

# ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

WORKSHOP MEETING

6:00 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2017**  
PHOENICIA SCHOOL

MINUTES

## **Congratulations to the Class of 2017**

The Board of Education wishes to congratulate the Graduating Class of the Onteora Central School District of 2017, to thank them for their contribution to the District and to wish them every success and happiness for the future.

### **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 Storey, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Shands, Trustee Allison, Trustee Ratcliff

Not Present: Trustee Salem

### **2. Executive Session**

2.01 Enter executive session (proposed 6:00 duration 30 min)

*Recommended Action:* Motion to enter into executive session to discuss OAA negotiations

Motioned: Trustee Ratcliff

Seconded: Trustee Shands

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee Salem

2.02 Exit Executive Session and Return to Public Session (proposed 6:30 pm)

*Recommended Action:* Motion to exit executive session and return to public session

Motioned: Trustee Shands

Seconded: Trustee Ratcliff

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee Salem

### **3. Award Tenure**

3.01 The Board will award tenure to three recipients (proposed 6:30 duration 15 min)  
6:35

HS Principal Lance Edelman introduced Jennifer Wentland

PPS Director Cindy Bishop introduced Robin Panico

Superintendent Bruce Watson introduced Scott Richards

*Recommended Action:* The following named INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL, having served a period of probationary status consistent with the Education Law of the State of New York and provisions of the Commissioner’s Regulations, and having received continuing satisfactory evaluations of performance, are hereby recommended by the Superintendent of Schools for APPROVAL for TENURE STATUS.

Jen Wentland, certified as an Art Teacher with a probationary period in the tenure area of Art 9/1/15 - 8/31/17 hereby receives tenure on 9/1/17

Scott Richards, certified as a School Administrator/Supervisor with a probationary period in the tenure area of Principal 7/15/14-7/14/17 hereby receives tenure on 7/15/17

Robin Panico, certified as a Teacher of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) with a probationary period in the tenure area of ESL 10/8/14 - 10/7/17 hereby receives tenure 10/8/17

Motioned: Trustee Kurnit

Seconded: Trustee Ratcliff

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee Salem

**4. Honor Retirees**

4.01 The Board and Superintendent will honor the retirees (proposed 6:45 duration 15 min)

Music Teacher	Krista	Cayea
Special Ed Teacher	Shelly	McKinley
Social Worker	Alice	VanWagner
Teaching Assistant	Ann-Marie	Hopper
Secretary	Francine	Hollander
Science Teacher	Carolyn	Thompson
Bus Driver	Robert	Houst
Food Service Worker	Colette	Jamet
Custodial Worker	Henry	Langan
Secretary	Elaine	Ostrander
Family and Consumer Science Teacher	Marge	Hodder

**5. \*\*Break\*\***

5.01 The Board will take a Break to celebrate the retirees and tenure recipients (proposed 7:00 duration 15 min)

**6. Acceptance of Minutes**

6.01 Acceptance of Minutes

7:15

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education hereby accepts the minutes of the 6/6/17 and 6/14/17 Board of Education Meetings

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Shands

Result: Unanimous

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

Allison, Trustee Ratcliff  
Not Present: Trustee Salem

## 7. Welcome

7.01 Linda Sella, Phoenicia School Principal will welcome the Board (proposed 7:15 duration 10 min)

- All the Phoenicia year end celebrations...Kindergarten Celebration, Flag Day, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Moving up were very well attended by students, teachers, friends and family
- Staff Appreciation Day was celebrated on Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup> with a special luncheon provided by the Phoenicia PTA and the Jenkins Award for volunteerism was given to Brett and Rebecca Barry and Anna Millenson for outstanding service over the years to the Phoenicia
- This evening at 6 PM parents and students enjoyed "Catskill Critter Night" in Mrs. Wolfrom's 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class, a yearlong project based learning experience that focused on informational or non-fiction text integrated our TC reading, and writing
- June 23<sup>rd</sup> will conclude the school year with a highly competitive kick ball game between staff and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students followed up by watermelon slices and make your own snow cones
- Reading continues throughout the summer; Phoenicia parents, teachers and staff support 4 reading programs: New York State Assembly's Reading and Exercise Challenge, The Phoenicia Library Summer Reading Program for adults and children, Summer Reading Bingo sponsored by the Phoenicia Elementary School and the Pine Hill Summer Reading Challenge
- Farmers Market is still in planning stage –start small

## 8. Superintendent District News

8.01 The Superintendent announce District news (proposed 7:25)  
7:25

Last meeting for Superintendent Watson – Board would like to acknowledge everything he has done for the District

### Woodstock

- In a little over three months the Woodstock Elementary students have answered over 315,000 questions correctly on Sumsdog.com
  - The program has been a great success
- PTA end of year picnic was moved to Wednesday at 5:30
- Woodstock Elementary will be holding its Field Day on Thursday
- Both the Third grade and Kindergarten moving up ceremonies were well attended and a good time was had by all

### High School

- Today was the last day of Regents exams for high school students
  - Students continue to do well on these exams
  - Teachers will complete the grading process over the next few days and we hope to be able to open up grades in the student/parent portal

sometime Thursday

Amend Agenda to put Health and Wellness Committee report:

Motioned: Trustee Osmond

Seconded: Trustee Allison

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee Salem

Health and Wellness Committee Report:

- Looking at sports and athletics, gardens, farms, healthy lifestyle- spa, yoga
- Support Wellness Fitness policy
- Increase size of Meet, Greet and Eat
- Third Thursday at every month 2:45 next meeting Oct 19

## 9. Board District News

9.01 The Board will announce District news (proposed 7:30)

7:25

Trustee Osmond went to National Honor Society Award Ceremony

Board members thanked Mr. Watson for his time as Superintendent

Trustee Storey reported that she attended the Career & Tech graduation with Trustee Kurnit and Assistant Superintendent for Business Victoria McLaren

Trustee Allison reported:

- The MS Moving Up Ceremony was well attended– Ms. Cavallaro did wonderful slide show
- Varsity football players went to West Point were very competitive

Trustee Ratcliff reported he attended:

- Woodstock Elementary 3<sup>rd</sup> grade moving up ceremony– fantastic event
- MS Awards ceremony – some very talented students

Trustee Kurnit reported:

- C & T graduation was a reminder of the tremendous amount of programs offered
- Moving up ceremony in MS – was well attended and very enjoyable

## No Longer Present

Trustee Shands left at 7:30

## 10. Student Representative Report

10.01 Student Representative, Gabrielle Raphael will report to the Board (proposed 7:35)

7:35

- Scholarship for seniors – thanks to all that donated
- Awards for 9-11 grade students

- Friday is graduation and Belleayre Bash
- Thanks to Board – great experience being Board rep

## 11. Acknowledge Public Be Heard

11.01 The Board will acknowledge the public be heard comments from the last meeting  
Joan Lawrence Bauer

## 12. Public/Student Comment

12.01 The public and students may comment on any agenda or non agenda item. Please limit comments to 3 minutes (proposed 7:40 duration 10 min or more)

Laura Loheide & Wendy Cohen– First Reading of K-12 Homework Policy- have reviewed and found that a K-12 policy does not serve HS students. HS teachers would like to work collaboratively with Board to write policy. Cited reasons why policy needs to be by grade level. Let the teachers monitor their own homework. Read letter signed by 43 teachers, staff, guidance counselors all with 20 years experience or more

- Trustee Osmond reminded people speaking to limit to 3 minutes

Doug Eighmey – Students gave him a petition to give to the Board. Mascot was changed saying that the students want it to change. Majority of students were not involved. Board violated their oath of office.

Rick Wolff – Start talking about enrollment declining. Later start times will really jeopardize sports. Space sharing – look at sharing our space with another municipality

## 13. Presentation

13.01 Presentation on the K-3 Homework Survey (proposed 7:45 duration 30 min)  
7:55

2 pieces – collection of data and then developing recommendations with Building Leadership Teams using survey results

- 4 stakeholder groups participated: Parents, Students, Teachers, Teaching Assistants
- Changes to Homework:
  - Differentiate between reading for pleasure and independent reading
    - Reading for pleasure is not homework – independent reading is academic on their “just right level” and aligned to work in class
- Homework will not be assigned over school breaks
- Teachers will make every effort to avoid assigning homework on holidays and weekends except where it is an extension of an ongoing required assignment or project
- New time ranges for homework including independent reading:
  - K-(5-15 minutes)
  - 1-(10-20 minutes)
  - 2-(15-25 minutes)
  - 3-(25-35 minutes)
- Worthwhile survey

Discussion

- Most of this will go into administrative regulations

- District will go on to create regulations for 7-12
- 4 groups surveyed but results have teachers and TA in one group
- Will have conversation in District about homework during NYS testing
- Bennett handbook says Homework can be assigned 5 nights per week, but not on weekends- perhaps moving too fast on the policy without input
  - Teachers can assign homework 1 week out to allow student to manage time
- Homework policy was raised 2 years ago and then not followed through, brought as a first reading to allow discussion

#### 14. Independent Contract Retainers

##### 14.01 Approve Independent Contract Retainers

##### 14.02 ICR - Barton

*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 Lindsay Barton as a Literacy Coach for the period beginning July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 at a rate of \$400.00 per day, to a maximum of \$40,000 and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

Motioned: Trustee Ratcliff

Seconded: Trustee Storey

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Storey, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Allison, Trustee Ratcliff

Not Present: Trustee Salem, Trustee Shands

##### 14.03 ICR- Savatgy

*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 Matthew Savatgy as Environment Teacher for the period beginning July 6, 2017 to July 28, 2017 at a rate of \$38 per hour, to a maximum of 32 hours and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

Motioned: Trustee Allison

Seconded: Trustee Ratcliff

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Storey, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Allison, Trustee Ratcliff

Not Present: Trustee Shands, Trustee Salem

#### 15. Consent Agenda

##### 15.01 Approve Consent Agenda (proposed 8:15)

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education hereby approves consent agenda item numbers 15.02-15.13

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Kurnit

- Appreciate the great donations on the agenda

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Storey, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Allison, Trustee Ratcliff

Not Present: Trustee Shands, Trustee Salem

15.02 MOA with OAA - Summer School Stipend Title

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education hereby approves Memorandum of Agreement #06202017 between the OAA and OCSD regarding the title of the Summer School Principal and authorizes the Superintendent to sign the agreement.

15.03 Personnel Agenda

APPOINTMENT: INSTRUCTIONAL

FULL-TIME PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

Be it hereby resolved that the Board appoints:

Eldridge, Jonathan, certified in Music, to a 4 year probationary period in the tenure area of Music (K-12) at a salary of 15MA commencing on 9/1/17 and ending on 8/31/21. Replaces Krista Cayea

Renahan, Robin, certified in Library Media, to a 4 year probationary period in the tenure area of Library Media Specialist at a salary of 1MA commencing on 9/1/17 and ending on 6/30/21. Replaces Sara Space.

Be it further resolved that, to the extent applicable under Education Law Section 3012-d and the accompanying Commissioner's Regulations, in order to be considered for tenure, the above teachers must have received and APPR rating of effective or highly effective in three of the four probationary years and must not receive an ineffective in the fourth year.

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	FTE	EFFECTIVE DATE	SALARY
Hommel, Danielle	Music Teacher	.60	9/1/17	.6 of MA Step 4

LEAVE OF ABSENCES: INSTRUCTIONAL

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM - TO	REASON
2136	3/30/17 – 6/2/17*	Paid Family Medical
3870	5/30/17 – 6/16/17*	Paid Medical
2235	5/16/17 – 6/30/17	Unpaid Medical

\*Adjustment to lessen days

TEMPORARY SUMMER APPOINTMENT: INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM - TO	AMOUNT	REMARKS
Gustafson, Amy	Special Education Teacher	7/1/17 – 8/31/17	\$38.00/hr	Summer School
Allison, Tammy	Summer School Teacher	7/5/17 – 7/30/17	\$38.00/hr	Summer Academy
Davis, Rose	Summer School Teacher	7/5/17 – 7/30/17	\$38.00/hr	Summer Academy
Erlwein, Doreen	Summer School Teacher	7/5/17 – 7/30/17	\$38.00/hr	Summer Academy
Fields, Dominique	Summer School Teacher	7/5/17 – 7/30/17	\$38.00/hr	Summer Academy
Hull, Julie	Summer School Teacher	7/5/17 – 7/30/17	\$38.00/hr	Summer Academy
Matteson, Lori	Summer School Teacher	7/5/17 – 7/30/17	\$38.00/hr	Summer Academy
Mayone-Allison, Joan	Summer School Teacher	7/5/17 – 7/30/17	\$38.00/hr	Summer Academy
Warren, Kristin	Summer School Teacher	7/5/17 – 7/30/17	\$38.00/hr	Summer Academy

Iapocce, Judy	Substitute Summer School Teacher	7/5/17 – 7/30/17	\$38.00/hr	Summer Academy
Occhi, Virginia	Substitute Summer School Teacher	7/5/17 – 7/30/17	\$38.00/hr	Summer Academy

Knight, Patricia	Cook Manager	7/1/17 – 9/1/17	Hourly Rate	Maximum 70 hrs
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EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
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Anderson, Coll	Soccer – JV Head Coach 2017/20178	\$3,526.00
Apolito, Craig	Football Modified – Assistant Coach 2017/2018	\$2,408.00
Groeters, Michael	Soccer – JV – Head Coach (Girls) 2017/2018	\$3,526.00
Loizou, Phillip	Football Modified – Head Coach 2017/2018	\$3,305.00
MacKenzie, Dustin	Football Modified – Assistant Coach 2017/2018	\$2,408.00
Rushford, Michael	Soccer Modified – Head Coach Girls 2017/2018	\$1,953.00
Warnes, Carsten	Soccer Modified – Head Coach (Boys) 2017/2018	\$1,953.00

RESIGNATIONS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
McKenna, Edward	Summer Custodial Worker	Immediately	Declined Appointment
Ostrander, Daniel	Custodial Worker	6/16/17	Personal Reasons

PERMANENT STATUS

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

NAME	POSITION	PROBATIONARY DATE	PERMANENT DATE	SALARY STEP
D’Addario, Jarrett	Mechanic’s Helper	1/13/2017	07/12/2017	Step 8

SUBSTITUTE

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Hopper, Ann-Marie	Certified Teaching Assistant	\$13.00/hr
McKinley, Shelly	Certified Teacher	\$110.00/day

15.04 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, #6/17, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Salem

15.05 Superintendent Hearing Appeal

*Recommended Action:* BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District does hereby affirms the Superintendent’s decision and suspension of Student #06202017 issued pursuant to an Education Law §3214 Superintendent hearing.

15.06 Financial Report

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education has reviewed and hereby accepts the Financial Report for May 2017

15.07 Warrants

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education has reviewed and hereby accepts Warrant Schedule 9

15.08 Approve CASDA Contract

*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 the contract between Onteora Central School District and Capital Area School Development Association (CASDA) to facilitate Shared Decision Making Workshops for each school for the term of June 1, 2017 to June 14, 2018 at a rate not to exceed \$5562.50 and additional days at the rate of \$1,100 per eight hour day



and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

15.09 Superintendent Designee

*Recommended Action:* As per Policy 4230, the Superintendent designates Victoria McLaren the authority and responsibility for making decisions and taking such actions as may be required during the absence of the Superintendent.

15.10 Donations

The Superintendent recommends acceptance of a donation totaling \$640.00 CASH, from the donors listed below for the Bennett Madison Creagan Award fund to be used for 6<sup>th</sup> grade moving up ceremony awards.

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following donations:

TE97.024 Bennett Madison Creagan Award

\$100 Jennifer Bruck	\$20 Karen Hadley
\$50 Kristen Warren	\$200 Paul Schubert
\$20 Kelly Downs	\$50 Joan Mayone-Allison
\$20 Leann Kuhne	\$50 Karen McKenna
\$20 Luke White	\$50 Lisa Barringer
\$20 Cass Reep	\$20 Maryann Fraser
\$20 Kevin LaMonda	

The Superintendent recommends acceptance of a donation totaling \$300.00 CASH, from Joan Mayone-Allison and Karl Allison for The VanEtten Award fund to be used for student awards 6<sup>th</sup> grade moving up ceremony.

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following donations:

Joan Mayone-Allison and Karl Allison

TE97.023	VanEtten Award	\$300.00
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The Superintendent recommends acceptance of a donation totaling \$25.00 CASH, from the Middle School Field Hockey Team for a Middle School Moving Up Ceremony Award.

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following donation:

Donation Amount and Donee's Name

\$25.00	Middle School Field Hockey Team
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The Superintendent recommends acceptance of a donation totaling \$150.00 CASH, from Melissa and John Thongs for two Bennett funds. The Madison Creagan Award and The VanEtten Award to be used for student awards at the 6<sup>th</sup> grade moving up ceremony.

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following donations:

Melissa and John Thongs

TE97.023	VanEtten Award	\$100.00
TE97.024	Madison Creagan Award	\$50.00

The Superintendent recommends acceptance of a donation totaling \$500.00 CASH, from Time & Valleys Museum to be used towards transportation for Phoenicia's May 25<sup>th</sup> field trip.

The Superintendent recommends approval to increase the 2016-2017 Budget per the following donations:

Time & Valleys Museum

A2610.431.014	Supplemental	\$500.00
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The Superintendent recommends acceptance of donations totaling \$8,725, CASH, from donors as scholarship awards for the Graduating Class of 2017.

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following donations:

Donation Amount and Donee's Name

\$100 Paul and Kara Colevas	\$150 Darlene Griffin
\$1,000 C.A.R.E. for OCS, Inc	\$550 DECA
\$450 Paul and Karen Wereszynski	\$100 Peg Haug
\$100 Tongore Garden Club	\$100 Robert & Joyce Haug

\$25 F & T Taddeo	\$50 Richard and Rebecca Joslin
\$100 Stephen and Teresa Slocomb	\$450 Onteora TUFS
\$100 Shane and Sarah Turck	\$200 Ward and Jane Todd
\$350 Jeannine and Patrick Burkhardt	\$200 Bridget Allison
\$2,300 Barbara O'Brien	\$600 Martin Krakower Health Quest
\$200 Elena Garcia McWhinnie	\$50 Onteora DECA
\$100 Chesterfield and Valerie Stewart	\$250 Onteora HS Yearbook Club
\$50 Jonathan and Anne Gallin	\$300 Onteora French Club
\$200 M. Scott Via	\$150 Brian & Denise Connolly
\$500 Southside Rod and Gun Club	

15.11 Funding of Reserve Accounts

*Recommended Action:* BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District authorizes and directs the funding of the following reserve accounts as of June 30, 2017 at the amounts indicated below as presented during the budget process, plus any accrued interest:

Unemployment Insurance Reserve: \$481,976.76

Reserve for Employee Retirement System: \$5,277,487.87

Tax Certiorari Reserve: \$0.00

Capital Reserve: \$2,393,894.00

Repair Reserve: \$1,743,530.60

Reserve for Debt: \$149,891

Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve (to be adjusted in July to reflect leave accrual Balances as of 6/30/17): \$1,457,979.24

Total: \$11,504,759.47

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District approve that the unassigned fund balance shall be at the legally allowable level of 4% of the 2017-2018 budget, that \$3,385,000 shall be used in the coming school year to offset the levy as presented during the 2017-2018 budget process. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any additional fund balance be added to the Capital Reserve as created by the voters during the 2016-2017 budget vote.

15.12 Approve MOU with Cornell Cooperative

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education hereby approves the Memorandum of Understanding between the Onteora Central School District and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County regarding the general roles and responsibilities of a K-6 Watershed Youth Education Program and authorizes the Superintendent to the agreement.

15.13 MOA for Onteora Administrators Contract

*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 the contract between Onteora Central School District and the Onteora Administrators Association which expires on June 30, 2017 be extended for an additional four (4) years and the new contract shall carry forward the language of the old agreement except as modified by the Memo of Agreement dated June 13, 2017 and authorizes the Superintendent to sign the agreement.

**16. Policy Reading**

## 16.01 First Reading of Homework Policy (proposed 8:20 duration 15 min)

8:25

- Should have been discussion, not a first reading
- When came out of Policy Committee (Trustee Salem, Trustee Osmond and Superintendent) Superintendent sent this policy to administration
  - Took 4-6 survey in consideration
- NYS recognizes over 21 different religions - do not include religious holidays in policy- maybe change to school holidays
- AP students have homework during summer to prepare for rigorous work during the school year
- Some students need weekends and holidays to complete homework
- Collaboration with the teachers is important for this policy
- See more data- maybe from surveys
- Policy should reflect thinking in district, should be broad and done collaboratively
- Student Rep –teachers coordinate amount of homework for students
  - Students who have a lot of work over the summer and have a time consuming activity are accommodated
- Should students who cannot hand in work during the summer not be able to take AP?
  - Students are told that if they don't hand in work on the deadline, they cannot take the class
  - Need more information to write in a policy
  - Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction Marystephanie Corsones will report at a future board meeting
  - Perhaps should be in regulation
- Will discuss again with full board

2013 8440 Instruction **SUBJECT: HOMEWORK**

The Board of Education recognizes that a reasonable amount of independent study and preparation is an important component of the educational process, and holds the potential to support classroom instruction and further the primary goal of the educational program—the academic growth and achievement of every student.

**MEANING**

Homework consists of learning activities and tasks assigned by the teacher to be performed by the student primarily outside of the class by a defined date, without the direct supervision of the teacher. Homework assignments are used for a variety of purposes, such as to:

- Foster a love of reading and writing
- Provide reinforcement, practice, application and enrichment of what is taught in class
- Foster explicitly taught independent study skills
- Check for understanding of previously taught skills and concepts
- Foster the development of individual curiosity, inquiry and imagination

The Board's intent is to reserve weekends and vacations for family time. Every effort will be made to avoid homework on weekends and holidays, and to avoid projects over school breaks. Assignments given weekly may need to be completed by students on weekends if that is how the student chooses to manage their time. Summer assignments for courses are not encouraged.

Teachers will not assign homework to be due on the first school day back from break, with the exception of long-range assignments and Advanced Placement and accelerated honors courses. No student shall be prevented from taking Advanced Placement or accelerated honors classes due to an inability to hand in homework during summer vacation.

No homework shall be assigned on major religious holidays that are also school holidays, i.e. Good Friday, eve and day of Yom Kippur, and the eve and first full day of Rosh Hashanah. When such a major holiday falls on a weekend day, no homework will be assigned for that weekend. Students observing religious holidays that are not school holidays shall not be assigned homework on that day if a parent/guardian requests an exemption in a signed letter to the student's teacher. It is expected that the assignment is to be made up within a reasonable time after the holiday.

#### **COMMUNICATION OF POLICY**

##### **PRINCIPALS**

These guidelines shall be communicated to parents/guardians and students in the student/parent handbook and other appropriate forms of communication, and to the Building Principal through Administrative Regulations. The Building Principals will be responsible for ensuring that this policy is communicated with all faculty, that guidelines are developed at the school site, and that issues that present themselves are addressed in accordance with this policy.

##### **CLASSROOM TEACHERS**

Teachers shall differentiate homework assignments to meet the individual needs of students when appropriate, and should be careful to assign homework that matches student's current skills and knowledge. Teachers should take into consideration students' access to educational and technological resources when developing and assigning homework, and assignments should be assessed by the teacher upon completion. Assignments should not be predicated on the assumption that parents/guardians will provide materials, resources, assistance or direct instruction to their child.

Homework is an important vehicle for home-school communication. Schools should communicate to parents/guardians how to best provide a supportive environment for study and to assist their child to be successful, such as accessing school and community resources that can be helpful to the student when completing homework.

##### **STUDENTS**

Students are expected to give their best effort to complete the assigned homework fully and accurately within the grade-level timeframe outlined. If they cannot successfully complete their assignments, students and/or parents are expected and encouraged to seek assistance from their teachers, and to inform teacher if they believe assignments or time demands from other teachers merit consideration.

#### **Motion to Add Item to Agenda**

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Ratcliff

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Storey, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Allison, Trustee Ratcliff

Not Present: Trustee Shands, Trustee Salem

#### **Motion to appoint Cindy Bishop as Summer School Principal at \$5362.11**

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Ratcliff

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Storey, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Allison, Trustee Ratcliff

Not Present: Trustee Shands, Trustee Salem

### **17. Committee Reports**

17.01 Facilities Committee - Trustee Storey to report. Next meeting is 3:00 in the Central Administration Conference Room on TBD (proposed 8:35)

9:05

Went through Building Condition Survey and are prioritizing items

- Meeting over the summer – date TBD

17.02 Health and Wellness Committee - Trustee Shands to report. Next meeting is 2:45 in the MS/HS Conference room on TBD  
Report was done before Board District News

**18. Old Business**

18.01 The Board will discuss Old Business (proposed 8:40)

- Revisit policy on Public Be Heard to completely understand everyone’s responsibilities and what can and cannot be done
  - All aspects discussed by policy committee
  - Time, length of time, number of times speaking, coordinated speaking
- Information about Alternative Education program at BOCES that is being started again in the fall
  - Where it is and any other information

**19. New Business**

19.01 The Board will discuss New Business (proposed 8:45)  
No new business was discussed

**20. Adjournment**

20.01 Adjourn Meeting. Next meeting is Tuesday, July 11, 2017, at the MS/HS (proposed 8:50)

*Recommended Action:* The meeting is adjourned at 9:10

Motioned: Trustee Ratcliff

Seconded: Trustee Kurnit

Result: Unanimous

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

Allison, Trustee Ratcliff

Not Present: Trustee Salem

Minutes Recorded by Fern Amster,  
District Clerk



Board of Education: Kevin Salem, Laurie Osmond, Valerie Storey, Lindsay Shands, Bennet Ratcliff, Dale Allison, Rob Kurnit