

**JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENCY UNION #55**

**March 7, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.  
Media Room, Jr. High School  
Old Rochester Regional School District  
133 Marion Road  
Mattapoisett, MA 02739**

**District Members Present:** Cary Humphrey, Chairperson, James Muse, Heather Burke, Stefan Gabriel, Joe Pires and Paul Goulet.

**District Members Absent:** Tina Rood, Michelle Smith and Deborah Dyson.

**Union Members Present:** Patrick LeClair, Chairperson, Carole Clifford, Anne Fernandes, Sharon Hartley, Rachel Westgate, April Rios and Christine Marcolini.

**Union Members Absent:** Robin Rounseville and Ronald Gerhart

**Other Staff Members Present:** Douglas White Jr., Superintendent of Schools, Diana Russo, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, as well as many members of the administrative team in the audience and members of the press.

Meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m. by Chairperson Humphrey of the ORR School Committee and Chairperson LeClair of the Massachusetts School Superintendency Union #55.

**REGNITION:** Recognition was given to students, Samuel Williamson, Madeline Dugas, Catilin Collier and Carly Drew for their work on the Project 351. Project 351 is program that seeks to develop the next generation of community-first service leaders through customized service learning, hands-on community building and values-based leadership training. The students also presented a short presentation to the school committee and the audience on their recent projects.

**OPEN COMMENTS:** NONE

**Chairperson's Report:** NONE

**Superintendent's Report:** Superintendent White welcomed everyone to the meeting. The superintendent also explained that the Food Service Director, Jill Henesey received a grant from DESE. The school Nutrition Equipment Assistance Grant was awarded to Old Rochester Regional School received \$15,529 for convection ovens and Center School received \$18,551 for a combo hot cold serving line.

**A. Approval of Minutes**

**1. Regular Minutes: December 13, 2018**

Motion to approve the minutes of December 13, 2018 as presented as amended.

District, Mr. Muse

Union, Ms. Fernandes

Seconded

District, Ms. Burke

Union, Ms. Hartley

Motion Passed

## **V. General**

### **A. Approval of School Calendar 2019-2020 School Year**

The school calendar for the 2019-2020 school year was presented. The superintendent presented two suggestions, one from the Rochester School Committee, where they suggested moving the full day inservice to January 3<sup>rd</sup> and giving students a full two weeks during the December break. And the second suggestion was from the teaching staff in Mattapoisett where they suggested moving the October Parent Conference days to October 31<sup>st</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Ms. Hartley explained that her committee made that suggestion for a cost effective measure of having the school closed for a full two weeks as well as for education purposes. Ms. Hartley also asked if we could get information from other area Superintendents.

Ms. Burke asked if attendance rates were available for the first few days of January.

Mr. Muse expressed that in the past the calendar has had two weeks off during the December break and he explained that it was always well received by both staff and parents.

Ms. Marcolini expressed concerns for having the parent conference days on October 31<sup>st</sup>, because parents would be torn between the conferences and Halloween festivities.

Ms. Rios expressed that if the two days are added in January that the last days of school would go into the third week of June, and she is concerned about overlapping with summer camps.

Ms. Marcolini also expressed that we usually have attendance issues at the end of the school year due to family vacations.

Ms. Hartley explained that most camps plan their dates around local school district calendars.

Ms. Clifford expressed that as a teacher, she believes it's good to have just a two day week the first week back to ease them into the full week schedule.

Motion to approve the school calendar revised with adding January 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 as vacation and add two days at the end of the year.

District, Mr. Muse

Union, Ms. Fernandes

Seconded

District, Mr. Goulet (Burke abstained)

Union, Ms. Hartley (Rios & Clifford abstained)

Motion Passed

### **B. Approval of Professional Development Plan 2019-2020**

Dr. Frangos presented the Professional Development Plan for the 2019-2020, please see attached presentation.

#### **Questions/Comments/Feedback**

Mr. Muse thanked Dr. Frangos for all the information presented, he thought it was a great plan.

Ms. Clifford expressed that it's important to not have a one shot professional development, she expressed that it's important to develop what you learned.

Ms. Hartley expressed that having been around ORR for about 60 years, one of the biggest challenges the three towns in it's very unusual setup, and professional development in particularly

challenging, she explained that it's where we prepare ourselves to prepare ourselves and prepare our children, the idea that we have all the teachers in the district come together is a great, and it seems like in this plan we have many opportunities for everyone to come together, she expressed that she believes we have improved greatly in that area, and she's very pleased.

Motion to approve the professional development plan for the 2019-2020 school year.  
District, Mr. Muse  
Union, Ms. Hartley  
Seconded  
District, Mr. Goulet  
Union, Ms. Rios  
Motion Passed

### **C. FY 20 Budget Update**

The superintendent reviewed the proposed FY20 budgets for the three towns as well as the district. He also explained that the ORR budget hearing took place before this meeting.

### **D. Approval of SC Meeting Dates 2019-2020 School Year**

Superintendent White explained that the dates for the 2019-2020 were as followed, September 26, December 19, March 5 and June 11.

Ms. Burke suggested changed the December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting to December 12<sup>th</sup>, she expressed it was too close to the holidays. Everyone agreed.

Motion to approve the dates for next year as  
September 26, December 12, March 5 and June 11.  
District, Mr. Muse  
Union, Ms. Clifford  
Seconded  
District, Ms. Burke  
Union, Ms. Hartley

## **VI. New Business**

### **D. Policy**

**JE Attendance Policy** – to be reviewed for 1<sup>st</sup> read.

The superintendent explained that TLC drafted the current policy and it was reviewed by the policy sub-committee, the superintendent explained the importance of attendance in school and that DESE has new regulations on what can be excused and unexcused absences.

#### **COMMENTS:**

Mr. Devoll did explain that he will have a different policy for the high school. Ms. Marcolini expressed that the policy needs to be cleaned up and reworded. It was suggested to bring the policy back to TLC as well as the policy sub-committee.

**Motion to approve Attendance Policy for its' 1<sup>st</sup> read, with suggestions to return to the policy sub-committee**

District, Ms. Burke  
Union, Ms. Marcolini  
Seconded  
District, Mr. Muse  
Union, Ms. Clifford  
Motion Passed

**Acceptable Use Policies –IJND through IJNDC** – Superintendent White explained that Dr. Frangos worked with the districts legal counsel to revise these policies, they have also been reviewed by the policy committee on February 27<sup>th</sup> and they were sent to all school committee members on March 4<sup>th</sup>. He explained that the policies are here to be reviewed for their 1<sup>st</sup> read.

- a. IJND- Authorized Use of the Internet
- b. IJNDB – Digital Use Policy
- c. IJNDB-E-1 Acceptable Use Agreement Elementary Students
- d. IJNDB-E-2 Acceptable Use Agreement Secondary Students
- e. IJNDB-E-3 Staff Acceptable Use Agreement
- f. IJNDBA – Classroom Use or Audio-Visual Materials Policy
- g. IJNDC-Internet Publication

**COMMENTS:**

Mr. Gabriel expressed concern about assistive technology not being available to students as well as other components of the policy. It was suggested that the policy be reviewed again by the policy sub-committee.

**Motion to approve the Acceptable Use Policy for its' 1<sup>st</sup> read, with suggestions to return to the policy sub-committee**

District, Mr. Goulet  
Union, Ms. Fernandes  
Seconded  
District, Mr. Gabriel  
Union, Ms. Hartley  
Motion Passed

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.