ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

MINUTES

WORKSHOP MEETING
6:00 p.m.
TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024
WOODSTOCK SCHOOL

1. Opening Items

1.01 Call to Order 4:30 pm
1.02 Tobacco Policy Statement
1.03 Pledge of Allegiance
1.04 Roll Call: Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop
Not Present: Trustee Jerome, Trustee Hemingway Lynch

2. Proposed Executive Session

2.01 Enter Executive Session (duration 2 hours)

Recommended Action: Motion to enter into executive session to meet with their attorney and to discuss OTA and ONTSA negotiations and the proposed lease or sale of real property.
Motioned: Trustee Reimondo
Seconded: Trustee Mitchell-Marell
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop

Now Present: Trustee Jerome at 4:32 pm
Now Present: Trustee Hemingway Lynch at 4:36 pm

2.02 Exit Executive Session

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

3. Public Hearing

3.01 The Board President will open the Hearing for authorizing the use of funds from the Repair Reserve Fund to fix the Tennis Courts

3.02 The Board President will close the Hearing

4. Welcome

4.01 Woodstock Principal, Scott Richards will welcome the Board (duration 10 min)

5. Presentations

5.01 Assistant Superintendent for Business, Monica LaClair will present the 2024-2025 Updated Expenditure Budget (duration 20 min)

5.02 Superintendent McLaren and the Communications Committee will Present the SCoPE Survey Results (duration 30 min)

6. Acceptance of Minutes

6.01 Acceptance of Minutes

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby accepts the minutes of March 5, 2024
Motioned: Trustee Storey
Seconded: Trustee Jerome
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Jerome, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop

7. Superintendent District News

7.01 The Superintendent will report District News

Solar Eclipse
We have been trying to learn as much as possible about the solar eclipse, and much like other situations such as air quality and pandemics, we are placed in a position where we need to make decisions in situations that are not our specialty, but our priority is the safety of our students. After weighing the information, we have, and the timing of our normal school day, we have decided to dismiss school early on April 8th. Secondary students will be dismissed at 12:20 and elementary students will be dismissed at 1:20. This will allow students to be delivered home before the most impactful portion of the eclipse.

Superintendent's Conference Day
Many thanks to Assistant Superintendent Laffin and the Administration team for creating a valuable conference day last week. We visited many of the sessions throughout the day and were so impressed with both our faculty and staff and the presenters. We have shared a feedback form with faculty and staff so that we can continue to learn and improve. That was our final conference day for this school year.

Kindergarten Enrollment
We are still registering incoming kindergarten students. Our enrollment projection is for 71 students. We currently have thirty-four registered. If you have an incoming kindergarten student or you know a family with an incoming kindergartener, please contact our registrar or encourage families to register their students.

Transition Planning
The administrative team made decisions regarding staff assignments for the coming school year taking into account the requests from staff and the needs of the buildings. Those individuals whose choice was not able to be honored were

met with individually and in person so that they would have the opportunity to have a conversation. Assignments may still change depending on our state aid outcome as well as any changing student needs, but we had committed to letting everyone know in Mach and we fulfilled that commitment.

Central Campus Community Forums
On this agenda, we are approving a contract with a community member who will be facilitating community forums to co-create our central campus vision. When we have dates set, we will publicize them so that everyone can participate. We anticipate completing this step in our planning process by the end of this school year. There will be more information coming once we can begin our work with this facilitator and we are excited to be working with a community member who is a skilled professional.

School Calendar
We have revised the calendar to reduce the number of snow days to seven, to include December 23rd in the winter break. We had intended to bring the revised calendar to the Board for approval tonight, but we had a miscommunication and it is not on the agenda. My apologies. We will have placed it on our website as a draft so that families, faculty, and staff can begin planning for next year. It is on the tab labeled “our district” and is the last item on the right-hand side of the drop down menu.

Sports
Congratulations to our girl’s varsity basketball coach for having such a successful season and for being named the coach of the year for girls’ basketball in Section IX, Class B. Coach Occhi is dedicated and passionate and has always given his all to our athletes. I’m so glad that he has been recognized by his peers in this way. Also, our boys Varsity basketball team and coach have been selected for the sportsmanship award for this 2023-2024 season for Ulster County as chosen by the officials. These are really wonderful honors and great recognition of our athletes and coaches. Congratulations to all!

Our spring sports season is underway, and if Mother Nature could provide us with some warmer weather, I’m sure the athletes would appreciate it.

Musical
Our Middle and High School students will be performing the School of Rock musical on April 12th, and 13th in the evening, and a matinee on April 14th. You can purchase tickets online or at the door. The productions that our students put on are consistently exceptional and I highly recommend attending this show if you are able.

Snow Days
As it stands today, we have two remaining emergency or snow days. If we do not use any additional days, we will not have school on May 24th and May 28th, extending the Memorial Day weekend.

Spring Break
Next week is spring break! Although it is a break for students and all ten-month employees, many of our twelve-month staff will also be taking vacation during this time, so please be aware that if you are looking for information or have questions, you may not receive an answer until the following week.

Website Information
We are working to provide more information on our website and as you know from our last meeting, the Board will be providing a monthly email. These emails will then be posted on the Board webpage. If you go to the Board page, and click on the “Board Briefs” link on the top right, you will see the latest information posted there.

FAQs
We have also added an FAQ section to the Optimizing Onteora page and will be adding to it as we move forward.

Senator Hinchey Press Conference
Senator Hinchey is holding a press conference on Friday afternoon at 3:15 in Kingston with NYSUT, local teachers, and superintendents to form a united front against the proposed cuts to Foundation Aid in this year's Executive Budget. While both the Senate and Assembly One-House Budget Proposals reject the proposed cuts, the Senator is actively working to continue elevating the issue as three-way budget negotiations are currently occurring before the April 1st State Budget deadline. I will be in attendance, as will some of our Board Trustees.

8. Student Representative Report

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

Ms. Odata reported that recently in student government we met with the Middle school student government where they shared their latest events, one of which included planning a Dodgeball tournament that will take place in May.
We shared our progress with the outdoor classroom and how Mr. Edelman ordered 7 more benches for us to receive in the spring. We also shared about the mural contest we are about to launch.

Throughout the High School, spring sports have recently begun, and our athletes thoroughly enjoyed the nice weather last week. As springtime comes, keep your eyes peeled for fundraisers. The senior class will be holding a fundraiser on Saturday, April 6th at the Kings Valley Diner, to raise funds for Prom. If you’d like to support us, please order a Pancake breakfast from the hours of 8am to noon!! The Junior class is currently organizing a Krispy Kreme Donut fundraiser. The Sophomores are holding a fundraiser at Santa Fe as we speak. The High School orchestra recently had their field trip to Albany where they played the pieces they’re working on to celebrate music in our school's month. The Spanish club recently went on a field trip to Alba’s Kitchen in Woodstock where they ate Salvadorian food. Lastly, students are anxiously awaiting Spring break and are very ready for Friday.

9. **Break**

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

10. Board District News

10.01 The Board will report District News

- Trustee Storey reported that last week Trustee Bishop, Trustee Goodrich, Superintendent McLaren and herself attended the Ulster County's School Board Association meeting in New Paltz. Trustee Storey mentioned that SED was present and she asked if the State Education Department could go back to using a 3rd party architectural review to help speed school district projects along.
    - Trustee Storey also mentioned that EV Buses are listed as a priority with State Ed.
- Trustee Storey noted that the State is searching for three new employees in the Facilities Planning Department
- Trustee Hemingway Lynch wanted to congratulate the wonderful work of the Music Program and the large number of students that were invited to attend the All County Music Program at the New Paltz School
- Trustee Bishop went to Albany last week with the Bennett Orchestra, Jazz Band, and Youth Choral. They preformed a number of great songs.

11. Acknowledge Public Be Heard Comments

11.01 The Board will acknowledge the public be heard comments from the last meeting no one spoke

12. Public and Student Comment

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

- Kara Colevas
    - Woodstock Yard and Plant Sale- Saturday May 4, 2024
- Esther Downtown
- Megan Brenner

13. Discussion and Possible Action

13.01 Approve Proposition #2 District-Wide Capital Improvement Project

Recommended Action: BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District submit the following proposition, the District-Wide Capital Improvement Project, to be included on the ballot at the Annual Meeting and Election, to be held on May 21, 2024
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

DISTRICT-WIDE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
SEQRA TYPE II ACTION AND SUBMISSION OF PROPOSITION TO BE FUNDED FROM 2021 & 2023 CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

WHEREAS, the Onteora Central School District ("District") Board of Education ("Board"), proposes a capital improvement project consisting of funding additional costs for current projects within the various locations within the Onteora Middle School/High School, Bennett Elementary School, Woodstock Elementary School and Phoenicia Elementary School, the Classroom Renovation Phase III project that also includes a security vestibule and canopy and a new serving line at the Onteora MS/HS Cafeteria. ("Project"); and

WHEREAS, the proposed Project is a routine activity of the District and/or the replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of an existing facility that qualifies as a Type II action set forth in 6 NYCRR Part 617.5, State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"); and

WHEREAS, the proposed Project includes no other potential involved agencies that have been identified in regards to the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the information and documentation, which describes the design and intent of the proposed Project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District, based upon the record before it, including the general, specific and detailed knowledge of the Board of the proposed Project and under the applicable standards of SEQRA and 6 NYCRR Part 617.5, hereby determines that:

a. The proposed Project is classified as a Type II Action; and

b. In accordance with Article 8 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law, the Board is not obligated to conduct any further environmental review of the Project; and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District authorize the following proposition to be added to the ballot to be presented to the qualified and registered voters of the Onteora Central School District at the Annual Meeting, Budget Vote and Election to be held on May 21, 2024:

PROPOSITION

Shall the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District be authorized to reconstruct and construct improvements to District-wide facilities, including funding additional costs for current projects within the various locations within the Onteora Middle School/High School, Bennett Elementary School, Woodstock Elementary School and Phoenicia Elementary School, the Classroom Renovation Phase III project that also includes a security vestibule and canopy and a new serving line at the Onteora MS/HS Cafeteria, and the acquisition of equipment, machinery, apparatus and incidental work, at an estimated maximum cost of $1,950,000, which amount shall be funded entirely from the 2021 and 2023 Capital Reserve Fund?

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District Clerk shall include notice of such proposition to be voted on at such Annual District Meeting, Budget Vote and Election in the manner required under law.

The Board of Education hereby approves the resolution to approve the district-wide capital improvement project SEQRA Type II action and submission of proposition to be funded from 2021 and 2023 capital reserve fund

14. Consent Agenda

14.01 Approve Consent Agenda

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves item numbers 14.02 -14.10
Motioned: Trustee Storey
Seconded: Trustee Jerome
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Jerome, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop

14.02 Primary Depository Bank

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 that the Bank of Greene County be a primary depository of funds for the district and directs the Treasurer to open accounts at Bank of Greene County, as needed, to a maximum of two (2) separate accounts.

14.03 Establish Rocket Club as a new ECA Account

Recommended Action: BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District approves the establishment of a new Extra Curricular Activities Account for the HS Rocket Club for the 2023-2024 school year. The beginning account balance will be $12,967.30.

14.04 Expend Money from Repair Reserve

Recommended Action: WHEREAS, the Board of Education ("Board") of the Onteora Central School District ("District") has established and funded a repair reserve fund pursuant to Section 6-d of the General Municipal Law, which currently has a balance of $987,514; and
WHEREAS, the Board has declared the work necessary to perform repairs to the Onteora MS/HS Tennis Courts to be a Type II Action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"); and
WHEREAS, the Board desires to appropriate an amount not to exceed $150,579 from the repair reserve fund in order to fund necessary repairs to the Onteora MS/HS Tennis Courts; and
WHEREAS, the Board has noticed and conducted a public hearing to discuss the appropriation of an amount not to exceed $150,579 from the repair reserve fund to pay for repairs to the Onteora MS/HS Tennis Courts;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District appropriate an amount not to exceed the sum of $150,579 from its repair reserve fund and transfer such amounts to general fund authorized for the repairs to the Onteora MS/HS Tennis Courts.

14.05 Personnel Agenda

Salary Advancements March 19, 2024 BOE Meeting, retroactive to February 1, 2024

			Current			Added	Add'l	After Advancement		
Name	Position	School	Step	Credits	Salary	Credits	Money	Step	Credits	Salary
Kristina Countryman*	Reading Teacher	Bennett	18	48	$109,392.00					

Laura Kirn*	Elementary Teacher	Phoenicia	11	9	$89,456.00					
Brigid Kelly	Special Education Teacher	Bennett	12	18	$92,637.00	6	$894.00	12	24	$ 93,531.00

*Rescind Salary Advancement

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Curlew, Alicia	AIS/Regents Prep-Global History Regents Review	$2,108.00

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE	REASON
3310	02/26/24 – 04/01/24*	Medical Leave
4181	03/13/24 – 04/24/24*	FMLA -unpaid

anticipated return date

TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT: NON- INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE	RATE
Brosnan, Lily*	Summer Custodial	06/27/24 – 09/01/24	$20.00/hr
Davis, Loretta	Summer Custodial	06/27/24 – 09/01/24	$20.00/hr
Ojarovsky, Lynn	Summer Custodial	06/27/24 – 09/01/24	$20.00/hr
Plourde, Joanne	Summer Custodial	06/27/24 – 09/01/24	$20.00/hr

pending pre-employment processing

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
Jones, Tammy	Monitor (Bus Attendant)	10/02/2023 – 04/01/24	04/02/24
Spencer, Patrick	Custodian	10/11/23 – 04/10/24	04/11/24

14.06 Hearing Offer Determination

Recommended Action: Approve the Hearing Officers findings of fact and recommendation for employee #3310 dated February 16, 2024.

14.07 Surplus Items

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 Phoenicia Elementary School Library as surplus and authorizes the sale or disposal of the listed material

14.08 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 $17,772.05.

Donations Received for Board of Education Approval, March 19th, 2024			
Donor:	***Amount:***	***Purpose:***	***Appropriation:***
Yamina Verna	$120.00	Middle School Field Trip to Washington DC - Kenneth Rogers	A2110.415-02
Woodstock Community Closet	$300.00	Woodstock Community Closet Scholarship	CM2989.400-15
Levon Helm Fundraiser	$1,230.00	Levon Helm Scholarship Fund	CM2989.400-10
Woodstock General & Implant Dentistry	$2,000.00	Woodstock General & Implant Dentistry Award	CM2989.400-15
Justin Dernison	$100.00	Madison Creagan Scholarship Fund	CM2989.400-15
B. Simon	$500.00	Harry Simon Scholarship Award	CM2989.400-15
Peter W. Waxter	$250.00	Levon Helm Scholarship Fund	CM2989.400-10
Aubree Ferraro	$100.00	Walter R. Bilyeu Memorial Award	CM2989.400-15
Rose & Kiernan Charitable Foundation, Inc.	$500.00	DEHIC Scholarship Award	CM2989.400-15
Matthew & Sandra Ostoyich	$500.00	MJO Consultant Award	CM2989.400-15
Onteora Booster Club	$10,672.05	Rocket Club	CM2989.400-27
Community Bank	$500.00	Community Bank Awards	CM2989.400-15
Phoenicia Library	$500.00	Lester Fensterheim Phoenicia Library Award	CM2989.400-15
Phoenicia Library	$500.00	Reginald Bennett Memorial Award	CM2989.400-15
Total	**$17,772.05**		

14.09 Warrants

Recommended Action: The Board of Education has reviewed and hereby accepts Warrants Schedule 6

14.10 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, #03/24, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Reimondo

15. Contracts and Independent Contractor Retainers

15.01 Approve all Contracts and Independent Contractor Retainers

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves item numbers 15.02 -15.04
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

15.02 M. Holm- Visiting Author 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 Matthew Holm, TS Hill Productions, Inc. retained as Visiting Author effective April 23, 2024 to April 25, 2024 at a rate of $833.34 per day to a maximum rate of $2,500.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

15.03 Point Road Studios, LLC

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 Agreement between the Onteora Central School District and Point Road Studios, LLC retained as Consultant at a rate not to exceed $37,300.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

15.04 New Paltz CSD Health and Welfare Services Contract

Recommended Action: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the New Paltz Central School District establishes the rate of $1,584.88 per pupil for the school year 2023-2024 for Health Services provided for Onteora resident pupils attending nonpublic schools in the New Paltz Central School District.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board President and Clerk of the Board of Education be authorized to sign contracts for health services for the 2023-2024 school year.

16. Policies

16.01 Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 3210 Visitors to the School

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby adopts Policy 3210 as written
Motioned: Trustee Reimondo
Seconded: Trustee Goodrich
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Jerome, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop

17. Committee Reports

17.01 Audit Committee

- Nothing to report

17.02 Communications Committee

- Trustee Jerome reported that the committee discussed the community email, FAQ's and prepared for the presentation given tonight
- Trustee Storey asked the process in sending out the monthly community emails

- Trustee Hemingway Lynch indicated that the committee meets the first Wednesday of every month and the email will get drafted, reviewed, and sent out after that.
- Trustee Jerome suggested creating a calendar with the date the email will be released

- Trustee Goodrich asked for a “revised date” on the Optimizing Onteora page so the community is aware when the information was last updated

17.03 Facilities Committee

- Trustee Hemingway Lynch asked for the update on the MS/Hs roof project
  - Ms. LaClair indicated there has been no approval from SED yet, but is still hopeful to complete the work over the summer

17.04 Legislative Action Committee

- Nothing to report

17.05 Policy Committee

- Nothing to report

18. Old Business

18.01 The Board will discuss Old Business

- Nothing to discuss

19. New Business

19.01 The Board will discuss New Business

- Trustee Storey indicated that she is going to discuss the use of Student ID Badges with the Health and Safety Committee at their meeting tomorrow
- Trustee Hemingway Lynch wanted to mention again the options that they can be centralizing the communities of the two elementary schools

20. Request for Information

20.01 Board Members will Request Information of the Superintendent

- Trustee Storey mentioned that she received the HS Principal Update and it was noted that the Athletic Award date was changed from the middle of June to the end of May. She indicated that Varsity Sports are still in session at that time, so she was curious as why it was changed

21. Adjournment

21.01 Adjourn the Meeting. Next meeting is April 9, 2024 at Bennett.

Recommended Action: Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:53 pm.

Motioned: Trustee Storey
Seconded: Trustee Mitchell-Marell
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Jerome, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Storey, Trustee Bishop

Board of Education: Cindy Bishop, Valerie Storey, Meghann Reimondo, Sarah Hemingway Lynch, Clark Goodrich, Emily Mitchell-Marell, Caroline Jerome