ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

WORKSHOP MEETING
Minutes 6:00 p.m.
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2011
Phoenicia Elementary School

1. Opening Items

1.01 Call to Order 6:10
1.02 Tobacco Policy Statement
1.03 Pledge of Allegiance
1.04 Roll Call
Trustee McGillicuddy, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee McKeon, Trustee Spencer. Trustee Hickey, Trustee Osmond
Not Present: Trustee Fletcher

2. Executive Session

2.01 The Board will vote to enter into executive session to discuss negotiations (6:00 duration 30 minutes)
6:10
Motion: Motion to enter into executive session to discuss negotiations
Motioned By: Trustee Hickey
Second By: Trustee Spencer

Results: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee McGillicuddy, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee McKeon, Trustee Spencer. Trustee Hickey, Trustee Osmond
Not Present: Trustee Fletcher

2.02 The Board will vote to exit executive session (proposed 6:30)
Motion: Motion to exit executive session
Motioned By: Trustee Spencer
Second By: Trustee Hickey

Results: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee McGillicuddy, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee McKeon, Trustee Spencer. Trustee Hickey, Trustee Osmond
Not Present: Trustee Fletcher

2.03 The Board will vote to re-enter public session (proposed 6:30)
Motion: Motion to re-enter executive session at approximately 6:45
Motioned By: Trustee Osmond
Second By: Trustee Hickey

Results: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee McGillicuddy, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee McKeon, Trustee Spencer. Trustee Hickey, Trustee Osmond
Not Present: Trustee Fletcher

3. Acceptance of Minutes

3.01 The Board of Education accepts minutes (proposed 6:30)

Motion: The Board of Education hereby accepts the minutes of 11/8/11
Motioned By: Trustee Osmond
Second By: Trustee Spencer

Results: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee McGillicuddy, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee McKeon, Trustee Spencer. Trustee Hickey, Trustee Osmond
Not Present: Trustee Fletcher

4. Welcome

4.01 Principal Linda Sella will welcome the Board (proposed 6:35, duration 10 min)
6:50
Principal Sella showed a slideshow of the Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Luncheon and of different classes Thanksgiving celebrations

5. Board District News

5.01 The Board will announce district news (proposed 6:45 duration)
7:00
Trustee McGillicuddy reported:

- Meetings that Dr. McGill and she attended to discuss the future planning:
- Discussed generators for the schools and using the buildings as emergency evaluation sites with County Executive Mike Hein
- Have a public forum before each meeting going forward
- Have David Little of the NYSBBA Government Relations Team come in January to explain the Tax Levy Cap and answer questions
- Received a list of questions from the Bennett PTA and Superintendent Phyllis McGill is in the process of answering those questions
- No decision has been made, still gathering information

Trustee Spencer reported on the Olive Town Board meeting

- Very concerned group
    - Move forward and make decisions
    - Want all things to be considered
    - Teacher counts and declining enrollment
    - Glad that the decision will be open and above board

Trustee McKeon stated:

- Also ask the Cornell Cooperative Extension and Healthy Communities and Economic Development group to come and speak about their efforts

6. Superintendent District News

6.01 The Superintendent will report on District News (proposed 6:55)

Superintendent Phyllis McGill reported:

- that she still had MS and HS PTSO and Alliance meetings to attend went to all

other schools' PTA meetings
- Spoke to faculty and staff at all the buildings
- Town of Hurley meeting
    - asked about Tax Cert
    - have meeting before January
    - asked about West Hurley site
        - Assistant Superintendent McLaren working with Bond association on bond attached to West Hurley
- Reaching out to Dr. Timbs to look at the finances associated with the different models proposed
- Transportation maps of where students live is up on web site

7. Student Representative Report

7.01 The Student Representative, Jessica Moss will give her report (proposed 7:00)

Student Representative Jessica Moss was not present to give her report

8. Public/Student Comment

8.01 The public and students may comment on any agenda or non agenda item. Please limit comments to 3 minutes (proposed 7:05 duration 10 min)

Rebecca Balzac – "Princeton Plan" has multiple transitions and should be best for entire Onteora district. Plan is same number of schools, same space. Same building expenses. Add expense as a concern for the plan that maintains 3 schools

Lisa Ryan's letter read for the Board to rethink the plan

9. Consent Agenda

9.01 Approve consent agenda item numbers 9.02 - 9.09 (proposed 7:10 duration 5 min)
Motion: Approve consent agenda item numbers 9.02-9.09
Motioned By: Trustee McGillicuddy
Second By: Trustee Osmond

Results: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee McGillicuddy, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee McKeon, Trustee Spencer. Trustee Hickey, Trustee Osmond
Not Present: Trustee Fletcher

9.02 Personnel Agenda
Motion: The Board hereby approves the Personnel Agenda

APPOINTMENTS: INSTRUCTIONAL

PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

NAME	CERTIFICATION	TENURE AREA	PROBATIONARY DATES	SALARY/ STEP	REMARKS
Galkin, Jessica	Teaching Assistant Level I	Teaching Assistant	11/30/11 – 12/01/14	Step 1	New Position - WD

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS 2011-2012

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT

Burkhardt, Jeannine	AIS/Regents Prep (After School) 1 (Alg 2/Trig)	$1,877.00
Nelsen-Epstein, David	Theatre Technical Director	$3,121.00
Nelsen-Epstein, David	Computer Club Advisor	$1,881.00
Stevens, Mitchell	Driver Education Lecturer	$1,120.00
Thompson, Carolyn	Class Advisor – Junior	$2,617.00
Thompson, Carolyn	Gifted/Talented Advisor – HS	$2,216.00
Via, M. Scott	Student Affairs Council Advisor - HS	$1,884.00

PER DIEM SUBSTITUTES

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
*Biesele, Holly	Substitute Food Service Worker	$9.00/hour
Phillips, Lauren	Home Tutor	$36.00/hour
Robideaux, Kristen	Substitute School Bus Monitor	$9.00/hour
Palmgren, Susan	Uncertified Substitute Teacher	$80.00/day

***ADDED 11/29/11 Pending pre-employment processing**

LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE

NAME	CERTIFICATION	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	SALARY	REASON
Paetow, Rowena	Music	Music – MS	09/28/11 – 11/25/11*	1MA	LOA Replacement

***Extension of LOA replacement**

SHORT-TERM SUBSTITUTE

NAME	CERTIFICATION	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	SALARY	REASON
Georgiou, Constandia	School Psychologist	Psychologist	11/18/11 – 12/23/11*	1MA	LOA Replacement

***Estimated dates**

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: INSTRUCTIONAL

EMPLOYEE NUMBER		EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON	
#2857		09/26/11 – 11/25/11*	Medical – Paid Family Medical Leave	
#3449		11/18/11 – 12/30/11	Medical – Paid Family Medical Leave	

***Extension of leave**

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
#3196	09/16/11 – 12/09/11*	Medical – Paid Family Medical Leave

***Extension of leave**

PERMANENT STATUS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

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	PROBATIONARY DATE	PERMANENT DATE	SALARY
Guendel, Carl	Custodial Worker	04/11/11	10/12/11	Step 2

RESIGNATION: NON- INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Park, Eva	Typist - WD	01/07/12	Retirement

SALARY CHANGES: INSTRUCTIONAL

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends the APPROVAL of the following SALARY CHANGE (INSTRUCTIONAL), as the result of **EDUCATIONAL INCREMENT**, effective **September 1, 2011**.

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	CURRENT STEP (SALARY)	REC'D STEP/SALARY
Calinda, S.Jason	Social Studies - HS	15 B + 6 ($79,597)	15M + 6 ($85,213)

9.03 Instruction - Schedule U-The Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations
Motion: The Board hereby approves the Instruction - Schedule U-The Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations, Schedule U, #11/11, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee McGillicuddy

9.04 Warrant Schedule
Motion: BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District has reviewed and hereby accepts the Warrant Schedule

9.05 Financial Report - Quarterly
Motion: BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accept the Financial Management Report for the quarter July - September 2011

9.06 Volunteer Applications
Motion: The Board hereby accepts the volunteer applications listed below
Volunteer Applications:

Bryan Graham	High School
Kobi Pineus	High School
David Baron	High School
Kenneth Peterson	High School

9.07 Reject Alarm Bids
Resolution: WHEREAS, the Board of Education advertised for bids on the fire alarm reconstruction project; and WHEREAS, bids on the fire alarm reconstruction project were received on November 2, 2011; and WHEREAS, based on the bids received, the Board of Education believes that it would be in its best financial interests to reject said bids because the timing of the project would require all work to be performed on a second shift basis, thereby increasing the labor costs associated with the project; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District reject all bids submitted on November 2, 2011 for the fire alarm reconstruction project.

Assistant Superintendent McLaren explained that the bids came in with only one within the budget and that contractor withdrew the bid. Will rebid the alarms during the summer.

9.08 Rescind Fern Amster employment agreement

Resolution: Be it resolved by the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District, that the Board Resolution dated October 26, 2011 which approved Ms. Amster's employment agreement for the period October 24, 2011 through June 30, 2014 is hereby rescinded.

9.09 Unpaid Tax Warrant

Resolution: 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 $4,611,921.27 and agree by signing such warrant.

County is legally obligated to pay the district for unpaid taxes.

10. Educational Presentation

10.01 Presentation on Project Lead the Way (Proposed 7:15, duration 45 min)

7:15

Carolyn Malstrom from Project Lead the Way presented

Superintendent Phyllis McGill stated that she is a fan of PLTW. Program uses technology, engineering, model building. Can offer program with just a few classes or the full blown program, which can provide college credit

Project Lead the Way:

- Develop curriculum for Middle School and High School that is thought provoking and builds critical thinking skills and problem solving skills.
- Students are engaged to develop solutions to the problems built into the curriculum
    - Real world and relevant problems
- All courses are eligible for college credits through Rochester Institute of Technology
- Get students college and career ready
- Local architects and engineering can help with costs
- Minimum of 3 courses

Questions:

- Include Arts/Music into curriculum?
    - Design course for Engineering has fine arts and can get Fine Arts Regents Credit
- What is the cost?
    - Depends on which courses and units are selected
    - Curriculum is free
    - Teacher Training is approximately $3400 per course
    - BOCES Co-ser can help

- How are children selected?
    - Up to the school district
- Do they interest elementary students?
    - Gateway academy 1 week summer camp, students going into 6-8 grades work with projects related to Middle School units
    - Virtual academy – just lessons for 4-6 grades
    - Program from Boston Unit of Science for K-6 programs
- Are there other programs like PLTW?
    - Yes
- What is an effective class size?
    - Depends on the district, room size, and experience of teachers

11. ** Break

11.01 The Board will take a 10 minute break at approximately 8:00)

The Board took a break at approximately 8:15

12. Future Planning

12.01 The Board and Superintendent will discuss planning for the district's future (proposed 8:10 duration 1 hour)

8:30

Board member comments:

- Nothing has been decided, still looking at costs and plans
- Looking at options because of the financial outlook
    - Explore what is best way
- Need to have dialogue with community
- Different ideas been discussed through the years
    - Financial picture has changed drastically and things have to change
- Superintendent Phyllis McGill is experienced, compassionate, a realist and has best interest of children at heart
    - Well qualified to provide recommendations to the Board

Superintendent Phyllis McGill reported:

- Whatever plan we come out with will need to be flexible with the changes that happen over time
    - Have to feel good about the plan put in place, not just about the finances, but about the learning outcome we want for our children
- Princeton Plan is the model she would like to see in place
    - Early grades not ready for multi-disciplinary nature of the MS curriculum and not using an integrated program or project based learning
    - Teachers need to be collaborating
    - Nurturing small centers where children can learn
        - Track learning
        - Ensure they are progressing, providing a nurturing environment for children
        - Involve parents
            - Workshop offerings for parents
- Looking at reductions to make

- Other models
    - 2 K-6 buildings
        - Not enough savings between that and the Princeton Plan
        - Still have to add a section when enrollment is too high
        - Educationally, less transitions, but the grade levels are not even
    - K-3, 4-6 buildings
        - Big Indian students going to Woodstock is too far
            - Interim Transportation Director Betty Hughes will be at the next meeting to discuss
- Maybe not do the least expensive model, but need to have the education and financial in mind
- She will ask about bussing with reconfiguring to other superintendents
- Reconfiguring will create cuts this year
- At secondary level – don't want to hurt electives and change "singletons"
    - Waiting a year out to make cuts on the secondary level
- State aid is for fixing buildings, not creating new space
- By mid-January need to build a budget
- District needs to be more efficient and effective

Board Member comments cont':

- Going forward have community forums at the beginning of each BOE meeting
- Keep focus on improving children's education
- Stay within financial framework
- Keep in alignment with board goals
- Putting all students together on bus
    - Has been successful in other district
    - Older children help younger children
- Put programs in place that are sustainable
- Public should talk to legislature about the financial problems in education
- The assumption is that the cost of refurbishing the West Hurley building is prohibitive
    - Make decision and lease or sell building
- Are we considering West Hurley in any configuration?
    - Capital improvement money is available from the State
        - Superintendent Phyllis McGill clarified that there is no capital improvement aid for us because we have so much space in all 5 buildings

Board members questions:

- See cost breakdown of different configurations.
- Number of each dot of the transportation splatter
    - How many students are getting on the bus in each town
- Inter-School Transfer numbers
    - Where are majority of students
- Number of students we are busing to private schools
- Physical capacity of each building
- Staffing, operations, maintenance of each building

- Number of students we bus to BOCES and costs associated with the runs
- Could private school buses pick up our children as they pass by our schools?
- Any data that recommends or not recommend one bus run
- What do we need to save next year, year after, etc
- Identify costs that cannot change and where they will be in the next few years
- Mandated spending and costs associated with core vs. discretionary costs
- SAGE Save Government Efficiency
    - Created to save money with all government agencies, including schools
    - Reach out to State, if we have a plan, can we reach out to them to help us be more efficient
- Time that students will be on a bus – time of ridership
    - Optimize for cost or minimal time on bus

No Longer Present

Trustee Osmond left at approximately 9:20

13. Public Comment

13.01 The public will comment on any agenda or non-agenda item Please limit comments to 3 minutes (proposed 9:10 duration 10 min)
9:30
Christy Taylor – Expected to hear 3 plans in an unbiased way, but feels there is bias toward Princeton Plan. Wants a plan that saves good amount of money, keeps children safe and stable – does not cause unnecessary stress in children. Questions: Have 3 plans at the next BOE meeting? Next forums more time for parents to speak and get information back at that time? Are you thinking about monitors on the bus and will that add to transportation costs?

Jennifer Stellavato – Research citations and hard information on how Princeton plan saves money and improves achievement. With 2 K-3 buildings, which students will be displaced? Or will only Bennett kids be moved?

Brett Barry –Supply community with how it will save money and will it be enough? How will it improve academic environment?

Kathleen Wilber – Lack of trust for Board and Superintendent that the right thing will be done for the right reasons. Woodstock has RUPCO being built – has the Town of Woodstock been approached for West Hurley property? [has town been approached to talk to RUPCO about the Woodstock School property and open Wes Hurley]

John McHugh – Whatever plan is chosen, look beyond first year and if the projected enrollment for the district continues to decline, how will that effect Princeton Plan?

14. Adjournment

14.01 Adjourn Meeting. Next meeting is Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at the Woodstock Elementary School (proposed 9:20)
Motion: The meeting is adjourned at 9:40 pm
Motioned By: Trustee Hickey
Second By: Trustee Spencer

Results: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee McGillicuddy, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee McKeon, Trustee Spencer. Trustee Hickey, Trustee Osmond
Not Present: Trustee Fletcher

Board of Education: Ann McGillicuddy, Tony Fletcher, Laurie Osmond, Dan Spencer, Tom Hickey, Rob Kurnit, Michael McKeon

Minutes Recorded By:
Fern Amster, District Clerk

