

OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
133 Marion Road – Mattapoisett, MA 02739

MEETING MINUTES
September 11, 2019

The Old Rochester Regional District School Committee and Administration opened the meeting on Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 5:45 p.m. for a walkthrough of the Old Rochester Regional Junior High School located on 133 Marion Road, Mattapoisett Massachusetts lead by Gene Jones, Facilities Director.

The regular meeting of the Old Rochester Regional District School Committee was called to order by Chairperson Humphrey at 6:31 p.m. followed by a moment of silence in observation for 9/11.

PRESENT

Committee Members:

Cary Humphrey CHAIRPERSON	Heather Burke VICE- CHAIRPERSON	Tina Rood	Joseph Pires	Paul A. Goulet, Jr.
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James Muse	Stefan M. Gabriel	Suzanne Tseki
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ABSENT

Committee Members:

Michell Smith

ALSO, PRESENT

Douglas White SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS	Michael Nelson DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES	Silas Coellner PRINCIPAL ORR JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	Michael Devoll PRINCIPAL ORR HIGH SCHOOL	Jenn Seco RECORDING SECRETARY
Gene Jones FACILITEIS DIRECTOR	Members of the Press			

MEETING TO ORDER

Agenda item VI.D.

PERSONNEL

Chairperson Humphrey opened the meeting with the recognition of the new staff.

Principal Coellner welcomed new staff the school committee

- Thomas Cooney, Math Teacher, Jr. High School
- Sarah Lloyd, Social Studies, Jr. High School
- Marie Regonini, Special Education, Jr. High School
- Kelly Chouinard, Asst. Principal, Jr. High School

Principal Devoll welcomed new staff to the school committee.

- Vanessa Harvey, Asst. Principal, High School
- Courtney Higgins, Paraprofessional, High School (preschool)
- Danielle Dore, Special Education Teacher, High School
- Jessica Pilla, Chemistry Teacher, High School

Dr. White welcomed the new staff and also invited anyone interested in learning more about the new staff members, to check out the video that can be found on the Rochester School website.

Agenda item V. E.

REQUEST TO ADJUST BUILDING USE FEES

Mr. Greg Yeomans from the Old Rochester Travel Basketball Association (Re: "ORRSC 09112019 Old Rochester Travel Basketball Association") gave some background and overview of the association. Per Mr. Yeomans, Old Rochester Travel Basketball Association became alarmed when they received a \$17,500 invoice this year for securing the gym. He went on to reference 2018's invoice which totaled \$7,500. Mr. Yeomans stated that he reached out to Dr. White for clarification and he said that Dr. White recommend and requested Old Rochester Travel Basketball Association go before the committee to ask for an adjustment or a waiver.

Mr. Yeomans requested that the committee reconsider the policies and come to a compromise in order not to increase fees and cost to the program which represents over 120 resident families in the community. He also requested to be considered as a partner when rewriting the policy.

Mr. Pires asked for some clarification about the prior agreement and Old Rochester Travel Basketball Association anticipation that the cost would escalate over time and the cap cost would be \$7,500. Mr. Yeomans stated that Old Rochester Travel Basketball Association sense was that the cost would rise each year in a smaller scale or possibly become frozen at those fees.

Dr. White stated that policies are provided in order to run the organization and in this case the policy was followed as it was written and billed as such. He also explained that per the policy followed the cost of one hour is the same as one day (\$150 = \$100 facility + \$50 utilities). Dr. White suggested to the committee that adjustments need to be thought of for the organization that is using the space and how the facility is being utilized and for what amount of time.

Mr. Muse generally asked what a fair and accurate billing amount per hour would be in order for the school not to lose money since Old Rochester Travel Basketball Association is a private organization.

Ms. Rood stated that she had been part of the writing of this original policy, which was written for a onetime use and now feels it does not fit. She went on to state that the intention is for community groups to have access to our facility.

Dr. White offered the committee an example of a starting point to consider when changing or waiving a policy. He stated that in this case if the cost was broken down per hour to \$25 per hour (\$20 facility + \$5 utilities) it would be more equitable for the amount of time that Old Rochester Travel Basketball Association has requested.

Mr. Goulet asked about janitorial services and Dr. White explained that on weekdays there is no charge for janitorial services but that there is no coverage on the weekend and a fee may apply since custodians are paid overtime.

Ms. Burke shared that rental cost vary in many different schools within our 4 districts. Both Ms. Burke and Ms. Rood explained that for this policy all aspects of the building usage are currently being considered by the Policy Committee. Ms. Burke went on to state that Tri-Town tax payers only want to fund ORR for the school day and school activities and not wear and tear from community groups. She also added that there are no funds in the capital budget for these additional community groups using the facility, therefore the funds need to be raised separately. Ms. Rood also added that rental fees are currently allocated into the operating budget and ideally should be kept in the school for what the rental fees are intended allowing groups to use the space.

Mr. Muse asked what the bottom line fair cost per hour will be to cover all expenses associated with the rental. Dr. White shared that if the committee were to accept the \$8,000 that Old Rochester Travel Basketball Association has proposed, the maximum amount of \$6,200 will go to the personnel needed in the building. Dr. White clarified that if the building is open for a school event, Old Rochester Travel Basketball Association should not be responsible for janitorial cost as well as snow removal.

Chairperson Humphrey along with Ms. Rood proposed that the committee agree to one year of the proposed with the understanding that the policy subcommittee needs to address the policies for rental fees across the board. Mr. Pires added that Old Rochester Travel Basketball Association is a true partner and is truly vested in the Tri-Town children. Ms. Burke also weighed in agreeing with the one-year proposal and agrees with offering the facility to community groups at a low rental cost but unfortunately funds are not available. She also went on to state that this facility is the hub where different activities happen, and it cannot keep up with the use, it is the highest used facility in the Tri-Town and brings in more people per day than all other building.

Dr. White stated to the committee to keep in mind what our first obligation is and that the budget cannot subsidize other programs.

Mr. Yeomans shared some final remarks of all that Old Rochester Travel Basketball Association offers for the children of the community and that they want a partnership not a free pass but a fair one with consideration of a community program and the long-term rental commitment (19.2 weeks).

Chairperson Humphrey reassured Mr. Yeomans that the committee is working towards improving communication and policies.

MOTION: Vice Chairperson Burke made the motion to authorize the administration to enter into agreement with Old Rochester Travel Basketball Association for 2019/2020 season for a flat rate of \$8,000 based on the building usage they have submitted.

SECOND: Mr. Goulet

VOTE: Unanimously Pass

Mr. Yeomans asked about the 2020/2021 and what steps were needed going forward. Vice Chairperson Burke shared information about the different committees involved and that Old Rochester Travel Basketball Association was welcome to attend.

SENIOR STUDENT COUNCIL

Principal Devoll introduced two seniors, Cecilia Prefontaine and Natalie Neilson who represent the Student Advisory Council. They will be joining the committee for the monthly meetings and regional meetings.

Chairperson Humphrey introduced and welcomed Jenn Seco as the new Recording Secretary to the school committee.

MOTION: Mr. Muse made the motion to accept Jenn Seco as recoding secretary

SECOND: Mr. Goulet

VOTE: Unanimously Pass

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

I.A. Regular Meeting

Minutes of June 11, 2019

MOTION: Mr. Muse made the motion to accept the June 11th meeting minutes as amended

SECOND: Vice Chairperson Burke

VOTE: Unanimously Pass

I.A. **Executive Session**

Minutes of June 11, 2019

MOTION: Vice Chairperson Burke made the motion to accept Executive Session Minutes of June 11th as presented
SECOND: Mr. Goulet
VOTE: Pass (Ms. Rood and Mr. Pires abstain)

Minutes of August 5, 2019

MOTION: Vice Chairperson Burke made the motion to accept Executive Session Minutes of August 5th as presented
SECOND: Mr. Goulet
VOTE: Pass (Ms. Rood and Mr. Muse abstain)

Agenda item V. A.

REVIEW OF OPENING DAY

Dr. White shared that opening day was outstanding. It began with the staff meeting with their colleagues over a continental breakfast followed by a brief welcoming speech in the ORR auditorium.

Recognition of the staff of 10, 15, 20 or 25 years of service and introduction to new staff followed by a video. In this video the new staff introduced themselves and who their lighthouse was. Dr. White went on to explain that one of our own administrators, Rose Bowman was recognized and connected with a former student of hers from second grade. This student, Steve Pemberton who was also our keynote speaker.

The highlight of the morning was eleven students telling their story about what it's been like to be a student in the Tri-Town and who their light house was to this point and what they expect going forward.

On the first day of school Dr. White and Mr. Nelson visited all the schools welcoming students.

Agenda item V. B.

OPEN HOUSE UPDATE

Principal Devoll gave an overview of the open house at the high school which starting with an informative presentation about Juling. The group that presenting stayed after the presentation to answer parents' questions. School ambassador were spread through out to help families find their way and a number of vendors set up in the lobby. On a side note Principal Devoll mentioned talking to his staff about when the right time would be to have open house in order to get better attendance.

Principal Coellner gave an overview of the junior high school open house which also started with a Juling presentation. There were eighth grad volunteers to help guide parents around the building. The staff presented they syllabus and expectations making it a valuable informative night.

Agenda item V. C.

DONATION APPROVAL

The donation of a compressor unit, estimated value from \$12,000 to \$15,000, for the walk-in freezer at the High School from New England Refrigeration, Wareham, MA.

MOTION: Mr. Muse made the motion to accept the donation from New England Refrigeration
SECOND: Mr. Goulet
VOTE: Unanimously Pass

Agenda item V. D.

SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH COMMITTEE

Chairperson Humphrey explained the steps that had been taken thus far in order to start the process of finding a new superintendent. He asked for volunteers from the committee that would come up with the criteria of what is needed in a new superintendent which is being done currently by the four chairs.

Dr. White further explained that consultants were contacted to help with the process and once the consultant proposed are received and reviewed the chairs will then choose which one to pursue. This preliminary information will help with the next step which will be to form a Search Committee. The next joint committee meeting will be October 9th to choose a consulting company.

Agenda item V. F.

SOLAR PROJECT UPDATE

Dr. White stated that the contract was reviewed by the attorney and she had reservations because a regional school district does not have the authority to lease property for that a long length of time. We can however get special legislation that will allow us to go into a long-term lease. Dr. White spoke with Senator Pacheco and he is willing to file the legislation and once it is received it will be shared with the three towns. Meanwhile we are not able to secure the savings. Dr. White spoke to SunPower and in order to put us in their work queue and get us the cost saving, they are willing to file the application on our behalf (\$7,500) to render into the agreement with the understanding that if everything is not in order we can back out.

Vice Chairperson Burke asked how this would impact the negotiation process of the contract if SunPower fronts the \$7,500 on our behalf. Dr. White stated that if negotiation did not go through the expense would potentially be split 50/50. Ms. Burke also added that there may be elements of the contract to our advantage that potentially can be further negotiated; for instance the resurfacing of the parking lot where the panels will be placed.

MOTION: Mr. Muse gave the motion to authorize Dr. White to allow SunPower to file the \$7,500 application on our behalf and work with the attorney to obtain the necessary legislation to enter in a 20 year lease giving the authority to enter into contract negotiations.

SECOND: Mr. Gabriel

VOTE: Unanimously Pass

Agenda item V. G.

CAPITAL/MARION

Dr. White asked that the Facility and Budget Committee come together in order to gather a list of capital projects in order to be submitted before September 20th to the Capital Improvement Committee.

Agenda item V. H.

APPROVAL OF SECURITY/SAFETY UPGRADE CONTRACT

Mr. Jones stated that Wayne Electric, the current supplier, came in as the lowest bidder. Kerry is the system used throughout the district.

Ms. Rood asked about additional costs and Mr. Jones stated that Wayne Electric is familiar with the building and when cameras were updated all future needs were taken into consideration. The equipment is already in house and the system is currently used throughout the district.

MOTION: Ms. Rood made the motion to allow the facility manager to award this bid as presented and enter into contract with Wayne Electric

SECOND: Mr. Pires

VOTE: Unanimously Pass

Agenda item V. I.

DISPOSAL OF BOOKS

Principal Devoll ask that the committee approve the disposal of the following surplus books

-48 Modern World: 16th Century to the Present, 1988 -40 The Story of America, 1992
-175 World History Connections to Today, 1999 -21 World History Connection to Today, 2003

MOTION: Mr. Muse made the motion to allow the disposal of the books

SECOND: Ms. Rood

VOTE: Unanimously Pass

Agenda item VI.1.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Dr. White reviewed the FY19 financial report. Please refer to “ORRSC 09112019 FY19 End of Year” which is closed out.

He also reviewed the first month of the FY20 financial report. Please refer to “ORRSC 09112019 FY20 Budget”. Dr. White explained that in the next couple of months lines will be adjusted and sorted out as things change. Updates will follow.

Agenda item VI.

CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT

Chairperson Humphrey thanked the staff for a great start to the school year. He went on to state that although there have been a few rough times in the last few months there is a lot to look forward to in the new school year.

CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Dr. White asked the committee to make a motion to approve the Athletic Trainer Contract which has not changed from last year.

MOTION: Mr. Muse made the motion to authorize the Athletic Trainer Contract

SECOND: Ms. Tseki

VOTE: Unanimously Pass

Dr. White reminded members to catch up with updates and information on the “Friday News”.

Mr. Nelson stated that the summer SAIL program continues to be a success with over 200 kids, he also mentioned that there is an increase of students taking enrichment courses. He went on to report that his focus is on finalizing Title I, Title II and Special Education grants and he was also happy to share that all the key note speakers have been solicited for the professional development days. Mr. Nelson shared that they have identified cultural proficiency training for the administration and for the cultural Proficiency teams which will occur on 10/31 and 11/1.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Principal Devoll shared that the High School won the Dalton Award for athletic department. He also informed the committee that the High school has a \$100 fee for students participating in some of the clubs that withdraw from the budget (ai, for supervision, transportation etc.). There are currently thirty-six clubs. Per Principal Devoll, the first step is to gather their roasters in order to determine the need. Once the fees are collected they then will be placed into the schools revolving account. Dr. White suggested that the business office assist and help identify the amount of dollars coming in for each club and also be able to expense out what is actually being spent. Principal Devoll clarified that the \$100 fee gives access to all clubs. Ms. Rood asked what the cost would be of investing in a van for the smaller clubs. Mr. Jones quoted \$50k and gave an overview of what is needed. Principal Devoll agreed that it would be a good option for the clubs as well as smaller athletic events. Vice Chairperson Burke asked Principal Devoll about students with free or reduced lunch and he responded that fees would be waived.

Principal Coellner gave an overview of a CNC machine that is able to carve directly from student’s computers using CAD drawings that was donated to the Junior High School.

DONATION APPROVAL

MOTION: Ms. Rood made the motion to accept the donation
SECOND: Mr. Gabriel
VOTE: Unanimously Pass

Principal Coellner also spoke about the Boosterthon and its success thus far, it has reached \$3,700 from 12 different states with great fun incentives.

Agenda item VII.B.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

SMEC

Next meeting 9/30. Note: Mr. Muse will be retiring.

Local School Committee

Mr. Muse-Mattapoisett- No update

Ms. Rood-Rochester- Ms. Rood stated that a district may become a Green Community but until Mattapoisett becomes a part of the Green Community this facility will not be identified as one of their own. Mr. Muse weighed in and stated that Mattapoisett needs adopts the stretch energy code in order to become a Green Community. Ms. Rood also shared that the election will potentially come after the town meeting in this year.

Tri-Town Foundation

No update

Budget Sub-Committee

No update

Facilities Committee

No update

Communications Committee

Ms. Burke and Mr. Pires continue to work on this committee. They reported that Mr. Matthew Pires a graduate of ORR will be designing a poster.

District Agreement Committee

Ms. Rood stated that they have the analyses of the assessments of ORR and are making final changes to the proposed changes in order to schedule a meeting with town official and move the process forward.

Agenda item I.X.

OPEN COMMENTS

Daniel McEvoy a teacher from the Junior High School commented about having staff and students from all four districts having input on the selection of the new superintendent search. Mr. Muse agreed that having the community and the school input is essential in order to get to a unified decision.

Agenda item I.X.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Dr. White shared the document that Mr. Jones has been reporting with the conditions of the fields as well as the field activities.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Mr. Muse made the motion go into Executive Session for purposes of negotiating collective bargaining and to come out to open session and resume regular meeting

SECOND: Vice Chairperson Burke

ROLL CALL: 8:0

Cary	Heather	Tina Rood	Joseph Pires	Paul	James	Stefan	Suzanne
Humphrey	Burke			Goulet	Muse	Gabriel	Tseki
YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

Re: Executive Session Minutes 9.11.2019

MOTION: Mr. Muse made the motion to go out of Executive Session and continue the regular meeting

SECOND: Vice Chairperson Burke

ROLL CALL: 8:0

Cary	Heather	Tina Rood	Joseph Pires	Paul	James	Stefan	Suzanne
Humphrey	Burke			Goulet	Muse	Gabriel	Tseki
YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

MOTION: Mr. Muse made the motion to approve the memorandum of understanding with the Old Rochester Assistants as presented

SECOND: Vice Chairperson Burke

VOTE: Unanimously Pass

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, October 23, 2019 at 6:30

Submitted by:

Jenn Seco

Recording Secretary