

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ORONO  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 278  
HELD OCTOBER 24, 2022

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

Absent: None

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Orono Independent School District No. 278 was held on Monday, October 24, 2022 and called to order by Board Vice Chair, Martha Van de Ven, at 6:30 PM.

UPON MOTION by Laura Wallander, seconded by Sarah Borchers, the board recessed the regular meeting at 6:30 PM.

The board reconvened the regular meeting at 7:00 PM.

UPON MOTION by Martha Van de Ven, seconded by Ali Howe, the Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

- Approved Minutes from the Regular Meeting held October 10, 2022
- Approved the appointment of Ann Werdel, as full-time Secretary to the Director of Special Services at Orono Public Schools, effective October 12, 2022
- Approved the resignation of Shawn Davis, part-time Classroom Paraeducator at Orono Intermediate School, effective October 14, 2022
- Approved the resignation of Terence Kruger, full-time Custodian at Orono High School, effective November 18, 2022
- Approved the appointment of Roman Licursi, as Monitor at Orono Activities Center, effective August 29, 2022
- Approved the appointment of Logan Hemenway, as Monitor at Orono Activities Center, effective August 29, 2022
- Approved the appointment of Griffin Reiner, as Monitor at Orono Activities Center, effective September 16, 2022
- Approved the appointment of Logan Chappel, as Monitor at Orono Activities Center, effective September 19, 2022
- Approved the appointment of Will Hoffman, as Monitor at Orono Activities Center, effective October 14, 2022
- Approved the appointment of Lewis Johnson, as Monitor at Orono Activities Center, effective October 10, 2022
- Approved the resignation of Carissa Stricklen, full-time Discovery Kids Lead Teacher at Orono Discovery Center, effective October 25, 2022
- Accepted Donations Totaling: \$5,045.41
- Approved Bill Vouchers: 314072-314130, 1586-1595, EP Register: 901615-901661, EFT Vouchers: 6360-6366 and Capital One: 52030-52045

## 6. – Superintendent's Report on Excellence

Dr. Flesher began her report by sharing that this month, Orono High School staff members attended the Minnesota High School Press Association state convention. Yearbook students represented Orono well, winning an All-State Silver Award from Journalism Educators of Minnesota as well as Second Place for the convention Best in Show. Additionally, they won Third Place in theme development and Third Place for a spread design. Congratulations to yearbook staff and to Sarah Cole, OHS yearbook advisor.

Next, Dr. Flesher shared that seven members of the Orono Mountain Bike team represented Orono in the Minnesota Cycling Association State Championship race in Chisholm.

The state qualifiers were:

- Reese Jeremiason and Jack McKeand, 6th grade
- Mikhail Long, Carmichael Leland, Alexander Knorp and William Burns, 7th grade
- Jillie Swenson, 8th grade

Jack McKeand placed 2nd in the 6th grade boys race, the highest place for any participant in the history of the team. Congratulations to the entire team and to Coach John Withrow on a great season.

Next, Dr. Flesher commented that over the weekend, the Orono Girls Swim & Dive team finished in second place at the True Team State Meet. The girls will compete here in Orono tomorrow evening beginning at 6 p.m. against Bloomington Jefferson. They will continue their regular schedule in the lead-up to the 3A Section Tournament beginning November 10.

Dr. Flesher congratulated Girls and Boys soccer. Despite the tough losses in sections, staff are very proud of athletes and coaches for an excellent year. Congratulations to All-state Team 1 members Nora Chouanard and Kayla Kallenback. The boys team was undefeated and ranked first in the state all year. Avery Anderson and Franklin Schwendimann made All-state Team 1 and Nate Halloff made All-state Team 2. Special congratulations to Franklin Schwendimann who was named a Mr. Soccer Finalist and Conference Player of the Year and to Derek Engler who earned the Boys Soccer Class AA Coach of the Year Award.

Dr. Flesher notified the board that football sections start tomorrow night at Pesonen stadium. Orono Spartans take on Big Lake at 7 p.m.

Finally, Dr. Flesher summarized the events of Unity Day. Students across campus wore orange for Kindness on Unity Day, Wednesday, October 19. Orono's campus Unified Clubs are part of the Character program that promotes inclusion of students with and without disabilities. Orono Middle School went all-out with a schoolwide Unified breakfast with games and activities. Later that day, they participated in a "Walk as One" event, walking one mile around the school building to promote empathy, kindness, and inclusion for all.

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

#### 8. – Old Business

##### 8. A - Policy Review

The following revised policies were presented to the board for a second reading and approval.

- Policy 521: Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles; Patrols, Inspections and Searches
- Policy 522: Student, Parental, Family and Marital Status Nondiscrimination
- Policy 523: Staff Notification of Violent Behavior by Students
- Policy 524: Immunization Requirements
- Policy 525: The Pledge of Allegiance

UPON MOTION by Martha Van de Ven, seconded by Mike Bash, the board approved the following changes to policies 521, 522, 523, 524 and 525.

Motion approved unanimously.

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

No other old business was brought forward.

#### 9. – New Business

##### 9. A – Policy Review

Dr. Scott Alger, Executive Director of Human Resources presented to the board the following revised policies for first reading and review. Dr. Alger briefly described the proposed revisions for each policy.

- Policy 526: Use of Peace Officers and Crisis Teams to Remove Students with IEPs from School Grounds
- Policy 528: Weapons
- Policy 801: Crisis Management

##### 9. B – Science Curriculum Update

Dr. Aaron Ruhland, Executive Director of Learning & Accountability, Mr. Paul Hamilton, Curriculum and Development Leader, Ms. Jessica Strom, 6th Grade Science Teacher and Ms. Nicole Gallagher, Art Teacher shared with the board a science curriculum implementation update.

9. C – Other New Business as Necessary

No other New Business was brought forward.

The next Regular School Board Meeting will be held on Monday, November 14, 2022 at 7:00 PM in the District Office Assembly Room.

UPON MOTION by Laura Wallander, seconded by Ali Howe, the regular meeting was adjourned at 7:59 PM.



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Bob Tunheim, *Chair*



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Laura Wallander, *Clerk*