ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

M I N U T E S

REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, April 4, 2006
Middle-High School
7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER Trustee Patterson called **REGULAR MEETING** to order at approximately 7:04 p.m.

TOBACCO POLICY STATEMENT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ALSO PRESENT Assistant Superintendent, Deborah Fox; School Business Administrator, Victoria McLaren; Student Board Representative, Louis Jargow; District Clerk, Jeanne Shultis; and approximately 76 visitors.

NOT ALSO PRESENT Superintendent, Justine Winters

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES

Trustee Bernholz moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District hereby approve the minutes of the following meetings as submitted:

- Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on March 28, 2006

Trustee D'Orazio seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

WELCOME TO HIGH SCHOOL

High School Assistant Principal Gabriel Buono welcomed everyone to the Middle School and High School and reported that:

- The High School Graduation will be held this year on Friday, June 23, 2006, at 6:30 p.m.
- The ball teams are off to a successful start. They will have their first competition on Friday, April 7, 2006.
- The tennis season will officially start on April 17, 2006.
- The track teams have had a very successful start - girls are going for their 10th consecutive MHAL championship this year and the boys are the defending Class B Section 9 champs.
- Mr. Prutzman, a business teacher, took approximately 50 students to see both the old and the new prisons. He arranged for a corrections officer to give the tour. It was an excellent opportunity to see how this project is going.
- The liaisons have been working and planning very hard for the academic awards ceremony that will be held on June 8, 2006, at 6:30 p.m. It will be the day after the Middle School academic awards ceremony and we will be following a new format.

DISTRICT NEWS

Assistant Superintendent Deborah Fox reported that:

- The Middle School held a very successful science fair on Saturday, April 1, 2006, and the judges reportedly said that the experiments were of superb quality and selecting the winners was extremely difficult. She extended thanks to the PTSO for helping to organize this annual event.
- In Phoenicia two teachers, Veronica Rowe, Grade 2, and Melissa Johnson, Grade K, participated in Trout in the Classroom program and they received a congratulatory letter thanking them for participating again. They presented their project at Black Rock Forest in Cornwall, New York, to fellow educators. It was particularly interesting because it was a primary project, where typically you might see Trout in the Classroom in the upper grades. We congratulate them.
- Woodstock fifth grade students recently participated in a dance residency with the Vanaver Caravan. Students had a culminating night where they performed dances of the Americas. They had a wonderful time.
- Bennett fifth grade students have been busy studying the State of Alaska and the Iditarod Dog Sled Race. They participated in a number of activities including selecting their own mushers and creating maps of Alaska. Then they logged on to the computer daily to watch the race, get updates and gather more information. Their culminating activity was a "Musher Banquet".

She applauded the schools for their enjoyable and educational activities.

OLD BUSINESS

- Request for Traffic Signal at Boiceville Campus

School Business Administrator, Victoria McLaren reported on the status of the traffic signal that our Superintendent has been looking into. Superintendent Winters received a response to our request from Mark Romano, who is an Ulster County Department of Transportation Investigator, who outlined the specific steps we would need to follow and the costs to the District. The first step would be for the Board of Education to authorize a traffic study (at District expense) to determine if the traffic flow at the Boiceville campus warrants the installation of a traffic signal. Not knowing what the traffic study results would be, he doesn't think we would qualify because our campus has multiple exits and entrances. If we did qualify, then we would be responsible to pay for the installation of the traffic light as well as the future upkeep and maintenance of the light. He offered to visit our campus and provide some upgrades for our signage for the pedestrian crossing. We believe that we got such a quick response because of the assistance of Assemblyman Cahill and we want to thank him for helping to move things along.

Trustee Patterson asked if we could go back to Assemblyman Cahill's office to see if there is money available to help us at least do the study.

Trustee Vanacore reported that she has spoken to Assemblyman Cahill and he said he would help in any way he could to get more information, more action, and possibly less encumbrances for us if money is a concern.

REPORT FROM 2005-2006 STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Student Representative Louis Jargow reported that:

- Last Friday, March 31, 2006, the Grade 10-12 students participated in the Student Forum that went especially well.
- On behalf of students with concerns about the issue of Special

Education Department budget cuts, he spoke about the positive aspects that he feels are due to the quality of our Special Education program and the amount of money we put into the system. He commented on how well special needs students are integrated into all aspects of student life at Onteora, including athletics, academics, extra-curricular and social, without any stigma whatever.

STUDENT COMMENT No student comments were made at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT The following people spoke in opposition to the proposed Special Education budget cuts:

- Ted VanWagner
- Geri Garfinkle
- Terry LeRoy
- Serena Wunderlich
- Jason Calinda
- Cathy Cioffi
- Nancy Gill
- Kathy Albano
- Pam Olson
- Justin Finnegan
- Robin Perls
- Valerie Hill
- Carolyn Thompson

The following people spoke against having the Military in the schools:

- Nick Alba
- Liz Zukor
- Joan Walker

REPORTS/ PRESENTATIONS

- Audit Committee Report – Trustee Bernholz reported no change.
- Communications Committee – Trustee O'Connor reported no change.
- Facilities Committee – Trustee Patterson reported no change.
- Policy Committee – Trustee Patterson reported no change.
- Technology Committee – Trustee Vanacore reported no change.
- Budget Response and Clarification – Assistant Superintendent Deborah Fox and School Business Administrator Victoria McLaren
  - Introduction
  - Proposed Adjustment in Special Education Teaching Staff
  - Historical Special Education Staffing
  - Comparative Staffing Information
  - Response to OTA Communication from Elementary Special Education Teachers
  - Overview of Academic Intervention Services (AIS)
  - Social Work Staffing Recommendation
  - Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing
  - Comparative Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing Costs

- Components of the NYS Education Department Per Pupil Spending Calculation
- 2002-2003 School Report Card Data
- Onteora Per Pupil Spending History
- 2005-2006 Cost Per Pupil Calculation
- Highly Qualified Teacher
- Summary

STUDENT COMMENT Caliean Carr spoke in opposition to the Teacher of the Deaf budget cut.

Trustee Patterson called for a two-minute break at approximately 9:53 p.m.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

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 Onteora Central School District hereby approve the Memorandum of Agreement #3172006 between the Onteora Central School District and the Onteora Teachers Association (OTA).
Trustee Vanacore seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

MOTION TO APPROVE ASPIE OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP TO CAMP EPWORTH

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 Onteora Central School District hereby approve the following Field Trip as proposed by the ASPIE Program: Approximately 14 ASPIE Program students, 4 teaching assistants and 2 teachers would go to Camp Epworth in High Falls on April 19 and stay over to April 20. The students raised funds.
Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

MILITARY RECRUITERS IN THE SCHOOL

A discussion was held on the issue of Military Recruiters in the school and the possible approval of a protocol as recommended by the School Attorney. More clarification was requested relating to limiting recruitment visits to the school while providing equal access.

MOTION TO CHARGE THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Board of Education Newspaper Column Proposal – Trustee O'Connor presented a proposal for providing accurate information to the general public on important issues by writing articles for local newspapers which would be approved by the Board after editing by the administration. Discussion followed. Further research was requested.

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 direct the Communications Committee to research the following District communication tools for implementation in the 2006-2007 school year:
    - New format for District Wide Calendar
    - District Brochure Design

- New Logo and research school history of present Logo

Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
Discussion
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

PERSONNEL

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: INSTRUCTIONAL

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 following INSTRUCTIONAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
#2770	9/1/06 – 1/28/07	Medical – Unpaid; Family Medical Leave

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

APPOINTMENTS: INSTRUCTIONAL

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 following INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS:

SHORT-TERM PER DIEM SUBSTITUTE

NAME	POSITION/ SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	STEP	REMARKS
Muller, Kristin	Science – MS	*5/11/06	1M	Replace A. Babcock (leave)

*Date is approximate

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

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 following NON- INSTRUCTIONAL LEAVES OF ABSENCE:

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
#2740	3/7/06 – 3/31/06	Medical – Paid; Family Medical Leave

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

INSTRUCTION

MOTION TO APPROVE CSE/CPSE RECOMMENDATIONS SCHEDULE U #04/06 A-040406

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 Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations, Schedule U, #04/06 A-040406, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee D'Orazio.
Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

MOTION TO APPROVE REPLACEMENT OF THE FUEL OIL UST AT WOODSTOCK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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 following RESOLUTION:
BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District will replace the existing 10,000 gallon single wall fuel oil Underground Storage Tank (UST) at the Woodstock Elementary School with a new 10,000 gallon double wall fuel oil UST including monitoring devices. The Onteora Central School District is the lead agency in the environmental review process. The Board has reviewed the scope of the project and it was determined that there would be no environmental impact, therefore, the project has been classified as a Type II Action and will require no further review under SEQR.
Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

BUSINESS REPORTS

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 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 Warrants Schedule J #03/06.
Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was introduced at this time.

BOARD MEMBERS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Trustee Vanacore requested more information on the decision made by the Future of the District Commission and for this to be placed on a future agenda under Discussion and Possible Action.

Trustee O'Connor requested discussion on reducing the proposed budget to the same level as a contingency budget through additional cuts.

Trustee Patterson requested that discussion of additional budget cuts be held at the April 18, 2006 meeting and an additional Board meeting be scheduled to adopt the budget on Thursday, April 20, 2006.

Trustees O'Connor, Bernholz and Vanacore requested additional budget cuts be made by reducing the unencumbered fund balance.

Trustee D'Orazio requested that any additional budget cuts be made by the administration and presented to the Board for consideration in lieu of the Board going through the budget by line item.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Corey Cavallaro spoke in opposition to the proposed budget cuts
- Kathy Gordon read a letter from her daughter, Katie, in opposition to the proposed Teacher of the Deaf position cut
- Serena Wunderlich spoke in opposition to the proposed Teacher of the Deaf budget cut

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Flournoy moved to enter into EXECUTIVE SESSION at approximately 10:58 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations.
Trustee O'Connor seconded the Motion.
7 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

Trustees Rosenfeld and O'Connor left at approximately 11:00 p.m. and were not present during Executive Session.

MOTION TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Trustee Patterson moved to return to REGULAR SESSION at approximately 11:16 p.m.
Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.
5 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Trustee Patterson moved to adjourn at approximately 11:17 p.m.
Trustee Bernholz seconded the Motion.
5 Yes 0 No
CARRIED

Recorded by: _____
Victoria McLaren
Clerk Pro Tem

Recorded by: _____
Jeanne Shultis
District Clerk