ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
5:30 p.m.
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
WOODSTOCK SCHOOL

1. Opening Items

1.01 Call to Order 5:30
1.02 Tobacco Policy Statement
1.03 Pledge of Allegiance
1.04 Roll Call: Present: Trustee Jerome, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop

2. Welcome

2.01 Woodstock Elementary School Principal, Scott Richards will welcome the Board

- Mr. Richards started off reporting that Woodstock Elementary has two new staff members and one name change
  - Kaitlin Langdon – Elementary Teacher, long term leave replacement
  - Karen Hoban – Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant
  - Name change;
    - Josephine Rose to Josephine Catalano
- Initiatives
  - Branching Minds/MYSS
    - Improving and growing interventions
    - Collect and share data
    - Increase student achievement
  - Illustrative Math Year 2
  - New TC Reading/Writing Units
  - All Points Tier 1 and 2 Behavior Interventions
  - Support Work by Morningside
  - Planning K-4/K-5
- Communication
  - External communication
    - Implementing paper newsletter to an online newsletter (Woodstock website) new newsletter monthly and able to be updated in real time
- PTA
  - First meeting last week
  - PTA Picnic September 22nd
  - Sunflower Donation/Official opening of new equipment/ribbon cutting

3. Acceptance of Minutes

3.01 Acceptance of Minutes

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby accepts minutes of August 29, 2023
Motioned: Trustee Storey
Seconded: Trustee Reimondo
Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Jerome, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop

4. Presentations

4.01 Mike Rossi of West & Company will present the External Audit

Recommended Action: BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District accept the External Audit Report for the 2022-2023 School Year.
Motioned: Trustee Reimondo
Seconded: Trustee Storey
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Jerome, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop

4.02 Danielle Hoeverman, Claims Auditor will present the End of the Year Report for 2022-2023

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby accepts the Claims Auditor End of Year Report for 2022-2023
Motioned: Trustee Goodrich
Seconded: Trustee Reimondo
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Jerome, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop

4.03 Assistant Superintendent for Business, Monica LaClair will present a Property Tax Update

4.04 EV Bus Presentation by CPL & Highland Fleet

4.05 High School Principal, Lance Edelman will provide an update on the use of Regents in Grade Point Averages (duration 20 min)

5. Superintendent District News

5.01 The Superintendent will report District News

- Welcome Back!
    - Our school year began really well. Our Facilities Department did an incredible job of preparing the buildings with a massive time crunch due to the construction at the Middle High School. The buildings are in great shape and the staff and our Director and Assistant Director deserve a huge thank you. Also, our Transportation department did an outstanding job with the opening, and our Director said it might have been the smoothest opening yet. Thank you to our Director, Dispatcher, and Head Bus Driver for all of the diligent preparation, and thank you to all of our Drivers and Monitors. Also, to our partners at First Student. They are a huge presence in our operation and we appreciate all that they do for our students as well.

- Free Breakfast and Lunch
    - I received an email from a faculty member in the middle school letting me know that they had reinforced the availability of free meals to students during lunch and noted that a number of students went back and got lunch after understanding that meals

are free for everyone. I sent an email to all faculty and staff last week and asked them to ensure that they reiterate for students that both breakfast and lunch are free.

- Olive Day
    - Olive Day was a wonderful community event that was well attended. Clark, Valerie, and I manned the District booth for the morning, and Emily and Caroline took over for the afternoon. It was nice to see everyone out and enjoying the day, and I understand that the fireworks were very good as well.

- District-Wide Parent Workshop
    - Our first parent workshop is scheduled for tomorrow, September 13th. It is a virtual workshop and will explore strategies for promoting independence for children ages 5 - 18. It will be from 7 - 8:30.

- Ex Officio Student Board Rep
    - I'd like to welcome Sophia Odato to the Board table. Mr. Edelman and I met with Sophia this morning to discuss the role, and we reviewed the board policy. I'm certain that she is going to be a valuable addition to Board discussions and I'm so glad to have her join us at the table.

- Asian Lunar New Year
    - Governor Kathy Hochul signed legislation mandating that no school may hold school on Asian Lunar New Year, thereby treating such a holiday the same as any other legal holiday where schools are prohibited from having school. Unlike Juneteenth, this is not a state holiday, just a holiday for schools. There will be no impact on the 2023-24 school calendar since Asian Lunar New Year falls on a Saturday. However, this holiday is on Wednesday, January 29, 2025, so there will be a 2024-25 day of no school to recognize this holiday in the next school calendar. I look forward to learning more about this important holiday.

- Upcoming events
    - Next week we have the Bennett open house and the Middle High School open house. The following week we will have both Phoenicia and Woodstock's open house and homecoming.

6. Board District News

6.01 The Board will report District News

- Trustee Storey wanted to thank and recognize David Wallis for having the athletic department implement new football helmets

7. Acknowledge Public Be Heard Comments

7.01 The Board will acknowledge the public be heard comments from the last meeting

No one spoke

8. Public and Student Comment

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

- Esther Downton
- Rick Wolff
- Jenna Skorupa

- Alli Tercet
- Stephanie Bryant
- Savannah Russo
- Corrine Nadeau
- Kara Colevas
- Megan Brenner

9. **Break**

9.01 The Board will take a 5-minute break

10. Discussion and Possible Action

10.01 Approve Student Representative of the Board

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves Sophia Odato as the Student Representative of the Board of Education for the 2023-2024 school year.
Motioned: Trustee Storey
Seconded: Trustee Reimondo
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Jerome, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop

- The student representative of the board, Sophia Odato gave a report
    - Recently in Student Government we've established some our initiatives for the year including the Mental Health initiative, Consent/Health Initiative and our on-going Outside initiative (Which is our outdoor classroom initiative.
      The newest update on our Outside Initiative is that plants will be delivered on Friday September 22nd, and our Community planting day will be Saturday September 23rd. We invite the board members to join us in planting.
      Throughout the high school students have been settling in to the new year. None of us were expecting the heat last week, but we all persevered. Fall sports have been practicing since mid-August and are now well into their seasons, and many are beginning to fundraise. School clubs are starting to meet again this week. Also, many students have been utilizing their opportunity to sit outside during their lunch periods to get fresh air.

10.02 Approve Special Education Plan

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approve the Special Education plan for 2024-2025
Motioned: Trustee Jerome
Seconded: Trustee Storey
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Jerome, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop

10.03 Discussion of 2023 NYSSBA Proposed Resolutions

- Trustee Storey and Trustee Bishop recommended voting on each resolution at a special meeting so the next two scheduled board meetings aren't so lengthy
    - The entire board agreed to this and the District Clerk will poll the board via email to find a date/time that works. The meeting will be publicly noticed once the date/time is set

11. Consent Agenda

11.01 Approve Consent Agenda

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves item numbers 11:02 -11.06
Motioned: Trustee Mitchell-Marell
Seconded: Trustee Storey
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Jerome, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop

11.02 Memorial Bench Donations

Recommended Action: The Superintendent recommends acceptance of donations totaling $595.00 CASH, from the below mentioned donors towards a memorial bench honoring the late, Paul Wereszynski.
The Superintendent recommends approval of the following donations:
Donee's Name and Donation Amount
Robert & Margit Richer $50.00
Joseph, Janet & Jessica Wisneski $25.00
Linda & John Byer $50.00
Victoria Cutrone $100.00
RJ Baldwin, Catskill Quartet $25.00
Laurel W. Olexa, PhD. $25.00
Teresa R. Schirmer $75.00
Susan B. Hoch $50.00
Mary V. & William C. Rianhard $50.00
James W. Sullivan $100.00
Shelly R. & J.D. McKinley $20.00
Julie Stebbins $25.00
Total $595.00

11.03 Memorandum of Agreement #9122023

Recommended Action: The Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools hereby approves Memorandum of Agreement #9122023 between the Onteora Central School District and the Onteora Teacher's Association

11.04 Personnel Agenda

TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Francese, Danielle	School Monitor/Phoenicia	09/13/23	Leave Replacement, Step 1

APPOINTMENT: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL
PROBATIONARY

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Jones, Tammy	District Monitor/Transportation	10/02/23 – 04/01/24	Step 5, replace resignation

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: NON - INSTRUCTIONAL

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE	REASON
3880	09/05/23 – 10/02/23	FMLA-paid

RESIGNATIONS: NON - INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Hanley, John	Assistant Director of Facilities and Operations	10/01/23	Personal

SUBSTITUTE

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Carr, Deanna*	Teacher (certified)	$150.00/day
Leacock, Elizabeth*	Food Service Helper	$15.00/hour
LaTorre, Kathleen	School Monitor	$15.00/hour
Reilly III, Donald *	Teacher (uncertified)	$115.00/day
Ottulich, Joan	Teacher (uncertified)	$115.00/day
Unterman, Elizabeth*	Teacher (uncertified)	$115.00/day

pending pre-employment processing

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Klercker, Katelyn	Belleayre Bash Advisor and Assistant Advisor (combined)	$1,406.00 (positions combined and split with L. Matteson
Klercker, Katelyn	SADD Advisor	$882.00
Matteson, Lori	Belleayre Bash Advisor and Assistant Advisor (combined)	$1,406.00 (positions combined and split with K. Klercker)
Murphy, Steven	Theatre Technical Director	$1,753.50
Nelsen-Epstein, David	Literary Magazine	$1,348.00
Reimer, John	Theatre Technical Director	$1,753.50
Via, Scott	Computer Advisor-HS	$5,512.00
Weidner, Sandra	Liaison- Occ. Ed (Business Dept.)	$2,466.00
Constant, Geordarna	Fall Theater Production Advisor	$1,570.00
Maltese, Denise	Middle School Student Affairs Council	$1,058.00 (split with M. Rushford

Rushford, Michael	Middle School Student Affairs Council	$1,058.00 (split with D. Maltese)

11.05 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, #9/23, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Hemingway Lynch

11.06 Financial Report Quarter ending June 30, 2023

Recommended Action: The Board of Education has reviewed and hereby accepts the Financial Report for the quarter ending June 2023

12. Contracts and Independent Contractor Retainers

12.01 Approve all Contracts and Independent Contractor Retainers

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves item numbers 12.02 - 12.08
Motioned: Trustee Storey
Seconded: Trustee Reimondo
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Jerome, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop

12.02 Rondout Valley CSD

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 Nonresident Special Education Enrollment Agreements between the Onteora Central School District and the Rondout Valley Central School District effective for the 2023-2024 school year at the Non-Resident Tuition rate (NRT) as published by the State Education Department and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

12.03 M. Savatgy- Bennett, Earth Day

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 Matthew Savatgy retained as Bennett Earth Day Coordinator effective April 15, 2024 to June 14, 2024 at a maximum rate of $1,000.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

12.04 M. Savatgy- Bennett, Lego Club

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 Matthew Savatgy retained as Bennett Lego

Club Advisor effective October 2, 2023 to June 5, 2024 at a maximum rate of $1,701.00 per residency with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

12.05 M. Savatgy- Woodstock, Environmental Scientist

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 Matthew Savatgy retained as Woodstock Environmental Scientist in Residence effective September 25, 2023 to May 31, 2024 at a maximum rate of $1,500.00 per residency with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

12.06 M. Savatgy- Phoenicia, Environmental Scientist

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 Matthew Savatgy retained as Phoenicia Environmental Scientist in Residence effective September 25, 2023 to May 31, 2024 at a maximum rate of $3,000.00 per residency with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

12.07 M. Savatgy- Bennett, Environmental Scientist

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 Matthew Savatgy retained as Bennett Environmental Scientist in Residence effective September 25, 2023 to May 31, 2024 at a maximum rate of $1,500.00 per residency with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

12.08 L. Sawhill

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 Lesley Sawhill retained as Theater Director effective September 13, 2023 to December 16, 2023 at a maximum rate of $3,830.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

13. Committee Reports

13.01 Ad Hoc Committee

- Trustee Reimondo reported that the last meeting was yesterday, September 11, 2023. We have crafted a schedule where the main AD HOC group meets between the times of the two sub committees to allow a fluid collaboration. At this time, we will meet once a month with all three committees. Each Subcommittee will also share out. This meeting reviewed the ideas that came from the Bennett transition subcommittee and what support it would need from us to cultivate

those action steps. We also reviewed how we can continue to evolve our communication with stakeholders and what the timelines may look like for sharing out and the most effective ways in which to do so. As the transitions and long-term planning are ongoing, that is where our work will continue to be focused. We are tasked with bringing information to the board from data and stakeholders. We are awaiting the 23-24 Board Goals to see how we can assist in supporting those as well. All AD HOC committees are scheduled to meet next on Monday, October 16th.

- Assistant Superintendent Allison reported that both subgroups met on September 11, 2023. The first subgroup was focused on the transition to Bennett, Present were Trustee Jerome, Trustee Bishop and Trustee Reimondo along with central admin. We created an action plan to collaborate and meet with the PTA's to create facilitated community conversations to gather feedback and ideas about the transition from Phoenicia and Bennett families. We also discussed creating an easy to find webpage on our website that gave updates on our transition work with access to a suggestion box or suggestion email. The second subgroup also met on 9/11 The focus of this subgroup was how to celebrate Phoenicia. Present were trustee Goodrich, Trustee Story and Trustee Bishop with central administration. We created an action plan that also included meeting with the PTA's and taking a more supportive role in helping to celebrate what Phoenicia has brought to the community. This could include alumni events, celebratory ceremonies and special events at BOE meetings.

13.02 Audit Committee

- Trustee Mitchell-Marell reported that Trustee Goodrich, Wendy Wolfenson, Superintendent McLaren, Robert Curran, Superintendent LaClair, Kimberly Cole, Mike Rossi, Drew Boggesss and myself all met at 9:30am last Wednesday September 6th. Mike Rossi provided a preview of the external audit. We went over financial statements, fund balances, revenues and expenditures. We asked questions and Mike generously answered them. We talked a lot about retirement and benefits as well as our impending end of our current bus contract. He said we are a great school with impressive financial records in a good position so that was nice to hear!

13.03 Communications Committee

- Nothing to report

13.04 Facilities Committee

- Nothing to report

13.05 Legislative Action Committee

- Nothing to report

13.06 Policy Committee

- Nothing to report

14. Old Business

14.01 The Board will discuss Old Business

- Trustee Hemingway Lynch asked if the board can revisit the timeline for the long-term plan and inform the community what to expect
- Trustee Storey asked to schedule the Board Tours of the Onteora School buildings and the BOCES Tour

15. New Business

15.01 The Board will discuss New Business

- Trustee Storey reported that she met with Trustee Jerome to review the Schedule U. She noted that a copy of a redacted IEP to easiest to teach a new trustee how to read the Schedule U
    - Assistant Superintendent Allison will provide a training IEP, which will be uploaded into board docs to be a helpful document to reference
- Trustee Hemingway Lynch asked if children can be registered before the age of four to help with the demographics
    - Superintendent McLaren noted that she will run this request by the attorney

16. Adjournment

16.01 Adjourn the Meeting. Next meeting is September 26, 2023 at Bennett.

Recommended Action: Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:44 p.m.
Motioned: Trustee Storey
Seconded: Trustee Reimondo
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Jerome, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop