

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ORONO
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 278
HELD ON MARCH 13, 2023

Present: Kristine Flesher, Ali Howe, Sarah Borchers, Laura Wallander, Todd Madson, Wendy Lundsgaard

Absent: Mike Bash

Community Members Questions and Comments

No members of the community addressed the board.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Orono Independent School District No. 278 was held on Monday, March 13, 2023 and called to order by Board Vice Chair, Sarah Borchers, at 7:01 PM.

4. Consideration of the Agenda

Vice Chair Sarah Borchers noted that there was a request made that agenda item 9C LTFM Update and item 9D Achievement & Integration Plan be swapped.

UPON MOTION by Laura Wallander, seconded by Todd Madson, the requested adjustments to the agenda were approved.

5. Consent Agenda

UPON MOTION by Laura Wallander, seconded by Wendy Lundsgaard the Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

- Approved Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on February 27, 2023
- Approved the mobility leave of absence for Mary Singleton, Mathematics Teacher at Orono Middle School, effective beginning August 30, 2023
- Accepted Donations Totaling: \$675.60
- Approved Payment and Release Agreements
- Approved Bill Vouchers: 315185-315359, 1636-1645, EP Register: 901841-901860, EFT Vouchers: 6399-6406 and Capital One: 52234-52267

6. Superintendent's Report on Excellence

Dr. Flesher began her report by sharing that the Orono Boys Swimming and Diving Team placed third in the state team competition. Orono boys competed in 7 individual events and three relays.

Dr. Flesher shared information about the top 8 finishers, who earned All-State Honors:

- o 200-medley relay, 3rd place: with Owen Gagne, Mitchel Volk, Stewart Royal and Colin Ziegler
- o 200 freestyle: Walter Royal, finished 4th
- o 200 IM: Kaden Starcznski, 5th place
- o Diving: Gideon Fish, finished 5th
- o 100 Fly: Walter Royal, 4th place
- o 500 Free: Kaden Starcznski, finished 5th
- o 200 Free Relay, 5th place: with Eli Fish, Walter Royal, Kaden Starcznski, and Colin Ziegler
- o 100 Breast: Owen Gagne, finished 7th

Next, Dr. Flesher shared that each year, Orono has the great pleasure of announcing the Athena Award winner. This honor is given to one senior female athlete who has distinguished herself in athletic achievement while also excelling academically and contributing to her community. This year's recipient from Orono is Celia Dahl, who is not only an outstanding goaltender for Orono Girls Hockey, but a standout Lacrosse player. Celia also excels academically, and achieved the AP Scholar with Distinction designation at the end of her junior year. Congratulations to Celia.

Dr. Flesher then noted that Orono Boys Hockey was the #1 seed going into the Section championship game against Delano where they clinched the title with a 4-1 win. With this victory, Orono returned to the state competition for the first time since 2018. Last week, they defeated Northfield in the State Quarterfinal by a score of 2-1 in overtime. At the Semifinal game against Warroad, the Boys played their hearts out, but were defeated 4-3 in double overtime. The boys played Hermantown in the third-place game and ended the season in 4th place. Congratulations to our Boys team on a wonderful season.

Dr. Flesher also highlighted Orono Boys Varsity basketball. At the Section 6AAA Quarterfinal against Academy of Holy Angels, Orono won with a score of 83-60, advancing to the Section semifinals. There, Orono defeated Delano with a score of 78-77. The team will play Benilde-St. Margaret's in the Section Championship game this Thursday. Good luck to our players and shout-out to Coach Barry Wohler and the assistant coaches for their hard work all year.

Next, Dr. Flesher offered congratulations to Sharon Forde, Orono High School Dance Team Coach for earning the Class AA Head Coach of the Year Award.

Finally, Dr. Flesher shared that the Minnesota state DECA Conference was held last week and attended by 2,130 state participants, with 65 from Orono. Based on their outstanding presentations, 32 students are advancing to the International Career Development Conference next month in Orlando. Dr. Flesher shared some highlights from the competition, and noted that a full list of International qualifiers is available under "News" on the Orono High School website. Gratitude to Mr. Keith Jurek, Orono's DECA Club advisor.

7. Board Members Questions and Comments

Policy Committee Update: Sarah Borchers shared with the group that the Policy Committee of the board met last week to discuss policies in the 600 series, and the results of their work will be seen later in the meeting.

Facilities & Finance Committee Update: Todd Madson provided an update to the group regarding the recent work of the committee, including discussion around the district's long term facilities maintenance plan and potential supply chain constraints. Todd shared that the board would be hearing more about the work of the committee with regard to the long term facilities maintenance plan later in the meeting.

Todd Madson also shared that he attended the day at the capitol event hosted by AMSD with other board members.

Ali Howe had nothing to report.

Sarah Borchers had nothing to report.

Laura Wallander shared that she attended the AMSD day at the capitol event and noted that she and fellow board members were accompanied by members of the Orono Action Committee.

Wendy Lundsgaard also attended the day at the capitol event and agreed that it was a productive and positive day. Wendy also shared that she attended a meeting regarding school safety and security measures.

8. Old Business

8. A – Other Old Business as Necessary

No other old business was brought forward.

9. New Business

9. A – 2024-2025 Academic Calendar

The 2024-2025 academic calendar was presented to the board for a first reading and review.

9. B - Policy Review

Dr. Aaron Ruhland, Executive Director of Learning & Accountability brought the following policies to the board for a first reading and shared proposed revisions.

- Policy 610: Field Trips
- Policy 612: Development of Parental Involvement Policies for Title I Programs
- Policy 614: School District System Accountability
- Policy 615: Basic Standards Testing, Accommodations, Modifications and Exemptions for IEP, Section 504 Accommodation and LEP Students
- Policy 616: Course Credit for Learning
- Policy 617: Out-of-School Tutoring for Pay
- Policy 618: Copyright
- Policy 619: Online Learning Options

9. C - Achievement & Integration Plan

Dr. Aaron Ruhland, Executive Director of Learning & Accountability presented the Orono Schools Achievement & Integration plan for FY 24-26. Dr. Ruhland gave details of the plan and answered Board member questions. He recommended that the Board direct the Administration to work with the Minnesota Department of Education on plan approval.

UPON MOTION by Ali Howe, seconded by Laura Wallander, the board approved the FY 24-26 Achievement & Integration plan as presented and directed the administration to work with the Minnesota Department of Education on plan approval.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. D - LTFM Update

Mr. Jim Westrum, Director of Business Services, addressed the board with an update to the district's 10-year long term facilities maintenance plan necessary to facilitate projects to occur in FY 2023 and 2024, and requested that the board approve the changes to the plan as presented.

UPON MOTION by Laura Wallander, seconded by Wendy Lundsgaard, the board approved revisions to the district's 10-year long term facilities maintenance plan as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. E – Other New Business as Necessary

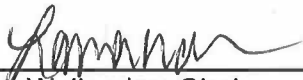
No other new business was brought forward.

The next Regular School Board Meeting will be held on Monday, April 10, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the District Office Assembly Room.

UPON MOTION by Wendy Lundsgaard, seconded by Laura Wallander, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.



Michael Bash, *Chair*



Laura Wallander, *Clerk*