

ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

7:00 P.M.

Tuesday, December 21, 2004
Woodstock Elementary School

CALL TO ORDER

District Clerk Jeanne Shultis called REGULAR MEETING to order at approximately 7:04 p.m.

PRESENT

Trustees Neil Eisenberg, Lev Flournoy, Kathy Hochman, David Patterson, Herb Rosenfeld

NOT PRESENT

Trustee Marino D'Orazio

ALSO PRESENT

Superintendent of Schools, Justine Winters; Assistant Superintendent, Deborah Fox; School Business Administrator, Victoria Garone; Director of Pupil Personnel Services, Barbara Boyce; Student Representative, Joel Spinac; District Clerk, Jeanne Shultis, and approximately 40 visitors.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOTION ON THE TABLE

At the December 8, 2005 meeting Trustee D'Orazio moved to nominate Kathy Hochman as Vice President of the Board of Education. Trustee Rosenfeld seconded the Motion. The motion was tabled.

Trustee Flournoy moved to remove the motion from the table and approve the nomination.

Trustee Eisenberg seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

The meeting was then turned over to Trustee Hochman.

WELCOME TO WOODSTOCK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Woodstock Elementary School Principal Bobbi Schnell was not present due to illness. Librarian Joann Margolis welcomed everyone to Woodstock Elementary School and introduced two fifth grade students, Michelle Swanson and Annika Bernard who explained the Peace Crane Project. Students made over 1500 paper cranes – the fifth grade alone made 500. Each Board member was presented with a paper crane.

DISTRICT NEWS

- Superintendent Winters introduced Mark Gray, Scout Master of Troop 163, Shokan, who introduced Eagle Scout Eric Brennan, a 2004 Onteora graduate who participated in DECA, marching band, math team, and science team. As his Eagle project, Eric cleaned the stream behind the American Legion Hall in Shokan, took the trash out of the woods and created a nature path and sanctuary for the Senior Citizens in the Town of Olive. Eric was accompanied by his fellow scouts.
- The Onteora Retired Educators Organization donated \$500 to the District Libraries. Present to accept the Board's thanks were Maureen Ihnken and Barbara Kalleberg who said that the libraries are the backbone of the school and they were very happy to be able to make this donation.
- The New York Times had a front-page article featuring very favorable news about our ASPIE program. The article is also on line and includes quotes from students and pictures.
- The budget season has been launched since the Board adopted the Budget Calendar. A team from Central Administration has been going to faculty meetings at the schools.
- Future of the District Commission met recently and set several meeting dates:
 - January 13, 2005, 5:30 p.m., tour of Woodstock Elementary School
 - January 13, 2005, 6:00 p.m. meeting at Woodstock School
 - January 25, 2005, 5:30 p.m., tour of Phoenicia Elementary School
 - January 25, 2005, 6:00 p.m., meeting at Phoenicia School
 - February 10, 2005, tour of West Hurley Elementary School
 - February 15, 2005, presentation to Board of Education on the Commission's progress to date
- The Commission has set up a sub-committee that has already begun looking at bus routes.
- Trustee Hochman reminded everyone that the Board is taking letters of interest in the Board vacancy. Letters are due by January 10, 2005.
- Trustee Hochman reminded Board members that the Ulster County School Boards Association meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2005, at 6:00 p.m. at BOCES in New Paltz. The topic will be developing a school communications program. Holly Brooker will be doing the presentation.

REPORT FROM 2004-2005 STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

- Student Representative Joel Spinac reported that the Student Affairs Council has been working on the Appeals Court and had the first plaintiff a few days ago. The Administration was very pleased at the outcome. He also reported that there are complaints about some classes being too hot or too cold. He understands that there are certain barriers stopping the heat being implemented. He requested feedback regarding what could be done to improve this situation.

STUDENT COMMENT

No student comment was made at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Simon Ennis, Town of Olive resident, spoke about the unfairness of taxes following the implementation of the Large Parcel Legislation.

Scott Elits spoke about the Large Parcel Legislation.

REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

- High School Stage Rigging Update – Nick Waer, Architect, reported that the rigging has been removed and now the stage can be used. The work on the beam will be scheduled for over spring break, if possible. Replacement of the old rigging can be re-bid or we can ask contractors if they will hold their original price.
- Transportation Update – Betty Hughes reported on all that was accomplished by the Transportation staff prior to and since her arrival in the District. She thanked Fran Hollander, Carol Busch and the Transportation Department staff for all that they have done.

School Business Administrator Victoria Ecklund introduced:

- Gary Ecklund, who reported that the cafeteria has great employees, some with 40, 30, or 20 years of experience, and they show great care for the students. The new salad plates are going over very well because of the time and effort that his staff put into their preparation and it is cost effective for his department. Less nutritious snacks have been replaced with more nutritious snacks and students seem to be receptive to them.
- Peter Giambrone, who reported that his custodians completed the tremendous task of moving Woodstock and West Hurley over the summer. His staff did a terrific job. In addition to the move they did extensive painting in Woodstock and some painting at the High School. Lockers were replaced at the High School locker room due to a health and safety problem. We got furniture from a school that was closing, mostly desks. All the schools were cleaned this summer. The Future of the District Commission is talking about how to use the District's buildings. The first student from the Appeals Court at the High School reported for work and when the kids do the work that is required to clean up, they are more apt to tell other students to pick up and not leave things that have to be cleaned up.
- James O'Neill reported that his staff gets kudos for putting their best effort forward through the summer with the renovations at Woodstock. In regard to the problem with the High School phone system reported by Trustee Hochman at the last Board meeting, although he had been assured by the service providers that everything worked with the telephone system, the company that did the work never put the first line (2373) in the group so that calls would roll over to other lines if that line was in use. This was corrected in about 12 hours. If anyone experiences any problems with the High School phone lines, please notify Jim right away.
To date, approximately 250 work orders have been completed, many changes were implemented at Woodstock School, a failing condensate line was replaced, a leak was repaired in the water line that feeds Bennett, at Phoenicia a collapsed storm drain which created flooding was replaced, the athletic fields at the High School were aerated and over seeded this fall, work was done on the infield on both softball and baseball fields. Another breakout of the drain field occurred at the High School. We have been working with the design engineer and the DEP to resolve this problem.
- Communications Committee Update – David Patterson reported that the next meeting is scheduled for January 4, 2005, at 7:00 p.m. The Committee may ask for reports from the different departments for the newsletter.
He received a letter from Junior Varsity Soccer Coach Eric Pezzello thanking all the parents for their support and help when the game at Ellenville finished early and the bus was not there.
Our sub-committee is looking at forming a District-wide Parents Council using a Kingston Schools model that has been very successful.
Superintendent Winters sent a letter to Time Warner about the TV channel.

Webmaster Gabe Buono needs help. He would like to have training, possibly on a Superintendent's Conference Day, so that there would be more involvement with the administrators, teachers and aides to develop their own web pages.

- Trustee Hochman brought up the Athletic Code, which she feels needs to be addressed and clarified so that everyone looks at incidents in the same way. Also, the updating of the Board Policy manual needs to be completed. She volunteered to start that with Victoria Garone's help.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

**CREATION OF A DISTRICT
NEWSLETTER**

Trustee Rosenfeld moved to approve a District Newsletter to be created with the assistance of the Ulster County BOCES Public Relations Department and distributed to all District residents.

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

Discussion. It will be a six-page mini-tabloid and the initial target date will be the beginning of February.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING
LEGISLATORS INTRODUCE
AMENDMENT OF THE LARGE
PARCEL LAW**

Trustee Eisenberg moved to approve the following **RESOLUTION**:

WHEREAS a municipality within the Onteora Central School District has recently had to absorb a dramatic increase of property tax support for the school district; and

WHEREAS other municipalities within the Onteora Central School District have historically been forced to shoulder a disproportionate share of the property tax burden to sustain school district operations;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education formally requests that Senator John Bonacic and Assemblyman Kevin Cahill introduce legislation in their respective bodies to amend the Large Parcel Law so that implementation of the law is not the responsibility of the school board.

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

Discussion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

PERSONNEL

**RESOLUTION CONFIRMING
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SICK
BANK FOR SUPERVISORY/CONFIDENTIAL
PERSONNEL**

Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approve the following **RESOLUTION**:

WHEREAS, a sick bank was established for the employees of the Onteora Central School District classified as supervisory/confidential personnel; and

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WHEREAS, the establishment and policy for participation in said sick bank was memorialized in a memorandum signed by Philip Fredenburg, Assistant Superintendent, on June 12, 1980; and

WHEREAS, the sick bank has been maintained since 1980 and is solely funded through the voluntary participation of supervisory/confidential personnel; and

WHEREAS, the Onteora Central School District does not incur additional costs or contributions to maintain said sick bank; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District at its regular meeting, confirming the establishment of the sick bank for employees of the Onteora Central School District classified as supervisory/confidential personnel since June 12, 1980; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that participation in the sick bank by said supervisory/confidential personnel shall be in accordance with the attached policy entitled, "Onteora Central School District Supervisory/Confidential Sick Bank."

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

Discussion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

NON-INSTRUCTION

**APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM
OF AGREEMENT #122212004**

Trustee Eisenberg moved to approve the **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT # 12212004** with the Onteora Non-Teaching Employees Association (ONTEA).

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION
ABOLISHING ONE TEACHING
ASSISTANT POSITION**

Trustee Eisenberg moved to approve the following **RESOLUTION**:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District that the following position shall be abolished effective December 13, 2004, as per IEP:

One Teaching Assistant

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

**RESOLUTION TO CREATE
AUTO MECHANICS HELPER
POSITION FOR TRANSPORTATION
DEPARTMENT**

Trustee Eisenberg moved to approve the following **RESOLUTION**:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Onteora Board of Education authorizes the **CREATION** of a full-time Auto Mechanics Helper position for the Transportation Department.

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

**APPROVAL OF NON-INSTRUCTIONAL
 APPOINTMENT FOR AUTO MECHANICS
 HELPER**

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

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Larry Partridge	Auto Mechanics Helper	1/3/05	Recall from PEL

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

Discussion. School Business Administrator Victoria Garone notified the Board that the candidate to be appointed would not be able to begin until January 10, 2005. The effective date will be changed to reflect this.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

CONSENT AGENDA

APPOINTMENT(S):

**INSTRUCTIONAL
 SCHEDULE N #12/04**

Trustee Eisenberg moved to approve the following **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 instructional employees on an emergency conditional basis:

G. EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Kaindl-Richer, Margit	Foreign Lang. Trip/Exchange Coord	\$386
Tietjen, Kenneth	Track – Winter – Assistant Coach	\$2,163

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.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

**NON-INSTRUCTIONAL
 SCHEDULE QQ #12/04**

Trustee Eisenberg moved to approve following request for **NON-INSTRUCTIONAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE** for the period indicated:

NAME	CURRENT POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
Susan Hyde	Teaching Assistant – HS	12/14/04 – 3/15/05	Extend Medical Leave Without Pay; Family Medical Leave

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

APPOINTMENT(S):
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL
SCHEDULE NN #12/04
D. SUBSTITUTE

Trustee Eisenberg 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:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>RATE OF PAY</u>
<u>D. SUBSTITUTE</u>		
Erika Davis	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.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

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:

Louis Quick Coach

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF CSE AND CPSE
RECOMMENDATIONS,
SCHEDULE U, #12/04

Trustee Eisenberg 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.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

Business and Finance

SURPLUS EQUIPMENT SALE

Trustee Eisenberg moved to declare the following items as surplus equipment and authorize the sale of this surplus equipment to the Freeport Public Schools for the amount of \$2,268.63 plus shipping :

- Merlin CCTV Reading System
- Blackboard Viewing System (camera)
- Desk
- Adjustable Height Chair

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

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Business Reports

Trustee Eisenberg moved to accept the following BUSINESS REPORTS:

- FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT – October 2004
- FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT – November 2004
- WARRANTS – Schedule J - #10/04
11/04

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

GIFTS AND DONATIONS

DONATION FROM ONTEORA
RETIRED EDUCATORS ORGANIZATION
FOR DISTRICT LIBRARIES

Trustee Eisenberg moved to accept a donation of \$500.00 from the Onteora Retired Educators Organization to be used for the four libraries in the Onteora District as follows:

- \$200 for the Junior/Senior High Library
- \$100 for the Woodstock Elementary School Library
- \$100 for the Bennett Elementary School Library
- \$100 for the Phoenicia Elementary School Library

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

BOARD MEMBERS REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

- Trustee Hochman requested information on the emissions from the fabrication plant put in next to the elementary school in West Hurley and would like a tour of the facility.
- Trustee Patterson requested that past historical information about the fabrication plant be provided for him to review.
- Trustee Patterson requested more training on reports so that Board members will have a better understanding
- Trustee Eisenberg requested information about the extra duty stipend for the Foreign Language Trip/Exchange Coordinator. If the trips are canceled the stipend should be reduced or eliminated.
- Trustee Flournoy requested information on the technology needs for the District and to have a committee formed to look at them.
- Graduation rates in the Special Education Report need to be updated/corrected for the next meeting.
- Trustee Patterson requested that the Dress Code be investigated to see if it can be made more specific as to expectations – both the Athletic Code and the School Code.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Paul Samuldosky, Town of Olive resident who has 4 daughters in Onteora, spoke about Academic Intervention Services and the District website. He would like to see teachers have an e-mail system so parents can communicate with them in that way. He also had an issue about lack of textbooks for students, especially for math. Trustee Patterson invited Mr. Samuldosky and his daughters to join the Communications Committee and also asked Student Representative Joel Spinac to ask more students to join.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session was held at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Eisenberg moved to adjourn at 9:14 p.m.

Trustee Flournoy seconded the Motion.

5 Yes 0 No

CARRIED

Recorded by: _____
Jeanne Shultis
District Clerk