

ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021
TELECONFERENCING

1. Opening Items

1.01 Call to Order 6:00

1.02 Tobacco Policy Statement

1.03 Roll Call:

Present: Trustee Salem, Trustee Sherry, Trustee Storey, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee Bishop

Not Present: Trustee Osmond, Trustee DeJesus

2. Acceptance of Minutes

2.01 Acceptance of Minutes

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby accepts minutes of August 17, 2021 and August 31, 2021

Motioned: Trustee Sherry

Seconded: Trustee Ratcliff

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Salem, Trustee Sherry, Trustee Storey, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee Bishop

Not Present: Trustee Osmond, Trustee DeJesus

Now Present:

Trustee Osmond arrived at 6:05

3. Presentations

3.01 Mike Rossi of West & Company will present the External Audit (proposed 6:10 duration 20 minutes)

- Reviewed Financial Statement with Audit Committee
 - Clean, unmodified opinion – highest opinion given
- Unassigned Fund balance is 4% - maximum allowable
- Special Revenue is for Scholarships for Students
- Opinion on internal controls over financial reporting
 - Clean, unmodified opinion
 - Deb D'Aprile, District Treasurer doing a great job
- Single audit on State Funds Used
 - Clean, unmodified opinion
- Fundraising events – they audit from deposit and checks
 - Qualified opinion because cannot audit at the events
- Clubs had no receipts and disbursement last year due to COVID
 - Will check for them this year
 - Don't pay a stipend to someone when there is no activity in club

Recommended Action: BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the

Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Ontario Central School District accept the External Audit Report for the 2020-2021 School Year.

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Bishop

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee DeJesus

3.02 Lindsay Brower, Claims Auditor will present the End of the Year Report for 2020-2021 (proposed 6:30 duration 10 minutes)

- 25 warrants, 393 claims
- Office works diligently and effectively to correct errors
 - Most errors were simple typing errors
- Several concerns for late payment fees, now paying bills in a timely manner
- Found credit not used on a credit card

Discussion:

- Warrant is when come in to review the check run
- Thanks to Dr. Gottlieb, Deb D'Aprile and the entire Business office

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby accepts the Claims Auditor End of Year Report for 2020-2021

Motioned: Trustee Bishop

Seconded: Trustee Sherry

Result: Unanimous

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

Not Present: Trustee DeJesus

4. Superintendent District News

4.01 The Superintendent will report District News

- In second week of in-person instruction – excited to be back
 - Attendance is between 92 & 97%
 - Students are present and interacting with their peers
 - Staff is trying to give social-emotional support, as not back in 1.5 years
- Lunch periods questions – spent lunch periods at MS/HS – smooth for everyone
 - Outdoor tables were so popular – set up more tables
 - Students working collaboratively and cooperatively with staff and each other
- Continuing to refine and review processes in place because we want to support remaining in-person instruction with social distancing
 - Reviewing at the end of each week to see if any processes need to be tweaked
 - MS/HS changed drop/off pick up points to be smoother and safer
- Woodstock excited to get fish tank in the lobby back – students use for a break

and decompressing

- Bennett –each grade had field trip and therapy dog visit– work as teams to address students as they adjust
- MS – been great with taking on responsibility – getting to know building for the 1st time (including half of 8th grade)
- HS – planning for Homecoming and Spirit Week
- Partnering with Neal Smoller of Woodstock Apothecary to do staff mandated testing
 - Vaccinated people who choose to participate and unvaccinated people
 - Substitutes, bus drivers – First Student drivers as well
 - Can't give Dr. Smoller enough praise
 - Recognize Medical Director, Suellen Elmendorf and COVID Coordinator, Amanda Allison to help in this effort
- Added to the agenda – a new club called Athletics Council to allow students to have a voice in the athletic program and events
 - Each team will select representatives
- Extra Duty Stipend for this year – expanded lunch spaces seating due to COVID protocols – need to have enough adult coverage

Discussion:

- Starting working on fall and winter planning for outdoor seating
 - Ordered additional tents
 - Area outside cafeteria that is open to put an awning
 - Looking at fire codes about use of heaters
 - Other spaces looking at meal seating – i.e. library
 - Students can choose where they eat
- Have very few students on remote learning – 1 elementary, 6 HS
 - Attendance percentage is on overall enrollment
- Advisor for Athletics Council – post for 7 days as per contract

Now Present:

Trustee DeJesus arrived at 6:15

5. Board District News

5.01 The Board will report District News (proposed 6:50)

6. Acknowledge Public Be Heard Comments

6.01 The Board will acknowledge the public be heard comments from the last meeting
No one spoke

7. Public and Student Comment

7.01 Public and Students may comment on any agenda or non-agenda item (proposed 6:55)

Neal Brownell – Brainwashing

Lindsay Shands – Donating money from Imagine Onteora that the athletes raised. Imagine Onteora no longer going to help athletes fundraiser

Rita Vanacore – Money donated from Imagine Onteora was raised by the individual athletic teams. Imagine Onteora Foundation was formed because students needs

were not being met; no school uniforms for a team. Organization supported the Booster Club when last year's athletic director was in the district. District is apathetic toward needs of students and have inflated budget – no longer willing to help.

David Wallis – New fairly – very impressed with District. Thank everyone who makes the school beautiful. Later start time will help students.

Sarah Yanosh – Sad moved to virtual meetings. No option for discussion at a meeting. COVID stuff not answered at last meeting. No eating or drinking on bus. Child said does not get masks breaks, just at lunch. Can take masks off for drink of water in class sitting 3' apart. Getting message after hours, can't ask questions. Not seeing extra help and support. Want more of a partnership – more communication from school.

Linda Gardell-Michela – District is woefully inadequate in communication. How are you keeping children separated so COVID does not go through the school district. Sorry no remote option. After 1 week of school have some students and staff that are positive. Putting children in increasing danger day by day.

8. Discussion and Possible Action

8.01 Create and Abolish Positions

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby abolished the following position: Auto Mechanic Helper

The Board of Education hereby creates the following position: Auto Mechanic

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Sherry

Result: Unanimous

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

8.02 First Reading of Policy 1512 Public Be Heard

Motion to waive second reading of Policy 1512

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Sherry

Result: Unanimous

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

Motion to adopt Policy 1512 as written

Motion: Trustee Sherry

Seconded: Trustee Bishop

Result: Unanimous

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

2020 2021 1512 By-Laws **PUBLIC BE HEARD: REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS/ WORKSHOP SESSIONS**

All meetings of the Board of Education where members meet to conduct public business are meetings which are subject to the Open Meetings Law. The public will be given an opportunity to address the Board at the regular monthly business meeting or at any other meeting at the discretion of the Board.

To sign up for Public Be Heard, the public can contact the District Clerk prior to the meeting or put their name and topic on the sign-in sheet provided at each meeting.

Any individual addressing the Board of Education will be asked to give their name at the outset of their comments. A time limit of 2 or 3 minutes per person may be set by the board unless otherwise indicated at the meeting.

The following statement of rules will be read by the President of the Board prior to the opening of a public session:

*The Board appreciates hearing from the public, including students, on any agenda or non-agenda item. Please understand that by our adopted parliamentary procedure, the Board can't engage in discussion or answer questions during Public Be Heard. Please know that we hear you and take all your comments into consideration. The Board does reserve the right to correct any inaccuracies or misinformation during Public Be Heard. Please limit your comments to 3 minutes, be civil, and do not name any particular individuals **or promote any commercial ventures or products**. People wishing to express individual student or personnel concerns can bring them to the Superintendent's attention in private.*

No action will be taken by the Board of Education at the same meeting on requests from the public which may necessitate either a new policy or a change in existing policy. It is requested that such requests be submitted in writing and preferably at least one (1) week prior to Regular Board Meetings.

The purpose of a Board Workshop Session is to discuss some aspect of the governance of the school program.

Education Law Section 1708

8.03 First Reading of New Policy 5632 Gender Neutral Single-Occupancy Bathrooms

Motion to waive second reading of Policy 5632

Motioned: Trustee Sherry

Seconded: Trustee Storey

Result: Unanimous

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

Motion to adopt Policy 5632 as written

Motioned: Trustee Sherry

Seconded: Trustee Ratcliff

Result: Unanimous

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

21 5632 Non-Instructional/Business Operations **GENDER NEUTRAL SINGLE-OCCUPANCY BATHROOMS**

All single-occupancy bathroom facilities in the district are designated as gender neutral. Signs designating gender neutral single-occupancy bathrooms must be posted on or near the entry door of that bathroom facility.

A "single-occupancy bathroom" is as defined in Public Buildings Law §145(d) as "a bathroom intended for use by no more than one occupant at a time or for family or assisted use and which has a door for entry into and egress from the bathroom that may be locked by the occupant to ensure privacy."

The Superintendent of Schools or designee is directed to post appropriate signage to implement this policy consistent with applicable laws. Handbooks, directional signs, memos, safety plans, and maps will also be updated as necessary.

Ref: Education Law §409-m (single-occupancy bathrooms designated gender neutral)
Public Buildings Law §145(d)

8.04 First Reading of Policy 6120 Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity Motion to waive second reading of Policy 6120

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

Motion to adopt Policy 6120 as written
 Motioned: Trustee Sherry
 Seconded: Trustee Ratcliff
 Result: Unanimous
 Yea: Trustee Salem, Trustee Sherry, Trustee Osmond, Trustee Storey, Trustee Ratcliff, Trustee DeJesus, Trustee Bishop

NOTE: The old policy 6120 is replaced by the NYSSBA policy

2021 6120 Personnel **NON-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY**

The Board of Education, its officers and employees, will not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of legally protected classes, such as, but not limited to: race (including traits historically associated with race, such as hair texture and protective hairstyles like braids, locks, and twists), color, national origin, creed, religion (including religious practices), marital status, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical condition), gender identity and expression (i.e., actual or perceived gender-related identity, appearance, behavior, expression, or other gender-related characteristic regardless of the sex assigned to that person at birth, including but not limited to the status of being transgender), age, sexual orientation, disability (physical or mental), predisposing genetic characteristic, military work or status, domestic violence victim status, or use of a guide dog, hearing dog, or service dog, as applicable. The district will provide notice of this policy in accordance with federal and state law and regulation.

This policy of nondiscrimination includes access by students to educational programs, counseling services for students, course offerings, and student activities, as well as recruitment and appointment of employees and employment pay, benefits, advancement and/or terminations.

Specific protections for students under the Dignity for All Students Act are addressed in policy 7380, Dignity for All Students Act

Additionally, to promote the district website's accessibility to staff, students, and members of the community with disabilities, the district will maintain a website that is accessible (or contains accessible alternatives) on perceivability, operability and understandability principles. The district's Superintendent is responsible for considering the following when developing or updating the district website:

Adding the text equivalent to every image;

- Posting documents in a text-based format such as HTML or RTF in addition to PDFs;
- Avoiding dictating colors and font settings;
- Including audio descriptions and captions to videos;
- Identifying other barriers to access; and
- Making other considerations when developing the district's website.

A finding that an individual has engaged in conduct in violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action and/or filing of a report with third parties in the manner prescribed by the district code of conduct, the law or applicable contract.

Nothing in this policy will be construed to prohibit a denial of admission into, or exclusion from, a course of instruction or activity based on a person's gender that would be permissible under the law, or to prohibit, as discrimination based on disability, actions that would be permissible under the law.

Annual Notification

At the beginning of each school year, the district will publish a notice of the established grievance procedures for resolving complaints of discrimination to parents/guardians, employees, students and the community. The public notice will: inform parents, employees, students and the community that education programs, including but not limited to vocational programs, are offered without regard to actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion,

religious practice, disability, sex; sexual orientation, or gender (including gender identity and expression);

1. provide the name, email, address and telephone number of the person designated to coordinate activities concerning discrimination; and
2. be included in announcements, bulletins, catalogues, and applications made available by the district.

The Superintendent has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the district's non-discrimination policies. Contact information for the Superintendent is available on the district's website. Complaints of sexual harassment or discrimination are covered by policies 3421 and 3422.

All complainants and those who participate in the investigation of a complaint in conformity with state law and district policies, who have acted reasonably and in good faith, have the right to be free from retaliation of any kind.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to establish such rules, regulations and procedures necessary to implement and maintain this policy.

Cross-ref: 3421 Sexual Harassment of Students; 3422 Sexual Harassment of Employees; 7380 Dignity for All Students Act; 7550 Complaints and Grievances by Students; 3410 Code of Conduct; 6122 Complaints and Grievances by Employees

Ref: Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 29 U.S.C. §§621 *et seq.*
Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§12101 *et seq.*

Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §§2000d *et seq.* (nondiscrimination based on race, color, and national origin in federally assisted programs)

Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §§2000e *et seq.* (nondiscrimination based on race, color, and national origin in employment)

Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §§1681 *et seq.* (nondiscrimination based on sex)

§504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §794

Individuals with Disabilities Education Law, 20 U.S.C. §§1400 *et seq.*

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 P.L. 110-233

34 C.F.R. §§ 100.6; 104.8; 106.9; 110.25

Executive Law §§290 *et seq.* (New York State Human Rights Law)

Education Law §§10-18 (The Dignity for All Students Act)

Education Law §§313(3); 3201; 3201-a

ADA Best Practices Tool Kit for State and Local Governments, Website Accessibility Under Title II of the ADA (see Chapter 5 and Chapter 5 Addendum checklist),

8.05 First Reading of Policy 7132 Homeless Children

Motion to waive second reading of Policy 7132

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Bishop

Result: Unanimous

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

- Policy updates come from a service from NYS School Board Association

Motion to adopt Policy 7132 as written

Motioned: Trustee Osmond

Seconded: Trustee Bishop

Result: Unanimous

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

This policy combines the old 7132 with the 2 NYSSBA policies attached.

20172021 7132 Students **EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

The Board of Education recognizes its responsibility under federal (McKinney-Vento) and state laws and regulations to identify homeless children within the district, encourage their enrollment and eliminate existing barriers to their identification, enrollment, attendance, or success in school education which may exist in district practices. The Board will provide homeless children attending the district's schools with access to the same free and appropriate public education and other school programs and activities, including publicly-funded preschool education, as other children.

A homeless child is a child who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence or who has a primary nighttime location in a public or private shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations, or a place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. This definition also includes a child who shares the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason; lives in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; lives in a car, park, public space or abandoned building, substandard housing, bus or train station or similar setting; has been abandoned in a hospital ~~or is awaiting foster care placement~~; or is a migratory child who qualifies as homeless. An unaccompanied youth is a homeless child ~~for whom no parent or person in parental relation is available~~ not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

To assist in determining eligibility for services under the McKinney-Vento Act, the district will use a housing questionnaire for all enrolling students, and those reporting a change of address, which asks for a description of the student's current living arrangements.

A homeless child or youth has the right to attend their school of origin, or any school that permanently houses students who live in the attendance area in which the homeless student is actually living. For homeless students, a school of origin can be:

1. the public school they attended when permanently housed (i.e., before becoming homeless); or
2. the public school where they were last enrolled, or
3. the public school they were entitled or eligible to enroll in when the child became homeless, if that child became homeless after such child was eligible to apply, register, or enroll in a public preschool or kindergarten, or he/she is living with a school-age sibling who attends school in the district; or
4. the designated receiving school at the next grade level for any feeder school, where the child has completed the final grade in the feeder school.

Such schools include publicly-funded preschools administered by the district or the State Education Department (SED).

~~A homeless child has the right to attend school in either the school of origin (i.e., where he/she resided before becoming homeless, or the school he/she was last enrolled), the school in the district of current location (i.e., where he/she currently resides as a result of his/her homelessness) that he/she is entitled to attend based on attendance zone or general eligibility, or a school in a district participating in a regional placement plan. Such schools include preschools. The homeless child is entitled to attend the designated school on a tuition-free basis for the duration of his or her homelessness. If the child becomes permanently housed, the child is entitled to continue to attendance in the same school building until the end of the school year and for one additional year if that year constitutes the child's terminal year in such building. If a homeless child completes the final grade level in his/her school of origin, the child may also attend the designated receiving school at the next grade level.~~

The homeless child is entitled to attend the designated school on a tuition-free basis for the duration of their homelessness. If the child becomes permanently housed, the child is entitled to continue attendance in the same school building until the end of the school year and for one additional year if that year constitutes the child's terminal year in such building. If a homeless child completes the final grade level their school of origin, the child may also attend the designated receiving school at the next grade level for all feeder schools.

The Superintendent of Schools shall develop procedures necessary to expedite the homeless child's access to the designated school. Such procedures shall include:

1. Admission and Participation: Upon designation, the district will immediately admit the homeless child to school, even if the child is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment, such as previous academic records, medical or immunization records (**however, the district may temporarily exclude a child from attendance if there are actual symptoms of a communicable disease that pose a significant risk of transmission to others**), proof of age or residency or other documentation and even if there is a dispute with the child's parents regarding school selection or enrollment. During a dispute, the student may continue attending the school until final resolution of the dispute, including all available appeals. Homeless children will have the same opportunity as other children to enroll in and succeed in the district's schools, including extracurricular activities and summer school programs available to district students. They will not be placed in separate schools or programs based on their status as homeless. The district will eliminate barriers to identification, enrollment and retention of homeless children, including barriers to enrollment and retention due to outstanding fees, fines or absences.

2. Transportation: The district will **promptly** provide transportation for homeless students currently **residing within the attending district schools** as required by applicable law, as described in the accompanying regulation. **In general, the district will ensure that transportation is provided to homeless students enrolled in the district who attend a school of origin, including a publicly-funded preschool administered by the district or SED, even if the student lives outside the district's boundaries. Transportation will be provided for the duration of homelessness, through the remainder of the school year in which the student becomes permanently housed, and one additional year if that is the student's final year in the school.**

3. School Records: For homeless students attending school out of the district, the district **shall will**, within five days of receipt of a request for records, forward a complete copy of the homeless child's records including proof of age, academic records, evaluation, immunization records and guardianship paper, if applicable. For homeless students attending school in the district, the district will request the student's records (academic, medical, etc.) from the school the student last attended.

4. Coordination: The district will coordinate with local social services agencies and other entities providing services to homeless children and their families for the provision of services to homeless children, and will coordinate with other school districts on issues of prompt identification, transportation, transfer of records, and other inter-district activities. This will include ensuring the provision of appropriate services to homeless students with disabilities who are eligible for services under either Section 504 or IDEA.

A portion of the district's Title I, Part A funds will be set aside for homeless children and youth to provide educationally related support services and services not ordinarily provided to other students.

Information about a homeless child's living situation **shall will** be treated as a student education record, and **shall will** not be **deemed considered to be** directory information under FERPA (~~s~~See policy 7240, **Student Records for more information**).

The Superintendent **shall will** also designate a **McKinney-Vento** liaison for homeless children and ensure that this person is aware of **and able to carry out** their responsibilities under the law. The Superintendent **shall will** ensure that the liaison receives appropriate professional development on identifying and meeting the needs of homeless students, including the definitions of terms related to homelessness. The liaison's responsibilities **shall will** include, but not be limited to, ensuring that:

1. parents or guardians of homeless children are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children, and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children;
2. parents and guardians and unaccompanied youth are fully informed of all transportation services available to them, and are assisted in accessing them;
3. enrollment disputes involving homeless children are promptly mediated and resolved;
4. school personnel, through outreach and in coordination with shelters and social service agencies and other appropriate entities, identify homeless children, including homeless preschoolers;

5. homeless children receive educational services, including **but not limited to** Head Start and preschool services to which they are eligible, as well as referrals to health care and other appropriate services for homeless children and their families;
6. public notice of the educational rights of homeless children is disseminated in locations frequented by homeless unaccompanied youth and parents/guardians of homeless children, in a manner and form understandable to them;
7. staff who provide services to homeless students receive required professional development and support on identifying and meeting the needs of homeless students;
8. homeless unaccompanied youth are informed of their rights, are enrolled in school, and have opportunities to meet the same state standards set for all students, including receiving credit for full or partial coursework earned in a prior school pursuant to Commissioner's regulations.

In accordance with law and regulation, the district will offer a prompt dispute resolution process (described in more detail in the accompanying administrative regulation). **A student shall be entitled to continued enrollment in the district's schools, and transportation, pending resolution of the dispute and all available appeals.**

In accordance with Commissioner's regulations, the district will collect and transmit to the Commissioner information necessary to assess the educational needs of homeless children within the State.

Cross-ref: 7130, School Admissions; 7510, Student Health Services; 7240, Student Records

Ref: 42 USC §§11431 et seq.; School Enrollment Guidelines on the McKinney-Vento Act, 67 Fed. Reg. 10,697-10,701 (March 8, 2002); Education Law §§207; 305; 3202; 3205; 3209; Executive Law §§532-b; 532-e; Social Services Law §§17; 62; 397; 8 NYCRR §§100.2(x); 175.6

8.06 First Reading of Policy 8470 Home Schooling Motion to waive second reading of Policy 8470

Motioned: Trustee Ratcliff

Seconded: Trustee Bishop

Result: Unanimous

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

Motion to adopt Policy 8470 as written

Motioned: Trustee Bishop

Seconded: Trustee Ratcliff

Result: Unanimous

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

This policy keeps the old policy's first 2 paragraphs, the rest is NYSSBA's policy **20082021** 8470 Instruction **HOME SCHOOLING**

From time to time, parents will choose to instruct their children at home. The School District will attempt to cooperate with parents who wish to provide home schooling for their children realizing that the child who is educated at home should receive an education in a manner consistent with an educational plan and at least substantially equivalent to that given to students of like age and attainments in the local public schools. The required subjects should be taught in a competent, systematic, and sequential manner, specifically in relation to the required courses as enumerated in Commissioner's Regulation Section 100.10.

Home Schooled students are not awarded a high school diploma. A high school diploma may only be awarded to a student enrolled in a registered secondary school who has completed all program requirements set by the Board of Regents, the school or the District.

Provision of Services to Home-Instructed Students

Regarding Home-Instructed Students:

- a) ~~They are not eligible to participate in interscholastic sports. Commissioner's Regulations mandate that only students enrolled in the public school are allowed to participate in interscholastic sports. Further, the District does not permit home-instructed students to participate in any extracurricular activities.~~
- b) ~~The District shall not provide textbooks and other materials to home-instructed students.~~
- e) ~~The School District is not required to furnish health services.~~
- d) ~~The District is not responsible for providing remedial programs.~~
- e) ~~The District is not permitted to provide Occupational and Vocational Education programs (career and technical education) nor programs for the Gifted to home-instructed students.~~
- f) ~~Home-instructed students may not participate in the instructional program of the School District except for special education programs and services the District is required to offer.~~

~~The District shall offer a home-instructed student with disabilities the special education services as addressed in the approved Individualized Education Program (IEP) by the Committee on Special Education. However, there is no requirement that such services be provided in the student's home. Further, the District shall conduct a census and register of students with disabilities who reside in the District in accordance with Education Law and Commissioner's Regulations.~~

- g) ~~Students instructed at home shall not be allowed to use school facilities, except as provided for community organizations in Policy #3280 -- Community Use of School Facilities.~~

~~Primary responsibility for determining compliance with Commissioner's Regulations addressing home instruction rests with the Superintendent of Schools of the school district in which a home-instructed student resides.~~

~~Education Law Sections 3204, 3205, ; 3210.2, 3212.2, 3240-42, 3602-c, and 4402; 8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations; (NYCRR) Sections 100.10 and 200.2(a)~~

The Board of Education shall ensure that children instructed at home are taught by a competent instructor and receive an education substantially equivalent to that offered in the district's schools.

Parents/Guardians who wish to educate their children at home must submit to the district an individual home instruction plan (IHIP), outlining the educational goals to be met and the course materials and syllabi to be used each year for the child's learning process. The district may accept or deny an IHIP. Parents/Guardians must submit quarterly reports which will provide the district with the necessary information to make determinations of substantial equivalency and competency of instruction on an ongoing basis.

Parents/Guardians may appeal to the Board a determination by the Superintendent of Schools or designee that an IHIP is not in compliance with the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education. Parents/Guardians shall have the right to appeal the final determination of the Board to the Commissioner of Education within 30 days of receipt of such determination.

Special Education

A student with an IHIP, who is a resident of the school district and has a disability, or is suspected of having a disability, is eligible to receive services from the school district, in accordance with law, regulation and district policy (4321 et. seq.). A parent/guardian must request special education services in writing to the Board by June 1st, unless the child is first identified or moves into the district after June 1st. In that case, the parent/guardian must request the services within 30 days of being identified or of moving into the district.

Special education services will be provided on an equitable basis compared to programs and services provided to other students with disabilities attending public or nonpublic schools within the district. The Board will determine the location where services will be available to home schooled students.

Participation in Extracurricular Activities

Students instructed at home by their parents are not entitled to participate in interscholastic or intramural sports. However, the Board shall permit such students to

participate in other school-sponsored extracurricular activities as long as they can provide either documentation of immunization to, or a medical exemption for immunization from, the same communicable diseases required for entry into the public schools. Specifically, the Board will permit home-schooled students to:

- participate in non-credit-bearing organized school activities such as clubs that are not open to the general public;
- participate in band and/or receive music lessons only if these activities are considered to be extra-curricular (not credit-bearing or graded or required for class); and
- use school facilities such as the library, career information center and gymnasium if there is mutual agreement on the part of all involved parties

Instructional Materials

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to loan instructional materials, if available, to students receiving home instruction. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall determine the availability of resources and develop appropriate procedures.

Cross-ref: 7620, Programs for Students with Disabilities, et seq.; 7510, Student Health Services;

Ref: Education Law §§ 3204(2); 3210(2)(d); 3602-c (2-c); Public Health Law § 2164 (as amended by Chapter 35 of the Laws of 2019); 8 NYCRR §§ 100.10; 135.1; 135.4; Appeal of Ponte, 41 EDR 174 (2001); Matter of Abookire, 33 EDR 473 (1994); State Education Department Memorandum, "New Requirements for the Provision of Special Education Services to Home-Instructed ("Home-Schooled") Students, July 2008; State Education Department Memorandum, "Home Instruction Questions and Answers," <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ss/homeinstruction/homeschoolingganda.html>, Sept. 2016

8.07 Memorandum of Agreement for Extra Duty Stipend

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the agreement between the Onteora Central School District and the Onteora Teachers' Association for an Extra Duty Stipend

Motioned: Trustee DeJesus

Seconded: Trustee Salem

Result: Unanimous

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

8.08 Memorandum of Agreement - Athletic Council

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves MOA # 09142021A between the Onteora Central School District and the Onteora Teachers' Association for and Athletic Council stipend

Motioned: Trustee Bishop

Seconded: Trustee Sherry

Result: Unanimous

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

8.09 Discuss 2021-2022 Board Goals (proposed 7:30 duration 20 min)

Minutes from August 3, 2021 Board Meeting:

- Have one overall goal with smaller goals – look at Dr. Baughman's report, change the district
- Too many goals last year – have 3 goals – other things beside long term plan – more to do with students Social-Emotional, stress level, time management, i.e. Homework policy revised
- Dr. Baughman, take into account COVID-19 lessons, keep everyone safe should be driving priority
- 3-5 year plan will include: configuration, curriculum, schedule, start times, culture and climate, restorative justice, professional development projects

- Acknowledge as one plan
- Use Baughman as starting point, update- things have changed
- Name things specifically for updates during the year
- Use Google Doc – with notes from here
- Check in with goals- what timeframe for Superintendent to report to Board
 - Quarterly updates
 - Goals from last year will be in Educational Plan
 - Goals that are specifically designed, Superintendent will give update
 - First check in last meeting in Dec, then monthly

Goals from 2020-2021

- Continue proactive efforts to build a climate of mutual trust inclusive of all groups and entities within the District by:
 - Supporting initiatives to increase school spirit
 - Support the establishment of a Diversity Week that encourages staff and students to honor our differences through project based learning exercises, the telling of our individual stories, and open discussion.
 - Supporting a Culture and Climate Survey;
 - Continuing diversity education for students and staff;
 - Continuing development and training in social emotional learning, equity and inclusivity, and restorative justice practices;
 - Continuing efforts to better publicize the District's accomplishments;
 - Facilitating greater communication and advancing the vision of the District.
- Support the development of a long-term, District-wide plan that strategically addresses educational goals, declining enrollment, facilities, community impact, budget and cost-saving measures. Accomplish this through input from Superintendent recommendations, Board Ad Hoc committee, Shared Decision-Making committee and community outreach. Specifically address the following:
 - Adopting a mission statement for the District;
 - Analyzing the Grade Level Configuration and Building Utilization Study;
 - Developing a timeline for the writing of a long-term District-wide plan;
 - Review the Bachman report and findings in light of COVID-19.
- Increase K-12 student knowledge and engagement in civics, social studies, and social issues by supporting:
 - Curricular innovation and inclusion of civics education across all subjects;
 - Continuing support of an independent, District-wide student government;
 - Secondary school voter education and registration;
 - Create criteria to determine the effectiveness of our civic readiness and engagement
 - The implementation of a robust Media Literacy component in our K-12 curriculum. (some resources linked here:
 - <https://www.craftinc.org/literacy-e-books/teaching-and-reaching-the-millennial-generation-through-media-literacy.pdf>
 - <https://www.medialit.org/how-teach-media-literacy>
- Complete the process of revising the district's Homework Policy.
- Improve the support we offer our students preparing for their future after graduation by:
 - Continuing to support and enhance the district's mentorship program;
 - Engaging with the business community, to better understand current opportunities for graduating students;
 - Visiting programs such as the Ulster BOCES Career Tech, P-Tech, and alternative education programs;
 - Working with district staff to enable our students to anticipate and participate in the jobs of the future.
- Have one pressing goal – 1 of 3 primary functions
 - Policy
 - Budget
 - Hire Superintendent

- Make only goal for or first goal hiring a Superintendent
 - Any other goal would need a permanent Superintendent
- Need to get a Superintendent in place that aligns with our goals like later start times, homework reform – get a Superintendent in place and task them with these things
 - Build a team to help implement goals
 - Doesn't make sense to make other Board goals without a partner to make them happen
- Have a resolution to start later start time in fall 2022
 - Need to start the process- remind people that it is on the table and the process can be started
 - Make it a goal to meet with elementary parents and stakeholders about later start times
 - Meetings that mistakenly did not take place during the beginning process
 - Direct Superintendent to begin process at elementary level: includes information sessions, administrative approaches
- Interim Superintendent Marystephanie Corsones reported:
 - That administration has begun the process – will bring up to date at next meeting
 - Last year's goals should be addressed by building level leadership teams – are actionable goals
 - Use by Board and using them as moving forward with an educational plan

9. ****Break****

- 9.01 The Board will take a 5 minute break at 7:50
No break was taken

10. Independent Contract Retainers

10.01 ICR - Savatgy

Recommended Action: BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Ontario Central School District approve the Independent Contractor Retainer between the Ontario Central School District and Matthew Savatgy retained as Bennett Environmental Scientist in Residence effective September 27, 2021 to May 31, 2022 at a rate of \$3,000.00 per residency and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

Motioned: Trustee Bishop

Seconded: Trustee Storey

Result: Unanimous

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

11. Consent Agenda

11.01 Approve Consent Agenda (proposed 8:00)

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves item numbers 11.02-11.07
7:05

Motioned: Trustee Sherry

Seconded: Trustee Ratcliff

Result: Unanimous

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

11.02 Personnel Agenda

SUBSTITUTE

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Klercker, Katelyn	Teacher (uncertified)	\$90.00/day
McNally, John	Home Instruction	\$50.00/hour
McNally, John	Teacher (certified)	\$125.00/day

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Nelsen-Epstein, Christi	French Club Advisor-HS	\$1,800.00
Nelsen-Epstein, Christi	Gay-Straight Alliance Club Advisor 2	\$1,028.00
Schenker, Maegan	TUFS Advisor 2 - HS	\$1,302.00

Cell Phone Assignments 2021/2022

Suellen Elmendorf

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, #9/21, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Ratcliff

11.04 Approve Warrants

Recommended Action: The Board of Education has reviewed and hereby accepts Warrant Schedule 2

11.05 Surplus Textbooks

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 textbooks as surplus and authorizes the sale and/or disposal of these books.

11.06 Approve Proposal from CPL Architects

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the Proposal for Professional Design Services at the MS/HS for Classroom Renovations - Phase 2

11.07 Corrective Action Plan to External Audit for two years

Recommended Action: BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Ontario Central School District approve the Corrective Action Plan to the Management Letter for the Independent Audit for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school year.

12. Committee Reports

12.01 Audit Committee: Trustee Bishop to report

- Mike Rossi guided them through draft of financial statements
 - Very good questions thoroughly answered

- 11/15, 3/14, 5/23 are meetings

12.02 Facilities Committee: Trustee Storey to report

- Approved CPL architects construction for next summer
- At last Board meeting approved BBL Construction to continue construction projects at the HS
 - 15 classrooms abatement and turn them into active learning spaces
 - Bathrooms in cafeteria
- Discussing the projects at Bennett
- Next meeting is 10/12/21
- Work on play fields- softball and soccer field drainage

Discussion:

- Science lab is completed, need to work on the smoke stacks
 - Last school year caused fire alarm to go off
- Next meeting will be getting the Building Condition Survey to develop long range plan
 - Talking with financial people to look at various alternatives will bring to Board
 - Hoping Building Condition Survey will deal with reducing carbon footprint
 - Focus on condition of buildings for Health and Safety of children
 - Long term plan should have carbon reducing in it
- Reduce carbon footprint brought into policy, vision and mission

13. Old Business

13.01 The Board will discuss Old Business

- Need Board resolution addressing homelessness in district
 - Several individuals are becoming homeless
- Schedule Committee Meeting of Legislative Action Committee

14. New Business

14.01 The Board will discuss New Business

- Discussed resolution to resolve that no Onteora student will suffer a lapse in education because of quarantine or illness of any kind
 - Guarantees for parents that are concerned – if child is quarantined will not lose education
 - Partner with staff to be sure education is delivered without interruption
 - Legislative Action Committee will work on both resolutions

Ask Board about having a discussion about with new lunch time procedures – 7 and 8 grade students want access to phones during lunch

- Lack of ability to travel between tables– want to use phones
- Especially for children who don't have social interaction at that time – access to phones would help them when they have nothing to do

Superintendent would like to take it back to secondary administrators and get back to them

- Disheartening that students do homework during lunch and not relax
- 7th graders are coming from 7 years of recess, no recess in 7th grade
- Remind them that they are empowered with Student Government
 - Didn't understand process in 7th grade
 - Didn't experience Bennett Student Government in 6th grade because of COVID
- Don't have an orientation process for Student Government
 - Not Board's job but new students should learn about student government encouraged to use it
 - Interim Superintendent will speak to administration
- List of concerns about communication - need to work on it
 - What are communication channels?
 - Updated – social media stronger component
 - Starting with letting everyone in the District know how we communicate
 - Parents do not know where to go to find basic information about things
- Trustee Sherry conversation about the website – easy to navigate? Not in an easy way to navigate for parents?
 - Essential stuff needs to be popup or landing page
 - As few clicks as possible
 - Prioritizing information
 - Ask Student Government and parents for input on website

15. Request For Information

15.01 Board members will request information of the Superintendent

Trustee Salem asked to understand rationale as to why students can't have their phone at lunch

Trustee Ratcliff & Trustee Bishop asked for the process for quarantined students now

Trustee Salem asked what are our current channels of communications?
Email, notes in backpacks? How do we communicate with who?

Trustee Storey update on FOIL requests

Trustee Ratcliff asked

- What testing or diagnosis does the district or DOH require for students to return to school after absences?
- What resources does district give to families needing these tests or diagnosis?
 - Tell families where they can go
 - If PCR test is required, need doctor's script
 - DOH is using the Home tests readily available
 - County has locations for tests on their website
 - If someone does not have the means to have a COVID test, we will work with them
- Dr. Smoller will do testing at the schools will not be for symptomatic students

or students that needs testing, but weekly testing

- First roll out is for staff, then students in October

16. Adjournment

16.01 Adjourn the Meeting. Next meeting is September 28, 2021 (proposed 8:20)

Recommended Action: Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:50

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Sherry

Result: Unanimous

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

Minutes Recorded by Fern Amster,
District Clerk



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