

ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2020

TELECONFERENCING

1. Opening Items

1.01 Call to Order 6:00

1.02 Tobacco Policy Statement

1.03 Roll Call

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

Not Present: Trustee DeJesus, Trustee Ratcliff

2. Acceptance of Minutes

2.01 Acceptance of Minutes (proposed 6:05)

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby accepts minutes of November 24, 2020 Board meeting

Motioned: Trustee Salem

Seconded: Trustee Storey

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee DeJesus, Trustee Ratcliff

3. Superintendent Update

3.01 The Superintendent will update the Board on District News (proposed 6:10)

- Additional positive diagnosis this week – 5 active confirmed positive cases in District -changes daily
- Ulster County Superintendents met with Deputy County Executive and discussed where we are as a county and the status of the virus
- On the cusp of Schools being designation of Yellow – over 3% for 10 days
 - Not sure if will designate a micro area or the county
 - Cannot go back to in-person learning without testing protocol
 - To test - MOU with county to provide with training and the tests
 - Tests are for screening purposes, if screened positive, then go to have a diagnostic test
 - Designate staff to take training
 - If designated yellow this week, will be forced to be remote until winter break because testing is not set up
 - Could be in Orange Zone designation after winter break
 - Speaking with unions to see if their members would agree to be tested
 - Have reservations and concerns about testing in the district, but don't have enough information
- Members of school community noted that the County Executive said if you can work from home, you should
 - County is not recommending that schools move to remote environment

- Statement was made for businesses in an office setting
- County Executive has a very strong feeling that children should remain in school, K-8
- Inquired if county will handle an influx of cases
 - Executive felt that they can operate effectively but Ulster DOH seems to be overwhelmed
- Designations – will schedule community forums to have conversations with families about micro zones and testing
- Book Drive – moving along- overwhelmed with amount of books
 - Liz Potter, Phoenicia Town Librarian, applied for an emergency grant
 - Received \$4500 grant for books

Now Present:

Trustee Ratcliff arrived at 6:15

Discussion:

- Monday is currently the date to have students back in buildings
 - County Executive said could be designated as early as tomorrow
 - Not sure how the State will make designation
 - County would rather have the entire county designated
 - Feel micro cluster will not be effective – Ulster is in community spread
 - District can always be more conservative than county

3.02 Assistant Superintendent for Business, Monica LaClair will present Budget Calendar for the 2020-2021 Budget Vote & election (proposed 6:10 duration 10 min)

- Move forward with as much information as we have – provide best budget we can and change it along the way – so many unknowns
- Will approve at the next Board meeting
 - Any questions can contact Monica LaClair

4. Board District News

4.01 The Board will report District News (proposed 6:20)

Trustee Kurnit reminded the Board that the UCSBA meeting on Thursday is featuring County Executive Pat Ryan

5. Student Representative Report

5.01 Student Representative Leon Savage will report to the Board (proposed 6:25)
The Student Representative was not present

6. Acknowledge Public Be Heard Comments

6.01 The Board will acknowledge the public be heard comments from the last meeting
Leigh Ann VanDeBogart

7. Public and Student Comment

7.01 Public and Students may comment on any agenda or non-agenda item (10 min or more) (proposed 6:30)

Barbara Hass –Internet safety features are not working, laws are being broken on a daily basis. Can mean a loss of state and federal funding. Tech Department - block

YouTube. "Pure YouTube" for teachers' computers – send safe links to students. Has other suggestions, if the Board would like to speak

8. Discussion and Possible Action

8.01 Donations for Scholarship (proposed 6:35)

Recommended Action: The Superintendent recommends acceptance of donations totaling \$2,365.00 CASH, from various donors as scholarship awards for the graduating class.

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following donations:

\$100.00 Cindy O'Connor
\$600.00 White Eagle Benevolent Society
\$1,000.00 Cindy O'Connor
\$100.00 Joyce Hanau
\$100.00 Merele Susan Milim
\$40.00 Katherine Stanish
\$100.00 Robert & Mary Andriola
\$50.00 Margaret Sbarra
\$150.00 Ralph Bonavist
\$25.00 Linda Everding
\$100.00 Howard & Adrienne Forbes

Motioned: Trustee Salem

Seconded: Trustee Ratcliff

- Thank you for your generosity – it is truly appreciated

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee DeJesus

8.02 Create a Position

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby creates the following position until June 30, 2021: 1.0 FTE Psychologist

Motioned: Trustee Salem

Seconded: Trustee Ratcliff

- Receive benefits, sick days prorated

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee DeJesus

8.03 Discussion on COVID Feedback Procedure (proposed 6:40 duration 20 min)

- Schedule a 1 hour public meeting, share information, ask Superintendent questions, have her ask Board questions, share information publically instead of sending emails on non-Board meeting nights
 - Save a lot of time and give good information to public- dispel rumors
- For public to know that there will be a timely way that they can ask a question
 - Support communication during a crisis environment
- Maybe the Communications Committee can hold meetings
 - It would be a forum to discuss and share information
 - Board gets information from other sources

- Information useful outside of the state and county
- Condense time spent talking with community and each other and emailing the Superintendent
- So much happens every day, Superintendent is happy to communicate with community and Board
- Regularly scheduled meeting- public will know and count on it
 - Set up as looking for feedback from community
 - Devote an hour of agenda time at the Board meeting
 - Other Tuesdays have forum for COVID discussions
- Information session between Board and Superintendent
 - Communicate to community
- Communication Committee will put the information together
 - Consensus to have this happen

9. Policies

9.01 Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 2130 Board Community Communications (proposed 7:00)

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby adopts Policy 2130 as written

Motioned: Trustee Salem

Seconded: Trustee Kurnit

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee DeJesus

2020 2130 Internal Operations **BOARD COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS**

The Board of Education encourages transparent engagement and communication with the school community.

One of the most direct ways to communicate with the Board as a whole is during the Public Be Heard portion of the Board's public meetings (see Policy #1512)

The Board can be reached as a whole via email at onteoraboe@onteorak12.ny.us.

While members of the Board may receive individual communications from the public, individual trustees cannot make decisions for, or represent positions of the Board as a whole, unless they have previously been publicly determined.

The Board directs the District Clerk to receive and review physical letters sent as correspondence to the Board. Anonymous letters will be reviewed and filed by the District Clerk, except as may be required pursuant to law or Board policy when correspondence pertains to: whistleblower complaints, retaliatory behavior, sexual harassment, allegations of fraud, health and safety issues, and legal issues.

The Board may also call upon the Board Communications Committee, if appropriate, to assist with community communications, in concert with the Administration.

#1512 Public Be Heard: Regular Board Meetings/Workshop Sessions; #5572 Allegations of Fraud; #5573 "Whistle-Blower" Protection Policy; #3421 Sexual Harassment

10. Consent Agenda

10.01 Approve Consent Agenda (proposed 7:05)

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves item numbers 10.02-10.06

Motioned: Trustee Salem

Seconded: Trustee Kurnit

- Budget transfer is for the additional administrative position to Bennett

Result: Unanimous

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

Ratcliff, Trustee Sherry
Not Present: Trustee DeJesus

10.02 Personnel Agenda

TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT: INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM - TO	REMARKS
Brown, Jillian	School Psychologist/MS,HS	10/21/20- 6/30/21	MA Step 1 (extended)

LEAVE OF ABSENCES: NON INSTRUCTIONAL

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
1073	11/3/20 – 12/18/20	SICK BANK PAID
1073	*approx. dates* 12/18/20 – 1/18/21	FMLA UNPAID LEAVE

SUBSTITUTE

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Motta, Laura	Custodial Worker	\$13.50/hour

pending pre-employment processing

10.03 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, #12/20, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Salem

10.04 Records Retention

Recommended Action: RESOLVED, By the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District that Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), issued pursuant to Article 57-A of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, and containing legal minimum retention periods for local government records, is hereby adopted for use by all officers in legally disposing of valueless records listed therein. FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with Article 57-A:(a) only those records will be disposed of that are described in Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), after they have met the minimum retention periods described therein;(b) only those records will be disposed of that do not have sufficient administrative, fiscal, legal, or historical value to merit retention beyond established legal minimum periods.

10.05 Financial Report - September

Recommended Action: The Board of Education has reviewed and hereby accepts the Financial Report from September 2020

10.06 Budget Transfer

Recommended Action: The Superintendent recommends the transfer of payroll funds due to staffing changes.

Transfer Amount	From Budget Code	Description	To Budget Code	Description
\$81,545	A2020.150-04	Supervision-	A2020.150-03	Supervision-Regular

		Regular		School
\$11,925	A9060.800-10	Health Insurance	A2250.150-03	Programs for Students with Disabilities

11. Committee Reports - no committees met

12. Old Business

12.01 The Board will discuss Old Business

- Follow up on conversation on where we are with honor roll, and if there is a decline in academics
 - Have not finished looking at that
 - More students on first HS honor roll than last year
 - Look at getting after school math support – students may not ask teachers, need help that the student can just drop in

13. New Business

13.01 The Board will discuss New Business

- Get back the directory of emails on the App
- What about a comprehensive summer program – students falling behind can have the opportunity to catch up
 - Administration is discussing this
- Does staff have access to Mental Health program? Make sure they know about it
 - Belong to the Employee Access Program through BOCES for all employees – remind them

14. Request For Information

14.01 Board members will request information of the Superintendent

Trustee Storey asked about the discussion of bringing Special Education and ELL students back in school in grades 7-12

- Students are having issues due to special needs - especially intensive Special Education
- Besides being in a COVID designation – how to get these students back 4 days a week?

Trustee Kurnit asked if it is an issue that students that have older Chromebooks do not function properly in the buildings

- Waiting for a big order of Chromebooks and will rotate out with new ones

Trustee Salem asked how current the Wi-Fi delivery systems in buildings?

Trustee Storey asked where are we with Smart Schools Bond Act

- Application was denied by State, resubmitted last week

15. Executive Session

15.01 Enter executive session (proposed 7:15)

Recommended Action: Motion to enter into executive session to discuss the OTA, OAA, ONTSA and ONTEA negotiations and the employment history of a particular employee

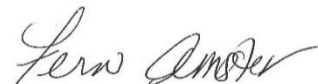
Motioned: Trustee Salem

Seconded: Trustee Storey
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Storey, Trustee Salem, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee Sherry
Not Present: Trustee DeJesus

15.02 Exit Executive Session & Adjourn

Recommended Action: Motion to exit executive session and adjourn
Motioned: Trustee Storey
Seconded: Trustee Salem
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Storey, Trustee Salem, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee Sherry
Not Present: Trustee DeJesus

Minutes Recorded by Fern Amster,
District Clerk



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