

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ORONO  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 278  
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

Present: Bob Tunheim, Mike Bash, Kristine Flesher, Laura Wallander, Ali Howe, Sarah Borchers, Martha Van de Ven

Absent: None

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Orono Independent School District No. 278 was held on Monday, September 27, 2021 and called to order by Board Chair, Bob Tunheim, at 7:00 PM.

3. – Community Members Questions and Comments

Board Chair Bob Tunheim shared a statement in advance of this portion of the meeting. Following Mr. Tunheim's statement, several community members addressed the board.

4. – Consideration of the Agenda

5. – Consent Agenda

UPON MOTION by Mike Bash, seconded by Sarah Borchers the Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

- Approved Minutes from the Regular Meeting held September 13, 2021
- Approved the appointment of Ana Shurson, as part-time Classroom Paraeducator at Orono Intermediate School, effective September 20, 2021
- Approved the resignation of Theresa Henkelman, part-time Classroom Paraeducator at Orono Schumann Elementary, effective September 24, 2021
- Approved the appointment of Deborah Slomkowski, as full-time Community Education Operations Manager at Orono Public Schools, effective September 13, 2021
- Approved the appointment of Haley Tollin, as full-time Discovery Kids Teacher Assistant at Orono Discovery Center, effective September 27, 2021
- Approved the resignation of Martha Marcucci, full-time Discovery Kids Teacher Assistant at Orono Discovery Center, effective September 14, 2021
- Accepted Donations Totaling: \$4,996.30
- Approved **Bill Vouchers:** 311248-311379, 1466-1470, **EFT Vouchers:** 202 and **Capitol One:** 51417-51449

6. – Superintendent's Report on Excellence

Dr. Flesher began her report by sharing that she is pleased to announce the National Merit Semifinalists and Commended Scholars from the Class of 2022. She shared that Orono has three Semifinalists this year: Angelo Fiataruolo, Nova Tseng, and Martin Weiss. Orono's five Commended scholars are: Caroline Close, Jenna Muth, Carli Olsen, Isabel Wellman and Ty Wetterstrom.

Dr. Flesher shared that semifinalists will continue on in the National Merit Scholarship competition by completing a rigorous application process, and National Merit **Finalists** will be named this spring.

Next Dr. Flesher reported that this year, all Orono High School juniors will take the PSAT/NMSQT (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) on Wednesday, October 13, 2021, free of charge. This exam is not only a great practice test for the SAT or ACT, but is the *only* pathway for entry into the National Merit Scholarship program. Juniors will receive more information about the exam and practice tests from Brandy Randall and our high school counselors.

Next, Dr. Flesher shared that our student athletes continue to work hard and shine in competition:

Boys Varsity Soccer is ranked second in Class AA with an 8-0 record. The Girls Varsity Soccer Team is ranked 7th in Class AA with a 5-2-1 record. Both soccer teams are competing tomorrow evening in Pesonen Stadium against Benilde-St. Margaret's.

The Girls Swim and Dive season is going really well. The girls beat Chanhasen earlier this month--a team ranked #10 in the state.

Our Girls and Boys Cross Country teams participated in the Milaca Mega Meet on September 25 with standout performances by Aliva Uselding, Owen Chapman, Angelo Fiatarulo, Gabe Hallen and Owen Hirt.

Finally, Dr. Flesher concluded her report by sharing that we look forward to Homecoming Week October 4-9 with many traditional activities in the planning stages.

#### 7. – Board Members Questions and Comments

#### 8. – Old Business

##### 8. A – 2021-2022 Superintendent's Goals – Second Reading

The 2021-2022 Superintendent's Goals were presented for a second reading and approval.

UPON MOTION by Ali Howe, seconded by Mike Bash, the board approved the 2021-2022 Superintendent's Goals as presented.

Motion approved unanimously.

##### 8. B – Other Old Business as Necessary

No other old business was brought forward.

#### 9. – New Business

##### 9. A – Long Term Facilities Maintenance Plan Approval

Jim Westrum, Interim Director of Business Services presented the updated 10 year long term facilities maintenance plan for approval.

UPON MOTION by Mike Bash, seconded by Laura Wallander, the board approved the long term facilities maintenance plan.

Motion unanimously approved.

##### 9. B – Debt Issuance Approval

Jim Westrum, Interim Director of Business Services shared a recommendation that the board approve the resolution stating the intention of the school board to issue general obligation facilities maintenance bonds, Series 2021A, to finance a portion of 2022 LTFM and indoor air quality improvement capital projects.

Member Sarah Borchers motioned to approve the proposed resolution.

The motion to approve the proposed resolution was duly seconded by member Ali Howe.

And upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Bob Tunheim, Sarah Borchers, Mike Bash, Martha Van de Ven, Ali Howe, Laura Wallander

And the following voted against the same: None

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed.

9. C – Preliminary Levy Certification

Jim Westrum, Interim Director of Business Services, presented the 2021 Pay 2022 Property Tax Levy and highlighted key points regarding the levy.

UPON MOTION by Sarah Borchers, seconded by Laura Wallander, the board approved the proposed 2021 payable 2022 property tax levy.

Motion approved unanimously.

9. D – Other New Business as Necessary

No other New Business was brought forward.

The next Regular School Board Meeting will be held on Monday, October 11, 2021 at 7:00 PM in the District Office Assembly Room, unless otherwise specified.

UPON MOTION by Ali Howe, seconded by Mike Bash, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM to a workshop session for the purpose of an Orono High School spotlight.



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Bob Tunheim, *Chair*



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Martha Van de Ven, *Clerk*