

# ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

WORKSHOP MEETING

6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2017**

**BENNETT SCHOOL**

## 1. Opening Items

1.01 Call to Order 6:00 pm

1.02 Tobacco Policy Statement

1.03 Pledge of Allegiance

1.04 Roll Call:

Present: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Storey, Trustee Shands

Not Present: Trustee Warren, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee Salem

## 2. Acceptance of Minutes

2.01 Acceptance of Minutes

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education hereby accepts the minutes of the 11/7/17, 11/16/17 and 11/18/17 Board of Education Meetings

Motioned: Trustee Shands

Seconded: Trustee Kurnit

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Storey, Trustee Shands

Not Present: Trustee Warren, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee Salem

Now Present:

Trustee Warren arrived at 6:05

## 3. Welcome

3.01 Bennett Principal Gabriel Buono will welcome the Board (proposed 6:05 duration 10 min)

- School Nurse Suellen Elemendorf putting together 7 Thanksgiving baskets, Hannaford in West Hurley gave 7 turkeys and PTA has helped
- Library Media Specialist Robin Renanhan worked on water mythologies with the students with a Hawaiian and Norse Theme
  - Partnered with Art Teacher Roberta Ziemba – artwork will be displayed at WAAM next weekend
- Student Council has taken on a 14-week challenge for “World Kindness Day” which starts on November 13<sup>th</sup> and ends with “Random Acts of Kindness Day.”
- Playground build was done by 3pm on Sat. because so many people were so generous with their time and energy- certified and ready for play
  - Bennett web page has pictures
  - Bread Alone, Catskill Mountain Pizza, OTA, Sam’s Club, Yum Yum Noodle, Peekamoose donated food
  - Retired Music teacher - David Laks came to volunteer his time and video equipment – did a time lapse video of the playground build- on the Bennett website
  - 9:00 Monday the Playground Committee will host the ribbon cutting

#### 4. Presentations

4.01 Director of Athletics, Health, PE and Dean of Students, Kim Pilla, will present on the Athletic Program (proposed 6:15 duration 30 min)

6:15

- Update is a snapshot of everything done this fall
- Thanked everyone for their support in coming into the District
- Introduced and recognized fall coaching staff – important to recognize the hard work and dedication of these coaches

Student Athlete Achievement Recognitions:

- Men's Soccer Team competed in the Sectional Quarterfinals - Seniors Cole Whitehead and Zachary Chartrand were selected for the Section IX Senior Exceptional Team
- Girls Soccer Team competed in the Sectional Semifinals- Seniors Kylie Kleine, Olivia Ingalsbe and Halle King were selected for the Section IX Senior Exceptional Team
- Halle King All Section Player - most goals scored (18) in a single season by a player and most career goals (33) in Onteora's school history
- Field Hockey Team competed in the Sectional Semifinals - Sophomore Lola Mainieri was selected for the Section IX First Team All Stars, Senior Maddie Mood was selected for the Section IX Second Team All Stars
- Boys Golf Team - 8th Grader Adam Williams qualified for Sectionals Freshman Ori Grady scored 4th place at the MHAL championships, qualified for Sectional Play in the spring Football Team - Senior Miles Eberhard was selected for the Section IX Senior Exceptional Team
- The Modified Football Team was undefeated this season. Football Is Back!
- Tennis Team - Senior Bailey Kretschmer played 1<sup>st</sup> singles -six year veteran Onteora tennis player qualified for Sectional Play, medaled in Sectional Play
  - In the words of her coach, " best backhand in my 35 years of coaching"
- Women's and Men's Cross Country Team - won the Section IX Class C Section Title – Satch Sumner-Waldman scored 5th in the Class C Men's Race earning a berth in the State Tournament; Teammates; Luccianna Robertson, Brooklyn Zeh, Clara Flores-Reininger, Erin Downs, Sara Chazik, Ashley Hilard, and Felicia Ojarovsky all scored 10th place at the Class C Women's race at the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Cross Country Championships; Satch Sumner-Waldman scored 32<sup>nd</sup> in the Class C Men's race and received the Section IX Sportsmanship Award
- Goal Develop a Powerful Positive Brand in stakeholder perceptions
  - Need to build internal capacity – pole banners in front of school
  - Collaborating with Music Dept to utilize band and color guard
    - Mr. Murphy will bring pep band to 6 home Basketball games, new sound system to highlight Onteora music
  - Booster Club – 1 parent from each team to work with Booster Club to help boost the spirit and cohesiveness
  - Creating a cheerleading spirit team to be at all home Basketball games
  - The Athletic Wing entrance, where people come in for games, will be beautified
- Introduced and recognized Winter sports coaches

- Also recognized Dale Allison for her help and commitment and the Physical Education and Health Teachers of the District for their hard work

4.02 Dr. Charles Khoury will present about the BOCES program (proposed 6:45 duration 15 min)

6:45

- Introduced Warren Donohue, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Bob Curran, Onteora representative on the BOCES Board
- Career Tech is an 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade ½ day program
  - 46 students in 25-26 programs – heaviest auto tech and cosmetology
- New program in Drone technology, will be able to qualify for commercial drone pilot license test
- New Vision is a 12<sup>th</sup> grade honors program, spend a few days a week shadowing professionals in the health field
- 20 students in Special Ed programs, program is growing
- Phoenix Academy is an alternative HS program for regular education students where home school is not the right place- with counseling and small class size
- P-tech students will graduate with HS Diploma and Associates Degree after 5 or 6 years – for students who are not doing well in school with spotty attendance, not college bound, but have potential
  - 95% attendance in program in P-Tech program

Financial:

- Get 36% aid – lowest rate you can get – has to do with land wealth
  - Did almost \$3.3 million with BOCES
  - Do not get the aid on Special Ed, since the aid comes from the state to Onteora - \$1.2 million is aidable

Discussion:

- Shared that BOCES culinary students won a competition to have their dessert on the Space Station
- Students find out about BOCES programs: BOCES guidance counselors, principals meet with their counter parts at Onteora Central School District; BOCES teachers come to Onteora to discuss the programs; students take tours of facilities
- Have relationships with some of the local businesses so students can get real life hands on experience
- If students want a program that BOCES does not offer, can go to other BOCES

4.03 Assistant Superintendent for Business Monica LaClair will go over financial reports and budget reports with the Board (proposed 7:00 duration 15 min)

7:15

- Codes are the same across districts – can compare our reports to other districts
- Financial Report shows budget, adjustments (leftover from prior year, donations, etc) , expenditures, encumbrances (not paid, but know it will be spent), total available
- Trial balance report – Modified Accrual basis of accounting – current assets,

current liabilities

- Journal entries used to adjust financials not related to any specific cash disbursements and cash receipts (i.e. FICA, donations)
- Treasurer's Report is bank reconciliation
- Budget Transfers happen when a budget code needs money
- Board should look for large changes

## 5. Superintendent District News

5.01 The Superintendent announce District news (proposed 7:15)

7:35

School Related Professionals Day

Today is School Related Professionals Recognition Day – recognize what all of our SRPs do for our district in support of our students

Futures Education Review

Futures Education conducted interviews of our special education department as an analysis that we pursued in order to improve our programs

- Not a study that is being conducted with the intention of reducing staffing
- Hope that they provide recommendations on ways that we may be able to more effectively utilize the resources that we have to serve students

Woodstock

- Two weeks ago all of the reading and special educators at both the Woodstock and Phoenicia Elementary Schools were trained in the use of Leveled Literacy Intervention program
- Last week all Kindergarten and 1st Grade teachers received Teacher's College professional development from Lindsay Barton (Woodstock Reading Coach)
- Last week students welcomed guests to the senior luncheon
  - Third grade students helped to serve the guests while kindergarten and first grade students provided the entertainment.

Phoenicia

- Phoenicia conducted a successful announced lock down drill and debriefing on November 8<sup>th</sup>
- BOE members, and the Superintendent visited Phoenicia and spent some "quality time" with students and staff
- 45 senior citizens enjoyed a Thanksgiving Luncheon on November 16<sup>th</sup>
  - 2nd and 3rd grade students served as hosts and hostesses to our guests
  - All students had an opportunity to sing, dance and mingle
- Safety Team continues to meet bi-monthly with our SRO, Tom Sharon
  - Each meeting lends itself to better and safer practices and procedures in our school for staff and students
- Next week, the Phoenicia PTA will host a "wrapping party" at the school where over 1500 small, but affordable holiday gifts will be wrapped and for sale at the Annual Holiday Boutique beginning on December 11<sup>th</sup>
- The Phoenicia SDM Team will also meet next week to discuss hosting a

Literacy and Math Family Fun Night to continue support for the 2017/18 school goals

#### Middle School

- The MS Science Fair takes place on November 28<sup>th</sup>
  - Students will present their science projects, and then enjoy dinner with their families and the MS staff, finish the evening with a performance from “Mad Science of the Mid-Hudson.”
- The Varsity Girls basketball team is doing a spaghetti dinner fundraiser on December 13<sup>th</sup>
  - The fundraiser is to earn money for the Coaches Versus Cancer Basketball Tournament they will be playing in at Walkkill HS over Christmas break
- 40 our 8th grade students continue to participate in for English class with NPR’s annual Great Thanksgiving Listen
  - Corey Chun’s 2015 interview with her grandmother was featured on NPR’s Weekend Edition this past Saturday
  - Mr. Kocher’s interview about his grandfather will air on Thanksgiving Day

#### 6. Board District News

6.01 The Board will announce District news (proposed 7:20)

7:40

Trustee Shands attended their Girls Soccer Banquet – thanks to Ms. Pilla for her hard work

Trustee Storey thanked the community for the Bennett playground build

#### 7. Student Representative Report

7.01 Student Representative, Ben Rauschendorfer will report to the Board (proposed 7:25)

- Weekly or monthly program for accomplishments or good works
- Michael Fowlin presentation – 3<sup>rd</sup> year

#### 8. Acknowledge Public Be Heard

8.01 The Board will acknowledge the public be heard comments from the last meeting  
Helene Kendler, Lisa Phillips, Doug Eighmey

#### 9. Public/Student Comment

9.01 The public and students may comment on any agenda or non agenda item. Please limit comments to 3 minutes (proposed 7:30 duration 10 min or more)  
No public commented

#### 10. \*\* Break \*\*

10.01 The Board took a break at 7:45

#### 11. Discussion

11.01 Discuss the Dress Code Policy and Gender Neutral Language (proposed 7:40 duration 20 min)

8:00

Board sent Dress Code Policy to committee to work on gender neutral language, committee decided to send it back to the Board

- Heard from female students that boys education was more important because the girls had to change what they were wearing to not be a distraction to the boys
  - Is relevant to current events – that is the message sent early in life – not for boys to control their impulses, but for girls to dress differently
- Student Council - Language in dress code is not the issue, enforcement is the issue
- Bring students and community into the discussion
- Some schools' dress code allows hats, some don't – inconsistent
- The rule that your shorts needs to be longer than your fingertips when arms are held down needs to be looked at – some clothing does not come in the height required by dress code
- Have heard substantiated stories of shaming girls - "Spaghetti Strap-gate" – unwieldy and shaming
  - When a rule gets broken, public shaming should not come into it
- Code of Conduct committee would have to come back together to edit Dress Code
  - Do in lieu of regulation
- No mechanism in place for Student Council to create regulations on dress, as policy states – paragraph needs to be revised
- Make dress code policy less restrictive
- Make gender neutral so students who do not identify with male or female feel comfortable
  - Use language – dress code will be enforced with gender neutrality

2002 7312 Students SUBJECT: STUDENT DRESS CODE

The responsibility for the dress and appearance of students shall rest with individual students and parents. They have the right to determine how the student shall dress, provided that such attire does not interfere with the operation of the school or infringe upon the general health, safety and welfare of District students or employees. Student dress and appearance must be in accordance with the District Code of Conduct. The administration is authorized to take action in instances where individual dress does not meet these stated requirements.

While the school administration may require students participating in physical education classes to wear certain types of clothing such as sneakers, socks, shorts, and tee shirts, they may not prescribe a specific brand which students must wear.

This policy does not mean that student, faculty, or parent groups may not recommend appropriate dress for school or special occasions. It means that a student shall not be prevented from attending school or a school function, or otherwise be discriminated against, so long as their dress and appearance meet the above requirements.

The Board looks to the Student Council through its officers and committees to adopt guidelines in this area that will be conducive to having a positive effect on student attitude toward appropriate dress and physical appearance.

11.02 Discuss a resolution to help displaced children in Puerto Rico come to Onteora (proposed 8:00 duration 10 min)

8:20

- NYSSBA on-board newspaper has an article about where the Puerto Rican students are going –where there are jobs and where they have friends and family
  - Hard to welcome them when we don't have those connections
  - Bring to next meeting with Trustee Ratcliff present

## 12. Independent Contract Retainers

12.01 Approve all ICRs (proposed 8:10)

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education hereby approves the Independent Contract Retainers in items 12.02-12.06

Motioned: Trustee Shands

Seconded: Trustee Storey

- Woodstock garden residency is supported by a grant

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee Salem

12.02 ICR- HealthQuest

*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 Health Quest: Maverick Family Health as a mentor in nursing for the period beginning November 7, 2017 to May 31, 2018 for a stipend in the amount of \$0.00 (stipend waived) and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

12.03 ICR- Mansfield

*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 Philip Mansfield as a mentor in directing for the period beginning October 28, 2017 to June 15, 2018 for a stipend in the amount of \$250.00 and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

12.04 ICR - Sjem

*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 Suzanne Sjem as a mentor in physical therapy for the period beginning November 6, 2017 to May 31, 2018 for a stipend in the amount of \$0.00 (stipend waived) and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

12.05 ICR- Mohonk

*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 Mohonk Preserve, Inc. as a Mohonk Preserve Educator for the period beginning November 28, 2017 to December 11, 2017 at a rate of \$295.00 per program to a maximum of \$295.00 and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

12.06 ICR - Love-Joyce

*Recommended Action:* BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the

Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Ontario Central School District approves the Independent Contractor Retainer between the Ontario Central School District and Katie Love-Joyce as a Garden Resident at the Woodstock Elementary School for the period beginning November 8, 2017 to June 30, 2018 at a rate of \$12.50 per hour to a maximum of \$1250.00 and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

**13. Consent Agenda**

13.01 Approve Consent Agenda (proposed 8:15 duration)

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education hereby approves consent agenda item numbers 13.02-13.11

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Shands

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee Salem

13.02 Personnel Agenda

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

| NAME                  | POSITION                              | AMOUNT     |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Gale, Wyatt           | Varsity Wrestling Coach Volunteer     | Unpaid     |
| Guest, Samuel         | Basketball-JV-Head Coach (Boys)       | \$3,815.00 |
| Kasprzyk, Christopher | Basketball-Modified-Head Coach (Boys) | \$2,537.00 |
| Makenzie, Dustin      | Varsity Wrestling Coach Volunteer     | Unpaid     |

RESIGNATIONS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

| NAME              | POSITION/SCHOOL     | EFFECTIVE DATE | REMARKS  |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------|
| Benjamin, Stewart | Bus Driver/District | 11/30/2017     | Personal |

SUBSTITUTE

| NAME             | POSITION                  |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| Waples, Marianne | Uncertified Instructional |

13.03 Approve 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, #11/17, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Salem

13.04 Adopt 2018-2019 Budget Calendar

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education hereby adopts the 2018-2019 Budget Calendar

13.05 Financial Report

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education has reviewed and hereby accepts the Quarterly Financial Report ending September 2017

13.06 Approve Unpaid Tax Warrant

*Recommended Action:* BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the



Onteora Central School District upon recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education approve the warrant for unpaid taxes in the amount of \$2,185,700.78 for Ulster County and agree by signing such warrant. BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District upon recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education approve the warrant for unpaid taxes in the amount of \$214,789.91 for Greene County.

### 13.07 Donation

*Recommended Action:* The Superintendent recommends acceptance of a donation totaling \$1,785.00, CASH, from the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley to be awarded to Bennett Intermediate School for the grant entitled, "Encore!." The Superintendent recommends approval to increase the 2017-2018 Budget per the following donations:

Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley  
A2110.431.03 Supplemental \$1,785.00

### 13.08 Surplus Fiction Books

*Recommended Action:* BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District declare a variety of approximately 300 fiction books from the Phoenicia Elementary School as surplus and authorizes the sale or disposal of these items.

### 13.09 Resolution for a gymnast to shadow with Kingston

*Recommended Action:* WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District ("District") does not offer gymnastics as an interscholastic sport; WHEREAS, an Onteora High School Student has expressed interest in competing under the colors of Onteora High School; and WHEREAS, the District would like to give the interested Student the opportunity; and WHEREAS, the Kingston City School District offers gymnastics as an interscholastic sport and is willing to permit Onteora to have its student "shadow" the Kingston High School interscholastic gymnastics team; and WHEREAS, the District will enter into an Inter-municipal Agreement with the Kingston City School District for the Student to "shadow" the Kingston High School interscholastic gymnastics team under the supervision of its certified gymnastics coach; and WHEREAS, The Inter-municipal Agreement will control all aspects of the Onteora High School student's participation; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District hereby appoints Rhonda Dixon the Kingston City School District's Board appointed and certified gymnastics coach, as the certified gymnastics coach for Onteora High School for the Student "shadowing" the Kingston High School interscholastic gymnastics team; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District approves an Inter-municipal Agreement between the Kingston City School District and the District for an Onteora High School Student to "shadow" the Kingston City School District gymnastic team.

### 13.10 Accept Surplus Bids

*Recommended Action:* The following equipment has been offered on a public auction site and bids have been received. We are recommending that the Board of Education accept the bids offered as follows:

- 2007 Ford F550 four wheel drive truck equipped with dump body and 10 foot hydraulic plow VIN: 1FDAF57Y67EB464I0  
Bid Received: \$16,500.00

- 2006 Ford F550 four wheel drive truck equipped with dump body and 10 foot hydraulic plow VIN: 1FDAF57Y36ECI0949  
Bid Received: \$15,100.00
- 2003 Ford F550 14-foot box truck/van with liftgate VIN: 1FDAF56S53EC65914  
Bid Received: \$3,800.00
- Kubota RTV900 off-road utility vehicle, serial# KRTV900A5I043305  
Bid Received: \$6,600.00
- Lot of floor machines and cleaning supplies  
Bid Received: \$25.00
- (2) Wrestling Mats  
Bid Received: \$52.50
- Yamaha upright piano  
Bid Received: No Bid

#### 13.11 Change Order #HC-01

*Recommended Action:* BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District approve Change Order #: HC-01 decreasing the contract between DiGesare Mechanical, Inc. and the Onteora Central School District for the HVAC work in the Middle/High School to the amount of \$17,588.00 and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such a change order.

### 14. Committee Reports

14.01 No Committees met since the last Board meeting

### 15. Old Business

15.01 The Board will discuss Old Business (proposed 8:20)  
No Old Business was discussed

### 16. New Business

16.01 The Board will discuss New Business (proposed 8:20)  
8:25

- Turkey Trot is Saturday in Phoenicia – fundraiser for new skate park
- As part of the 14 week Kindness Challenge, Art Club with Art teacher Roberta Ziembra made special pens for the Board
- Code of Conducts say that 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade will not be included in class ranking
  - Parents are changing districts to get a hire class ranking – has there been a discussion here?

### 17. Request For Information

17.01 Discuss Requests for Information (proposed 8:25)

- Trustee Kurnit asked what needs to happen if the District was to have a true representative government
  - Needs to talk at Cabinet level

Trustee Storey asked for a status update of West Hurley

Trustee Osmond asked for an updated version of the presentation on starting Bennett

and MS/HS at the same time – cost savings and process

**18. Adjournment**

18.01 Adjourn Meeting. Next meeting is Tuesday, December 5, 2017, at the Phoenicia School (proposed 8:30)

*Recommended Action:* The meeting is adjourned at 8:30

Motioned: Trustee Kurnit


Seconded: Trustee Shands

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee Salem

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