

# ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

## *MINUTES*

### REGULAR MEETING

7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, December 8, 2004  
Middle-Senior High School

### CALL TO ORDER

President Marino D'Orazio called REGULAR MEETING to order at approximately 7:04 p.m.

### PRESENT

Trustees Marino D'Orazio, Tom Rosato, Neil Eisenberg, Lev Flournoy, Kathy Hochman, Herb Rosenfeld

### NOT PRESENT

Trustee David Patterson

### ALSO PRESENT

Superintendent of Schools, Justine Winters, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, Barbara Boyce, Alternate Student Representative, Dean McGee, District Clerk, Jeanne Shultis, and approximately 70 visitors.

### NOT ALSO PRESENT

Assistant Superintendent, Deborah Fox, School Business Administrator, Victoria Garone

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Flournoy moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting – November 16, 2004, and the Special Meeting – November 29, 2004.

Trustee Eisenberg seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**Trustee D'Orazio thanked Trustee Hochman for her presentation on Special Education at the November 29, 2004, Special Board Meeting.**

### WELCOME TO MIDDLE-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

- Senior High School Principal Barbara Ruben announced:
  - Interim Athletic Director Joe DiGiovanni received a letter from the New York State Public High School Athletic Association informing us that Onteora's Boys Country Team and Girls Country Team received the Scholar Athletic Team Award. The criteria for this award are a 90% or higher average. The Boys Team average was 92.2% and the Girls Team average was 96.2%.
  - Fundraising for the Project Adventure Indoor Climbing Curriculum kicked off in the Middle School this week. Middle School students will be selling cards which offer discounts to many local merchants and the cards are \$10 each.

- Three High School seniors were named Commended Students in the 2005 National Merit Scholarship Program. Commended students placed in the top 5% of more than a million students who took the 2003 PSAT National Merit Qualifying Test. The Onteora students are:
  - Ross Beckman
  - Renee Kothe
  - Alison Pickard
- Ms. Ruben introduced Krista Cayea, District Coordinator of Music, who announced the Area All State Students who were selected through solo auditions in the spring, many of whom were present:
  - November 19 and 20, 2004 Area All-State Music Festival participants:
    - Mixed Chorus -** Mark Davidson  
Sean Devine  
Brandon Stoothoff
    - Orchestra -** Emily Cole  
Talia Dibbell  
Rosalie Rion  
Ariel Robinson  
Noelle Ziegenfelder
- Onteora Marching Band Director, Steven Murphy, played the tape of the first two selections from their championship performance at the Musical Arts Conference in Bridgeport, Connecticut – Call of the Mountain and Adelina DeMaya - followed by a live performance of their third selection entitled Joy.  
Led by Drum Majorette Renee Kothe, the participating band members were:
  - Flute - Enrica Rosato, Veronica Fassbender
  - Clarinet – Quinn Ferris, Liz DeSiena, Lyndsey Meyer, Dan Morris
  - Alto Sax – Caleb Slovensky, Jake Sorgen, Liz Tong, Mike Cortina, Katerina Kariolis, Kelsie Johnan
  - Trumpet - Sean Devine, Russell Drake, Glenn Eighmey, Patrick Rose, Sharon Davidson
  - Trombone - Mark Davidson, Dan McCabe, Willie Melvin
  - Baritone - Ace DeSiena
  - Tuba - Akira Shimizu
  - Drum Line - Caroline Gold, James Zemlock, Aaron Trowbridge, Jonas Finkle, Dean Hottom
  - Percussion - Matt Panico, Jessi Panico, Chris Motti, Joey Orofino, Tori Barthel, Elisha Slovensky, Sararose McCabe, Ezra Houben
  - Color Guard - Jenny Ugolino (Guard Captain), Ashley Weber, Marne Morgan, Katie Canuch, Selina Guendel

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Wednesday, December 8, 2004**  
**Onteora Middle-Senior High School**

**DISTRICT NEWS**

Superintendent Justine Winters sent kudos to the Music Department and said it was a thrill to hear our students perform.

The Winter Sports season has begun and Superintendent Winters had the pleasure of going to a Junior Varsity Girls Basketball Tournament at Webutuck. Onteora came home with the first place trophy.

The next meeting of the Communications Committee will be Tuesday, December 14, 2004, at 7:00 p.m.

The Future of the District Commission, chaired by Joe DeCaro will meet on Tuesday, December 14, 2004 at 5:30 p.m. in the High School Cafeteria. The meetings are open to the public. Observers are welcome at any time.

The High School Winter Concert will be held on January 5, 2005, at 7:00 p.m. at Ulster County Community College. The Middle School Winter Concert will be held on January 6, 2005, at 7:00 p.m. at Ulster County Community College. The snow date for both the Middle School and High School concerts is January 7, 2005, at 7:00 p.m. The Woodstock Elementary School Concert will also be at Ulster County Community College on January 12, 2005, at 6:30 p.m., with a snow date of January 13, 2005. These dates will be put on the website.

**REPORT FROM 2004-2005 STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE**

- Alternate Student Representative Dean McGee reported that the Student Affairs Council (SAC) will be starting a Student Appeals Court on December 9, 2004, on a trial basis. They will be looking for alternative punishments.

**STUDENT COMMENT**

No student comments were made at this time.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were made at this time.

**BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

Trustee Rosato moved to approve the addition of American Funds Distributors, Inc. to the vendor list for the 403B tax shelter annuity benefit available to all employees and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**RESIGNATION(S):**

**INSTRUCTIONAL SCHEDULE O #12/04**

Trustee Rosato moved to accept the following **INSTRUCTIONAL RESIGNATION(S):**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE</b>	<b>REMARKS</b>
Patricia McNelis	Long-Term Substitute Special Education Teacher – BN	1/4/05	Resignation

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**  
**INSTRUCTIONAL SCHEDULE Q #12/04**

Trustee Rosato moved to approve the following request(s) for **LEAVE OF ABSENCE** for the period indicated:

Name	Position	Effective Date	Reason
Pamela Ciaccio	Special Education Teacher – HS	11/1/04 – 12/3/04	Extend Medical Leave – Unpaid; FMLA
Michelle Martin	Reading Teacher – WD	*1/21/05 – 3/4/05	Medical Leave – Paid; FMLA

\*Dates are approximate

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**APPOINTMENT(S):**  
**INSTRUCTIONAL SCHEDULE N #12/04**

**D. PER DIEM SUBSTITUTE**

**G. EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS**

Trustee Rosato moved to approve the following **INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS:**

**D. PER DIEM SUBSTITUTE**

NAME	CERTIFICATION	SALARY
Kathleen Higgins	Uncertified Substitute Teacher	\$70/day
Kristin Muller	Uncertified Substitute Teacher	\$70/day
Regina Rothkopf	Certified Substitute Teacher	\$85/day
Andrew Sandler	Uncertified Substitute Teacher	\$70/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

**D. PER DIEM SUBSTITUTE**

NAME	CERTIFICATION	SALARY
Joseph Cahill	Certified Substitute Teacher	\$85/day
Jessica Herrera	Uncertified Substitute Teacher	\$70/day

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

**G. EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS**

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Patrick Burkhardt	Track – Winter – Head Coach (resigned 11/29/04) (pro-rated 11/15-11/29)	\$302.75
Wendy Cohen-Yannatos	2/3 Share of 2 - Sixth Teaching Assignments – Math (pro-rated)	\$5,878.80
Wendy Cohen-Yannatos	A.I.S./Regents Prep (After School): ½ of Math A Regents Prep	\$776.50
Jamie Gaus	Cheerleading – Advisor – Winter	\$1,415.00
Jeannine Girzone	A.I.S./Regents Prep (After School): Math B Regents Review Class	\$1,553.00
Jeannine Girzone	1/6 Share of 2 - Sixth Teaching Assignment – Math (pro-rated)	\$1,469.70
Donna Marrin	A.I.S./Chemistry (After School)	\$1,553.00
Michael Marrin	Science Olympiad Asst Coach – HS	\$1,061.00
Jessica Robertson	A.I.S./Regents Prep (After School): ½ of Math A Regents Prep	\$776.50
Jessica Robertson	1/6 Share of 2 - Sixth Teaching Assignment – Math (pro-rated)	\$1,469.70
Joseph Thomas	Track – Winter – Head Coach (replace P. Burkhardt 11/29/04) (pro-rate amount)	\$2,100.00

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Wednesday, December 8, 2004**  
**Onteora Middle-Senior High School**

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

**NON-INSTRUCTIONALSCHEDULE QQ #12/04**

Trustee Rosato moved to approve the following request(s) for **LEAVE OF ABSENCE (Non-Instructional)** for the period indicated:

Name	Position	Effective Date	Reason
Barbara May-Terpening	Teaching Assistant – BN	12/24/04 – 1/21/05*	Medical Leave – Paid; FMLA
Barbara May-Terpening	Teaching Assistant – BN	1/22/05 – 2/11/05*	Medical Leave – Unpaid; FMLA

\*Dates are approximate

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**APPOINTMENT(S):**

**NON-INSTRUCTIONALSCHEDULE NN #12/04**

**A. PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT**

**D. SUBSTITUTE**

Trustee Rosato moved to approve the following **NON-INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS:**

**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 non-instructional employees on an emergency conditional basis.

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	FROM - TO	STEP	REMARKS
<b>A. PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT</b>				
Jason Champlain	Custodial Worker – District	12/8/04 – 6/8/05	1	Replace J. Revelant (Retirement)
<b>D. SUBSTITUTE</b>				
Holly Biesele	Non-Teaching Substitute			\$7.50 per hour

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

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**SALARY CHANGES:**

**NON-INSTRUCTIONALSCHEDULE TT #12/04**

Trustee Rosato moved to approve the following **SALARY CHANGES (NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)** for the reason(s) indicated and effective date(s):

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	SALARY	DATE	REASON
Carol Busch	Acting Transportation Supervisor	\$1,921.19	7/21/04 – 8/20/04	Increased daily rate by \$83.53 for 23 days. (replaced M. Grehl)

**APPOINTMENT(S):**

**FINAL SED CLEARANCE**

Notification that the applicant named below has filed their fingerprints with the New York State Education Department and has been cleared for employment:

Celsina Bertorelli	Non-Teaching Substitute
Victoria Garone	Business Manager
David Padusnak	Building Maintenance Worker

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**MOTION TO APPROVE CSE and CPSE  
RECOMMENDATIONS, SCHEDULE U, #12/04**

Trustee Rosato moved to approve the Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations, Schedule U, #12/04, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Rosenfeld .

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS**

- Counseling and Guidance Services
  - Maureen Pennacchio, Guidance Chairperson, introduced Brian Schaffer, Janet Krieger and Amanda Ricken. Monir Evers was absent. Board members were given a packet of information about the services provided for students for this year and next school year. New York State standard and regional standards are taken into account. The program is student centered, proactive, flexible and comprehensive. The three areas are academic, personal/social, and career development. Brian Schaffer highlighted Onteora's counseling services for students and their families. The possible need of expanded career guidance services was discussed.
  - Linda Mandano, High School Social Worker, gave Board Members the Middle/High School Social Worker Job Responsibilities. There are two social workers in the Middle/High School. Dimitri Hernandez works primarily with special education students, and Linda Mandano works primarily with regular education students. There are case management teams that meet at both Middle and High School levels bi-weekly. Both social workers feel strongly about providing parent support. Since counseling services were cut, any support to supplement the services provided would be appreciated.
- Special Education Department Update
  - Barbara Boyce, Director of Pupil Personnel Services provided Board members with the 2004 Annual Report of Special Education Programs and Services, and introduced:
    - Dr. Hayden Hartmann, School Psychologist, who described referral procedures and the evaluation process and requirements.
    - Lori Mulford, part-time High School CSE Chairperson, PPS Coordinator and a Special Education teacher, who described the preparation for graduation and life after High School for Special Education students.
    - Bill Melvin, part-time Middle School CSE Chairperson, PPS Coordinator and Special Education teacher, who described the four major programs at the Middle School that support our 80 classified Middle School students:  
(in the order of least restrictive to most restrictive)
      1. Special Ed Integrated (CT) program
      2. Regents Intensive program
      3. Basic Life Skills Class
      4. Management Attention Program (MAPS)
    - Valerie Pardiz, Educational Director of ASPIE, described the program, which has 15 students in grades 7-10, with referrals continuing to come in for this school year and serving students from 7 different school districts including Onteora. Tuition for ASPIE is paid by the referring school district. ASPIE received a grant from the Farr Fund that will fund:
      1. Teacher training and development
      2. Monthly Parent Support Group Meetings

3. In November 2005, it will fund a conference which will bring experts in the Autism field to us for more teacher training.

One of the ASPIE students' artwork will be shown in the Rico-Moresque Gallery in New York this January and all of our students will be going on a field trip to see it.

- Connie Hayes, Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel Services, thanked the Board for the opportunity to share information about the programs and services. The Annual Report documents the complexity and strengths of the services offered. This year the Special Education Department is sharing in the district-wide mandate to be mindful not only of offering quality programs but of doing it in a fiscally responsible manner. One of the department's goals, this year, is to review the services and programs for cost analysis and reduction where appropriate and feasible.
- Dimitri Hernandez, Social Worker for the Middle School and High School special education students, described how counseling services help students make a better adjustment to school.

**Trustee D'Orazio announced a five-minute break at 8:43 p.m.**

Student Representative Dean McGee left during the break.

- Communications Committee Update by Justine Winters
  - At the meeting last week the Committee decided to recommend to the Board that a newsletter be printed with the help of Ulster BOCES. A sample of the format the Committee liked the most is in the Board Member's packet tonight. There will be a cost for printing and for BOCES to edit the articles. The newsletter should be sent to all District residents. The first one to go out in January and at least one more at budget time with perhaps another one as well. The Committee was very enthusiastic about it and is looking for the Board to say if this idea meets with their approval. The cost would be \$2,700.00. A formal recommendation will be presented at a future Board meeting.
  - The Time Warner Cable television channel proposal was met with much enthusiasm from both the Committee members and the Town Supervisors.
- Trustee Hochman mentioned that one item that came up at the Communications Committee meeting was the district phone system. When parents cannot get through to the High School in the morning it is a health and safety issue. Trustee D'Orazio would like to see presentations by contractors in the field to tell the Board what is available. Superintendent Winters reported that Jim O'Neill had implemented intermediate steps to alleviate the problem. Jim explained the changes and additions that were made.
- Future of the District Commission Update – Trustee D'Orazio reported that a very productive meeting took place on November 30, 2004. The meeting was divided into two parts. The general consensus was that we are looking at a 10-year projection of no increase in enrollment or a decrease. The only area of growth was reported by Paul Economous of Hurley. He believes there is a "boom" because of new building permits, the West Hurley Library seeking an extension. The second part was a Middle School presentation by Gayle Kavanagh and her committee about the need in this district for a separate Middle School, citing educational reasons. They have visited other school districts to observe their configurations.

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Wednesday, December 8, 2004**  
**Onteora Middle-Senior High School**

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

Trustee Flournoy moved to approve 2005 Annual Meeting and Election documents, reviewed and approved by School Counsel Daniel Petigrow:

- o Calendar for Annual Meeting and Election – May 17, 2005
- o Budget Presentation Calendar for 2005-2006

Trustee Eisenberg seconded the Motion.

*Discussion. The Budget Presentation Calendar will be approved with two changes: switch the Buildings and Grounds presentation with the Cafeteria presentation to allow more time for the Buildings and Grounds budget to be prepared.*

6 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**MOTION TO CONDUCT A  
 STUDY OF THE BUILDINGS  
 AND GROUNDS DEPARTMENT**

Trustee Rosato moved to approve the following RESOLUTION:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education directs the Superintendent and/or her designee to conduct a study of the organizational and managerial structure of the Buildings and Grounds Department. The findings and recommendations of this study will be shared with the Board of Education, no later than, at the time of the Buildings and Grounds Budget presentation. The study/recommendations should include but not be limited to the organizational structure of the Custodial, Maintenance and Grounds divisions of the department, a review of the work order system, job descriptions and responsibilities, accountability and feed back procedures, e.g. custodial inspection check lists. The current configuration of 2 Buildings and Grounds Supervisors will be reviewed for its economy and efficiency.

Trustee Hochman seconded the Motion.

*Discussion. The words "the Board of Education directs" will be deleted from the resolution.*

6 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

**OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee D'Orazio read in the Kingston Freeman that the Rhinebeck School District student body has taken it upon itself to conduct a survey about changing their mascot and they are doing it in a very appropriate way. Trustee Eisenberg suggested that perhaps this could be put to our Student Representatives to see if they would be interested in taking this on as a project. Trustee D'Orazio emphasized that it is not to be construed to mean that the Board is doing anything on the mascot issue this year.

**BOARD MEMBERS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

No requests for information were made at this time.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment was made at this time.

**RESIGNATION OF  
 TRUSTEE THOMAS ROSATO**

Trustee D'Orazio moved to accept the resignation of Trustee Rosato effective upon adjournment of this meeting.

Trustee Flournoy moved to second the Motion.

*Discussion. Board members thanked Trustee Rosato for his service to the District and expressed their sadness over his resignation.*

6 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**



Trustee D'Orazio asked that those members of the public who are interested in being on the Board send in a resume or a letter explaining their qualifications and their wish to be on the Board within approximately thirty days. As in the past, the Board will screen the applications, interview those candidates selected, and appoint someone by majority vote at a public meeting. By law, that person would serve until May, when the remaining term would be included in the open Board positions on the ballot.

**OPEN OFFICE OF VICE PRESIDENT**

Trustee D'Orazio moved to nominate Kathy Hochman to be Vice President for the remainder of the year. Trustee Rosenfeld seconded the Motion.  
*Discussion.* Trustee D'Orazio said that Trustee Patterson had requested to have the vote on this postponed until the next meeting.  
Trustee Eisenberg moved to table the motion.  
Trustee D'Orazio seconded the Motion.  
6 Yes 0 No  
**TABLED**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Eisenberg moved to enter into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at approximately 9:34 p.m. to discuss the employment history of a particular person.  
Trustee D'Orazio seconded the Motion.  
6 Yes 0 No  
**CARRIED**

**RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION**

Trustee Hochman moved to return to regular session at approximately 10:10 p.m.  
Trustee D'Orazio seconded the Motion.  
6 Yes 0 No  
**CARRIED**

**PRESENT**

Trustees Marino D'Orazio, Tom Rosato, Neil Eisenberg, Lev Flourney, Kathy Hochman, Herb Rosenfeld

**ALSO PRESENT**

Superintendent of Schools and Clerk Pro Tem, Justine Winters, and approximately 0 visitors.

**NOT PRESENT**

Trustee David Patterson

**NOT ALSO PRESENT**

Assistant Superintendent, Deborah Fox, School Business Administrator, Victoria Garone, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, Barbara Boyce, Alternate Student Representative, Dean McGee, District Clerk, Jeanne Shultis

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Trustee Hochman requested that when the Transportation Department makes its Budget presentation to the Board of Education she would like it to include information per the Transportation Advisory Services study regarding bidding bus routes to contractors.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Rosato moved to adjourn at approximately 10:10 p.m.  
Trustee Hochman seconded the Motion.

6 Yes 0 No

**CARRIED**

Recorded by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Justine C. Winters  
Clerk Pro Tem

Recorded by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jeanne Shultis  
District Clerk