

# ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION{PRIVATE }  
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 p.m.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2010**  
BENNETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## MINUTES

### 1. Opening Items

Information: 1.01 Call to Order 5:30

In the absence of the President and Vice President, District Clerk, Fern Amster called the meeting to order at approximately 5:40

Information: 1.02 Tobacco Policy Statement

Information: 1.03 Pledge of Allegiance

Information: 1.04 Roll Call

Trustee McKeon, Trustee Fletcher, Trustee Spencer, Trustee Hickey, Trustee Kurnit

### 2. Executive Session

Action: 2.01 The Board will enter into executive session to discuss litigation at approximately 5:30 p.m.

**Motion:** The Board will enter into executive session to discuss litigation and a specific personnel matter

Motion by Trustee Hickey, second by Trustee Fletcher.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Trustee McKeon, Trustee Fletcher, Trustee Spencer, Trustee Hickey, Trustee Kurnit

### Now Present

Trustee Osmond joined the Board in executive session

Action: 2.02 The Board will re-enter the public session at approximately 7:00 p.m.

**Motion:** The Board will re-enter the public session at approximately 7:05

Motion by Trustee Osmond, second by Trustee Hickey.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Trustee McKeon, Trustee Osmond, Trustee Fletcher, Trustee Spencer, Trustee Hickey, Trustee Kurnit

### 3. Community Forum

Information: 3.01 Superintendent Gregory and Assistant Superintendent McLaren will give a presentation (proposed 7:00 duration 20 min)

7:15

Trustee Osmond reported:

- Every other meeting will be an informal discussion
- The Board would like to form a community task force
  - Representation of all areas of district
  - Review information done in past and ask for additional information, examine other issues and reach out to other members of the community that the members represent

- Information from the past committees is on web site under BOE, Past District Planning Comm. Work

Interim Superintendent Charlotte Gregory discussed the tax assessment

- Have lowest true value tax rate of all districts around us

Assistant Superintendent McLaren explained

- Our tax rate is lower than other districts partly due to the large parcels of valuable land owned by NYC and NYS
- This year, although levy was increase of 3.8%, many people found different amounts on their tax bill
  - As a district, we still only collected 3.8% more in taxes
  - The burden of the taxes in each town fluctuates as the value, which is set by town assessors
    - Woodstock and Shandaken town lost 8% in value
    - Tax burden shifts to towns that have maintained value

Interim Superintendent Charlotte Gregory went through some of the KSQ Architects presentations from the Future of the District Commission

Information: 3.02 Question and Answer Period (proposed 7:20 duration 30 min)

Rita Vanacore: Put Budget Advisory Committee information on web site. See master plan student configuration and population today. Long bus runs do not affect children

Bennett Neiman - Has experience in this type of task force – look at educational value of decision. Each area of the district on his committee had their own agenda and there was an emotional reaction to any decision. Look only at Middle School, not elementary.

Trip Inglasbe – Perfect time to look at and evaluate curriculum to drive the district. Bring in programs such as the International Baccalaureate

Bob Curran - To get community involved, articulate how the schools will be better and explain the finances. Try to simplify

Maxanne Resnick – Board is ultimately going to make the decision – give committee shape before forming committee. Past committees came back with ideas and the board did not act on them

Discussion on Middle School

- What does it look like: 5-8, 6-8?
- Research does not necessarily find that Middle School is better
- Public comments:
  - Bennett Neiman - Sixth graders are socially ready to go to Middle School. To create an educational community, 2 grades is difficult. Committee should just look at Middle School 5-8 or 6-8. Do we need to look at the elementary schools?
  - Rita Vanacore - Maturing level of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders needs to be looked at to see where they belong.

- Maxanne Resnick - Problem in country with Middle School children. Their behavior changes at this age. Let's look at the classrooms – is every teacher engaging students in every classroom?
- What are current trends with Middle Schools?
- Look at all configurations 7-9, 7-12
- The Middle School Steering Committee found that the caveat on a 6-8 Middle School was that it was a separate building
- Interesting time to be having this discussion
  - State is talking about change in the finances of school districts
  - State has changed many of the standards educationally
- Transitions can cause lower achievement
- Look at population in coming years – look at buildings and grounds and how the schools will be populated. We need to have the right amount of children in each class.
- Task the task force with specifics to look at. Give parameters of what they are to do and set a date by which the Board hears their recommendations
- Put something on website and in paper to call for members of the task force, which will be charged with tasks.

Information: 3.03 Formation of a Task Force (proposed 7:50 duration 10 min)

Interested parties should contact the District Clerk at 845-657-8851 or [districtclerk@onteorak12.ny.us](mailto:districtclerk@onteorak12.ny.us)

#### 4. Acceptance of Minutes

Action, Minutes: 4.01 The Board of Education hereby accepts minutes of 9/14/10 (proposed 8:00 duration 5 min)

**Motion:** The Board of Education hereby accepts minutes of 9/14/10

Motion by Trustee Osmond, second by Trustee Spencer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Trustee McKeon, Trustee Osmond, Trustee Fletcher, Trustee Spencer, Trustee Hickey, Trustee Kurnit

#### 5. Welcome Address

Information: 5.01 Principal Gabriel Buono will give the welcome address (proposed 8:05 duration 10 min)

8:30

Principal Gabriel Buono reported that Bennett is recognizing its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They scanned all yearbooks they have and put them on their web site. There will be a picnic this Friday.

#### 6. Board District News

Information: 6.01 The Board will announce district news (proposed 8:15 duration 5 min)

8:30

Trustee Osmond reported

- Levon Helm Fundraiser is 10/22 in the auditorium. Tickets are available at [levonhelm.com](http://levonhelm.com)
- Elizabeth Mitchell and Daniel Littleton had a CD release party at Levon Helm's barn on Saturday, which was a fundraiser for the Music Program at Onteora.

## 7. Superintendent District News

Information: 7.01 Superintendent Gregory will report on the school tax analysis (proposed 8:20 duration 5 min)

Interim Superintendent Charlotte Gregory called on Principal Lance Edelman:

- 170 students participating on Friday in the Woodstock Film Festival from many districts in the area.
- 20 students received AP Honors- names are on web site
- Friday also will be the Pep Rally and at 7pm there will be a tailgate in the parking lot, followed by a bon fire. Homecoming is Saturday

Interim Superintendent Charlotte Gregory reported:

There will be programs on Cyberbullying. The Elementary and Secondary students will attend an assembly. The date TBD

At Phoenicia there will be chefs cooking with produce from their gardens Wed. 9/29 and Tuesday, 10/5

Information: 7.02 Superintendent Advisory Committee to the Superintendent (proposed 8:25 duration 5 min)

Interim Superintendent Charlotte Gregory reported that she and the HS principal will be encouraging people to join a student advisory group to the superintendent

## 8. Student Representative Report

Information: 8.01 Student Representative Angie Cross will report (proposed 8:30 duration 10 min)

8:40

Student Representative Angie Cross reported:

- the Gay-Straight Alliance is not in the Student handbook. (needs to go to HS principal).
- Homecoming is this weekend
- Students keep recycling

## 9. Student Comment

Information: 9.01 Students may comment on any agenda or non-agenda item (proposed 8:40 duration 10 min or more)

No student comment was made

## 10. Public Comment

Information: 10.01 The public may comment on any agenda or non-agenda item (proposed 8:50 duration 10 min or more)

No public comment was made

## 11. Discussion and Possible Action

Discussion: 11.01 First reading of Policy 7380 Bullying (proposed 9:00 duration 5 min)

8:40

Trustee Osmond stated that this policy was a policy the district received and the committee added cyber-bullying. Onteora currently does not have a bullying policy in place.

Interim Superintendent Charlotte Gregory stated she needs to hear more from Cabinet on this policy.

After policy is approved, the Superintendent will write administrative regulations to be sure of the follow-through

Discussion: 11.02 First Reading of Policy 4330 Administrative Staff (proposed 9:05 duration 5 min)

8:50

Interim Superintendent Charlotte Gregory reported that the Administrative Cabinet would like this policy to go back to policy committee to work on this

Action, Discussion: 11.03 Additional Funds for NYSCOSS conference (proposed 9:10 duration 5 min)

**Motion:** Resolved to approve an additional \$195 for Superintendent Gregory to attend the NYSCOSS conference on September 26 - 28, 2010.

There was a clerical error in the original Purchase Order amount.

Motion by Trustee Spencer, second by Trustee Osmond.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Trustee McKeon, Trustee Osmond, Trustee Fletcher, Trustee Spencer, Trustee Hickey, Trustee Kurnit

Action, Discussion: 11.04 Professional Development Plan (proposed 9:15 duration 10 min)

8:50

Will be on next meeting agenda

12. Consent Agenda

Action (Consent): 12.01 Approve consent agenda item number (proposed 9:25 duration 5 min)

Approve consent agenda item numbers 12.02-12.06

**Motion:** Motion by Trustee Osmond, second by Trustee Fletcher to approve consent agenda item numbers 12.02-12.06

Motion Carries

Yea: Trustee McKeon, Trustee Osmond, Trustee Fletcher, Trustee Spencer, Trustee Hickey, Trustee Kurnit

Action (Consent): 12.02 Instruction - Schedule U-The Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations

**Resolution:** The Board of Education hereby approves Instruction - Schedule U-The Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations, Schedule U, #9/10, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Fletcher

Trustee Kurnit asked about the Special Class Study Skills – how it is used in district and how it is implemented with special education

Action (Consent): 12.03 Personnel Agenda

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE: INSTRUCTIONAL**

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
#2795	9/1/10 – 6/30/11	Medical – Unpaid Leave

**APPOINTMENTS: INSTRUCTIONAL  
 EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS**

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Castle, Mark	School Newspaper Advisor	\$1,176
Cook, Debra	Liaison – Science	\$3,143
Fulford, Wallace	Football – JV – Assistant Coach *effective date 9/15/10	\$3,279
Haaland, Kenneth	Elementary Resource – Bennett 1	\$1,938
Hommel, Jessica	Middle School Cabinet 2 (*amended prorated amount)	\$990.05
McLean, Kelly	Elementary Resource – Phoenicia 1	\$1,938
Schubert, Paul	Dept. Co-Chair – Music (K-12)	\$3,275
VanBaren, Kathleen	Science Olympiad Coach – MS	\$1,761
Via, Michael (Scott)	Student Affairs Council Advisor – HS	\$1,847

**PER DIEM SUBSTITUTES**

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Beesmer, William	Uncertified Substitute Teacher	\$80/day
Bolt, Edith	Certified Substitute Teacher	\$95/day
Hoffman, Lois	Certified Substitute Teaching Assistant	\$10/hr
Manuella, Jean Pierre	Certified Substitute Teacher	\$95/day
Pezzello, Cassie	Certified Substitute Teacher	\$95/day
Polacco, Nicole	Certified Substitute Teacher	\$95/day
Wood, Sharon	Uncertified Substitute Teaching Assistant	\$9/hr

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE: INSTRUCTIONAL**

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
#1549	10/2/10 – 11/22/10 Days granted by sick bank	Medical – Paid Family Medical Leave
#2068	9/6/10 – 9/24/10	Medical – Unpaid Leave

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

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Piccininno, Vito	Part-Time School Bus Driver	September 27, 2010	Termination

**APPOINTMENTS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL**

**PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT**

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	PROBATIONARY PERIOD	SALARY/ STEP	REMARKS
*Galuska, Susan	Typist – BN	10/6/10 – 4/6/11	Step 1	Replaces L.Skilowich

\* Pending pre-employment processing.

**PER DIEM SUBSTITUTES**

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Hoffman, Lois	Substitute Hall Monitor	\$9/hr
Whipple, John	Substitute Hall Monitor	\$9/hr
Wood, Sharon	Substitute Clerical Worker	\$9.50/hr

Action (Consent): 12.04 Donation from Dutchess County Arts Council

**Resolution:** The Superintendent recommends acceptance of a donation totaling \$1,600, CASH, from the Dutchess County Arts Council's Arts in Education Program, administrator of public funds through the New York State Council on the Arts to be used for Vision 21.

The Superintendent recommends approval to increase the 10-11 Budget per the following donation:

**Dutchess County Arts Council's Arts in Education Program**  
A21110.431.01 Supplemental - HS \$1,600.00

Action (Consent): 12.05 Donation Printer-Fax-Scanner

**Resolution:** The Superintendent recommends acceptance of a donation by Elizabethanne Spiotta of a HP 2610 Photosmart Printer-Fax-Scanner, valued at \$50.00, for use in Mr. LaFera's classroom at Bennett Elementary School.

Action (Consent): 12.06 Warrant Schedule A #9/10

**Resolution:** 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 A #09/10

### 13. Discussion

Discussion: 13.01 Ongoing discussion of Board Goals (proposed 10:00 duration 10 min)  
Trustee Osmond asked the Board to forward their goals to the District Clerk for compilation, then she will put it on Google Docs for all to review and edit.

### 14. Committee Reports -5 min each

Information: 14.01 Audit Committee - Trustee Spencer to report. Next meeting is at 4:30 in the Central Administration Conference Room on 10/4/10 (proposed 9:30)

Trustee Spencer reported that the committee has not met since the last meeting

Information: 14.02 Facilities Committee - Trustee Kurnit to report. Next meeting is at 3:30 in the Central Administration Conference Room on 10/7/10

Trustee Kurnit reported that the committee has not met since the last meeting.

Information: 14.03 Green Committee - Trustee Osmond to report. Next meeting is at 2:40 in the HS Conference room on 10/6/10

Trustee Osmond reported that the committee has not met since the last board meeting

Information: 14.04 Arts Task Force - Trustee Fletcher to report.

Trustee Fletcher reported that the committee has not met since the last meeting. He is putting out an email to be sure the members want to continue.

Information: 14.05 Policy Committee - Trustee McGillicuddy to report. Next meeting is in the Central Administration Conference room at 9:30 on 10/4/10

Trustee Osmond reported for Trustee McGillicuddy:

- Results of last meeting are the 2 policies for first reading tonight
- Working on prioritizing the policies to be edited

Information: 14.06 District Committee: Health and Wellness Committee - Assistant Superintendent O'Brien to report. Next meeting is time 2:45 pm in the Health Room of the High School on 9/30/10

Assistant Superintendent O'Brien reported that they are meeting this week, and they would like feedback from the administrators on the regulations they would like to change.

#### 15. Old Business

Discussion: 15.01 The Board will discuss Old Business

8:55

Trustee Kurnit asked at the last board meeting about the interest rate of the capital account

- Assistant Superintendent McLaren reported that she thought the interest rate was .25%

Trustee Fletcher asked about shared decision making committee. Trustee Osmond replied that they will discuss this with the BOCES superintendent on 10/7/10.

Trustee Fletcher asked if there is an overall music department for donations?

- Assistant Superintendent McLaren reported
  - that she had spoken to Levon Helm studio and they were donating last weekend's fundraiser with the event on 10/22
  - We do have coordinators of music in all the schools

#### 16. New Business

Discussion: 16.01 The Board will discuss New Business (proposed 10:10 duration 10 min)

Trustee Kurnit asked if we are teaching civics and if we have a theater dept that will put on plays.

Interim Superintendent Charlotte Gregory reported that she will provide a report on the state of a theater department in the school

#### 17. Request For Information

Discussion: 17.01 The Board will request information (proposed 10:20 duration 10 min)

9:00

Trustee Kurnit asked about the Special Class Study Skills – how it is used in district and how it is implemented with special education (from Consent Agenda)

Trustee Spencer asked how the new sign came to be, if there was a selection committee.

Trustee McKeon asked about if there is any information or research on configuration of schools and student achievement. Are there meaningful metrics to look at in terms of costs and achievement

#### 18. Public Comment

Information: 18.01 The public will comment on any agenda or non-agenda item (proposed 10:30 duration 10 min)

No public comment was made

#### 19. Adjournment

Action: 19.01 Adjourn Meeting. Next meeting 10/12/10 at Phoenicia Elementary (proposed 10:40)

**Motion:** The meeting is adjourned at 9:05

Motion by Trustee Osmond, second by Trustee Hickey.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Trustee McKeon, Trustee Osmond, Trustee Fletcher, Trustee Spencer, Trustee Hickey, Trustee Kurnit

**2010– 2011 Board of Education Meeting Schedule**

**\*NOTE: snow dates**

July 6, 2010		Reorganization/Regular Meeting	Middle-High School	6:00 p.m.
August 3, 2010		Regular Meeting	Middle-High School	6:00 p.m.
August 24, 2010		Regular Meeting	Middle-High School	6:00 p.m.
September 14, 2010		Regular Meeting	Woodstock School	6:00 p.m.
September 28, 2010		Regular Meeting	Bennett School	6:00 p.m.
October 12, 2010		Regular Meeting	Phoenicia School	6:00 p.m.
October 26, 2010		Regular Meeting	Woodstock School	6:00 p.m.
November 9, 2010*		Regular Meeting	Bennett School	6:00 p.m.
November 30, 2010		Regular Meeting	Phoenicia School	6:00 p.m.
December 14, 2011		Regular Meeting	Woodstock School	6:00 p.m.
January 11, 2011		Regular Meeting	Bennett School	6:00 p.m.
January 25, 2011		Regular Meeting	Phoenicia School	6:00 p.m.
February 8, 2011		Regular Meeting	Woodstock School	6:00 p.m.
February 22, 2011		Regular Meeting	Bennett School	6:00 p.m.
March 8, 2011		Regular Meeting	Phoenicia School	6:00 p.m.
		Regular Meeting		
		Superintendent's 2010-2011		
March 22, 2011		Budget Recommendation	Woodstock School	6:00 p.m.
		Regular Meeting		
April 5, 2011		<b>2010-2011 Budget Adoption</b>	Middle-High School	6:00 p.m.
April 27, 2011	<i>Wed</i>	Regular Meeting AND <i>a countywide vote date for BOCES Board Seats and BOCES Administrative Budget</i>	Middle-High School	6:00 p.m.
May 3, 2011		Regular Meeting and <i>Budget Hearing</i>	Middle-High School	6:00 p.m.
May 17, 2011		<b>Budget Vote</b>	<b>All four (4) Elementary Schools</b>	<b>2:00 to 9:00 p.m.</b>
May 17, 2011		Special Meeting (Declaration of Votes Cast)	Middle-High School	9:30 p.m.
June 7, 2011		Regular Meeting	Bennett School	6:00 p.m.
June 21, 2011		Regular Meeting	Phoenicia School	6:00 p.m.
July 5, 2011		Reorganization/Regular Meeting	Middle-High School	6:00 p.m.

\* Meetings are held on Tuesdays @ 6:00 p.m. unless the meeting date is a **snow date**, the meeting will be held the **Thursday** of that week, except **November 9<sup>th</sup>**, snow date **Wednesday**