ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

M I N U T E S

REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, December 20, 2005
Woodstock Elementary School
7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER Trustee Patterson called **REGULAR MEETING** to order at approximately 7:01 p.m.

TOBACCO POLICY STATEMENT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

NOT PRESENT Trustee Flournoy,

ALSO PRESENT Superintendent, Justine Winters; Assistant Superintendent, Deborah Fox; School Business Administrator, Victoria McLaren; District Clerk, Jeanne Shultis; and approximately 48 visitors

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Vanacore 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 December 6, 2005, are hereby approved as submitted.
Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

WELCOME TO WOODSTOCK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Woodstock Elementary School Principal Bobbi Schnell welcomed everyone to Woodstock School. She provided each member of the Board with a draft of a book of poems by students in 4-P entitled "Imagine – Peace, Love, Harmony". She read a poem entitled "Peace" by Chris. Principal Schnell then introduced Harvey Boyer, the Woodstock music director who led the following members of the Woodstock Jazz Band in their performance of "Night Train", "Blues For Youngblood" and "On Broadway" for the pleasure of the Board and the audience.

WOODSTOCK ELEMENTARY JAZZ BAND

Clarinet	***Trumpet***	***Trombone***
Leila Whitebird	Andrew Russell	Bobby Lovaglio-Emry
Avery Serfis	Noah Chun	Bobby Volk
Violet Lasdun	Austin Weigel	
	Bernie Smith	

Alto Saxophone	***Piano***	***Tenor Saxophone***
Zachary Doyle	Molly Hyde	A. J. Lane
Katie Martucci	Sequoia Sellinger	Katelyn Epstein
Delaney Ryan		

Baritone Saxophone
Nick Barthel

Bass/Keyboard
Sylvie Cherwin

Percussion
Hunter Panek
Kali Dossantos

Bass Clarinet
Kelly Ambrosch

DISTRICT NEWS

Superintendent Winters announced that:

- The Winter Concert season will continue with the High School Chorus Concert Wednesday evening, December 21st. We do have some concerts in January as well.
- Last week we dedicated the Lawrence Stowe Music Room at the High School/Middle School. Trustee Vanacore, on behalf of the Board of Education said some fine words in tribute to Mr. Stowe who was a music teacher in Onteora for many years. It was a beautiful evening and a great tribute to Mr. Stowe.
- The architects have concluded their first round of meetings with the faculty, parent, and community groups. Last night was the last meeting and in the New Year we will begin a new series of meetings and continue to discuss the future use of our facilities. We are very eager to hear what our community and our faculty and parent members would like to see in the future for Onteora's facilities so we will be getting schedules and letters out inviting everybody to continued meetings and work with our architects.
- Our vacation will begin at the end of this week and school will reopen on January 3, 2006.

Trustee Patterson announced that last week's Freeman published the school lists of Scholar Athletes. He expected the list for Onteora to be smaller just by virtue of the size of our school. It was a pleasant surprise for him to find that our school list was as large or larger than most of our neighboring schools so "Great Job!" to the High School/Middle School for keeping the academics going especially with our athletes.

REPORT FROM 2005-2006 STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Student Representative Louis Jargow reported:

- That last week was Spirit Week at Onteora and everyone dressed up according to the themes for each day and this Friday is the Pep Rally. We will have an extended Pep Rally and throw in some games.
- That they are planning a "snow day" event for a day that school is closed, possibly on a holiday or during Regents Week, when students who don't have any testing could go to Belleayre to ski or snow board together. This will be a nice little school activity.
- On January 2nd, through Family of Woodstock, the Teen Hotline will be opening on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. so teens can call an anonymous hotline where other teens will pick up and try to help them with various issues like school, family problems and any other things that might come up. The numbers are: local 679-5999 and countywide 331-5565. Approximately 6 students from Onteora have been trained to man the phones.

STUDENT COMMENT There were no student comments at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Ronald E. Ridolph spoke about the unpaid claim that he submitted for remuneration for his time, mileage and expenses incurred during the process of training to become a substitute bus driver.

REPORTS/ PRESENTATIONS

- Special Education Annual Report - Connie Hayes, Interim Director of Pupil Personnel Services, introduced Michele Darling, District Occupational Therapist and Patrice Poremba, Occupational Therapy Assistant, who described the successful implementation of the new initiative, Handwriting Without Tears, which was a pilot program at Phoenicia last year and now is a district-wide program. The possibility of extending this program to Pre-Kindergarten was mentioned.
- Assistant Superintendent Deborah Fox commended Michele and Patrice for their initiative and hard work in bringing the program to the District.
- Superintendent Winters reminded everyone that Connie Hayes has been serving in an Interim capacity during the leave of Barbara Boyce who has been the Special Education Department leader in this District for many, many years. She commended Connie Hayes for an exemplary job during a time of great transition and expressed the District's gratefulness for her leadership during this time. Superintendent Winters extended thanks to Connie from the Board, her colleagues, and herself.

Trustee Flournoy arrived at approximately 7:45 p.m.

- Audit Committee Report – Trustees Bernholz reported that the next meeting has been scheduled for January 3rd at 8:30 a.m.

- Communications Committee – Trustee Patterson reported that there was a meeting Monday night, December 19th, which he was not able to attend. Trustee O'Connor reported that it was a very brief meeting. They now have their goals, which they voted on in committee and want to present to the Board in January. Also at that time Chairman Kathy Hochman will present the Board with the award plaques received for the newsletter. The next meeting is scheduled for January 23.

- Facilities Committee – Trustee Flournoy had no report at this time.

- Future of the District Commission – Trustees D'Orazio, Rosenfeld and Vanacore

This report was postponed until the Discussion and Possible Action portion of the agenda.

Policy Committee – Trustee O'Connor reported that they had a meeting with Mike Kocher regarding selective classification, coaching criteria and State mandates for coaches. The information will now go back to the Policy Committee for discussion before they bring it to the Board. At their next meeting they also plan to discuss what policies they will work on next. The next meeting will be announced.

- Technology Committee – Trustee Vanacore reported that this committee did have a meeting this month and had discussion about the pros and cons of purchasing certain computers through our technology budget and they talked about the possibilities of having technology in the budget on going. They also talked about overlaying projections for the five and ten year plan for technology as a progression across the board. It was a very informative meeting. Kathy Conklin is doing a great job and is very knowledgeable. The work the committee is doing is something that we will be able to present to the community as well because of the projections we are hoping to make. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 9th at 3:45 p.m.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT #12152005 BETWEEN OCSD AND OTA

Trustee D'Orazio moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District hereby approve the Memorandum of Agreement #12152005 between the Onteora Central School District and the Onteora Teachers Association (OTA).

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
Trustee Patterson explained that this MOA is for the stipend for the Gymnastics Coach, which was not included in the OTA contract.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

Open Campus Proposal
A discussion was held regarding the students' Open Campus proposal which covered several different aspects such as the blue pass system currently in use, the high risks of allowing students to cross Rt. 28, the possibility of a traffic light being installed on Rt. 28, the history of that request in the past, the existing closed campus policy, providing breakfast in school, the possibility of providing after school snacks in school, and the possibility of delivery service for students snacks. Superintendent Winters reported that both the school attorney and insurance company recommend that we do not have an open campus, therefore she could not recommend it at this time.

Future of the District Commission
Trustee D'Orazio moved that the Board charge the Future of the District Commission with a very specific, concrete goal to conclude during the course of the architects' work and the issues that are facing us.
Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.
Discussion. Amend motion to continue…regarding the future of the West Hurley buildings, the Woodstock building and where the Middle School will go.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

POLICY

First Reading

- Policy #1340 - Audit Committees

First Reading of Revisions to the following policies:

- Policy #1332 – Duties of the School District Treasurer and Purchasing Agent
- Policy #5220 – District Investments
- Policy #5410 – Purchasing
- Policy #5621 – Accounting of Fixed Assets
- Policy #5241 – Property Tax Exemption for Senior Citizen
- Policy #5150 – Contingency Budget

PERSONNEL

LEAVES OF ABSENCE: INSTRUCTIONAL SCHEDULE Q #12/05

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following INSTRUCTIONAL LEAVES OF ABSENCE:

	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
#1097	1/3/06 – 1/22/06	Extend Medical – Paid; Family Medical Leave
#3008	12/20/06 – 2/13/05	Cancel Medical – Unpaid; Family Medical Leave

Trustee Patterson seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

APPOINTMENTS: INSTRUCTIONAL SCHEDULE N #12/05

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS:

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Burkhardt, Jeannine	A.I.S./Regents Prep (After School) – Math B	$1,611.00
Cohen-Yannatos, Wendy	A.I.S./Regents Prep (After School) – ½ Math A	$805.50
Maille, Julie	School Newspaper – MS	$1,029.00
Marrin, Donna	A.I.S./Chemistry (After School)	$1,611.00
Robertson, Jessica	A.I.S./Regents Prep (After School) – ½ Math A	$805.50

Trustee Patterson seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

RESIGNATIONS: INSTRUCTIONAL SCHEDULE O #12/05

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following INSTRUCTIONAL RESIGNATIONS:

NAME	POSITION/ SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Wildermuth, Carmina	Librarian – HS	1/23/06	Retirement

Trustee Patterson moved to second the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SCHEDULE QQ #12/05

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL LEAVES OF ABSENCE:

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
#1858	11/28/05 – 12/18/05	Medical – Paid; Family Medical Leave
#1506	12/15/05 – 1/2/06	Medical – Paid; Family Medical Leave

Trustee Patterson seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

APPOINTMENTS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SCHEDULE NN #12/05

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS:

PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

NAME	POSITION/ SCHOOL	FROM - TO	STEP	REMARKS
Berryann, Alan	Custodial Worker – HS	12/29/05 – 6/29/06	Step 1	Replace J. Morelli (resignation) Revise start date & school

PART-TIME APPOINTMENT

NAME	POSITION/ SCHOOL	FROM - TO	STEP	REMARKS
Byron, Christina	0.5 Teaching Assistant – PH	12/14/05 – 6/30/05	Step 1	Position vacant due to transfer of J. Persons

PER-DIEM SUBSTITUTE

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Rushkoski, Amina	Non-Teaching Substitute	$9.00/hour

Trustee Patterson seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

INSTRUCTION

MOTION TO APPROVE THE CSE/CPSE RECOMMENDATIONS SCHEDULE U #12/05 A-12202005

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations, Schedule U, #12/05 A-122005, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Bernholz.
Trustee Patterson seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AWARDING OF THE EMERGENCY CONTRACT TO J. C. HOYT, INC.

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:
BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District hereby approve the awarding of the emergency contract for the "Out of District Bus Run" to J. C. Hoyt, Inc. at the rate of $216.00 per day from December 5, 2005 to January 4, 2006 and authorizes the President of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools to sign the contract.
Trustee Patterson seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AWARDING OF THE CONTRACT TO BEATRICE SHADER

Trustee O'Connor moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:
BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District hereby approve the awarding of the contract for the "Out of District Bus Run" to Beatrice Shader at the rate of $196.00 per day not to exceed $22,540.00 based on the bid documents of December 15, 2005 and authorizes the President of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools to sign the contract.
Trustee Patterson seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

BUSINESS REPORTS

- FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT – as of November 30, 2005

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee D'Orazio requested that starting as soon as possible presentations be arranged regarding what the vision should be inside the buildings the architects propose for the District. This would include the kind of set-up we want - K-8, K-6, schools within schools, buildings for arts only, etc.
Trustee Patterson requested that the Middle School Steering Committee give an abbreviated version of their presentation for the new board members, possibly in February, at a special meeting for that alone, if the calendar permits.
Trustee Vanacore requested that we specifically ask the architects to be present at the Middle School Steering Committee presentation.
Trustee Rosenfeld suggested that a list of educational options be compiled that we might get experts to speak about. A meeting could be set up with Superintendent Winters, Assistant Superintendent Deborah Fox and Trustee Rosenfeld and also possibly the administrative cabinet.
Trustee Vanacore would like to hear visions from our extremely capable administrative staff first.

OLD BUSINESS

Trustee Vanacore said that to avoid derogatory or negative press, she would like to see press releases issued on a regular basis in the newspapers on issues in our budget, the meaning of things in the budget, such as different financial strategies, bonds and general funds, etc., so

that the community gets a better concept of exactly what is going on within the budget. These should be issued consistently and continuously throughout the budget process. She would like this information to also be included in our newsletter. Or, if not press releases, we could ask the papers if we could put a Board column in so that we have exact, concise, informative information going out as to exactly what is going on. Trustee Patterson said he took her suggestion to the Communications Committee when she made it before and they have that on their list of things to do prior to the issuance of the mandated newsletters and informational mailings. It could be built in, if we have the funds, to answer questions and our newsletter goes to every mailing address in the District.

BOARD MEMBERS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

- Trustee Flournoy requested for a future agenda under Discussion and Possible Action the establishment of an Onteora information technology person and to discuss what the duties of that person would be.
- Trustee Flournoy requested that the Technology Committee be directed to discuss establishing a hardware refreshing policy for the District and to discuss this briefly at a Board meeting.
- Trustee Bernholz requested that at the January 31st Board meeting an update be presented on the new breakfast menu that has been implemented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Francine Xavier spoke about the Middle School being researched by architects, which has been done before. She questioned why money is being spent to do this all over again. Trustee Patterson responded that the State mandates a complete building survey every five years; along with this the architects are providing us with some long-term and short-term goals of what we need to do.

- Ron Ridolph spoke about his past experience on the Ulster County Traffic Safety Board and possible alternatives to a traffic light being installed on Rt. 28 by the High School.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to adjourn at approximately 9:10 p.m.
Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

Recorded by:
Jeanne Shultis
District Clerk