENTATIONS**

- Strategic Planning - Advisory Solutions – Dr. Diane Reed

Superintendent Ford introduced Dr. Diane Reed of Advisory Solutions of NYSSBA who work with districts throughout New York State. Dr. Reed introduced her co-presenter, Dr. James Frank.

- **The Strategic Plan**
- Professional Learning Communities
- The PLC Model of Strategic Planning
- The Creation of the Strategic Plan
- Work Flow: Examples
- Task Force #1 Instruction
- Task Force #2 Special Education
- Role / Responsibilities
- Facilitation Roles
- Membership
- Strategic Intent
- Measurement Matrices
- Setting Up For Success
- PLC Strategic Planning Model
- Key Activities
- The Ultimate Accomplishment

## **WELCOME TO MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Middle School Principal Paul Schwartz welcomed everyone to the Middle-High School and reported on a recent interdisciplinary project with the humanities teachers and the home and careers teacher holding a career fair where the students gave oral presentations. Also, they are beginning to put up the team posters for the Battle of the Books competition which will be taking place in the next month.

## **DISTRICT NEWS**

Superintendent Ford reported that:

- Three high school students participated in the National Youth Leadership Forum held in Washington, D.C. in February. Congratulations, students.
- Save the date for the District PTA's Art of Paper Making to be held at Phoenicia School on March 28 from 7:00 –8:30 p.m.
- The High School Diversity Club and Amnesty International has put together a benefit for the children of our teaching assistant who recently passed away. It will be held at New World Home Cooking on April 10 from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. There will be a silent auction, hors d'oeuvres, coffee, and dessert. It is \$20 for adults and \$15 for students. Tickets are available at the High School main office and Woodstock Elementary School. Thanks to everyone in the Diversity Club and Amnesty International.

Trustee Vanacore reported that:

- There is a co-ed program in the MS-HS gymnasium for elementary students in grades 1-6. Two MS-HS teachers are teaching wrestling with a solid hour of movement – stretching, running and game playing. It is so much fun. Thanks for putting this program together.

Trustee Bernholz reported that the Audit Committee will meet on March 14 to interview the external auditing firms for the district.

Trustee Rosenfeld congratulated Principal Schnell and the entire staff of Woodstock Staff for the beautiful and tasteful memorial for Deborah Leshkevich on March 10.

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

No report was given in the absence of Student Representative Nicholas Alba.

**REPORTS/  
PRESENTATIONS**

Budget Advisory Committee – Superintendent Ford introduced the members of this committee which has been meeting twice a month, who have volunteered to serve for a term of two years:

- Drew Boggess
- Paul DeLisio
- Sylvia Liedtke-Tinti
- Jim Stoothoff
- Pam Walkowiak

The committee members presented their recommendations for the budget and district master plan:

- Our Mission
- Approach
- Discoveries
- What will happen if nothing is done?
- Cost per Pupil Ulster County
- Local Cost per Pupil History
- Budget History
- Actual Enrollment Decline
- Projected Enrollment Decline
- This is the Trend
- Short Term Recommendations – 2008-2009 Budget
- Long Term Recommendations – Future Budgets
- Elementary Building Costs
- Building Closure Cost Savings
- Conclusion

Trustee Bernholz called for a five-minute break at approximately 8:30 p.m.

**BUDGET  
PRESENTATION**

Assistant Superintendent Victoria McLaren presented information regarding the budget issues:

- Tax Certiorari Budget Issue
- Elementary Summer School
- Gifted and Talented and Enrichment Program
- K-12 In and After School Enrichment Activities
- Athletics
- Buildings and Grounds
- Staffing

- Retirements
- Budget Status Prior to Retirements
- Full Budget Status with Approximate Breakage
- Items for Continued Analysis

**STUDENT COMMENT**

No student comments were made at this time.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Kim Raszcewski spoke about the loss of ONTEA President Deborah Leshkevich and thanked Superintendent Ford and the Board of Education for the kind, compassionate way they handled this devastating situation.

The following people spoke in opposition to the 5-8 Middle School decision:

- Robert Warren
- Tony Fletcher
- Phillip Pardi
- Donna Flayhan
- Lori Osmond (who read a letter from Gina Giuliano)
- Ann McGillicuddy
- Tim Rand

Karl Brueckner spoke about voting for a board and bond that maximizes education benefits for our students while balancing fiscal realities and in support of a board willing to make the tough decisions and look at the whole district.

**DISCUSSION AND  
POSSIBLE ACTION**

**MOTION TO ADD  
TWO DAYS PER  
WEEK TO LATE BUS  
SCHEDULE FOR  
SPRING SPORTS  
SEASON**

Trustee Bernholz 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 of Schools that two additional days per week be added to the late bus schedule for the Spring Sports Season at an approximate cost of \$6,600.00.

Trustee Rosenfeld seconded the Motion.

7 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**PERSONNEL**

**RESIGNATION(S):  
INSTRUCTIONAL**

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to approve the following INSTRUCTIONAL RESIGNATIONS:

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Ahouse, Cheryl	Elementary PH	6/30/08	Retirement
Amplo, Deidre	Elementary BN	6/30/08	Retirement
Barthel, Suzanne	Elementary WD	6/30/08	Retirement
Bayer, Stephen	Social Studies HS	6/30/08	Retirement
Bruck, MaryAnn	Social Studies MS	6/30/08	Retirement
Carle, Kathleen	Elementary BN	6/30/08	Retirement
Mistler, Mary	Special Education PH	6/30/08	Retirement
Ostapczuk, Lois	Elementary WD	6/30/08	Retirement

Pettit, Diane Elementary BN 6/30/08 Retirement  
Schechter, Jacqueline Elementary BN 6/30/08 Retirement  
Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.  
7 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**LEAVE(S) OF  
ABSENCE:  
INSTRUCTIONAL**

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to approve the following INSTRUCTIONAL LEAVE(S) OF ABSENCE:

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
#2795	2/18/08 – 3/14/08	Medical – Unpaid Family Medical Leave

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.  
7 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**APPOINTMENT(S):  
ADMINISTRATIVE**

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to approve the following ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS:

NAME	POSITION/ SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	SALARY	COMMENT
DiGiovanni, Joseph	Interim Administrator	2/29/08 – 6/30/08	\$400 Per Diem	Extend Appointment

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.  
7 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**APPOINTMENTS:  
INSTRUCTIONAL**

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to approve the following INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS:

**EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS**

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Connolly, Brian	A.I.S./Regents Prep (After School) History	\$1,734
Knoche, Stephen	A.I.S./Regents Prep (After School) Social Studies	\$1,734
Rosato, Phyllis	Sixth Teaching Assignment (add'l ½ yr course Algebra)	\$3,294.13 Pro- rated 2/4/08 – 6/26/08
Burkhardt, Jeannine	A.I.S./Regents Prep (After School) Math B (1/2)	\$867
Rosato, Phyllis	A.I.S./Regents Prep (After School) Math B (1/2)	\$867

**PER DIEM SUBSTITUTES**

NAME	CERTIFICATION	SALARY
Caprotti, Colette	Uncertified Substitute Teacher	\$80/day
Johns, Travis	Uncertified Substitute Teacher	\$80/day
McCasland, James	Uncertified Substitute Teacher	\$80/day
Thomas, Joseph	Uncertified Substitute Teacher	\$80/day

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.  
7 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**RESIGNATION(S):**  
**NON-  
INSTRUCTIONAL**

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to approve the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL RESIGNATION:

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Duma, Donna	Typist BN	*4/10/08	Retirement

\*Tentative date

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

7 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**  
**NON-  
INSTRUCTIONAL**

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to approve the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
#2299	2/26/08 – 3/13/08	Medical – Unpaid Family Medical Leave
#1073	2/4/08 – 2/19/08	Medical – Paid Family Medical Leave
#1073	2/20/08 – 3/10/08	Medical – Unpaid Family Medical Leave

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

7 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**APPOINTMENTS:**  
**NON-  
INSTRUCTIONAL**

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to approve the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENT:

**PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT**

NAME	POSITION/ SCHOOL	PROBATIONARY PERIOD	SALARY/ STEP	REMARKS
*Tucker, Gina	Typist – BN	3/19/08 – 9/19/08	Step 2	Replaces D. Duma

\* Pending pre-employment processing.

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

7 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**PERMANENT  
STATUS:**  
**NON-  
INSTRUCTIONAL**

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to approve the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL PERMANENT STATUS:

The following named NON-INSTRUCTIONAL personnel have served a probationary status and are recommended to a PERMANENT STATUS consistent with the applicable laws and regulations of the State of New York:

NAME	POSITION	PROBA- TIONARY DATE	PERMANENT DATE	SALARY/ STEP
Gunther, Suzanne	Custodial Worker – HS	9/17/07	3/17/08	Step 1
Russell, Amy.	Typist – PPS	9/12/07	3/12/08	Step 4
VanDyke, Maureen	School Program Secretary – Secretary to the Asst Supt for Curr & Instr.	10/15/07	4/14/08	\$39,000

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

7 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

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

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to acknowledge that FINAL NYSED CLEARANCE HAS NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED FOR:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION</b>
Altman, Ellen	Uncertified Substitute Teacher
Arnold-Mays, MaryAnn	Certified Substitute School Nurse
Croswell, David	Part Time School Bus Driver
Cuneo, Jan	Uncertified Substitute Teacher
Dittus, John	Uncertified Substitute Teacher
Downes, Troy	Soccer – 7/8 grade (Boys)
Henderson, Robin	Uncertified Substitute Teacher
Keller, Jane	Certified Substitute Teacher
Malloy, Alison	Substitute Food Service Worker
Moore, Maureen	Short-term substitute Library Media Specialist
Perez, Brian	Soccer – J.V. (Boys)
Post, Cheryl	Typist – WD
Russell, Amy	Typist – Central Administration
Ryan, Sarah	Certified Substitute Teacher
Storch, Mark	Certified Substitute Teacher
Till Justine	Certified Substitute Teacher

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

7 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**INSTRUCTION**

**MOTION TO APPROVE  
CSE/CPSE  
RECOMMENDATIONS,  
SCHEDULE U, #03/08  
A-031108**

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to approve the Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations, Schedule U, #03/08 A-031108, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Bernholz.

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

*Discussion.*

7 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

**MOTION TO  
APPROVE LEASE  
AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN OCSD AND  
ARTHUR F.  
MULLIGAN, INC. FOR  
WHEELCHAIR  
PASSENGER/LIFT  
EQUIPPED VEHICLE**

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education approve the lease agreement between the Onteora Central School District and Arthur F. Mulligan, Inc. for the lease of a wheelchair passenger wheelchair lift-equipped vehicle on an as needed basis at \$35.00 per usage hour from March 4, 2008 through June 30, 2008 and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

7 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**DONATIONS**

**DONATION FOR THE  
“SENIOR PROM”  
FROM PHOENICIA  
POST OF THE  
AMERICAN LEGION**

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to accept the donations totaling \$200.00, CASH, from Phoenicia Post of the American Legion for the “Senior Prom”.

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

*Discussion.*

7 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**MOTION TO  
INCREASE THE 2007-  
2008 BUDGET FOR  
THE DONATION**

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to increase the 2007-2008 Budget per the following donations:

**The Phoenicia Post of the American Legion**

A2110.431.01 Supplemental – High School \$200.00

Trustee Friedel seconded the Motion.

7 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee Resnick requested the status of the CDEP Report and the 504 policy Policies that had first readings but no second readings was on the agenda of one of the two cancelled meetings.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Trustee Bernholz provided a tentative timeline of future meetings:

- March 25 – Superintendent's Budget Recommendation and Board Self-Evaluation. This meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. for an Executive Session with the Public meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- March 27 – Parents Meeting on 5-8 Middle School in the HS auditorium from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
- April 8 – Work session meeting with extended time for Public Be Heard
- April 9 – Parents Meeting on 5-8 Middle School in the HS auditorium from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 23 – Budget Adoption
- May 6 – Work Session which will include the Budget Hearing and Middle School location decision
- May 20 – Budget Vote and Declaration of Votes Cast

**BOARD MEMBERS  
REQUEST FOR  
INFORMATION**

Trustee Vanacore spoke to the former Middle School principal Gayle Kavanagh who spearheaded the committee recommendation for 5-8 and asked her if she would be willing to come and speak so that the public can hear from the professionals who drove the decision made by the Board so that it can be better understood. Ms. Kavanagh is available for the March 27 Parents Meeting, but not the April 9 meeting. Trustee Vanacore requested Ms. Kavanagh be invited to speak at the Parents' Meeting on March 27. Board consensus was reached for this request.

Trustee O'Connor requested an analysis of class size per building by grade based on declining population. Board consensus was reached for this request.

Trustee Bernholz requested the County analogies (comparisons) that the Budget Advisory Committee did and also the cost per student per building and the cost per square foot to operate per building. Board consensus was reached for this request.

Trustee Friedel requested information on the number of dropouts, the number of students going on to college and student success rates for the District. Board consensus was reached for this request.

Trustee Rosenfeld requested the number of students going to which colleges and what percentage of the entering class made it through four years at Onteora. Board consensus was reached for this request.

Trustee Resnick requested the cost of closing West Hurley School (staffing consolidation and operating costs) and what our obligation is for the SEQRA that was mentioned. Board consensus was reached for these requests.



**PUBLIC COMMENT –**  
**Open Microphone**

No public comments were made at this time.

**MOTION TO**  
**ADJOURN**

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to adjourn at approximately 10:00 p.m.  
Trustee O'Connor seconded the Motion.

7 Yes 0 No

***CARRIED***

Recorded by:  
Jeanne Shultis  
District Clerk

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