

ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, February 28, 2006
Bennett School
7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER Trustee Patterson called **REGULAR MEETING** to order at approximately 7:03 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 64 visitors

MOTION TO APPROVE 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 following meetings of the Board of Education are hereby approved as submitted:

- Special Meeting of the Board of Education held on February 7, 2006
- Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on February 14, 2006

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

WELCOME TO BENNETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- In the absence of Dr. Cassel, Bennett Principal, and Pam Walkowiak, PTA Council President, Mary Ann Shepard, Bennett PTA Co-President, welcomed everyone to Bennett School and introduced Robin Sears, who gave an update on the PTA Council’s Family Health and Fitness Expo, which has been scheduled for April 29, 2006.

DISTRICT NEWS Superintendent Winters announced that:

- The District Spelling Bee was held last week here at Bennett. She commended all the students who participated in this exciting event:
 - From Woodstock School – Katharine Martucci and Zachary Doyle
 - From Phoenicia School – Timothy Anson and Sean Hickey
 - From Middle School – Isabel Yannatos and Thomas Burchfield
 - From Bennett School – Andrew Price and Danielle Barringer, who was the winner and is now eligible to go on for the regional competition.
- Sports news: Champs lead – 9 Onteora qualifiers on the ski team. This is a staggering number to have qualified for competition at this level according to the coach.

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- Three young ladies will be participating in State Gymnastics: Emma Katz, Kaitlin Langdon and Sarah Thompson
- Dr. Cassel is on a visit to the Buffalo School District. She was selected as a representative to accompany Marty Ruglis, Ulster County Superintendent and Anthony Amodeo, Deputy Superintendent, as part of a SURR Team reviewing the school for its low test scores. They were asked to do this by the Commissioner. It is quite an honor.

REPORT FROM 2005-2006 STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Student Representative Louis Jargow reported that:

- The Student Forum has been pushed back to late April
- Saturday, March 4th, the Harvard Model Congress leaves on a trip to Boston for four days
- There was a play last weekend "The Would Be Gentleman" which Louis participated in and enjoyed
- Friday, March 3rd, a Sadie Hawkins Day Dance is planned to take place from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

STUDENT COMMENT

There were no student comments made at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Corey Cavallaro, Middle School teacher and OTA President, spoke about the proposed budget and personnel cuts and the effect on student services and educational effectiveness.
- Maxanne Resnick, representing a group of parents from the Phoenicia Elementary School, spoke about their concerns for the future of the Phoenicia Elementary School, in the light of the lack of representation on the Board from Phoenicia.
- Kathy Hochman, former Board member, spoke about her concerns about KSQ Architects' presentation and recommendation.
- Donna Flayhan, parent of a Phoenicia School student, spoke about the issue of class size and the need to increase the number of teachers.

REPORTS/ PRESENTATIONS

- Audit Committee Report – Trustee Bernholz reported that the next meeting will be held on March 7th at 8:30 a.m.
- Communications Committee – Trustee Patterson reported that there will be a discussion later in the agenda under Old Business.
- Facilities Committee – In the absence of Trustee Flournoy, Trustee Patterson reported that the Facilities Committee met last week with the architects and the construction manager that is on the agenda to be hired and will meet with them again in about a month. The next meeting is scheduled for March 7.
- Future of the District Commission – Trustee Vanacore reported that the Commission met this evening with the architects and the construction manager group. The presentation was information that the architects had collected on the Woodstock and West Hurley Schools. The next meeting is scheduled for March 28, 2006, at 5:30 p.m. before the Board meeting, at which time they will present information they have collected for the Middle School.

- Policy Committee – Trustee O'Connor reported that the Policy Committee had a very productive meeting on February 21, 2006. She reported progress on Policy revisions already adopted and plans for the next Policies to be revised. She requested that her minutes of the Committee meeting be attached hereto and incorporated by reference to the official minutes of this Board meeting (February 28, 2006), which are on file in the District Clerk's Office.
- Technology Committee – Trustee Vanacore reported that the Technology Committee met on February 27th and worked on revising the wording in the Technology budget proposal so that the exact purchases needed will be specified. They are also working on refreshing and updating technology equipment and putting together a projection for the next five years on what is needed to keep our equipment as updated as possible. The next meeting will be on March 27, 2006, at 4:00 p.m.
- Update on the New Breakfast Menu – School Lunch Manager Christine Downs reported on the newly implemented changes in the Breakfast menu and plans for future changes to enhance students' nutrition and performance.
- CDEP Update – Assistant Superintendent Deborah Fox reported on the Comprehensive District Educational Plan, which is a document that is continually under review by a very hard working team. It is a long-term instructional plan for the District. The four broad areas in need of improvement, which were identified, were: ELA K-8, Math K-8, the performance of students with disabilities and technology. Much of the focus so far in the last year and a half has been in four areas: alignment of curriculum and instruction, staff development, technology and communications.
- Budget Presentations – School Business Administrator Victoria McLaren
- Instructional Budget/ Pupil Personnel Services
 - District Vision
 - Instructional Mission
 - Staff Development Initiatives
 - Additional Instructional Initiatives
 - Equipment Requests
 - Staffing Assumptions
 - Instructional Administration and Improvement
 - Teaching – Regular School
 - Teaching – Other Programs
 - Pupil Personnel Services Mission
 - Pupil Personnel Services Program Initiatives
 - PPS Staff Development Initiatives
 - PPS Budget Initiatives
 - Pupil Personnel Services: Special Education
 - Instructional Budget Summary

**DISCUSSION AND
POSSIBLE ACTION**

- Traffic Light on Route 28 – Trustee Vanacore reported that she has concerns about the safety of students and school buses and took them to Assemblyman Kevin Cahill’s office. His assistant offered to help by having Assemblyman Cahill do a review of the previous assessment and then go to DOT with updated information and a request for a new review, if the entire school Board would send a letter stating what they feel are the important issues behind this request.

Trustee Vanacore moved that Superintendent Winters draft a letter from the Board to Kevin Cahill about the safety issues that we feel might warrant some further investigation by the Department of Transportation on the possibility of some type of traffic lighting out in front of the school.

Trustee Rosenfeld seconded the Motion.

Discussion.

6 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

- Transportation Department Resolution – Trustee Bernholz proposed a resolution to reorganize the Transportation Department.

Trustee Bernholz moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:

- **BE IT HEREBY** RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Ontario Central School District hereby directs the implementation of a reorganization plan for the District’s Transportation Department to include but not be limited to:
 1. The development of procedures assuring the proper maintenance of all driver medical certification records in its keeping, requirements for the appointment of driver trainers, standards for the training of drivers, driver and trainer education, creation of and records documenting all district driver training, and log books on the use of buses. As well as vehicle maintenance, eligibility and routing, safe driving procedures, special needs transportation, and accidents and emergencies.
 2. No later than April 15, 2006 the District shall conduct and complete the Comprehensive District Safety Review provided by the New York State Education Department of Pupil Transportation to identify areas in need of improvement and non-compliance. All areas of non-compliance shall be corrected by May 30, 2006 and the results shall be reported to the Board no later than June 20, 2006, and shall include all areas of non-compliance with the corrective action taken.
 3. The Superintendent shall be responsible to enforce all laws and regulations that govern the administration of its transportation services, and shall create regulations that ensure strict compliance with the safety requirements for Ontario students, and update safety requirements on an ongoing basis.

Trustee Patterson seconded the Motion.

Discussion.

6 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

PERSONNEL

TITLE CHANGE: **ADMINISTRATIVE**

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 following ADMINISTRATIVE TITLE CHANGE:

NAME	FROM	TO	EFFECTIVE
Hayes, Connie	Assistant Director of Elementary Pupil Personnel Services	Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel Services	3/1/06

Trustee Bernholz seconded the motion.

6 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

RESIGNATIONS: **INSTRUCTIONAL**

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 following INSTRUCTIONAL RESIGNATIONS:

NAME	POSITION/ SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Boms, Michael	Science Teacher – HS	June 30, 2006	Retirement
LaMonda, Carol	English - MS	June 30, 2006	Retirement
Marrin, Donna	Science Teacher – HS	June 30, 2006	Retirement
Miller, John	Special Education Teacher – HS	June 30, 2006	Retirement

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: **INSTRUCTIONAL**

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 following INSTRUCTIONAL LEAVES OF ABSENCE:

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
#1042	1/20/06 – 3/24/06	Medical – Paid; Family Medical Leave

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

APPOINTMENTS:
INSTRUCTIONAL

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 following INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS:

NAME	POSITION/ SCHOOL	FROM - TO	STEP	REMARKS
<u>SHORT-TERM SUBSTITUTE</u>				
Tampone, Debra	Art – BN	10/31/05 – 12/14/05	1M	To replace R. Ziemba (leave)

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Babcock, Alyssa	MS Science Fair Coordinator	\$457
Battista, Lynn	Softball – J.V. – Head Coach	\$2,513
Boms, Michael	Track – Spring – Head Coach (Boys)	\$4,065
Burkhardt, Patrick	Track – Spring – Assistant	\$2,751
Cahill, Joseph	Track – Spring – Assistant	\$2,751
Cavallaro, Linda	Track – Jr. H.S. – Head Coach	\$1,959
Chartrand, Louis	Track – Spring – Assistant	\$2,751
Fein, Peter	Tennis – Varsity – Head Coach (Boys)	\$2,244
Groeters, Michael	Track – Jr. H.S. – Assistant	\$1,224
Kocher, Michael	Baseball – Varsity – Head Coach	\$3,347
Negron, Michael	Baseball – J.V. – Head Coach	\$2,513
Okoren, Carol	Track – Spring – Head Coach (Girls)	\$4,065
Thomas, Doris	Softball – Varsity – Head Coach	\$3,347
Williams, Erin	Track – Jr. H.S. – Assistant	\$1,224
Wise, Betsy	Track – Jr. H.S. – Head Coach	\$1,959

PER DIEM SUBSTITUTES

NAME	CERTIFICATION	SALARY
Sebald, Jaimy	Uncertified Substitute Teacher	\$80/day

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

CARIED

RESIGNATIONS:
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

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 following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL RESIGNATIONS:

NAME	POSITION/ SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Langling, Sharon	Senior Stenographer – HS	7/23/06	Retirement
Maouris, Nicholas	10-month School Bus Driver	2/28/06	To accept Custodial Worker position
Ryder, Edward G	Custodian – WD	3/15/06	Retirement

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:
NON-
INSTRUCTIONAL

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 following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
#1517	1/5/06 – 4/5/06	Medical – Paid; Family Medical Leave

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

APPOINTMENTS:
NON-
INSTRUCTIONAL

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 following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS:

NAME	POSITION	FROM - TO	STEP	REMARKS
<u>PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT</u>				
Maouris, Nicholas	Custodial Worker	3/1/06 – 9/1/06	9	To replace J. Champlain (terminated)
*Williams, James	10-Month School Bus Driver	3/7/06 – 11/7/06	2	To replace N. Maouris (resigned)
*Pending receipt of “S” endorsement for CDL license				
<u>APPOINTMENT</u>				
Davis, Brian	Custodian – WD	3/15/06	15	Recall from PEL – To replace E. G. Ryder (retired)

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

INSTRUCTION

MOTION TO APPROVE THE CSE/CPSE RECOMMENDATIONS

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 Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations, Schedule U,

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**SCHEDULE U, #02/06
A-022806**

#02/06 A-022806, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Flournoy.
Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 NO
CARRIED

**BUSINESS AND
FINANCE**

BUSINESS REPORTS

**MOTION TO
APPROVE THE
FINANCIAL
MANAGEMENT
REPORT**

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 has reviewed and hereby approves the FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT for January 2006.
Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

**MOTION TO APPOINT
TRITON
CONSTRUCTION AS
CONSTRUCTION
MANAGER**

Trustee Patterson 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 following appointment:
BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District hereby appoints Triton Construction as Construction Manager pending review and approval of the construction management agreement by the District’s legal counsel and in accordance with the fee schedule listed on Exhibit A and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.
Trustee Vanacore seconded the Motion.
Discussion.
6 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Serena Wunderlich, a teacher for the deaf, spoke about the Special Education budget and staff cuts.
- Robert Wilkins, District resident and former owner of a local school bus company spoke about the single Transportation bid on the entire District and the negative effect it will have on the District transportation and its costs.
- Jason Calinda, a District High School teacher, spoke against the staff cut for the teacher of the deaf.
- Flo Buffa, a parent and grandparent who is also a District bus driver, spoke about the proposed budget cuts and the negative effect they will have on student services, as well as class size limitations.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was introduced at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

- Communications Committee Report – Trustee Patterson announced that the Committee will present its goals to the Board at the next meeting on March 14, 2006.

- Varsity Football Discussion – Trustee Patterson announced that this will be included on the agenda for the March 14, 2006, Board meeting.

**BOARD MEMBERS
REQUEST FOR
INFORMATION**

- Trustee D’Orazio requested specific information for the Board regarding Special Education teaching positions that were mentioned and also information on the Transportation Bid be included in School Business Administrator Victoria McLaren’s report for the March 14, 2006, Board meeting.
- Trustee Patterson requested a review of class sizes and the guidelines.
- Trustee Bernholz requested comparisons with comparable districts on class size.

**MOTION TO
APPROVE
RETIREMENT OF
SUPERINTENDENT
OF SCHOOLS**

Trustee Patterson moved to approve the following RESOLUTION with deep regret:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District that the resignation of Superintendent Justine C. Winters for retirement purposes effective on June 2, 2006 be accepted with deep regret.

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

CARRIED – with regrets

**MOTION TO ENTER
INTO EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

Trustee Patterson moved to enter into EXECUTIVE SESSION at approximately 8:46 p.m. to discuss the employment history of a particular individual.

Trustee Vanacore seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

**MOTION TO RETURN
TO REGULAR
SESSION**

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to return to REGULAR SESSION at approximately 9:10 p.m.

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

**MOTION TO
ADJOURN**

Trustee Patterson moved to adjourn at approximately 9:15 p.m.

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

Recorded by:
Justine C. Winters
Clerk Pro Tem

Recorded by:
Jeanne Shultis
District Clerk

**POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT
TO THE
ONTEORA BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Meeting 2/21/06

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

1. Policy Regulations

Administration Formed VS BOCES \$7,900.00 for regulation service.

Decision: Administration will form regulations.

Philosophy: Savings.

Solid policies with regulations but fewer yearly revisions.

Policy is only as good as its regulations and enforcement.

2. New Policies being revised:

a. Wellness Policy & Drug/Alcohol Policy – Robin Sears

b. Attendance

c. Cell phone & Electronic Devices for Students

d. District cell phones, credit cards, mileage reimbursement, travel expenses.

Note: Auditors from the Office of the State Comptroller completed 52 School district audits and plan to conduct 160 more in 2006.

The 2005 annual report by the comptroller to the Legislature

Reflected that a common problem was the absence in written

Policy concerning district cell phones, credit cards, mileage

Reimbursement and travel expenses. Newly written policies

In these areas will give Onteora additional compliance to the

Governors 5-point plan for fiscal responsibility and are ready

For a state audit.

3. Selective Classification for Onteora Athletes & Coaches Code of Conduct

Mike Kocher to meet with policy committee to continue discussion on

March 21, 2006, 6:00 pm.

4. FUTURE POLICIES

A. Dress Code

Form a committee to review a district dress code

GOAL: A careful balance of the right of self-expression for our

Students vs. the District's obligation to ensure an appropriate

Educational environment for the provision of the health, safety

And welfare of the school community.

Please see attached information on Kingston's dress code.

B. Closed Campus Regulations & Enforcement

C. Building Safety Plan & Evacuation Policy