

OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
410 West Sullivan Street
Olean, NY 14760

Regular Meeting
April 17, 2012

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the City School District of Olean, NY was held on Tuesday, April 17, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. at the Olean High School Auditorium, located at 410 West Sullivan Street, Olean, NY. The meeting was called to order by Eric Garvin, President of Board, with a moment of silent prayer or a moment of personal reflection. Dee Bunk-Hatch led the Board of Education in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PRESENT: Eric Garvin, President
Ira Katzenstein, Vice President
John Bartimole
Laurie Branch
Dan Harris
Paul Knieser (arrived at 6:32 p.m.)
Michael Martello

ABSENT: Gordon E. Cross
James Padlo

STAFF PRESENT: Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools
Kathleen Elser, Business Administrator
Lynn Corder, Director of Personnel
Gerald Trietley, OMS Principal
Tim Houseknecht, OMS Assistant Principal
Cso Woodworth, Technology Administrator
Marcie Richmond, Director of Special Education
John White, BV Principal
David Olson, EV Principal
Joel Witcher, WW Principal
Barb Lias, HS Principal
Jeff Andreano, HS Assistant Principal
Pam Neary, District Teacher
David Lasky, District Teacher
Vicki Zaleski-Irizarry, District Clerk

OTHERS: Dee Bunk-Hatch, Olean Times Herald
Nick Pircio, WHDL
Ted Grau
Richard Frost
Amy Giachetti
Dan Michael
Alexa Olson
Chris Chapman
Denise Renaud
Ellen Bathurst
Ann Ramarge

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Moved by L. Branch, seconded by J. Bartimole, to approve the proposed Meeting Agenda.

Agenda
Approval

Ayes 7

Nays 0

Motion Carried

Public Comment:

Public Comment

Ted Grau, 231 North Third Street, Olean, NY – wanted to make the board aware that the Superintendent is an Ex-Officio member of the board and has voting rights. Any board meeting with five (5) votes could be upheld. Questioned the encumbrance column on the Treasurer's Report – how much in the future it covers? Kathy Elser responded that the encumbrance is for actual purchase orders in the system, through the end of the year. Eric Garvin noted that per the District's legal counsel, while the Superintendent is an Ex-Officio, it is the warm bodies in attendance at the meeting. Legal council has advised that the District "is okay".

Dave Lasky, 930 Crown Street – noted that he is the Webmaster for the District's website – oleanschools.org. New additions have been made to the site: Budget: Transition: Board (draft meeting minutes and board packet). President Garvin thanked Mr. Lasky for his help.

Denise Gagliardo, 107 N. 13th Street – noted that she has children that attend District schools. She asked the board if they were aware of the number of District families that will be taking their children out of school and sending them to Portville, Allegany, or So. Tier Catholic. She is looking at taking her children out as well. Denise addressed the board regarding the changes – larger class sizes will result in disruption to teacher and students (integration, behavioral issues). What is going to happen to good kids that want to succeed and go to college? The new start time for school was never shared with the parents. Working parents such as herself, have to be to work by 9 am. Elementary school start time will be 8:50 am. MS starts at 7:30. What are parents supposed to do? She doesn't want her child sitting around in the morning and getting in trouble. There is an after school program at the elementary schools, will there be such a program at the MS next year? The future for Olean students is not looking good.

Jennifer Wyant, 326 N. 11th Street – she has four children, one in MS, one in HS, and 2 at Washington West. She expresses her concern regarding the abolishment of an RN position and replacing it with an LPN. Encouraged the board to cut more administrators and keep the RN position. She feels decisions have been made too quickly. Parents/taxpayers were not informed of decisions until just recently. The board has indicated that everything they are doing is for the children – she does not feel it is for the kids as they will be getting less one-on-one time. An LPN has to get permission from an RN to treat/triage. If a child is hurt and had to wait 15 minutes for an RN – what would happen? This could be liability.

Richard Frost, 211 W. Water Street – at the first Feasibility Study meeting, the question was asked about transportation cost and attendees were told that there would be NO increase. Now a bus needs to be purchased for \$104,000 as well as an additional \$136,000 in transportation expense.

Communication, Commendations:

Communications
Commendations

- a. Thank you to the Board of Education from the Boys' Varsity Basketball Team
- a. Gordon Cross update – doing well
- b. Transition team letters – sent home with students

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent's
Report

- a. Redistricting – offering "school of choice" for some IJN families
- b. Transition – will be a tight schedule – moving will be done in-house
- c. Q&A – sent to principals to send home with students; the second Q&A will be done by the end of this week and will address concerns discussed at tonight's board meeting
- d. Recent high winds knocked down a STOP sign causing damage to a car

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- e. Connect 4 – White Paper – efficiency grant (Olean, Allegany, Hinsdale, and Portville collaboration)
- f. Transportation changes will result in elimination of the St. John's shuttle bus
- g. Capital Project – working with HUNT, Campus and Bernie Donegan's office – Option 1 - 3

Discussion Item:

Dignity for All Students Act Presentation – Jeff Andreano

Discussion Item

Moved by L. Branch, seconded by P. Knieser, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to adopt the following Consent Agenda items:

Consent Agenda

- a. The previous meeting minutes of the Special Meeting held on March 28, 2012.
- b. Upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the Treasurer's Report dated March 31, 2012 be accepted and placed on file.
- c. Upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the Warrant Report for March 2012 be accepted and placed on file.
- d. Upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the March 2012 Intra-fund Transfer listing in the amount of \$95,846.88 be accepted/approved and placed on file.
- e. Upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the Internal Claims Auditor Exception Report for the period covering month ending March 31, 2012 be accepted and placed on file.
- f. Upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the Olean Middle School's and Olean High School's Student Activity Accounts Quarterly Reports for the period covering January 1, 2012 through March 31, 2012 be accepted and placed on file.
- g. Upon the Recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, the following CPSE recommendation reviewed on April 17th be approved:

APPROVED	APPROVED	APPROVED	APPROVED
101960000	101370000	900457862	900457729

- h. Upon the Recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, the following CSE recommendation reviewed on April 17th be approved:

APPROVED	APPROVED	APPROVED	APPROVED
908000647	900367600	900446875	092780000
900427172	900445346	900367691	082530003
083290001	900420459	900336275	900441392
092650003	900337324	101300000	900198646
900355149	900432203	900377268	092790008
900455853	900446861		

Ayes 7

Nays 0

Motion Carried

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Moved by J. Bartimole, seconded by M. Martello, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to grant permission to Caitlyn Mihalic to do a one-year Psychology Internship, through the University of Buffalo, under the supervision of Maura Whitcomb, School Psychologist, beginning August 28, 2012 through June 30, 2012 at an annual stipend of \$18,000.

Caitlyn Mihalic
Granted
Psychology
Internship

Ayes 7

Nays 0

Motion Carried

Moved by P. Knieser, seconded by L. Branch, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to accept and place on file the Olean City School District Annual Fire Inspection Report filed by the Olean Fire Department on all structures owned by the District. Be it also resolved that the appropriate legal notice on the completion and public availability of these reports be published in the Times Herald.

Annual Fire
Inspection
Report Accepted

Ayes 7

Nays 0

Motion Carried

Moved by J. Bartimole, seconded by M. Martello, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Olean City School District hereby approves and adopts the proposed 2012-13 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$36,473,033 for purposes of presentation of such budget to the District's voters for approval at the May 15, 2012 annual District vote and election.

2012-2013
General Fund
Budget Adopted

Ayes 7

Nays 0

Motion Carried

Moved by P. Knieser, seconded by I. Katzenstein, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Olean City School District hereby approves and adopts the proposed 2012-13 Property Tax Report Card pursuant to Education Law Section 1716.

2012-2013
Property Tax
Report Card
Adopted

Ayes 7

Nays 0

Motion Carried

Moved by J. Bartimole, seconded by D. Harris, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the OMS and OHS participation in the Houghton Spring String Festival from May 25, 2012 through May 26, 2012. Approval is granted with the understanding that all school rules and regulations will be followed. The cost to the school district will be four (4) to five (5) substitute teachers, bus transportation, and school van and gas. The Superintendent of Schools is authorized to make the final decision, based upon her judgment of safety concerns at the time of the scheduled field trip, whether the field trip will occur.

Houghton Spring
String Festival
Trip Approved

Ayes 7

Nays 0

Motion Carried

Moved by I. Katzenstein, seconded by L. Branch, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to declare list of library books as surplus.

Surplus Library
Books Declared

Ayes 7

Nays 0

Motion Carried

Moved by P. Knieser, seconded by I. Katzenstein, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that Kelly Mahar and Kaitlin Speta to devise lesson plans for long-term leave assignments. A maximum of 7 hours each will be paid at an hourly rate of \$23.

Kelly Mahar and
Kaitlin Speta to
Devise Lesson
Plans

Ayes 7

Nays _____

Motion Carried

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Moved by J. Bartimole, seconded by M. Martello, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the following resolution:

Tax Assessment
Settlement
Approved

WHEREAS, Giunta Associates and Aspen Associates are the owners of low income housing developments located at 350 Front Street and 500 East Spring Street in the City of Olean, and

WHEREAS, the Aspen Tower located at 350 Front Street is a ninety-nine (99) unit building which is currently assessed at \$2,550,000, and

WHEREAS, the Aspen Manor is a thirty-six (36) unit building which is currently assessed at \$747,000, and

WHEREAS, the property owners have filed a tax assessment proceeding for the 2011-2012 tax year claiming the Aspen Tower should be reduced from \$2,550,000 to \$500,000 and seeking a tax refund plus statutory interest from the City and School District, and

WHEREAS, the tax assessment proceeding also seeks a reduction in the assessed valuation for Aspen Manor from \$747,000 to \$200,000 and a tax refund plus statutory interest from the City and School District, and

WHEREAS, a meeting was held with the City Assessor and the property owner's appraiser to discuss a possible settlement of the case, and

WHEREAS, a prospective settlement has been proposed where the assessment on the Aspen Tower would be reduced from \$2,550,000 to \$2,100,000 and the Aspen Manor from \$747,000 to \$600,000 for the next three years and Petitioner would waive any tax refund for the current year from the City and School District, and

WHEREAS, the settlement is in the best interest of the Olean City School District and will save the District appraisal and legal costs and additional financial exposure if the matter proceeds to trial, and

WHEREAS, the Olean City Assessor and the Olean City School District's legal counsel believe the settlement is fair and equitable and recommend that the settlement be approved, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the settlement reducing the assessment of the property 350 Front Street from \$2,550,000 to \$2,100,000 and 500 East Spring Street from \$747,000 to \$600,000 beginning in the 2012-2013 tax year and continuing for the next two successive tax years and waiving any tax refund from the School District is hereby approved.

Ayes 7

Nays 0

Motion Carried

Moved by P. Knieser, seconded by I. Katzenstein, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to grant an unpaid Leave of Absence to Julie Jones, Teacher Aide, for the period of April 26, 2012 through June 11, 2012.

Julie Jones
Granted Unpaid
Leave of
Absence

Ayes 7

Nays 0

Motion Carried

Committee Report:

- a. Finance Committee – April 12th – given by Mike Martello
- b. Operations Committee – April 3rd – given by John Bartimole

Committee
Report

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Moved by I. Katzenstein, seconded by M. Martello, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to go into Executive Session at 7:21 p.m. to discuss the following: litigation updates and Superintendent and Business Administrator contractual. Vicki Zaleski-Irizarry and Kathy Elser invited to attend Executive Session for the litigation update.

Executive Session

Ayes 7

Nays 0

Motion Carried

Vicki Zaleski-Irizarry and Kathy Elser exited at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 20, 2012

Victoria Zaleski-Irizarry
District Clerk

Colleen Taggerty exited at 8:10 p.m.

Moved by L. Branch, seconded by D. Harris, to adjourn from Executive Session and reconvene to the Regular Meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Ayes 7

Nays 0

Motion Carried

Moved by L. Branch, seconded by J. Bartimole, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Adjournment

Ayes 7

Nays 0

Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 20, 2012

Eric Garvin
Board President