

# ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2022**  
**WOODSTOCK SCHOOL**

## 1. Opening Items

- 1.01 Call to Order 6:00
- 1.02 Tobacco Policy Statement
- 1.03 Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.04 Roll Call

Present: Trustee Sherry, Trustee Bishop, Trustee Storey, Trustee Wallis, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Hemingway Lynch

## 2. Executive Session

- 2.01 Enter Executive Session (duration 20 min)

*Recommended Action:* Motion to enter into executive session to discuss the tenure of a specific employee

Motioned: Trustee Bishop

Seconded: Trustee Storey

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Sherry, Trustee Bishop, Trustee Storey, Trustee Wallis, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Hemingway Lynch

- 2.02 Exit Executive Session

*Recommended Action:* Motion to exit executive session and return to public session

Motioned: Trustee Wallis

Seconded: Trustee Taylor

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Sherry, Trustee Bishop, Trustee Storey, Trustee Wallis, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Hemingway Lynch

## 3. Welcome

- 3.01 Woodstock Elementary School Principal, Scott Richards will welcome the Board

- Mr. Richards thanked the transportation department for making the first week a success
- A majority of the first couple of weeks of school is focused on team building with K-3 students working in collaborative groups, including whole group instruction and small group instruction
- The nature trail and outdoor learning space has been repaired, and is in use again.
  - All of the fallen trees from previous storms have been removed
- Woodstock School Building Goals
  - Implementing the new math curriculum
  - Continue to implement the TC phonics units Grade K-2

#### 4. Acceptance of Minutes

##### 4.01 Acceptance of Minutes

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education hereby accepts minutes of August 16, 2022, August 23, 2022, and September 1, 2022

Motioned: Trustee Bishop

Seconded: Trustee Reimondo

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Sherry, Trustee Bishop, Trustee Storey, Trustee Wallis, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Hemingway Lynch

#### 5. Presentations

##### 5.01 [Mike Rossi of West & Company will present the External Audit](#)

*Recommended Action:* BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District accept the External Audit Report for the 2021-2022 School Year.

Motioned: Trustee Reimondo

Seconded: Trustee Bishop

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Sherry, Trustee Bishop, Trustee Storey, Trustee Wallis, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Hemingway Lynch

##### 5.02 [Kimberly Cole, Claims Auditor will present the End of the Year Report for 2021-2022](#) (duration 10 minutes)

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education hereby accepts the Claims Auditor End of Year Report for 2021-2022

Motioned: Trustee Wallis

Seconded: Trustee Storey

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Sherry, Trustee Bishop, Trustee Storey, Trustee Wallis, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Hemingway Lynch

#### 6. Superintendent District News

##### 6.01 The Superintendent will report District News

- **School Opening**
  - Ms. McLaren announced that we had an incredibly smooth school opening and thanked all of our faculty, staff, and Administrators for all of their hard work to make this a positive start to the school year. She also noted that this was possibly the best opening in terms of transportation. She said how fortunate she is to have such dedicated professionals ensuring students are safely transported to and from school in a timely fashion.
    - There is such a huge shortage of drivers that some of our neighboring districts had an incredibly difficult time with the start of this school year.
- **Opening Superintendent Conference Days**
  - Ms. McLaren thanked Ms. Laffin and the additional administrators for putting together the program

- The required employment training was held online again this year to allow for employees to spend more time in their buildings
- **Building Visits**
  - Superintendent McLaren, Assistant Superintendent Laffin, and Assistant Superintendent LaClair have been (between all of them) in every building and both found that they are full of really engaged and happy students. Our youngest children have rediscovered the joy of gathering in groups on rugs for reading, working in groups, eating together and chatting. Our athletes have been practicing and playing already and she indicated how wonderful it was to see them on the field and court.
- **Open House**
  - Open houses are happening in all buildings in the next few weeks. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to get to know their children's teachers.
  - All of the clubs, student government, and PTAs are reactivating for the year, and the Booster Club at the MS/HS is also working hard to engage with families in order to support all of the students. Ms. McLaren encouraged everyone to join their building PTA and the Booster Club in order to engage with the buildings.
- **Olive Day**
  - Superintendent McLaren, Trustee Bishop and Trustee Storey spent the day at Olive Day on September 10, 2022. It was a well-attended event and successful event.
    - Ms. McLaren announced a special thank you to Kyle Harjes, Director of Facilities who personally set up the tent and table at 8:30 am.
- **Special Thank You to Debra D'Aprile**
  - Ms. McLaren said a special thanks to Debra D'Aprile for all of her hard work for a successful Audit. She noted that she is aware that Debra carried the bulk of the work and her dedication was not unnoticed.

## 7. Board District News

### 7.01 The Board will report District News

- Trustee Sherry met with Woodstock Town Board Member Mr. Ratcliff and noted that the Woodstock Tree Commission is working with Woodstock Elementary School to preserve trees and discussed tree placement.
- Trustee Sherry and Mr. Ratcliff also discussed the issues facing the district surrounding Woodstock, one of which being housing security.
  - Mr. Ratcliff offered to present to the board if necessary.

## 8. Acknowledge Public Be Heard Comments

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

## 9. Public and Student Comment

### 9.01 Public and Students may comment on any agenda or non-agenda item

- David Eckroth
  - “Recently received the 2022-2023 School Tax Bill and has questions
  - Why have tax rates per \$1000 valuations increased from 13.95% to 14.97 % in one year
  - Did the 2022-2023 school budget increase 12%?
  - The 2023 budget shows an increase of 2.054%
  - Why doesn’t the Assessor keep or reduce the tax rate given the number of properties affected?
  - Exactly what are Onteora School Districts costs demanding such a high tax increase beyond the approved budget? Salaries? Building Maintenance? Transportation? What?”

**10. Discussion and Possible Action**

10.01 Discuss Communications Survey

- Trustee Hemingway Lynch reported that the district has started to update the website
  - The Board would like to continue to receive feedback from community
  - Insuring a better sense of what communication tools are being used in buildings
- Trustee Sherry asked if the district could put out videos on “how to” use the parent portal
- Trustee Sherry also wants to make the primary form of communication be the website
  - Currently the community said that emails are the best form of communication
  - However, Shoutpoint comes across as an email, so Trustee Sherry wants to make sure that the terminology is used appropriately
- Increase social media presence

10.02 Change Teaching Assistant and Monitor Substitute Rates

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education hereby approves the Teaching Assistant and Monitor Substitutes Rates for the 2022-2023 school year

Motioned: Trustee Hemingway Lynch

Seconded: Trustee Wallis

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Sherry, Trustee Bishop, Trustee Storey, Trustee Wallis, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Hemingway Lynch

A. Substitute Support Staff rates	-Teaching Assistant- CERTIFIED- <del>\$96/day</del> \$115.00/day
	-Teaching Assistant- UNCERTIFIED- <del>\$86/day</del> \$100.00/day
	-Monitor- <del>\$86/day</del> \$15.00/hr
	-Custodial- \$15.00/hour
	-Clerical- \$15.00/hour
	-Food Service- \$15.00/hour
	-Bus Driver- \$15.00/hour

## 10.03 Discuss Ulster BOCES Communication Services and Cost

- Superintendent McLaren indicated that the cost for BOCES Public Relations Services is between \$78,000.00 and \$86,000.00 per year
- Printing and postage for newsletters is budgeted at \$15,000.00 per year
- Total contract cost is \$93,000.00 to \$101,000.00 per year.
- Aid ratio is 38%, approximately \$20,000.00
- The District *will be* reimbursed for any finances the following year that were not used
  - Trustee Hemingway Lynch asked how much each unit of time cost
  - Ms. McLaren has a scheduled conference call with Holly Brooker tomorrow to discuss cost for rebranding

## 10.04 Memorandum of Agreement for Assistant Director of PPS

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education approves the MOA between the Onteora Administrators' Association and the Onteora Central School District

Motioned: Trustee Bishop

Seconded: Trustee Reimondo

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Sherry, Trustee Bishop, Trustee Storey, Trustee Wallis, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Hemingway Lynch

## 10.05 Memorandum of Agreement for Athletic Trainer

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education approves the MOA between the Onteora Teachers' Association and the Onteora Central School District

Motioned: Trustee Hemingway Lynch

Seconded: Trustee Wallis

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Sherry, Trustee Bishop, Trustee Storey, Trustee Wallis, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Hemingway Lynch

## 10.06 Memorandum of Agreement for Mentor/Mentee

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education approves the MOA between the Onteora Teachers' Association and the Onteora Central School District

Motioned: Trustee Bishop

Seconded: Trustee Reimondo

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Sherry, Trustee Bishop, Trustee Storey, Trustee Wallis, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Hemingway Lynch

## 10.07 First Reading of Policy 1512 Public Be Heard

~~2021-2022~~ 1512 **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. **If members of the public cannot attend Public Be Heard, they may email the Board at [OnteoraBOE@onteorak12.ny.us](mailto:OnteoraBOE@onteorak12.ny.us). These comments will not be read publicly, but all emails are read by the Board Trustees. If a response is requested, it will be addressed promptly.**

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~~ 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

### 11. Independent Contract Retainers

#### 11.01 Approve all Independent Contract Retainers

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

Motioned: Trustee Bishop

Seconded: Trustee Storey

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Sherry, Trustee Bishop, Trustee Storey, Trustee Wallis, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Hemingway Lynch

#### 11.02 ICR - Savatgy

*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 Matthew Savatgy retained as Bennett Lego Club Advisor effective October 3, 2022 to June 6, 2023 at a rate of \$1,701.00/per residency authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

#### 11.03 ICR Savatgy

*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 Matthew Savatgy retained as Bennett Environmental Scientist in residence effective September 26, 2022 to May 31, 2023 at a rate of \$3,000.00/per residency authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

11.04 ICR-Savatgy

*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 Matthew Savatgy retained as Phoenicia Environmental Scientist in Residence effective September 26, 2022 to May 31, 2023 at a rate of \$1,500.00/per residency authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

11.05 ICR-Savatgy

*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 Matthew Savatgy retained as Woodstock Environmental Scientist in Residence effective September 26, 2022 to May 31, 2023 at a rate of \$1,500.00/per residency authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

11.06 ICR- Sawhill

*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 Lesley Sawhill retained as Theater Director effective September 21, 2022 to December 7, 2022 at a maximum rate of \$4,500.00 authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

**12. Consent Agenda**

12.01 Approve Consent Agenda

*Recommended Action:* The Board hereby approves item numbers 12.02 -12.11

Motioned: Trustee Wallis

Seconded: Trustee Storey

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Sherry, Trustee Bishop, Trustee Storey, Trustee Wallis, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Hemingway Lynch

**12.02 Personnel Agenda**

**TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT:**

**INSTRUCTIONAL**

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	RATE
Ciferri, Jenna	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade/Phoenicia	11/03/22 – 04/01/23*	Step 1BA
Grant, Helene	MAPS/Bennett	09/06/22 – 09/26/22*	\$150.00/day
Grant, Helene	MAPS/Bennett	09/27/22 – 11/01/22*	Step MA1

\*approximate dates\*

**SUBSTITUTE**

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Armstrong, Mark	Home Instruction Teacher	\$50.00/hour
Edison, Fern	Teacher (uncertified)	\$115.00/day
Ciferri, Jenna	Teacher (certified)	\$150.00/day
Ciferri, Jenna	Teaching Assistant (certified)	\$115.00/day
Ciferri, Jenna	School Monitor	\$15.00/hour
Genna, Linda	Clerical	\$15.00/hour
LaTorre, Kathleen	Teaching Assistant (certified)	\$115.00/day
Link, Margaret	Clerical	\$15.00/hour
Link, Margaret	Custodial	\$15.00/hour
Link, Margaret	Food Service	\$15.00/hour
Link, Margaret	School Monitor	\$15.00/hour
Turner, Isabella	Teacher (certified)	\$150.00/day
Turner, Isabella	Teaching Assistant (certified)	\$115.00/day
Turner, Isabella	School Monitor	\$15.00/hour

**RESIGNATIONS: INSTRUCTIONAL**

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Edison, Fern	Home Tutor	09/12/22	Personal
Edison, Fern	Teacher (certified)	09/12/22	Personal
Hull, Carly	Special Ed. Teacher/Phoenicia	09/25/22	Personal
Nagle, Brian	Substitute- Teacher (certified)	09/06/22	Personal
O'Connor, Jennifer	Principal/Middle School	01/19/23	Retirement
Rosato, Phyllis	Substitute- Teacher (certified)	09/09/22	Personal

**RESIGNATIONS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL**

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
DeRuvo, Lisa	Substitute TA (uncertified) & School Monitor	08/31/22	Personal
Lapinski, Lois	Bus Attendant/School Monitor	08/15/22	Retirement
Rachele, Sara	Substitute- Teacher (uncertified)	09/09/22	Personal

**APPOINTMENT: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL**

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Rogers, Connie	Bus Attendant/Transportation	09/07/22	Increase hrs. from 35 to 40

**APPOINTMENT: NON- INSTRUCTIONAL PART-TIME**

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	RATE
Bradford, Bobbi	School Bus Attendant	09/02/22	Step 3

**EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS**

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Constant, Geordana	National Junior Honor Society Advisor- MS	\$2,090.00
Nelson-Epstein, David	National Honor Society Advisor 1- HS	\$1,045.00
Forte, Laura	National Honor Society Advisor 2-HS	\$1,045.00
Gustafson, Amy	Mentor Coordinator	\$2,773.00
Sommer, Torre	Yearbook Advisor- MS	\$1,776.00



Thomas, Doris	Field Hockey-JV-Assistant Coach	\$3,727.00 RESCIND
Cavallaro, Corey	Middle School Cabinet 1	\$3,557.00
Kocher, Michael	Middle School Cabinet 2	\$3,557.00
Stewart, Valerie	Middle School Cabinet 3	\$3,557.00
Frاندino, Megan	Middle School Cabinet 4	\$3,557.00
Via, Scott	Computer Advisor- HS	\$5,441.00

**LEAVE OF ABSENCES: INSTRUCTIONAL**

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM-TO	REASON
4027	09/19/22 – 10/07/22	FMLA- paid
4080	11/03/22 – 01/25/23*	FMLA-paid
4080	01/26/23 - 02/08/23*	FMLA/unpaid
4080	02/09/23 – 04/01/23*	Parental Leave of Absence
4081	11/17/22 – 02/15/23*	FMLA--paid
4081	02/16/23 – 02/22/23*	FMLA-unpaid
4081	02/23/23 – 06/30/23*	Parental Leave of Absence

\*anticipated dates\*

**LEAVE OF ABSENCES: NON- INSTRUCTIONAL**

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM-TO	REASON
2778	09/07/2022 – 09/16/2022	FMLA-paid
1165	06/07/22 – 10/05/22	Paid Medical Leave
3462	01/11/22 – 01/18/22	Paid Medical Leave
3462	01/19/22 – 09/22/22	Unpaid Medical Leave

## 12.03 Approve Volunteer

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education hereby approves the following volunteer- Leigh Ann VanDeBogart-Woodstock

## 12.04 Approve APPR Variance Certification Form

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education hereby approves the APPR Variance Certification Form

## 12.05 Inter-School Transfers

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education hereby approves the following Inter-School Transfer

-Grade 1 from Phoenicia to Woodstock

## 12.06 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, #9/22, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Hemingway Lynch

## 12.07 Budget Transfer

*Recommended Action:* The Superintendent recommends the transfer of \$163,432.00 within the BOCES budget for the 22-23 school year.

Transfer Amount from Budget Code to Budget Code

\$ 15,658.00 A2250.490-09 A2070.490-10

\$ 146,174.00 A2250.490-09 A2110.490-10

\$ 1,600.00 A2250.490-09 A2855.490-18

#### 12.08 Financial Report

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education has reviewed and hereby accepts the Financial Report from June 2022

#### 12.09 Approve Warrants

*Recommended Action:* The Board of Education has reviewed and hereby accepts Warrant Schedule 3

#### 12.10 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.

#### 12.11 Surplus Miscellaneous Items

*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 miscellaneous items as surplus and authorizes the sale and/or disposal of these items.

### No Longer Present:

Trustee Sherry left meeting at 7:22pm

### 13. **\*\*Break\*\***

13.01 The Board will take a 5-minute break at 7:40

### 14. Committee Reports

14.01 Audit Committee: Trustee Bishop, Trustee Reimondo or Trustee Taylor to report

- Committee met yesterday, September 12, 2022
  - Mike Rossi gave a detailed report
- Next meeting December 12, 2022

14.02 Facilities Committee: Trustee Storey to report

- First meeting was in August
  - Next meeting will be next Thursday, September 22, 2022 at 3:45pm
- Meetings will now alter between school building
- Discussed long term district plans
- Visit with State Education Department in September

14.03 Policy Committee: Trustee Bishop, Trustee Reimondo or Trustee Hemingway Lynch to report

- Committee met yesterday, September 12, 2022
- Working on updating policies on how books are recommended to be added to library materials
- Next meeting will be October 24, 2022

14.04 Communications Committee: Trustee Bishop, Trustee Wallis or Trustee Hemingway Lynch to report

- Contribute to culture change
- More 2-way communication
- Superintendent McLaren scheduled to meet with PTA and booster club
- Upcoming committee meeting intentions are to meet monthly, however, no date currently set

14.05 Legislative Action Committee: Trustee Sherry, Trustee Wallis or Trustee Hemingway Lynch to report

- Meeting today has been postponed
- Next meeting to still be scheduled

## 15. Old Business

15.01 The Board will discuss Old Business

- Onteora put 2 Resolutions forward to New York State School Board Association (NYSSBA)
  - Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) Resolution was taken forward

## 16. New Business

16.01 The Board will discuss New Business

- Trustee Wallis asked if the District was aware of the new helmets that are preventing concussions with football players up to 33%
  - Ms. McLaren will follow up with Interim Athletic Director

## 17. Request For Information

17.01 Board members will request information of the Superintendent

- No requests

## 18. Adjournment

18.01 Adjourn the Meeting. Next meeting is September 27, 2022 at Bennett.

*Recommended Action:* Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:43pm

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Wallis

Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Sherry, Trustee Bishop, Trustee Storey, Trustee Wallis, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Hemingway Lynch

Board of Education: Emily Sherry, Cindy Bishop, Valerie Storey, David Wallis, Meghann Reimondo, Sarah Hemingway Lynch, Kristy Taylor