ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
6:00 p.m.
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024
BENNETT SCHOOL

1. Opening Items

1.01 Call to Order 6:00 pm
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 Bennett Music Teacher, Harvey Boyer and the Jazz Band will welcome the Board (duration 20 min)

3. Proposed Executive Session

3.01 Enter Executive Session (duration 30 min)

Recommended Action: Motion to enter into executive session to meet with their attorney to discuss a potential litigation.
Motioned: Trustee Reimondo
Seconded: Trustee Mitchell-Marell
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Jerome, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop

3.02 Exit Executive Session

Recommended Action: Motion to exit executive session and return to public session
Motioned: Trustee Reimondo
Seconded: Trustee Mitchell-Marell
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Jerome, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop

4. Presentations

4.01 The Ulster BOCES Team will discuss an opportunity at iPark

4.02 Assistant Superintendent for Business, Monica LaClair will present the Draft Budget (duration 20 min)

Left Early: Trustee Jerome left at 8:14 pm

5. Acceptance of Minutes

5.01 Acceptance of Minutes

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby accepts the minutes of January 25, 2024

Motioned: Trustee Reimondo
Seconded: Trustee Storey
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop
Not Present: Trustee Jerome

6. Superintendent District News

6.01 The Superintendent will report District News

- Calendar
  - We are working on a draft calendar for next year based on the BOCES calendar. The inclusion of new school holidays in the past couple of years is making it more difficult to create a calendar that accommodates the work year of our faculty and staff and recognizes all of the school holidays. The placement of the Christmas and New Year holidays is also a scheduling problem because they are both on Wednesdays. That means that by our traditional calendar construct, we would be in session on Monday, December 23rd, and then off on December 24th.

- Transportation Contract
  - The bid opening took place and we are still in the process of analyzing the impact. We anticipate approving the new contract at the next meeting. Some of the details are a little different than the existing contract and have required some additional time to work through.

- Transition Planning
  - We have collected the art submissions from our students for inclusion in the design process of the murals. Anyone who did not hand theirs in during the first collection has since had their design added to the group.

- Community Night
  - The event held on Friday of last week was incredibly successful. Thank you to all of our Booster Club members who worked so hard and collaborated with our Director of Health, PE, and Athletics and our secondary building administrators. The students were treated to lots of food at the tailgate party and games as hosted by Ms. Matteson. We saw a couple of rounds of musical chairs.

- Budget
  - I attended a professional meeting earlier today and the message that we are receiving is that it is valuable to advocate with our state representatives for restoration of the Foundation Aid Save Harmless provision. We are hearing that the senate and assembly are seeming that they feel favorably about this, but we cannot predict the negotiation process with the Governor or how long it mght take before the budget is approved. We are currently projected to have the Board approve our budget on April 16th. The last legal day to adopt is during the next week, but we cannot delay beyond that. If the state is timely in adopting the NYS budget, and it is final on April 1st then we will be able to move forward with the information we need. If we are unable to know what our State Aid is and we need

to adopt a budget with the Governor's projection, we are going to have to project significant cuts to accommodate the $3M loss of aid. If it is subsequently reinstated or partially reinstated, we can then modify the cuts that we propose. I anticipate that we will be sending information to our families to inform them of the situation and the contact information for our senators and assembly members. I also anticipate that we will share the information on social media.

7. Student Representative Report

7.01 The Student Representative on the Board, Sophia Odato, will give a report

- Ms. Odato reported that recently in Student Government, we've started brainstorming fun events we'd like to see happen in the spring. Also, we have reached out to our Athletic Director seeking collaboration in our initiative to add more color/art to our school, starting with the white walls near the entrance of the HS Gym.

- Throughout the high school, the halls have looked slightly sparser this week probably due to students acquiring the flus and colds that come with winter. We have recently started the 3rd quarter, and sports teams are well into their seasons. Last Friday we had our winter community night which was lots of fun. Students, staff, and families celebrated our winter athletes, rooting for the Eagles during a wrestling match, a boys' basketball game and a girls' basketball game. There, the wrestling team honored their older players during their senior night. Congratulations to the Girls basketball team which had their senior night game about 30 minutes ago against Ellenville which they won, when I left the score was 40 to 18.

- This past weekend, Science Olympiad competed fiercely in a regional competition against 35 other schools at John Jay Highschool earning 12th place. Finally, the weather has been compliant, and so our ski team was able to compete in 4 races last week and will have 2 more this week. Coming up, for Valentine's Day, the French Club is selling macaroons and the Spanish club will be selling and distributing bows and messages.

8. Board District News

8.01 The Board will report District News

- Trustee Storey wanted to thank all the community members who helped and supported the Community Night last night, February 5, 2024.

9. Acknowledge Public Be Heard Comments

9.01 The Board will acknowledge the public be heard comments from the last meeting
No one spoke

10. Public and Student Comment

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

- No one spoke

11. **Break**

11.01 The Board will take a 5-minute break if needed

- The break was taken early after the presentations

12. Discussion and Possible Action

12.01 Discuss Nomination for Onteora Seat on the BOCES Board (consensus needed)

Nominations will be accepted until Monday, March 18, 2024
There are three classes of BOCES board members:
Current component board members; Former local Board members, or; Former teachers with no board experience.

- Trustee Storey vocalized her interest in being nominated to sit on the BOCES board.
  - Trustee Storey discussed her passion for the programs BOCES offers
  - Trustee Bishop agrees that Trustee Storey is a great choice for the open BOCES board seat because of her wealth of knowledge and confidence
  - Consensus- The entire Board agreed that Trustee Storey will be the nominee and had no additional nominees to discuss

12.02 Discuss Request for Building Name Change by Elementary Transition Committee

- Superintendent McLaren reported that some of the committee members indicated that they wish to change the name of Bennett Elementary.
  - Ms. McLaren discussed the history on how the name was chosen
  - Trustee Hemingway Lynch asked details on the time frame and discussed waiting to change the name until the district becomes a central campus

12.03 Code of Ethics Discussion (duration 10 min)

- Trustee Reimondo discussed that the Board Norms Committee came up with a Flow Chart and updated proposed Board Norms
- The committee also indicated that the Ethics Policy will be presented to the Policy Committee to review at their next meeting, and the plan is to bring it to the Board Table for a First Reading at the February 20, 2024 meeting
- Trustee Bishop asked that the proposed Board Norms be brought to the February 20, 2024 meeting for Board consensus

13. Consent Agenda

13.01 Approve Consent Agenda

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves item numbers 13.02 -13.07
Motioned: Trustee Storey
Seconded: Trustee Goodrich
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop
Not Present: Trustee Jerome

13.02 Personnel Agenda

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Amodeo, Bernadette	Elementary Resource- Bennett 3	$2,220.00 / 4 = $550.00 (split by 4)

Kovac, Amanda	Elementary Resource- Bennett 3	$2,220.00 / 4 = $550.00 (split by 4)
McCarthy, Julie	Elementary Resource -Bennett 3	$2,220.00 / 4 = $550.00 (split by 4)
Countryman, Kristina	Elementary Resource- Bennett 3	$2,220.00 / 4 = $550.00 (split by 4)
Harder, William	Baseball-JV-Head Coach	$3,262.00 / 3 = $1,087.33 (split by 3)
Shultis, Robert	Baseball-JV-Head Coach	$3,262.00 / 3 = $1,087.33 (split by 3)
Wortman, Kevin	Baseball-JV-Head Coach	$3,262.00 / 3 = $1,087.33 (split by 3)
Brown, Walter*	Softball-Modified-Head Coach	$2,064.00
Allison, Bridget	Fitness Room	$2,215.00
Young, Jason	Softball-JV-Head Coach	$3,262.00
Murphy, Steven	Tennis, Varsity- Head Coach (boys)	$2,913.00
King, Thomas	Track-Spring- Head Coach (boys)	$5,278.00
Burkhardt, Patrick	Track-Spring-Head Coach (girls)	$5,278.00
Wall, William	Track-Spring- Volunteer-Assistant Coach	$ -0-
Harkin, Brandon	Golf- Varsity- Head Coach (girls)	$3,262.00
Katz, Emily	Track-Spring- Assistant Coach	$3,571.00
Funck, Brianna	Track-Spring- Assistant Coach	$3,571.00
Calinda, S. Jason	Track-Spring-Assistant Coach	$3,571.00
King, Halle	Track-Modified Head Coach (boys)	$2,545.00
VanEtten, Kelsey*	Track-Modified- Head Coach (girls)	$2,545.00
VanValkenburgh, Mike	Baseball- Modified-Head Coach	$2,064.00
Warnes, Carsten	Track-Modified- Assistant Coach	$2,064.00

*Pending pre-employment processing *

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: INSTRUCTIONAL

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE	REASON
3549	01/29/24 – 02/29/24*	FMLA- paid

anticipated dates

SUBSTITUTE

NAME	POSITION	RATE
Iapoce, Judith	Home Instruction Teacher	$50/hour

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
Weir, Alexandria	Head Bus Driver	02/22/24 – 02/21/24	02/22/24

RESIGNATIONS: NON- INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Galloway, Malik	School Bus Driver/Transportation	01/04/24	Personal
Hall, Raymond	Custodial Worker/ B&G	02/16/24	Personal

13.03 Budget Transfers

Recommended Action: The Superintendent recommends the transfer of $108,479.32 to adjust payroll budget codes to actual.
Amount $41,960.00 from Budget Code A2250.150-07 to Budget Code A2250.151-02
Amount $66,519.32 from Budget Code A2820.150-04 to Budget Code A2820.150-01
The Superintendent recommends the transfer of funds from the Unemployment Reserve to the Unemployment Insurance budget code to pay for NYS Unemployment Insurance billing. This expense is not budgeted in the general fund due to the existence of the reserve funds designated for this purpose.
Transfer Amount $10,979.42 from Reserve A815 description Unemployment Reserve to Budget Code A9050.800-10 description Unemployment Insurance

13.04 Donation of Musical Instruments from Karen McKenna to the Bennett Elementary School

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby accepts the attached donation of Musical Instruments

13.05 Donations

Recommended Action: The Superintendent recommends approval for the attached donations, each contributing to various initiatives within our district, and increasing their respective budgetary appropriations. The total amount for approval is $10,019.05.
Donor: Amount: Purpose: Appropriation:
Shutterfly, LLC. $179.05 The Owl PBIS Store at Woodstock A2110.431-07
Alliance Energy LLC - Exxon Mobile $500.00 MS/HS STEM Program A2110.413-01
Jeremy & Rhona Schiffres $75.00 Paul Wereszynski Scholarship CM2989.400-05
Cynthia & Dennis Trevail $50.00 Paul Wereszynski Scholarship CM2989.400-05
Marcusp Porcelli $100.00 Levon Helm Scholarship CM2989.400-10
Osceola Foundation, Inc. $3,000.00 Levon Helm Scholarship CM2989.400-10
Jeremy & Rhona Schiffres $50.00 Paul Wereszynski Memorial Bench

CM2989.400-29
Gina Giuliano $25.00 Paul Wereszynski Memorial Bench CM2989.400-29
Snap Mobile, Inc. $6,040.60 Onteora Booster Club- Girls Basketball CM2989.400-25
Total $10,019.65

13.06 Surplus Books

Recommended Action: BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District declare the attached list of books from the Middle School as surplus and authorizes the sale or disposal of these books.

13.07 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, #02/24, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Storey

14. Contracts and Independent Contractor Retainers

14.01 Approve all Contracts and Independent Contractor Retainers

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves item numbers 14.02 - 14.03
Motioned: Trustee Reimondo
Seconded: Trustee Storey
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop
Not Present: Trustee Jerome

14.02 Mohonk Preserve Inc. - 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 Mohonk Preserve Inc. retained as Mohonk Preserve Educator effective February 26, 2024 to March 8, 2024 at a maximum rate of $245.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

14.03 Hari Prakaash-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 Hari Prakaash retained as Yoga Teacher effective March 18, 2024 to March 22, 2024 at a rate of $400.00 per day to a maximum rate of $2,000.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

15. Policies

15.01 Policies Reviewed and are ok as is

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby accepts policies 3422 Sexual Harassment of Employees and 6122 Complaints and Grievances by Employees as reviewed
Motioned: Trustee Reimondo
Seconded: Trustee Storey
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop
Not Present: Trustee Jerome

15.02 First Reading of Policy 5410 Purchasing and 5411 Purchasing Authority

16. Committee Reports

16.01 Ad Hoc Committee

- Trustee Bishop would like to discuss at the next board meeting about the need to continue this committee

16.02 Audit Committee

- Nothing to report

16.03 Communications Committee

- Trustee Hemingway Lynch indicted that she will be starting the first draft of the Board Corner in the District Newsletter
    - The Committee also plans to meet with the Professional Survey Company to understand the most recent survey results, and to start planning the communication strategy
- Trustee Goodrich asked if he would be able to review the survey results
    - Superintendent McLaren indicated that there is not a roll out plan yet to share these results, but it will be discussed

16.04 Facilities Committee

- Nothing to report

16.05 Legislative Action Committee

- Trustee Hemingway Lynch mentioned that Trustee Bishop and herself completed a training this past Friday to prepare for the Lobby Day tomorrow, February 7, 2024
    - Trustee Hemingway Lynch mentioned that their discussions at Lobby Day will be focused on the budget cut

16.06 Policy Committee

- Nothing to report

17. Old Business

17.01 The Board will discuss Old Business

- Nothing to discuss

18. New Business

18.01 The Board will discuss New Business

- Nothing to discuss

19. Request for Information

19.01 Board Members will Request Information of the Superintendent

- Trustee Hemingway Lynch asked for additional details surrounding transportation before needing to vote on the transportation contract at the next board meeting
    - Superintendent McLaren mentioned that she will provide the contract to the board to review and also mentioned that combining bus stops is difficult due to safety concerns in the areas within the district
- Trustee Goodrich asked for the transportation routes and asked if the K-5 students will be bussed with the 6-12 students
    - Superintendent McLaren indicated that the routes are published as soon as they can be after enrollments, and that the K-5 students will not be bussed with the 6-12 students because the school start times are different.

20. Adjournment

20.01 Adjourn the Meeting. Next meeting is February 20, 2024 at Phoenicia.

Recommended Action: Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:14 pm.
Motioned: Trustee Storey
Seconded: Trustee Mitchell-Marell
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop
Not Present: Trustee Jerome