

ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

WORKSHOP MEETING

6:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021

TELECONFERENCING

MINUTES

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

Not Present: Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee DeJesus, Trustee Sherry

2. Executive Session

2.01 Enter executive session (proposed 6:00 duration 1 hour)

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

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Salem

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee DeJesus, Trustee Sherry

2.02 Exit Executive Session and Return to Public Session (proposed 7:00 pm)

Recommended Action: Motion to exit executive session and return to public session at 7:04

Motioned: Trustee Salem

Seconded: Trustee DeJesus

Result: Unanimous

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

3. Acceptance of Minutes

3.01 Acceptance of Minutes

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby accepts the minutes of the March 9, 2021, March 10, 2021, March 16, 2021 and March 22, 2021 Board meetings

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Salem

Result: Unanimous

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

4. Superintendent Update

4.01 The Superintendent will update the Board on District News (proposed 7:05)

- Social distancing of 6' is still considered by the CDC and the NYSDOH to be the best measure to reduce virus spread
 - If 6' of separation is not attainable, then the installation of barriers such

- as sneeze guards and partitions may be considered, however the separation must be no less than 3'
- Trying to accommodate anyone that wants to return to in person learning utilizing the 6' social distancing guidelines
 - This has become difficult in certain grade levels
 - Create distance between children on school buses (e.g., seat children one child per row, skip rows) when possible
 - If this distancing is not possible, windows must be open at all times
 - All children and staff must always wear masks while on the bus
 - Based on the updated guidance, in a discussion with the Deputy County Executive, face shields would be acceptable as barriers
 - Been reviewing samples of desk barriers and are now gathering samples of face shields
 - State 3-8 The New York State Education Department testing has many issues to resolve in the next few weeks
 - Required to administer the NYS State Assessments in English and Math in grades 7 and 8, and the Science 8 exam
 - Each have been shortened to just 1 day, instead of 2
 - Remote students are not expected to come into the building to take the tests, but may do so if they choose
 - The Board of Regents approved that students are exempt from passing the Regents in order to be issued a diploma
 - The Department is also cancelling all of the August 2021 Regents Examinations
 - In June will administer only those four Regents Examinations required by the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
 - Will continue to work through this situation, and inform families as modifications are made

Discussion:

- Have no policy on grading – if child does sit for Regents, must be on record
 - Not using Regents exams for grading process
- Use face shields in conjunction with masks
- Parents contact building principal, so are unsure of how many students want to come back to in-person learning
 - More of an impact in secondary buildings
 - Teachers will still have to teach remotely and in-person
- Protocol in place now to help students transition from remote to in-person
 - i.e. completing the App every day and prep to come back
 - Principal goes through process with parents
 - Athletes that are remote learners seem to cause more spikes in positive
- NYSESLAT being given – District is not sure why
 - Not required to test remote ELLS, but are inviting them- don't believe they will come in for the testing

4.02 Assistant Superintendent for Business Monica LaClair will present the Superintendent's Recommended Budget for 2021-2022 (proposed 7:10 duration 15 min)

- Revenue is same – without State budget numbers – State Aid expected to remain, if not go up - 2.45% increase
- 21-22 Expenditure projections updated
 - General support .5%; Operations and Maintenance 2.5%
- Budget is 1.46% increase
- In Budget:
 - Continues all pre-pandemic programs
 - Expands active learning space initiative
 - Increases summer school funding to address academic supports needed following the 2020-2021 school year
 - Increases afterschool homework & supervision
 - Allocates additional funds for mental health support
 - Equipment requests: Transportation Van; Pickup Truck; Mower; Floor Scrubber;
- Other:
 - Health Insurance; Blue Cross/Blue Shield reduced by 1.01%; CDPHP increased by 0.8%; MVP – no effect
 - Addition of a 1.0 FTE at Bennett Elementary
 - Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) for Social Studies
 - Addition of a .60 FTE HS Science Teacher
 - To allow the HS to offer courses based on student need and graduation requirements
 - Increase in District vehicle expenditure lines
 - Additional funds to support potential purchase of higher cost District vehicles with non-combustion engines
- American Rescue Plan:
 - Federal Funding for schools as part of the \$1.9 Trillion spending plan passed by Congress
 - \$2.5 Billion for NYS
 - \$4,763,000 for Onteora – highest allocation for a school in Ulster (except Kingston)
 - Allows upstate New York school districts to fill budget gaps, address learning loss, meet the needs of students with disabilities, assist students experiencing homelessness, provide summer enrichment and afterschool programs, and more
 - No specific guidance yet as to how the funds will be distributed – may be over multiple years, may be a grant process
- Budget Summary:
 - Projected Revenues: 56,011,143
 - Projected Expenditure: \$58,786,143
 - Decrease in Fund Balance: \$2,775,000
 - Decrease reliance on appropriated fund balance for long term fiscal health

Discussion:

- Delayed implementation of social studies position due to Pandemic
- Will reach out to town boards and send budget, take questions and offer to meet virtually
- American Rescue Plan – Sometimes given an allocation at the beginning of

the year, we write plan to use it and then get money after we spend it

- May be over several years
- No guidance yet

5. Board District News

5.01 The Board will report District News (proposed 7:25)
No news was reported

6. Student Representative Report

7:50

6.01 Student Representative Leon Savage will report to the Board (proposed 7:30)

- Student Government discussed State guidelines of 3'
 - Apprehension to go to 3'
- Trying to bring clubs back to school in-person
- A few places willing to do prom, what is needed
 - Guidance is changing on can students dance, etc.
 - Speaking to Onteora Mountain House mostly – looking at capacity limits
 - Parking – students need to get there – need drop off systems
 - More cars – students take separate cars
 - Keep in mind percentage of total capacity allowed

7. Acknowledge Public Be Heard Comments

7.01 The Board will acknowledge the public be heard comments from the last meeting
Janice Tieri, Lindsay Shands, Frank Nagle

8. Public and Student Comment

8.01 Public and Students may comment on any agenda or non-agenda item (proposed
7:35 duration 10 min or more)

7:55

No comment was made

9. Discussion & Possible Action

9.01 Approve Donations for Scholarships

Recommended Action: The Superintendent recommends acceptance of donations totaling \$5,741.00 CASH, from various donors as scholarship awards for the graduating class.

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following donations:

Donation Amount and Donee's Name
\$3,000.00 Quaranda Family Charitable Fund
\$100.00 Justin Dernison
\$29.00 Carol Grima
\$500.00 Matthew & Sandra Ostoyich
\$200.00 Theodore Byron
\$29.00 Jennifer O'Connor
\$29.00 Christine Downs
\$29.00 Kyle Harjes
\$650.00 The Estate of Lisa Valentini-Dutcher
\$200.00 Jessica Morra
\$250.00 Jacquelyn Earley

\$100.00 Historical Society of Woodstock

\$425.00 Margaret Haug

\$200.00 Laura Loheide

Motioned: Trustee Sherry

Seconded: Trustee Kurnit

- Thank everyone for generous donations for our graduating class

Result: Unanimous

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

9.02 Approve Capital Reserve Proposition for Budget Vote on May 18, 2021

Recommended Action: RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Ontario Central School District is hereby authorized to establish a Building Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law (to be known as the "2021 Building Capital Reserve Fund") with the purpose of such fund being to finance renovations, reconstruction, and/or additions to District-wide facilities as identified from time-to-time, including but not limited to those recommended in its five-year capital facilities plan, and including original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances and incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith.

The ultimate amount of such fund is to be \$10,000,000.00, plus earnings thereon. The probable term of such fund is to be ten (10) years, but such fund shall continue in existence until liquidated in accordance with the Education Law or until the funds are exhausted. The sources from which the funds shall be obtained for such Reserve are (i) amounts from budgetary appropriations from time to time, and (ii) unappropriated fund balance made available by the Board of Education from time to time, and (iii) New York State Aid received and made available by the Board of Education from time to time, all as permitted by law.

Motioned: Trustee Salem

Seconded: Trustee Storey

Result: Unanimous

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

9.03 Approve resolution authorizing the Board to intervene in the FERC proceeding related to Premium Energy Holding's application for a permit to study the feasibility of the Ashokan Pumped Storage Project (proposed 7:50)

Recommended Action: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Ontario Central School District hereby authorizes its attorneys to take all actions necessary to be granted party status in the proceeding initiated by preliminary permit application filed by Premium Energy Holdings, LLC with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and docketed as: Project No. P-15056 - Ashokan Pumped Storage Project.

Motioned: Trustee DeJesus

Seconded: Trustee Ratcliff

- Be an interested party to this application, file a motion to intervene
 - Means we will get updates
 - Company wants to a build high elevation dam and reservoir, high

voltage line, underground power plant

- 3 proposed sites, 1 site above Phoenicia – if dam burst would inundate town and school
- Federal Government will grant feasibility study permit unless all interested parties become interveners
- Over a 10 year period, could destroy property we know
- Go to FERC public comment page to register public comment
- Woodstock, NYC, Olive intervening, also citizen groups forming
- Put on district website – all projects within district
 - Link to 2 hour meeting from Olive

Result: Unanimous

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

9.04 Memorandum of Agreement about COVID Leave for Teachers

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the MOA # 03232021 between the Onteora Central School District and the Onteora Teachers' Association about COVID leave for teachers

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Kurnit

Result: Unanimous

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

9.05 Discuss Calendar for 2021-2022 School Year (Proposed 8:00 duration 10 min)

8:10

- Use BOCES calendar to honor our BOCES students
- Went over highlights of calendar
- Discussing moving the 2 conference days to have the Friday off
- Concerned about only 6 snow days
- Brought to Board to get feedback, still out with unions
- Put an extra snow day in for Interim Superintendent to have more flexibility
 - Transportation Director Nicole Sommer and Dispatcher Ray Clinton are incredibly capable of helping make the decision
- Any conversation for emergency remote learning days
 - State allowed the Districts to do remote learning this year, not sure about the future

No Longer Present:

Trustee Salem left at 8:05 and Trustee DeJesus left at 8:20

9.06 Later Start Times and Return to School Discussion (proposed 8:10 duration 30 min)

- Last meeting talked about the opening in September being difficult, and this resolution was approved for September - might want to postpone
- Change the time when we can have a long term plan, and do Dr. Baughman's plan
- Seek same input from elementary stakeholders that was sought from HS stakeholders

- Have conversation with elementary and revisit with other stakeholders
 - Start conversations now

Resolution Approved May 26, 2020:

Amend Resolution to read

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Onteora school board to consider the health and well being of our students; and

WHEREAS, our districts future well-being relies on a high-quality public education system that prepares all students for college, careers, democracy, and lifelong learning; and WHEREAS, there is substantial documentation regarding the later school start times benefit to student health and wellness by many accredited organizations such as The American Academy of Pediatrics and others; and

WHEREAS, our Onteora school board commits to an engagement throughout the 2021-2022 school year with all the stakeholders in our community regarding school start times, in order to facilitate

best practices, and possibilities including direct communication in the form of meetings, forums, etc.; and THEREFORE, let it be resolved that the Onteora School Board, in order to support student wellness resolves to move secondary start times to no earlier than 8am by September 2022.

Motioned: Trustee Ratcliff

Seconded: Trustee Kurnit

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee Salem, Trustee DeJesus

10. Independent Contract Retainers (proposed 8:40)

10.01 Approve all Independent Contract Retainers

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

Motioned: Trustee Osmond

Seconded: Trustee Kurnit

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee Salem, Trustee DeJesus

10.02 ICR - Nolan

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 Kathleen Nolan retained as a community mentor in political activism effective March 24, 2021 to June 11, 2021 at a rate of \$250.00 stipend for 25 hours with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

10.03 ICR - Powers

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 Brian Powers retained as a community mentor in political activism

effective March 24, 2021 to June 15, 2021 at a rate of \$250.00 stipend for 25 hours with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

11. Consent Agenda

11.01 Approve Consent Agenda (proposed 8:45)

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves item numbers 11.02-11.08

Motioned: Trustee Ratcliff

Seconded: Trustee Storey

- Thank Monica LaClair for her service to the district, and wish her well for the future

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee Salem, Trustee DeJesus

11.02 Personnel Agenda

Salary Advancements March 23, 2021 BOE Meeting, retroactive to February 1, 2021

Name	Position	School	Current			Added		After Advancement		
			Step	Credits	Salary	Credits	Money	Step	Credits	Salary
Harkin, Ali	Speech	Bennett	3	24	\$72,466	6	\$852	3	30	\$73,318
Horan, Roseann	Speech	High School	14	12	\$91,029	6	\$852	14	18	\$91,881
Hallock, Robert	Elementary	Phoenicia	13	24	\$90,764	6	\$852	13	30	\$91,616
Sidler, Anita	Art	High School	3	6	\$69,910	6	\$852	3	12	\$70,762

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Harrington, Brooke	Volleyball Varsity-Head Coach	Rescind
Parisian, Erika	Elementary Resource (1/2 position)	\$1,069.00

RESIGNATIONS: INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
LaClair, Monica	Asst. Superintendent for Bus.	6/10/21	Personal
Lastner, Elizabeth	English Teacher/MS	6/30/21	Retirement

RESIGNATIONS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
DeLong, Hazel	Food Service Helper	6/18/21	Retirement

LEAVE OF ABSENCES: INSTRUCTIONAL

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM – TO	REASON
2365	12/10/20 – 6/25/21	Medical Leave Paid
4089	4/9/21 – 5/18/21	Intermittent FMLA PAID
4125	4/12/21 – 5/7/21	Extended medical unpaid

APPOINTMENT: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Bonestell, Bernice	Monitor/Transportation	3/24/21	Increased hrs. (from 32.5 – 35)
Hasbrouck, Jennifer	Monitor/Middle/High	3/24/21	Increased hrs. (from 32.5-40)

APPOINTMENT: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	SALARY STEP	REMARKS
Rogers, Connie	Monitor/Transportation	3/24/21 – 11/23/21	5	Replace P. Kelder

SUBSTITUTE

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Ashmore, Brianna*	Registered Nurse	\$125.00/day
pending pre-employment processing*		

TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT: INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Nelson, Erika	Special Education Teacher/Phoenicia	4/26/21 – 5/7/21	Extended appt.
Plotkin, Shayna	Social Worker/Phoenicia	3/24/21 – 6/30/21	MA Step 1
Rega, Sella	Teaching Assistant/Bennett	3/29/21 – 6/25/21	Extended leave replacement for C. Kellogg

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, #3/21, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Osmond

11.04 Approve the Onteora Public Employer Health Emergency Plan
Recommended Action: The Onteora Board of Education hereby approves the Onteora Public Health Emergency Plan.

11.05 Financial Report
Recommended Action: The Board of Education has reviewed and hereby accepts the Financial Report for February 2021

11.06 Warrants
Recommended Action: The Board of Education has reviewed and hereby accepts Warrant Schedule 8

11.07 Health and Welfare Contract
Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the Health and Welfare Contract with New Paltz School District

11.08 Memorandum of Agreement with ONTEA
Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the MOA between the Onteora Central School District and the Onteora Non-Teachers' Employees Association for their contract.

12. Committee Reports

12.01 Communications Committee to report on Board Email Responses and the COVID Forum; Trustee Salem to report. Next COVID Forum is 4/13/21 at 6:00 (proposed 9:05 duration 10 min)
 Trustee Ratcliff reported in the absence of Trustee Salem

- COVID forum answered 30-40 minutes of questions, concerns are about things that have been covered – distancing, ventilation, vaccinations
- Remains a good place for people to come to have a direct conversation with the Superintendent about concerns, fears and apprehensions
- Thank you for those who attended

13. Old Business

13.01 The Board will discuss Old Business
No old business was discussed

14. New Business

14.01 The Board will discuss New Business
No new business was discussed

15. Request For Information

15.01 Board members will request information of the Superintendent

- Trustee Sherry asked about students running on Route 28
 - What is the protocol? No one there to cross them
 - What is the decision making?

16. Adjournment

16.01 Adjourn (proposed 9:00) Next meeting is April 6, 2021
Recommended Action: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40
Motioned: Trustee Storey
Seconded: Trustee Sherry
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Osmond, Trustee Kurnit, Trustee Storey, Trustee Salem, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee DeJesus, Trustee Sherry
Not Present: Trustee Salem, 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