ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

CORRECTED

MINUTES

WORKSHOP/REGULAR MEETING
5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 20, 2007
Central Administrative Offices/Middle-High School

CALL TO ORDER Trustee D'Orazio called **REGULAR MEETING** to order at approximately 5:02 p.m.

The PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was waived at this time.

The TOBACCO POLICY STATEMENT was waived at this time

PRESENT Trustees D'Orazio, Bernholz, O'Connor, Vanacore, Resnick, Rosenfeld

NOT PRESENT Trustee Patterson

ALSO PRESENT Superintendent, Leslie G. Ford; District Clerk, Jeanne Shultis and approximately 0 visitors.

NOT ALSO PRESENT Assistant Superintendent, Deborah Fox; Assistant Superintendent, Victoria McLaren; and Student Board Representative, Frances Barlow

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION Trustee Bernholz moved to enter into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at approximately 5:03 p.m. to discuss the employment history of a particular person or persons.
Trustee Rosenfeld seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

District Clerk was excused at approximately 5:25 p.m.

MOTION TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION Trustee O'Connor moved to return to REGULAR SESSION at approximately 7:00 p.m.
Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

TOBACCO POLICY STATEMENT

PRESENT Trustees D'Orazio, Bernholz, O'Connor, Vanacore, Resnick, Rosenfeld

NOT PRESENT Trustee Patterson

ALSO PRESENT Superintendent, Leslie G. Ford; Assistant Superintendent, Deborah Fox; Assistant Superintendent, Victoria McLaren; Student Board Representative, Frances Barlow ; District Clerk, Jeanne Shultis and approximately 74 visitors.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on February 6, 2007, are hereby approved as submitted.
Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

Trustee D'Orazio introduced new superintendent Dr. Leslie G. Ford and welcomed her on behalf of the whole Board and the whole community.

WELCOME TO HIGH SCHOOL

High School Principal Barbara Ruben welcomed everyone to the High School and reported:

- Good news about January regents. The largest population of students who take Regents in January are for the Math A and the Math B. Of the 110 students who took the Math A regents, 106 passed very successfully. On the Math B, 75 of 76 were successful.
- Frau Kaindl gave her some results for the National German exam today. On the Level 2 exam there were 67 students in the Hudson Valley who took the exam and students from Onteora took the top ten scores answering 90 or more of the 100 questions correctly. An Onteora tenth grade student took the top score on the Level 2 exam. On the Level 3 exam there were 116 students who took the exam and an Onteora eleventh grade student had the top score - 96 out of100. On the Level 4 exam there were 80 students who took the exam and 4 of those students were from Onteora and were between 90 and 100.

- A few months ago she announced that we had six commended students for their performance on the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying exam. It is an honor to have one; we had six. She was now pleased to announce that we have two seniors who have advanced to the finalist status. Of the 15,000 finalists throughout the nation, 8200 will be offered National Merit Scholarships so we wish them well.
- On February 7 the High School Amnesty International Club put on a Darfur Forum with guest speakers and my appreciation goes to Steve Knoche, Jason Calinda, and David Epstein, the advisors for that club. It was a tremendous success and the kids were absolutely spellbound with the speakers.
- On Thursday Mr. Ianotti and all of the students who participate in the Harvard Model Congress will take off for Boston for four days.
- On March 8 the orchestra performs at the National Philharmonic Cup at Lincoln Center
- On March 17 Mr. Murphy will take the marching band down Fifth Avenue for the St. Patrick's Day Parade
- On March 22 we hold a High School career conference at UCCC
- In April there will be five performances of the High School musical Oklahoma
- We will welcome our students from Germany for the foreign exchange program during spring break.

DISTRICT NEWS

Superintendent Ford announced that:

- The Onteora wrestling team placed fourth in the MHAL finals. Onteora team members placed first in the 152 lb. division, second in the 112 lb. division, third in the 130 lb. division ands third in the 103 lb. division. Congratulations to all of them.
- Five student athletes went to the Section 9 larger school: competition last weekend. Unfortunately, a member was injured and unable to compete, but one team member brought home a fourth place. Congratulations to all of them.
- We have an invitation to come to a reading night from Ms. Cassel. We have milk and cookies night Friday, February 23 at Bennett School.
- There is a dance residency performance for the fourth grade on Thursday, February 22, in the High School auditorium
- On Wednesday, January 28, the Rondout Valley Central School District sent a team of primary educators, reading teachers and administrators to Phoenicia Elementary School to observe the Columbia reading workshop project in grades K-12. This was a wonderful thing for professional development.
- One of the things that we work on is how we operate together. This is the first meeting for the Board and the Superintendent. So we are modeling a process of clarifying how we are working, where we are working and how we proceed with that together so there are no surprises. We went through an exercise as part of her initial evaluation, because we are setting what our expectations are, of setting norms. The set, in very rough order with language that may be refined are:
  1) Meetings will begin on time and members will be on time to meetings
  2) Members will pay attention to the person speaking
  3) We will be hard on ideas and soft on people
  4) We will faithfully maintain confidentiality
  5) We will have open communication with no surprises
  6) We will individually attend to the common focus of the meeting and be succinct
  7) Responsibilities will be shared equally among Board members
  8) We will balance inquiry and advocacy continually looking for evidence
  9) We will maintain the common voice of the Board in public
  10) We will maintain the role of Board members and respect the role of the Superintendent and her employees

REPORT FROM 2006-2007 STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Student Representative Frances Barlow had nothing to report at this time.

STUDENT COMMENT

No student comments were made at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Retired teacher Mike Boms spoke about his not being appointed as Spring Track Coach for the upcoming season.

The following people spoke about in support of Mike Boms being appointed as Spring Track Coach

- Eric Willens

- Angela Figurelli
- Nick LaFera
- Laurel Olexa
- Michael Ackerly

REPORTS/ PRESENTATIONS

- Audit Committee Report – Trustee Bernholz reported that the committee met on February 12 and has been working on many important areas and, following updates and prioritization will be completing much of this work in the near future. The committee members will be attending the business office financial software demonstrations on February 22 and March 5. The next meeting is scheduled for March ~~25~~ 26 at 8:45 a.m.

- Communications Committee –Chairperson Kathy Hochman presented the following items to the Board for future focus by the Committee:
  1) Continue to support District and BOCES staff in creating a school calendar with a theme of a photo contest.
  2) Create a District brochure for families who move into the District, as a resource for realtors and as a recruitment tool when hiring new teachers.
  3) Focus on making our facilities more welcoming to visitors and to give them direction to places they are going to, especially when activities are held in the evening. Simple signage could be posted for these after school activities.

  The "Public Be Heard" brochure is completed and in use and turned out very nice. The Committee is going to continue to support our award-winning newsletter.
  Dr. Ford was invited to attend the Committee meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for March 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the MS/HS Library.

- Facilities Committee – Trustee Resnick reported that the next meeting is scheduled for February 28 at 4:00 p.m.

- Policy Committee – Trustee O'Connor reported that there are six policies on the agenda for a first reading:
  - #7440 - Musical Instruments
  - #5700 - Information Security Breach and Notification
  - #7316 - Time Out Rooms
  - #3310 - Public Access to Records
  - #6110 - Code of Ethics for All District Personnel
  - #6410 - Maintaining Discipline and Conduct

  The next meeting is scheduled for March 5 at 8:45 a.m.

- Technology Committee – Trustee Vanacore reported that the Committee has a report to complete and submit by the beginning of April regarding how technology procedures are instituted in the District. The next meeting will be on March 5 at 2:30 p.m.

Assistant Superintendent Deb Fox reported that the Committee is reviewing the plan and expects to make the deadline of April 1. This will qualify the District for Federal E-Rate Aid. Word has been received from Congressman Hinchey's office about a grant for the MS/HS infrastructure and ~~Trustee Resnick is working on that with her.~~ The grant application

was submitted.

- Early Childhood Committee – Trustee Vanacore reported that the Committee is researching different areas and Assemblyman Cahill's office is willing to help. The next meeting is scheduled for March 12.

- Overview of Art Department Program and Needs – Art Teachers Dale Wolfield, Diane Godfrey, Linda Schultz and Roberta Ziemba presented information on the many aspects of art instruction, student success and the scheduling of the art classes in the District and provided slides depicting the work and accomplishments of student artists from our buildings and grade levels. They requested that the Board and administration consider increasing the class time for elementary art classes to a full hour.

- Board Visit to Chappaqua and Byram Hills Middle Schools – Trustee Resnick reported that five members of the Board and KSQ Architect Armand Quadrini visited the Chappaqua Middle 5-8 School and Crittenden Middle 6-8 School. Chappaqua was chosen because the Middle School Steering Committee had visited the new facility prior to making their recommendation a few years ago. The Board visited to the older school. The Board members were able to observe the programs and see the educational philosophies in practice. It was a very interesting and worthwhile trip. One outstanding observation was that the students were at ease and welcoming to the adults. Trustee D'Orazio observed that to make the improvements necessary to have such an educational program and facility update requires a major commitment on the part of the community.

Trustee D'Orazio called for a fifteen-minute break at approximately 8:28 p.m.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Bernholz moved to enter into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at approximately 8:35 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue, a student issue and the possible disciplining of am employee of the District.
Trustee D'Orazio seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

MOTION TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Trustee Bernholz moved to return to REGULAR SESSION at approximately 9:22 p.m.
Trustee Rosenfeld seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

PRESENT

Trustees D'Orazio, Bernholz, O'Connor, Vanacore, Resnick, Rosenfeld

BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

Assistant Superintendent Victoria McLaren presented the following proposed budgets for the 2007-2008 school year:

- BOCES
    - BOCES Services – General Support Category
    - General Support
    - BOCES Services – Instructional Category
    - Instructional Support

- Total BOCES Budget
- Transportation
  - Current Staffing
  - Current Year Bus Runs
  - District Owned Vehicle Inventory
  - District Owned Vehicles
  - Proposed Vehicle Purchase 2007-2008
  - Proposed Equipment Purchase 2006-2007
  - Line Item Expenditures Pupil Transportation
  - Three Year Projection – Pupil Transportation
  - Line Item Expenditures Garage Building
  - Three Year Projection - Garage Building
  - Contract Transportation
  - Three Year Projection – Contract Transportation
  - Run Alterations in Contract
  - Summary Budget

MOTION TO COMMENCE DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

Trustee D'Orazio moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:
BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that upon recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District will commence disciplinary proceedings against employee #022007.
Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:
6-Aye – Trustees D'Orazio, Bernholz, O'Connor, Vanacore, Resnick, Rosenfeld
1-Absent – Trustee Patterson
CARRIED

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Trustee Bernholz moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:
BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District adopt the 2007 Legislative Program of the Ulster County School Boards Association. Specifically, we support:

- Phasing out reliance on local property tax to provide a "sound basic education" state-wide in favor of a broader state-wide taxing system including income tax.
- To attract and retain regional education leaders, eliminate the salary cap on District Superintendents.
- Revision of the Contingency Budget Law to exclude increases in Special Education, energy expenses, and health costs for staff and retirees from the formula.
- Update and enhance the BOCES Aid Formula and encourage additional shared services.
- Wicks Law Reform
- Full funding of mandates.
- Legislation that provides full funding and supports legal reforms (including Triborough Amendment Reform) for the State's public schools to eliminate the need to fund Charter School initiatives.

Trustee Resnick seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

MOTION TO APPROVE EARLY DISMISSAL FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ON MARCH 29, 2007

Trustee Vanacore moved to have early dismissal of elementary schools at noontime on the day of the Excel Aid Bond vote – March 29, 2007.
Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
Discussion.
6 Yes 0 NO
CARRIED

POLICY

Trustee D'Orazio moved to acknowledge the FIRST READING OF THE FOLLOWING POLICIES:

- #7440 - Musical Instruments
- #5700 - Information Security Breach and Notification
- #7316 - Time Out Rooms
- #3310 - Public Access to Records
- #6110 - Code of Ethics for All District Personnel
- #6410 - Maintaining Discipline and Conduct

Trustee O'Connor seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 NO
CARRIED

PERSONNEL

RESIGNATION(S):

Trustee Vanacore moved to approve the following RESIGNATION:

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Ricken, Amanda	Guidance Counselor	3/13/07	Personal

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

LEAVE(S) OF ABSENCE: INSTRUCTIONAL

Trustee Vanacore moved to approve the following INSTRUCTIONAL LEAVES OF ABSENCE:

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
#2389	1/18/07 – 6/22/07	Extended Medical – Unpaid Family Medical Leave
#3001	1/22/07 – 2/6/07	Medical – Paid Family Medical Leave
#2795	2/8/07 – 2/22/07	Medical – Paid Family Medical Leave
#2795	2/23/07 – 3/2/07	Medical – Unpaid Family Medical Leave
#3054	2/2/07 – 3/7/07 *	Medical – Paid Family Medical Leave
#3054	3/8/07 – 4/10/07 *	Extended Medical – Unpaid Family Medical Leave

*Amended dates

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

APPOINTMENTS: INSTRUCTIONAL

Trustee Vanacore moved to approve the following INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS:

SHORT-TERM SUBSTITUTE

NAME	CERTIFI-CATION	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	SALARY	REASON
Ayers, James	Mathematics 7-12	0.4 FTE Math Teacher (HS)	3/26/07 – 6/22/07	1M	Replace J.Burkhardt

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Fein, Peter	Tennis – Varsity – Head Coach (Boys)	$2,328
Kocher, Michael	Baseball – Varsity – Head Coach	$3,473
Via, M. Scott	Baseball – J.V. – Head Coach	$2,607
Babcock, Alyssa	M.S. Science Fair Coord.	$474
Bucher, Donald	Science Olympiad Assistant Coach – H.S.	$1,142
Fisher, Jeffrey	SAT Prep (After school) – Math	$1,671
Kaindl-Richer, Margit	Foreign Lang. Trip/Exchange Coord.	$416
Maltese, Denise	School Newspaper – MS	$1,068
Robertson, Jessica	6th Teaching Assignment (J. Burkhardt) Beginning Approximately 3/26/07	$2,172.65 *
Rosato, Phyllis	6th Teaching Assignment (J. Burkhardt) Beginning Approximately 3/26/07	$2,172.65 *
Whitlow, Edward	6th Teaching Assignment (J.Burkhardt) Beginning Approximately 3/26/07	$2,172.65 *

*Prorated amount

PER DIEM SUBSTITUTES

NAME	CERTIFICATION	SALARY
Rosen, Barbara	Certified Substitute Teacher & Home Tutor	$95/day
Thongs, John	Certified Substitute Teacher (Retroactive to 2/8/07)	$95/day

WHEREAS, the following employees have been fingerprinted, the fingerprints have been submitted to the New York State Education Department (SED) for processing and the District has not received clearance for such employees as of the date of this meeting**;**
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board hereby appoints the following instructional employees on an emergency conditional basis:

PER DIEM SUBSTITUTES

NAME	CERTIFICATION	SALARY
Turck, Sarah	Uncertified Substitute Teacher	$80/day

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such emergency conditional appointments shall become conditional appointments upon receipt of State Clearance from SED.

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
Discussion. The appointment of the Softball –Varsity – Head Coach was tabled. It was also noted that no Spring Track Coach appointments were approved on this agenda.
6 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

LEAVE(S) OF ABSENCE: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

Trustee Vanacore moved to approve the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL LEAVES OF ABSENCE:

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
#2403	1/24/07 – 2/16/07	Medical – Paid Family Medical Leave
#1756	1/27/07 – 2/16/07	Extended Medical – Paid Family Medical Leave
#1803	2/26/07 – 3/5/07	Medical – Paid Family Medical Leave

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

PERMANENT STATUS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

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

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

NAME	POSITION	PROBA-TIONARY DATE	PERMANENT DATE	SALARY
Palmerini, Denise	Account Clerk/Typist (Personnel)	8/21/06	2/21/07	$29,000

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

APPOINTMENTS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

Trustee Vanacore moved to approve the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS:

PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

NAME	POSITION/ SCHOOL	PROBATIONARY DATES	STEP	REMARKS
Cook, Mary	Cook – HS/MS	2/21/07 – 4/18/07	3	Replaces C. Downs

PER DIEM SUBSTITUTES

NAME	POSITION	SALARY
Tirapelli, Katherine	Substitute Bus Attendant	$9/hr

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

FINAL NYSED CLEARANCE HAS NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED

Trustee Vanacore moved to acknowledge that FINAL SED CLEARANCE HAS NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED for the following employees:

NAME	POSITION
Aten, Katherine	Substitute Bus Attendant

Eiferd, Mae	Substitute Nurse (RN)
Hass, Barbara	Certified Substitute Teacher
Huben Jacobsen, Julia	Substitute Teaching Assistant
Krebser, Lynn	Substitute Bus Attendant
Marx, Ida	Substitute Teaching Assistant
Perkins, Laurie	Uncertified Substitute Teaching Assistant
Story, Sue	Uncertified Substitute Teacher
Turck, Sarah	Uncertified Substitute Teacher
Vos, Christine	Uncertified Substitute Teacher and Teaching Assistant
Wilber, Abigail	Uncertified Substitute Teacher and Home Instruction
Woodard, Colette	Uncertified Substitute Teacher and Home Instruction

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

INSTRUCTION

Trustee Vanacore moved to approve the Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations, Schedule U, #02/07 A-022007, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Rosenfeld.
Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

MOTION TO APPROVE THE CORRECTED TAX EXEMPTION RESOLUTION

Trustee Vanacore moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District approve the senior citizen and disabled tax exemption new law income level effective for the 2007 tax year.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has previously adapted the provisions of Sections 459-c of the Real Property Law (providing for a partial exemption from taxation on residential property owned by qualified, disabled persons) and Section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law (providing for a partial exemption from taxation on residential property owned by qualified persons at least 65 years of age), to the maximum extent provided by those respective statutes; and

WHEREAS, Sections 459-c and 467 of the Real Property Tax Law have been amended, respectively, by Chapters 201 and 202 of the 2002 Laws of the State of New York, to raise the maximum income limits for persons qualifying for said partial exemptions from $24,000 to $26,000;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby establish the maximum income limit for the partial real property tax exemptions for qualified persons with disabilities and for qualified persons at least 65 years of age to be $26,000 in accordance with the amendments to Sections 459-c and 467 of the Real Property Tax Law.

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

Trustee Resnick provided an update on the planning for the March 3 Community Forum. There will be 2 sessions – one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Board members will help facilitate. Armand Quadrini of KSQ Architects will be there. The possibility of providing babysitting services and having food donated by the PTA's are being investigated.

Trustee Vanacore requested a packet of the new information that will be presented be provided to the Board prior to the Forum.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was introduced at this time.

GOALS UPDATE

The Board is working diligently to complete the remaining goals that were set.

BOARD MEMBERS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Trustee D'Orazio withdrew his discussion on procedures for individual Board members' requests of Administration in light of the very productive and fruitful meeting with Dr. Ford.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were made at this time.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Trustee Bernholz moved to adjourn at approximately 10:05 p.m.

Trustee Rosenfeld seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

Recorded by:
Jeanne Shultis
District Clerk

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