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

Regular Meeting
June 16, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the City School District of Olean, NY was held on Tuesday, June 2, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Olean High School located at 410 West Sullivan Street, Olean, NY. The meeting was called to order by President Katzenstein with a moment of silent prayer. Laurie Branch led the Board of Education in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PRESENT: Ira Katzenstein, President
Laurie A. Branch, Vice President
John Bartimole
Gordon E. Cross
Eric Garvin
Daniel Harris
Michael Martello
Michiko McElfresh
James Padlo

ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools
Ann O'Brien, Business Administrator
Cso Woodworth, Technology Administrator
Judith Creeden, Director of Curriculum/Testing
Dave Olson, EV Principal
Cheryl Vecchio, WW Principal
Linda Nottingham, IJN Principal
Jerry Trietley, OMS Principal
Barb Lias, OHS Principal
Lynn Corder, Director of Personnel
Marcie Richmond, Director of Special Education
Victoria Zaleski-Irizarry, District Clerk
Sheila Jackson, District Teacher
Melanie Napoleon, District Teacher
Charles Warren, District Teacher
Eileen Skrobacz, District Teacher
Randy Samuelson, District Teacher
Judy Brennan, District Teacher
Sally Cordia, District Teacher
Bruce Silvers, District Teacher
Judy O'Dea, District Teacher
Robert Phillips, District Teacher
Carl Kolasny, District Teacher
Pattie Ann Brown, District Teacher
Daniel Freeman, District Teacher
Amy Anastasia, District Teacher
Lou Ventura, District Teacher
Sally Ventura, District Teacher
Joseph Gervase, District Teacher
Jennifer Rhody, District Teacher
Rose Capra, District Teacher
Marie Rakus, District Teacher
Cindy Kurjakovic, District Librarian
Kristen Sikora, District Teacher
Darlene Connelly, District Teacher
Debra Melara, District Teacher
Carol Shannon, District Teacher

Kari Wilton, District Teacher
Meghan Sisson, District Teacher
Debra Silvers, District Teacher
Kellie O'Brien, District Teacher
Theresa Heinz, District Teacher

OTHERS: Chris Champman, Olean Times Herald; Angelica Carlson; Brandon Jones; Bobby Prizel; Olivia Sorokes; Kara Frisina; Nick Pircio, WHDL; Jocelyn Huselstein; Lil Lechner; Betsy Cashing; Victoria Swier

Moved by E. Garvin, seconded by J. Bartimole, to approve the proposed Meeting Agenda.

Agenda Additions and Changes

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Communications, Commendations

Communication and Commendation

a. Congratulations to the Lou and Sally Ventura for their students' awards at the City Voices City Visions student film festival. The students won two awards including Best High School Film!
b. Correspondence to the Board of Education from Monica Nenno

Superintendent Taggerty discussed the following subjects with the Board of Education:

Superintendent Report

a. Non-Neighborhood/Non-Resident Applications – due to classroom sizes, requests of new non-neighborhood and non-resident cannot be accommodated unless siblings is attending the requested school or a child of a district employee
b. Distance Learning – COSER Re-entering
c. CDEP – meeting on June 15th
d. OESPA Negotiations – June 24th
e. CSE Chair Interviews – June 25th
f. Admin. Co. Retreat – June 28th and June 29th
e. WW Principal Interviews – July 2nd

Public Comments:

Public Comments

Melanie Napoleon, 3835 W. Branch Road, Allegany – French teacher at OHS. Melanie addressed the Board of Education regarding the importance and benefits of Foreign Language and the elimination of the 6th Grade program. Students will be competing in a global market and need to be prepared.

Carol Shannon, 125 Constitution Avenue, Bradford, PA – Language Dept. Chair. Carol thanked the Board of Education for giving her the opportunity to teach. Carol asked to reinstate Meghan Sisson's position. Meghan Sisson will become a BOCES employee due to the abolishment of her position. Meghan has also served as an Assistant Girls' Softball coach as well as a chaperone.

Deb Melaro, 1038 Kingston Drive – teaches Spanish II Regents level. She is a parent of children that attend/attended the Olean City School District. Her son graduated and went to SBU. Her daughter plans on attending SBU as well. Deb receives correspondences written in Spanish from her former students. She asked the Board of Education to please keep the 6th Grade Foreign Language position/program.

Betsy Cashing, 109 S. 9th Street – taught Language for 20 years and currently teaches at SBU. Meghan Sisson was one of Betsy's students. Four weeks ago Meghan received the highest academic award. Language is important for the 21st Century leaner. Maintaining the 6th Grade Language program is important.

Sheila Jackson, 34 E. State Street, Salamanca – address the Board of Education on behalf of two

of her students. In individual letters, the students addressed the important of the 6th Grade Language program. Sheila also read a quote from John Demado.
Sally Ventura, 1638 Seneca Avenue – English Dept. Chair. The English Dept. will be making a Portfolio presentation to the Board of Education. Two of their labs are not large enough to accommodate all the classes. More than 11 sections will not be able to work in a computer lab. Loosing an English teacher is an enormous disruption to the English program. Asked the Board of Education to restore the English position in order to continue to deliver the best quality education.

Eileen Skrobacz, 231 N. 4th Street – addressed the board as a parent, teacher, and taxpayer. Next years 10th Grade English class will have 31 students. That is too large a class, especially if the teacher wanted to be able to meet one-on-one with students. It is her understanding that an English position was cut, then reinstated, and then cut again after a High School English teacher resigned. Eileen asked that students be the top priority as larger classrooms will cause crowding and the 21st Century skills could be compromised. Students that earn college credits at the HS are saving their parents approximately $667,605. The aquatics position was eliminated as well. Olean is located along a river. Elimination of the aquatics program affects 75% of the students. The District will not be replacing the retiring Math teacher. Contracting for part-time positions through BOCES is not in the best interest of the students. DDP is also being eliminated. What options are going to be left for students?

Carrie Samuelson, 226 N. 2nd Street – 8th Grade Science teacher. She has been teaching for 23 years. Carrie thanked the Board of Education for all that they have afforded the students over the years. The purpose of her attending the Board meeting – to ask that the OMS Science position be saved. The current 7th Grade teacher has resigned and will not be replaced. The OMS 6th Grade teams have been reduced from three teams to two teams. Position eliminations will have a profound affect on teaming at the Middle School. Students will loose team identity, there will be no continuity, classroom size will be larger, scheduling will be more difficult, limits teacher/student interaction, etc.

Sally Cordia, 98 Brooklyn Street, Portville – addressed the Board of Education regarding budget cuts, especially at the Middle School. The Middle School worked very hard getting ready for the State Standards. Having one less Science teacher at the Middle School will affect the NYS exam scores, teams will be broken apart. Sally read an excerpt from President Obama's speech. She asked the board to make a commitment to the Science program by reinstating the 7th Grade Science position.

Brandon Jones, 511 West Sullivan – addressed the Board of Education regarding the PT position of his the elimination of his stepmother, Amy Jones.

Jocelyn Huselstein, 839 Crown Street – the Music Program has come so far because of Ms. Nirchi. The Sax quartette has blossomed. Jocelyn questioned how the Board of Education could abolish Ms. Nirchi's position.

Theresa Heinz, 3698 Emerson Road, Cuba – OHS Art teacher. Theresa recently discovered her position is being rearranged and she would have to split her time between the Olean High School and the Olean Middle School due to the elimination of the part-time Art position at the Middle School. Theresa feels the Board of Education has placed teachers in a position of having to compete against each other for positions and programs.

Victoria Swier, 326 S. Union Street – Victoria is a student of Ms. Heinz. She loves art and noted the Ms. Heinz is very good teacher. Victoria asked the Board of Education to reconsider taking away painting and ceramics.

Kara Frisina, 1520 E. River Road – noted that Ms. Heinz is a compassionate teacher. An art student can go to college for ceramics or advanced art design.

Olivia Sorokes, 301 York Street – Olivia takes three periods of art classes. Students that may not excel in Math may excel in Art. Asked the Board of Education to reconsider its decision regarding the Art program.

Bobby Prizel, 804 W. Henley Street – Bobby has two children – one at OMS and one at IJN. Addressed the Board of Education regarding its responsibility to replace teachers that resign or retire. Large classroom sizes are not good for a teacher or for students, especially students that need extra help.

Dr. Barry Gann, 226 N. 3rd Street – addressed three issues: 1) 5th Amendment Rights of Students – having to testify against themselves; 2) ASVAB Test – the right of opting out – Option 8; 3) Advanced Classes – colleges rank high schools based on the number of advanced classes offered and the number of students taking advanced classes – Olean's rating is low which is why his daughter did not get accepted by the best colleges even though she took advanced classes.
Lou Ventura, 1638 Seneca Avenue – Lou outlined the numerous advanced classes offered to students.

Brandon Jones, 511 W. Sullivan Street – noted that the elimination of his stepmother's (Amy Jones) position has not been mentioned. Amy works very hard and it will be difficult to get all the work that needs to be done without her.

Darlene Connelly, 219 W. Oak Street – noted the following: the English Dept. has worked so hard, the OMS Science Dept. is more prepared than ever; the Music Dept. has provided music in the hallways at OHS; the Art Dept. had an art show at the Olean Center Mall and decorates the halls at the High School; Advanced classes are afforded to students. Darlene asked the Board of Education to find the money to restore all positions/program.

Laurie Bushnell, 1359 Goodrich Avenue – thanked the Board of Education for restoring positions. No one program is more important than the other. The District needs all positions restored.

Sheila Jackson, 34 E. State Street, Salamanca – Sheila was an Enrichment student many years ago. Such a program gave her confidence, maturity, etc. The 6th grade Foreign Language Program is very important. The later a student learns to speak a foreign language, the harder it is. The District needs to teach students about multi-culture and multi-diversity.

President Katzenstein thanked everyone for his or her feedback. He noted that we are all "between a rock and a hard place" and that everyone works with the Board of Education and the Superintendent to find solutions. At the end of the day we will all do what is best for the students. Abolishment of positions, reassignments, etc. is finalized.

Moved by L. Branch, seconded G. Cross, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the following Consent Agenda items: Consent Agenda

a. Upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the Treasurer's Report dated May 31, 2009 be accepted and placed on file.

b. Upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the Warrant Report for May 2009 be accepted and placed on file.

c. Upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the May 2009 Intra-fund Transfer listing in the amount of $17,273.00 (General Fund) and $2500.00 (School Lunch Fund) be accepted/approved and placed on file.

d. Upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the Internal Claims Auditor Exception Report for the period covering month ending May 30, 2009 be accepted and placed on file.

e. Upon the Recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, the following CPSE recommendation reviewed on June 16th be approved:

APPROVED	APPROVED
900455853	900455828
900455881	900456021
900455829	083020000
900455869	900455822
900455824	900457343
900457097	900457344
900456184	900457342
900455868	900456129
900455994	082830002
900456915	900457098
900457202	900456556

f. Upon the Recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, the following CSE recommendation reviewed on June 16th be approved:

APPROVED	APPROVED
900113735	900045942
900435921	900371094
900433453	900434082
900366158	091110000
900447525	900187779
900401686	900298222
082470022	900453105
900417789	900417857
900453168	900365912
900401253	900245990
900453801	900122659
900209897	900192233
900420459	900118578
900402633	900111402
900189010	900191214
900327719	900026780
900259739	900046400
900437923	900126355
900199027	900190933
900048887	900191196
900243796	900046401
900344168	900232379
900347035	900106404
900346197	900114303
900440596	900120445
900427169	900198646
900194729	082560000
900244148	900117698
900455898	900120478
900448272	900102780
900455930	900126046
900027110	900046154

900193215	090290000
900122772	083231007
090270000	900131202
900027475	900049204
900315603	900116727
900218052	900336396
900048238	900314151
900326151	900455978
900218123	900376357
900455094	900454701
900454255	900427918
900350165	900336273
900455330	900455331
900455341	900457252
900400814	900433313
900417745	900423599
900428737	900445042
900406427	900385335
900405431	090790000
900048314	900123537

Superintendent Authorized to Enter into Full time Equivalency Agreement with Jamestown Community College

Moved by M. McElfresh, seconded by J. Bartimole, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to authorize the Superintendent to enter into the Full Time Equivalency (FTE) agreement between Olean Community Schools and Jamestown Community College dated June 9, 2009 for the time period of September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010.

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Annual Re-Organizational Meeting to be Held July 7, 2009

Moved by L. Branch, seconded by J. Padlo, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, that the Annual Re-organizational meeting be held on July 7, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the Olean High School.

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Operations Committee Mission Statement Tabled

Moved by M. McElfresh, seconded by L. Branch, to table the following motion:

Moved by_____, seconded by_____ upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the Operations Committee Mission Statement as presented.

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Olean City School District to Collect Tax Levy for Olean Public Library

Moved by J. Bartimole, seconded by L. Branch, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from Lance Chaffee, Director of the Olean Public Library dated May 26, 2009 in which the Olean City School District is pursuant to law to collect an additional tax levy of $960,260.00 for the Library's 2010 budget.

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Moved by L. Branch, seconded by M. McElfresh, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the contract between the Olean City School District and Marci Banfield, M.S. CCC-SLP to provide Speech Pathology Services during the period of June 15, 2009 through July 2, 2009 at a rate of $100 per hour for a maximum of 2.5 hours plus an hourly travel rate of $25.00.

Contract Between the Olean City School District and Marci Banfield, M.S. Approved

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Moved by J. Bartimole, seconded by J. Padlo, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the purchase of Olean High School Precalculus Textbooks published by Pearson Education, Inc.

Textbook Purchase

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Moved by E. Garvin, seconded by M. McElfresh, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to authorize the Superintendent to enter into a Memorandum of Agreements between the Olean City School District and the Olean Teachers' Association (OTA) allowing the Houghton Music Festival stipend for the 2008-2009 school year to be equally split between Joseph Gervase and Tobi Snyder.

Memorandum of Agreement Between the Olean City School District and the Olean Teachers' Association Approved

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Moved by J. Bartimole, seconded by J. Padlo, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to accept the resignation of Daniel Anger, OHS English Teacher, with regret, effective July 1, 2009.

Resignation of Daniel Anger Accepted With Regret

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Moved by E. Garvin, seconded by M. Martello, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to accept the resignation of Seth Johnson, OMS Physical Education Teacher, with regret, effective June 30, 2009.

Resignation of Seth Johnson Accepted With Regret

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Moved by E. Garvin, seconded by L. Branch, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to accept the resignation of Larry Layman, OMS/OHS Cleaner, with regret, effective June 29, 2009.

Resignation of Larry Layman Accepted with Regret

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Moved by M. Martello, seconded by E. Garvin, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to appoint the following individuals to implement the 2009 Summer STAR Program per the OTA and OESPA Contracts:

2009 Summer Star Program Appointments

			Funding
Principal	**Nicholas Patrone**	**Principal**	**OCSD**
	Kim Voegelin	**Vocal Music**	**Liberty Partnership**
	Fred Welch	**Electronic Engineering**	**OCSD/Intervention**
Teachers	**Chris Norton**	**Newspaper/Play**	**OCSD**
	Dan Brown	**Art**	**OCSD**
	Leslie Morey	**Math Games sports**	**OCSD**
	Linda Edstrom	**Math of Cooking/drum circle**	**Intervention**
	Melanie Meyers	**Roamers or eng**	**OCSD**

	Kim Ackerman	**K-1**	**Even Start**
	Amber Benjamin	**K-1**	**Even Start**
	Lori Lewicki	**K-1**	**Even Start**
	Rychelle Weseman	**Adult ED**	**Intervention/Even Start**
	Larry Miller	**Adult ED**	**Intervention/Even Start**
	Lyde VanScoy	**Acting/swimming**	**Liberty Partnership**
	Karen Wooding	**Reading First**	
	Gloria Swetland	**Reading First**	
	Pam Stephens	**Reading First**	
	Joe Gervase	**Band**	**OCSD**
	Lesley Patrone	**Show/Choreographer**	**Liberty Partnership**
Aides	**Kathy Searles**		
	Roxann Johnson		
	Bonnie Miller	**ART**	
	Diane Simon	**K-1**	
	Jeanne Steen	**Even Start**	**Even Start**
	Carie Bhe	**Even Start**	**Even Start**

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

2009 Olean Middle School Summer School Program Appointments

Moved by L. Branch, seconded by G. Cross, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to appoint the following individuals to implement the 2009 Secondary Summer School Program at the Olean Middle School per OTA Contract:

Resource Room: Chris Korzeniewski
English 7 and 8: Molly Scholla
Math 7 and 8: Debra Yehl
6th ELA/SS and 6th Math/Science: Lauren Stuff
Secretary: Diane Fidurko

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

2009 Olean High School Summer School Program Appointments

Moved by M. McElfresh, seconded by E. Garvin, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, to appoint the following individuals to implement the 2009 Secondary Summer School Program at the Olean High School per OTA Contract:

English: Lou Ventura and Sally Ventura
Resource Room: Amy Bay
Library: Cindy Kurjakovic
Resource Room Aide: Jacki Falk
Science: Charles Warren
Nurse: Diane Moses
Social Studies: Chris Keenan, Paula Fidurko
Physical Education: Jason Folland
Math: David Lasky, Carrie Peters, Evelyn Bysiek

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Resolution of Abolishment Regarding Meghan Sisson

Moved by E. Garvin, seconded by L. Branch, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, the following resolution of abolishment is presented:

a. A position is abolished for reasons of economy, effective June 30, 2009, in the tenure area of LOTE (Language Other Than English).
b. The person having the least seniority in the tenure area of LOTE (Language Other Than English) is Meghan Sisson.
c. Meghan Sisson shall be placed upon the "preferred eligibility list" of the district in accordance with Education Law §2510 (3).

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Resolution of Abolishment Regarding Kelly Gumtow

Moved by J. Bartimole, seconded by J. Padlo, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, the following resolution of abolishment is presented:

a. A position is abolished for reasons of economy, effective June 30, 2009, in the tenure area of School Counselor.
b. The person having the least seniority in the tenure area of School Counselor is Kelly Gumtow.
c. Kelly Gumtow shall be placed upon the "preferred eligibility list" of the district in accordance with Education Law §2510 (3).

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Resolution of Abolishment Regarding Nichole Nirchi

Moved by M. McElfresh, seconded by J. Bartimole, upon the recommendation of Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools, the following resolution of abolishment is presented:

a. A position is abolished for the reasons of economy, effective June 30, 2009, in the tenure area of Music.
b. The person having the least seniority in the tenure area of Music is Nicole Nirchi.
c. Nicole Nirchi shall be placed upon the "preferred eligibility list" of the district in accordance with Education Law §2510 (3).

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Committee Report

The following Committee Reports were presented to the Board of Education:
a. Operations Committee – June 1st – given by Michiko McElfresh
b. Safety Committee – June 3rd – given by Colleen Taggerty

Discussion Items

Discussion Items
a. Special Education Presentation – Marcie Richmond

Regular Meeting

Moved by J. Bartimole, seconded by G. Cross, to adjourn from the Regular Meeting and go in to Executive Session at 8:25 p.m. for the purpose of discussing: The Performance of a Particular Individual and Litigation Update.

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Executive Session

Moved by M. Martello, seconded by G. Cross, to adjourn from Executive Session and reconvene to the Regular Meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Adjournment of Meeting

Moved by J. Bartimole, seconded by M. Martello, to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Ayes 9 Nays 0 Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria L. Zaleski-Irizarry
District Clerk

June 22, 2009

vzi