

OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

April 30, 2024 at 12:15 p.m.

**Marion – Mattapoisett – Rochester, Massachusetts
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Members Present: Michelle Smith, Chairperson (in-person), Jason Chisholm, Vice-Chairperson (in-person), Rosemary Bowman (remote), Frances-Feliz Kearns (in-person), Margaret McSweeney (in-person), Matthew Monteiro (in-person), James Muse (remote), April Nye (in-person) and Joseph Pires (remote).

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent of Schools; Howard Barber, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations; Melissa Wilcox, Executive Assistant to Supt.; teachers, parents, students and members of the press.

Meeting was called to order at 12:18 p.m. by Chairperson Smith. Ms. Smith informed everyone in attendance that the meeting was being recorded. Chairperson Smith made the following statement: *This meeting will be conducted in a virtual format. School Committee, Administrators and public will have the option of meeting via zoom.*

V. General

A. Debt Authorization Article Discussion

Recommendation:

That the School Committee have a discussion about Debt Authorization Article.

Superintendent Nelson explained that recently the ORR Facilities Subcommittee met to discuss the debt authorization that the school committee had recently voted on. Based on not having full support from all three towns, although the items on the report still need to be addressed, the subcommittee recommended withdrawing the article for this particular school year. Therefore, the recommendation comes back to the full ORR School Committee for vote.

School Committee Feedback:

Mr. Muse thanked all of the individuals that worked on this thus far, as it is a lot of time and effort between the outside vendor, the facilities team and administration. He said these types of things can take a lot of time because of the financial aspect. He does feel the items in the conditions assessment do need to be addressed. He continued that since some Town officials did not understand the current proposal he agrees it is prudent to withdraw the article from the Town warrants in May.

MOTION to withdraw the debt authorization vote and related article from the May 13, 2024 town meeting warrants in Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester.

MOTION by Mr. Muse

MOTION Seconded by Mr. Monteiro

MOTION PASSED

ROLL CALL: Smith; yes, Bowman; yes, Chisholm; yes, Kearns; yes, McSweeney; yes, Monteiro; yes, Muse; yes, Nye; yes, Pires; yes

XI. Executive Session

Recommendation:

That the School Committee enter into executive session for purposes of exception #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating

position of the public body and the chair so declares, and exception #7, to comply with the provisions of any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements.

MOTION to enter into executive session at 12:25 p.m. for purposes of exception #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares, and exception #7, to comply with the provisions of any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements only to return to regular session to adjourn.

MOTION by Mr. Chisholm

MOTION Seconded by Mr. Muse

MOTION PASSED

ROLL CALL: Smith; yes, Bowman; yes, Chisholm; yes, Kearns; yes, McSweeney; yes, Monteiro; yes, Muse; yes, Nye; yes, Pires; yes

MOTION to exit executive session at 12:29 p.m. to return to regular session only to adjourn.

MOTION by Mr. Muse

MOTION Seconded by Ms. Nye

MOTION PASSED

ROLL CALL: Smith; yes, Bowman; yes, Chisholm; yes, Kearns; yes, McSweeney; yes, Monteiro; yes, Muse; yes, Nye; yes, Pires; yes

MOTION to adjourn at 12:30 p.m.

MOTION by Mr. Muse

MOTION Seconded by Ms. Nye

MOTION PASSED

ROLL CALL: Smith; yes, Bowman; yes, Chisholm; yes, Kearns; yes, McSweeney; yes, Monteiro; yes, Muse; yes, Nye; yes, Pires; yes

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Wilcox
Recording Secretary

OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Marion – Mattapoissett - Rochester, Massachusetts
April 30, 2024

Virtual Format

Zoom LINK:

<https://oldrochester-org.zoom.us/j/96815845547?pwd=MIJtRVFXOVlPTWVHaUllcEg3U21lQT09>

Meeting ID: 968 1584 5547

Passcode: 146869

This meeting will be conducted in a virtual format. School Committee, Administrators and public will have the option to meet via zoom.

TIME 12:15 PM

MEETING TO ORDER

RECOGNITION PRESENTATION

- I. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Regular Meeting:
 - B. Executive Session:
 - C. Budget Subcommittee:
 - D. Facilities Subcommittee:
 - II. Consent Agenda
 - III. Agenda Items Pending
 - IV. Special Topic Report
 - V. **General**
 - A. Debt Authorization Article Discussion**
 - VI. New Business
 - A. Policy Review
 - B. Curriculum
 - C. Business
 - 1. Financial Report
 - 2. Food Service Report
 - 3. Facilities Report
 - 4. Budget Transfers
 - D. Personnel
 - VI. Unfinished Business
- CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**
- CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATORS REPORT**
- PRINCIPALS' REPORTS**
- STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT**
- VII. School Committee
 - A. Reorganization
 - B. Committee Reports
 - 1. Budget Subcommittee
 - 2. District Agreement Committee
 - 3. Equity Subcommittee
 - 4. Facilities Committee
 - 5. Local School Committee
 - 6. Policy Subcommittee
 - 7. SMEC
 - 8. Tri-Town Education Foundation Fund
 - VIII. Future Business
 - A. Timeline
 - B. Future Agenda Items

- IX. Open Comments
- X. Information Items
- XI. Executive Session

ADJOURNMENT

OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Marion – Mattapoisett – Rochester, Massachusetts

TO: Old Rochester Regional District School Committee
FROM: Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent of Schools
DATE: April 26, 2024
SUBJECT: Agenda Items

The following items are on the agenda of April 30, 2024.

V. General
A. Debt Authorization Article Discussion

Recommendation:

That the School Committee have a discussion about Debt Authorization Article.

If you have any questions regarding any of these recommendations, please feel free to call me.

Old Rochester Regional School District

Town Article and Motion

Article __: To see if the Town will vote to approve of the \$12,000,000 debt authorized by the Old Rochester Regional School District to pay costs of making various capital improvements and repairs to the District's Junior/Senior High School, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Motion__: That the Town approves the \$12,000,000 debt authorized by the Old Rochester Regional School District to pay costs of making various capital improvements and repairs to the District's Junior/Senior High School, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto.

Note: If a member town would like to condition its approval of the debt on a debt exclusion vote, the following sentence should be added to the motion above:

This approval shall be contingent upon a vote of the Town to exclude the Town's allocable share of this debt from the provisions of G.L. c. 59, §21C (also known as Proposition 2½).

(Member Town Debt Exclusion Ballot Question)

Shall the Town of Rochester be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay the Town's allocable share of the bonds issued by the Old Rochester Regional School District to pay costs of making various capital improvements and repairs to the District's Junior/Senior High School, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto?