

ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023

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, Trustee Taylor

2. Executive Session

- 2.01 Enter Executive Session (duration 60 min)

Recommended Action: Motion to enter into executive session to discuss the employment of a particular person, OAA negotiations, to meet with the attorney, and to discuss the sale of real property

Motioned: Trustee Wallis

Seconded: Trustee Bishop

Result: Unanimous

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

- 2.02 Exit Executive Session

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

Motioned: Trustee Wallis

Seconded: Trustee Bishop

Result: Unanimous

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

3. Welcome

- 3.01 Woodstock Principal, Scott Richards welcome the Board (duration 10 min)

- Mr. Richards spoke on how the students are engaged in Safety Patrol in the school
- Woodstock hosted a holiday sing along before the holiday break which parents were invited to
 - Almost all of the 3rd grade is part of chorus
- SEL (social emotional learning) room has been set up to have little to no furniture. This is so children can sit in a circle together
 - The “hug a planet” is held when it is their turn to speak
 - Children who have a thought, will put their thumb up, this is so if they want to be in the conversation they can be, but for those who aren't comfortable, they can just listen

- Additional training for staff will be on January 19th along with TC remote training on the 23rd
- Academic Updates
 - Woodstock is focusing on the new math program this year
 - ELA recently received new teachers' college units of study, which have been updated and modernized
 - Purchased Kaeden Running Records Assessments
 - Helps diagnose children in the moment
 - Also, recently purchased mystery books and Jump Rope Readers for K-1 and 2nd grade
- PTA update
 - Finished up Holiday Boutique for children to shop and buy low cost gifts for families
 - Book Fair
 - Playground Fundraiser up and running to expand area by double and make it more accommodating for children K-3
 - Planning Winter Fest and sweetheart breakfast

4. Acceptance of Minutes

4.01 Acceptance of Minutes

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby accepts minutes of December 20, 2022

Motioned: Trustee Taylor

Seconded: Trustee Bishop

Result: Unanimous

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

5. Student Representative Report

5.01 The Student Representative on the Board, Noelle Crandell, will give a report

- Student Government brained stormed mental health activities to be approved
 - Crafts, music during passing periods, games during lunch, and a scavenger hunt, along with additional fun activities
- Student Government also picked out sweatshirts
- First Association meeting of Student Government is Friday, January 13th
- Throughout the High School the production of Chicago has begun rehearsing
- The seniors hosted a successful snack and paint on January 8th
- Sports teams have begun competing and doing very well
- Senior portraits have been submitted for the yearbook
- Science Olympiad competed in a mock competition this past weekend
- Chess Club is hosting a Chess Tournament this week and Spanish Club will be hosting a movie Friday, January 13th

6. Superintendent District News

6.01 The Superintendent will report District News

- 2023-2024 School Calendar

- We have begun work on our District calendar for the 2023-2024 school year. Ms. McLaren hopes to have a draft to share with the board at the next meeting and be able to finalize it in February. We will benefit from the fact that 2024 is a leap year so February has an additional day, and Rosh Hashanah begins in the evening of Friday, September 15th so we would not close school for the observance of that holiday, but we will be aware that no events can be scheduled after school on that date. The combination of these two situations appears to be providing us with slightly more flexibility than we have in the current school year. One concern is that the Regents exams are finished on Wednesday, June 26th. This makes planning graduation a bit of a concern. To hold graduation on Wednesday evening makes it difficult for families, but waiting until Friday also presents challenges. Ms. McLaren will continue to discuss it with the High School Principal and is sure he will work with his team to come up with a recommendation.
- Broadband Access
 - The district has posted information about the work that Comptroller March Gallagher and the Citizens Commission for Digital Equity are doing to identify the areas in our county that are without access to broadband. Comptroller Gallagher is working diligently to prepare for funding opportunities. If you or someone you know does not have access to broadband, please go to the digital map that she has posted and make sure that your situation is recorded accurately. This information is on our website and on Facebook to try to get the word out, but Ms. McLaren would appreciate if everyone can look out for their fellow community members and make sure that everyone knows about this resource. The information needs to be submitted by Friday of this week to be included in the data.
- Community Night
 - Mark your calendars for January 20th and join us for Community Night. The evening will be celebrating our community, honoring first responders, and supporting Onteora Athletics. The day includes a free indoor tailgate for Middle school and High school students being sponsored by the Booster Club. At 4:15 there will be a Varsity Girls Basketball game and a modified wrestling match. At 5:45 will be a recognition of first responders and youth sports programs. At 6 will be varsity wrestling and at 6:30 will be boys Varsity Basketball. There will be concessions, raffles and merchandise for sale from 4 until 7:30. Ms. McLaren wants to thank our Booster Club, our Athletic Council, and our Athletic Department for all of the hard work and coordination that goes into an event like this. The snow date is January 27th.
- Civics Work
 - Karen Hadley has worked hard in her role supporting our elementary students. Ms. McLaren received the following email today from Ms. Hadley:

I am so excited to inform you that six, select Bennett sixth grade student leaders have been invited to present their "Plastic Film 101" lesson to attendees at this upcoming Ashokan Center event:

The Youth Empowerment & Sustainability Summit (YESS!) is a global climate solution and leadership summit for young people who are ready to change their lives and their communities by working towards climate resilience.

They are scheduled for two, back-to-back presentations on Day 2 of this three-day summit on the morning of Monday, February 13th:

10:45-11:30 Breakout workshop session 1
11:35-12:20 Breakout workshop session 2

Our students have been invited to join The Summit luncheon following their presentations, and they will return by bus to Bennett by 2:00 pm.

Thank you, Ms. Hadley and congratulations, to the students!

- Goal Update
 - The Shared Decision-Making Team met last week and provided Ms. McLaren with some feedback on the Baughman report. The Bennett constituents had questions about the timeline. The High School indicated that there is an understanding that something needs to happen, but it needs to be planned. There was a recognition that there would be many positives in bringing sixth-grade students into the Middle School. It was noted that each of our stakeholders is also an individual and will have concerns related to their circumstances. Our Non-Teaching Supervisors Association also was interested in finding out a timeframe and noted that whatever the decision is, it needs to be implemented thoughtfully. Phoenicia had concerns that we have just come out of the pandemic and that we just recovered from the reconfiguration in 2012. There was support for moving sixth grade up, but not the fifth grade. There is also a concern for the community, and if only one of the K-3 buildings was closed that it would create an adversarial relationship between the two communities. Two K-5 buildings would be ok or make Bennett a K-4. Staying in the current configuration is assumed to not be what will be the result. There were concerns related to space if we were to move to a central campus. There was a wonder as to whether we could put a Pre-K in both Woodstock and Phoenicia. And there was a concern that if we do move to a central campus that the current K-3 buildings be maintained appropriately for the students that are being served in them in the meantime. The students noted that they felt that fifth-grade students should not be in middle school, but that sixth-grade would be ok.

7. Board District News

7.01 The Board will report District News

- Nothing to report

7.02 Ad Hoc Committee: Trustee Bishop, Trustee Storey or Trustee Reimondo to report

- Trustee Bishop reported that the committee met on January 4th for 2.5 hours to discuss next steps for the long-term plan in alignment with the Board Goal

- In attendance was Trustee Bishop, Trustee Storey, Trustee Reimondo, Superintendent McLaren, Assistant Superintendent Laffin, Assistant Superintendent Allison, and Assistant Superintendent LaClair
- Amended World Café meeting dates
 - January 31st, snow date of February 2nd
 - Feb 28th via zoom
 - March 27th, snow date of March 29th
- Location for the in-person meetings will be held in the MS/HS cafeteria from 6:30pm-8pm
- Childcare may be available if requested in advance by response on the survey
- Ulster BOCES mailed postcards to all residents about the survey
 - A press release and shoutpoint are scheduled to go out tomorrow, January 12th and a staff “all contacts” email sent was sent out today
- Next Ad Hoc Committee meeting will be held on January 20th at 1:00pm at the Central Administration Office to review responses

8. Acknowledge Public Be Heard Comments

- 8.01 The Board will acknowledge the public be heard comments from the last meeting Neal Brownell

9. Public and Student Comment

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

- Lindsay Shands
 - Discussed the concern about 6th grade integration into the Middle School and the potential drastic impact
 - Also concerned about the lack of public communication
 - Ms. Shands read a list of questions that the PTA came up with

10. Discussion and Possible Action

- 10.01 Donation from Scott Cornish

Recommended Action: The Superintendent recommends acceptance of a donation totaling \$30.00 CASH, as a scholarship award for the graduating class.

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following donations:

Donation Amount and Donee’s Name

\$30.00 Scott Cornish

Motioned: Trustee Bishop

Seconded: Trustee Wallis

Result: Unanimous

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

- 10.02 Timeline for 6th grade to be integrated into the Middle School (duration 20 min)

- Trustee Hemingway Lynch asked for clarification on the long-term plan
- Ms. McLaren mentioned trying to put a pin in the end date to really start to work on a plan, with the intention to engage with all parents, faculty, and administrator collaboratively
- Since West Hurley closed 2004, the District has lost 1,000 students District Wide

- There is enough room to move 6th grade to the Middle School, fitting the students isn't the question
- Ms. McLaren discussed the reasons why this would be beneficial to the students and this has been part of the district fabric for a long time
- Trustee Wallis asked for top 3 pros and top 3 cons for this integration
 - Ms. Laffin reported the following
 - Continuity- the 6-8 staff will have more time to identify, assess, and implement supports and interventions
 - Student affiliation- will have more time to build relationships during a critical time in adolescent development and offering more time for those opportunities
 - Curriculum- enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of curricular articulation and staff communication
 - NYS learning standards are grouped in a cluster 6-8, so academically 6th grade is seen as secondary learning
- Ms. Allison informed that district wide, Onteora is approximately at a 21% classification rate
 - The district is faced with a great deal of difficulty with students who have IEP's and 504's plans when they need related services or additional support coming into the 7th grade. Ms. Allison indicated that it feels as though they are trying to play "catch up" with getting the required electives to have enough credits to graduate, which limits the student to from being able to participate in chorus, band and other electives.
- Research indicates that for students, the transition into middle school prior to puberty will help with mental health, anxiety and academic growth
- No local district currently has a 7-8, 2-year Middle School configuration
- The Board of Education will plan to hold a vote at the next meeting to decide if the configuration will take effective September 2023 or September 2024

10.03 6th Teaching Assignment for Algebra 1A Intensive

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the creation of a 6th Teaching Assignment for Algebra 1A Intensive

Motioned: Trustee Bishop

Seconded: Trustee Reimondo

Result: Unanimous

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

10.04 Memorandum of Agreement #01102023 between OCSD and ONTEA

Recommended Action: The Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools hereby approves Memorandum of Agreement #01102023 between the Onteora Central School District and the Onteora Non-Teaching Employees' Association

Motioned: Trustee Wallis

Seconded: Trustee Bishop

Result: Unanimous

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

11. ****Break****

11.01 The Board will take a 5-minute break at 8:15 pm

12. **Update Annual Appointments**

12.01 Appointments

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the updated appointment of the Deputy District Treasurer

Deputy District Treasurer:	Amanda Gates Kimberly Cole	-0-
----------------------------	---------------------------------------	-----

Motioned: Trustee Bishop

Seconded: Trustee Reimondo

Result: Unanimous

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

13. **Consent Agenda**

13.01 Approve Consent Agenda

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves item numbers 13.02 -13.04

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Wallis

Result: Unanimous

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

13.02 Personnel Agenda

Be it hereby resolved that the Board appoints:

Burgher, Brittany, certified School Counselor, to a 4-year probationary period in the tenure area of Teaching Assistant at a Step 5 salary commencing on 01/17/2023 and ending on 01/16/2027.

Be it further resolved that, to the extent applicable under Education Law Section 3012-d and the accompanying Commissioner’s Regulations, in order to be considered for tenure, the above Teaching Assistant must have received an APPR rating of effective or highly effective in three of the four probationary years and must not receive an ineffective in the fourth year.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM - TO	REASON
3114	12/31/22 – 01/27/23	Unpaid Medical Leave

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: ADMINISTRATIVE

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM - TO	REASON
2685	01/11/23 – 06/30/23	Paid Administrative Leave

SUBSTITUTE

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Harjes, Carly	Teacher (uncertified)	\$115.00/day
Hass, Barbara	Teacher (certified)	\$150.00/day

RESIGNATION: INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Knutson, Melanie	Reading Teaching/Bennett	02/03/23	Retirement

TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Davis, Loretta	Summer Custodial	06/28/23 – 09/01/23	\$15.00/hr
Ojarovsky, Lynn	Summer Custodial	06/28/23 – 09/01/23	\$15.00/hr

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Nguyen, Jamie	6 th Teaching Assignment (Math/PPS)	\$8,318 (prorated)

The following named NON-INSTRUCTIONAL personnel have served a probationary status and are recommended to a PERMANENT STATUS consistent with the applicable laws and regulations of the State of New York:

NAME	POSITION	PROBATIONARY DATE	PERMANENT DATE
Dawn Rhea	Typist	07/04/22	01/05/23

13.03 Approve Volunteer

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the following volunteers listed below:

Phoenicia:
Janice Tieri

Middle/High School:
Amber McCarthy

13.04 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, #01/23, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Taylor

14. Contracts and Independent Contractor Retainers

14.01 Approve all Contracts and Independent Contractor Retainers

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves item number 14.02 - 14.06

Motioned: Trustee Bishop
Seconded: Trustee Storey
Result: Unanimous

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

- 14.02 Approve Health and Welfare Services from Saugerties Central School District
Recommended Action: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Saugerties Central School District establishes the rate of \$953.76 per pupil for the school year 2022-2023 for Health Services provided for Onteora resident pupils attending nonpublic schools in the Saugerties Central School District.
- 14.03 Approve BBL Construction Services for Site Supervision and Management
Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the proposal between the Onteora Central School District and BBL Construction Services for Site Supervision and Management for project during the summer of 2023
- 14.04 Approve Proposal from CPL for EV Bus Assessment Services
Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the proposal between the Onteora Central School District and Clark Patterson Lee (CPL) for EV Bus Assessment Services not to exceed the amount of \$57,500.00, with a NYSEDA incentive totaling \$43,125.00, for a total District Contribution of \$14,375.00
- 14.05 Approve Proposal from CPL for Environmental Site Assessment
Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the proposal between the Onteora Central School District and Clark Patterson Lee (CPL) for Environmental Site Assessment not to exceed the amount of \$2,800.00
- 14.06 Terianne Neden-ICR
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 Terianne Neden retained as Nutrition Residency Teacher effective March 20, 2023 to March 24, 2023 at a rate of \$500 per day to a maximum rate of \$1,500.00 and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

15. Committee Reports – nothing to report

- 15.01 Audit Committee: Trustee Bishop, Trustee Reimondo or Trustee Taylor to report
- Nothing to report
- 15.02 Communications Committee: Trustee Bishop, Trustee Wallis or Trustee Hemingway Lynch to report
- Nothing to report
- 15.03 Facilities Committee: Trustee Storey to report
- Nothing to report
- 15.04 Legislative Action Committee: Trustee Sherry, Trustee Wallis or Trustee Hemingway Lynch to report
- Nothing to report

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

- Nothing to report

16. Old Business

16.01 The Board will discuss Old Business

- Trustee Wallis thanked Ms. McLaren for looking into safer helmets for the football athletes
- Trustee Bishop brought up a previous topic that was a discussion prior to the pandemic that she would like to explore again for families.
 - Ulster Literacy Group is a group that holds English instruction for adults to help them succeed.

17. New Business

17.01 The Board will discuss New Business

- Trustee Storey asked if the District Clerk could start making appointments for the board to visit each of the schools

18. Request For Information

18.01 Board members will request information of the Superintendent

- Trustee Sherry asked on average when does students population decrease because of home education and enrollment into private schools
- Trustee Sherry also asked for an update on the work that is being done by Morningside, Astor and the work that Mr. Harkin is doing related to media literacy
- Trustee Storey asked where are the vape monitors going off the most, and are the student that are being caught being educated about the harmful effects of vaping
- Trustee Storey also asked that there be one version of the athletic mascot for apparel for uniformity
- Trustee Wallis asked if it was an option for the district to fund the lunch cost for 6-12 grade students

19. Adjournment

19.01 Adjourn the Meeting. Next meeting is January 24, 2023 at Bennett.

Recommended Action: Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:45pm

Motioned: Trustee Storey

Seconded: Trustee Taylor

Result: Unanimous

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

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