

ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2020

TELECONFERENCING

MINUTES

1. Opening Items

- 1.01 Call to Order 6:15
- 1.02 Tobacco Policy Statement
- 1.03 Roll Call

Present: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Storey, Trustee Salem, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee DeJesus, Trustee Sherry

2. Public Hearing

2.01 The President of the Board of Education will open the Hearing on the District Safety Plan

- Required to open a hearing for the revised District Safety Plan

Assistant Superintendent for Business, Monica LaClair explained:

- Required to develop a plan each year
- Plan is on website
- Revisions: Page 4 – added the social- emotional work
 - Added Medical Director and added Pandemic

Discussion:

- Fix link to Code of Conduct
- Mandatory professional development says we “offer”, change to “provided” because it is mandatory

2.02 The President of the Board of Education will close the Hearing

3. Swear In

3.01 The District Clerk will swear in the Recently-elected members as well as the officers.

Newly elected:

Laurie Osmond

Bennet Ratcliff

Emily Sherry

President: Laurie Osmond

Vice President: Rob Kurnit

4. Acceptance of Minutes

4.01 Acceptance of Minutes

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby accepts minutes of July 7, 2020

Motioned: Trustee Salem

Seconded: Trustee DeJesus

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Storey, Trustee Salem, Trustee

Ratcliff, Trustee DeJesus, Trustee Sherry

5. Superintendent Update

Superintendent Victoria McLaren reported:

- Had town halls last week that were well attended
 - Went through all questions today, will put up a 16 page document by end of day tomorrow
- Met with teachers – wonderful ideas, creative working together and meeting across buildings
- School districts do not need to provide testing, as the Governor alluded
- Meeting weekly with K-6 faculty and Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction Jodi DeLucia – helps them across grades and buildings
 - Met also with 7-12

5.01 Construction Update from Mike DeLima, BBL

- Finishing with ceramic tile in locker rooms, painting
- Masonry work being completed
- Gearing up to 18th of August with new lockers
- Mechanical items being finished
- Outside of building - working on ADA items and signage
- Ball field - next week start seeding
- Bennett roof – couple of weeks left- flashing issues
 - Change Order, may need special meeting
 - Water entering through flashing into the building
 - Identified source of leaks in mid to third week of July
 - Was an existing condition
- Pictures are on Board Docs of items

Discussion:

- Were not able to see the plywood condition or flashing condition when the project was started
- Roofing contract was a straight dollar amount, other things have contingencies
 - Not over budget
- Lockers will be done for 8/24/20 when sports would have started
- Facility committee will tour the construction projects

5.02 District's Reopening Plan for 2020-2021

Superintendent Victoria McLaren and Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction Jodi DeLucia and Assistant Superintendent for Business, Monica LaClair will present the District's Reopening Plan

- Wide range of responses - 641 responses with less than 1200 students
- Went over all survey responses
- Will show all comments and free responses to teachers
- Waiting for Governor to declare something about opening of school
 - May change his mind if he opens schools
- Working with department of health for when to close
 - May have classroom, building or district closures

- Will modify plan as needed
- Temperature and screening
 - Guidance is that parents screen children before they go to school
 - Purchasing App that will allow the schools to know if they have been screened
 - Also screening devices at the doors
- Reconfiguring classroom – 9-12 desks per classroom
 - Ordered tape, decals for directions and to keep children 6' away from each other
- Air ventilation – working on building management system – allow more air flow for longer period of time
 - Increased contractor who cleans units
 - Space where fresh air is limited, windows and door can be open
- Remove anything from vents blocking air flow
- Filter replacements more frequently
- Child is sick, stay home – parents to help out school
- Posting signs about proper hygiene
- Masks worn by students and staff – will provide if they don't have one
- Masks with clear panels for staff to show mouth movements
- Social distance on buses – cleaned and disinfected between runs
- Students of same household can be seated together – otherwise 1 per seat, load from back to front, no bus passes
 - Hand sanitizer without alcohol on buses
- Plan requirements
 - Fully scheduled online instructional model in the event of school closure
 - Hybrid Instructional Model
 - Elementary: Choice –100% Remote OR 100% In-Person
 - Will close if needed
 - Secondary: Choice –100% Remote OR Hybrid Model 25% Cohorts 1x/week.
 - Fully In-person Instruction
 - To resume upon a vaccine and the elimination of social distancing requirements
 - Instructional Requirements:
 - Equity is at the heart of instructional decisions
 - Substantive interaction between teachers and students
 - Daily attendance and grades are required
 - Instruction will be aligned to New York State Learning Standards
- Parents need to commit to a model of learning and at each change in quarter choice can be changed with 2 weeks notice
- Following a daily remote schedule, students are expected to attend
- Google Classroom as primary instructional delivery tool – remotely and in-person instruction
 - Each in-person student will get a Chromebook that will go home every night, in case school has to be closed
- Special Education services to the greatest extent possible
- Will help children feel comfortable and a love of learning
 - All K-3 teachers will have clear masks so children can see them smile

and see pronunciation of words

- If something is not working, it will be changed

Discussion:

- Cohort definition
 - Elementary Cohort is the classroom they are assigned
 - Secondary Cohort is 25% of students coming on the same day by last name
- Need a Code of Shared Responsibility – all need to agree to be in charge of each other's safety
 - All other re-opening plans seem to have a contract and signature for Code of Shared responsibility
 - Shouldn't just be the bus drivers and teachers
 - Commitment letter outlines COVID responsibilities
 - Everyone who did not choose remote learning will also sign a commitment letter
 - Staff and student body will also receive training, including proper use of masks, social distancing – try to make it interesting and fun for youngest students
- BOCES students –if you choose all remote - CTE students will go to BOCES 1 day a week, if hybrid model, come into school 1 other day a week
- Only scheduled multi-stop will be allowed, can't have your child dropped off at different locations daily
- Bus drivers will provide masks for students who may not have one
- Thank you very much for putting together a very thoughtful plan that was inclusive of all the Onteora community
- In an untenable position
 - Concerned with SED and their announcements
 - Concerned with going back to school – it is putting the cart in front of the horse based on what was going on
 - NY is not safe, doing better than rest of country at the moment
 - Wait for first quarter or after Christmas
- Need an option for Special Education students who can't do 5 days but need in-person services
 - At this time there is not a scenario where providers can go into children's homes
 - Parents want students to go to school 1 day a week for services
 - Once we get numbers, we'll have a better idea what will be available - will revisit
 - Students have to remain in cohorts, cannot change that they can come to school just for their services
- Parent can opt-out after they have started in Sept. if they start to feel uncomfortable
 - Will be a process to review individual case if parent wants to switch after choosing one or the other once school starts
 - Plan will be updated if situation changes
 - Need parents to try their best to commit to the model
 - Different if parent wants to go to remote learning instead of wanting to

- come to school
- As a community, need to communicate out answers to questions that still remain – send results of learning choice
- Seems that 8% or 9% of students don't have proper wifi access
- How will remote learners participate in outside class time?
 - Maybe a teacher assigned 100% of the time to remote learning so the class will not go outside
 - Remote learning will be more engaging with a set schedule
 - Does not mean staring at a computer all day - will be independent work, a choice of selection of activities at certain times of the day i.e. reading
- Staff will be in the buildings – not working from home - staff over 50, that have pre-existing conditions, are we making any accommodations for those staff?
 - Appendix to plan includes manner in which staff can have accommodations i.e. – mask and shield - depends on what their particular situation is and what their physician recommends
 - K-6 classes are staying within their classroom- not switching
 - In 4th – 6th grades, teachers will change classes
 - HS – talking with teachers about wiping desks in between classes
 - Needs might be for increased staffing during the day, not at night
 - No after school activities
 - At elementary, no lunch in cafeteria
- Have a Fund Balance to use to hire on a temporary basis, those positions will not continue
 - That is the purpose of the Fund Balance – unforeseen circumstances
- Sent letters to all substitutes and retirees to see if they can work
- Define a “mask break” from the Reopening Plan – when students are socially distanced and all facing the same direction, possibly during instruction
 - Speaking with teachers about how they want to do a mask break
 - Leaving as an instructional decision
- Create a Safety Protocol document that answers all questions and gets into the granular
- Have you consulted with the various union heads and collaborate with them on this plan? Are they bought into this?
 - Very close contact with OTA for a number of weeks – formally and informally
 - Formal meeting with ONTEA and open forum with ONTEA
 - ONTSA and OAA are integral in the development of plan
 - No areas of dispute with them- very supportive of the plan

6. Board District News

- 6.01 The Board will report District News
No news was reported

7. Acknowledge Public Be Heard Comments

- 7.01 The Board will acknowledge the public be heard comments from the last meeting
No comment was made at the last meeting

8. Public and Student Comment

8.01 Public and Students may comment on any agenda or non-agenda item (30 min)

TOPIC: district priorities

1. Mary Sorich – Onteora Alumni – issues of School Resource Officer in Onteora.

Present facts and figures about how an SRO creates a problem. Anti-racists programs to replace SRO program. Statistically, students of color and students with disabilities are more likely to get in trouble and suspended.

2. Fenner Osmond Friedman – Onteora graduate – Peer mediation and restorative justice programs gives students support they need. SRO contract says that he must assist in finding students that could be positive role models and peer-mediators – but never implemented. Present positive role model of law enforcement – was not the case with a previous SRO.3. Raegan Loheide – Onteora Alumni - Police in schools add fear and intimidation - when one student of color got in trouble- all did and were profiled for the first person's acts. Lack of attention to students' of color needs4. Grace Himberger – Hire mental health professions in schools to prevent intimidation. Counselors for college process, psychologist for mental health. No resources for intervention that disproportionately affect a student of color. Hire people of color. Replace SRO with mental health professional. PBIS begin to have a stronger presence and more resources - would help staff with implicit bias5. Cally Mansfield – More diversity and restructure history department so white washed version is not taught – use increase in levy not for physical repairs. A 2019 graduate had money in food account, could not get food and threatened to be declined diplomaSage Mannino – Works at First Steps pre-school – social emotional equity is the most important thing. Current racial tension - need real change. Hear the needs of mothers fathers, people of color. Support needs of youth of color.Matthew May –SRO did great job- helped his niece tremendously from being bullied**9. Discussion and Possible Action**

9.01 Memorandum of Agreement

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves MOA #08042020 between the Onteora Central School District and the Onteora Teachers' Association regarding an ESL Coordinator

Motioned: Trustee Salem

Seconded: Trustee Kurnit

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Storey, Trustee Salem, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee DeJesus, Trustee Sherry

9.02 Approve Tax Warrant

Recommended Action: BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District approve the Tax Warrant authorizing the school district to levy property taxes in the amount not to exceed \$44,758,538 for the 2020-2021 school year.

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Ratcliff

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Storey, Trustee Salem, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee DeJesus, Trustee Sherry

9.03 Approve District Wide Safety Team

Recommended Action: BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District approve the list of people below as members of the District Wide Safety Team for the 2020-2021 school year:

Victoria McLaren – Superintendent of Schools/Chief Emergency Officer

Jodi DeLucia – Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

Monica LaClair – Assistant Superintendent for Business

Kyle Harjes – Director of Facilities

Nicole Sommer – Director of Transportation

Christine Downs – School Lunch Manager

Lance Edelman – Principal – H.S.

Jennifer O'Connor – Principal – M.S.

Gabriel Buono – Principal - Bennett

Suellen Elmendorf – District Medical Director

Karen Hansen – MS Nurse

Sarah Turck – Guidance and Counseling Department Chairperson

Maegan Schenker – Social Worker

Valerie Storey – Board Member

Michael O'Rourke – BOCES Safety and Risk Management

Louis Casciaro – Insurance Representative/Community Member

Tom Sharon – School Resource Officer

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Osmond

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Storey, Trustee Salem, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee DeJesus, Trustee Sherry

9.04 Approve Revised 2020-2021 Calendar

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the 2020-2021 District Calendar with revisions

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Ratcliff

- In reviewing opening, need an additional conference day before school starts
- Also proposed change Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day
 - Board can endorse now, or have a conversation on a later date
 - Get more input from community
 - Have some Native American students, would honor them
 - Historically, people were here, this country was not discovered

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Salem, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee DeJesus, Trustee Sherry

Abstain: Trustee Storey – not enough information

10. Independent Contract Retainers**10.01 Approve all ICRs**

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the ICRs in items 10.02 - 10.03

Motioned: Trustee Salem
 Seconded: Trustee DeJesus
 Result: Unanimous
 Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Salem, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee DeJesus, Trustee Sherry, Trustee Storey

10.02 ICR - Learnwell

Recommended Action: BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District approve the Independent Contractor Retainer between the Onteora Central School District and EI US, LLC. DBA LearnWell retained as Home Instruction Tutor (Hospitalizations) effective 8/4/2020 – 6/30/2021 at a rate of \$58.00 per hour to a maximum of \$10,000.00/year with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

10.03 ICR- Management Advisory Group

Recommended Action: BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District approve the Independent Contractor Retainer between the Onteora Central School District and Management Advisory Group Business Operations, Inc. (MAG) retained as Payroll Assistance/Training effective 8/4/2020 – 6/30/2021 at a rate of \$75 per hour for remote support to a maximum of \$2,000.00/year with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

11. Consent Agenda

11.01 Approve Consent Agenda

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves item numbers 11.02-11.06

Motioned: Trustee Salem

Seconded: Trustee DeJesus

- Congratulations to Marcella May on her retirement and thank her for her many years of service to the District

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Salem, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee DeJesus, Trustee Sherry, Trustee Storey

11.02 Personnel Agenda

RESIGNATIONS: INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Altenau, Rita Marie	Substitute Teacher	7/7/2020	Retirement
Cristian, Erika	Psychologist/High School	7/16/2020	Personal
Darling, Rachel	Special Education Teacher	7/9/2020	Personal
Thompson, Shelby	Teaching Assistant/Bennett	8/2/2020	Personal

RESIGNATIONS: NON INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
May, Marcella	Cook/Food Service	7/28/2020	Retirement

LEAVE OF ABSENCES: INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE	FROM - TO	REASON
Tervenski, Lauryn	3294	9/1/2020 – 1/4/2021	*approx...dates*	Parental Leave of Absence

**APPOINTMENT: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL
PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT**

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	SALARY STEP
Hasbrouck, Jennifer	District Monitor	9/2/2020 – 3/2/2020	Step 8 *replace B. Billadeau*

PART-TIME: INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	FTE	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Colevas, Paul	Social Studies/High School	0.4	9/1/20 – 6/30/21	8 MA
Harrington, Brooke	Physical Education/High School	0.4	9/1/20 – 6/30/21	3 MA
Pellegrini, Teresa	Art/Phoenicia & Woodstock	0.4	9/1/20 – 6/30/21	3 MA

SUBSTITUTE

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Casey, Jayme *	Teaching Assistant (uncertified)	\$80.00/day
Casey, Jayme *	School Monitor	\$80.00/day
Casey, Jayme *	Clerical	\$13.50/hour

* pending pre-processing employment

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Perry, Janelle	Class Advisor – Freshman	\$890.00
Casey, Lisa	Class Advisor-Sophomore	\$890.00
Colevas, Paul	Class Advisor – Junior	\$2,831.00
Casey, Lisa	Class Advisor- Senior	\$2,831.00
Formont, Cheryl	Computer Advisor – Bennett	\$5,307.00
Formont, Cheryl	Elementary Resource 1 (Bennett) Yearbook	\$2,138.00
Occhi, Andrew	Liaison- Health/PE	\$2,082.00
Osswald, Robin	ENL Coordinator	\$3,469.00
Scherer, Rebecca	SADD Advisor 1	\$850.00
Schimmelpfennig, Dieter	Coordinator for DASA	\$4,500.00

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

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves the Instruction - Schedule U-The Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations, Schedule U, #8/20, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Osmond

11.04 Approve lawsuit

Recommended Action: RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes the firm of Monteiro & Fishman, LLP to initiate a lawsuit against CNA Insurance, and any of its relevant affiliates, with regard to the District's request for defense and indemnification from CNA in an underlying negligence lawsuit.

11.05 Third Quarter ECA

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the ECA report for the third quarter

11.06 Surplus Weight Room Equipment

Recommended Action: BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Ontario Central School District declare the attached list of weight room equipment as surplus and authorizes the sale or disposal of the listed equipment.

12. Old Business

12.01 The Board will discuss Old Business

- Communications Committee needs a charge and need to work on Goals for 2020-2021 - will be on next agenda

13. New Business

13.01 The Board will discuss New Business

No new business was discussed

14. Request For Information

14.01 Board members will request information of the Superintendent

Trustee Storey asked:

- What is guidance regarding Special Education services?
- Why no resource room for elementary?
- What support for Special Education students that have no services?

Trustee Ratcliff asked if snow days and delays for in-person instruction will be given to remote learners

- Yes, if will be for all students

15. Executive Session and Adjournment

15.01 Enter Executive Session

Recommended Action: Motion to enter into executive session to discuss the sale of real property

Motioned: Trustee Ratcliff

Seconded: Trustee Osmond

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Salem, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee DeJesus, Trustee Sherry, Trustee Storey

No Longer Present

Trustee Salem left the meeting at 9:15

15.02 Exit executive session and adjourn

Recommended Action: The Board hereby exits executive session and adjourns at 9:30

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Kurnit

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee DeJesus, Trustee Sherry, Trustee Storey

Not Present: Trustee Salem

Minutes Recorded by Fern Amster,
District Clerk



Board of Education: Laurie Osmond, Rob Kurnit, Valerie Storey, Kevin Salem, Bennet Ratcliff, Dafne DeJesus, Emily Sherry